

Division of Commercial Fisheries  
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## Advisory Announcement

*For Immediate Release: July 30, 2020*

**Time: 12:12 p.m.**

**CONTACT: Nick Smith and Ben Gray**

**Kuskokwim Area Management Biologists  
(907) 267-2379**

## Kuskokwim River Salmon Fishery Announcement #12

### Emergency Order #3-S-WR-11-20

This is an announcement from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Bethel for fishermen in the Kuskokwim Area. The Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group was informed of these management actions.

#### **Kuskokwim River Drainage:**

**Effective 12:01 a.m. Saturday, August 1, 2020**, the following restrictions to the mainstem Kuskokwim River subsistence salmon fishery are rescinded:

- 6-inch or less mesh requirements for subsistence gillnets;
- 25 fathom gillnet length restrictions from the mouth of the Johnson River upstream to the headwaters of the Kuskokwim River (Sections 2–5); and
- The closed waters around the mouth of the Aniak River.

#### **The following management actions will be in effect:**

- Unrestricted mesh and 50 fathom length for subsistence gillnets from the mouth of the Kuskokwim River upstream to the headwaters of the Kuskokwim River (Subsistence Sections 1–5).

**Subsistence fishing with gillnets will remain closed in the following tributaries until 11:59 p.m. Monday, August 31, 2020:**

- The Eek River to its confluence with the Kuskokwim River.
- The Kwethluk River drainage to its confluence with Kuskokuak Slough.
- The Kasigluk and Kisaralik river drainages to their confluences with Old Kuskokuak Slough.
- The Tuluksak River drainage including its confluence with the Kuskokwim River and downstream approximately 1-mile to ADF&G regulatory markers.
- The Aniak River drainage to ADF&G regulatory markers at its confluence with the Kuskokwim River.

**In addition:** Live release requirements for Chinook salmon while fishing with hook and line, dip nets, fish wheels, and beach seines remain in effect within the Eek, Kwethluk, Kasigluk, Kisaralik, Tuluksak, and Aniak River drainages until **11:59 p.m. Monday, August 31, 2020**. Any Chinook salmon caught must be returned to the water alive.

#### **COVID-19**

Under Alaska's Health Mandates 10, 11, and 12, Subsistence fishing is Essential and is part of Alaska's Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Subsistence fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities follow

protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Mandates. COVID-19 Health Mandates may be found here: <https://gov.alaska.gov/home/covid19-healthmandates/>

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>), local radio stations, and Kuskokwim River Facebook Page (<https://www.facebook.com/KuskoRiverFishingADFG/>). 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:** Nicholas Smith in Anchorage 907-267-2379 or Ben Gray 907-543-2331

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