



Federal Subsistence Management Program 2023-2025 Fisheries Proposals

*Comment period open through
July 27, 2022*



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Comment period open through July 27, 2022*

Send your written comments on the enclosed proposals to:

Federal Subsistence Board
Office of Subsistence Management
(Attn: Theo Matuskowitz)
1011 E. Tudor Road, MS-121
Anchorage, Alaska 99503-6199
E-mail: subsistence@fws.gov

**Comments received after July 27, 2022, will be available to the Federal Subsistence Board for their consideration; however, they will not be included in Fall 2022 Regional Advisory Council meeting materials or in any proposal analysis.*

After December 31, 2022, anyone wishing to provide written comments may do so only by delivering comments directly to the Federal Subsistence Board at its regulatory meeting scheduled for January, 2023. The commenter must include 30 copies of their written comments for distribution at the meeting. No written comments will otherwise be accepted after that deadline.

Cover photo: Subsistence driftnet fishing on Kuskokwim River

INTRODUCTION

The Federal Subsistence Board (Board) invites your comments on the enclosed proposals to change Federal subsistence fish and shellfish regulations for the 2023–2025 regulatory years (April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2025) and proposals to change nonrural determinations. These proposals seek changes to existing Federal subsistence regulations for the taking of fish and shellfish on Federal public lands in Alaska and existing nonrural determinations. Proposals submitted during the current regulatory cycle can be found beginning on page 1.

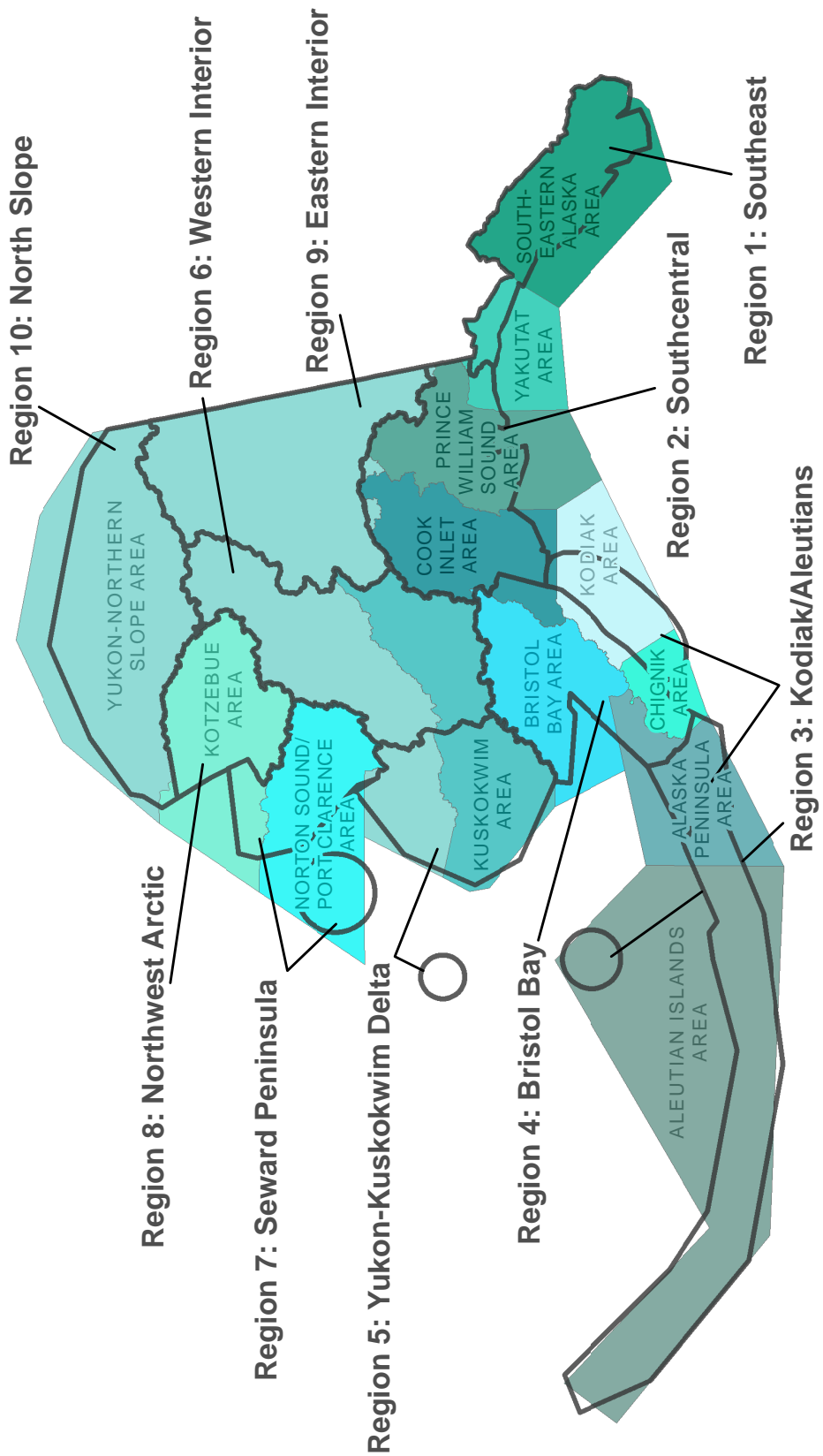
In addition, the Board is asking for your comments on existing fisheries closures that will be reviewed by the Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils and the Board during this fisheries cycle. The fisheries closures being reviewed can be found beginning on page 65.

You may mail your comments to the Federal Subsistence Board at the address on the previous page of this book or email them to subsistence@fws.gov. **Please refer to a specific proposal number or fisheries closure number in your comments.** All comments received by **July 27, 2022** will be included in the meeting materials for the appropriate Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils (RACs) to discuss at their fall meetings and the Board at its spring meeting. Comments received after July 27, 2022 will be forwarded to the Board for their consideration, but will not be included in RAC meeting materials or in proposal analyses.

Before making decisions on these proposals, the Board considers technical analyses prepared by its staff, recommendations from the 10 Councils, and any written public comments and oral testimony it receives on the proposal, along with Tribal comments received during government-to-government consultations, consistent with the Tribal Consultation Policy, and comments received from Alaska Native Corporations. The Board may consider and act on alternatives that address the intent of a proposal while differing in approach. Once the Board makes its decisions, it will publish the fisheries changes as final regulations for the 2023–2025 regulatory years, effective April 1, 2023, and distribute the fisheries regulation book throughout Alaska.

Missing out on the latest Federal subsistence issues? If you'd like to receive emails and notifications on the Federal Subsistence Management Program you may subscribe for regular updates by emailing:
fws-fsb-subsistence-request@lists.fws.gov.

Federal Subsistence Resource Regions and Fishery Management Areas



GENERAL INFORMATION

Federal Subsistence Board

The Federal Subsistence Board oversees the Federal Subsistence Management Program. Board members include the Alaska directors of five Federal agencies: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and U.S. Forest Service. The Chair is a representative of the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture. Two additional public members are appointed by the Secretaries to represent rural subsistence users.

Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils (Council(s)), State of Alaska representatives, and the general public play an active role in the regulatory process. You can find information about the Federal Subsistence Board on the Program website at: www.doi.gov/subsistence or by contacting the Office of Subsistence Management at (800) 478-1456 or (907) 786-3888.

Regional Advisory Councils

The Federal Subsistence Management Program divides Alaska into 10 subsistence resource regions, each represented by a Subsistence Regional Advisory Council. These 10 Councils provide an opportunity for Alaskans to contribute in a meaningful way to the management of subsistence resources. Subsistence users have the opportunity to comment and offer input on subsistence issues at Council meetings. Councils meet a least twice a year. The Councils develop proposals to change Federal subsistence regulations and review and make recommendations on proposals submitted by others.

Council membership

The Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture appoint Council members. Members must reside in the subsistence region they wish to represent and have knowledge of subsistence resources, as well as both subsistence and commercial/sport uses. Each year the Office of Subsistence Management accepts applications and nominations for membership during September–January. If you are interested in applying for membership, please contact Katya Wessels or the council coordinator for your region.

Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Council Coordinators

Council coordinators facilitate communication between the Councils and the Federal Subsistence Board. Each coordinator is responsible for one or two regions and serves as a contact for the Councils, Federal agency staff, and the public. Contact a coordinator for more information on the activities of each Council.

Southeast Region

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deanna.perry@usda.gov

Southcentral Region

Jessica Gill
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Kodiak/Aleutians and Northwest Arctic Regions

Lisa Hutchinson
ANCHORAGE
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lisa_hutchinson@fws.gov

Western Interior and Seward Peninsula Regions

Nissa Bates-Pilcher
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Bristol Bay and North Slope Regions

Leigh Honig
ANCHORAGE
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Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta and Eastern Interior

Brooke McDavid
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(800) 478-1456
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For information on Regional Advisory Council membership, contact:

Katerina "Katya" Wessels
(800) 478-1456 or (907) 786-3885
Fax: (907) 786-3898
katerina_wessels@fws.gov

Proposal Number	Species	General Description	Page
Yukon- Northern Area			
FP23-01	Non-Salmon fish	Rescind Jim River closure to fish other than salmon; modify to allow rod and reel only, establish Arctic Grayling harvest limit	1
FP23-02	Salmon	Add Chevak, Hooper Bay, and Scammon Bay to the Customary and Traditional use determination for the Yukon River drainage	4
Kodiak Area			
FP23-05a	Salmon	Revise the Customary and Traditional use determination for the Kodiak Area	5
FP23-05b	Salmon	Revise the area descriptors	5
FP23-06a	Salmon	Rescind closure in Womens bay; modify to add rod and reel and limits	8
FP23-06b	Salmon	Rescind closure in the Buskin River; modify to add rod and reel and limits	8
Cook Inlet Area			
FP23-07	Chinook Salmon	Match current sport fish size restrictions for the Kenai River.	10
FP23-08/09/10/11/12/13	Salmon	Add Moose Pass to the Customary and Traditional use determination for the Kenai River drainage	12
Prince William Sound Area			
FP23-14	Salmon	Add the residents along the Richardson Highway between MP 45 and 47 to the Customary and Traditional use determination for the Chitina subdistrict.	19

FP23-15/16	Salmon	<i>Add the residents along the Alaska Highway between the Canada Border and Dot Lake to the Customary and Traditional use determination for the Chitina subdistrict.</i>	21
FP23-17/18	Salmon	<i>Revise the start of the subsistence fishery in the Upper Copper River District from May 15 to June 1.</i>	29
FP23-19	Salmon	<i>Rescind the Lower Copper River Area dip net and rod and reel fishery .</i>	31
Southeast Alaska Area			
FP23-20	Shellfish	<i>Revise the Customary and Traditional use determination for Residents of the Southeast Alaska Area</i>	32
FP23-21	Sockeye Salmon	<i>Close Federal public waters of Kah Sheets Lake and River to harvest by Non Federally Qualified Users</i>	35
Nonrural Determination Proposal	Area	Description	Page
NDP25-01	<i>Ketchikan Area</i>	<i>Request for Ketchikan Area to be considered a rural community</i>	36

FP23-01

Your name and contact information (address, phone, fax, or E-mail address)

- Western Interior Alaska Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Council
- (907) 786-3888

Your organization (if applicable)

- NA

What regulations you wish to change. Include management unit number and species. Quote the current regulation if known. If you are proposing a new regulation, please state, “new regulation.”

- Rescind the closure to the harvest of non-salmon fish in the Jim River drainage by Federally qualified subsistence users and modify regulations to allow rod and reel gear only and a Grayling harvest and possession limit of 10 per day.

Write the regulation the way you would like to see it written in the regulations**Yukon-Northern Area**

§___.27(e)(3)

(i) Unless otherwise restricted in this section, you may take fish in the Yukon-Northern Area at any time...You may subsistence fish for salmon with rod and reel in the Yukon River drainage 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, unless rod and reel are specifically otherwise restricted in this paragraph (e)(3).

(ii) For the Yukon River drainage, Federal subsistence fishing schedules, openings, closings, and fishing methods are the same as those issued for the subsistence taking of fish under Alaska Statutes (AS 16.05.060 [emergency orders]), unless superseded by a Federal special action.

(v) Except as provided in this section, and except as may be provided by the terms of a subsistence fishing permit, you may take fish other than salmon at any time.

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Yukon-Northern Area

(ix) You may not subsistence fish in the following drainages located north of the main Yukon River:

~~(C) Jim River including Prospect and Douglas Creeks.~~

(xiii) You may take salmon only by gillnet, beach seine, dip net, fish wheel, or rod and reel, subject to the restrictions set forth in this section.

(D) In the Jim River drainage including Prospect and Douglas Creek you may not harvest salmon.

