

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director



Contact:

Aaron Poetter, Area Management Biologist
Aaron Tiernan, Asst. Area Management Biologist
Phone: (907) 543-2433
Toll Free: 855-933-2433
Fax: (907) 543-2021

Kuskokwim Area Office
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Bethel, AK 99559
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2014 Kuskokwim River Salmon Fishery Announcement #4

This news release summarizes subsistence fishing restrictions implemented by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), to date, for the conservation Chinook salmon returning to the Kuskokwim River.

Marine waters near the Kuskokwim River mouth:

Marine waters near the Kuskokwim River mouth (Figure 1) from a point east of the Ishkowik River at 59°58.928' N, 162°40.659' W to the northern boundary of District W-4 (at Weelung Creek) were closed to subsistence fishing from 12:01 a.m. June 1, 2014 until further notice. Emergency order #3-S-WR-02-14.

Coastal waters from Ishkowik River to Naskonat Peninsula:

Subsistence fishing with gillnets is restricted to gillnets with 6 inch mesh or less in marine coastal waters from the Ishkowik River at 59°58.928' N, 162°40.659' W, to the Naskonat Peninsula. This restriction went into effect 12:01 a.m. Tuesday, June 3, 2014 until further notice. Emergency order #3-S-WR-03-14.

From the Yukon Delta NWR boundary at Aniak to the Holitna River mouth:

This area is currently closed to subsistence fishing for salmon and subsistence fishing for non-salmon species with gillnets is restricted to gillnets with 4-inch or less mesh size not exceeding 60-feet in length and 45 meshes in depth. Emergency order #3-S-WR-01-14.

The Holitna River Mouth to the Headwaters of the Kuskokwim River: Section 5

Subsistence fishing for salmon is scheduled to close at 12:01 a.m., Wednesday, June 4, 2014 and subsistence fishing for non-salmon species with gillnets will be restricted to gillnets with 4-inch or less mesh size not exceeding 60-feet in length and 45 meshes in depth. Emergency order #3-S-WR-01-14.

Period scheduling and duration for chum and sockeye salmon directed subsistence fishing will be based on inseason run assessment and may be limited by gear and area to reduce incidental harvest of Chinook salmon. These periods will be announced from the Bethel Fish and Game office at a later date.

News releases will be distributed via the ADF&G news release system, posted 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. You can subscribe to receive Kuskokwim Area news releases at the web site listed above. 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.



Figure 1.—Kuskokwim River marine closed waters.