

# Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group

1 (800) 315-6338 (MEET) Code: 58756# (KUSKO)

ADF&G Bethel toll free: 1 (855) 933-2433

## Meeting Agenda

Date: 8/28/2024

Time: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Place: Bethel

Time Called to Order:

Chair:

### ROLL CALL TO ESTABLISH QUORUM:

Upriver Elder:  
Downriver Elder:  
Commercial Fisher:  
Lower River Subsistence:  
Middle River Subsistence:  
Upper River Subsistence:  
Headwaters Subsistence:

### QUORUM MET? Yes / No

Processor:  
Member at Large:  
Sport Fisher:  
Western Interior RAC:  
Y-K Delta RAC:  
KRITFC:  
ADF&G:

### INTRODUCTIONS:

### INVOCATION:

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** *the agenda may be amended at this time.*

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** *Optional. ADF&G does not prepare official meeting minutes.*

### USFWS MANAGEMENT UPDATE:

### ADF&G MANAGEMENT UPDATE:

**POLLOCK FLEET & SALMON BYCATCH PRESENTATION:** *Kate Haapala, PhD, NPFMC*

**PEOPLE TO BE HEARD:** *Non-Working Group Members*

### CONTINUING BUSINESS:

- Subsistence Reports: Lowest River, ONC Inseason Subsistence Report, KRITFC Inseason Harvest Report, Lower River, Middle River, Upper River, Headwaters
- Overview of Kuskokwim River salmon run assessment:
  - a. Test Fisheries (Bethel and Aniak):
  - b. Sonar/Weirs/Aerial Surveys/Other:
  - c. Subsistence Division Project Update:
- Commercial Catch Report: N/A
- Processor Report: N/A
- Sport Fish Report:
- Intercept Fishery Report: *optional*
- Weather Forecast:
- Discussion of ADF&G Management considerations and discussion of possible alternatives (recommendations from the Working Group): N/A
- Motion for Discussion and Action:

### OLD BUSINESS:

- Discussion regarding Bethel Test Fish

### NEW BUSINESS:

### COMMENTS FROM WORKING GROUP MEMBERS:

NEXT MEETING DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Place: \_\_\_\_\_

## Informational Packet

### Information Packets *ARE*:

- Intended to help inform Working Group discussions.
- To be viewed and used in context with Working Group meetings only.

### Packets *ARE NOT*:

- To be viewed as standalone documents.
- A final say on fisheries management decisions.

### **Please use this information responsibly:**

Packet information is an incomplete snapshot of an ongoing discussion and changing conditions. Packet information should not be reproduced for any purpose other than to describe Working Group meeting discussions.

**Misuse** of Packet information can contribute to misunderstandings that can **cause harm to salmon users** and potentially **damage salmon resources**.

**Ask Questions:** ADF&G staff will be happy to answer biology and management questions. Please call **1-855-933-2433** to reach ADF&G Kuskokwim Area staff.

**Attend Meetings:** Each Working Group meeting is announced at least 48 hours prior to time and date of meeting. In addition, each meeting is recorded. Recordings can be found here:  
[http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyarea\\_kuskokwim.kswg](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyarea_kuskokwim.kswg)

Viewing the information packet while listening to meetings/recordings will provide a better understanding of the information presented in this packet.

**Thank you,**  
**Savannah Hollingworth**  
**Working Group Coordinator**



**Orutsarmiut Native Council (ONC) Inseason Harvest Monitoring Weekly Report  
August 26, 2024**

**There were no comments from the Bethel Boat Harbor Surveys for the August 15th-16th, 2024 Opener.**

**There were no surveys for the Bethel Fish Camps.**

**Table 1.** Average fish harvest, net length, and mesh size range reported by surveyed Bethel boat harbor from the August 15-16, 2024 fishing opportunity

<b>Data Source</b>	<b>Number of Surveys Conducted</b>	<b>Average Coho Salmon Harvest</b>	<b>Average Chum Salmon Harvest</b>	<b>Average Sockeye Salmon Harvest</b>	<b>Average other harvest</b>	<b>Net Length Range (ft.)</b>	<b>Mesh Size Range (in.)</b>
Bethel Boat Harbor	3	15	0	0	0	150-300	5 ½ - 6

---

# South Peninsula Commercial Harvest

---

Species	Cumulative Harvest
Chinook	7,171
Sockeye	1,304,210
Coho	75,642
Pink	1,573,875
<b>Chum</b>	<b>536,874</b>

---

- The total June chum salmon harvest was 417,316 fish.
- Stock composition of the harvest (2023 data):
  - June Fishery: 39.5% Asia, **28.4% CWAK**, 20.0% East of Kodiak, 12.1% Other.
  - Post-June Fishery: 50.3% South Peninsula, 26.9% Chignik/Kodiak, 11.5% Asia, **2.6% CWAK**, 8.7% Other.
  - Entire Season: 41.5% South Peninsula, 22.9% Chignik/Kodiak, 16.6% Asia, **7.3% CWAK**, 11.7% Other.
- The Coastal Western Alaska (CWAK) group includes Bristol Bay, Kuskokwim, Yukon, and Norton Sound stocks.

---

# Bering Sea Aleutian Island Bycatch

---

- Bycatch occurs in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Island (BSAI) groundfish fishery, which is managed by the National Marine Fisheries Service and is one of the most extensively monitored fisheries in the U.S.
- King salmon bycatch to date: **8,637** (all stocks)
- Non-king salmon bycatch to date: **25,249** (all stocks)

---

## Helpful Links

---

AK Pen harvest numbers and information on the stock composition study are available at: [Alaska Peninsula Management Area Salmon, Alaska Department of Fish and Game](#).

Bycatch numbers are reported by the National Marine Fisheries Service, available at: <https://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/fisheries-catch-landings?tid=286>.