



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

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Forest Service

YUKON AREA FALL SALMON CLOSURE AND NON-SALMON SCHEDULE IN SUBDISTRICT 4-BC AND 5-ABC

TEMPORARY SPECIAL ACTION

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

Temporary Special Action No: 2-FC-03-25

Issued at: Fairbanks, Alaska, July 28, 2025

Effective Date: Wednesday, July 30, 2025, 12:01 a.m. fall chum and coho salmon closures for Subdistrict 4-BC and 5-ABC

Sunday, August 3, 2025, 12:00 p.m. gillnet and manned fishwheel schedule for Subdistrict 4-BC and 5-ABC

Expiration Date: Wednesday, December 31, 2025, 8:00 a.m. for Subdistrict 4-BC and 5-ABC, unless superseded by subsequent special action

EXPLANATION:

This **Temporary Special Action** closes the harvest of fall chum and coho salmon for all users in Federal public waters of Yukon Subdistricts 4-BC and 5-ABC.

Temporary Special actions **2-KS-04-25** and **2-KS-06-25** are still in effect. These closed Subdistricts 4-BC and 5-ABC to the harvest of Chinook and summer chum salmon and restricted all gillnets to 4-inch or smaller mesh, limited to 60 feet in length, operated as a set net near shore. **This Temporary Special action 2-FC-03-25 also adds a fishing schedule for non-salmon gillnets (4-inch and smaller) and manned fishwheels** in order to reduce the incidental harvest of salmon.

REGULATION:

In Federal public waters of the following areas, subsistence salmon fishing for Chinook and summer chum salmon is currently closed to all users, and gillnets of 4-inch and smaller may be used to target non-salmon 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

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:**

Subdistricts 4-BC and 5-ABC:

Effective 12:01 a.m. on Wednesday, July 30, subsistence fishing for fall chum and coho salmon will close to all users. Chinook, chum, and coho salmon must be released alive immediately from nonlethal gear types.

Non-salmon fishing:

Effective 12:00 p.m. (noon) Sunday, August 3, all gillnets must be removed from the water.

Effective 12:00 p.m. (noon) Thursday, August 7, fishing with 4-inch or smaller mesh gillnets and manned fishwheels for non-salmon will only be allowed on a weekly schedule from noon Thursdays until noon Sundays.

Fishing with other non-salmon gears, including hook and line with a rod or pole, hand line, longline, fyke net, dip net, and beach seine, is open 24 hours a day, 7 days per week. Pink and sockeye salmon may be retained. Chinook, chum and coho salmon must be released alive from non-salmon gear types.

JUSTIFICATION:

The inseason Chinook and summer chum salmon runs are very poor, and escapement goals are unlikely to be met, therefore no retention of these species is warranted. The preseason forecasts for fall chum and coho salmon also indicate no escapement goals will be met for these species, and no surplus will be available for harvest. Pursuant to Title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), this Temporary Special Action (**2-FC-03-25**) prohibits all chum and coho salmon retention in the Federal public waters of the Yukon River Subdistricts 4-BC and 5-ABC due to concerns about the viability of these populations. This Temporary Special Action also places non-salmon fishing with 4-inch and smaller mesh gillnets and manned fishwheels on a schedule in order to reduce the incidental harvest of Chinook, chum, and coho salmon. Because there is no conservation concern for non-salmon species, fishing for non-salmon is not limited to federally qualified subsistence users.

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 (Fall Fishery Advisory Announcement #4). 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 Assistant Yukon River Federal Manager Keith Herron at (907) 334-5391, or Yukon Federal Assessment Biologist Shane Ransbury at (907) 334-5389.

