



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

# FEDERAL PRESEASON SCHEDULE ADOPTED FOR THE CHITINA SUBDISTRICT OF THE COPPER RIVER

## SPECIAL ACTION: FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE BOARD

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

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Special Action No: 11-RS-02-14

Issued at: Copper Center, Alaska, June 26, 2014

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Monday, June 30, 2014

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Saturday, August 28, 2014 unless superseded by subsequent Special Action.

**EXPLANATION:** This Special Action supersedes Special Action No. 11-RS-01-14 and increases the opening for the taking of salmon in the Chitina Subdistrict of the Copper River during the week of June 30 – July 6. The fishery was scheduled to open to Federally qualified subsistence users at 12:00 p.m. June 30, 2014. The fishery will now open on Monday, June 30, 2014 at 12:01 a.m. and continue through Sunday, July 6, at 11:59 p.m., a total of 168 hours. This Special Action (11-RS-02-14) also provides the tentative fishing schedule for future fishing periods. These periods are subject to modification by future Special Actions depending on the number of salmon entering the Copper River as estimated by sonar located downstream from the Chitina Subdistrict at Miles Lake.

The State of Alaska (State) also conducts a personal use fishery in this Subdistrict. That fishery is open to all Alaska residents. The State and Federal fishery usually follow identical fishing schedules.

**REGULATION:** 36 CFR 242.27(e)(11)(ix) and 50 CFR 100.27(e)(11)(ix) are amended to read: The Chitina Subdistrict of the Upper Copper River District will open to the taking of salmon on June 30, 2014 at 12:01 a.m. and remain open for 168 hours, closing on July 6, 2014 at 11:59 p.m. Additional fishing periods, subject to change by subsequent Special Action, are:

Tuesday, July 8, 8:00 p.m. through Sunday, July 13, 11:59 p.m.	124 hours
Tuesday, July 15, 12:01 a.m. through Sunday, July 20, 11:59 p.m.	144 hours
Thursday, July 24, 12:00 p.m. through Sunday, July 27, 11:59 p.m.	84 hours
Tuesday, July 29, 12:01 a.m. through Sunday, August 3, 11:59 p.m.	144 hours
Monday, August 4, 12:01 a.m. continuous as provided by regulation	

Federal Subsistence Board

by delegation to R. Obernesser

Rick Obernesser  
Superintendent

Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve  
June 26, 2014

**JUSTIFICATION:** In December, 2001 the Federal Subsistence Board (FSB) adopted regulatory proposals establishing a new Federal subsistence fishery in the Chitina Subdistrict of the Copper River. This fishery is open to Federally qualified users having customary and traditional use of salmon in this Subdistrict. Those eligible to participate are residents of Cantwell, Chickaloon, Chisana, Chistochina, Chitina, Copper Center, Dot Lake, Gakona, Gakona Junction, Glennallen, Gulkana, Healy Lake, McCarthy, Kenny Lake, Lower Tonsina, Mentasta Lake, Nabesna, Northway, Slana, Tanacross, Tazlina, Tetlin, Tok, Tonsina and those individuals living along the Tok Cutoff from Tok to Mentasta Pass and along the Nabesna Road.

The State of Alaska (State) also conducts a personal use fishery in this Subdistrict. That fishery is open to all Alaska residents.

Management of both the Federal and State fisheries is based on the numbers of salmon returning to the Copper River. This is known as "abundance based management." A larger than forecast salmon run will allow additional fishing time. A smaller than forecast run will require restrictions to achieve upriver passage and spawning escapement goals.

The fishing schedule described above is based on projected daily sonar estimates at the Miles Lake sonar located downstream from the Chitina Subdistrict at Miles Lake. Adjustments to this schedule are expected as a normal function of an abundance-based management strategy.

During June 16 – June 22, there were 105,666 salmon counted past the Miles Lake sonar. The preseason projection for this period was 58,533 salmon, which results in a surplus of 47,133 salmon. Copper River sockeye salmon migratory timing and the previous five-year average harvest and participation rates indicate sufficient numbers of salmon available to justify an increase of 12 hours above the preseason forecast to 168 hours of fishing time during the week of June 30 – July 6.

**DISTRIBUTION:** Deborah Coble, George Pappas, Theo Matuskowitz, Donald Mike, and Donald Rivard, Office of Subsistence Management, US Fish & Wildlife Service, Anchorage; Clarence Summers, National Park Service Regional Office, Anchorage; Eric Veach, Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve, Copper Center.