



## Advisory Announcement

## CONTACT:

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**2026 Yukon River Salmon Summer Fishery Announcement #25**  
**Subdistricts 5-A, 5-B and 5-C selective gear openings**  
**Emergency Order Number 3-S-SY-25-26**  
Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

As of July 8, an estimated 781,000 summer chum salmon have passed the Pilot Station sonar. Current run size projections suggest that the run has the potential to reach one million fish, which is well within the escapement goal range (500,000 to 1.2 million), and able to provide an opportunity for subsistence harvest.

Fishing for summer chum salmon will open with selective gear types (dip nets, beach seines, hook and line, and manned fish wheels). Summer chum may be retained, but all Chinook salmon must be released alive immediately. Fish wheels must be manned at all times during operation to ensure that all Chinook salmon are released alive. Additionally, new regulations adopted in 2026 require that fish wheels be constructed in a fish friendly manner when used during times of Chinook and fall chum salmon conservation. Baskets must be lined with seine type webbing and have chutes with a smooth bottom that is lined with closed cell foam. These modifications are intended to reduce injury to salmon and increase survivability after release. Summer chum salmon will no longer be allowed to be retained when fall season management begins in each district. The fall chum salmon run is forecast to have a low run size and has been designated as a Stock of Management Concern. Due to recent amendments to the Fall Chum Salmon Management Plan, fall season will start 3 days earlier than normal in each district.

Although the Chinook salmon run is estimated to be larger than preseason projections, it remains well below average and is not expected to meet any escapement goals. The Chinook salmon run passed the historical midpoint for both normal (June 25) and late timing (June 29) and is tracking similar to the below average runs of 2012 and 2021. Current projections indicate that the Canadian-Origin component of the Chinook salmon run will not meet the 71,000 border passage goal. Conservative management actions remain necessary to reduce incidental harvest of Chinook salmon. All Chinook salmon must be immediately released alive from selective gear types (dip nets, beach seines, manned fish wheels, hook and line).

Fishermen are expected to practice respectful and safe fish handling techniques that will ensure that any Chinook salmon caught in selective or nonsalmon gear types are released uninjured so they may continue to their spawning grounds upriver. If it appears that Chinook salmon are being targeted while fishing for summer chum salmon with selective gear types, fishing will be further restricted.

### **Subsistence Management Actions**

Fishing for nonsalmon remains open with non-lethal or selective gear types including hook and line with a rod or pole, dip net, beach seine, hand line, longline, and fyke net.

**Subdistricts 5-A, 5-B and 5-C (including Tanana and Rampart):**

All gillnets remain closed as previously announced. Effective 8 p.m. Monday, July 20, gillnets of 4-inch or smaller mesh may be used to target nonsalmon but are restricted to 60-feet or less in length and must be operated as a set net near shore.

**Effective 6 p.m. Tuesday, July 14 until 11:59 p.m. Sunday, August 2 summer chum salmon may be retained in dip net, beach seine, manned fish wheel, and hook and line gear. All Chinook salmon must be released alive.**

A subsistence fishing permit is required in the portion of Subdistrict 5-C from the westernmost tip of Garnet Island upstream to the ADF&G regulatory marker two miles downstream of Waldron Creek (Dalton Highway bridge area).

In District 5 submerged gillnets may be used for subsistence fishing during ice-free months, however submerged nets must have a visible buoy or floats attached to both ends of the net. All gillnets must be clearly marked with a buoy that has the fisherman's first initial, last name, and address.

Assessment projects and management updates will be published in weekly Advisory Announcements (Updates). Daily sonar counts and LYTF test fish numbers will be shared on Facebook (Yukon River Fishing - ADFG) and on the toll-free phone recording: 1-866-479-7387. The ADF&G Emmonak office (907-949-1320) is open Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

In-season salmon management teleconferences hosted by YRDFA take place Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. The call-in number is 1-800-315-6338, and the participation code is Yukon# (98566#).

**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 **ESA 03-KS-16-26** opening selective gear types to target summer chum salmon in waters adjacent to Federal Land. In Federal public waters, the summer chum salmon subsistence fishing opportunity is limited to federally qualified subsistence users in the Yukon River drainage. For additional information concerning Yukon River Federal Special Actions contact the USFWS Federal Yukon River Subsistence Fishery Manager, Holly Carroll; holly\_carroll@fws.gov, (907) 351-3029 or Assistant Manager, Keith Herron; keith\_herron@fws.gov, (907) 334-5391.



This is an announcement by the ADF&G and the USFWS. Federal Special Actions will be posted on [www.doi.gov/subsistence/fisheries-special-actions](http://www.doi.gov/subsistence/fisheries-special-actions).

ADF&G Advisory Announcements will be posted on [www.cfnews.adfg.alaska.gov/](http://www.cfnews.adfg.alaska.gov/) and shared on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/YukonRiverFishingADFG](https://www.facebook.com/YukonRiverFishingADFG).

