



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Land Management
National Park Service
Bureau of Indian Affairs

Federal Subsistence Board

1011 East Tudor Road, MS 121
Anchorage, AK 99503-6199



Forest Service

YUKON AREA GILLNET CLOSURE IN SUBDISTRICT 5-D

EMERGENCY SPECIAL ACTION

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

Emergency Special Action No: 2-KS-14-25

Issued at: Fairbanks, Alaska, June 27, 2025

Effective Date: Wednesday, July 9, 2025, 8:00 p.m. for Subdistrict 5-D Lower
Sunday, July 13, 2025, 8:00 p.m. for Subdistrict 5-D Middle
Thursday, July 17, 2025, 8:00 p.m. for Subdistrict 5-D Upper

Expiration Date: Tuesday, July 26, 2025, 8:00 p.m. for Subdistrict 5-D Lower
Saturday, July 30, 2025, 8:00 p.m. for Subdistrict 5-D Middle
Sunday, August 3, 2025, 8:00 p.m. for Subdistrict 5-D Upper; unless superseded
by subsequent special action.

EXPLANATION:

This Emergency Special Action closes the Federal public waters of Yukon Subdistrict 5-D to the use of gillnets of any size for all users for a period when the bulk of the Chinook salmon run is projected to be in these sections of the river. All gillnets must be removed from the water during this gillnet closure period.

This Emergency Special Action adds an *additional gear restriction* to Temporary Special Action **2-KS-10-25** that closed Yukon Subdistrict 5-D to the subsistence harvest and retention of Chinook and summer chum salmon. When Emergency Special Action **2-KS-14-25** expires, fishing for nonsalmon only may resume with gillnets limited to 4-inch and smaller, 60 feet maximum length, operated as a set net near shore.

REGULATION:

50 CFR 100.27(e)(3) Subsistence taking of fish—Yukon-Northern Area is further amended to read:

(ii) **In Federal public waters of the following areas:**

Subdistrict 5-D Lower:

Subsistence fishing is currently open 24 hours a day, seven days per week with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets and fish wheels.

Effective 8 p.m. Friday, June 27, salmon fishing is closed. Fish wheels and gillnets with mesh larger than 4-inches are not allowed. Gillnets with 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.

Effective 8 p.m. Wednesday, July 9 until 8 p.m. Saturday, July 26, all gillnets must be removed from the water (all users). Fishing for nonsalmon is still allowed during this period, but it is limited to non-lethal gears including hook and line with a rod or pole, dip net, beach seine, hand line, longline, fyke net, lead, and spear. Pink and sockeye salmon may be retained. Chinook and chum salmon must be released alive.

Subdistrict 5-D Middle:

Subsistence fishing is currently open 24 hours a day, seven days per week with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets and fish wheels.

Effective 8 p.m. Monday, June 30, salmon fishing is closed. Fish wheels and gillnets with mesh larger than 4-inches are not allowed. Gillnets with 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.

Effective 8 p.m. Sunday, July 13 until 8 p.m. Saturday, July 30, all gillnets must be removed from the water (all users). Fishing for nonsalmon is still allowed during this period, but it is limited to non-lethal gears including hook and line with a rod or pole, dip net, beach seine, hand line, longline, fyke net, lead, and spear. Pink and sockeye salmon may be retained. Chinook and chum salmon must be released alive.

Subdistrict 5-D Upper:

Subsistence fishing is currently open 24 hours a day, seven days per week with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets and fish wheels.

Effective 8 p.m. Wednesday, July 2, salmon fishing is closed. Fish wheels and gillnets with mesh larger than 4-inches are not allowed. Gillnets with 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.

Effective 8 p.m. Thursday, July 17 until 8 p.m. Sunday, August 3, all gillnets must be removed from the water (all users). Fishing for nonsalmon is still allowed during this period, but it is limited to non-lethal gears including hook and line with a rod or pole, dip net, beach seine, hand line, longline, fyke net, lead, and spear. Pink and sockeye salmon may be retained. Chinook and chum salmon must be released alive.

JUSTIFICATION:

The drainage-wide Chinook salmon outlook is for a run size of about 72,000 fish, and the Canadian-origin Chinook salmon outlook is about 30,000 fish. Escapement goals are unlikely to be met for Chinook salmon and closures will likely be required for the duration of their migration. Pursuant to Title VIII of ANILCA, this Emergency Special Action (**2-KS-14-25**) closes all gillnet fishing in the Federal public waters of the Yukon River Subdistrict 5-D based on recent average run timing for Chinook salmon due to concerns about the viability of the population. These gillnet closures will ensure no incidental harvest of this species in lethal gillnets will occur between the first quarter point and third quarter point of the run to protect the bulk of the migrating Chinook salmon. These closures will be implemented up-river based on fish migration timing.

