



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

Federal Subsistence Board News Release



Forest Service

For Immediate Release:
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Federal public waters of the Kuskokwim River will be opened to gillnet fishing June 24, 2017 from Noon to Midnight

In consultation with the Kuskokwim River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, the Federal In-season Manager announces a 12-hour gillnet opportunity for Federally qualified subsistence users to harvest fish other than Chinook Salmon on Federal public waters of the mainstem of the Kuskokwim River. During this opportunity, Federally qualified subsistence users may fish from 12:01 p.m. (noon) June 24, 2017, until 11:59 p.m. (midnight) June 24, 2017 using set or drift gillnets with 6 inch or less stretched mesh and not exceeding 45 mesh in depth. Nets cannot exceed 25 fathoms (150 feet) in length. Federally qualified subsistence users identified in the ANILCA Section 804 subsistence user prioritization may retain Chinook Salmon incidentally harvested in gillnets.

The waters of the Kuskokwim River from the Yukon Delta NWR boundary at Aniak downstream to a line formed from the northwest corner of the runway (latitude 61° 35' 16" N, longitude 159° 33' 28" W), due north to a point on the southeast corner of the sandbar (latitude 61° 35' 37" N, longitude 159° 33' 16" W) are closed to subsistence gillnet fishing.

Subsistence fishing with dip nets, beach seines, fish wheels, and rod and reel may also be used during this opportunity. Fish wheels are required to have a live box with no less than 45 cubic feet of water and must be checked at least every 6 hours. Fish wheels must be equipped with a chute and must be closely attended while in operation. All authorized gear types, except gillnets, must return Chinook Salmon to the water alive.

This limited opportunity has been implemented by Federal Emergency Special Action (3-KS- 04-17) under the delegated authority of the Federal Subsistence Board.

Access up-to-date information on fishing opportunities visiting the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge [Facebook](#) page or www.fws.gov/refuge/yukon_delta/. **Questions?** call the Refuge at (907) 543-3151 or at (800) 621-5804.

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

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