

Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group

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Meeting Agenda

Date: August 19, 2026

Time: 10 am

Place: Bethel, AK

Time Called to Order:

Chair:

ROLL CALL TO ESTABLISH QUORUM:

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

QUORUM MET? Yes / No

Commercial Fisher:
Member at Large:
2nd Member at Large:
Western Interior RAC:
Y-K Delta RAC:
KRITFC:
ADF&G:

INTRODUCTIONS: *ADF&G, USFWS, KRITFC, ONC, NVN, AVCP, media, government representatives, public, others.*

INVOCATION:

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

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

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

- A. Subsistence Reports: Lowest River, Lower River, Middle River, Upper River, Headwaters
- B. Kuskokwim River project updates:
 - 1. ADF&G - Weirs, sonar, and telemetry. – Sean Larson
- C. Marine Fishery Report: KRITFC
- D. ADF&G Division of Subsistence Project Update
- E. Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge Fishery Management update – Spencer Rearden and Kevin Whitworth
- F. ADF&G management update and considerations – Sam Decker

OLD BUSINESS:

- H. AG Decision on Area M Regulations

COMMENTS FROM WORKING GROUP MEMBERS:

NEXT MEETING DATE: _____ **Time:** _____ **Place:** _____

Kuskokwim River Salmon Assessment Update

8/17/2026



The data summaries presented in this document are provided by ADF&G. **All data and analyses contained are preliminary and are subject to change, so please make interpretations carefully.**

If you have any questions about the content, please contact Sean Larson (ADF&G; sean.larson@alaska.gov). Original development of code used to create this document is credited to Benjamin Staton.

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Abbreviations

- CPUE: Catch-per-unit-effort
- ADF&G: Alaska Department of Fish and Game
- USFWS: United States Fish and Wildlife Service

To view escapement information, please visit the ADF&G Kuskokwim River Fish Counts page

- <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareakuskokwim.salmon#fishcounts>

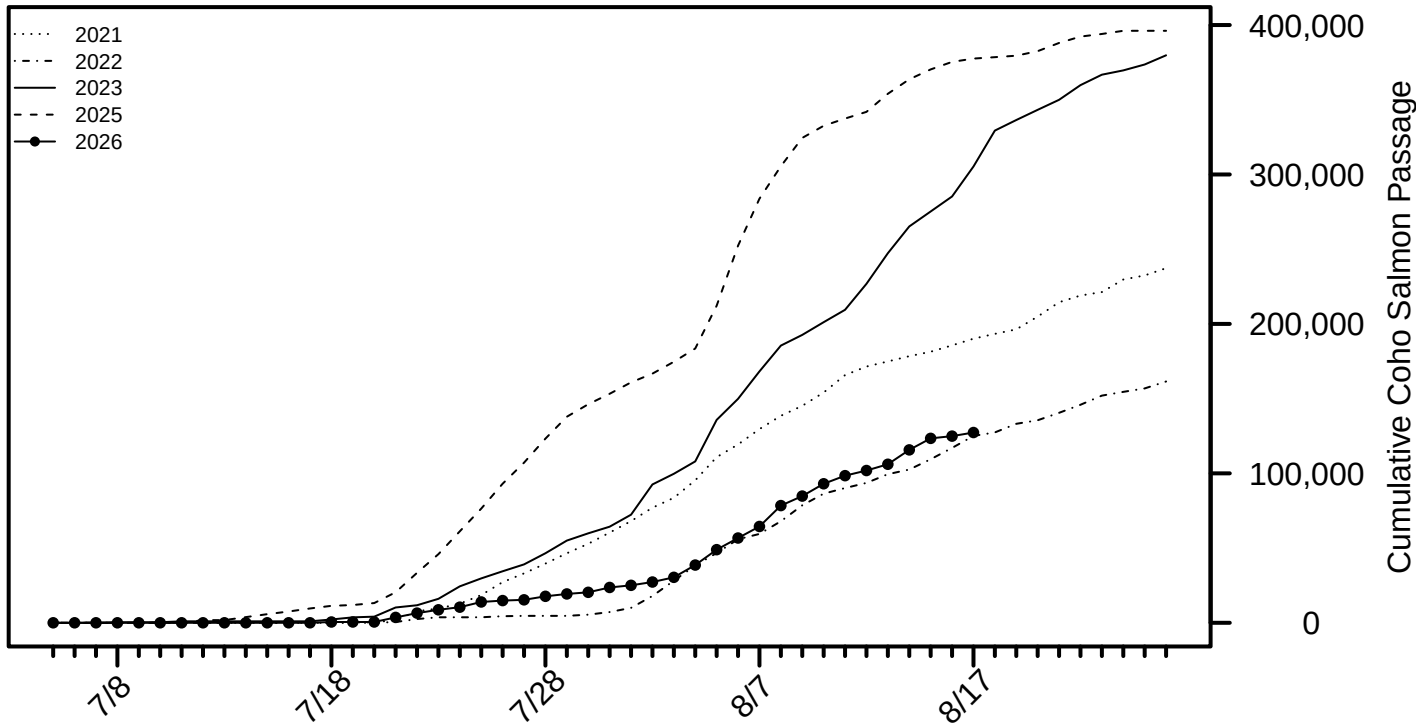
For the most up-to-date information regarding fishing opportunities please visit