CONSULTATION AND OUTREACH:

The Yukon River salmon outlooks and management strategies were discussed at a public hearing; the Eastern Interior, Western Interior, and Yukon Kuskokwim Delta Regional Advisory Council meetings; the Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association (YRDFA) annual Preseason Fisheries Meeting; at the Yukon River Panel and at the Yukon River Intertribal Fish commission meeting. The Federal manager offered formal Government-to-Government Tribal Consultation meetings with Yukon River drainage Tribal Governments upon request. The Federal fishery outlook and management strategy was sent to all Yukon Tribal and City governments on May 23. 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 and/or restrictions announced here match those issued concurrently by the ADF&G in state waters (Summer Fishery Advisory Announcement #18). 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, or Yukon Federal Assessment Biologist Shane Ransbury at (907) 334-5389.

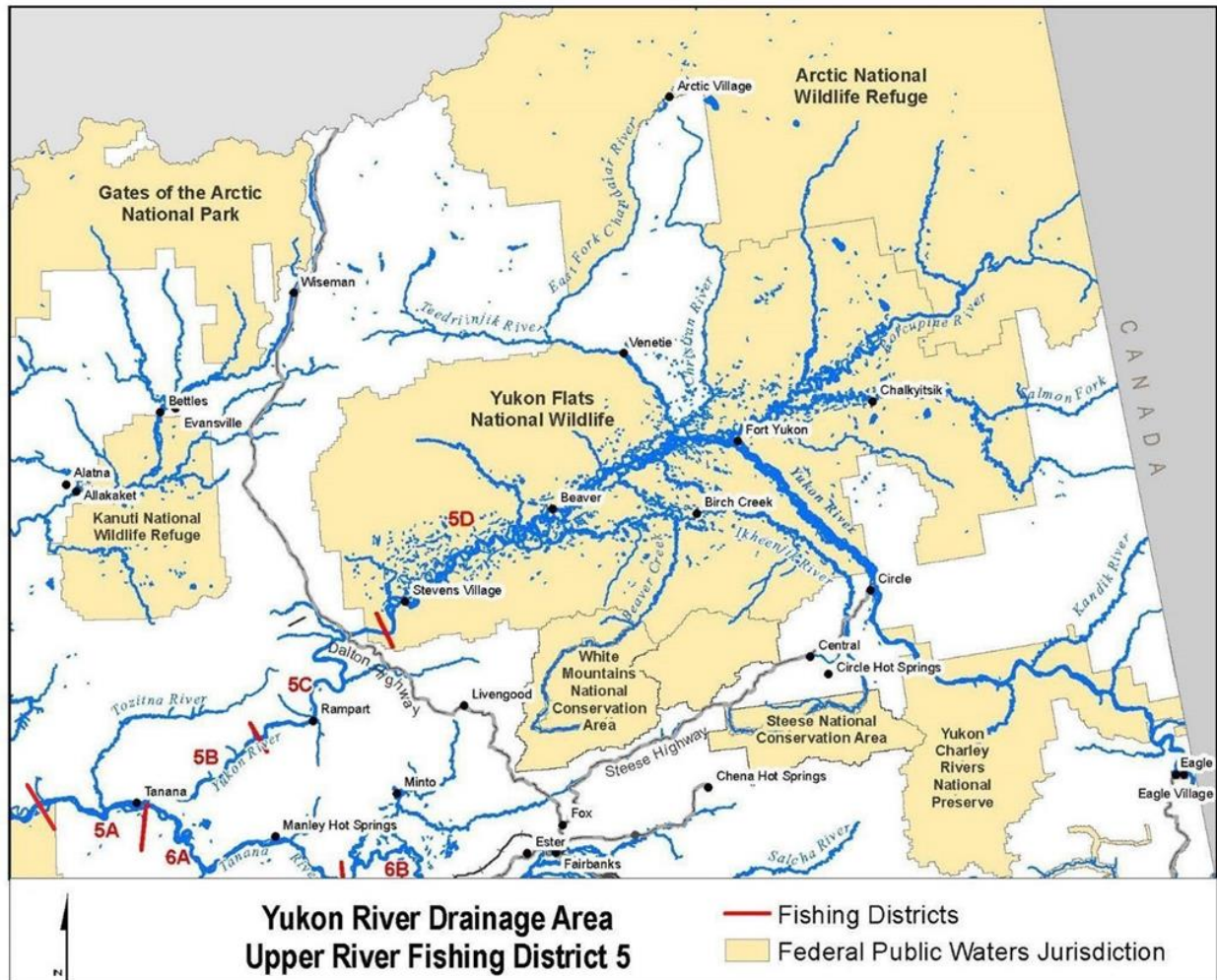
For information concerning State management actions, contact Yukon River Summer Season Manager, Deena Jallen, and Acting Fall Season Manager, Matthew Olson, in Fairbanks at (907) 459-7274 or in Emmonak at (907) 949-1320. For fishing restrictions, schedules and counts for your area please call the toll-free recording: 1-866-479-7387

Information about the Federal Subsistence Management Program may be found on the web at www.doi.gov/subsistence or by visiting www.facebook.com/subsistencealaska.

