

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE**



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**2016 Yukon River Fall Salmon Fishery News Release # 44
Porcupine River Subsistence Fishing
Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area
Emergency Order #39**

Porcupine River fall chum salmon stock abundance has been low in recent years when compared to other stocks in the Yukon River drainage. Fall chum salmon escapements into the Canadian Fishing Branch River, a tributary of the Porcupine River, have fallen short of meeting the escapement objective agreed upon by U.S. and Canadian representatives in 4 of the last 6 years despite other Yukon River stocks meeting or exceeding their escapement goals or objectives. Similar to the action taken last year, in an attempt to improve fall chum escapement into the spawning grounds in Canada, the department is closing subsistence salmon fishing in the Alaska portion of the mainstem Porcupine River. Managers will closely monitor fall chum escapement into the Fishing Branch River throughout the season. If inseason information from the mainstem Porcupine River sonar and from the Fishing Branch River escapement monitoring projects indicate the fall chum salmon goal will be met, the department may relax subsistence fishing restrictions.

Beginning Wednesday, August 31, subsistence fishing for salmon in the mainstem Porcupine River will close.

Porcupine River:

Effective 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, August 31, subsistence salmon fishing in the mainstem Porcupine River, including those portions of the mainstem Yukon River around the 3 mouths of the Porcupine River (see attached map) will close to subsistence fishing. During this closure,

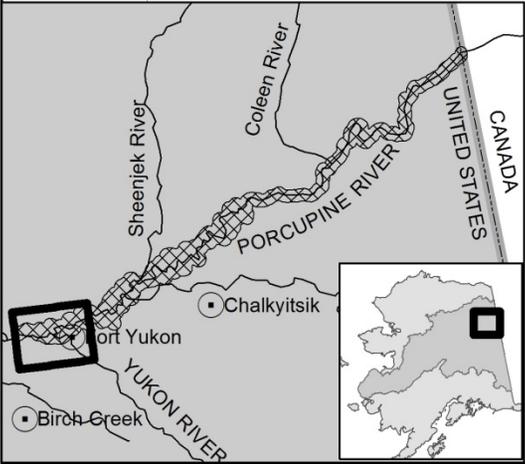
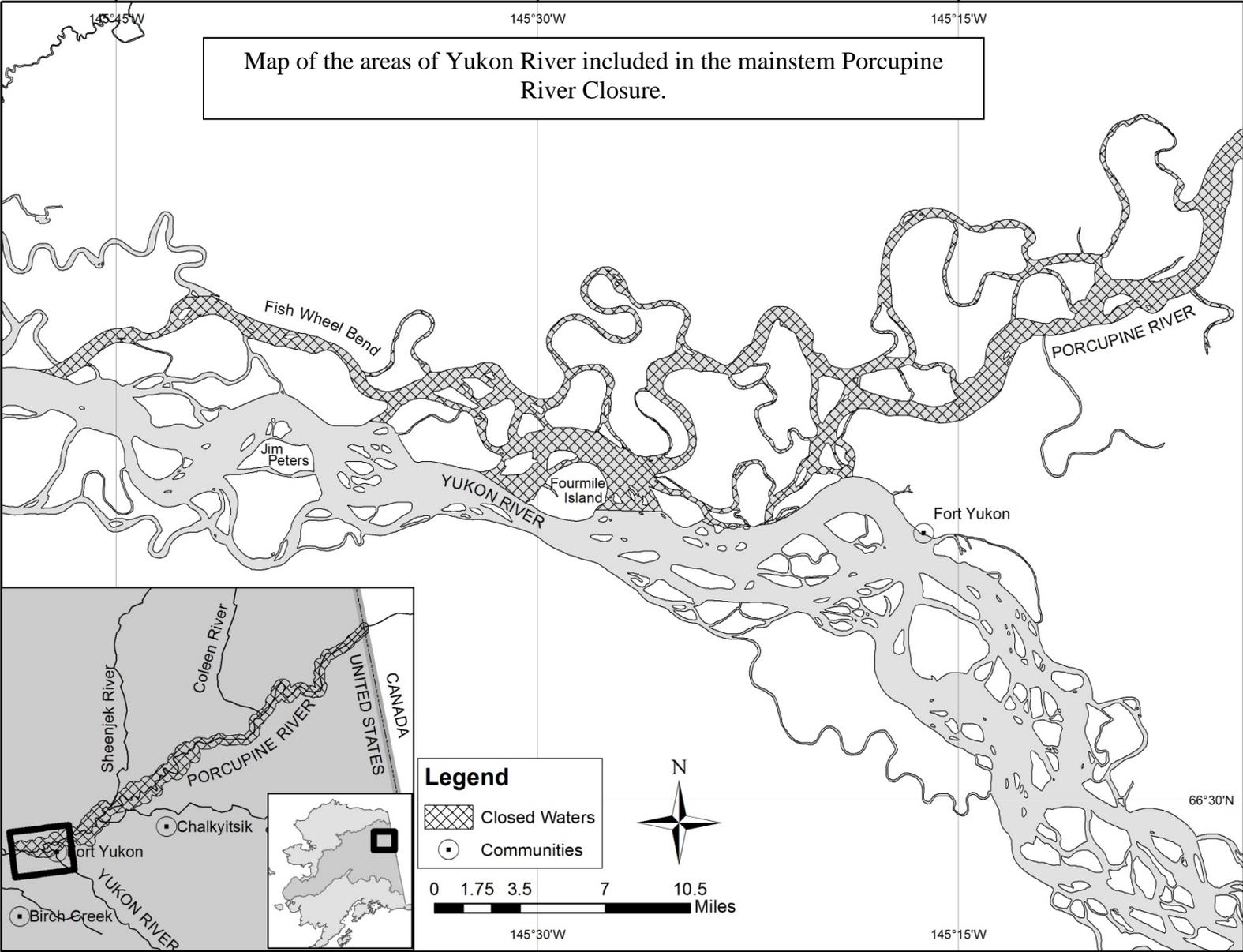
fishermen may fish for **non-salmon species** using gear with a mesh size of 4 inches or less. Tributaries such as the Sheenjek, Black, Coleen, and Salmon Trout Rivers will remain open.

Recorded fishery announcements and updates will be available 24 hours a day at 1-866-479-7387 (toll free). If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the Fairbanks ADF&G office at (907) 459-7274 or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Fairbanks at (907) 455-1845.

This has been an announcement by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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Map of the areas of Yukon River included in the mainstem Porcupine River Closure.



Legend
Closed Waters
Communities

