



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 SALMON FISHERY CLOSURE IN SUBDISTRICT 5-D

TEMPORARY SPECIAL ACTION

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

Temporary Special Action No: 2-KS-10-25

Issued at: Fairbanks, Alaska, June 18, 2025

Effective Date: Friday, June 27, 2025, 8:00 p.m. for Y5-D Lower
Monday, June 30, 2025, 8:00 p.m. for Y5-D Middle
Wednesday, July 2, 2025, 8:00 p.m. for Y5-D Upper

Expiration Date: Wednesday, December 31, 2025, 8:00 a.m. unless superseded by subsequent special action

EXPLANATION:

This Temporary Special Action closes the Federal public waters of Yukon Subdistrict 5-D to the subsistence harvest and retention of Chinook and summer chum salmon to all users. This closure also prohibits gillnets larger than 4-inch stretched mesh and longer than 60 feet. Small mesh gillnets for nonsalmon must be operated as setnets only. There is not a conservation concern for nonsalmon species, so fishing opportunities for nonsalmon are not limited to Federally-qualified subsistence users. If salmon are caught while fishing for nonsalmon, they should be released alive but may be legally retained if dead. The use of fish wheels is not allowed during these closures.

REGULATION:

Subsistence fishing is currently open 24 hours a day, seven days per week with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets in Subdistrict 5-D.

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

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

Subdistrict 5-D Lower (from an ADF&G regulatory marker two miles downstream of Waldron Creek upstream to the Hadweenzic River and all other adjacent tributaries, including the communities of Stevens Village and Beaver):

Effective 8 p.m. Friday, June 27, salmon fishing is closed to all users. Fish wheels and gillnets larger than 4-inch are not allowed. Gillnets of 4-inch or smaller mesh may be used to target nonsalmon and are restricted to 60-feet or less in length and must be operated as a set net near shore.

Subdistrict 5-D Middle (from the Hadweenzie River upstream to 22 Mile Slough, including the Porcupine River, all other adjacent tributaries, and the communities of Venetie, Chalkyitsik, Birch Creek and Fort Yukon):

Effective 8 p.m. Monday, June 30, salmon fishing is closed to all users. Fish wheels and gillnets larger than 4-inch are not allowed. Gillnets of 4-inch or smaller mesh may be used to target nonsalmon and are restricted to 60-feet or less in length and must be operated as a set net near shore.

Subdistrict 5-D Upper (from 22 Mile Slough to the U.S./Canada border, including all adjacent tributaries and the communities of Circle and Eagle):

Effective 8 p.m. Wednesday, July 2, salmon fishing is closed to all users. Fish wheels and gillnets larger than 4-inch are not allowed. Gillnets of 4-inch or smaller mesh may be used to target nonsalmon and are restricted to 60-feet or less in length and must be operated as a set net near shore.

Dip nets, beach seines, and hook and line gear may be used for nonsalmon; however, Chinook and summer chum salmon must be released alive.

If you are catching Chinook or summer chum salmon in a 4-inch gillnet, please move it to avoid catching these species. Later in the season, the use of 4-inch gillnets will be closed between the first and third quarter points, in order to reduce any incidental catch of Chinook salmon.

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. The summer chum salmon outlook is for a run size of 1.1 million fish. While the drainage-wide escapement goal of 500,000–1.2 million summer chum salmon could be met, closures are warranted until run projections indicate goals will be met and a surplus is available for subsistence harvest. Pursuant to Section 816 of ANILCA, this Temporary Special Action (**2-KS-10-25**) closes fishing for Chinook and summer chum salmon in the Federal public waters of the Yukon River Subdistrict 5-D due to concerns about the viability of these populations. Large mesh gillnet closures are likely throughout the summer season to avoid incidental harvest of Chinook salmon. Salmon fishing closures are issued based on the historical timing of Chinook salmon arrival in the area. 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 #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, or Yukon Federal Assessment Biologist Shane Ransbury at (907) 334-5389.