(xvii) Unless otherwise specified in this section, you may take fish other than salmon by set gillnet, drift gillnet, beach seine, fish wheel, long line, fyke net, dip net, jigging gear, spear, lead, or rod and reel, subject to the following restrictions, which also apply to subsistence salmon fishing:

(B) You may not use an aggregate length of set gillnet in excess of 150 fathoms, and each drift gillnet may not exceed 50 fathoms in length.

(C) In Districts 4, 5, and 6, you may not set subsistence fishing gear within 200 feet of other fishing gear operating for commercial, personal, or subsistence use

(G) In the Jim River drainage including Prospect and Douglas Creeks you may harvest fish other than salmon with rod and reel only; the grayling harvest and possession limit is 10 per day.

Explain why this regulation change should be made

This proposal would continue subsistence uses by allowing harvest of non-salmon fish by Federally qualified subsistence users in an area that is currently closed. The Federal Subsistence Board adopted this closure in 1990 to minimize disruption of the State's management of fish, while at the same time fulfilling the requirements of ANILCA Title VIII. Under this regulation, use has been closed to Federally qualified subsistence users under State and Federal regulations but open to sport fishing under State regulations.

The Council believes there is verifiable traditional use of non-salmon fish in this drainage and a limited harvest by rod and reel should be allowed. If subsistence users are going to travel down the river for Grayling, the harvest limit should be increased to justify time and expense. Allowing for a reasonable harvest of Grayling would re-establish a subsistence priority use of fish. Limiting harvest to rod and reel gear only would ensure continued viability of fish in the area. While the Council also believes there is verifiable traditional use of salmon in this drainage, the salmon runs cannot support any harvest at this time and the closure should only be rescinded for non-salmon fish.

During our fall 2021 meeting, the Council recommended eliminating the closure to the harvest of all fish in the Jim River drainage and modifying regulations to allow rod and reel gear only and a Grayling harvest and possession limit of 10 per day. Our recommendation was supported by the Interagency Staff Committee; the Alaska Department of Fish and Game was neutral and provided no comment. However, during the Board's 2021 regulatory meeting, the Solicitor's Office expressed concern that any action taken by the Board beyond simply eliminating or maintaining the closure would not allow appropriate notice and opportunity for public comment. Therefore, the Board voted to maintain the closure with the expectation that a proposal could be submitted by this Council to eliminate the closure.

FP23-02

PROPOSAL TO THE FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE BOARD

Name: Chevak Native Village

Address: P.O. Box 140, Chevak, Alaska 99563

Phone Number: (907) 858-7428

Email: chevaktc@gmail.com

What regulation do you want to change:

Customary and Traditional Use Determination—Salmon

Yukon River Drainage

All Salmon, including fall chum salmon—Rural residents of the Yukon River drainage from Chevak, Hooper Bay and Scammon Bay.

All Salmon, Rural residents of the Yukon River drainage and the communities of Chevak, Hooper Bay, and Scammon Bay.

What change do you want to make:

Customary and Traditional Use Determination—Salmon

Yukon River Drainage

All Salmon—Rural residents of the Yukon River drainage and the community of: **Chevak, Hooper Bay, and Scammon Bay.**

All Salmon—Rural residents of the Yukon River drainage and the communities of Chevak, Hooper Bay, and Scammon Bay.

Why do you want to change the regulation?

Residents of Chevak, Hooper Bay, and Scammon Bay rely on Yukon chinook, summer and fall chum, and coho salmon and should be able to harvest Yukon salmon under Federal regulations. The existing customary and traditional use determinations for Yukon salmon was adopted from State regulations in 1992 at the beginning of the Federal Subsistence Management Program and should be modified to include the three coastal communities of Chevak, Hooper Bay, and Scammon Bay. in the customary and traditional use determination for all Yukon salmon.

FP23-05

Submitted by:

Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge

1390 Buskin River Road

Kodiak, AK 99615

Tel: (907) 487-2600

Contacts: Bill Pyle, Danny Hernandez, Michael Brady

Regulation: 50 CFR 100.24 Fish Determinations. Table 2 to Paragraph (a)(2)

Table of current regulations with strikethrough and proposed regulations in bold:

<u>C&T</u>		
<u>Area</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Determination</u>
<p>Kodiak Archipelago: all waters of and around the islands of the Kodiak Archipelago. Except the Mainland District, all waters along the south side of the Alaska Peninsula bounded by the latitude of Cape Douglas (58°51.10' North latitude) mid-stream Shelikof Strait, north and east of the longitude of the southern entrance of Imuya Bay near Kilokak Rocks (57°10.34' North latitude, 156°20.22' West longitude)</p>	Salmon	<p>Residents of the Kodiak Area Island Borough, except those residing on the Kodiak Coast Guard Base.</p>
<p>Kodiak Area Remainder: Mainland District, all freshwaters along the south side of the Alaska Peninsula bounded by the latitude of Cape Douglas (58°51.10' North latitude) mid-stream Shelikof Strait, north and east of the longitude of the southern entrance of Imuya Bay near Kilokak</p>	Salmon	All rural residents

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Kodiak Area

Rocks (57°10.34' North latitude, 156°20.22' West longitude)		
Kodiak Area	Fish other than rainbow/steelhead trout and salmon	Residents of the Kodiak Area

Why this regulation change should be made:

Under “Area”, the two area definitions have always been points of confusion. The main area that most users fish is the federal waters of and around Kodiak Archipelago. However, the text is overwhelmed with description of the area not included, the “mainland district”.

Under “Determination”, we propose to omit some of the current text, which refers to residents of the Borough except those residing on the US Coast Guard Base. This determination is inconsistent and unfair because active-duty Coast Guard members live both on Base property, as well as off Base property in the town of Kodiak, for example. Furthermore, we see no reason why members of the Coast Guard who meet the eligibility requirements for federal subsistence use should be excluded from the privileges granted to all other eligible non-Coast Guard rural residents of the Kodiak Area. For these reasons we propose to modify the current text with text that provides federal subsistence privileges to all rural residents of the Kodiak area.

Regulation: 50 CFR 100.27(e)(9)

New Proposed Regulations in Bold:

50 CFR 100.27(e)(9)

(v) The annual limit for a subsistence salmon fishing permit holder is as follows:

(A) In the ~~Federal public waters of Kodiak Island~~, **road-accessible Zone (Northeastern Kodiak Island)** east of the line from Crag Point south to the westernmost point of Sallery Cove, including the waters of Woody and Long Islands, and the salt waters bordering this area within 1 mile of Kodiak Island, excluding the waters bordering Spruce Island, 25 salmon for the permit holder plus an additional 25 salmon for each member of the same household whose names are listed on the permit: an additional permit may be obtained upon request.

(B) In the remainder of the Kodiak Area not described in [paragraph \(e\)\(9\)\(v\)\(A\)](#) of this section, there is no annual harvest limit for a subsistence salmon fishing permit holder.

Why this regulation change should be made:

For salmon, the two areas are the Road System that are commonly known and Kodiak Area

Remainder. The wording now only has a detailed boundary description. We would like to call the area “Road-accessible Zone”.

Additionally, we would like to consider adding “U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Administered Federal Waters” so that users are clear that these regulations apply only to federal waters administered by the USFWS, as identified on the area map, but not waters where other federal agencies have jurisdiction. In the past, subsistence users have read the boundary definition for a given area and assumed that regulations apply to all fresh and marine waters within.

FP23-06

a. Name, address, and telephone number of the requestor;

Rebecca Skinner
PO Box 1132
Kodiak, Alaska 99615
Phone/Fax: (907) 512-0467

b. Each section and/or paragraph designation in this proposed rule for which changes are suggested, if applicable;

50 CFR 100.27(e)(9)(iii)

(iii) You may not subsistence fish for salmon in the following locations:

(A) Womens Bay closed waters - All waters inside a line from the tip of the Nyman Peninsula (57°43.23' North latitude, 152°31.51' West longitude), to the northeastern tip of Mary's Island (57°42.40' North latitude, 152°32.00' West longitude), to the southeastern shore of Womens Bay at 57°41.95' North latitude, 152°31.50' West longitude.

(B) Buskin River closed waters - All waters inside of a line running from a marker on the bluff north of the mouth of the Buskin River at approximately 57°45.80' North latitude, 152°28.38' West longitude, to a point offshore at 57°45.35' North latitude, 152°28.15' West longitude, to a marker located onshore south of the river mouth at approximately 57°45.15' North latitude, 152°28.65' West longitude.

50 CFR 100.27(e)(9)(viii)

(viii) You may take salmon only by gillnet, rod and reel, or seine.

c. A description of the regulatory change(s) desired;

To rescind the closures in the marine waters of Womens Bay and Buskin River and to limit the allowable gear types to only allow rod and reel fishing. Harvest limits would mirror State sport fishing regulations.

KING SALMON

- 20 inches or longer: 2 per day, 2 in possession. Annual limit of 5 fish.
- Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.

OTHER SALMON

- 20 inches or longer (total combination of all species): 5 per day, 5 in possession.
- Only 2 of which may be sockeye salmon
- Only 2 of which may be coho salmon prior to September 16, and only 1 of which may be a coho salmon from September 16-December 31
- Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.

d. A statement explaining why each change is necessary;

Currently Federally qualified subsistence users are not allowed to harvest fish in an area that already allows sport harvest under state regulations (closed waters of Womens Bay and Buskin River). In order to provide a priority for federally qualified subsistence users, this proposed change would allow for a priority and align regulations so there is less confusion on who can participate in the fishery.

e. Proposed wording changes; and

50 CFR 100.27(e)(9)(iii)

(iii) You may ~~not~~ subsistence fish for salmon in the following locations:

(A) Womens Bay closed waters - All waters inside a line from the tip of the Nyman Peninsula (57°43.23' North latitude, 152°31.51' West longitude), to the northeastern tip of Mary's Island (57°42.40' North latitude, 152°32.00' West longitude), to the southeastern shore of Womens Bay at 57°41.95' North latitude, 152°31.50' West longitude.

(B) Buskin River closed waters - All waters inside of a line running from a marker on the bluff north of the mouth of the Buskin River at approximately 57°45.80' North latitude, 152°28.38' West longitude, to a point offshore at 57°45.35' North latitude, 152°28.15' West longitude, to a marker located onshore south of the river mouth at approximately 57°45.15' North latitude, 152°28.65' West longitude.

50 CFR 100.27(e)(9)(viii)

(viii) You may take salmon only by gillnet, rod and reel, or seine. Womens Bay and Buskin River marine waters you may take salmon by rod and reel only.

f. Any additional information that you believe will help the Board in evaluating the proposed change.

Currently State sport harvest is allowed, whereas federally qualified subsistence users are not allowed to harvest fish in these areas. This goes against Title VIII of ANILCA and does not appear to give subsistence priority. The proposed changes would align federal and state regulations which would result in less user conflicts and confusion regarding which fishery they can participant in.

FP23-07

Proposal to Change

**2023-2025 Federal Subsistence Regulations for the
Subsistence Harvest of Fish and Shellfish on
Federal Public Lands and Waters**

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Contact: Ben Mulligan

Phone: 907.267.2190

E-mail: ben.mulligan@alaska.gov

1: What Regulation do you wish to change?

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) wishes to update the federal subsistence fishing regulations for the Kenai River to reflect changes made by the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF) in response to the status of the early and late-run Chinook salmon.

Federal subsistence fishing regulations still contain an outdated slot limit allowing harvest of Chinook salmon “less than 46 inches or 55 inches and longer”. Since the time that stipulation was put into place the BOF has taken additional actions and this federal regulation no longer match the state’s size limit restricting harvest to only fish less than 34” in the waters upstream of Slikok Creek.

Additionally, for conservation purposes the restrictive size limit (>34”) requires the release of Chinook salmon and the use of bait increases the mortality associated with releasing salmon. Use of bait, as currently allowed in the federal rod and reel fishery, is associated with a higher mortality of released fish. State regulations prohibit the use of bait in waters upstream of Slikok Creek during the Kenai River Chinook salmon fishery (January 1 – July 31).

2: How would the new regulation read?

Kenai River Gillnet, salmon (p 65)

Chinook Salmon less than 34” in length; July 1-July 15

Chinook Salmon less than 34” in length; July 16-August 15

Kenai River Rod and Reel, salmon (p 66)

Chinook Salmon (January 1-July 15); less than 34” in length

(p. 67) In the Kenai River below Skilak Lake, fishing is allowed with only one unbaited, single hook, artificial lure January 1 – July 31.

3: Why should this regulation change be made?

Federal subsistence regulations for Kenai River Chinook salmon gillnet and hook and line fisheries were originally written to be consistent with the established State sport fishing regulations. Since its adoption into federal regulation, the state regulation has become more conservative to protect the early-run Chinook salmon stock. The slot limit currently in federal regulations was repealed by the BOF in 2017. It was replaced by a maximum size limit of 36 inches which was then further reduced to 34 inches in 2020. ADF&G recommends that only Chinook salmon that are less than 34 inches be allowed to be retained if the run projection is within the escapement goal range for the early and late run. If the inseason inriver run projection exceeds the goal for Chinook salmon that are 75cm from mid-eye to tail fork length or longer, ADF&G has the authority to liberalize the sport fishery by allowing the use of bait, and/or modifying the maximum size limit allowed for retention—but only in the waters downstream of Slikok Creek.

