## ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

**NEWS RELEASE** 



Sam Cotten, Commissioner Scott Kelley, Director



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## Kuskokwim River Salmon Fishery Announcement #3 Emergency Order #3-S-WR-02-18

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 with 4-inch or less mesh size set gillnets from 11:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m. Wednesday, May 30, 2018. 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 opportunity during their preseason meeting in April.

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, May 30, 2018 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 (<a href="http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main">http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main</a>), and local radio stations. News releases will be faxed to area villages and local fish processing companies.

## For additional information concerning this news release:

ADF&G: Aaron Tiernan in Anchorage 907-267-2379 or Colton Lipka 907-543-2331 USFWS: Ken Stahlnecker or Ray Born in Bethel 907-543-3151