

# **ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES NEWS RELEASE**



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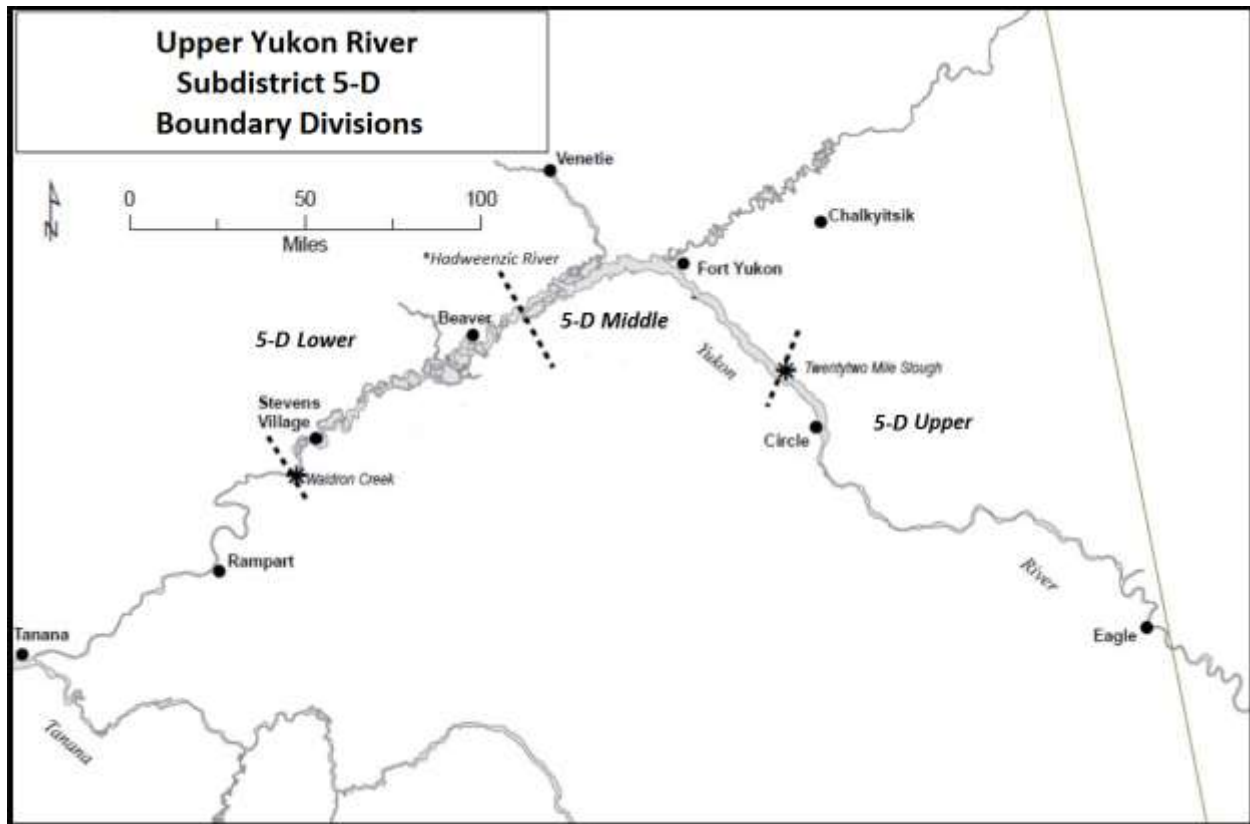
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## **2014 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release # 13 Summer Announcement # 7, Subdistrict 5-D Subsistence Fishing Schedule Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area**

A very conservative management approach has been initiated early this season on the Yukon River to protect the entire Chinook salmon run, which is anticipated to be the worst on record. A subsistence salmon fishing closure is now being implemented as the first Chinook salmon begin migrating through Subdistrict 5-D. This closure is expected to be in place for most of the Chinook salmon run. However, management strategies may change based on inseason run assessment information.

Non-salmon species may be harvested during this salmon fishing closure using 4-inch or smaller mesh size gillnets not exceeding 60 feet in length and no targeting of Chinook salmon with this gear type will be allowed. This opportunity to fish for non-salmon will be discontinued if this small mesh gear is used to target Chinook salmon. Fishermen are strongly encouraged to avoid fishing where Chinook salmon may be encountered and are urged to track their non-salmon subsistence harvest.

Because of the large size of Subdistrict 5-D and the long time it takes salmon to migrate all the way through this section of river, this management area will be further subdivided. This strategy is intended to allow for more management precision and flexibility when altering the subsistence fishing schedule to conserve Chinook salmon. Subdistrict 5-D, will be divided into the following three areas (Map 1).



### **Subsistence Fishing Schedule:**

**Subdistricts 5-D Lower** (from an ADF&G regulatory marker 2 miles downstream of Waldron Creek upstream to the Hadweenzic River and including all adjacent tributaries):

Subsistence fishing is currently open 7 days a week, 24 hours per day and fishermen may use fish wheels or gillnets with mesh size of 7.5 inches or less.

Effective 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, June 11, subsistence salmon fishing will close to conserve Chinook salmon.

**Subdistrict 5-D Middle** (from the Hadweenzic River upstream to 22 Mile Slough and including the Porcupine River and all other adjacent tributaries):

Subsistence fishing is currently open 7 days a week, 24 hours per day and fishermen may use fish wheels or gillnets with mesh size of 7.5 inches or less.

Effective 8:00 p.m. Sunday, June 15, subsistence salmon fishing will close to conserve Chinook salmon.

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

Subsistence fishing is currently open 7 days a week, 24 hours per day and fishermen may use fish wheels or gillnets with mesh size of 7.5 inches or less.

Effective 8:00 p.m. Tuesday, June 17, subsistence salmon fishing will close to conserve Chinook salmon.

During subsistence salmon fishing closures, fish wheels may not be operated and gillnets with a mesh size greater than four inches and a length greater than 60 feet must be removed from the water.

Subsistence fishermen are reminded that a fishing permit is required to fish for all species in the portion of Subdistrict 5-C and 5-D from the western most tip of Garnet Island upstream to the Dall River, and from the upstream mouth of 22-Mile Slough to the US/Canada Border. Subsistence fishermen outside the permit area are encouraged to fill out their subsistence salmon catch calendars. Calendars are available from the ADFG office in Fairbanks.

The subsistence fishing schedule and recorded fishery announcements will be available 24 hours a day at **1-866-479-7387** (toll free outside of Fairbanks); in Fairbanks, call **(907) 459-7387**.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the ADF&G office in Emmonak at 949-1320 or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Emmonak at 949-1798.

This has been an announcement by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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