



Advisory Announcement

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2023 Yukon River Salmon Fall Fishery Announcement #2 **District 4 and Koyukuk River drainage Subsistence Fishing Schedule**

Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

The 2023 fall chum salmon preseason projection, based on the relationship between summer chum salmon and fall chum salmon run sizes, is for a run size of 425,000 fish. The drainagewide escapement goal is 300,000–600,000 fall chum salmon, but the Canadian component of the run has been weaker than expected the last few years. Depending on the inseason abundance of Canadian stocks, the run may not be large enough to meet the Canadian treaty objectives for fall chum salmon, which are 70,000–104,000 fish in the mainstem Yukon River and 22,000–49,000 fish in the Fishing Branch River. As summer chum salmon currently comprise the majority of the salmon run, subsistence fishing for chum salmon will be allowed during the early portion of fall season. Subsistence fishing for chum salmon will then close until inseason estimates of abundance indicate a harvestable surplus of fall chum salmon is available.

Subsistence Management Actions

Currently, in District 4 and the Koyukuk River drainage, subsistence fishing is open 24 hours per day, 7 days per week with dip nets, beach seines, manned fish wheels, and hook and line gear for nonsalmon and chum, pink, and sockeye salmon. Chinook salmon must be released alive immediately.

Effective at the dates and times listed below, **subsistence fishing for chum salmon will close and retention of coho salmon will be allowed.** Dip nets, beach seines, manned fish wheels, and hook and line gear may be used for nonsalmon and pink, sockeye, and coho salmon. Chum and Chinook salmon must be released alive immediately.

- **12:01 a.m. on Wednesday, August 2**, Subdistrict 4-A Lower (Anvik and Grayling) including the Anvik River
- **12:01 a.m. on Sunday, August 6**, Subdistrict 4-A Upper and Koyukuk River drainage (Kaltag, Nulato, Koyukuk, Huslia, Hughes, Alatna, Allakaket, Bettles, Wiseman, and Coldfoot)
- **12:01 a.m. on Tuesday, August 8**, Subdistricts 4-B and 4-C (Galena and Ruby)

A subsistence fishing permit is required for all species in the South and Middle forks of the Koyukuk River above Bettles, including the community of Wiseman, and Coldfoot. Gillnet gear in this permit area may only be used from August 20 to June 30 and must be 3½ inches or smaller mesh size. If you are outside the permit area, contact the Fairbanks office at 907-459-7274 for a subsistence harvest calendar.

Nonsalmon

The opportunity to harvest nonsalmon with 4-inch or smaller mesh set gillnets of 60 feet or shorter length is allowed. Fishermen should fish this nonsalmon gear in areas where resident species are more likely to be encountered. Other legal gear types to take nonsalmon include hook and line with a rod or pole, hand line, longline, fyke net, dip net, beach seine, and spear. If closures are in place for a salmon species, they must be released alive immediately from nonsalmon gear (other than 4-inch or smaller mesh gillnets).

Federal Special Action

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) have coordinated on this advisory announcement. The USFWS Federal Inseason Manager has issued a separate Federal special action TSA 2-FC-02-23 with the same fishing schedule that restricts fishing to federally qualified subsistence users in waters adjacent to Federal Land. To reach the USFWS Yukon River Subsistence Fishery Manager, call Holly Carroll at 907-351-3029.



This is an announcement by the ADF&G in cooperation with the USFWS.

Federal Special Actions will be posted on www.doi.gov/subsistence/fisheries-special-actions and shared on Facebook at www.facebook.com/subsistencealaska.

ADF&G Advisory Announcements and fish counts can be obtained by visiting www.facebook.com/YukonRiverFishingADFG or www.adfg.alaska.gov/yukonfishcounts.

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