



## Federal Subsistence Board

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



### Yukon Area Gillnet Closure in Subdistrict 5-D

#### EMERGENCY SPECIAL ACTION

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

**Emergency Special Action No: 03-KS-16-26**

Issued at: Fairbanks, Alaska, July 2, 2026

Effective Date: Thursday, July 9, 2026, 8:00 p.m. for Subdistrict 5-D Lower  
Monday, July 13, 2026, 8:00 p.m. for Subdistrict 5-D Middle  
Friday, July 17, 2026, 8:00 p.m. for Subdistrict 5-D Upper

Expiration Date: Sunday, July 26, 2026, 8:00 p.m. for Subdistrict 5-D Lower;  
Thursday, July 30, 2026, 8:00 p.m. for Subdistrict 5-D Middle;  
Monday, August 3, 2026, 8:00 p.m. for Subdistrict 5-D Upper, unless superseded  
by subsequent special action

#### **EXPLANATION:**

This Emergency Special Action closes all gillnets for all users in the Federal public waters in Yukon fishing subdistrict 5-D. This action protects the Chinook salmon run. All gillnets must be completely removed from the water. Temporary Special Action **03-KS-10-26**, which previously closed Chinook and summer chum salmon fishing, allowed use of 4-inch and smaller mesh gillnets to target nonsalmon species. This action removes all gillnets to reduce incidental harvest of Chinook salmon during peak passage in each area. When this Emergency Special Action expires, fishing for species not closed to harvest may resume with gillnets limited to 4-inch mesh or smaller and 60 feet maximum length, operated as a set net near shore.

During the gillnet closure, fishermen may use selective gear such as, dip nets, beach seines, and hook and line gear for nonsalmon species. If Chinook and summer chum salmon are accidentally caught in selective gear, they should be released alive.

#### **REGULATION:**

Pursuant to **03-KS-10-26**, Chinook and summer chum salmon fishing is currently closed to all users, and gillnets of 4-inch and smaller may be used to target other species.

36 CFR 242.27(e)(3) and 43 CFR 51.27(e)(3) Subsistence taking of fish—Yukon-Northern Area is amended to read:

§ \_\_.27(e)(3)(ii) *In Federal public waters of the following Yukon River Drainage areas:*

**Subdistrict 5-D Lower (from an ADF&G regulatory marker two miles downstream of Waldron Creek upstream to the Hadweenzic River and all other adjacent tributaries, including the communities of Stevens Village and Beaver):**

**Effective 8 p.m. Thursday, July 9 until 8 p.m. Sunday, July 26, gillnet use is closed for all users. All gillnets must be completely removed from the water.**

**Subdistrict 5-D Middle (from the Hadweenzic River upstream to 22 Mile Slough, including the Porcupine River, all other adjacent tributaries, and the communities of Venetie, Chalkyitsik, Birch Creek and Fort Yukon):**

**Effective 8 p.m. Monday, July 13 until 8 p.m. Thursday, July 30, gillnet use is closed for all users. All gillnets must be completely removed from the water.**

**Subdistrict 5-D Upper (from 22 Mile Slough to the U.S./Canada border, including all adjacent tributaries and the communities of Circle and Eagle):**

**Effective 8 p.m. Friday, July 17 until 8 p.m. Monday, August 3, gillnet use is closed for all users. All gillnets must be completely removed from the water.**

**JUSTIFICATION:**

The drainage-wide Chinook salmon run is coming in stronger than previous years, however in season projections indicate escapement goals are unlikely to be met. Chinook salmon closures will be required for the duration of their migration. Pursuant to the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, this Emergency Special Action (**03-KS-16-26**) closes all gillnet use in Federal public waters of the Yukon River subdistrict 5-D during peak passage of the Chinook salmon run, due to concerns about the viability of the population. These complete gillnet closures will ensure no incidental salmon harvest occurs in lethal gillnets between the first quarter point and third quarter point of the Chinook salmon run.

**CONSULTATION AND OUTREACH:**

The Yukon River salmon outlooks and management strategies were discussed at a Federal public hearing; the Eastern Interior, Western Interior, and Yukon Kuskokwim Delta Regional Advisory Council meetings; the Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association preseason meeting; at the Yukon River Panel and at the Yukon River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission annual meeting. The Federal manager offered formal Government-to-Government Tribal Consultation meetings with Yukon River drainage Tribal Governments upon request. The Federal fishery outlook and management strategy was sent to all Yukon Tribal and City governments on April 7. Approximately 3,500 copies of the Preseason Outlook flier were mailed to Yukon River fishing households in May.

