

Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence Regional Advisory Council

c/o Office of Subsistence Management
1011 East Tudor Road, MS 121
Anchorage, Alaska 99503-6199
Phone: (907) 786-3888, Fax: (907) 786-3898
Toll-Free: 1-800-478-1456

In Reply Refer To
OSM.R26022

February 25 2026

Märit Carlson-Van Dort, Chair
Alaska Board of Fisheries
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Boards Support Section
P.O. Box 115526
Juneau, Alaska 99811-5526

Dear Chair Carlson-Van Dort,

I write on behalf of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence Regional Advisory Council (Council) to provide comments on Alaska Board of Fisheries proposals being considered at the upcoming Statewide Finfish Meeting.

The Council represents subsistence harvesters of fish and wildlife resources on Federal public lands and waters in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Region. It was established under the authority of Title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) and is chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act. Section 805 of ANILCA and the Council's charter establish the Council's authority to initiate, review, and evaluate proposals for regulations, policies, management plans, and other matters related to subsistence uses of fish and wildlife within the region. The Council also reviews resource management actions occurring outside their region that may impact subsistence resources critical to communities it serves.

The Council held a meeting January 20-22, 2026, in Bethel and voted to submit the following comments.

The Council supports Proposals 163, 164, and 165. Our Council agrees with the other Yukon River Councils that efforts to better regulate trawl fisheries are long overdue. It is important to protect salmon at all their life stages, as well as their marine habitat. These proposals will help clarify definitions, establish monitoring standards, reduce bottom contact and subsequent habitat destruction, and require the use of salmon excluders, an approach already used in other fisheries to reduce salmon bycatch.

Thank you for considering our comments on the above proposals. If you have any questions or would like to follow up, please contact us through our Subsistence Council Coordinator Brooke McDavid at (907) 891-9181 or brooke_mcdavid@ios.doi.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jacqueline Cleveland', written in a cursive style.

Jacqueline Cleveland
Chair

cc: Federal Subsistence Board
Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence Regional Advisory Council
Office of Subsistence Management
Interagency Staff Committee
Benjamin Mulligan, Deputy Commissioner, Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Aaron Poetter, Federal Subsistence Liaison, Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Administrative Record