



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

Notice to Rescind Salmon Fishing Restrictions within Federal Waters of the Kuskokwim River Drainage

TEMPORARY SPECIAL ACTION

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

Temporary Special Action No: FSA-YD-25-02

Issued at: Bethel, AK August 6, 2025

Effective Date: **August 7, 2025, 12:00 PM**

This Federal Special Action (FSA-YD-25-02) rescinds all previous salmon fishing restrictions announced in FSA-YD-25-01 within Federal waters of the Kuskokwim River Drainage. The Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge (YDNWR) Manager, in partnership with the Kuskokwim River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (KRITFC), determined that Federal management for the conservation of Chinook, Chum, and Coho is no longer needed in 2025.

The closure of Federal public waters throughout the Kuskokwim River drainage to the use of gillnets and harvest of Chinook, Chum, and Coho Salmon began on June 1, 2025. This decision was based on conservation concerns and to prioritize Federally qualified subsistence users through the provisions of Title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act and delegation of authority letter from the Federal Subsistence Board. The YDNWR manager and the KRITFC announced limited fishing opportunities to balance the needs of conservation and subsistence users. Decisions were based on run-strength data and input from local subsistence users, including Local and Traditional Knowledge.

Chinook and Chum Salmon runs were considered past the lower Kuskokwim River (where most harvest occurs) in July whereas the Coho Salmon run mostly occurs in August. Early in August, during the early stages of the run, precautionary measures were used and fishing opportunities were limited to ensure adequate numbers made it to the Kogruluk River, where there is a monitoring project with an escapement goal. By August 6, YDNWR and KRITFC determined the 2025 Coho Salmon run is likely to meet conservation goals and to potentially meet the needs of subsistence users, thus lifting the need for Federal management through the remainder of the season.



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Federal Subsistence Board by delegation to:

Spencer Rearden
Kuskokwim River In-Season Manager
Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge

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