



Advisory Announcement

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2024 Yukon River Salmon Fall Fishery Announcement #2 District 4 and Koyukuk River Subsistence Fishing Schedule

Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

District 4 is transitioning to fall season management. Fall chum salmon are not expected to comprise a large portion of the chum salmon run until the first half of August in District 4. The Chinook salmon run appears to be late and very poor, therefore subsistence fishing is limited to selective gear to protect Chinook salmon but to allow harvest on abundant summer chum salmon during the early portion of fall season. The 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 405,000 fish. While the run projection is within the drainagewide escapement goal of 300,000–600,000 fall chum salmon, there is uncertainty in the current projection due to lower than expected abundance of age-4 summer chum salmon in this year's run, indicating lower production from the parent year. In recent years, the poorer than average Canadian component of the fall chum salmon run has meant that the Border objectives have not been met, even when the drainagewide escapement goal is anticipated to be met. Therefore, closures to the harvest of fall chum salmon are warranted and will begin according to the schedule below.

Subsistence Management Actions:

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, sockeye, and coho salmon. Chinook salmon must be released alive immediately.

Effective at the dates and times listed below, **chum salmon subsistence fishing will close**. 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 Saturday, August 3**, Subdistrict 4-A Lower (Anvik and Grayling) including the Anvik River
- **12:01 a.m. on Wednesday, August 7**, Subdistrict 4-A Upper and Koyukuk River drainage (Kaltag, Nulato, Koyukuk, Huslia, Hughes, Alatna, Allakaket, Bettles, Wiseman, and Coldfoot)
- **12:01 a.m. on Friday, August 9**, 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 FSA 2-FC-02-24 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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