This action was taken in coordination with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) and USFWS fishery managers. The fishing schedules announced here match those issued concurrently by the ADF&G in State waters (**Summer Fishery Advisory Announcement #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 Executive Director of the Yukon River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission. Review was provided by the Office of Subsistence Management.

Federal Subsistence Board by delegation to:

*Holly C Carroll*  
Holly Carroll  
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 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.



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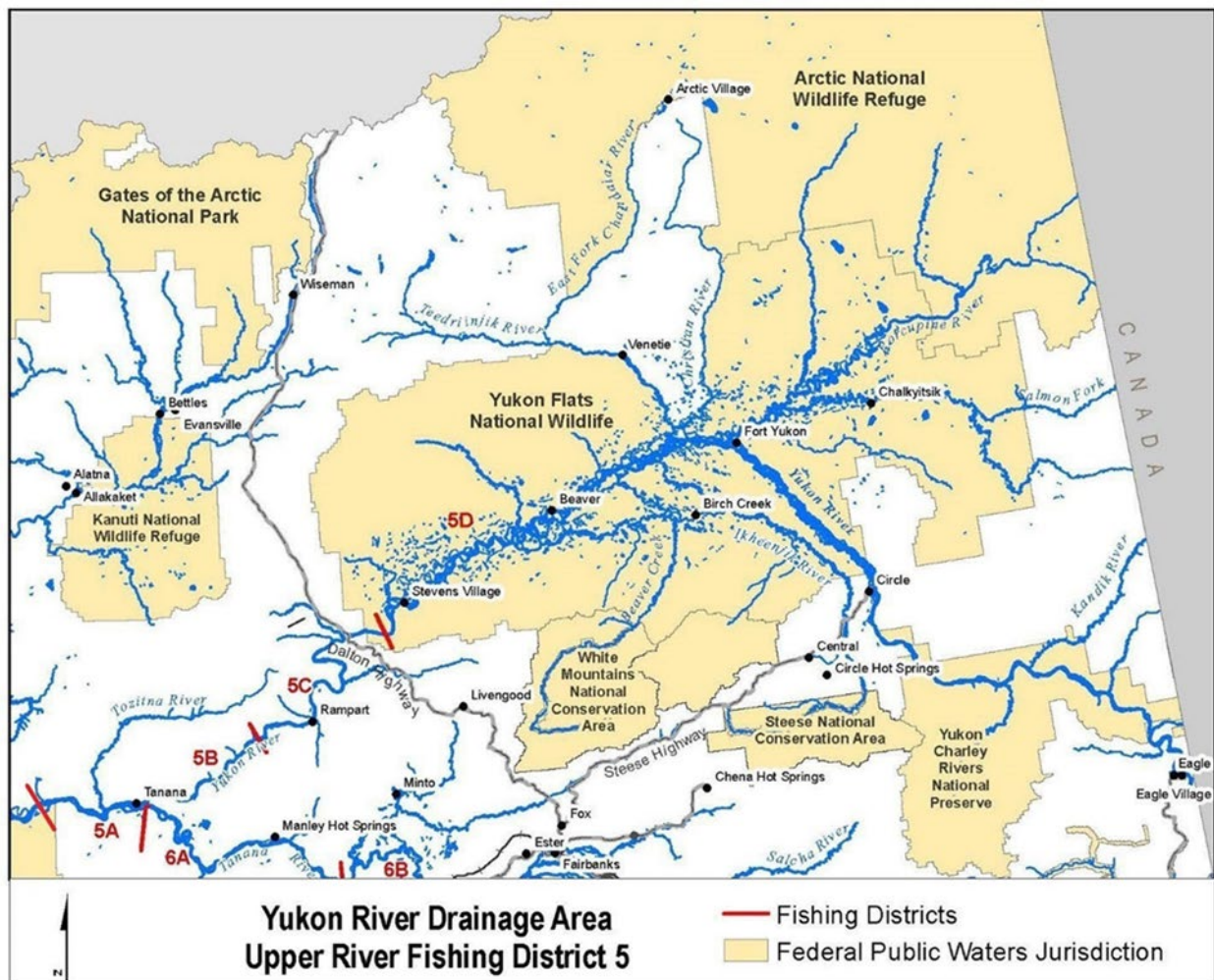


For information concerning State management actions contact: Summer Season Manager, Deena Jallen; [deena.jallen@alaska.gov](mailto:deena.jallen@alaska.gov), Fall Season Manager, Matthew Olson; [matthew.olson@alaska.gov](mailto:matthew.olson@alaska.gov), or call the Fairbanks office at (907) 459-7274 or Emmonak office at (907) 949-1320.