Additionally, state regulations prohibit the use of bait in waters upstream of Slikok Creek during the Kenai

River Chinook salmon fishery (January 1 – July 31). This is a conservation issue since there is a size limit (>34”) which requires the release of Chinook salmon and the use of bait increases the mortality associated with releasing salmon. This regulation further demonstrates concern on the part of the BOF for early-run Chinook salmon.

4: What impact will this change have on fish populations?

In 2020, the BOF restricted the harvest of Chinook salmon to less than 34 inches to allow larger, more productive fish to escape inriver harvest to spawn. In this period of low productivity of Chinook salmon, maximizing the number of large, healthy fish that successfully spawn will benefit Kenai River Chinook stocks. Kenai River Chinook salmon 34 inches and greater in length are 3-ocean to 5-ocean (5 to 7 years total age) and over 90% of females returning to the Kenai River are 34 inches or greater. ADF&G updated Kenai River Chinook salmon assessment to a large fish goal (Chinook salmon 75cm from mid-eye to tail fork length or longer) in 2017. One benefit of setting escapement goals based on large fish instead of fish of all sizes is the quality of escapement. Managing to achieve large fish goals helps ensure escapement is comprised of larger more productive females and not an abundance of jacks or smaller, less productive salmon. Current sport regulations, large fish management, and best practices for releasing fish outside of established size limits, protect reproductive potential of the stocks.

5: How will this change affect subsistence uses?

Due to the rarity in recent years of Kenai River Chinook salmon 55 inches or longer, the main impact on federally qualified subsistence users will be the inability to harvest Chinook salmon in the 34 to 46-inch range. Chinook 34 inches and greater in length are largely older productive females and would be required to be released alive when possible.

6: How will this change affect other uses, such as sport/recreational and commercial?

This change will have no direct impact on other inriver users. Fishing regulations currently restrict anglers’ harvest to fish less than 34 inches in all waters during June and then above Slikok in July, and state regulations prohibit the use of bait in waters upstream of Slikok Creek during the Kenai River Chinook salmon fishery (January 1 – July 31).

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Cook Inlet Area

FP23-08

MOOSE PASS RUSSIAN FALLS DIPNET RESIDENTIAL SUBSISTENCE PROPOSAL

Daniel Krueger
 678-697-9162
daniel.w.krueger12@gmail.com

Moose Pass Resident

Purpose: Subsistence dip netting and rod and reel fishing for Moose Pass community members

The rural community of Moose Pass is proposing the opportunity to dipnet or rod and reel fish for salmon within Cook Inlet Area along the Kenai River and tributaries. Historically, Moose Pass has relied on the subsistence harvesting from fishing and hunting from the surrounding forest. Our community hopes that the board will honor our dependance on harvesting food and approve for harvesting salmon on the Russian River.

In April 2021 the federal subsistence board determined that the Census Designated Places of Moose Pass, is now considered rural communities. Spring 2022 Moose Pass got approval for subsistence hunting. Based on our rural location and historical dependance on fishing I believe we are more than eligible for subsistence fishing. Moose Pass should qualify for these general area regulations and provisions:

Kenai River Drainage with dip net, or rod and reel for salmon; Kenai River gillnet for salmon. Permit Type: Kasilof/Kenai River Drainages Household Annual Permit.

Kenai River Drainage	Kenai River dip net or rod and reel for salmon; Kenai River gillnet for salmon.	Kasilof/Kenai River Drainages Household Annual Permit
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Kenai River Drainage rod a reel only for salmon; Kenai River and tributaries under ice jigging and rod a reel for resident species. Permit Type: General Cook Inlet Area Fishing Permit (Daily/Possession Limits)

Location	Methods and Means	Permit Type
Kenai River Drainage	Kenai River rod and reel only for salmon; Kenai River and tributaries under ice jigging and rod and reel for resident species.	General Cook Inlet Area Fishing Permit (Daily/Possession Limits)

I edited the determination column and added Moose Pass as a determination community:

Cook Inlet Area Customary and Traditional Use Determinations		
Area	Species	Determination
Within the Kenai Peninsula District, waters north of and including the Kenai River drainage within the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge and the Chugach National Forest.	All fish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residents of the communities of Cooper Landing, Hope, Ninilchik, and Moose Pass

Moose Pass Salmon Subsistence Season:

Species	Season	Location (see map on p. 63)
Sockeye Salmon	June 15 – August 15	Sites A, B, and C.
Chinook Salmon	July 16 – September 30	Sites A and B.
Pink Salmon	July 16 – September 30	Sites A and B.
Coho Salmon	July 16 – September 30	Sites A and B.

Moose Pass Subsistence Harvest Limits/household annual limits for salmon in Kenai River fisheries:

Species	Number of fish allowed for each permit holder	Additional fish allowed for each household member	Additional Provisions
Sockeye Salmon	25	5	Chum Salmon that are retained are to be included within the annual limit for Sockeye Salmon.
Chinook Salmon— (July 1–July 15)	2	1	For the Kenai River community gillnet fishery described on page 65.
Chinook Salmon— (July 16–August 31)	10	2	
Coho Salmon	20	5	
Pink Salmon	15	5	

Moose Pass Subsistence methods and means for Kenai river dip net or rod and reel for salmon:

Kenai River dip net or rod and reel; salmon.

- ◆ You may take only Sockeye Salmon with a dip net or rod and reel at one specified site on the Russian River.
 - For the Russian River fishing site, incidentally caught fish may be retained for subsistence uses, except for Chinook Salmon, Coho Salmon, Rainbow Trout, and Dolly Varden, which must be released.
 - At the Russian River Falls site, dip netting is allowed from a Federal regulatory marker near the upstream end of the fish ladder at Russian River Falls downstream to a Federal regulatory marker approximately 600 yards below Russian River Falls. Residents using rod and reel gear at this fishery site may not fish with bait at any time.
- ◆ You may take Sockeye, Chinook, Coho, and Pink Salmon through a dip net or rod and reel fishery at two specified sites on the Kenai River below Skilak Lake and as provided in this section.
 - For both Kenai River fishing sites below Skilak Lake, incidentally caught fish may be retained for subsistence uses, except for Chinook Salmon (unless otherwise provided for in this section), Rainbow Trout 18 inches or longer, and Dolly Varden 18 inches or longer, which must be released.
 - At the Kenai River Moose Range Meadows site, dip netting is allowed only from a boat from a Federal regulatory marker on the Kenai River at about river mile 29 downstream approximately 2.5 miles to another marker on the Kenai River at about river mile 26.5. Residents using rod and reel gear at this fishery site may fish from boats or from shore with up to two baited single or treble hooks June 15–August 31.
 - At the Kenai River mile 48 site, dip netting is allowed while either standing in the river or from a boat, from Federal regulatory markers on both sides of the Kenai River at about river mile 48 (approximately 2 miles below the outlet of Skilak Lake) downstream approximately 2.5 miles to a marker on the Kenai River at about river mile 45.5. Residents using rod and reel gear at this fishery site may fish from boats or from shore with up to two baited single or treble hooks June 15–August 31.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Daniel Krueger

FP23-09

Comment from Schuh, Sarah

Posted by the Fish and Wildlife Service on May 15, 2022

Comment

I am a resident in the rural community of Moose Pass, and I would like to speak in favor of the proposed changes that would allow our community to dipnet and rod and reel fish along the Kenai River and its tributaries such as the Russian River. Many members of our community, myself included, rely heavily on harvests of local fish, game and forage as a primary food source. Please extend the same subsistence rights afforded to our neighboring communities of Cooper Landing and Hope to the residents of Moose Pass. Thank you.

FP23-10

Comment from Adam, Monika

Posted by the Fish and Wildlife Service on May 16, 2022

Comment

As a resident of the rural community of Moose Pass, who relies on local resources as a part of our way of life, I ask you to please grant a traditional and customary use determination to the community of Moose Pass so that we may be able to dipnet and rod and rell fish along the Kenai River and tributaries such as the Russian River.

FP23-11

Comment from Prill, Lou

Posted by the Fish and Wildlife Service on May 16, 2022

Comment

As a resident of the Moose Pass area I believe I should have the right to participate in subsistence fishing activities on the Kenai and Russian River.

FP23-12

Comment from Shipton, Claire

Posted by the **Fish and Wildlife Service** on May 15, 2022

Comment

As a resident of Moose Pass, I believe that we should be able to dipnet and rod and reel fish along the Kenai River and tributaries such as the Russian River. Based on our rural location and historical dependance on fishing, I hope that the board will consider this proposal. Thank you, Claire Shipton.

FP23-13

Comment from Barhaug, Trampus

Posted by the Fish and Wildlife Service on May 12, 2022

Comment

We live in Avalanche Acres and spend a lot of time fishing the Russian River, Kenai River and Cook Inlet annually for salmon. My family and I would like to have the opportunity to dip net the Russian River. This would provide a close location early in the season to stock up on quality, accessible salmon for the year. Being able to take 40 sockeye at the Russian would give us enough salmon to smoke and can all at once and would free up many days of time and travel trying to harvest that many salmon by other means

FP23-14

Submitted by Serendipity Subdivision residents: Allison Sayer, Heather Shiness, Derek Galbraith, Matthew Kress, Leigh Lubin, Phil Plunkett, Laurie Brown, Gareth Brown, Jon Etters, Laura Deatherage, Jesse Maddox.

Point of contact/preparer: Allison Sayer, (907)822-4101, allisonmeridithsayer@gmail.com

We, the rural residents of the Richardson Highway who live between mile 45 and 47, would like a Customary and Traditional Use Determination for the Chitina Subdistrict of the Upper Copper River District for subsistence salmon fishing for the Richardson Highway Corridor from 45 mile north to the Chitina/Kenny Lake cutoff.

We are eligible for federal subsistence fishing rights in accordance with the law. However, we have been lumped into a fishery that we have no practical means to access. We would like to rectify this situation by having our determination reflect the closest and most accessible fishery to our homes, where we have already been fishing for decades.

The Richardson Highway corridor is inhabited by residents who are not part of any specific village, city, or township. However area residents have long accessed local subsistence resources including the closest and most accessible area for dipnet fishing.

While residents of our community have received federal subsistence fishing permits for the Chitina Subdistrict in the past, more recently we have only been found eligible to participate in the Glennallen Subdistrict Federal Subsistence Fishery. Limited public access points and the lack of fishwheels or appropriate boats in our community make it excessively difficult for us to access that fishery.

We have a history of shore-based dipnet fishing in the Chitina Subdistrict. In past years, multiple residents have been issued permits for either the Glennallen Subdistrict, the Chitina Subdistrict, or both when applying for permits at the Wrangell St Elias National Park office in Copper Center. In 2021, one resident actually received a Chitina Subdistrict permit and then was told she was not in fact eligible for the Chitina Subdistrict after she had already fished.

We also have a history of harvesting salmon in the Chitina Subdistrict as part of the State of Alaska Personal Use Fishery, as this is the most accessible place for members of our community to catch fish. We live an hour's drive from Chitina. However rural residents from much farther away, including communities such as Chickaloon and McCarthy, have a federal subsistence determination for the Chitina subdistrict that we do not.

The Richardson Highway corridor is not specifically demarcated by highway mile in the Prince William Sound Area Subsistence Fishing Customary and Traditional Use Determinations in the Federal Subsistence Management Regulations for the Harvest of Fish and Shellfish on Federal Public Lands and Waters in Alaska. It appears our area is lumped in with the "Prince William Sound Area."

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We are on the other side of the mountains from Prince William Sound. We are in the Copper Basin. We participate in the Copper Basin economy through our employment, as contractors, and as consumers. Our climate, our economy, and our lifestyle are more consistent with that of our northern neighbors than our southern ones.

We would like our Customary and Traditional Use Determination to reflect our actual fishing practices, and to be eligible to receive federal subsistence permits for the Chitina subdistrict.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

FP23-15

Proposal to correct FP02-16 Customary and Traditional Use Determination for the Chitina Subdistrict of the Upper Copper River for subsistence fishing.