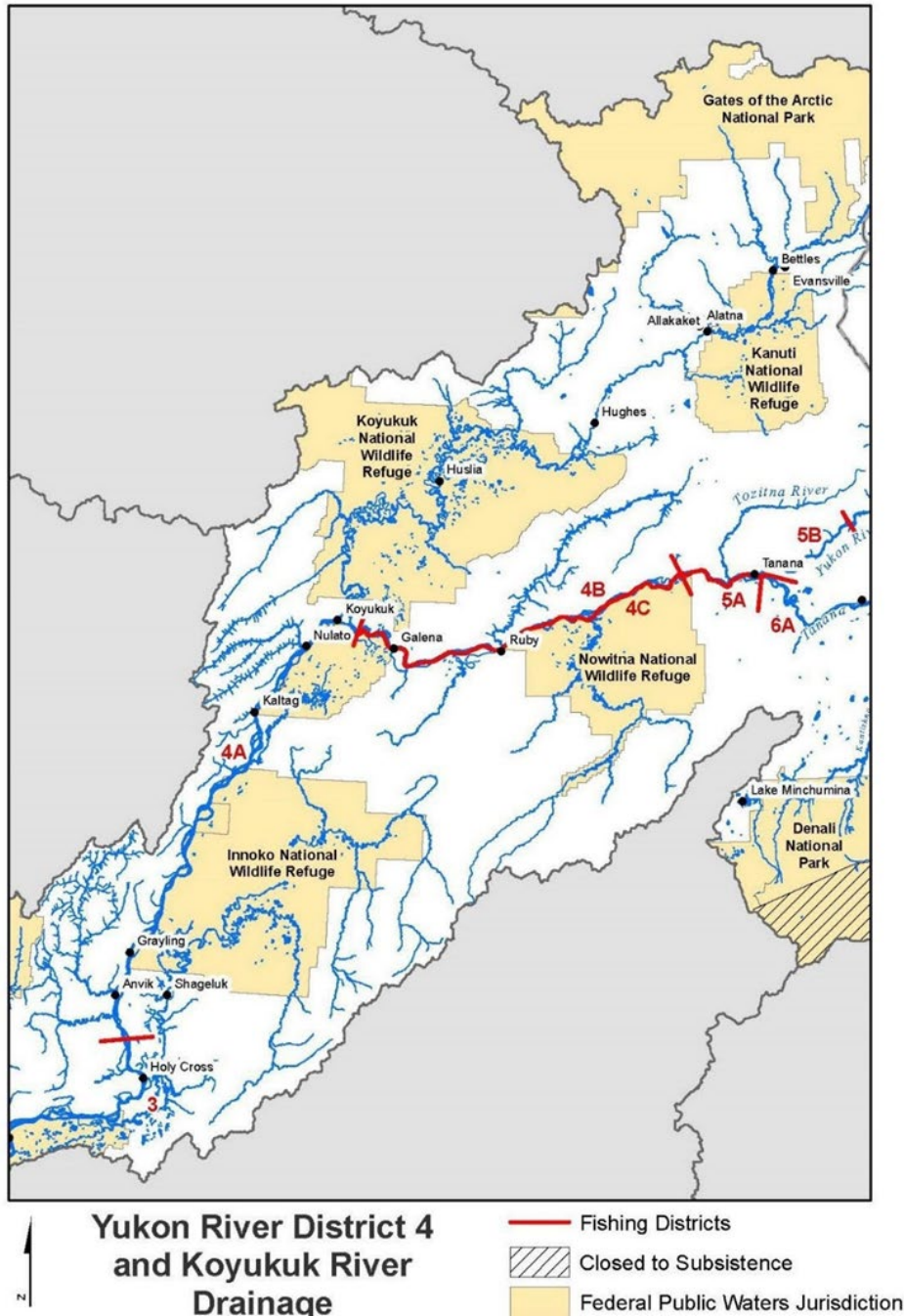
For information concerning State management actions, contact Acting Yukon River Fall Season Manager, Matthew Olson, and Summer Season Manager, Deena Jallen, in Fairbanks at (907) 459-7274 or in Emmonak at (907) 949-1320. For fishing restrictions, schedules and counts for your area please call the toll-free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

