



Advisory Announcement

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Toll free fishing schedule and counts: 1-866-479-7387

2025 Yukon River Salmon Fall Fishery Announcement #24

Fall Update #10, Yukon Area Salmon Fishery

Districts Affected: Yukon Area

The 2025 Yukon River fall chum salmon run is projected to be 276,000 fish compared to a historical run size of 900,000 fish (Figure 1). The drainagewide escapement goal of 300,000–600,000 fall chum salmon will not be met. Upper Yukon assessment projects are well below average for fall chum salmon, indicating Canadian treaty obligations and tributary escapement goals will not be met. The coho salmon run size based on early run timing, is projected to be 108,000 fish, compared to a historical average run index of 216,000 fish (Figure 2). Due to poor salmon runs, nonsalmon subsistence fishing time with 4-inch gillnets and manned fish wheels was reduced to protect migration salmon.

Currently, subsistence fishing for fall chum salmon is closed but coho salmon retention is allowed in all legal subsistence gear types. Whitefish and other nonsalmon subsistence fishing time with 4-inch or smaller mesh gillnets and manned fish wheels is still on a reduced schedule to protect migrating fall chum salmon. Subsistence fishing for whitefish and other nonsalmon with 6-inch gillnets is open in designated, nonsalmon areas off the mainstem river only. Please see Fall Season Advisory Announcements #10-#15 for the named lists, GPS coordinates, and maps of these designated whitefish harvest areas.

As the fall chum and coho salmon migrations are nearing completion, subsistence fishing restrictions will be removed in most areas based on fall chum salmon travel time. As the drainagewide and tributary escapement goals for fall chum salmon are not projected to be met, the Koyukuk, Teedriinjik, Porcupine, Kantishna, and Nenana River drainages will remain closed to subsistence salmon fishing through December to protect active spawning areas used by fall chum salmon. Upper Yukon fisheries assessment projects will be ongoing into October, followed by foot, boat, and aerial salmon enumeration surveys through early December.

Assessment project and management updates will be published in weekly Advisory Announcements (Updates). To subscribe to these updates, fill out the form on the following website:

<https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.search>

Daily passage estimates are shared on Facebook (Yukon River Fishing - ADFG), ADF&G webpage www.adfg.alaska.gov/yukonfishcounts, and can be heard inseason by calling toll-free phone recording: 1-866-479-7387.