Proposed by: Upper Tanana/40 Mile Advisory Committee (UT40 AC)

Date: 2 May, 2022

Current regulation:

Customary and Traditional Use Determinations		
Area	Species	Determinations
<i>Chitina Subdistrict of the Upper Copper River District</i>	<i>Salmon</i>	<i>Residents of Cantwell, Chickaloon, Chisana, Chistochina, Chitina, Copper Center, Dot Lake, Gakona, Gakona Junction, Glenallen, Gulkana, Healy Lake, Kenny Lake, Lower Tonsina, McCarthy, Mentasta Lake, Nabesna, Northway, Paxson-Sourdough, Slana, Tanacross, Tazlina, Tetlin, Tok, and Tonsina, and those individuals living along the Tok Cut-off from Tok to Mentasta Pass, and along the Nabesna Road.</i>

Proposed regulation:

Customary and Traditional Use Determinations		
Area	Species	Determinations
<i>Chitina Subdistrict of the Upper Copper River District</i>	<i>Salmon</i>	<i>Residents of Cantwell, Chickaloon, Chisana, Chistochina, Chitina, Copper Center, Dot Lake, Gakona, Gakona Junction, Glenallen, Gulkana, Healy Lake, Kenny Lake, Lower Tonsina, McCarthy, Mentasta Lake, Nabesna, Northway, Paxson-Sourdough, Slana, Tanacross, Tazlina, Tetlin, Tok, and Tonsina, and those individuals living along the Tok Cut-off from Tok to Mentasta Pass, the Alaska Highway from Canada to Dot Lake, and along the Nabesna Road.</i>

Explanation of Proposal:

This proposal's purpose is to address an apparent shortcoming in a previous proposal (FP02-16) submitted by the Wrangell/St. Elias SRC and eventually approved by the Federal Subsistence Board to include Upper Tanana residents in the Glenallen and Chitina sub-districts for salmon. The proposal for the Glenallen sub-district included the residents living along the length of the Alaska Highway from Canada to Dot Lake, but the proposal for the Chitina sub-district did not with the exception of a small length of the Alaska Highway near Northway. Consequently, an unknown number of rural residents in the Upper Tanana Region are restricted to the Glenallen sub-district for subsistence fishing.

The Wrangell/St Elias SRC submitted a proposal (FP2002-16) to adjust the C/T determination for the Chitina sub-district, initially stating *'The following communities also have a customary and traditional use of salmon in the Chitina Sub-district of the Upper Copper River District which should be recognized by the Board: Chisana, Gakona Junction, Glennallen, Kenny Lake, Lower Tonsina, McCarthy, Nabesna, Slana, Tok, Tonsina, Tetlin, Dot Lake, Northway, Tanacross, Healy Lake, and those individuals that live along the Alaska Highway from the Canadian border to Dot Lake, along the Tok cutoff from Tok to Mentasta Pass, and along the Nabesna Road* (emphasis added). Interestingly, many residents along the Alaska Highway were excluded in the proposal (items 2 and 6) and, when asked for clarification by the OSM staff, the NPS intentionally excluded the residents along the Alaska Highway except those living near Northway, to wit: *"Staff members of the Wrangell St. Elias National Park who assisted the Commission in submitting the proposal, were contacted as to the intent of the proposal. It was determined that the omission was intentional and that the Commission was not requesting a positive customary and traditional use by those individuals that live "along the Alaska Highway from the Canadian border to Dot Lake".* No additional explanation why residents living along the Alaska Highway (including native and non-native Alaskans) were the only Upper Tanana rural residents excluded was provided in the proposal or the subsequent analysis.

However, UT40 AC investigated and determined the Park's reasoning may have been informed from an Environmental Assessment (1998), titled Add the Villages of Northway, Tetlin, Tanacross and Dot Lake to the Resident Zone for Wrangell-St. Elias National Park. In that EA, the Park selected Alternative B which determined *'...the communities of Northway, Tetlin, Tanacross, and Dot Lake should be established as resident zones'*. An additional alternative (which was rejected) would have designated the entire Upper Tanana (From Canada along the Alaska Highway to Dot Lake and south on the Tok Cutoff to Mentasta Pass). The Park's reasoning for the rejection, and our comments (in red) for each follow:

- 1) *'This alternative was rejected because of the vast areas along the Alaska Highway and the Tok Cut-off that have been subject to significant development and consequent increased*

population numbers in the past. The potential for similar development in the future and an increase of individuals and households that lack a customary and traditional pattern of use of local resources is great'. Since 1998 there have been few, if any 'significant developments and increase of individuals and households'. In fact, US Censuses of the Census Designated Areas (CDA) since 1998 in the Upper Tanana (Dot Lake, Tok, Northway, Tetlin, Alcan Port of Entry, Mentasta and Tanacross) suggests the opposite is the case in 2022, to wit: Of the 7 CDAs in the Upper Tanana, only 3 have increased in population: Tetlin (+8%), Alcan Port (+33%) and Tanacross (+3%). It is important to note that two of the three currently enjoy Resident Zone status (Tetlin and Tanacross). Additionally, it is important to point out the Alcan Port CDA (arguably the most remote CDA in the Upper Tanana) currently includes only 36 individuals. Finally, the population of all CDAs in the Upper Tanana has declined 9% since the EA was published.

2) 'When the Alaska highway was built in the 1940s and in the 1970s when the Trans-Alaska oil pipeline was under construction a considerable number of people remained in the Copper River/Upper Tanana region as these projects were completed. Highway access to Anchorage and Fairbanks make this area appealing to people looking to relocate to a more rural setting but still retain access to the city'. If ease of highway access to cities (Fairbanks and Anchorage in this case) is a consideration for the purposes of Title VIII C/T eligibility, then the vast majority of current Resident Zone Communities for Wrangell-St. Elias should no longer be considered eligible.

3) 'In addition both federal and state land disposals could potentially give rise to new settlements or developments. There are two places in the Copper River/Upper Tanana region where this has already occurred: 1) Slana Homestead, a 1983 federal land disposal along the Nabesna Road, and 2) Dry Creek, a circa 1974 state land disposal northeast of Dot Lake.' Since the EA was published in 1998, the population of Slana has declined -6% and the population of Dry Creek has declined by -43%.

4) 'Given the past history of settlement in this region and the potential for future growth, NPS felt it was prudent to more narrowly define any new communities that were added to the resident zone. Boundaries identifying the "significant concentration" of subsistence users may preclude frequent re-evaluation of the communities subsistence uses of park lands should populations of non-local residents in the region substantially increase'. All three UT40AC responses are relevant.

At the May 2, 2022 AC meeting, NPS staff noted that C/T for the resource (in this case subsistence fishing below the Chitina bridge) is restricted to those who can show traditional and cultural use of a resource. In the case of the Upper Tanana for the Chitina dipnet fishery, very few, if any, had customary and traditional use of that area until after the highway(s) were

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constructed and opened to the public (1948 and 1946 for the Alcan and Tok Cutoff, resp). At that time the villages in the Upper Tanana, including Tok, **and everyone living along the Alaska Highway and the Tok Cutoff** enjoyed equal access to that fishery, including the Port of Entry staff who, at the time, lived and worked in Tok. In 1971 the Port of Entry and staff moved roughly 90 miles east to the border.

Potential Concerns:

None

Effects on Subsistence Users:

This proposal, if approved, will provide additional subsistence fishery resources to residents living along the Alaska Highway from Canada to Dot Lake who were unfairly excluded by regulation, solely because they live outside of, or between two Census Designated Places which were approved by the Board in 2002. It will also eliminate confusion, frustration and potential violation of federal law by those residents who believe they were unfairly excluded in the earlier C/T determination for the Chitina sub-district.

FP23-16

Proposal to correct FP02-16 Customary and Traditional Use Determination for the Chitina Subdistrict of the Upper Copper River for subsistence fishing.

Proposed by: Upper Tanana/40 Mile Air Advisory Committee (UT40 AC)

Date: 2 May, 2022

Current regulation:

Customary and Traditional Use Determinations		
Area	Species	Determinations
<i>Chitina Subdistrict of the Upper Copper River District</i>	<i>Salmon</i>	<i>Residents of Cantwell, Chickaloon, Chisana, Chistochina, Chitina, Copper Center, Dot Lake, Gakona, Gakona Junction, Glenallen, Gulkana, Healy Lake, Kenny Lake, Lower Tonsina, McCarthy, Mentasta Lake, Nabesna, Northway, Paxson-Sourdough, Slana, Tanacross, Tazlina, Tetlin, Tok, and Tonsina, and those individuals living along the Tok Cut-off from Tok to Mentasta Pass, and along the Nabesna Road.</i>

Proposed regulation:

Customary and Traditional Use Determinations		
Area	Species	Determinations
<i>Chitina Subdistrict of the Upper Copper River District</i>	<i>Salmon</i>	<i>Residents of Cantwell, Chickaloon, Chisana, Chistochina, Chitina, Copper Center, Dot Lake, Gakona, Gakona Junction, Glenallen, Gulkana, Healy Lake, Kenny Lake, Lower Tonsina, McCarthy, Mentasta Lake, Nabesna, Northway, Paxson-Sourdough, Slana, Tanacross, Tazlina, Tetlin, Tok, and Tonsina, and those individuals living along the Tok Cut-off from Tok to Mentasta Pass, the Alaska Highway from Canada to Dot Lake, and along the Nabesna Road.</i>

Explanation of Proposal:

This proposal's purpose is to address an apparent shortcoming in a previous proposal (FP02-16) submitted by the Wrangell/St. Elias SRC and eventually approved by the Federal Subsistence Board to include Upper Tanana residents in the Glenallen and Chitina sub-districts for salmon. The proposal for the Glenallen sub-district included the residents living along the length of the Alaska Highway from Canada to Dot Lake, but the proposal for the Chitina sub-district did not with the exception of a small length of the Alaska Highway near Northway. Consequently, an unknown number of rural residents in the Upper Tanana Region are restricted to the Glenallen sub-district for subsistence fishing.

The Wrangell/St Elias SRC submitted a proposal (FP2002-16) to adjust the C/T determination for the Chitina sub-district, initially stating *'The following communities also have a customary and traditional use of salmon in the Chitina Sub-district of the Upper Copper River District which should be recognized by the Board: Chisana, Gakona Junction, Glennallen, Kenny Lake, Lower Tonsina, McCarthy, Nabesna, Slana, Tok, Tonsina, Tetlin, Dot Lake, Northway, Tanacross, Healy Lake, and those individuals that live along the Alaska Highway from the Canadian border to Dot Lake, along the Tok cutoff from Tok to Mentasta Pass, and along the Nabesna Road* (emphasis added). Interestingly, many residents along the Alaska Highway were excluded in the proposal (items 2 and 6) and, when asked for clarification by the OSM staff, the NPS intentionally excluded the residents along the Alaska Highway except those living near Northway, to wit: *"Staff members of the Wrangell St. Elias National Park who assisted the Commission in submitting the proposal, were contacted as to the intent of the proposal. It was determined that the omission was intentional and that the Commission was not requesting a positive customary and traditional use by those individuals that live "along the Alaska Highway from the Canadian border to Dot Lake"*. No additional explanation why residents living along the Alaska Highway (including native and non-native Alaskans) were the only Upper Tanana rural residents excluded was provided in the proposal or the subsequent analysis.

However, UT40 AC investigated and determined the Park's reasoning may have been informed from an Environmental Assessment (1998), titled Add the Villages of Northway, Tetlin, Tanacross and Dot Lake to the Resident Zone for Wrangell-St. Elias National Park. In that EA, the Park selected Alternative B which determined *'...the communities of Northway, Tetlin, Tanacross, and Dot Lake should be established as resident zones'*. An additional alternative (which was rejected) would have designated the entire Upper Tanana (From Canada along the Alaska Highway to Dot Lake and south on the Tok Cutoff to Mentasta Pass). The Park's reasoning for the rejection, and our comments (in red) for each follow:

- 1) *'This alternative was rejected because of the vast areas along the Alaska Highway and the Tok Cut-off that have been subject to significant development and consequent increased*

population numbers in the past. The potential for similar development in the future and an increase of individuals and households that lack a customary and traditional pattern of use of local resources is great'. Since 1998 there have been few, if any 'significant developments and increase of individuals and households'. In fact, US Censuses of the Census Designated Areas (CDA) since 1998 in the Upper Tanana (Dot Lake, Tok, Northway, Tetlin, Alcan Port of Entry, Mentasta and Tanacross) suggests the opposite is the case in 2022, to wit: Of the 7 CDAs in the Upper Tanana, only 3 have increased in population: Tetlin (+8%), Alcan Port (+33%) and Tanacross (+3%). It is important to note that two of the three currently enjoy Resident Zone status (Tetlin and Tanacross). Additionally, it is important to point out the Alcan Port CDA (arguably the most remote CDA in the Upper Tanana) currently includes only 36 individuals. Finally, the population of all CDAs in the Upper Tanana has declined 9% since the EA was published.

2) 'When the Alaska highway was built in the 1940s and in the 1970s when the Trans-Alaska oil pipeline was under construction a considerable number of people remained in the Copper River/Upper Tanana region as these projects were completed. Highway access to Anchorage and Fairbanks make this area appealing to people looking to relocate to a more rural setting but still retain access to the city'. If ease of highway access to cities (Fairbanks and Anchorage in this case) is a consideration for the purposes of Title VIII C/T eligibility, then the vast majority of current Resident Zone Communities for Wrangell-St. Elias should no longer be considered eligible.