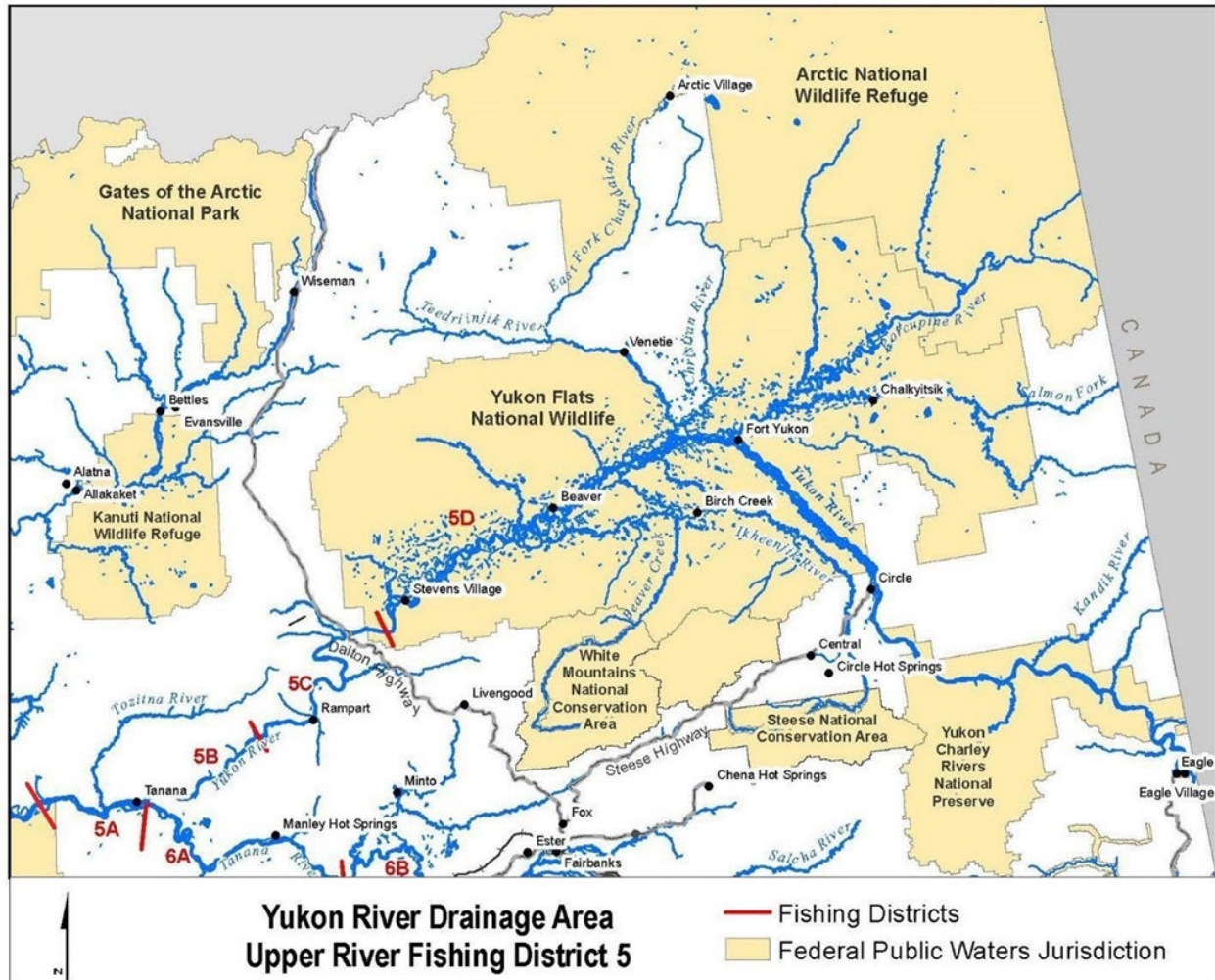
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See Below for Detailed Maps of Federal Public Waters in the Yukon River Drainage:

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



Within the mainstem Yukon River in District 4, Grayling, Kaltag, Nulato, Koyukuk, Galena and Ruby are in Federal waters and Anvik and the Anvik River are in State waters. Within the Koyukuk River, Huslia falls within Federal waters and Hughes, Alatna, Allakaket, Bettles, Evansville, Coldfoot and Wiseman are in State waters.



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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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.