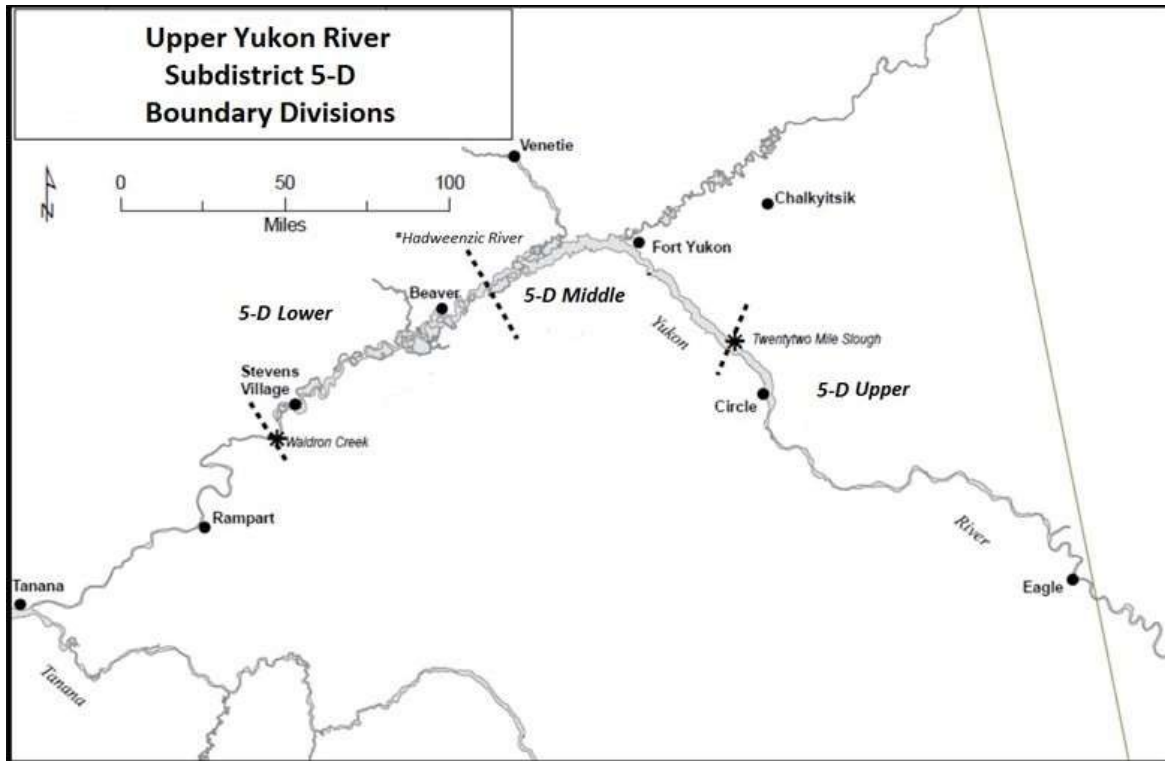
Information about the Federal Subsistence Management Program may be found on the web at [www.doi.gov/subsistence](http://www.doi.gov/subsistence) or by visiting [www.facebook.com/subsistencealaska](https://www.facebook.com/subsistencealaska).

**Missing out on the latest Federal subsistence issues?** To receive email updates on Federal Subsistence Management Program activities, send a request to [subsistence@ios.doi.gov](mailto:subsistence@ios.doi.gov).

**See below for a detailed area map of federal public waters in the Yukon River Drainage:** Communities and streams adjacent to the boundary of Federal lands are part of Federal waters, even on the opposite side of the river.



In District 5, the communities of Stevens Village, Beaver, Fort Yukon, Chalkyitsik are in Federal Waters. Tanana, Rampart, Circle and Eagle are in State waters.



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- Kevin Pendergast, State Director, Bureau of Land Management

**Also distributed to Tribal and City governments and any interested parties. If you did not receive this directly and want to, please contact Keith Herron.**