3) 'In addition both federal and state land disposals could potentially give rise to new settlements or developments. There are two places in the Copper River/Upper Tanana region where this has already occurred: 1) Slana Homestead, a 1983 federal land disposal along the Nabesna Road, and 2) Dry Creek, a circa 1974 state land disposal northeast of Dot Lake.' Since the EA was published in 1998, the population of Slana has declined -6% and the population of Dry Creek has declined by -43%.

4) 'Given the past history of settlement in this region and the potential for future growth, NPS felt it was prudent to more narrowly define any new communities that were added to the resident zone. Boundaries identifying the "significant concentration" of subsistence users may preclude frequent re-evaluation of the communities subsistence uses of park lands should populations of non-local residents in the region substantially increase'. All three UT40AC responses are relevant.

At the May 2, 2022 AC meeting, NPS staff noted that C/T for the resource (in this case subsistence fishing below the Chitina bridge) is restricted to those who can show traditional and cultural use of a resource. In the case of the Upper Tanana for the Chitina dipnet fishery, very few, if any, had customary and traditional use of that area until after the highway(s) were

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constructed and opened to the public (1948 and 1946 for the Alcan and Tok Cutoff, resp). At that time the villages in the Upper Tanana, including Tok, **and everyone living along the Alaska Highway and the Tok Cutoff** enjoyed equal access to that fishery, including the Port of Entry staff who, at the time, lived and worked in Tok. In 1971 the Port of Entry and staff moved roughly 90 miles east to the border.

Potential Concerns:

None

Effects on Subsistence Users:

This proposal, if approved, will provide additional subsistence fishery resources to residents living along the Alaska Highway from Canada to Dot Lake who were unfairly excluded by regulation, solely because they live outside of, or between two Census Designated Places which were approved by the Board in 2002. It will also eliminate confusion, frustration and potential violation of federal law by those residents who believe they were unfairly excluded in the earlier C/T determination for the Chitina sub-district.

FP23-17

Name, address, telephone number of requestor:

Ahtna Intertribal Resource Commission (AITRC)
Attn: Karen Linnell, Executive Director
PO Box 613, Mile 187 Glenn Hwy
Glennallen, Alaska 99588
(907) 822-4466

The issue we would like addressed:

Delay the start date for the federal subsistence fishery in the Glennallen Subdistrict from May 15 to June 1 to provide for increased conservation of upriver Copper River Chinook salmon and sockeye salmon stocks' escapement needs and better support customary and traditional subsistence salmon harvest needs in the Tonsina-Gakona and Gakona-Slana and Batzulnetas subsistence fisheries areas.

Existing Federal Regulation we wish to change:

50 CFR § 100.27(e)(11)(ix):

"You may take salmon in the Upper Copper River District from May 15 through September 30 only."

The new regulations would be:

50 CFR § 100.27(e)(11)(ix):

"You may take salmon in the Upper Copper River District from June 1 through September 30 only."

Why is the proposed change needed?

The Ahtna Intertribal Resource Commission (AITRC) remains concerned about the lack of subsistence salmon harvest opportunity in the uppermost reaches of the Glennallen Sub-district and the Batzulnetas fisheries areas. Subsistence salmon harvest levels continue to be depressed in these reaches of the Copper River, except during high salmon passage years when the in-river run counts at the Miles Lake sonar exceed 750,000 salmon.

Furthermore, Chinook salmon escapement goals are increasingly going unmet and sockeye escapement appear to be declining in numbers near the bottom end of the escapement goal range. In addition, there are documented reports of both species size decline that have not been accounted for in the current escapement goals. Smaller fish produce fewer eggs and therefore more fish are required to meet future escapement goals. It has also been documented that the uppermost stocks in the Copper River are the earliest salmon to return. Delaying the start date will allow for these fish to pass unmolested.

State and Federal fisheries managers suggest that depressed harvest is due to less fishing effort in these areas. However, application of traditional stewardship principles and indigenous knowledge from Ahtna elders has resulted in self-imposed conservation measures throughout much of the Glennallen Sub-district and Batzulnetas area. These conservation measures are largely unnoticed by State and Federal managers and are discounted as a lack of effort. Ahtna fishing households have been taught to fish less in times of low return to ensure adequate salmon spawning escapement is achieved. Some Ahtna fishing households have not fished at all to conserve Copper River salmon and rebuild the runs. This indigenous stewardship, which is applied voluntarily and informally among certain Ahtna fishing households, is not sufficient to resolve the problems in reaching Copper River salmon escapement goals.

Therefore, AITRC is seeking to more formally recognize Ahtna tribal stewardship principles to ensure the availability of healthy Copper River salmon stocks for future generations by aligning this subsistence salmon fishery start date with the State of Alaska Copper River subsistence fishery. The delay of the federal subsistence salmon fisheries start date in the Chitina Sub-district to June 1st will allow additional time for the early salmon runs to pass upriver and provide adequate salmon escapement to spawning grounds. This action will perpetuate subsistence salmon fishing opportunities in the Glennallen Sub-district and Batzulnetas areas.

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Name, address, telephone number of requestor:

Ahtna Intertribal Resource Commission (AITRC)
Attn: Karen Linnell, Executive Director
PO Box 613, Mile 187 Glenn Hwy
Glennallen, Alaska 99588
(907) 822-4466

The issue we would like addressed:

Delay the start date for the federal subsistence fishery in the Chitina Sub-district from May 15 to June 1 in order to provide for increased conservation of upriver Copper River Chinook salmon stocks, sockeye salmon stocks escapement needs, and better support customary and traditional subsistence salmon harvest opportunities in the Gakona-Slana and Batzulnetas subsistence fisheries areas.

Existing Federal Regulation we wish to change:

50 CFR § 100.27(e)(11)(ix):

“You may take salmon in the Upper Copper River District from May 15 through September 30 only.”

The new regulations would be:

50 CFR § 100.27(e)(11)(ix):

“You may take salmon in the Upper Copper River District from June 1 through September 30 only.”

Why is the proposed change needed?

The Ahtna Intertribal Resource Commission (AITRC) remains concerned about the lack of subsistence salmon harvest opportunity in the uppermost reaches of the Glennallen Sub-district and the Batzulnetas fisheries areas. Subsistence salmon harvest levels continue to be depressed in these reaches of the Copper River, except during high salmon passage years when the in-river run counts at the Miles Lake sonar exceed 750,000 salmon.

Furthermore, Chinook salmon escapement goals are increasingly going unmet and sockeye escapement appear to be declining in numbers near the bottom end of the escapement goal range. In addition, there are documented reports of both species size decline that have not been accounted for in the current escapement goals. Smaller fish produce fewer eggs and therefore more fish are required to meet future escapement goals. It has also been documented that the uppermost stocks in the Copper River are the earliest salmon to return. Delaying the start date will allow for these fish to pass unmolested.

State and Federal fisheries managers suggest that depressed harvest is due to less fishing effort in these areas. However, application of traditional stewardship principles and indigenous knowledge from Ahtna elders has resulted in self-imposed conservation measures throughout much of the Glennallen Sub-district and Batzulnetas area. These conservation measures are largely unnoticed by State and Federal managers and are discounted as a lack of effort. Ahtna fishing households have been taught to fish less in times of low return to ensure adequate salmon spawning escapement is achieved. Some Ahtna fishing households have not fished at all to conserve Copper River salmon and rebuild the runs. This indigenous stewardship, which is applied voluntarily and informally among certain Ahtna fishing households, is not sufficient to resolve the problems in reaching Copper River salmon escapement goals.

Therefore, AITRC is seeking to more formally recognize Ahtna tribal stewardship principles to ensure the availability of healthy Copper River salmon stocks for future generations by aligning this subsistence salmon fishery start date with the State of Alaska Copper River subsistence fishery. The delay of the federal subsistence salmon fisheries start date in the Chitina Sub-district to June 1st will allow additional time for the early salmon runs to pass upriver and provide adequate salmon escapement to spawning grounds. This action will perpetuate subsistence salmon fishing opportunities in the Glennallen Sub-district and Batzulnetas areas.

FP23-19**Name, address, telephone number of requestor:**

Ahtna Intertribal Resource Commission (AITRC)
Attn: Karen Linnell, Executive Director
PO Box 613, Mile 187 Glenn Hwy
Glennallen, Alaska 99588
(907) 822-4466

The issue we would like addressed:

Repeal the newly created federal subsistence salmon dipnet fishery in the Lower Copper River area.

Existing Federal Regulation we wish to change:

50 CFR § 100.27(e)(11):

Repeal the regulatory language creating the new Lower Copper River federal subsistence salmon dipnet fishery.

The new regulations would be:

50 CFR § 100.27(e)(11):

Revert back to existing regulations prior to the Federal Subsistence Board's adoption of FP21-10 in April 2022.

Why is the proposed change needed?

The Ahtna Intertribal Resource Commission (AITRC) remains concerned about the lack of subsistence salmon harvest opportunity in the uppermost reaches of the Glennallen Sub-district and the Batzulnetas fisheries areas. Subsistence salmon harvest levels continue to be depressed in these reaches of the Copper River, except during high salmon passage years when the in-river run counts at the Miles Lake sonar exceed 750,000 salmon.

Furthermore, Chinook salmon escapement goals are increasingly going unmet and sockeye escapement appear to be declining in numbers near the bottom end of the escapement goal range. In addition, there are documented reports of both species size decline that have not been accounted for in the current escapement goals. Smaller fish produce fewer eggs and therefore more fish are required to meet future escapement goals.

Historically, the Copper River salmon fisheries have been fully allocated and perhaps over-allocated in recent years given the number of years where Chinook salmon escapement has not been achieved and sockeye salmon escapement approaching the lower limits of the escapement goal range. Adding additional salmon harvest opportunities only serve to increase the probability of additional future State and Federal subsistence salmon fishing restrictions.

The FP21-10 federal staff analyses focused solely upon serving the federally qualified rural residents of Cordova, who have other opportunities to provide for their subsistence needs. What this analysis failed to consider is that this new fishery will be open to all rural residents of the entire Prince William Sound fisheries management area. It also failed to consider the impacts to the subsistence harvest opportunities in the upper Copper River – the only source of salmon for Copper Basin communities.

Finally, the analysis does not include the available subsistence harvest information for the Cordova community, which shows there is no lack of subsistence opportunities for Cordova households. According to the most recent household survey (2014), 69% of Cordova households harvest salmon themselves, while 92% use the resource. This demonstrates that there is widespread access to salmon in the community.

FP23-20
2023 Fisheries Proposed Regulation Change

Organization: Southeast Subsistence Regional Advisory Council; DeAnna Perry, Coordinator
Address: 1011 East Tudor Road, MS 121, Anchorage, Alaska 99503-6199
Phone: 907-209-7817
E-mail: deanna.perry@usda.gov

1: EXISTING FEDERAL REGULATIONS

50 CFR § 100.24 (a)(3) Customary and traditional use determinations.

Southeastern Alaska—Yakutat Area:

Section 1E south of the latitude of Grant Island light	Shellfish, except shrimp, king crab, and Tanner crab.	Residents of the Southeast Area.
Section 1F north of the latitude of the northernmost tip of Mary Island, except waters of Boca de Quadra	Shellfish, except shrimp, king crab, and Tanner crab	Residents of the Southeast Area.
Section 3A and 3B	Shellfish, except shrimp, king crab, and Tanner crab	Residents of the Southeast Area.
District 13	Dungeness crab, shrimp, abalone, sea cucumbers, gum boots, cockles, and clams, except geoducks	Residents of the Southeast Area.

36 CFR § 242.24 (a)(3) Customary and traditional use determinations.

Southeastern Alaska - Yakutat Area:

Section 1E south of the latitude of Grant Island light	Shellfish, except shrimp, king crab, and Tanner crab.	Residents of the Southeast Area.
Section 1F north of the latitude of the northernmost tip of Mary Island, except waters of Boca de Quadra	Shellfish, except shrimp, king crab, and Tanner crab	Residents of the Southeast Area.
Section 3A and 3B	Shellfish, except shrimp, king crab, and Tanner crab	Residents of the Southeast Area.
District 13	Dungeness crab, shrimp, abalone, sea cucumbers, gum boots, cockles, and clams, except geoducks	Residents of the Southeast Area.

2023 Fisheries Proposed Regulation Change

2: PROPOSED FEDERAL REGULATIONS**50 CFR § 100.24 (a)(3) Customary and traditional use determinations.**

Southeastern Alaska—Yakutat Area:

All District	All shellfish	Residents of the Southeast Area
Section 1E south of the latitude of Grant Island light	Shellfish, except shrimp, king crab, and Tanner crab.	Residents of the Southeast Area.
Section 1F north of the latitude of the northernmost tip of Mary Island, except waters of Boca de Quadra	Shellfish, except shrimp, king crab, and Tanner crab	Residents of the Southeast Area.
Section 3A and 3B	Shellfish, except shrimp, king crab, and Tanner crab	Residents of the Southeast Area.
District 13	Dungeness crab, shrimp, abalone, sea cucumbers, gum boots, coekles, and clams, except geoducks	Residents of the Southeast Area.

