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Advisory Announcement

Released: July 21, 2025

Matt Olson, Acting Area Management Biologist 907-949-1320 (Emmonak) 907-459-7274 (Fairbanks) Toll free fishing schedule and counts: 1-866-479-7387

2025 Yukon River Salmon Fall Fishery Announcement #2 Subdistricts 4-A Lower, 4-A Upper, and Koyukuk River Subsistence Fishing Schedule

Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

District 4 is transitioning to fall season management. The transition will progress upriver based on fall chum salmon migration timing.

The 2025 fall chum salmon run size is anticipated to be well below average and the preseason projection is for a run size less than 300,000 fish. This is based on the relationship between summer chum and fall chum salmon run sizes. If the run comes in as projected, it will not meet the threshold of 300,000 fish needed to allow subsistence fishing, as outlined in the Fall Chum Salmon Management Plan, and will not meet the drainagewide escapement goal of 300,000–600,000 fish, tributary escapement goals, or Canadian treaty objectives. Additionally, the 2025 coho salmon run is also projected to be well below average and is unlikely to produce any surplus for harvest. Therefore, subsistence fishing for fall chum and coho salmon will be closed at the start of the fall season. Nonsalmon subsistence fishing opportunity with 4-inch or smaller gillnets and fish wheels is being reduced to protect migrating salmon and will be closed during part of the week (see schedule below).

Subsistence Management Actions:

Subdistricts 4-A Lower, 4-A Upper, and the Koyukuk River (from ³/₄ of a mile downstream from Old Paradise Village upstream to the tip of Cone Point and the Koyukuk River, including Grayling, Anvik, Kaltag, Nulato, Koyukuk, Huslia, Hughes, Alatna, Allakaket, Bettles, Wiseman, and Coldfoot):

As previously announced, Chinook and chum salmon fishing remains closed. Subsistence fishing is open 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, with 4-inch or smaller mesh set gillnets, dip nets, beach seines, and hook and line gear for nonsalmon, pink, and sockeye salmon. Chinook and chum salmon must be released alive immediately.

Effective 12:01 a.m. on Wednesday, July 23, fall chum and coho salmon must also be released alive from selective gear types.

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 $3\frac{1}{2}$ 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 and manned fish wheels is allowed. Fishing with these gears will be open on a weekly schedule from 12:00 p.m. noon

Thursdays through 12:00 p.m. noon Sundays and will be closed for the remainder of the week. Fishermen should fish this nonsalmon gear in areas where resident species are more likely to be encountered. Fishing with other nonsalmon gears, including hook and line with a rod or pole, hand line, longline, fyke net, dip net, and beach seine, is open 24 hours a day, 7 days per week. If closures are in place for a salmon species, they must be immediately released alive from nonsalmon gear (other than 4-inch or smaller mesh gillnets).

Effective 12:00 p.m. noon on Sunday, July 27, 4-inch or smaller mesh gillnets must be removed from the water. Fishing with 4-inch or smaller mesh gillnets and manned fish wheels for nonsalmon will reopen from 12:00 p.m. noon Thursday, July 31 to 12:00 p.m. noon Sunday August 3, and will reopen on a weekly schedule from 12:00 p.m. noon Thursdays through 12:00 p.m. noon Sundays, until further notice.

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 FSA 2-FC-02-25 with the same fishing schedule and restrictions for all 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 <u>www.doi.gov/subsistence/fisheries-special-actions</u> and shared on Facebook at <u>www.facebook.com/subsistencealaska</u>. 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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