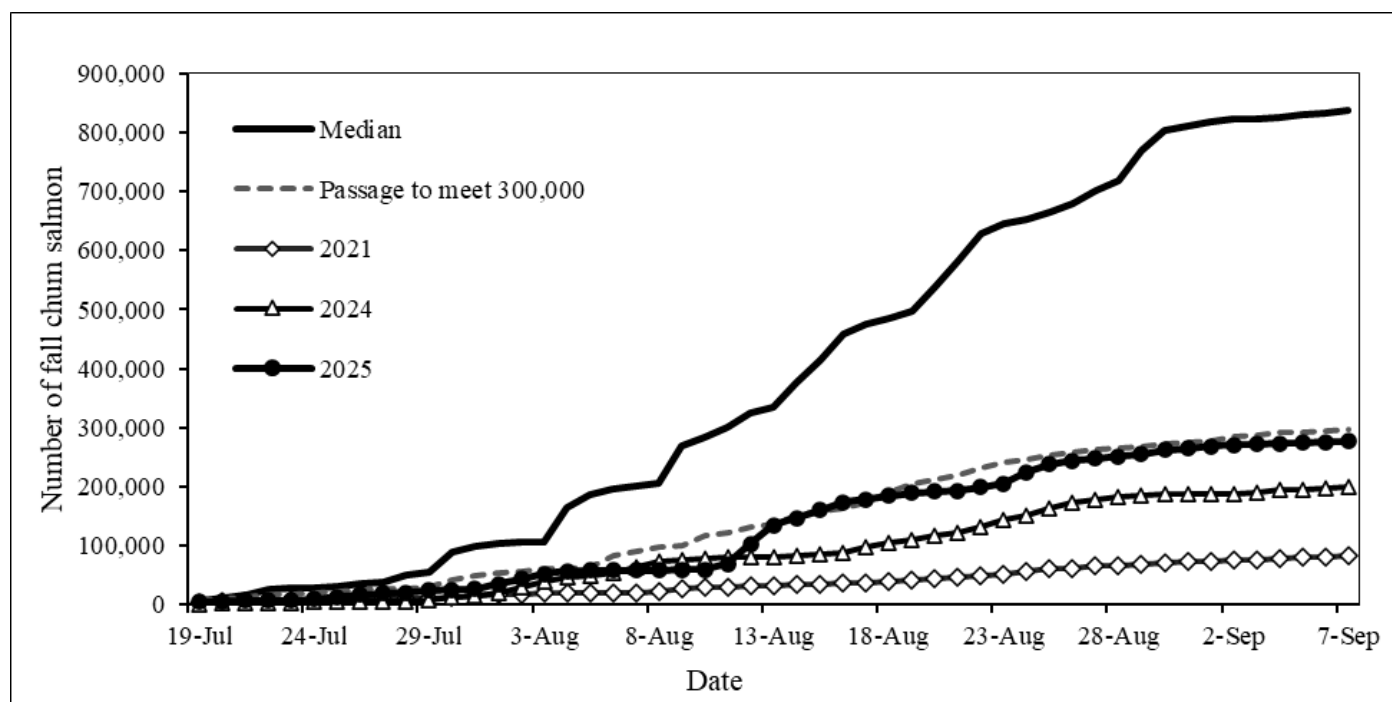


Figure 1. Cumulative passage of fall chum salmon (as determined using genetic mixed stock analysis) at the mainstem Yukon River sonar project (Pilot Station) in 2025, and includes estimates of downstream harvests, compared to the historical median and select years. The dashed line is the passage required to meet the lower end of the drainagewide escapement goal.