36 CFR § 242.24 (a)(3) Customary and traditional use determinations.

Southeastern Alaska—Yakutat Area:

All District	All shellfish	Residents of the Southeast Area
Section 1E south of the latitude of Grant Island light	Shellfish, except shrimp, king crab, and Tanner crab.	Residents of the Southeast Area.
Section 1F north of the latitude of the northernmost tip of Mary Island, except waters of Boca de Quadra	Shellfish, except shrimp, king crab, and Tanner crab	Residents of the Southeast Area.
Section 3A and 3B	Shellfish, except shrimp, king crab, and Tanner crab	Residents of the Southeast Area.
District 13	Dungeness crab, shrimp, abalone, sea cucumbers, gum boots, coekles, and clams, except geoducks	Residents of the Southeast Area.

2023 Fisheries Proposed Regulation Change

3: WHY THIS REGULATION SHOULD BE CHANGED:

In 2010, the Secretary of the Interior asked the Board to review, with Regional Advisory Council input, the customary and traditional use determination process and present recommendations for regulatory changes. During the Southeast Alaska Council's review in 2016, it requested, among other things, that the Board adopt customary and traditional use determinations broadly. The Council requested the Board to in the future recognize customary and traditional uses of all fish and wildlife in Southeast Alaska that have been taken for food or other purposes, including handicrafts, ceremonies, and customary trade. The Council said its recommendations to the Board in the future would tend to include residents of all rural Southeast communities and areas, and the three criteria in Section 804 of ANILCA was the regulatory process the Board should use to allocate resources, when necessary, and not customary and traditional use determinations. The Council intended to submit regulatory proposals to the Board requesting to broaden the complex web of customary and traditional use determinations that currently existed in Southeast Alaska. The Board responded that the Southeast Alaska Council's recommendation regarding customary and traditional use determinations aligned well with the current process followed statewide in the Federal Subsistence Management Program. Since then, the Council has requested, and the Board has adopted, customary and traditional use determinations for all fish, deer, moose, brown bear, and black bear that include all rural residents of Southeast Alaska. This has greatly simplified these determinations that were originally adopted from State regulations at the formation of the Federal Subsistence Management Program in 1992.

These customary and traditional use determinations were adopted by the Federal Subsistence Board directly from State of Alaska regulations at the beginning of the program in 1990. They are restrictive and do not include shellfish species that are the target of commercial fisheries.

All residents of Southeast Alaska should be Federally qualified subsistence users of shellfish in Federal public waters.

FP23-21

Comment from Uppencamp, Gina

Posted by the **Fish and Wildlife Service** on Apr 5, 2022

Only Federally qualified subsistence users may harvest sockeye salmon in Kah Sheets Lake, and Kah Sheets River.

The proposal requests that the Federal public waters of Kah Sheets Lake and Kah Sheets River be closed to the harvest of Sockeye Salmon by non-federally qualified users. Harvest of Sockeye Salmon by Federally qualified users at Kah Sheets River has been decreasing since 2012. Kah Sheets River is a very large tidal flat and access is reliant on large tides during daylight which limits the number of harvest days. Harvest in Kah Sheets River is generally concentrated to a small pool below a set of waterfalls and is limited to very few harvesters at any one time. Public cabins located above and below the harvest area allow non-resident harvesters to fly into the lake and add to the overall competition with federally qualified harvesters for limited sockeye salmon. Due to a low return, limited harvest days, and concentration of harvesters in one river pool, sport fishing by unguided non-resident lodge guests has restricted federally qualified harvesters ability to harvest meaningful amounts of sockeye salmon in recent years



Ketchikan Indian Community
2960 Tongass Avenue
Ketchikan, AK 99901

President Contact: Trixie Bennett
Email: tbennett@council.kictribe.org Phone: 907-228-9384

Staff Contact: Keenan Sanderson
Email: ksanderson@kictribe.org Phone: 907-228-9413

Proposal to the Federal Subsistence Board for Rural Designation of the Ketchikan Area and in the alternative to designate the Federally Recognized Ketchikan Indian Community Service Area as rural or as a subsistence area for all Alaska Natives who reside in that area.

1. The Ketchikan Indian Community Tribal Government respectfully proposes that the Federal Subsistence Board change the Board's previous designation of Ketchikan from nonrural to rural.
2. As a threshold matter the following are key factors or points of information not previously considered by the Board or that demonstrate that the information previously used has changed since the original determination was made and which is expanded upon further in our narrative and supported by the exhibits attached to this proposal:
 - a. The population for the Ketchikan area has declined in each of the last 3 decennial censuses. (see exhibit I. United State Census- Ketchikan, AK.)

- b. Since the last determination of Ketchikan as “non-rural”, the FSB has reviewed and determined that the Organized Village of Saxman (OVS) – which falls wholly within the same community and population area as Ketchikan – as rural. KIC supports and agrees with the designation of OVS as rural and we contend that FSB’s determination of OVS as rural on March 10, 2016 adds support to, validates, and underscores KIC’s own proposal for rural status as access to community infrastructure, food vendors, healthcare, education etc. is identical to both OVS and KIC. (see exhibit 2. Saxman IRA-Federal Subsistence Board Restores Rural Community Status, Press release)
- c. New factors creating pressure on food security for our isolated community including the loss of one of three local primary food vendors, COVID-19, inflation in food prices, fuel prices, and the constriction of the supply chain discussed in more detail below.
- d. The continuing and expanding recognition of the Ketchikan area as rural by the federal government through many of its departments and agencies including but not limited to the Department of Agriculture, the Indian Health Service, the National Libraries of Medicine, the U.S. Census Bureau, the U.S. Department of Transportation, the U.S. Department of Treasury. The Department of Health and Human Services. (see exhibit 3. Definitions of rural by various Federal Agencies)
- e. The failure of the policies, practices, regulations, and designations of the federal government in general and FSB in particular to adequately protect and provide for the physical, economic, traditional, and cultural existence as contemplated by the subsistence authority granted to FSB and as enshrined in the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) discussed in more detail below.

3. Ketchikan lies on the traditional territory of the Tlingit Aani, specifically the lands of the Saanya Kwaan and Tanta Kwaan. Ketchikan has a long-standing history of

Indigenous occupation well before colonizers ever stepped foot in Alaska. The community of Ketchikan (which is a Tlingit word that roughly translates to the “Thundering wings of an Eagle.”), and its home on Revillagegado Island are essentially separated and isolated from the rest of the world. Ketchikan - a community that is comparable in size to both Sitka and Kodiak,



Alaska and smaller in population than Bethel, Alaska, all three of which enjoy FSB’s rural designation - is heavily reliant on the natural resources in our immediate area including fish, wildlife, and terrestrial/aquatic plants. Whether indigenous or not, the residents of Ketchikan have strong ties to the food resources that can be gathered here. The area that we are proposing for rural status designation includes the entirety of Revillagegado Island, Pennock Island, Gravina Island, the southern portion of Cleveland Peninsula, and the surrounding waters in this area. This area is the footprint of both Ketchikan Indian Community and the Ketchikan Gateway Borough (see map and exhibit 4. Ketchikan Indian Community/Ketchikan Gateway Borough Jurisdiction map).

4. There are a number of factors that support the determination of rural status for the Ketchikan area:

a. Ketchikan, which is comparable in population size and area characteristics to Sitka, AK, is completely inaccessible by the road system from the rest of the state of Alaska and the country as a whole. In terms of non-traditional foods that can be purchased through stores, our access is limited by the privately-owned barges that come to Ketchikan once a week (and which may be further limited based on whether conditions). We do not have large scale agricultural systems on our islands, and we do not raise livestock in our area. If anything happened to these barges we would not be able feed ourselves with food available for purchase in the stores for very long. This was apparent during the COVID-19 pandemic. The image in this section was a common occurrence for the past two years both due to COVID and more recent challenges with the national and international supply chain network. Some people are fortunate and were able to get their needs through the grocery store, but for those without reliable transportation they would often find the store bare by the time they got there, especially with meat and vegetable products. Theoretically supplies could be flown in, but at best it would be inefficient and no private entity has the obligation to make those efforts. This factor alone should be enough to seriously consider rural status designation.



b. Ketchikan suffered the loss of one of its only three principal food vendors known as Tatsuda's, (the other two are Safeway and Alaska & Proud) the grocery store here that was demolished in a rockslide in 2019. Not only was this store an important local business for the family that owned it and their employees, but Ketchikan has seen further tightening of its food access since that tragic event. The family decided to not rebuild, and Ketchikan has felt these shortages throughout the community.

- c. **It seems that there are misconceptions on the public services that are available to Ketchikan. One of these misconceptions has to do with our access to healthcare services. Ketchikan has one small, rural, critical access hospital. This CAH has limited capacity to treat people. Often our people must be referred or transferred to Seattle, Anchorage, or Sitka for medical services. Again, access to these extended specialty or emergent services are only accessible via air flight as Ketchikan is not connected to any road system. The Ketchikan Indian Community Tribal Government does not believe that our tribal citizens should continue to be denied the ability to harvest their traditional foods to sustain their healthy culture merely due to the presence of some limited infrastructure in our community. Having grocery stores, sewers, and other facilities should not limit the ability to hunt, harvest, and gather the things that keep our people the healthy and allow them to retain important ties to their indigenous culture.**

- d. **The Ketchikan Indian Community Tribal Government, a Sovereign Alaska Native Tribe that is recognized by the United States Federal Government has formally acknowledged the Ketchikan area as a rural community through official action of its Tribal Council (see attached). The criteria used to make this resolution cited the high reliance on the traditional foods in our area, our inability to easily travel to other communities, and historical love for our own space in this community. This action by a Sovereign Tribe is entitled to the full faith and credit of the United States Government and should be should consequently be adopted by the FSB.**

- e. **While our current non-rural status does not differentiate between Indigenous vs. non-Indigenous rights, the United States federal government has the obligation through law to affirm that the subsistence needs of the Alaska native tribes are being met for all traditional foods. During the passage of the Alaska Native Settlement Claims Act (ANCSA) Congress stated that it recognized Native interests in subsistence resources and directed - in committee report – that the Secretary of the Interior and the State**

of Alaska were “ to take any action necessary to protect the subsistence needs of Alaska Natives.” The follow up to that commitment was the passage of the Alaska National interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) nearly ten years later. Specifically, section 801 of ANILCA invokes the historic federal authority over Native affairs to protect Native physical, economic, traditional, and cultural existence. Despite FSB’s interpretation of ANILCA as “racially neutral” statute, it is an important principle within ANILCA that subsistence protections are remedial in nature, and indeed based in federal law. Under the current non-rural/rural scheme those subsistence, physical, and cultural needs of Alaska Native’s in Ketchikan are not being met, and the tribal citizens of the Ketchikan Indian Community are the ones that are being disproportionately disadvantaged. The only resource that our tribal citizens have reasonable access to is Pacific halibut, however due to non-rural status regulations, we are forced to go miles out of town to attempt to harvest that resource. The further out our people have to go can result in a higher potential for injury and loss of life, something that both of our governments should be actively trying to prevent for any individual. Moreover, the most recent surge in fuel prices further challenges our citizens’ access to even this resource. The point we are trying to make here is that the way that things are managed in Ketchikan are not working in a way that is safe and equitable for all our traditional resources. The Federal Subsistence Board has the responsibility to the federally recognized tribes to provide opportunities to harvest these traditional foods in sufficient quantities. This responsibility has not been met and is currently not being met for our people.

It is for these and all the reasons set forth herein that KIC asks the FSB to consider a broader interpretation of its mandate by alternatively designating the service area of KIC as set forth in its federally recognized constitution, at Article V, as a subsistence area for all Alaska native’s residing within that area.

