



Advisory Announcement

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2026 Yukon River Salmon Fall Fishery Announcement #9 **District 6 Subsistence and Personal Use Fishing Schedule** **Emergency Order Number 3-S-FY-04-26**

Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

District 6 is transitioning to fall season management. The Board of Fisheries officially designated fall chum salmon as a Stock of Management Concern at its most recent meeting and changed the start of the fall management season to begin three days earlier than normal.

The 2026 fall chum salmon inseason assessment suggests the run size is closer to the upper end of the drainagewide escapement goal of 300,000–600,000 fish. Genetic mixed stock analysis on chum salmon passing the Yukon River mainstem sonar project operated near Pilot Station indicates that fall chum salmon bound for the Tanana river drainage are starting to enter the river but it is still too early in the season to accurately assess the run strength. Fall chum salmon passage and genetics will continue to be monitored to identify any surplus for harvest. The 2026 coho salmon run is projected to be below average and potential fishing opportunities will be based on inseason run abundance. Using a precautionary approach, subsistence fishing for fall chum and coho salmon will be closed at the start of the fall season. Nonsalmon subsistence fishing with 4-inch or smaller mesh gillnets is being reduced to protect migrating salmon and will close during part of each week (see schedule below).

Subsistence Management Actions:

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

Currently, subsistence fishing is open 24 hours per day, 7 days per week with dip nets, beach seines, and manned fish wheels for nonsalmon and chum, pink, and sockeye salmon. Chinook salmon must be released alive immediately from selective gear types.

Effective 12:01 a.m. on Saturday, August 15, subsistence fishing for fall chum and coho salmon will close. Chinook, chum, and coho salmon must be released alive immediately from selective gear types.

In Lake Minchumina and the Tolovana River drainage, including Minto Flats, subsistence fishing for nonsalmon will remain open 24 hours a day, seven days per week with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets.

A subsistence permit is required to fish for salmon in Subdistricts 6-A and 6-B including the Kantishna River drainage and for northern pike in the Tolovana River drainage, including Minto Flats.

Nonsalmon**4-inch or Smaller Mesh Gillnet Nonsalmon Opportunity**

The opportunity to harvest nonsalmon with 4-inch or smaller mesh set gillnets of 60-feet or shorter length is allowed. Fishing with 4-inch or smaller mesh nets 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. Nets are restricted to 60-feet or less in length and must be operated as a set net near shore. Gillnets cannot block more than $\frac{1}{2}$ width of any waterway. Fishermen should fish this nonsalmon gear in areas where resident species are more likely to be encountered than salmon (i.e. sloughs). Fishing with other nonsalmon gears, including manned fish wheel, hand line, longline, fyke net, dip net, and beach seine, is open 24 hours a day, 7 days per week. Chinook, chum, and coho salmon must be released alive from nonsalmon gear (other than 4-inch or smaller mesh gillnets).

Effective 12:01 a.m. Saturday, August 15, subsistence fishing with 4-inch or smaller mesh gillnets for nonsalmon will reopen on a weekly schedule from 12:00 p.m. noon Thursdays to 12:00 p.m. noon Sundays.

6-inch or Smaller Mesh Gillnet Nonsalmon Opportunity in Designated Areas

Subsistence fishing for whitefish and other nonsalmon species with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets will be allowed in designated areas off the mainstem river where salmon are not known to be migrating or spawning. These areas were identified using local knowledge shared with management agencies and by using the Alaska Department of Fish and Game Anadromous Waters Catalog. Subsistence fishing for Chinook, chum, and coho salmon will close and whitefish subsistence fishing opportunity with 4-inch or smaller gillnets in the mainstem Yukon River will be reduced to protect migrating salmon. The designated areas for targeting whitefish and other nonsalmon species with 6-inch or smaller mesh set gillnets are listed below.

Effective 12:01 a.m. Saturday, August 15, subsistence fishing with set gillnets will open in the rivers, sloughs, and lakes that are listed below and shown in the maps (Figure 1 and Figure 2), 24 hours per day seven days per week. This is to provide an opportunity to harvest whitefish and other nonsalmon species in designated nonsalmon harvest areas. Set gillnets are restricted to 6-inch or smaller mesh, 60-feet or shorter in length, and cannot block more than $\frac{1}{2}$ width of any waterway. The following areas are open from 500-feet upstream of a closed area. Nets must be set upstream of the coordinates listed below.

<i>Whitefish/Nonsalmon Area</i>	<i>Latitude</i>	<i>Longitude</i>
Birch Creek (near Tanana)	65° 05.564' N	151° 50.082' W
Chitanana River	64° 55.423' N	151° 31.968' W
Dugan Creek	64° 55.727' N	150° 20.249' W
Fish Creek (near Tanana)	65° 04.719' N	151° 37.335' W
Green Slough	65° 05.290' N	151° 48.200' W
Hay Slough	65° 09.782' N	151° 56.821' W
Hot Springs Slough (near Manley Hot Springs)	64° 58.775' N	150° 48.647' W
Patterson Creek	65° 00.521' N	151° 31.118' W
Tatlanika Creek	64° 35.005' N	148° 40.576' W
Tolovana River drainage	64° 51.144' N	149° 50.011' W
Totatlanika River	64° 33.684' N	148° 45.852' W
Totchaket Slough	64° 47.076' N	149° 11.787' W

<i>Whitefish/Nonsalmon Area</i>	<i>Latitude</i>	<i>Longitude</i>
Williams Slough	64° 58.298' N	151° 30.201' W
Zitziana River	64° 58.107' N	150° 30.424' W

If there are multiple names for a river or slough, please let us know by contacting the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Emmonak (907-949-1320) or Fairbanks (907-459-7274). You can also contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at 907-334-5391 or 907-334-5389.