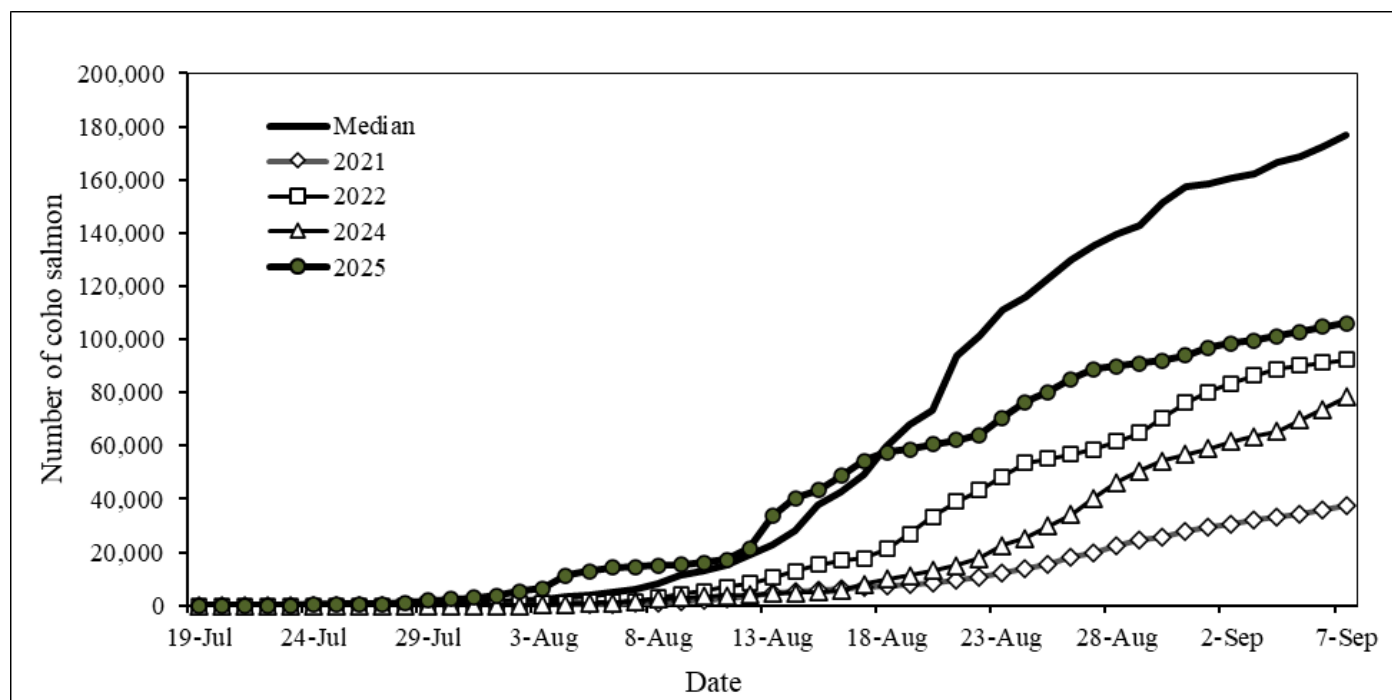


Figure 2. Cumulative passage of coho salmon based on the mainstem Yukon River sonar (Pilot Station), including estimates of downstream harvests, in 2025 compared to historical median and select recent years.

Fall Assessment Projects

Lower Yukon Test Fishery (ADF&G and YDFDA)

This project concluded on September 10 with a fall chum salmon cumulative catch per unit effort (CPUE) of 872.42, which is below the median of 1,258.96. Fall chum salmon run timing this year was 8 days late compared to median. The coho salmon cumulative CPUE was 257.53, which is below the historical median of 343.42 for that date. Coho salmon run timing this year was 2 days early compared to median.

Pilot Station Sonar (ADF&G)

This project concluded on September 7. The cumulative passage estimate was 343,000 chum salmon in the fall season and contained approximately 276,000 fall chum salmon as determined by genetics. Run timing for all chum salmon in the fall season was 3 days late while the genetic fall chum salmon was average compared to median. The coho salmon cumulative passage as of September 7 is approximately 106,000 fish, which is below the median passage of 177,000 fish. The run timing for coho salmon was 5 days earlier than median.

Teedriinjik (Chandalar) Sonar (USFWS)

The sonar project began operations on August 7. As of September 23, the cumulative passage was 56,000 fall chum salmon, which is below the median of 150,000 fish for this date. The three-quarter point of the run based on median passage is September 20 for this project. The Teedriinjik escapement goal is 85,000–234,000 fall chum salmon and is not expected to be achieved.

Sheenjek River Sonar (ADF&G)

The sonar project began operations on August 6. As of September 23, the cumulative passage was 11,900 fall chum salmon, however this count is considered a minimum due to high water forcing temporary removal of the sonars intermittently. The median passage for this date is 56,000 fall chum salmon. The three-quarter point based on median passage is September 21 for this project.

Eagle Sonar (ADF&G and Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO))

The sonar project transitioned to counting fall chum salmon on August 28. As of September 23, the cumulative passage was 12,639 fall chum salmon, which is below the median of 62,000 fish for this date (Figure 3). The midpoint based on median passage is September 23 for this project.