- f. The Ketchikan Indian Community holds its traditional foods in high regard as these foods are critical to our people's survival and promote a healthy mind and body. As a result, co-management of the resource between the Tribe, the federal government, and the state of Alaska is imperative for the sustainability of all the resources that we utilize. The Ketchikan Indian Community is already engaging in activities that are promoting conservation for various species around our community. Our most recent venture involves a population assessment of ooligan (eulachon, *Thaleichthys pacificus*) on the Joonax (Unuk) River. For years we have not had access to this traditional food in either state or federally managed waters ostensibly due to low abundances. The Tribe more recently partnered with the United States Forest Service and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to do an eDNA project to get a better idea of abundance of this species. As a Tribe, we have also been working with the Alaska Board of Fisheries to open the harvest of ooligan in state managed waters so that our tribal citizens can reconnect with those resources. Recognizing Ketchikan as rural would mean access to the all-important harvest of ooligan on the Joonax in federally managed waters, which at least on this river is safer to harvest than state managed waters. There are other species of game and finfish that would become more accessible to our tribal citizens if Ketchikan's rural status was recognized by the FSB and as a tribe we are working to become full partners in the co-management of these traditional foods.



g. In our traditional homelands, the indigenous people in this area have historically had high reliance on the Joonax (Unuk) River for a variety of resources. These include, but are not limited to, ooligan, king salmon, deer, moose, and seals. For



generations indigenous harvesters would utilize this oasis as a multi-use gathering and hunting area. Due to the non-rural status designation that has been given to Ketchikan however, our tribal citizens have very limited access to the bountiful resources that the Joonax has to offer. KIC contends that stripping our tribal citizens of the option to harvest in this area contributes to the destruction of our culture and traditional ecological knowledge. This is something that the Ketchikan Indian Community Tribal Government wants to avoid at all costs. We cannot allow this to continue any longer.

h. While not everyone in Ketchikan has an Indigenous background, the idea of trading and sharing is alive and well in our community. The thinking that resources will be depleted at higher rates, at least through harvesting, is not supported in any way. The great majority of harvesters in this area do not exercise their individual harvesting rights or access once their own families' needs have been met in any year. The point of this designation is to make sure that our loved ones are taken care of within our community. To reiterate, our community is small, off the road system, is completely reliant on private entities to supply non-traditional foods. Many of the people on this island are harvesters, and those harvesters take care of their parents and grandparents throughout the rest of Ketchikan. Within the KIC community our harvesters consider elders, disabled

people, youth, and any other tribal members who may not be able to harvest for themselves. We do not use harvesting opportunities for sport, we use them for our way of life, whether Indigenous or not. This culture, tradition, and practice is consistent with rural communities like our neighbors in Saxman, Metlakatla, and Prince of Wales.

5. Based on the character of our community, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous, the Federal Subsistence Board can verify that the community of Ketchikan meets the criteria needed to change our designation. KIC is respectfully requesting that the Federal Subsistence Board re-designate Ketchikan as rural. The fact the majority of households in Ketchikan rely on salmon, deer, halibut, beach growth, seafood, and terrestrial plants to sustain themselves and their families is reason enough to change this designation. Any disruption in the supply chain from the lower 48 will leave all citizens of Ketchikan, including the tribal citizens of the



Ketchikan Indian Community, in a really bad position. In terms of processed westernized foods, we do not have any options other than the food the privately-owned barges operators supply us, which is alarming with the overhanging food security issues that we have been seeing for years coupled with the current restrictive federal regulations that are in place.

6. In summary, the Ketchikan Indian Community Tribal Government is proposing and requesting that the Federal Subsistence Board designate Ketchikan as rural. The Ketchikan Indian Tribal Government officially

recognizes the land of the Saanya Kwaan and Tanta Kwaan as rural by unanimous vote through resolution (see exhibit 5. KIC Resolution 22-14). As a federally recognized tribe, we have the sovereignty to make this decision and have identified our traditional territory as rural. At this stage we feel we have provided enough supporting information to move forward with this four-year process. The Ketchikan Indian Community represents a total 3300+ tribal citizens that live on Revillagegado Island. We are also confident that during this process you will find multiple stake-holders in who support this proposal who are not affiliated with the Ketchikan Indian Community. This is a community issue, not just a tribal issue. Following the years of COVID-19 and the more recent ravages of inflation it is becoming more apparent than ever that that potential for economic growth in Ketchikan is severely limited, which again underscores the importance of our peoples need to rely on the resources that are in the environment around them. As the governing body for our tribal citizens, we must overcome and oppose any condition which would result in forcing our people out of or away from their traditional homeland due to lack of opportunity to fish, hunt, and gather. Without changes in regulatory policy through the Federal Subsistence Board, we continue to run the risk of losing our people to larger communities. Please consider giving the citizens that reside in Ketchikan more access to the resources of the Tongass National Forest.

As a postscript to this proposal, here are quotes from some our tribal citizens on what it means to them to be subsistence users of the traditional foods of our lands and seas:

1. "Life."
2. "It means everything to me."
3. "Our culture."
4. "Family Tradition and passing this information onto the next generation. It means food stability in the winter time and pride in yourself knowing you are able to provide for your family or others if needed."
5. "Survival."
6. "Community."

7. "It means that my ancestors won the fight to keep our ancestral traditions alive and strong so that I too can provide for people.
8. "It means the place we belong."
9. "In this age of technology, it is being able to spend quality time with family and friends where there is no cell phone service while putting food on the table and our freezer."
10. "Self-sufficient. I can get my own food and medicine so I don't have to depend on going to the stores."

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Trixie Bennett". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Trixie Bennett, President
Ketchikan Indian Community

EXHIBIT 1. UNITED STATE CENSUS, KETCHIKAN, AK.

2022-2023 Fisheries Proposals

Nonrural Determinations

An official website of the United States government



QuickFacts

Kodiak Island Borough, Alaska; Bethel Census Area, Alaska; Ketchikan Gateway Borough, Alaska

QuickFacts provides statistics for all states and counties, and for cities and towns with a population of 5,000 or more.

Table

All Topics	Kodiak Island Borough, Alaska	Bethel Census Area, Alaska	Ketchikan Gateway Borough, Alaska
Population Estimates, July 1 2021, (V2021)	△ 12,787	△ 18,557	△ 13,754
PEOPLE			
Population			
Population Estimates, July 1 2021, (V2021)	△ 12,787	△ 18,557	△ 13,754
Population estimates base, April 1, 2020, (V2021)	△ 13,101	△ 18,666	△ 13,948
Population, percent change - April 1, 2020 (estimates base) to July 1, 2021, (V2021)	△ -2.4%	△ -0.6%	△ -1.4%
Population, Census, April 1, 2020	13,101	18,666	13,948
Population, Census, April 1, 2010	13,592	17,013	13,477
Age and Sex			
Persons under 5 years, percent	△ 7.3%	△ 10.7%	△ 5.6%
Persons under 18 years, percent	△ 24.9%	△ 35.6%	△ 21.7%
Persons 65 years and over, percent	△ 11.4%	△ 7.9%	△ 16.5%
Female persons, percent	△ 46.9%	△ 48.4%	△ 48.9%
Race and Hispanic Origin			
White alone, percent	△ 55.0%	△ 10.3%	△ 67.4%
Black or African American alone, percent (a)	△ 1.3%	△ 1.0%	△ 1.1%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone, percent (a)	△ 13.1%	△ 83.9%	△ 13.9%
Asian alone, percent (a)	△ 21.9%	△ 1.0%	△ 8.2%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone, percent (a)	△ 1.0%	△ 0.2%	△ 0.4%
Two or More Races, percent	△ 7.7%	△ 3.7%	△ 9.1%
Hispanic or Latino, percent (b)	△ 8.6%	△ 2.7%	△ 5.6%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino, percent	△ 49.1%	△ 9.6%	△ 63.9%
Population Characteristics			
Veterans, 2016-2020	1,112	710	1,064
Foreign born persons, percent, 2016-2020	21.3%	2.1%	8.9%
Housing			
Housing units, July 1, 2019, (V2019)	5,501	6,034	6,458

2022-2023 Fisheries Proposals
Nonrural Determinations

Owner-occupied housing unit rate, 2016-2020	49.7%	55.8%	63.9%
Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2016-2020	\$295,100	\$88,700	\$299,500
Median selected monthly owner costs -with a mortgage, 2016-2020	\$1,847	\$1,518	\$1,872
Median selected monthly owner costs -without a mortgage, 2016-2020	\$718	\$394	\$601
Median gross rent, 2016-2020	\$1,412	\$1,368	\$1,188
Building permits, 2021	8	20	36
Families & Living Arrangements			
Households, 2016-2020	4,231	4,499	5,299
Persons per household, 2016-2020	3.08	3.83	2.56
Living in same house 1 year ago, percent of persons age 1 year+, 2016-2020	81.8%	89.3%	85.4%
Language other than English spoken at home, percent of persons age 5 years+, 2016-2020	29.4%	61.3%	10.8%
Computer and Internet Use			
Households with a computer, percent, 2016-2020	90.9%	89.8%	93.3%
Households with a broadband Internet subscription, percent, 2016-2020	85.8%	73.4%	87.0%
Education			
High school graduate or higher, percent of persons age 25 years+, 2016-2020	89.6%	83.5%	93.9%
Bachelor's degree or higher, percent of persons age 25 years+, 2016-2020	29.8%	11.3%	25.5%
Health			
With a disability, under age 65 years, percent, 2016-2020	6.8%	7.9%	10.0%
Persons without health insurance, under age 65 years, percent	△ 18.2%	△ 16.8%	△ 13.5%
Economy			
In civilian labor force, total, percent of population age 16 years+, 2016-2020	65.7%	61.9%	67.0%
In civilian labor force, female, percent of population age 16 years+, 2016-2020	66.3%	62.3%	64.0%
Total accommodation and food services sales, 2012 (\$1,000) (c)	31,518	D	45,742
Total health care and social assistance receipts/revenue, 2012 (\$1,000) (c)	79,700	D	90,074
Total manufacturers shipments, 2012 (\$1,000) (c)	D	D	152,394
Total retail sales, 2012 (\$1,000) (c)	115,874	162,806	235,907
Total retail sales per capita, 2012 (c)	\$8,138	\$9,174	\$17,121
Transportation			
Mean travel time to work (minutes), workers age 16 years+, 2016-2020	11.2	7.2	13.9
Income & Poverty			
Median household income (in 2020 dollars), 2016-2020	\$79,173	\$54,400	\$74,678

2022-2023 Fisheries Proposals


Nonrural Determinations

Per capita income in past 12 months (in 2020 dollars), 2016-2020	\$32,495	\$21,392	\$38,343
Persons in poverty, percent	△ 7.5%	△ 25.3%	△ 8.3%
BUSINESSES			
Businesses			
Total employer establishments, 2020	445	220	589
Total employment, 2020	4,735	2,414	4,469
Total annual payroll, 2020 (\$1,000)	207,081	120,525	236,283
Total employment, percent change, 2019-2020	-6.4%	-0.3%	-1.9%
Total nonemployer establishments, 2018	1,485	667	1,375
All firms, 2012	1,919	1,121	1,978
Men-owned firms, 2012	1,090	840	888
Women-owned firms, 2012	481	187	527
Minority-owned firms, 2012	459	761	184
Nonminority-owned firms, 2012	1,337	299	1,697
Veteran-owned firms, 2012	188	173	176
Nonveteran-owned firms, 2012	1,616	889	1,511
GEOGRAPHY			
Geography			
Population per square mile, 2010	2.1	0.4	2.8
Land area in square miles, 2010	6,549.58	40,570.00	4,858.41
FIPS Code	02150	02050	02130

[About datasets used in this table](#)

Value Notes

⚠ Estimates are not comparable to other geographic levels due to methodology differences that may exist between different data sources.

Some estimates presented here come from sample data, and thus have sampling errors that may render some apparent differences between geographies statistically indistinguishable. Click the Quick Info  icon to the left of each row in TABLE view to learn about sampling error.

The vintage year (e.g., v2021) refers to the final year of the series (2020 thru 2021). Different vintage years of estimates are not comparable.

Users should exercise caution when comparing 2016-2020 ACS 5-year estimates to other ACS estimates. For more information, please visit the [2020 5-year ACS Comparison Guidance](#) page.

Fact Notes

- (a) Includes persons reporting only one race
- (c) Economic Census - Puerto Rico data are not comparable to U.S. Economic Census data
- (b) Hispanics may be of any race, so also are included in applicable race categories

Value Flags

- Either no or too few sample observations were available to compute an estimate, or a ratio of medians cannot be calculated because one or both of the median estimates falls in the lowest or upper interval of an open ended distribution.
- F Fewer than 25 firms
- D Suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information
- N Data for this geographic area cannot be displayed because the number of sample cases is too small.
- FN Footnote on this item in place of data
- X Not applicable
- S Suppressed; does not meet publication standards
- NA Not available
- Z Value greater than zero but less than half unit of measure shown

QuickFacts data are derived from: Population Estimates, American Community Survey, Census of Population and Housing, Current Population Survey, Small Area Health Insurance Estimates, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, State and County Housing Unit Estimates, County Business Patterns, Nonemployer Statistics, Economic Census, Survey of Business Owners, Building Permits.

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**EXHIBIT 2. SAXMAN IRA-FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE BOARD
RESTORES RURAL COMMUNITY STATUS, PRESS RELEASE**



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE BOARD RESTORES RURAL COMMUNITY STATUS TO SAXMAN VILLAGE

After ten years of arduous effort, the Organized Village of Saxman is filled with gratitude today at the recent announcement by the Federal Subsistence Board (FSB) to remove Saxman from the list of nonrural communities, thereby recognizing Saxman as a rural community. Under the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), rural community members enjoy a priority to harvest wild fish and game on federal public lands and waters. In 2006, however, the FSB wrongfully classified Saxman as a non-rural community, thereby denying its citizens the subsistence rights they had exercised since time immemorial.

