

Division of Commercial Fisheries
Forrest Bowers, Acting Director

Kuskokwim Area Office
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Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner

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Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: September 18, 2025

Time: 4:00 p.m.

CONTACT: Sam Decker and Madison Hardwig

**Kuskokwim Area Management Biologists
(907) 459-7295**

Kuskokwim River Salmon Fishery Announcement #7

Emergency Order #3-S-WR-06-26

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

Kuskokwim River sonar operations are complete for the 2026 season and through August 25 approximately 164,000 coho salmon were counted. Historical average (2020–2023 and 2025) coho salmon passage through the sonar is approximately 268,000 fish. The observed coho passage at the Kogrukluk River weir is below average and a total count is unavailable at this time due to high water events throughout the season. The coho run is mostly complete for the 2026 season and restrictions to the subsistence fishery are no longer necessary.

In the Kuskokwim River Drainage (Subsistence Sections 1-5, from the mouth of the Kuskokwim River to the headwaters):

- Effective **5:00 p.m. Friday, September 18**, subsistence fishing will open.
- **As a reminder to fishers:**
 - All Subsistence gears are allowed.
 - All salmon and non-salmon may be retained.
 - Gillnets may be up to 50 fathoms in length.
 - Gillnets may not obstruct more than one-half of the width of any stream, channel, or side-channel.
 - Gillnets with 6-inch or less mesh size have a maximum depth of 45 meshes.
 - Gillnets with greater than 6-inch mesh size have a maximum depth of 35 meshes.
 - Gear must be marked with a red buoy with the fisher's first initial, last name and address.

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. Advisory Announcements will be faxed to area villages. 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.

For additional information concerning this advisory announcement:

ADF&G: Sam Decker 907-459-7295

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