

Federal Subsistence Board News Release



Forest Service

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

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Chignik River Federal Subsistence Fishery for Chinook Salmon

The Federal In-season Manager, pursuant to delegated authority from the Federal Subsistence Board under ANILCA Title VIII section 816, will issue an emergency special action (8-KS-01-24) to close fishing for Chinook Salmon to all users, non-federal and Federally qualified users, in Federal public waters of the Chignik River drainage, effective 12:01 a.m. Friday June 14. This action is necessary to ensure the continued viability of the Chignik River Chinook Salmon population. This action prohibits all 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.

The biological escapement goal for Chinook Salmon in the Chignik River drainage is 1,300 to 2,700 fish. The biological escapement goal has only been achieved in 4 of the last 10 years with the 2023 weir count being the lowest on record. It is assumed that the 2024 Chinook Salmon escapement goal will not be reached. Through Section 816 of ANILCA, this Emergency Special Action (8-KS-01-24) closes fishing for Chinook Salmon in the Federal public waters of the Chignik River drainage due to concerns about the viability of the population.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game fishery managers have implemented restrictions to sport and subsistence fisheries. Effective June 14, this emergency special action (8-KS-01-24) will close Chignik River Federal Public waters to the harvest of Chinook Salmon for all users concurrently with the closures of Chignik River state subsistence fishery and sport fishery for Chinook Salmon.

Information about the Federal Subsistence Management Program may be found on the web at <u>www.doi.gov/subsistence</u> or by visiting <u>www.facebook.com/subsistencealaska</u>.

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 <u>fws-fsb-subsistence-request@lists.fws.gov</u>.

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