



Advisory Announcement

CONTACT:

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

2023 Yukon River Salmon Summer Fishery Announcement #20 Subdistricts 5-A, 5-B, and 5-C Subsistence Fishing Schedule

Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area

The summer chum salmon run is entering the river below average, but stronger than recent years. Projections are indicating the run will be above the lower end of the 500,000 to 1.2 million fish drainagewide goal range. Therefore, a harvestable surplus of summer chum salmon for subsistence fishing is available. Consistent with the preseason management strategy, openings with selective gear types to harvest summer chum salmon are being announced based on regulatory schedules. Based on travel timing, summer chum salmon in the first pulse of fish could reach the lower border of Subdistricts 5-A and 5-B starting July 10.

The 2023 Chinook salmon run remains well below average and is unlikely to meet any escapement goals; therefore, Chinook salmon fishing remains closed.

During selective gear openings, **all Chinook salmon must be released alive**. Fishermen are reminded to practice respectful and safe fish handling techniques and ensure any Chinook salmon caught in selective or nonsalmon gear types are released alive so they may continue upriver to their spawning grounds. If it appears that Chinook salmon are being targeted with this gear, fishing will be further restricted.

Subsistence Management Actions

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

Subsistence salmon fishing is closed.

Effective 6 p.m. Tuesday July 11, fishing for summer chum salmon is open with selective gear types for two 48-hour periods per week from:

6 p.m. Tuesdays to 6 p.m. Thursdays

6 p.m. Fridays to 6 p.m. Sundays

During selective gear openings, dip nets, beach seines, hook and line, and manned fish wheels may be used for summer chum, pink, and sockeye salmon. Fish wheels must be manned at all times during operation; Chinook salmon may not enter a live box and must be immediately returned to the water using a chute, slide, tote or other fish friendly means. All Chinook salmon must be released alive.

A subsistence permit is required to fish for all species in the portion of Subdistrict 5-C from the western most tip of Garnet Island upstream to the mouth of Dall River (Dalton Highway bridge area).

Fishing for nonsalmon species remains open 24 hours a day, 7 days per week. Gillnets of 4-inch or smaller mesh and 60 feet or less in length may be used to target nonsalmon and must be operated as a set net. Fishermen are reminded to set this gear in areas where nonsalmon species are abundant to avoid incidentally

harvesting salmon. While any salmon caught in this gear may be kept, if it appears Chinook salmon are being targeted with this gear, fishing will be further restricted.

Other gear types for nonsalmon species include hook and line, hand line, longline, fyke net, lead, and spear. Chinook salmon must be released alive. Summer chum, pink, and sockeye salmon may be retained.

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

The ADF&G Emmonak office is open Mondays to Fridays 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. (closed Sundays). ADF&G Emmonak office: 1-907-949-1320.

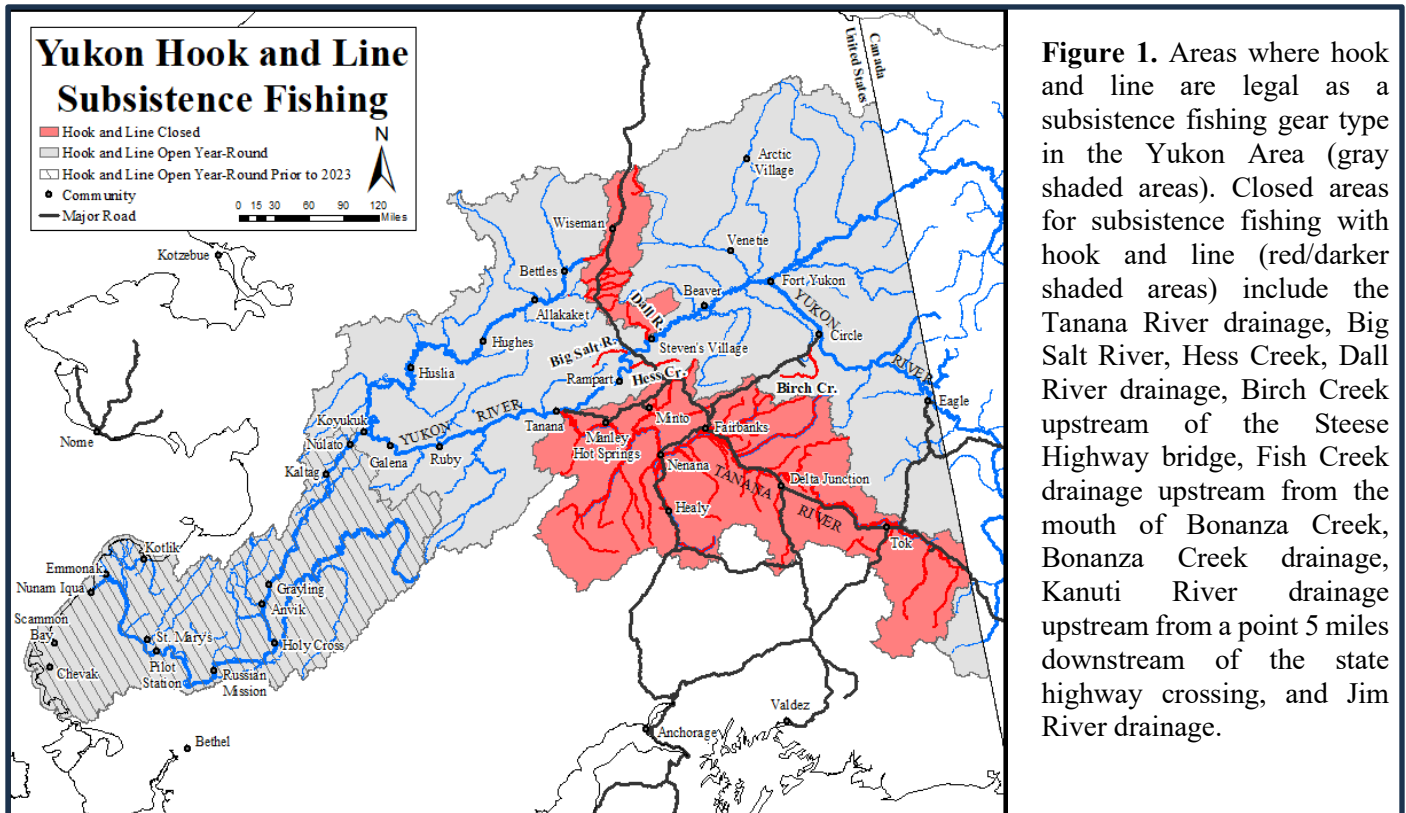


Figure 1. Areas where hook and line are legal as a subsistence fishing gear type in the Yukon Area (gray shaded areas). Closed areas for subsistence fishing with hook and line (red/darker shaded areas) include the Tanana River drainage, Big Salt River, Hess Creek, Dall River drainage, Birch Creek upstream of the Steese Highway bridge, Fish Creek drainage upstream from the mouth of Bonanza Creek, Bonanza Creek drainage, Kanuti River drainage upstream from a point 5 miles downstream of the state highway crossing, and Jim River drainage.

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 Federal manager has issued separate Federal special action FSA 2-KS-03-23 with the same fishing schedule that restrict fishing to federally qualified subsistence users in Federal Public waters. The Emmonak USFWS office is not open. 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.

