



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Land Management
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Federal Subsistence Board

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Forest Service

YUKON RIVER FALL SEASON SUBSISTENCE FISHING SCHEDULE FOR ALL YUKON DISTRICTS

EMERGENCY SPECIAL ACTION

Under Authority of: 36 CFR 242.10 and .19
50 CFR 100.10 and .19

Emergency Special Action No: 2-FC-06-24

Issued at: Fairbanks, Alaska, August 22, 2024

Effective Date: Monday, August 26, 2024, 12:01 a.m. for all Yukon River Drainage Districts

Expiration Date: October 24, 2024, at 12:01 a.m. unless superseded by subsequent special action

REGULATION:

Pursuant to [2-FC-01-24](#), [2-FC-02-24](#), [2-FC-03-24](#), [2-FC-04-24](#), and [2-FC-05-24](#), subsistence salmon fishing is closed for chum salmon and retention of coho is allowed. Gillnets of 4-inch or smaller mesh may be used to target nonsalmon, but are restricted to 60-feet or less in length and must be operated as a set net near shore.

50 CFR 100.27(e)(3)(ii) is further amended to read:

In Federal public waters of the following areas, **coho salmon subsistence fishing will close, and the fishing schedule for use of 4-inch or smaller mesh gillnets will be reduced.**

(L) All Yukon River Districts

(1) Effective 12:01 a.m. on Monday, August 26, subsistence fishing for coho salmon will close and fishing with 4-inch or smaller mesh gillnets for nonsalmon will only be allowed from 12:01 a.m. Fridays through 11:59 p.m. Sundays. All gillnets will be closed Mondays through Thursdays likely for the remainder of the salmon season.

As a reminder, fishermen should use nonsalmon gear in areas where resident species are more likely to be encountered.

EXPLANATION:

This Emergency Special Action closes retention of coho salmon and restricts the use of 4-inch or smaller mesh gillnets to a fishing schedule in Federal public waters of all Yukon River Districts.

JUSTIFICATION:

The Chinook run is nearly complete in the lower river and no escapement goals will be met for Chinook salmon; therefore, retention of this species is not allowed. Current fall chum salmon run data indicate the run may not meet any escapement goals; therefore, closures to the harvest of fall chum salmon are warranted. Current coho salmon run abundance indicates the run is very small; therefore, closures to protect coho salmon are warranted. Due to the extremely poor salmon runs,

subsistence fishing for coho salmon will close and nonsalmon subsistence fishing with 4-inch gillnets or smaller is being reduced to protect migrating salmon.

Pursuant to Section 816 of ANILCA, this Emergency Special Action (**2-FC-06-24**) closes retention of coho salmon and reduces the use of 4-inch or smaller mesh gillnets.

CONSULTATION AND OUTREACH:

The Yukon River salmon outlooks and management strategies were discussed at the Eastern Interior, Western Interior, and Yukon Kuskokwim Delta Regional Advisory Council meetings; Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association (YRDFA) annual Preseason Fisheries Meeting; Yukon River Panel meeting; and Yukon River Intertribal Fish commission meeting. The Federal manager held formal preseason management strategy Government-to-Government Tribal Consultation meetings with Yukon River drainage Tribal Governments on April 1 and 2. Tribal Consultations will continue when possible and when requested by Tribal Governments. The Federal fishery outlook and management strategy was sent to all Yukon Tribal and City governments on May 10. Approximately 3,500 copies of the ADF&G and USFWS Preseason Outlook flier were mailed to Yukon River fishing households in May.

This action was taken following coordination with the ADF&G fishery managers. The fishing schedules announced here match those issued concurrently by the ADF&G in state waters (Fall Fishery Advisory Announcement #11, 12, and 13). The Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Council Chairs for the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta, Eastern Interior, Western Interior, and Seward Peninsula Regional Advisory Councils were notified as was the Chair and vice-chair of the Yukon River Intertribal Fish Commission. Review was provided by the Office of Subsistence Management.

Federal Subsistence Board by delegation to:

Holly C Carroll
Holly Carroll
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Yukon River Inseason Fisheries Manager
Northern Alaska Fish and Wildlife Field Office

For additional information concerning Yukon River Federal Special Actions contact Yukon River Federal Manager Holly Carroll at (907) 351-3029.

For information concerning State management actions, contact Yukon River Summer Season Manager, Deena Jallen, and Fall Season Manager, Christy Gleason, in Fairbanks at (907) 459-7274 or in Emmonak at (907) 949-1320.

If you'd like to receive emails and notifications on the Federal Subsistence Management Program you may subscribe for regular updates by emailing subsistence@ios.doi.gov, with "SUBSCRIBE" as subject. Fishery special actions can be found online here: <https://www.doi.gov/subsistence/fisheries-special-actions>

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Also distributed to Tribal and City Governments and any interested parties. If you didn't receive this directly and want to, please reach out to Holly Carroll.