



United States Department of the Interior



Federal Subsistence Board

1011 East Tudor Road, MS 121
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

IN REPLY REFER TO

June 16, 2015

SUBSISTENCE FISHING

SPECIAL ACTION

FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE BOARD

Under Authority of: 36 CFR Part 242.27 (e) (9) (iii) (D)
50 CFR Part 100.27 (e) (9) (iii) (D)

Special Action Number: 9-KS-02-15

Issued at: Kodiak, Alaska. June 15, 2015

Effective Date: At 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, June 17, until 11:59 p.m. Thursday December 31 2015, Chinook salmon in the Karluk River drainage, including the Karluk River lagoon, may not be retained in the subsistence fishery.

EXPLANATION: Only 592 Chinook salmon have been counted through the Karluk River weir as of June 14. It is unlikely, based on the current rate of escapement, that the lower value (3,000) of the escapement goal for Karluk River Chinook salmon will be achieved.

Chinook salmon 28 inches or greater in length taken in the commercial salmon fishery, may not be retained and must be returned to the water unharmed. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sportfish closed fishing for Chinook salmon in the Karluk Lake drainage.

In an effort to conserve Karluk River Chinook salmon, in accordance with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the Federal Subsistence Board, Chinook salmon in the Karluk River drainage may not be retained in the subsistence fishery and must be returned to the water unharmed.

Chinook salmon escapement into the Karluk River system will continue to be monitored daily. Subsistence salmon fishing opportunities may be adjusted based on changes in the run strengths. If the Karluk River Chinook salmon run sufficiently improves, the subsistence fishing restriction could be lifted to provide additional opportunity.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game, under the direction of the Alaska Board of Fisheries, manages sport, commercial, personal use, and state subsistence harvest on all lands and waters throughout Alaska. However, the Federal Subsistence Board assures a subsistence priority for rural residents as provided by Title VIII of ANILCA.

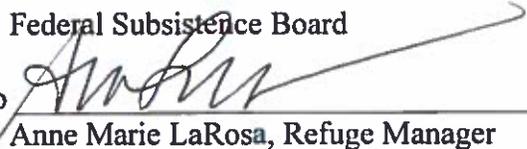
Fishermen are reminded that they should consult both State of Alaska fishing regulations and the Federal Subsistence Management regulations for waters subject to ANILCA Title VIII before fishing.

This news release and fishery restriction has been a coordinated action of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

REGULATION: 50 CFR Part 100.27 (e) (9) (iii) (D) is amended to read: Effective at 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, June 17, until 11:59 p.m. Thursday December 31 2015, Chinook salmon in the Karluk River drainage, including the Karluk River lagoon, may not be retained in the subsistence fishery.

Federal Subsistence Board

by delegation to


Anne Marie LaRosa, Refuge Manager
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge

JUSTIFICATION:

Through June 2, 7,817 sockeye salmon have been counted through Afognak River weir. Normally by this date approximately only 9.7 percent of the escapement has passed the weir. In order to prevent a higher than desired sockeye salmon escapement into Afognak River, closed waters for subsistence salmon fishing will be reduced to the ADF&G subsistence markers located at the "old bridge" near the stream terminus at Afognak River in the Southeast Afognak Section at noon Thursday, June 5, 2014 until 9:00 p.m. July 9, 2014 to provide additional subsistence opportunity to residents during the sockeye return to the Afognak River system.

DISTRIBUTION: Local radio station, Kodiak Daily Mirror, ADF&G Sport and Commercial Fishery Divisions, Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge, Afognak Native Corp., Kodiak Regional Advisory Council, Kodiak ADF&G Advisory Committee, Federal Subsistence Board, Alaska Board of Fisheries, Federal and State enforcement personnel.