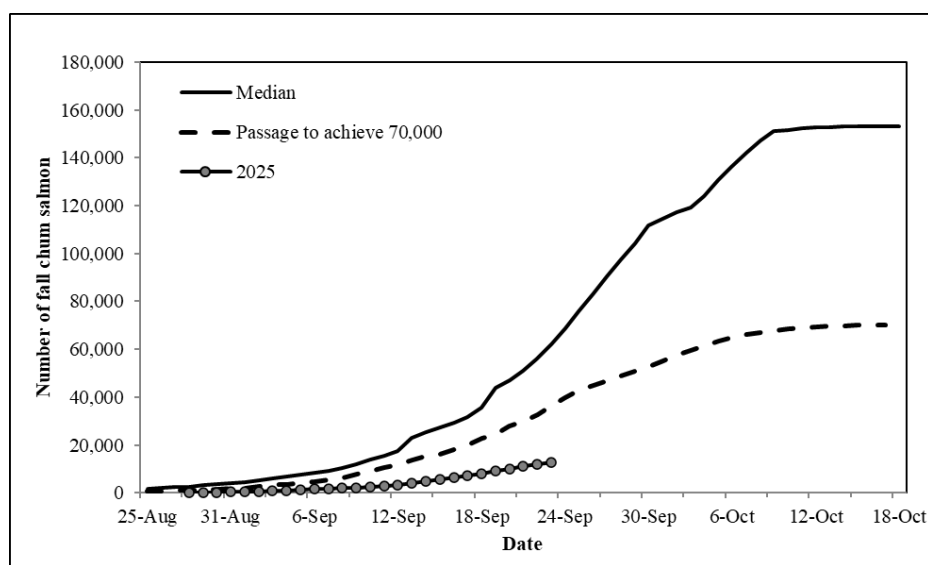


Figure 3. Cumulative passage of fall chum salmon based on the mainstem Yukon River sonar assessment project near Eagle. The dashed line is the passage required to meet the lower end of the Interim Management Escapement Goal.

Porcupine River Sonar (Yukon Territory Canada / DFO)

This sonar project transitioned to counting fall chum salmon on August 15. As of September 16, the cumulative passage was 4,144 fall chum salmon, which is below the median of 13,000 fish for this date.

Fishing Branch River Weir/Sonar (Yukon Territory Canada / DFO)

This project began counting fall chum salmon on September 4. As of September 22, the cumulative passage was 2,912 fall chum salmon, which is below the median passage of 12,000 fish. The midpoint based on median passage is September 22 at this project. The interim management escapement goal is 22,000–49,000 fall chum salmon for this system.

Fall Age, Sex, and Length Composition

The age composition of 458 chum salmon sampled from the drift gillnets in the LYTF project from July 16 through September 10, consisted of 78% age-4 and 17% age-5 fish, which compared to the 2001–2024 historical averages of 69% age-4 and 28% age-5. The percentage of female chum salmon based on 470 fish sampled from July 16–September 10, was 59% which is near the 2001–2024 historical average of 58%. The chum salmon average length was 574 mm is below the 2001–2024 historical average of 583 mm through September 10.

The age composition of 178 coho salmon sampled from July 16 through September 10, consisted of 40% age-3 and 59% age-4 fish, which compared to the 2001–2024 historical averages of 16% age-3 and 76% age-4. The percentage of female coho salmon based on 193 fish sampled through September 10 was 47% which is near the 2001–2024 historical average of 46%. The average length of 567 mm is above the 2001–2024 historical average of 561 mm through September 10.

Stock Identification

The preliminary genetic mixed stock analysis from July 19 through September 7 indicates the fall chums almon run consisted of 46% Tanana Fall, 41% Border/US, and 12% Canada. The 2025 level of mainstem Yukon River Canadian contribution of 10% is well below the 2004–2024 historical average of 26%, as well as below the 2020–2024 average of 13%.

General subsistence gear reminders

Gear types for nonsalmon species include: hook and line with a rod or pole, dip net, beach seine, hand line, longline, and fyke net. Gillnets must be marked with a buoy or float that has the fisherman's first initial, last name, and address. Fish wheels must have first initial, last name, and address legibly inscribed on the side of the wheel facing midchannel. In Districts 3-6, 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.

Current Subsistence Management Actions

Coastal District, Districts 1 to 5, and the Innoko, Koyukuk, and Porcupine rivers (from the Naskonat Peninsula north to Point Romanof, including the Black River, upstream to the U.S./Canada border, including the communities of Chevak, Hooper Bay, Scammon Bay, Nunam Iqua, Alakanuk, Kotlik, Emmonak, Mountain Village, Pitkas Point, St. Mary's, Pilot Station, Marshall, Russian Mission, Holy Cross, Shageluk, Grayling, Anvik, Kaltag, Nulato, Koyukuk, Huslia, Hughes, Alatna, Allakaket, Bettles, Wiseman, Coldfoot, Galena, Ruby, Tanana, Rampart, Stevens Village, Beaver, Venetie, Chalkyitsik, Birch Creek, Fort Yukon, Circle, and Eagle):

Subsistence fishing for Chinook and chum salmon is closed. Fishing for nonsalmon and coho salmon remains open 24 hours a day, seven days per week with selective gear types including hook and line with a rod or pole, dip net, beach seine, hand line, longline, and fyke net. Pink, sockeye, and coho salmon may be retained. Chinook and chum salmon must be released alive.

