

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



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Commissioner
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**Kuskokwim River Salmon Fishery Announcement #3
Emergency Order #3-S-WR-02-19**

This is an announcement from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) in Bethel for subsistence fishermen in the Kuskokwim Area.

Subsistence fishing will be allowed on the Kuskokwim River mainstem within the Yukon Delta Refuge boundaries (Sections 1–3) with 4-inch or less mesh size set gillnets from 11:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m. Saturday, June 1, 2019. Set gillnets may not exceed 60 feet in length and 45 meshes in depth and may not be operated more than 100 feet from the ordinary high-water mark. The Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group voted unanimously to support this subsistence fishing period during their preseason meeting in May.

A reminder to subsistence fishermen: All subsistence gillnets must have a keg or buoy attached to the net with the fisherman's first initial, last name and an address clearly written on it.

As previously announced subsistence fishing with hook and line, fish wheels equipped with live boxes or chutes, beach seines, and dip nets is currently allowed until further notice though any Chinook salmon caught with these gear types must be returned immediately to the water alive.

As a reminder the next meeting of the Kuskokwim River Salmon Working Group is scheduled for Wednesday, June 5, 2019 at 10:00 a.m., at ADF&G office in Bethel. This meeting is open to the public. If you are unable to attend in person you may call 1-800-365-6338 passcode: 58756#, to attend via teleconference.

Further announcements will be made from the Bethel Fish and Game office, on the State of Alaska web site (<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>), and local radio stations. News releases will be faxed to area villages and local fish processing companies.

Federal Special Action

From June 1 through July 1, management of the king salmon subsistence fishery from the mouth of the Kuskokwim River upstream to the Yukon Delta NWR boundary at Aniak (defined as the Federal Conservation Unit) will be under authority of the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Federal Inseason Manager. For information regarding king salmon subsistence fishing within the Yukon Delta NWR please contact USFWS at 907-543-3151 or 907-543-1003.

For additional information concerning this news release:

ADF&G: Aaron Tiernan in Anchorage 907-267-2379 or Ben Gray 907-543-2331

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