



**KODIAK AREA
SUBSISTENCE FISHERY
NEWS RELEASE**



STATE OF ALASKA
Department of Fish and Game
Division of Commercial Fisheries
Denby S. Lloyd, Commissioner
John Hilsinger, Director

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service
Federal Subsistence Board
Thomas O. Melius, Regional Director
Peter J. Probasco, Asst. Regional Dir.
Subsistence

Kodiak Area Office
211 Mission Road
Kodiak, AK 99615
(907) 486-1808
Jeff Wadle, Area Management Biologist

Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge
1390 Buskin River Road
Kodiak, AK 99615
(907) 487-2600
Gary Wheeler, KNWR Refuge Manager

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 17, 2008

The Karluk River Chinook and sockeye salmon runs appear to be weak. Approximately 134 Chinook and 220 sockeye salmon have migrated upstream past the Karluk River weir counting station as of June 16. The desired Chinook salmon escapement for this date should range from 1,635 to 3,316. In addition, it is not expected that the Karluk River lower escapement goal for Chinook salmon (3,000) will be achieved. There will be no commercial salmon fishing in this area (the Inner and Outer Karluk sections will remain closed) unless the sockeye salmon escapement sufficiently improves.

In an effort to conserve Karluk River Chinook salmon, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the Federal Subsistence Board will close the Karluk River above the Karluk River weir to subsistence fishing for salmon.

Effective at 12:01 a.m. Thursday June 19, 2008, subsistence fishing above the Karluk River weir will be closed.

Chinook and sockeye salmon escapement into the Karluk River system will continue to be monitored daily. Subsistence salmon fishing opportunities may be adjusted based on changes in the run strengths. If the Karluk River Chinook salmon run sufficiently improves, the inriver subsistence fishing restriction could be lifted to provide additional opportunity.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game, under the direction of the Alaska Board of Fisheries, manages sport, commercial, personal use, and state subsistence harvest on all lands and waters

throughout Alaska. However, the Federal Subsistence Board assures a subsistence priority for rural residents as provided by Title VIII of ANILCA.

Fishermen are reminded that they should consult both State of Alaska fishing regulations and the Federal Subsistence Management regulations for waters subject to ANILCA Title VIII before fishing.

This news release and fishery restriction has been a coordinated action of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.