

## Federal Subsistence Board News Release



Forest Service

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

**For Immediate Release:** February 20, 2019 **Contact:** Susan A. Howle USDA Forest Service Phone: 907-228-4100 Fax: 907-225-8738 Email: <u>showle@fs.fed.us</u>

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

## Federal subsistence fishery for Eulachon closed in Federal waters within District 1

KETCHIKAN, Alaska – Ketchikan-Misty Fjords District Ranger Susan A. Howle, under authority delegated by the Federal Subsistence Board, is closing the Federal public waters that flow into District 1 to the taking of Eulachon from 12:01 a.m. on February 25, 2019, until 11:59 p.m. on April 25, 2019, due to anticipated low eulachon returns. Any Eulachon caught in this area must be immediately returned into the water unharmed. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) will also be closing State managed subsistence and personal use fisheries for Eulachon in District 1.

Portions of District 1 have been closed since 2005 due to low Eulachon returns. Based on returns observed in recent years, a harvestable surplus is unlikely in 2019. In is anticipated that all Eulachon returning to District 1 in 2019 will be needed for spawning to rebuild area populations.

The Ketchikan-Misty Fjords Ranger District, in cooperation with ADF&G, will continue to monitor returns to District 1 systems and will provide a further update in the event that a change occurs.

For additional information, please contact Susan Howle at 907-228-4100, Jon Hyde at 907-228-4137, or Jeff Reeves at 907-826-1649. Maps of District 1 are available at U.S. Forest Service offices. Maps and additional information on the Federal Subsistence Management Program can be found on the web at <u>www.doi.gov/subsistence</u>.

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