



# Federal Subsistence Board News Release



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

Forest Service

**For Immediate Release:**  
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## **Public Hearing announced for Fisheries Special Action Request FSA18-02 regarding changes to the Kenai River community gillnet fishery regulations**

A public hearing is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., March 16, 2018, at the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center in Soldotna to receive public testimony about a Fisheries Temporary Special Action request received by the Federal Subsistence Board. Fisheries Special Action FSA18-02, submitted jointly by the Ninilchik Traditional Council and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, requests several modifications to Federal subsistence regulations to allow for implementation of the Kenai River community gillnet fishery for residents of Ninilchik during 2018, including establishing seasons, harvest limits and guidelines about fish retention and release.

The proponents state that the Kenai River community gillnet fishery was authorized by the Federal Subsistence Board in 2015, but implementation has been difficult due to regulatory conflicts and conservation concerns. The proponents submitted FSA18-02 to resolve existing regulatory conflicts and address concerns associated with the community gillnet fishery. The intent of the special action request is to facilitate implementation of the authorized fishery and increase subsistence opportunity for residents of Ninilchik during the 2018 season.

The public may attend the meeting in person or by teleconference. Public testimony provided at the meeting will be summarized by Federal staff and provided to the Federal Subsistence Board for consideration.

Public Hearing information is below:

### **Soldotna**

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., Friday, March 16, 2018  
Kenai National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center  
33398-A Ski Hill Road, Soldotna, AK 99669  
Teleconference: Toll Free (888) 455-5987  
Passcode: 3344290

The Federal Subsistence Board is committed to providing access to this meeting for all participants. Please direct all requests for sign language interpreting services, closed captioning, or other accommodation needs to the Office of Subsistence Management by calling (800) 478-1456, by emailing [subsistence@fws.gov](mailto:subsistence@fws.gov), or (800)-877-8339 (TTY), at least seven business days prior to the meeting.

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

**Missing out on the latest Federal subsistence issues?** If you'd like to receive emails and notifications on the Federal Subsistence Management Program, you may subscribe for regular updates by emailing [fws-fsb-subsistence-request@lists.fws.gov](mailto:fws-fsb-subsistence-request@lists.fws.gov).

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