- USFWS: https://www.fws.gov/refuge/yukon_delta/wildlife_and_habitat/dailyupdate.html
- ADF&G: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>

Coho Salmon Summary (8/17)

Based on Kuskokwim River Sonar

- The sonar daily passage was **2,401**.
 - The sonar cumulative passage is now **127,312**.
 - The average (2020-2023 & 2025) sonar cumulative passage is **219,489** for this date.
 - **40%** of years since 2020 fell below the cumulative passage for this date.
 - **71% - 88%** of the run is likely complete based on historical run timing at the sonar.
- Coho Salmon Figure 1:** The cumulative sonar passage from 2026 plotted along with 4 prior years the sonar operated through August.



Coho Salmon Table 1. Cumulative passage at the Kuskokwim River sonar. Average includes years 2020-2023 and 2025. The sonar ended operations on July 25 in 2024. *Note: Estimates are subject to change.*

Date	2026	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	Average
8/14	115,700	363,677	20,439	265,227	102,546	178,405	76,849	197,341
8/15	123,414	370,286	20,439	275,231	109,445	181,392	83,008	203,872
8/16	124,911	375,330	20,439	285,277	117,016	185,629	95,216	211,694
8/17	127,312	377,542	20,439	305,334	125,036	190,105	99,427	219,489
EOS		396,141	20,439	379,736	161,469	237,285	165,685	268,063

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Chinook, Chum, and Sockeye Salmon Summaries

Chinook Salmon Summary

Chinook Salmon Table 1. Cumulative passage at the Kuskokwim River sonar. Sonar ended operations in July during the 2018, 2019, and 2024 seasons. Average includes years 2018-2025. *Note: Estimates are subject to change.*

Date	2026	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	Average
8/14	95,933	120,492	142,662	79,166	145,896	102,549	106,572	161,888	132,971	124,024
8/15	95,933	120,492	142,662	79,166	145,896	102,549	106,572	161,888	132,971	124,024
8/16	95,933	120,492	142,662	79,166	145,896	102,549	106,572	161,888	132,971	124,024
8/17	95,933	120,492	142,662	79,166	145,896	102,549	106,764	161,888	132,971	124,048
EOS		120,492	142,662	79,166	145,896	102,549	106,764	161,888	132,971	124,048

*** The ATF ended operations on 7/15 with a cumulative CPUE of **546 for Chinook salmon**, which was below the 2015-2025 average cumulative CPUE of **2,333** .

Chum Salmon Summary

Chum Salmon Table 1. Cumulative passage at the Kuskokwim River sonar. Sonar ended operations in July during the 2018, 2019, and 2024 seasons. Average includes years 2018-2025. *Note: Estimates are subject to change.*

Date	2026	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	Average
8/14	554,745	159,372	253,825	247,960	102,432	26,763	75,378	385,409	552,011	225,394
8/15	554,745	159,372	253,825	249,168	103,864	26,763	75,378	385,409	552,011	225,724
8/16	556,740	159,372	253,825	249,168	103,864	26,973	75,378	385,409	552,011	225,750
8/17	558,527	159,492	253,825	249,168	103,864	26,973	75,378	385,409	552,011	225,765
EOS		159,622	253,825	251,542	103,864	26,973	76,432	385,409	552,011	226,210

*** The ATF ended operations on 7/15 with a cumulative CPUE value of **1,623 for chum salmon** , which was below the 2015-2025 average cumulative CPUE of **4,143**.

