Division of Commercial Fisheries Sam Rabung, Director

Headquarters Office PO Box 115526 Juneau, AK 99811-5526

Released: June 18, 2021



Alaska Department of Fish and Game Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner

PO Box 115526 Juneau, AK 99811-5526 www.adfg.alaska.gov

Advisory Announcement

CONTACT:

Deena Jallen, Area Management Biologist (907) 949-1320

Toll free fishing schedule and counts: (866) 479-7387

In Fairbanks fishing schedule hotline: 459-7387

2021 Yukon River Salmon Summer Fishery Announcement #10 Subdistrict 5-D Subsistence Fishing Schedule

Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

The 2021 Chinook salmon run size is forecasted to be smaller than the 2020 run and may not be strong enough to meet escapement objectives. When run forecasts are this weak, regulations require that salmon fishing be closed on the first pulse. In accordance with the preseason management strategy to take a conservative approach this season, subsistence fishing will be closed during the trickle and first pulse of the Chinook salmon run. Closure dates are based on average swim speeds and when Chinook salmon are expected to arrive in each district.

Due to the conservation concern for Chinook salmon, 4-inch or smaller mesh gillnets will be restricted to a maximum length of 60-feet effective when salmon fishing closures begin.

While any salmon caught in 4-inch or smaller mesh gillnets may be kept, if it appears salmon are being targeted with this gear, it could be further restricted. Fishermen are reminded to set this gear in areas where non-salmon species are abundant to avoid incidentally harvesting Chinook salmon.

Subsistence Management Actions

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):

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

Effective 8 p.m., Wednesday, June 23, salmon fishing is closed. Fish wheels and gillnets larger than 4-inch mesh are not allowed. Gillnets of 4-inch or smaller mesh may be used to target non-salmon but are restricted to 60 feet or shorter length.

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

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

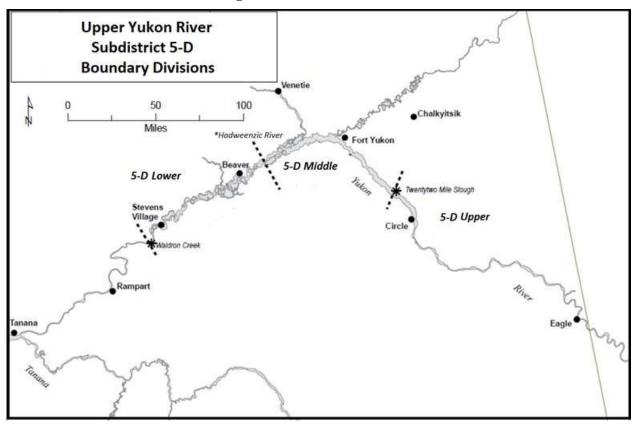
Effective 8 p.m., Saturday, June 26, salmon fishing is closed. Fish wheels and gillnets larger than 4-inch mesh are not allowed. Gillnets of 4-inch or smaller mesh may be used to target non-salmon but are restricted to 60 feet or shorter length.

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

A subsistence permit is required to fish for all species from the upstream mouth of 22 Mile Slough to the U.S./Canada border.

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

Effective 8 p.m., Monday, June 28, salmon fishing is closed. Fish wheels and gillnets larger than 4-inch mesh are not allowed. Gillnets of 4-inch or smaller mesh may be used to target non-salmon but are restricted to 60 feet or shorter length.

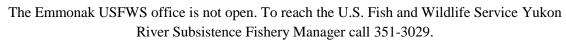


Subsistence harvest calendars and subsistence fishing permits are available from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game Fairbanks office (459-7274) or online at www.adfg.alaska.gov/store/.

ADF&G Emmonak office: (907) 949-1320. Open Mondays to Fridays 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturdays 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Closed on Sundays.



This is an announcement by the ADF&G in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.





Announcements will be shared on Facebook at www.facebook.com/YukonRiverFishingADFG

COVID-19

Under Alaska's Health Advisories 1, 2, 3, and 4, subsistence and commercial fishing is considered essential and is part of Alaska's Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Advisories. COVID-19 Health Advisories may be found here: https://covid19.alaska.gov/health-advisories/.