“The importance of being recognized as a rural community is acute for Saxman and is crucial to survival. Subsistence is an essential cultural practice, a traditional worldview that is at the heart of surviving and thriving in Saxman,” said Lee Wallace, Tribal President of the Organized Village of Saxman. The preference for take of fish and wildlife resources for subsistence uses on federal public lands and waters in Alaska, when these resources are sometimes scarce, is profoundly important to a traditional culture that has lived and breathed this lifestyle for millennia. The affirmation of being classified as rural means the retention and sustenance of natural resource harvest will remain for generations into the future. “In Saxman, subsistence is a meaningful traditional cultural practice and a way of living and prospering in this world,” added President Wallace. “All those days, all those doubts of the last ten years, are behind the Tribe now. I praise and thank the Federal Subsistence Board for recognizing that Saxman is indeed rural, thank you to Alaska Federation of Natives, Sealaska Corporation, and Cape Fox Corporation for assisting, give praise to Dr. Daniel Monteith for his support, give praise to the Native American Rights Fund, who were a source of strength, give praise to the Tribes who bolstered Saxman up, give praise to the faithful tribal citizens and community members who gave moral support and testimony, and especially give praise to God the Creator, who indelibly oversees all good.”

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NATIVE AMERICAN RIGHTS FUND

FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE BOARD RESTORES RURAL COMMUNITY STATUS TO SAXMAN VILLAGE

March 11, 2016

Categories: Hunting and Fishing (Treaty Rights, Subsistence), Native Lands & Sacred Places (Land Back, Treaty Rights, Tribal Homelands, National Historic Places Protections)

Yesterday the Federal Subsistence Board (FSB) officially restored the rural status of Saxman, Alaska. The Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) grants a harvest priority of fish and game on public lands, but this priority is only extended to "rural communities." In 2006, under political pressure from the State of Alaska, the FSB terminated Saxman's rural status and grouped the village with the larger city of Ketchikan. Represented by NARF, Saxman later filed suit to restore its rural status, but parties settled the case in favor of yesterday's administrative fix.



Our client, the Organized Village of Saxman, worked for over ten years to restore the community's rural status. We congratulate all of the tribal citizens and community members who worked for so long to restore their essential subsistence rights. The Organized Village of Saxman's press release discussing this important milestone is available [here](#).



Boulder CO (main) – 303-447-8760 Anchorage AK – 907-276-0680 Washington DC – 202-785-4166

**EXHIBIT 3. DEFINITIONS OF RURAL BY VARIOUS
FEDERAL AGENCIES**

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Definitions of rural by various Federal Entities

Indian Health Service (Ketchikan IS rural)

Comprehensive primary health care and disease prevention services are provided through a network of hospitals, clinics, and health stations on or near Indian reservations. These facilities, which are managed by the IHS, Tribes, and Tribal organizations, are predominately located in rural and primary care settings. In addition, the IHS contracts with urban Indian organizations (UIOs) for health care services provided in some urban centers. The Indian health care system strives to provide comprehensive care through a network of IHS, Tribal, and urban health facilities and by purchasing health care services from non-IHS providers through the Purchased/Referred Care (PRC) program.

National Library of Medicine (Ketchikan IS rural)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1449333/>

Although many policymakers, researchers, and policy analysts would prefer one standardized, all-purpose definition, “rural” is a multifaceted concept about which there is no universal agreement. Defining rurality can be elusive and frequently relies on stereotypes and personal experiences. The term suggests pastoral landscapes, unique demographic structures and settlement patterns, isolation, low population density, extractive economic activities, and distinct sociocultural milieus. But these aspects of rurality fail to completely define “rural.” For example, rural cultures can exist in urban places. Only a small fraction of the rural population is involved in farming, and towns range from tens of thousands to a handful of residents. The proximity of rural areas to urban cores and services may range from a few miles to hundreds of miles. Generations of rural sociologists, demographers, and geographers have struggled with these concepts

US Census Bureau (Ketchikan IS rural)

<https://mtgis-portal.geo.census.gov/arcgis/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=49cd4bc9c8eb444ab51218c1d5001ef6#:~:text=The%20Census%20Bureau%20defines%20rural,rural%20based%20on%20this%20definition>

See Map

US Department of Transportation (Ketchikan is Rural)

This link shows various definitions for different grant programs, all of which Ketchikan would be eligible for rural funding.

<https://www.transportation.gov/rural/eligibility#:~:text=Located%20outside%20of%20a%20U.S.%20>

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Census%20designated%20urbanized%20area%20with, population%20of%20200%2C000%20or%20more

US Department of Treasury (Maybe)

By definition, any census tract that is not in a UA or UC is "rural." Each rural area, then, has less than 1,000 ppsm.

<https://gwipp.gwu.edu/sites/g/files/zaxdzs2181/f/downloads/Counting%20for%20Dollars%233%20Federal%20Funds%20for%20Rural%20America%2012-18.pdf>

US Department of Health and Human Services (Ketchikan IS rural)

Anything that is not in a metro area is considered rural. Metro meaning 50,000+ people

**EXHIBIT 4. KETCHIKAN INDIAN
COMMUNITY/KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH
JURISDICTION MAP**



EXHIBIT 5. KIC RESOLUTION 22-14



RESOLUTION: KIC 22-14

TITLE: DECLARATION OF KETCHIKAN INDIAN COMMUNITY'S JURISDICTION AND TERRITORY AS RURAL.

WHEREAS, the Ketchikan Indian Community ("KIC" or the "Tribe"), is a federally recognized Tribal government organized under a Constitution and Bylaws (collectively, the "Constitution") ratified on October 18, 2017, and previously organized under a Constitution and Bylaws ratified on January 16, 1979, and previously organized under a Constitution and Bylaws ratified on January 27, 1940, in each instance pursuant to Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act

WHEREAS, the KIC Tribal Council (the "Tribal Council") is the governing body of the representative Tribal Government of the Tribe; and

WHEREAS, KIC is the Tribal Government entity that represents and serves over 6,300 Tribal Citizens in which KIC tribal citizens are of Alaskan Native descent and primarily of Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian origin; and

WHEREAS, the Indian relocation act, and Indian Removal policy encouraged native American people and Alaska natives to leave their ancestral homelands to assimilate to the general population of American in the name of the United States Manifest Destiny; and

WHEREAS, native Americans and Alaska Natives have experienced detrimental trauma, eradication and genocide from the United States laws, acts, policies and statehood and still to this day our native people are on a healing journey from those traumas; and

WHEREAS, native Americans and Alaska natives were forced into and to abide by a law called the Indian Reorganization act, in which this act was

created to keep native Americans off lands that the non-native people wish to settle; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Government and Alaska Statehood formed ANILCA, and ANCSA in an effort to address long standing Alaska native land claims and native rights to hunt, fish, and gather on Alaska lands and waters; and

WHEREAS, Alaska native peoples have never conveyed or conceded or officially transferred our homelands, and still hunt, fish, gather and govern the lands and waters as our native people have done since the beginning of time; and

WHEREAS, the Ketchikan Indian Community and its Tribal Citizens within the jurisdiction of Ketchikan, Alaska (Ketchikan Gateway Borough), is made up of (*defined in KIC's Amended and Restated Constitution and Bylaws October, 18th, 2017; ARTICLE II-TERRITORY AND JURISDICTION- SEC. (1) TERRITORY*); and

WHEREAS, ANILCA and federal subsistence rules were initiated and amended to protect the traditional subsistence and native fishing, hunting, and gathering rights for Alaska Natives and all residents of Alaska residing in "rural" designated areas; and

WHEREAS, The Federal Subsistence Board and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service designated the area within the Ketchikan Gateway Borough as "non-rural" despite its clear, historic, and well accepted status as a rural area. And, despite Ketchikan's designation as a rural area by multiple other federal departments including the USDA and the US Census Bureau; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Subsistence Board's current designation of Ketchikan as "non-rural" jeopardizes the subsistence needs of Native Alaskan's and other residents who live in our area; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

that as a Federally Recognized Tribe which was established under the Indian Reorganization Act, KIC hereby declares Ketchikan Indian Community's territory and jurisdiction a rural area; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Ketchikan Indian Community and as long as KIC's Tribal Citizens are in existence, KIC will continue to combat and defend our inherent rights to fish, hunt, gather and govern the lands and waters within KIC jurisdiction.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at a duly convened meeting of the Ketchikan Indian Community Tribal Council, assembled this 21st day of March, 2022, at 2960 Tongass, Ketchikan, Alaska 99901, by a vote of: 8 FOR and 0 AGAINST

Trixie Bennett 03/21/2022
 Trixie Bennett, President Date

ATTEST:
Judy Leask-Guthrie 03/21/2022
 Judy Leask-Guthrie, Secretary Date

Effective: March 21, 2022 KIC 22-14			
Roll Call	Yes	No	Absent
BENNETT			
SKAN	X		
LEASK GUTHRIE	X		
EDWARDSON	X		
BURNS	✓		
RUARO	X		
HAYNES	X		
JOHNSON	X		
WILLARD FLANERY	X		

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Federal Fisheries Closure Reviews		
Closure Number	Species	General Description
Yukon-Northern Area		
FCR23-02	All Fish	Kanuti River closed to subsistence fishing upstream from a point 5 miles downstream of the State highway crossing
FCR23-03	All Fish	Bonanza Creek closed to subsistence fishing
FCR23-05	All Fish	Delta River closed to subsistence fishing
Aleutian Islands Area		
FCR21-08 (deferred)	Salmon	Unalaska Lake, its tributaries, and its outlet stream closed to subsistence fishing
FCR21-09 (deferred)	Salmon	Summers and Morris lakes, their tributaries, and their outlet streams closed to subsistence fishing
FCR21-11 (deferred)	Salmon	Mclees Lake, its tributaries, and its outlet stream closed to subsistence fishing
FRC23-11	Salmon	All streams supporting anadromous fish runs that flow into Unalaska Bay south of a line from the northern tip of Cape Cheerful to the northern tip of Kalekta Point closed to subsistence fishing
FRC23-12	Salmon	All fresh water on Adak Island and Kagalaska Island in the Adak District closed to subsistence fishing
Alaska Peninsula Area		
FRC21-13 (deferred)	Salmon	Russel Creek and Nurse Lagoon and within 500 yards outside the mouth of Nurse Lagoon closed to subsistence fishing
FRC23-14	Salmon	Trout Creek and within 500 yards outside its mouth closed to subsistence fishing
Kodiak Area		
FRC21-16 (deferred)	Salmon	All waters inside of a line running from a marker on the bluff north of the mouth of the Buskin River at approximately 57°45.80' North latitude, 152°28.38' West longitude, to a point offshore at 57°45.35' North latitude, 152°28.15' West longitude, to a marker located onshore south of the river mouth at approximately 57°45.15' North latitude, 152°28.65' West longitude are closed to subsistence fishing
FRC21-18 (deferred)	Salmon	Afognak Bay north and west of a line from the tip of Last Point to the tip of River Mouth Point closed to subsistence fishing
FRC21-19 (deferred)	Salmon	All freshwater systems of Afognak Island closed to subsistence fishing
FRC23-15	Salmon	All waters inside a line from the tip of the Nyman Peninsula (57°43.23' North latitude, 152°31.51' West longitude), to the northeastern tip of Mary's Island (57°42.40' North latitude, 152°32.00' West longitude), to the southeastern shore of Womens Bay at 57°41.95'

		North latitude, 152°31.50' West longitude are closed to subsistence fishing
FCR23-19	Salmon	All waters closed to commercial salmon fishing within 100 yards of the terminus of Selief Bay Creek are closed to subsistence fishing
FCR23-21	King Crab	The waters of the Pacific Ocean enclosed by the boundaries of Womens Bay, Gibson Cove, and an area defined by a line 1/2 mile on either side of the mouth of the Karluk River, and extending seaward 3,000 feet, and all waters within 1,500 feet seaward of the shoreline of Afognak Island are closed to harvest except by Federally qualified subsistence users
FCR23-22	Salmon	All waters 500 yards seaward of the terminus of Little Kitoi Creek closed to subsistence fishing from August 14 through September 30
Southeastern Alaska Area		
FCR23-23	Salmon	Taku River closed to subsistence fishing
FCR23-24	Sockeye Salmon	Neva Lake, Neva Creek, and South Creek closed to harvest except by Federally qualified subsistence users



FISH and WILDLIFE SERVICE
BUREAU of LAND MANAGEMENT
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
BUREAU of INDIAN AFFAIRS

Federal Subsistence Board
c/o Fish and Wildlife Service
Office of Subsistence Management
1011 E Tudor Rd., MS-121
Anchorage, AK 99503-6199



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