

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



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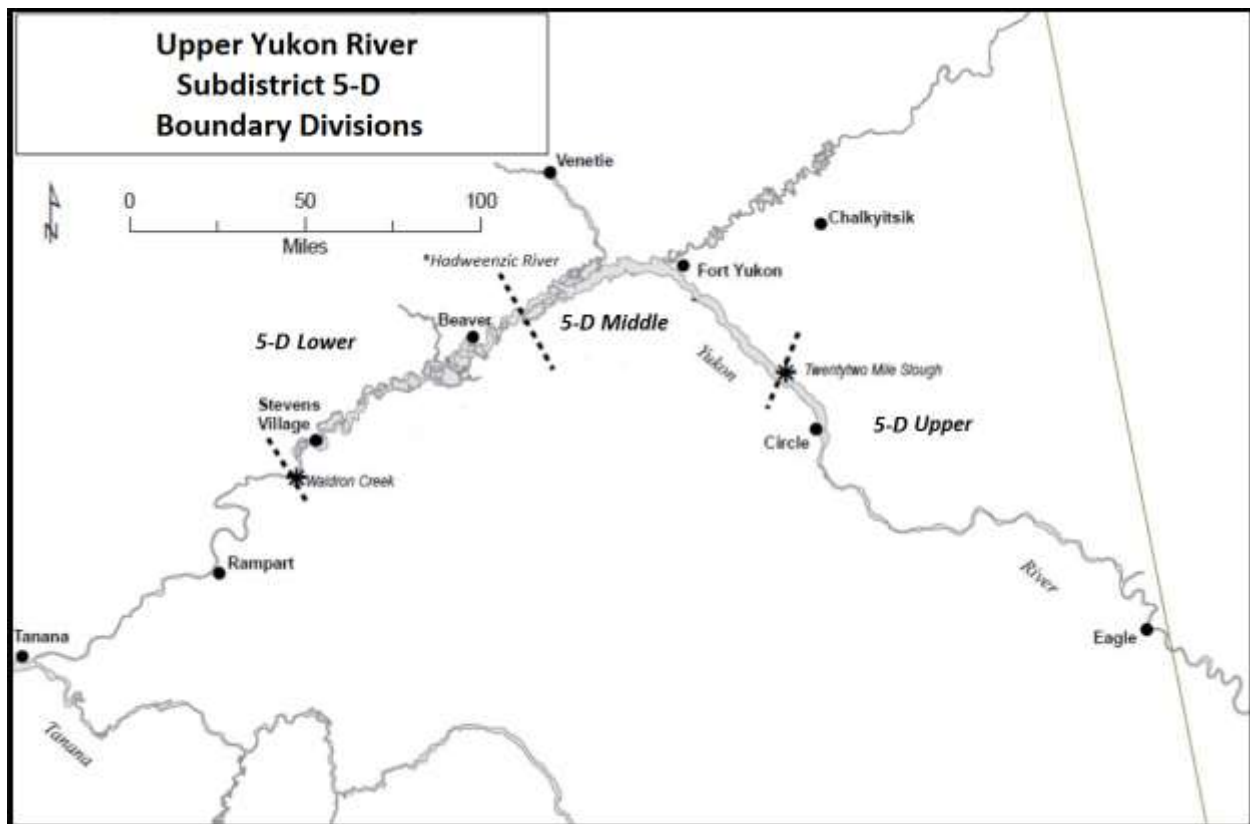
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2014 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release #50 Summer Announcement #37, Subdistrict 5-D Subsistence Fishing Schedule Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

As a result of considerable conservation efforts, the lower end of the border escapement objective (42,500 – 55,000) for Chinook salmon was achieved July 22. The cumulative passage estimate through that date at the Eagle sonar project is approximately 43,500 fish. Run timing at the Rapids Test Fish Wheel suggests the Eagle sonar project could see another day or more of elevated passage estimates before passages begins to decline. The preliminary projection for Canadian-origin Chinook salmon, based on cumulative passage at the Eagle sonar project and historical run timing, is approximately 52,000 fish.

The Chinook salmon run is now beginning to come to an end in the Upper Yukon and is expected to be approximately 95% complete at the lower boundary of Subdistrict 5-D by July 25. Therefore, the subsistence fishing closure in Subdistricts 5-D is being discontinued and restricted subsistence fishing opportunities are being providing in a manner similar to actions implemented in downstream districts.



Subsistence Fishing Schedule:

Subdistrict 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, which includes the communities of Stevens Village and Beaver):

Subsistence salmon fishing is currently closed.

Effective 6:00 p.m. Friday, July 25, the subsistence salmon fishing closure will end in 5-D Lower and will then be open 7 days a week, 24 hours per day with gillnets restricted to 6-inch or smaller mesh size and fish wheels must be equipped with a chute or a live box. Fish wheels must be closely attended while in operation and all Chinook salmon caught in fish wheels must be returned to the water alive.

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

Subsistence salmon fishing is currently closed.

Effective 6:00 p.m. Monday, July 28, the subsistence salmon fishing closure will end in 5-D Middle and will then be open 7 days a week, 24 hours per day with gillnets restricted to 6-inch or smaller mesh size and fish wheels must be equipped with a chute or a live box. Fish wheels must

be closely attended while in operation and all Chinook salmon caught in fish wheels must be returned to the water alive.

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

Subsistence salmon fishing is currently closed.

Effective 6:00 p.m. Friday, August 1, the subsistence salmon fishing closure will end in 5-D Upper and will then be open 7 days a week, 24 hours per day with gillnets restricted to 6-inch or smaller mesh size and fish wheels must be equipped with a chute or a live box. Fish wheels must be closely attended while in operation and all Chinook salmon caught in fish wheels must be returned to the water alive.

Fishermen will be notified by Tuesday, July 29, with an update that will detail when these gear restrictions will be discontinued in each portion of Subdistrict 5-D or if changes to this schedule are necessary.

As a reminder non-salmon species may be harvested using 4-inch or smaller mesh size gillnets not exceeding 60 feet in length during subsistence salmon fishing closures.

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 ADFG office in Fairbanks at 459-7274.

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

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