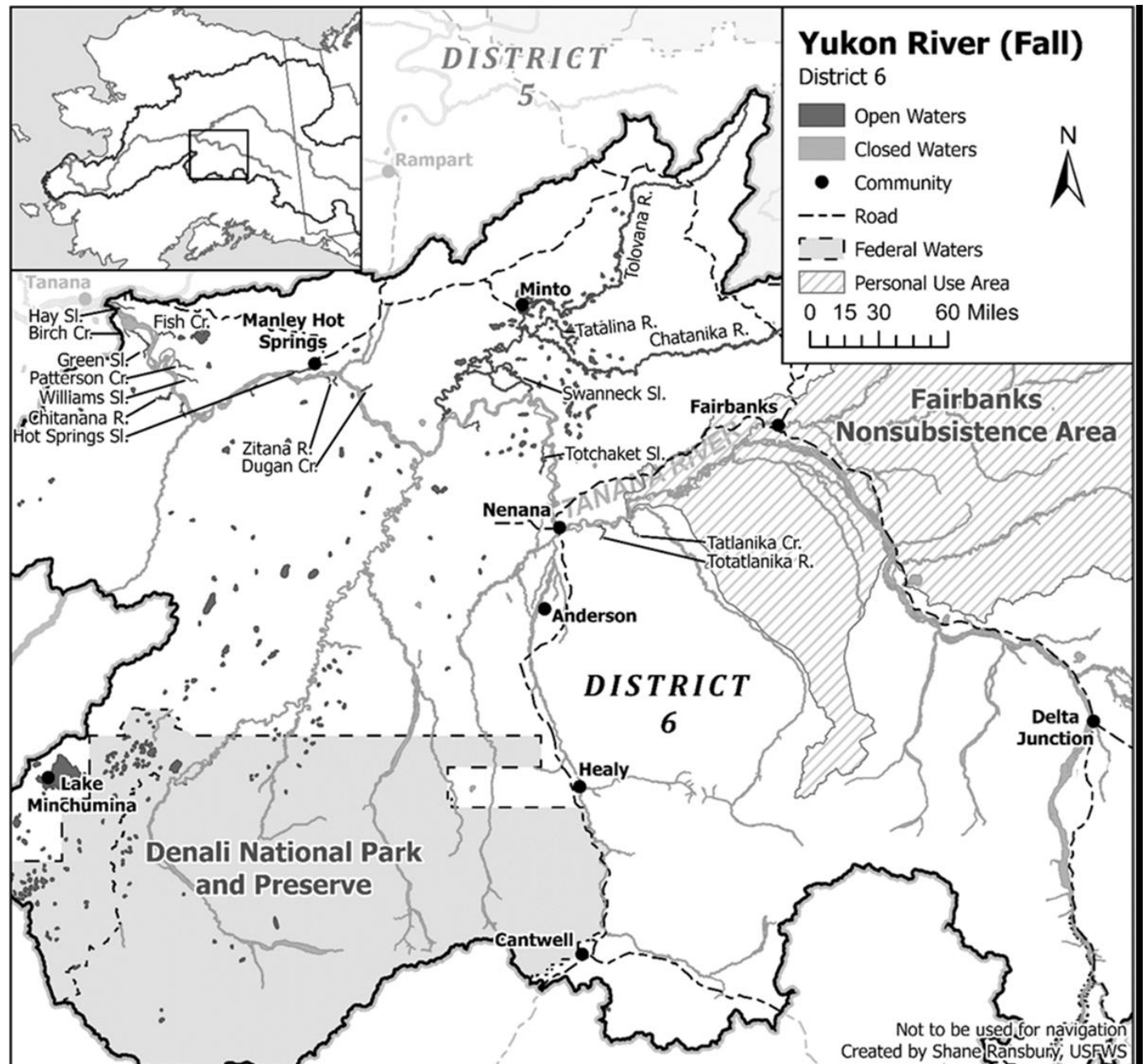


Figure 1.—For District 6, all labeled waterways and all lakes shown in dark gray are open to 6-inch gillnets for nonsalmon. Rivers and sloughs that are open to 6-inch nonsalmon fishing have a closure buffer from the mouth to 500 feet upstream. **The Tanana River mainstem remains closed to 6-inch mesh gillnets.** Areas that remain closed to 6-inch gillnets are shown in light gray.

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):

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. Chinook and chum salmon must be released alive immediately.

Effective 12:01 a.m. Saturday, August 15, 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 Upper Tanana Area.

Personal Use Management Actions

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 fishing for summer chum salmon is open for one more 42-hour period with dip nets and manned fish wheels from:

6:00 p.m. Monday, August 10 to 12:00 p.m. (noon) Wednesday, August 12.

All Chinook salmon must be released alive.

Effective 12:00 p.m. noon, Wednesday, August 12, Personal Use fishing for summer chum salmon will close.

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 manned fish wheels is open on the Personal Use Salmon fishing schedule listed above.

Effective 12:00 p.m. noon, Wednesday, August 12, Personal Use Whitefish and Sucker Fishing will close with manned fishwheels.

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.

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.

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 TSA 03-FC-06-26 with the same fishing schedule and restrictions for all users in waters adjacent to Federal Land. 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 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. To receive advisory announcements by email, sign up at www.cfnews.adfg.alaska.gov.

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