



Federal Subsistence Board

1011 East Tudor Road, MS 121
Anchorage, AK 99503-6199



YUKON AREA END OF FALL SEASON SCHEDULE IN DISTRICT 4 AND THE KOYUKUK RIVER

TEMPORARY SPECIAL ACTION

Under Authority of: 36 CFR 242.10 and .19
43 CFR 51.10 and .19

Temporary Special Action No: 2-FC-14-25 Issued at: Fairbanks, Alaska, September 23, 2025

Current restrictions will be rescinded on the following effective dates:

Thursday, October 16, 2025, 12:00 p.m. for Subdistrict 4-A Lower and Upper

Thursday, October 23, 2025, 12:00 p.m. for Subdistrict 4-BC

Current salmon closures and gillnet restrictions are extended through December 31 in the Koyukuk River drainage, but the 4-inch gillnet schedule is relaxed on the following effective date:

Thursday, October 30, 2025, 12:00 p.m. for Koyukuk River drainage

All restrictions in the Koyukuk River drainage expire Wednesday, December 31, 2025, 11:59 p.m.

EXPLANATION: As fall chum and coho salmon runs are nearing completion, subsistence fishing restrictions are being removed in most areas based on fall chum salmon travel time. As the drainagewide and tributary escapement goals for fall chum salmon were not met, the Koyukuk River drainage will remain closed to subsistence salmon fishing through December to protect active spawning fall chum salmon. **This Temporary Special Action announces the date when all Federal action and subsistence restrictions are rescinded in the Yukon River District 4 and the Koyukuk River.**

Currently, subsistence salmon fishing remains closed for Chinook and chum salmon. Fishing for coho salmon and nonsalmon with selective gear remains open 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Fishing with 4-inch or smaller mesh gillnets and manned fishwheels for coho salmon and nonsalmon is allowed from noon Thursdays to noon Sundays. Fishing for whitefish and other nonsalmon with 6-inch gillnets is open 24 hours per day, 7 days per week in designated, nonsalmon areas off the mainstem river only. Gillnets in all areas are restricted to 60-feet or less in length and must be operated as a set net near shore.

REGULATION:

On the effective dates below, 36 CFR 242.27(e)(3) and 43 CFR 51.27(e)(3) Subsistence taking of fish—Yukon-Northern Area are further amended to read:

*§ __.27(e)(3)(ii) – In Federal public waters of the Yukon River District 4, excluding the Koyukuk River drainage, **all Federal action and subsistence restrictions** (described above) **are rescinded on the following dates:***

Subdistrict 4-A Lower and Upper:

Effective Thursday, October 16, 12:00 p.m., all Federal actions and subsistence restrictions are rescinded. Subsistence fishing opens 24 hours per day, 7 days per week with 7.5-inch and smaller mesh gillnets and all other legal gear.

Subdistrict 4-BC:

Effective Thursday, October 23, 12:00 p.m., all Federal actions and subsistence restrictions are rescinded. Subsistence fishing opens 24 hours per day, 7 days per week with 7.5-inch and smaller mesh gillnets and all other legal gear.

Koyukuk River drainage closed area:

*§ __.27(e)(3)(ii) – In Federal public waters of the Koyukuk River drainage, **fishing with 4-inch or smaller mesh gillnets for coho salmon and nonsalmon will be allowed, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week on October 30 and restrictions are in effect until December 31:***

Effective Thursday, October 30, 12:00 p.m., fishing for coho salmon and non-salmon with gillnets of 4-inch and smaller mesh is allowed 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. **Chinook and chum salmon harvest remains closed.**

Effective Wednesday, December 31, 11:59 p.m., all Federal action and subsistence restrictions are rescinded. Subsistence fishing opens 24 hours per day, 7 days per week with 7.5-inch and smaller mesh gillnets and all other legal gear.

Coho salmon fishing remains limited to federally qualified subsistence users until these actions are rescinded. Salmon are not expected to be caught in significant numbers after restrictions are lifted. Please exercise caution when fishing near freeze-up as conditions could be unsafe. Gillnets of 6-inch and smaller mesh remain open in designated nonsalmon harvest areas.

JUSTIFICATION: Escapement goals are not expected to be met for Chinook or chum salmon; therefore, restrictions are necessary for the rest of the salmon season. The coho salmon run size supports limited subsistence harvest. In the mainstem Yukon River, restrictions and salmon harvest closures are being rescinded in October. For the Koyukuk drainage, where active salmon spawning occurs until much later, salmon harvest closures are extended until December 31, however, the 4-inch gillnet schedule is being relaxed to 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Pursuant to Title VIII of ANILCA, this Temporary Special Action (**2-FC-14-25**) rescinds subsistence fishing restrictions when migrating or spawning salmon are not expected to be caught in significant numbers.

This action was taken following coordination with the ADF&G fishery managers. The fishing schedules and/or removal of restrictions announced here match those issued concurrently by ADF&G in state waters (Fall Fishery Advisory Announcements #23). The Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Council Chairs for the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta, Eastern Interior, Western Interior, and Seward Peninsula Regional Advisory Councils were notified as was the Chair and vice-chair of the Yukon River Intertribal Fish Commission. Review was provided by the Office of Subsistence Management.



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Federal Subsistence Board by delegation to:

Holly C Carroll

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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Yukon River Inseason Fisheries Manager

Northern Alaska Fish and Wildlife Field Office

For additional information concerning Yukon River Federal Special Actions contact Assistant Yukon River Federal Manager Keith Herron at (907) 334-5391, or Yukon Federal Assessment Biologist Shane Ransbury at (907) 334-5389.

For information concerning State management actions, contact Acting Yukon River Fall Season Manager, Matthew Olson, and Summer Season Manager, Deena Jallen, in Fairbanks at (907) 459-7274. For fishing restrictions, schedules and counts for your area please call the toll-free recording: 1-866-479-7387

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