Sockeye Salmon Summary

Sockeye Salmon Table 1. Cumulative passage at the Kuskokwim River sonar. Sonar ended operations in July during the 2018, 2019, and 2024 seasons. Average includes years 2018-2025. *Note: Estimates are subject to change.*

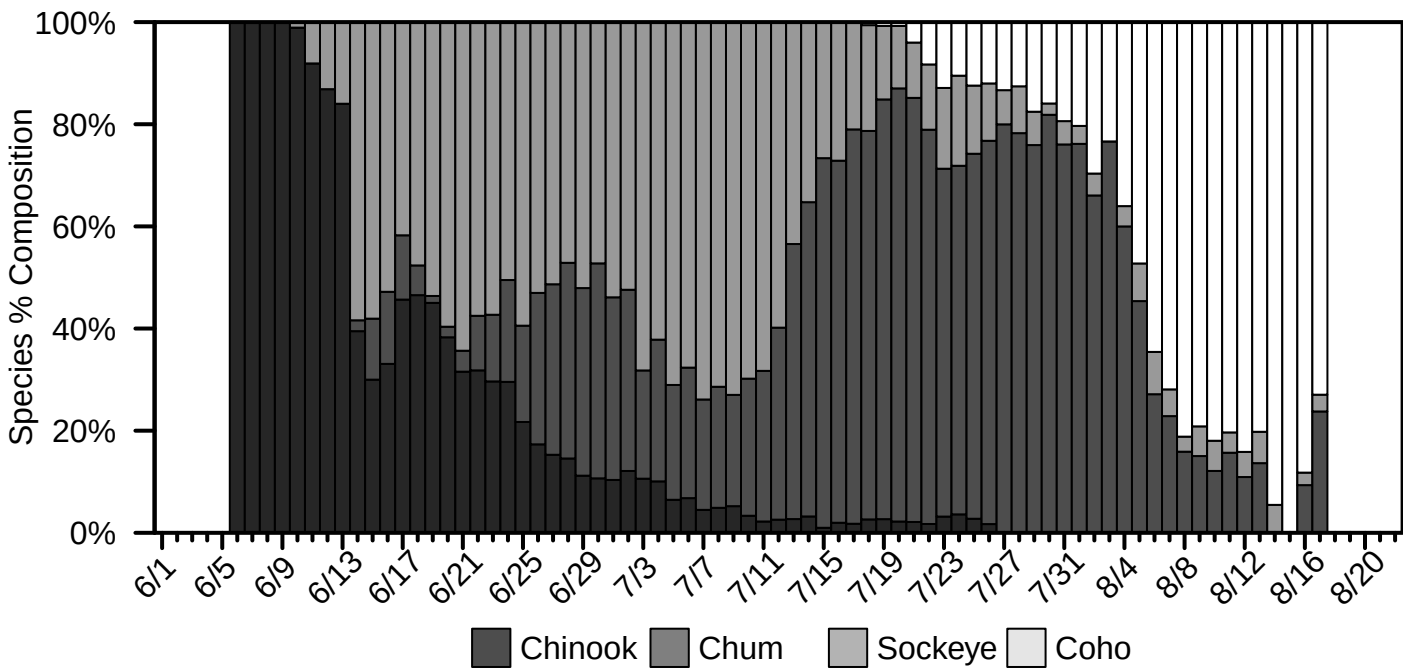
Date	2026	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	Average
8/14	497,892	917,678	695,724	898,882	611,357	868,839	572,721	924,354	635,493	765,631
8/15	497,892	918,189	695,724	898,882	611,357	869,132	573,736	924,354	635,493	765,858
8/16	498,415	918,405	695,724	898,882	611,357	869,132	573,736	924,354	635,493	765,885
8/17	498,415	918,694	695,724	898,882	611,357	869,132	573,736	924,354	635,493	765,922
EOS		924,085	695,724	899,180	614,712	869,268	574,928	924,354	635,493	767,218

*** The ATF ended operations on 7/15 with a cumulative CPUE value of **96 for sockeye salmon** , which was below the 2015-2025 average cumulative CPUE of **346**.

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Percent Composition by Salmon Species

Species Composition Figure 1. Species percent composition from the sonar estimates from 2026 (salmon species only, excluding pink salmon). The composition presented on each day represents the average composition over the past 3 days.



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