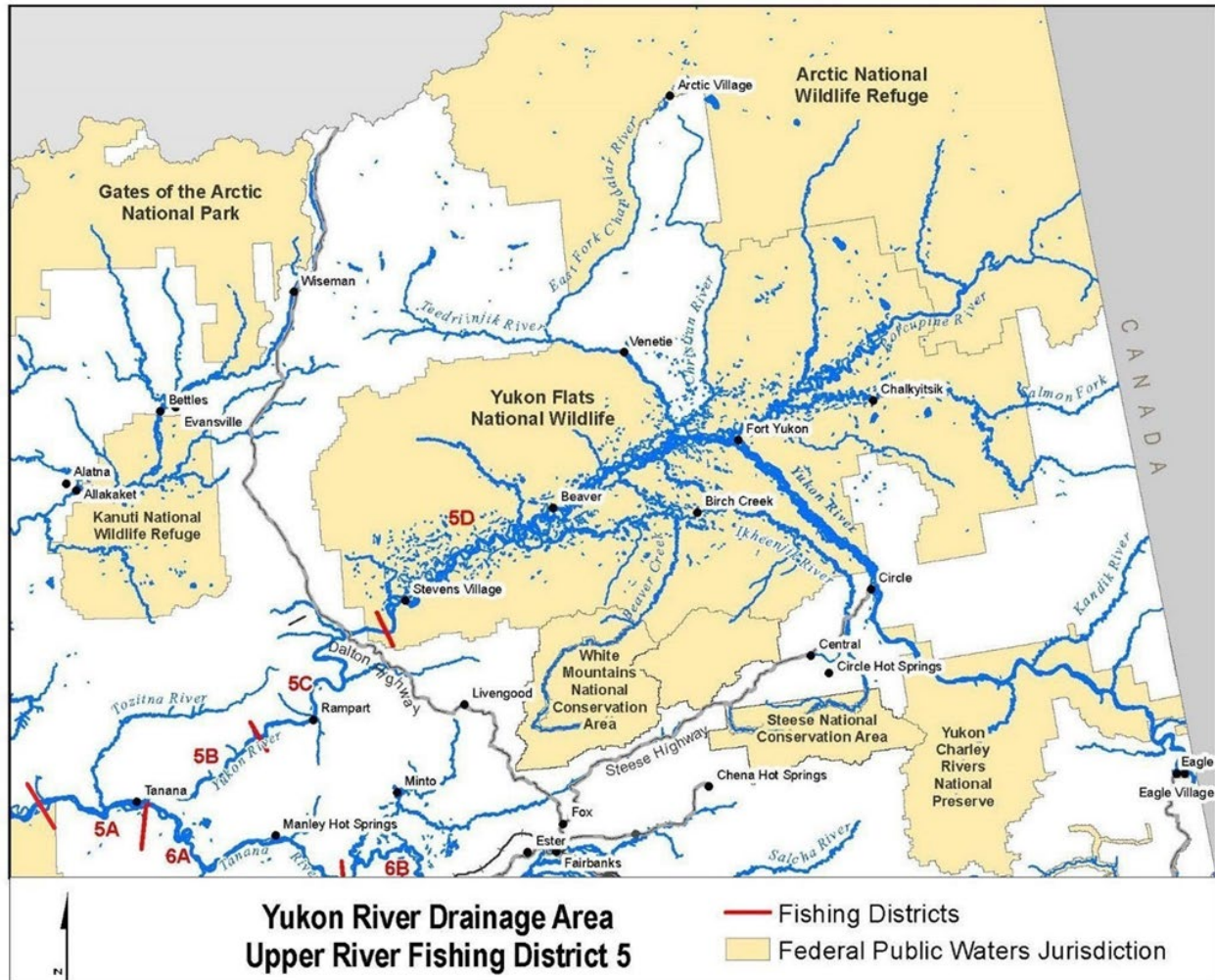
For information concerning State management actions, contact Yukon River Summer Season Manager, Deena Jallen, and Acting Fall Season Manager, Matthew Olson, in Fairbanks at (907) 459-7274 or in Emmonak at (907) 949-1320. For fishing restrictions, schedules and counts for your area please call the toll 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 Subdistrict 5-D, Stevens Village, Beaver, Birch Creek, Venetie, Arctic Village, Fort Yukon, and Chalkyitsik are in Federal waters. Tanana, Rampart, Circle, Central, and Eagle are in State waters.

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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.