

2024 U.S. Porcupine River Management Summary



Yukon Panel Meeting
January 29, 2025; Agenda Item 14
Presentation By: Matt Olson



2024 Outlook and Management Porcupine River Fall Chum Salmon

- Drainagewide Yukon River inseason run size projection was above 300,000 fall chum salmon.
 - Canadian-origin Fishing Branch River ~4% of the drainagewide projection (about 15,000 fish)
 - Interim Management Escapement Goal 22,000 to 49,000 fish would not be achieved.
 - Subsistence salmon fishing in the U.S. portion of Porcupine River drainage was expected to be closed.



Fall Chum Salmon Inseason Assessment

- Lower Yukon River
 - Drainagewide inseason projection: **377,000** (range 297,000 to 457,000)
 - Inseason estimate of Fishing Branch stocks (~4%) **15,000**
 - Drainagewide ended up 2nd lowest run size in 51 years
- Upper Yukon River
 - Escapement monitored at Porcupine River sonar: **8,799**
 - Fishing Branch River weir/sonar: **5,933**

Photo by: Bonnie Borba - chum salmon holding



Management Actions

- All fishing closed for fall chum salmon in U.S. Porcupine River drainage.
- Subsistence nonsalmon fishing:
 - 4-inch set gillnets limited to 60 feet in length.
 - Other nonsalmon gear require release of fall chum and Chinook salmon.
- U.S. Porcupine River drainage salmon closure through December.



Acknowledgements

Asa'carsarmiut Tribal Council

Tanana Chiefs Conference

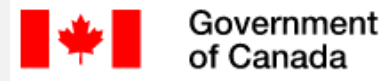
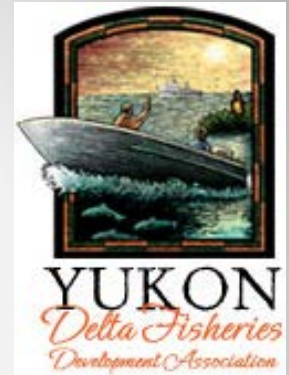
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Yukon Delta Fisheries Development
Association

Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association

Yukon River Intertribal Fish Commission

Fisheries and Oceans Canada



ADF&G Fall Season Team Contacts
907-459-7274

matthew.olson@alaska.gov
bonnie.borba@alaska.gov
andrew.padilla@alaska.gov

Acting Area Manager
Research Biologist
Assistant Research

USFWS Contacts
907-351-3029

holly_carroll@fws.gov
keith_herron@fws.gov
shane_ransbury@fws.gov

Subsistence Fishery Manager
Assistant Manager
Research Biologist