

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



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P.O. Box 1467
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Date Issued: June 26, 2019
Time: 2:22 p.m.

**Kuskokwim River Salmon Fishery Announcement #6
Emergency Order #3-S-WR-5-19**

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

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game will be managing the chum and sockeye salmon fishery in the Kuskokwim River drainage effective 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 26. Subsistence fishing periods announced by the State of Alaska will be open to all Alaska State residents.

Yukon Delta NWR boundary at the mouth of the Kuskokwim River upstream to the Yukon Delta NWR boundary at Aniak (Sections 1–3):

Subsistence fishing will open beginning 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, June 26 until further notice. Below the Johnson River, gillnets are restricted to 6-inch or less mesh, 45 meshes in depth, and 50 fathoms in length. Above the Johnson River, gillnets are restricted to 6-inch or less mesh, 45 meshes in depth, and 25 fathoms in length.

Live release requirements of Chinook salmon while fishing with hook and line, dip nets, fish wheels, and beach seines are rescinded within the mainstem of the Kuskokwim River. Live release requirements will remain in effect within the closed waters of the Kwethluk, Kasigluk, Kisaralik, Tuluksak River drainages as previously announced; any Chinook salmon caught with these gear types in these waters must be returned immediately to the water alive

In addition, the waters of the Kuskokwim River near Aniak, from a line formed between two points lat 61° 35.264' N, long 159° 33.459' W and lat 61° 35.611' N, long 159° 33.260' W upstream to a line formed between two points lat 61° 35.308' N, long 159° 29.167' W and lat 61° 34.731' N, long 159° 28.939' W (Figure 1), will be closed to subsistence fishing with gillnets beginning 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, June 26, 2019 until further notice. Subsistence fishing with hook and line, fish wheels equipped with a live box or chute, beach seines and dip nets is allowed, **but all Chinook salmon caught must be returned to the water alive. These**

closed waters are in place to help provide protection for Chinook salmon bound for the Aniak River.

As Previously Announced:

Subsistence fishing in Sections 4 & 5 (Yukon Delta NWR boundary to the headwaters of the Kuskokwim River) remains open to the use of 6-inch or less mesh and 45 meshes in depth gillnets not to exceed 25 fathoms in length until further notice.

Subsistence fishing with gillnets will continue to be closed on these portions of the Kuskokwim River and the following tributaries:

- The Kwethluk River drainage to ADF&G regulatory markers located at its confluence with Kuskokuak Slough.
- The Kasigluk and Kisaralik river drainages including Old Kuskokuak Slough to ADF&G regulatory markers at the confluence of Old Kuskokuak Slough with Kuskokuak Slough.
- The Tuluksak River drainage including its confluence with the Kuskokwim River and downstream approximately 1-mile to ADF&G regulatory markers.
- The Aniak River drainage to ADF&G regulatory markers at its confluence with the Kuskokwim River.

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. For additional information or questions regarding Kuskokwim Area fisheries, contact the Alaska Department of Fish and Game office in the Bethel at 543-2433 or toll free at 1-855-933-2433.

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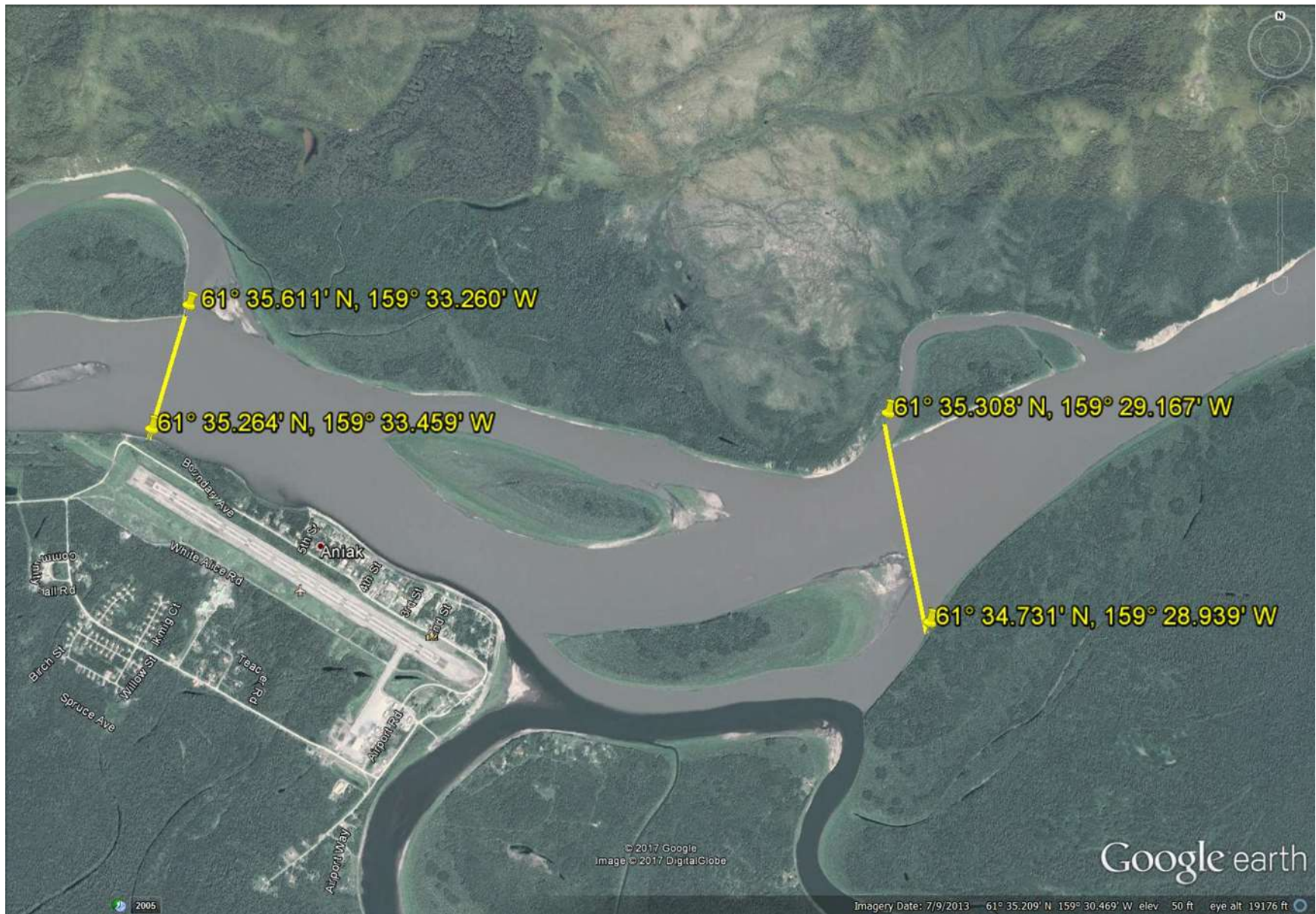


Figure 1.— Map of Aniak area closed waters.