



Federal Subsistence Board



1011 East Tudor Road, MS 121
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

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

FOREST SERVICE

FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE CHINOOK SALMON FISHERY CLOSED IN THE STIKINE RIVER

SPECIAL ACTION: FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE BOARD

Under authority of: 36 CFR 242.10 and .19
50 CFR 100.10 and .19

Special Action No: 13-KS-03-18

Issued at: Wrangell Alaska, April 27, 2018

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Tuesday, May 15, 2018

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Wednesday, June 20, 2018 unless superseded by subsequent special action

EXPLANATION:

This Special Action closes the May 15 – June 20, 2018 Federal subsistence Chinook Salmon fishery in the Stikine River. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) has also taken actions in the State managed fisheries to reduce the harvest of Stikine River Chinook Salmon. The May 15 – June 20 closure of the Federal subsistence Chinook Salmon fishery does not affect other Stikine River Federal subsistence fisheries beginning June 21, 2018.

REGULATION: 50 CFR 100.27(e)(13) (xiii) and 36 CFR 242.27(e)(13) (xiii) are amended to read:

§ .27(e)(13) (xiii) *You may take Chinook, sockeye, and coho salmon in the mainstem of the Stikine River only under the authority of a Federal subsistence fishing permit. Each Stikine River permit will be issued to a household. Only dip nets, spears, gaffs, rod and reel, beach seine, or gillnets not exceeding 15 fathoms in length may be used. The maximum gillnet mesh size is 5 1/2; inches, except during the Chinook season when the maximum gillnet mesh size is 8 inches.*

(A) You may take ~~The Chinook salmon fishery is closed from May 15 through June 20.~~ The annual limit is 5 Chinook salmon per household.

(B) You may take sockeye salmon from June 21 through July 31. The annual limit is 40 sockeye salmon per household.

(C) You may take coho salmon from August 1 through October 1. The annual limit is 20 coho salmon per household.

(D) You may retain other salmon taken incidentally by gear operated under terms of this permit. The incidentally taken salmon must be reported on your permit calendar.

(E) Fishing nets must be checked at least twice each day. The total annual guideline harvest level for the Stikine River fishery is 125 Chinook, 600 sockeye, and 400 coho salmon. All salmon harvested, including incidentally taken salmon, will count against the guideline for that species.

Federal Subsistence Board by delegation to



ROBERT J. DALRYMPLE

District Ranger

Wrangell Ranger District

27 April 2018

JUSTIFICATION:

The 2018 preseason forecast for the Stikine River is 6,900 large Chinook Salmon (greater than 28 inches total length), which is well below the escapement goal range of 14,000 to 28,000 large Chinook Salmon. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) has also taken actions in the State managed fisheries to reduce the harvest of Stikine River Chinook Salmon. The closure of the Federal subsistence Chinook Salmon fishery does not affect other Stikine River Federal subsistence fisheries beginning June 21, 2018. This action is necessary for Chinook Salmon conservation in the Stikine River and to meet obligations of the Pacific Salmon Treaty.

DISTRIBUTION:

RADIO

KSTK Radio; KFSK Radio; KCAW Radio

PRINT

Wrangell Sentinel; Petersburg Pilot; Juneau Empire

GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS

Donald Hernandez, Chair, Southeast Alaska Regional Advisory Council; ADF&G Commercial and Sportfish Divisions-Wrangell; Jordan Rymer, Subsistence L.E.O., USFS – Moose Pass; Bill Elsner, L.E.O., USFS-Ketchikan; Paul Robbins, Public Affairs, USFS-Ketchikan; Terry Suminski, Tongass Subsistence Program Leader, USFS-Sitka; DeAnna Perry, Council Coordinator, USFS – Juneau; Thomas Whitford, Regional Subsistence Program Leader, USFS – Anchorage; Melinda Hernandez-Burke, Tribal Relations Program Manager, USFS – Juneau; Theo Matuskowitz, Regulations Specialist, OSM – Anchorage; Alaska Public Safety Department-Fish & Wildlife Protection Division, Wrangell; David Jack, Mayor of Wrangell; Mark Jensen, Mayor of Petersburg; Richard Oliver, Wrangell Cooperative Association; Tracy Welch, Petersburg Indian Association.