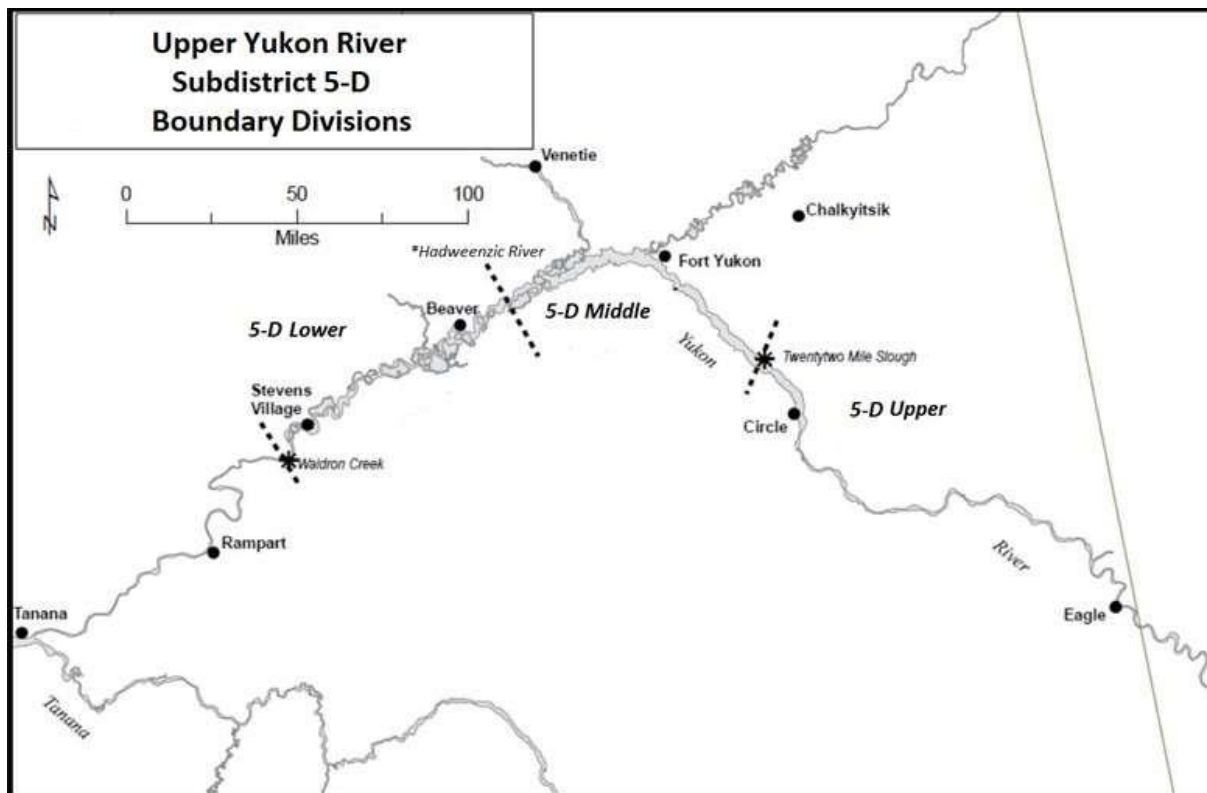
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See Below for Detailed Maps of Federal Public Waters in the Yukon River Drainage:

Communities and streams adjacent to the boundary of Federal lands are part of Federal waters, even on the opposite side of the river.



In District 5, the communities of Stevens Village, Beaver, Fort Yukon, Chalkyitsik are in Federal waters. Tanana, Rampart, Circle and Eagle are in State waters.



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Mark Burch, Asst. Director, Wildlife Conservation, Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Jill Klein, Alaska Regional Subsistence Coordinator, USFWS

Boyd Blihovde, Refuge Supervisor, USFWS

Dilool Erickson, Tanana Chiefs Conference

Deena Jallen, Summer Area Management Biologist, Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Mathew Olson, Fall Area Management Biologist, Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Eva Patton, Regional Subsistence Program Manager, National Park Service

Kevin Pendergast, State Director, Bureau of Land Management

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.