



Federal Subsistence Board News Release



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Land Management
National Park Service
Bureau of Indian Affairs

Forest Service

For Immediate Release:
May 5, 2021

Contact:
Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge
(907) 543-1008, YukonDelta@fws.gov

Public Hearing announced for Federal management action regarding Kuskokwim River Salmon

Note: This news release was originally sent out on April 22, 2021; the hearing call-in number and passcode have changed from the original version.

A public hearing is scheduled for May 6, 2021, from 6:00–8:00 p.m., via teleconference to receive public testimony on potential management actions on the Kuskokwim River Salmon Fishery.

Emergency Special Action through delegation of authority to the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge (YDNWR) is expected due to: 1) except for one of the past 11 years (2019), the Chinook salmon run has experienced low abundance and productivity, 2) the Chinook salmon run has not been abundant enough to meet defined long-term subsistence needs since 2010, and 3) based on the preliminary Chinook salmon pre-season forecast from Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) it is anticipated that the 2021 Chinook run will not be large enough to meet both escapement and subsistence harvest needs. Based on these factors, the YDNWR Manager will propose the following management action to be discussed at this hearing:

- Close Federal public waters of the Kuskokwim River drainage to the harvest of Salmon except by Federally qualified subsistence users beginning approximately June 1, 2021 until superseded by a subsequent emergency special action.

The public is encouraged to participate in this hearing by calling the telephone number below. When prompted, enter the passcode. Comments will be forwarded to the manager of the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge for consideration.

Public Hearing Information:

Thursday, May 6, 2021 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. (or until the end of public participation)
Teleconference: Toll Free: (888) 790-3358
Passcode: 6663156

*(*Both the teleconference number and passcode have been updated from the numbers originally sent out on April 22, 2021)*

The Federal Subsistence Board is committed to providing access to this public meeting for all participants. Please direct requests for accommodation needs to the Office of Subsistence

Management at (800) 478-1456 or (907) 786-3888 or by e-mail subsistence@fws.gov at least seven business days prior to the meeting.

Information about the Federal Subsistence Management Program may be found on the web at www.doi.gov/subsistence or by visiting www.facebook.com/subsistencealaska.

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.

-###-