



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

Federal Subsistence Board

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Forest Service

YUKON AREA FALL SALMON CLOSURE AND NON-SALMON SCHEDULE 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-FC-04-25

Issued at: Fairbanks, Alaska, August 4, 2025

Effective Date: Wednesday, August 6, 2025, 12:01 a.m. fall chum and coho salmon closures for Subdistrict 5-D Lower and Middle
Sunday, August 10, 2025, 12:00 p.m. gillnet and manned fishwheel schedule for Subdistrict 5-D Lower and Middle
Wednesday, August 13, 2025, 12:01 a.m. fall chum and coho salmon closures for Subdistrict 5-D Upper
Sunday, August 17, 2025, 12:00 p.m. gillnet and manned fishwheel schedule for Subdistrict 5-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Expiration Date: Wednesday, December 31, 2025, 8:00 a.m., unless superseded by subsequent special action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 harvest of fall chum and coho salmon for all users in Federal public waters of Yukon Subdistrict 5-D.

Temporary Special action **2-KS-10-25**, which closed Subdistrict 5-D 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, is still in effect. **This Temporary Special action, 2-FC-04-25, adds a non-salmon fishing schedule with 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:**

Subdistrict 5-D Lower and 5-D Middle (from an ADF&G regulatory marker two miles downstream of Waldron Creek upstream to 22 Mile Slough, including the Porcupine River and all other adjacent tributaries):

Effective 12:01 a.m. on Wednesday, August 6, 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.

Effective 12:00 p.m. (noon) Sunday, August 10, all gillnets must be removed from the water.

Effective 12:00 p.m. (noon) Thursday, August 14, 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.

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

Effective 12:01 a.m. on Wednesday, August 13, 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.

Effective 12:00 p.m. (noon) Sunday, August 17, all gillnets must be removed from the water.

Effective 12:00 p.m. (noon) Thursday, August 21, 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. Chinook, chum and coho salmon must be released alive from non-salmon gear types. If salmon are caught while fishing for non-salmon with gillnets, they should be released alive when possible but may be legally retained if dead.

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-04-25)** prohibits all chum and coho salmon retention in the Federal public waters of Yukon River Subdistrict 5-D 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 #6). 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.

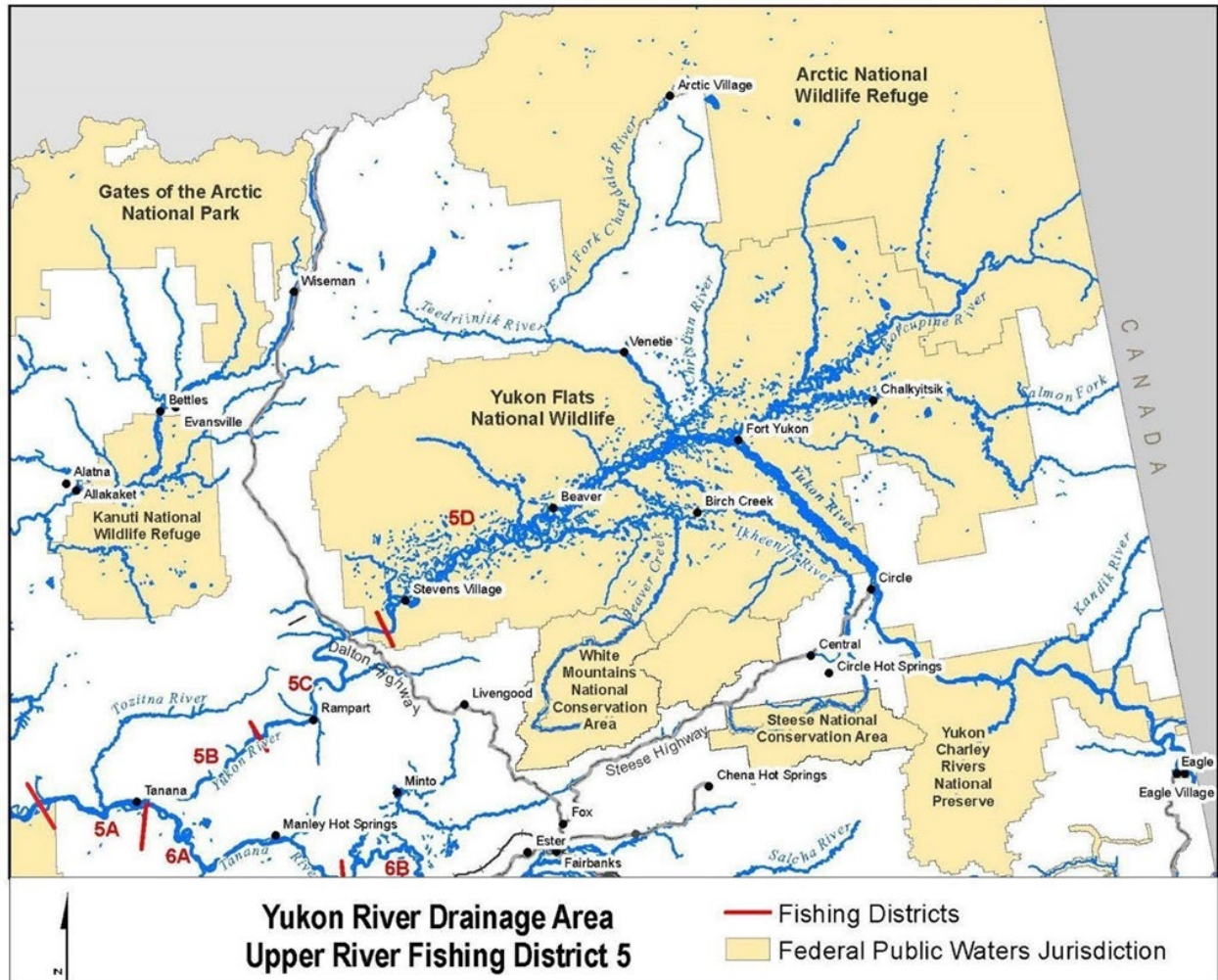
For information concerning State management actions, contact Acting Yukon River Fall Season Manager, Matthew Olson, and Summer Season Manager, Deena Jallen, in Fairbanks at (907) 459-7274 or in Emmonak at (907) 949-1320. For fishing restrictions, schedules and counts for your area please call the toll-free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

