



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

Federal Subsistence Board

1011 East Tudor Road, MS 121
Anchorage, Alaska 99503



FOREST SERVICE

Subsistence Fishing

SPECIAL ACTION: FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE BOARD

**Under Authority of: 36 CFR 242.10 and .19
50 CFR 100.10 and .19**

Special Action No: 8-KS-01-17

Issued at: Anchorage, Alaska, July 22, 2017

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Sunday July 22, 2017

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Friday August 9, 2017, unless superseded by subsequent special action

EXPLANATION: This Special Action closes all Federal public waters in the Chignik River drainage to subsistence fishing for Chinook Salmon upstream of the Chignik River weir operated by Alaska Department of Fish and Game. This closure prohibits all subsistence fishing for Chinook Salmon and they may not be retained or possessed. Chinook Salmon accidentally caught while fishing for other species may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.

REGULATION: 36 CFR 242.27(e)(8)(ii) and 50 CFR 100.27(e)(8)(ii) are amended to read:

You may take salmon, except for Chinook Salmon, in the Chignik River, with rod and reel, from a point 300 feet upstream of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game weir to Chignik Lake from January 1 through August 9, with no daily harvest or possession limit under the authority of a Federal subsistence fishing permit. For Chinook Salmon, no harvest is allowed in Federal public waters of the Chignik River drainage upstream of the weir operated by Alaska Department of Fish and Game July 23-August 9.

Federal Subsistence Board

by delegation to

Jonathon Gerken
US Fish and Wildlife Service
Chignik Area Inseason Manager
Anchorage Fish and Wildlife Conservation
Office

JUSTIFICATION: The biological escapement goal for Chinook Salmon in the Chignik River drainage is 1,300 to 2,700 fish. The weir count as of July 21 was 726 Chinook Salmon. Based on historical run timing, approximately 75% of the escapement has occurred by July 21, and the current projected total escapement is approximately 900 – 1,000 fish. Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) fishery managers have already implemented restrictions to sport, commercial, and subsistence fisheries. Effective July 14, the Chignik River sport fishery was restricted to catch and release for Chinook Salmon; effective July 16, the Chignik Bay District commercial fishery was restricted to non-retention of Chinook Salmon greater than 28 inches; and effective July 23, the Chignik River sport fishery for Chinook Salmon will be closed; effective July 23, the Chignik River state subsistence fishery for Chinook Salmon fishery will be closed. This Special Action closes the Federal subsistence fishery for Chinook Salmon.

This Special Action: 1) falls within the geographic and regulatory scope of delegation; 2) is needed immediately; 3) is consistent with assessment projects; and 4) is likely to achieve desired results.

This action was taken in consultation with Alaska Department of Fish and Game fishery managers. The Bristol Bay Regional Advisory Council (Chair and other members) and Alaska Peninsula/Becherof NWR Manager have been notified, as well as local issuers of Federal subsistence permits. Potential impacts to all subsistence users were considered, the public announcement made in a timely manner, and this action is reasonable, rational, and responsible.

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