

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



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Preliminary 2020 Kuskokwim River Subsistence Fishery Outlook

This is a joint announcement from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for fishermen in the Kuskokwim Area.

Preliminary 2020 Chinook Salmon Forecast

The preliminary 2020 Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon forecast is for a range of 200,000–260,000 fish. The drainagewide Chinook salmon escapement goal is 65,000–120,000 fish. If the run comes back as projected, the drainagewide escapement goal is expected to be achieved and a full subsistence harvest may be realized.

The 2020 Chinook salmon forecast will be revised once 2019 Chinook salmon subsistence harvest estimates and all escapement numbers are available in early 2020. It is unlikely that the revised final forecast will deviate significantly from the preliminary forecast based on available stock assessment information. The finalized forecast will further inform discussions of management strategies with the Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group.

2020 Run and Harvest Outlook for Kuskokwim River Salmon

	Chinook	Chum¹	Sockeye¹	Coho¹
Projection:	Average 200,000–260,000	Average	Above Average	Average
Escapement:	Expect to meet goals 65,000–120,000	Expect to meet goals	Expect to meet goals	Expect to meet goals
Subsistence:	Expect to provide for normal harvest	Expect to provide for normal harvest	Expect to provide for normal harvest	Expect to provide for normal harvest
Amounts reasonably necessary for subsistence (ANS)	67,200–109,800	41,200–116,400	32,200–58,700	27,400–57,600

Note: There is no commercial buyer registered at this time.

¹The Kuskokwim Area has no formal forecast for chum, sockeye, or coho salmon returns, but broad expectations are developed based on parent-year escapements and recent year trends.

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