



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Land Management
National Park Service
Bureau of Indian Affairs

Federal Subsistence Board

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



Forest Service

YUKON RIVER FALL SALMON FISHERY CLOSURES RESCINDED

EMERGENCY SPECIAL ACTION

Under Authority of: 36 CFR 242.10 and .19
50 CFR 100.10 and .19

Emergency Special Action No: 2-FC-06-22 Issued at: Fairbanks, Alaska, September 13, 2022

Effective Date: Saturday, October 1, 2022, 12:01 am for all Federal public waters of the Yukon River Drainage

EXPLANATION:

The Federal Subsistence Board closed Federal public waters of the Yukon River drainage to the harvest of Chinook, summer and fall Chum, and Coho salmon except by Federally qualified subsistence users, effective on June 1, 2022, through September 30, 2022, with specific Federal subsistence fishing schedules, openings, closures, and fishing methods to be determined by the Federal Fisheries Manager.

As the Federal Board's action will have expired, this Emergency Special Action rescinds Emergency Special Actions 2-FC 04-22 and 2-FC 05-22 effective 12:01 am, October 1, 2022.

REGULATION:

50 CFR 100.27(e)(3) Subsistence taking of fish—Yukon-Northern Area (ii) For the Yukon River drainage, Federal subsistence fishing schedules, openings, closings, and fishing methods are the same as those issued for the subsistence taking of fish under Alaska Statutes (AS 16.05.060), unless superseded by a Federal special action.

JUSTIFICATION:

The fall Chum and Coho salmon runs are nearly complete in the lower river. Therefore, fishing restrictions are no longer required in the mainstem Yukon River, and mesh size restrictions are being removed in each District based on run timing. Pursuant to Section 816 of ANILCA, this Emergency Special Action (**2-FC-06-22**) removes all salmon fishing closures and mesh size restrictions in Federal Public waters of the mainstem Yukon River.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Beginning October 1, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) fishery managers will be removing fishing restrictions for the mainstem river based on migration timing beginning in the Coastal District and District 1. ADF&G will maintain fall Chum Salmon fishing closures in key spawning tributaries to protect spawning fall Chum Salmon, so fishermen are advised to follow ADF&G Advisory Announcements.



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CONSULTATION AND OUTREACH:

The Yukon River salmon outlooks and management strategies were discussed this winter at the Eastern Interior, Western Interior, and Yukon Kuskokwim Delta Regional Advisory Council meetings; Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association (YRDFA) annual Preseason Fisheries Meeting; and at the Yukon River Panel.

The Federal manager held formal preseason management strategy Government-to-Government Tribal Consultation meetings with Yukon River drainage Tribal Governments on April 18, 19, and 20. Tribal Consultations will continue throughout the season when possible and when requested by Tribal Governments. Approximately 3,500 copies of the Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Preseason Outlook flier were mailed to Yukon River fishing households at the end of April.

The ADF&G fishery managers will be removing fishing restrictions for the mainstem river based on migration timing beginning in the Coastal District and District 1, effective October 1.

This action was taken following consultation with the ADF&G fishery managers. The Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Council Chairs for the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta; Eastern Interior; Seward Peninsula; and Western Interior Regional Advisory councils were notified, and review was provided by the Office of Subsistence Management.

Federal Subsistence Board by delegation to:

Holly Carroll

Holly Carroll
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Yukon River Inseason Fisheries Manager
Northern Alaska Fish and Wildlife Field Office

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