



Advisory Announcement

CONTACT:

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

Released: June 2, 2025

2025 Yukon River Salmon Summer Fishery Announcement #3

District 3 and Innoko River Subsistence Fishing Schedule

Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area

The 2025 Chinook salmon run size is forecasted to be well below average and may be similar in size to the run last year. The run is unlikely to meet escapement objectives or provide any surplus for harvest. Consistent with the preseason management strategy to take a conservative approach this season, subsistence fishing closures will start based on historical Chinook salmon run timing. This is intended to protect all Chinook salmon stocks while they migrate upriver to spawning grounds in Alaska and Canada.

Historically, Chinook salmon enter the river and start passing by Emmonak in early June. Therefore, salmon fishing will close June 1 in the Coastal District and District 1. Salmon fishing will close on June 3 in District 2 to account for run timing between districts. Opportunity to harvest nonsalmon will be allowed with 4-inch and smaller mesh gillnets. If you are catching Chinook salmon in a 4-inch gillnet, please move your net to protect them. Later in the season, the use of 4-inch gillnets will be closed to protect the bulk of the Chinook salmon run from incidental harvest.

The summer chum salmon forecast is for a run of 550,000 to 1,800,000 fish, however there is a lot of uncertainty about this year's run due to the low run sizes of the parent years. When the summer chum salmon run is projected inseason to meet the lower end of the drainagewide escapement goal (at least 500,000 fish) fishing opportunities with selective gear types will be announced.

Assessment project and management updates will be published in weekly Advisory Announcements (Updates). Once projects are up and running, 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 will be open regular business hours beginning on June 4: Mondays to Fridays 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (closed Saturdays and Sundays). ADF&G Emmonak office: 1-907-949-1320.

In-season salmon management teleconferences hosted by YRDFA will take place Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. starting on June 10. The call-in number is 1-800-315-6338, and the participation code is Yukon# (98566#).

Subsistence Management Actions

Gillnets of 4-inch or smaller mesh may be used during salmon fishing closures to target nonsalmon species. Fishermen are reminded to set this gear in areas where salmon are not present to avoid incidental harvest. While any salmon caught in this gear may be kept, if it appears Chinook salmon are being targeted with this gear, these opportunities could be further restricted. Fishermen are encouraged to release any Chinook salmon that are still alive.

District 3 (including Russian Mission and Holy Cross):

Subsistence fishing is currently open 24 hours a day, seven days per week with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets.

Effective 8 p.m. Saturday, June 7, Chinook and chum salmon fishing is closed. Gillnets larger than 4-inch are not allowed. Gillnets of 4-inch or smaller mesh may be used to target nonsalmon and are restricted to 60-feet or less in length and must be operated as a set net near shore.

Innoko River (including Shageluk):

Subsistence fishing is currently open 24 hours a day, seven days per week with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets.

Effective 8 p.m. Monday, June 9, Chinook and chum salmon fishing is closed. Gillnets larger than 4-inch are not allowed. Gillnets of 4-inch or smaller mesh may be used to target nonsalmon and are restricted to 60-feet or less in length and must be operated as a set net near shore.

Other gear types for nonsalmon species include hook and line with a rod or pole, dip net, beach seine, hand line, longline, fyke net, and spear. Pink and sockeye salmon may be retained. **Chinook and chum salmon must be released alive.**

In District 3 and the Innoko River, gillnets may be submerged during ice free months; however sunken nets need to be marked with a float at each end and an additional float in the middle if the net is longer than 60 feet in length. Gillnets must be marked with a keg or buoy that has the fisherman's first initial, last name, and address.

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 Fishery special action FSA 2-KS-02-25 closing Chinook and summer chum salmon fishing and restricting nonsalmon gillnets 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 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.