Gillnets of 4-inch or smaller mesh and manned fish wheels may be used from **noon Thursdays, through noon Sundays, until further notice. Subsistence fishing for whitefish and other nonsalmon with 6-inch gillnets is open in designated, nonsalmon areas off the mainstem river only. Please see Fall Season Advisory Announcements #10-#14 for the named lists, GPS coordinates, and maps of these designated whitefish harvest areas.** Nets are restricted to 60-feet or less in length and must be operated as a set net near shore. Drift gillnets are not allowed.

Effective at the dates and times listed below, subsistence fishing for all species will be open 24 hours per day, seven days per week with 7.5 inch or smaller mesh gillnets and all other legal subsistence fishing gear. Gillnet lengths will no longer be restricted to 60 feet.

Effective **12:00 p.m. noon Thursday, October 9 in the Coastal District, Districts 1-3, and the Innoko River** (Chevak, Hooper Bay, Scammon Bay, Emmonak, Nunam Iqua, Alakanuk, Kotlik, Mountain Village, Pitkas Point, St. Mary's, Pilot Station, Marshall, Russian Mission, Holy Cross, and Shageluk).

Effective **12:00 p.m. noon Thursday, October 16 in Subdistrict 4-A** (Anvik, Grayling, Kaltag, Nulato, and Koyukuk).

Effective **12:00 p.m. noon Thursday, October 23 in Subdistricts 4-B, 4-C, 5-A, 5-B, and 5-C** (Galena, Ruby, Tanana, Rampart).

Effective **12:00 p.m. noon Thursday, October 30 in Subdistrict 5-D** (Stevens Village, Beaver, Birch Creek, Fort Yukon, Central, Circle, and Eagle).

Closed area: The Koyukuk, Porcupine, and Teedriinjik drainages will remain closed to subsistence salmon fishing until 11:59 p.m. on December 31. Effective **12:00 p.m. noon Thursday, October 30**, subsistence fishing for nonsalmon and coho salmon will be relaxed to 24 hours per day, seven days per week with 4-inch or smaller mesh gillnets (60 feet or shorter) and manned fish wheels.

A subsistence fishing permit is required for all species in the Koyukuk River above Bettles including the communities of Wiseman and Coldfoot. Gillnet gear for nonsalmon in this permit area may only be used from August 20 to June 30 and must be 3½ inches or smaller mesh size.

A subsistence permit is required to fish for all species in Subdistrict 5-C, from the western most tip of Garnet Island upstream to the ADF&G regulatory marker two miles downstream of Waldron Creek (Dalton Highway bridge area), in the portion of Subdistrict 5-D Lower from an ADF&G regulatory marker two miles downstream of Waldron Creek upstream to the mouth of Dall River, and from the upstream mouth of 22 Mile Slough to the U.S./Canada border.

In Birch Creek and the subsistence area of Beaver Creek below Moose Creek, gillnet mesh size may not exceed 4 inches.

Subdistricts 6-A, 6-B, Old Minto Area and the Kantishna River (from the mouth of the Tanana River upstream to the Wood River, including the Kantishna River drainage, Lake Minchumina, Manley, Minto, and Nenana):

Subsistence fishing for Chinook and chum salmon is closed. Fishing for nonsalmon and coho salmon remains open 24 hours a day, seven days per week with selective gear types including dip net, beach seine, hand line, longline, and fyke net. Chinook and chum salmon must be released alive.

Gillnets of 4-inch or smaller mesh and manned fish wheels may be used from **noon Thursdays, through noon Sundays, until further notice. Subsistence fishing for whitefish and other nonsalmon with 6-inch gillnets is open in designated, nonsalmon areas off the mainstem river only. Please see Fall Season Advisory Announcement #15 for the named list, GPS coordinates,**

and map of these designated whitefish harvest areas. Nets are restricted to 60-feet or less in length and must be operated as a set net near shore.

