

ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

Regulation Proposal Form 2024-2025

Proposals must be received Tuesday, April 10, 2025

PO BOX 115526, JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811-5526 or FAX (907) 465-6094 or online at:

<https://arcg.is/biqum0>

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| BOARD OF FISHERIES REGULATIONS |
| x Subsistence x Personal Use xSport x Commercial |
| *Which meeting would you like to submit your proposal to? <input type="checkbox"/> Alaska Peninsula, Aleutian Islands, Bering Sea, and Chignik Pacific Cod <input type="checkbox"/> Alaska Peninsula / Aleutian Island / Chignik Finfish x Arctic / Yukon / Kuskokwim Finfish <input type="checkbox"/> Bristol Bay Finfish <input type="checkbox"/> Statewide Finfish and Supplemental Issues |
| Please answer all questions to the best of your ability. All answers will be printed in the proposal book along with the proposer's name (address and phone numbers will not be published). Use separate forms for each proposal. Address only one issue per proposal. State the issue clearly and concisely. The board will reject multiple or confusing items. |
| 1. Alaska Administrative Code Number: 5 AAC _____ |
| *2. What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Conservation of Yukon River Mainstem Fall Chum Salmon Yukon Mainstem Fall chum have not met escapement goals for 5 consecutive years (1full life cycle) Only approx. 16,000 fall chum (15% of max escapement goal) crossed the border into Canada at Eagle sonar site in 2024, LOWEST ON RECORD . Current escapement goals are set at 75,000-105,000 1. These stocks are in critical danger of extinction. 2. These stocks are essential for the health of all Salmon spawning streams they run to, both Chum and Chinook by delivering critical marine derived nutrients 3. Marine derived nutrients in spawning habitat is essential for productive spawning eco systems 4. Fall chum are critical to upper Yukon river districts for Subsistence use, and food security. 5. Maintaining LONG TERM sustainable fish stocks is critical to a Subsistence Lifestyle 6. Rebuilding this critical stock as quickly as possible needs to be a top priority given the dangerously low runs 7. Given the low numbers of returning fish, every FISH & EGG counts to avoid extirpation of these stocks. It is recognized the short term hardship this 2 year closer will impose on fishers, drainage wide. The Extirpation or Extinction of these stocks would be a much greater hardship FOREVER , both in food security, and cultural longevity. There is a long history of fishing these stocks in-river early in the run, then closing fishing to other fishers, and not meeting set escapement goals. This proposal would prevent fish managers from committing in season management actions that would negatively impact a critically low and vital fish stock. Short term sacrifice is the only way to achieve long term gains for all. Escapement goals must be met. |

***3. What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say? (Please provide draft regulatory language, if possible.)**

Close harvest of Yukon River Mainstem Fall Chum Salmon when these stocks are detected at Lower Yukon Test Fishing site (LYTF) in DISTRICT 1. Walk the closures up river through fishing District 1-5 as fish enter each district.

Reopen mainstem fishing progressively up river as Fall Chum end of the run has moved through each District. These closures must be in effect for 2 years to allow full potential of Fall Chum to jump start rebuilding efforts.

4. Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain.

This Proposal was developed through the Eagle AC, with experience from fishers engaged with Eagle AC, local fishers, representatives from the EIRAC, Yukon River Panel members, and Tribal Chief of Eagle Village.

Coordination of knowledge gained through participation with Fairbanks AC, BBAYK Coalition, and some members of Minto /Nenana AC further substantiated development of this proposal.

***Submitted By:** Eagle AC, Chairman
Individual or Group

Eagle Alaska

***Address**

Home Phone

***Work Phone**

***Email**

**Indicates a required field*