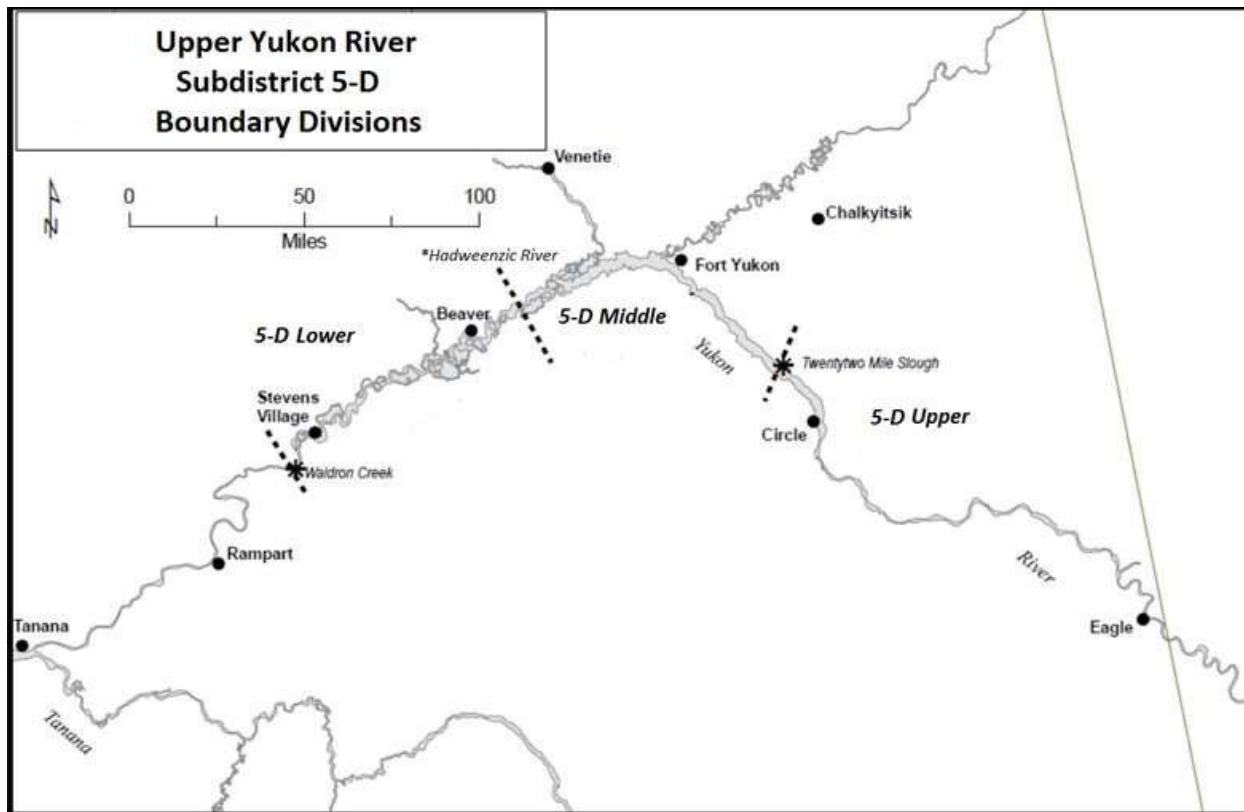
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See Below for Detailed Maps of Federal Public Waters in the Yukon River Drainage:

Communities and streams adjacent to the boundary of Federal lands are part of Federal waters, even on the opposite side of the river. A second map is provided to show Subdistrict 5D Lower, Middle and Upper boundary divisions.



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

Eva Patton, Regional Subsistence Program Manager, National Park Service

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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 Keith Herron.