

**SAMPLE DRAFT CONCEPTS
FOR KUSKOKWIM RIVER SUBSISTENCE [PERMITS, HARVEST RECORDS,
CERTIFICATES ...]**

Note: The following is not regulatory language, but concepts from the Kuskokwim Subsistence Salmon Panel to the Board of Fisheries; as such, the specific wording may change.

5 AAC 01.280. Subsistence fishing permits.

(a) Except as provided in this section, fish may be taken for subsistence purposes without a subsistence fishing permit.

(b) In times of king salmon conservation, the commissioner may close the Kuskokwim River drainage subsistence fishery and immediately reopen the fishery with the following provisions. In the Kuskokwim River drainage, subsistence fishing for king salmon is allowed only by permit. For purposes of this section, [permit/harvest record/certificate] is synonymous with “permit”.

(1) A Kuskokwim River drainage king salmon community subsistence fishing [permit/harvest record/certificate] may be issued to communities or groups of _____ or more individuals who demonstrate a communal subsistence pattern of use of king salmon as described in the applicable board finding.

(i) Season dates for Kuskokwim River king salmon drainage community subsistence fishing [permit/harvest record/certificate] are _____ (perhaps earlier than household permit: May 20?) to _____ (July 31?).

(ii) Annual permit limit is _____ (higher than household permit?) king salmon per [permit/harvest record/certificate].

(4) A household [permit/harvest record/certificate] for Kuskokwim River king salmon may be issued.

(i) Season dates for household [permit/harvest record/certificate] are _____ (June 10?) to _____ (July 31?).

(ii) Annual limit is _____ for a household of one, and _____ for each additional household member.

(5) Members of households listed on a Kuskokwim River king salmon community fishing [permit/harvest record/certificate] are not eligible for a separate household Kuskokwim River king salmon subsistence fishing [permit/harvest record/certificate];

(7) This regulation expires at _____ (Next Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim meeting 2019? Following AYK meeting 2022?).

(c) Unless otherwise provided in this section, regulations governing fishing under the authority of a community [permit/harvest record/certificate] issued under (b) of this section, or other [permit/harvest record/certificate] issued under this section, are those generally applicable to the statewide subsistence finfish regulations regarding subsistence fishing permits and reports outlined in 5 AAC 01.015.

(d) The [permit/harvest record/certificate] must be retained, and in the possession of the permittee, and readily available for inspection upon request by a peace officer of the state, while taking or transporting Kuskokwim River king salmon taken for subsistence uses under this [permit/harvest record/certificate].

(e) A record of subsistence-caught king salmon must be kept on the reverse side of the [permit/harvest record/certificate]. The record must be completed immediately upon taking subsistence-caught king salmon and must be returned to the local representative of the department no later than _____ (September 30?).

(f) A permittee who fails to comply with reporting requirements in this section is ineligible to receive a subsistence fishing [permit/harvest record/certificate] for Kuskokwim River king salmon subsistence fishing during the following calendar year, unless the applicant demonstrates to the department that failure to report was due to unavoidable circumstances; notwithstanding the provisions of this paragraph, the department may determine that it is administratively impractical to apply the penalty for failure to report.

The panel also recommended the following as language to be on the [permit/harvest record/certificate...]

1. Species caught while fishing for king salmon must be retained. [Use “wanton waste” language/use unfit for “human consumption” language/put a version of this language on the permit itself].
2. Permit limits tied to abundance: “up to” or “no more than” language added to permit limits; permit limits compared to pre-season forecasts, estimates of run abundance.
3. Pre-season registration: deadlines for signing up for the permits needs to be timely in order to determine the number of people who want to fish under this opportunity.
4. Availability of permits: on line, villages, in person, etc.
5. Consider developing instructions to community coordinators (who fishes, when he/she delivers fish, etc.)
6. Consider allowing even-numbered permits to fish on even-numbered days, and odd-numbered permits to fish on odd-numbered days.

The panel also asks the board to consider the following additional concepts for discussion at the board’s October 2015 Work Session:

1. When fishing for other species, what should be done with incidental harvest of king salmon?
2. Limiting the number of communities.

SAMPLE DRAFT FINDING OF BOARD OF FISHERIES REGARDING SUBSISTENCE USES OF KUSKOKWIM RIVER KING SALMON

Note: The following is not regulatory language or final language for a Board finding, but concepts from the Kuskokwim Subsistence Salmon Panel to the Board of Fisheries; as such, the specific wording may change.

The board finds that subsistence uses of king salmon are used in two general patterns. The first is a communal pattern of use exhibited by:

1. Long term drying racks w/ a smoke house established for processing quantities of fish and significant time/effort required for participation in this pattern of use
2. Salvage/preservation of majority of carcass, (excluding viscera) for human consumption
3. Includes extended sharing of activities involving harvest, processing and preservation in processing activities and extended sharing of harvest within the community.
4. A pattern of use dependent on earlier season harvest for preservation due to more favorable weather conditions that reduce waste and spoilage concerns; and recognizes conflict with later seasonal subsistence activities that are also dependent on, and/or limited to, short periods for effective harvest due to weather factors etc., inherent to seasonal round aspect of subsistence activities.
5. Incorporates reliance on this use pattern for reasonable opportunity in providing for their subsistence needs and amounts necessary.

The board also finds an individual or household pattern of use exhibited by: [to be provided at a later date].