Division of Commercial Fisheries Forrest Bowers, Acting Director

Headquarters Office PO Box 115526 Juneau, AK 99811-5526



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

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

Advisory Announcement

CONTACT:

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Deena Jallen, Area Management Biologist Mike Parker, Assistant Area Management Biologist 1-907-949-1320 (Emmonak) Toll free fishing schedule and counts: 1-866-479-7387

2025 Yukon River Salmon Summer Fishery Announcement #14 Subdistricts 4-B, 4-C, and Koyukuk River Closure of 4-inch mesh gillnets Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

The 2025 Chinook salmon run is coming in with a low and well below average run size, similar to last year. It is unlikely that any escapement goals will be met. To protect Chinook salmon as they migrate upriver, 4-inch or smaller mesh gillnets are being closed from the first quarter point to third quarter point of the run to protect the bulk of the Chinook salmon run. Quarter point dates are based on recent historical run timing.

During these closures, nonlethal or selective gear types for nonsalmon may still be used, including hook and line, dip net, beach seine, hand line, longline, and fyke net. Pink and sockeye salmon may be retained but **Chinook and summer chum salmon must be released alive.**

If the summer chum salmon run is projected to exceed the drainagewide minimum escapement goal of 500,000 fish, openings with selective gear types will be announced.

Subsistence Management Actions

To protect Chinook salmon all gillnets (including 4-inch or smaller mesh gear) must be removed from the water during the bulk of the run.

Subdistricts 4-B and 4-C and the Koyukuk River (including Galena, Ruby, Huslia, Hughes, Allakaket, Alatna, Bettles, Wiseman, and Coldfoot):

Salmon fishing is closed. Subsistence fishing for nonsalmon is currently open 24 hours a day, seven days per week, with 4-inch or smaller mesh gillnets and other nonsalmon gear types.

Effective 8 p.m. Sunday, June 29 until 8 p.m. Wednesday July 16, <u>all gillnets</u> must be removed from the water.

Fishing for nonsalmon is still allowed 24 hours a day, seven days per week during this period, but it is limited to nonlethal or selective gear types including hook and line with a rod or pole, dip net, beach seine, hand line, longline, and fyke net. Pink and sockeye salmon may be retained. Chinook and chum salmon must be released alive.

A subsistence fishing permit is required for all species in the Koyukuk River above Bettles including the communities of Wiseman and Coldfoot. Gillnet gear in the permit area must be 3½ inches or smaller mesh size. Fishing with gillnets in the permit area will close at 8 p.m. Sunday, June 29 and will not reopen until August 20.

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 Fishery special action FSA 2-KS-11-25 closing all gillnets 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 and the USFWS. Federal Special Actions will be posted on <u>www.doi.gov/subsistence/fisheries-special-actions</u>.

ADF&G Advisory Announcements will be posted on <u>www.cfnews.adfg.alaska.gov/</u> and shared on Facebook at <u>www.facebook.com/YukonRiverFishingADFG</u>.