Effective **12:00 p.m. Thursday, October 30**, subsistence fishing for all species will be open 24 hours per day, seven days per week with 7.5 inch or smaller mesh gillnets and all other legal salmon gear. Gillnet lengths will no longer be restricted to 60 feet.

Closed area: The Kantishna and Nenana river drainages, excluding Lake Minchumina, will remain closed to subsistence salmon fishing until 11:59 p.m. on December 31. Effective **12:00 p.m. noon Thursday, October 30**, subsistence fishing for nonsalmon and coho salmon will be relaxed to 24 hours per day, seven days per week with 4-inch or smaller mesh gillnets (60 feet or shorter) and manned fish wheels.

In Lake Minchumina and the Tolovana River drainage, including Minto Flats subsistence fishing with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets for nonsalmon species remains open 24 hours a day, seven days per week. Note, a subsistence pike permit is required, see details below. Subsistence fishing permits are available from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game Fairbanks office 907-459-7274 or online at www.adfg.alaska.gov/store/.

A reminder to fishermen that a subsistence permit is required to fish for salmon in the Tanana river drainage up to the Wood River (Subdistrict 6-A, 6-B, and Kantishna river drainage), northern pike in the Tolovana river drainage (including Minto Flats), and all species in the Upper Tanana Area. A subsistence salmon permit is not required in Lake Minchumina.

Upper Tanana Area (the Tanana River from the confluence with the mouth of Volkmar River on the north bank and the mouth of the Johnson River on the south bank upstream to the Tanana River headwaters, including Delta Junction area, Dot Lake, Tanacross, Tetlin, Tok, Northway, and Nabesna):

Currently, subsistence fishing for chum salmon is closed. Gillnets of 4-inch or smaller mesh and manned fish wheels may be used 24 hours a day, seven days per week, until further notice. Nets are restricted to 60-feet or less in length and must be operated as a set net near shore. Fishing for nonsalmon with selective gear types, including dip net, beach seine, hand line, longline, and fyke net, remains open 24 hours a day, seven days per week.

Effective **12:00 p.m. noon Thursday, October 30**, subsistence fishing for all species will be open 24 hours per day, seven days per week with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets and all other legal subsistence fishing gear. Gillnet lengths will no longer be restricted to 60 feet.

Personal Use Management Actions

Personal Use Salmon Fishing:

Subdistrict 6-C (Personal use fishery from the regulatory marker at the mouth of the Wood River upstream to the downstream mouth of the Salcha River, which includes the communities of Fairbanks, North Pole, and Salcha):

Personal use salmon fishing is closed.

Personal Use Whitefish and Sucker Fishing:

Fairbanks Nonsubsistence Area (a portion of the Tanana river drainage from the Wood River upstream to the mouth of the Volkmar River on the north bank and the mouth of the Johnson River on the south bank, which includes Fairbanks, North Pole, Salcha, and Delta Junction):

Personal Use whitefish and sucker fishing with gillnets and fishwheels is closed. Fishing with other gear for whitefish and suckers in this area remains open 7 days per week, 24 hours per day, subject to permit stipulations.

Effective **8:00 a.m. Monday, October 30**, personal use whitefish and sucker fishing will open with 4-inch or smaller mesh set gillnets limited to 60 feet or shorter.

A reminder to personal use fishermen that a personal use salmon permit is required to fish for salmon in Subdistrict 6-C and a personal use whitefish and sucker permit is required to fish for these species in the Fairbanks Nonsubsistence Area. Both permits require a valid sport fishing license.

Subsistence harvest calendars and subsistence and personal use fishing permits are available from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game Fairbanks office 907-459-7274 or online at www.adfg.alaska.gov/store/.

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 separate Fishery special actions with the same schedule and dates that actions will be lifted. Coho salmon fishing remains limited to federally qualified subsistence users until actions are lifted in Federal public waters. 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 www.doi.gov/subsistence/fisheries-special-actions.

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

