

SUBSISTENCE FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-2-24-26

Issued at: Palmer, Wednesday, April 22, 2026

Effective Date: 4:00 a.m. Monday, June 1, 2026

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Tuesday, June 30, 2026, unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order restricts the Upper Yentna River subsistence fishery to 3 days per week (Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays) between June 1 and June 30.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 01.593(2) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective, beginning 4:00 a.m. Monday, June 1 through 11:59 p.m. Tuesday, June 30, 2026:

5 AAC 001.593. Upper Yentna River subsistence salmon fishery.

In the Yentna River drainage outside the Anchorage-Matsu-Kenai Nonsubsistence Area described in 5 AAC 99.015(a)(3), salmon may be taken for subsistence purposes only as follows:


(2) in the mainstem of the Yentna River from its confluence with Martin Creek upstream to its confluence with the Skwentna River;

(A) from June 1 through June 30, 4:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

(B) from July 15 through August 7 from 4:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Doug Vincent-Lang,
Commissioner

By delegation to:



Samantha Oslund,
Area Manager of Sport Fish

JUSTIFICATION:

King salmon are experiencing a period of poor productivity and preseason forecasts for king salmon across Cook Inlet indicate poor returns are expected to continue in 2026. Modeled escapement of the Yentna River king salmon stock is based on postseason aerial index counts of spawners on three major and five minor streams of the Yentna River drainage (Unit 4 of the Susitna River). The Yentna River optimal escapement goal (OEG) of 16,000 – 22,000 was achieved in 2021 and 2022 although it has not been achieved the last three years (2023 – 2025). Due to low king salmon escapement in recent years and the poor returns expected for 2026, this action is warranted to conserve king salmon in the Yentna River while maintaining subsistence fishing opportunity.

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region II Office of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, AK 99518, (907) 267-2218.