

Bureau of Indian Affairs

## Federal Subsistence Board News Release



For Immediate Release:	Contact:
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Closure of Federal public waters of the Kuskokwim River to the harvest of Chinook and Chum salmon by Federally qualified subsistence users.

The Federal In-Season Manager has closed Federal public waters of the Kuskokwim River to Federally qualified subsistence users effective immediately. This closure will be in place until run assessment suggests a harvest opportunity for Chinook and Chum salmon can be provided to Federally qualified subsistence users on the Federal public waters.

On June 1, the Federal Subsistence Board closed Federal public waters of the Kuskokwim River drainage to the harvest of Chinook and Chum salmon except by Federally qualified subsistence users identified in the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act Section 804 Subsistence User Prioritization analysis. Federally qualified subsistence users include residents of the Kuskokwim River drainage and the villages of Chefornak, Kipnuk, Kwigillignok, and Kongiganak.

For the Kuskokwim area, Federal subsistence fishing schedules, openings, closings, and methods are the same as those issued for the subsistence taking of fish under Alaska Statutes (AS 16.05.060).

For species other than Chinook and Chum salmon, subsistence fishing with gillnets is closed in the Kuskokwim River and select tributaries under State regulations on Emergency Order 3-S-WR-01-16.

This restriction has been implemented by Emergency Special Action (3-KS-01-16) under the delegated authority of the Federal Subsistence Board. Read the Emergency Special Action at https://www.doi.gov/subsistence.

Access up-to-date information on fishing opportunities by calling 907-543-1037 or visit the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge <u>Facebook</u> page or <u>website</u>.

**Questions?** Call the Refuge at (907) 543-3151 or at (800) 621-5804.

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