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**OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR  
ALASKA**

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Shellene Hutter, Program Coordinator  
Department of Fish and Game

**FROM:** April Simpson, Alaska Administrative Code Coordinator   
Office of the Lieutenant Governor

**DATE:** March 26, 2026

**RE:** Filed Permanent Regulations: Board of Fisheries

Board of Fisheries regulations re: Subsistence, Commercial, and Sport Fisheries in the Arctic, Yukon and Kuskokwim Areas (5 AAC 01.125 - 5 AAC 74.065(h)(3))

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Attorney General File:	2025200625
Regulation Filed:	3/26/2026
Effective Date:	4/25/2026
Print:	258, July 2026

cc with enclosures: ToniMarie Gonzales, Paralegal  
Department of Law

Lisa Gorman, Alaska Legal Analyst  
LexisNexis



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

**Department of Law**

CIVIL DIVISION

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March 25, 2026

The Honorable Nancy Dahlstrom  
Lieutenant Governor  
State of Alaska  
P.O. Box 110015  
Juneau, AK 99811-0015

Re: *5 AAC 01.125 - 5 AAC 74.065(h)(3): Board of Fisheries - Subsistence, Commercial, and Sport Fisheries in the Arctic, Yukon and Kuskokwim Areas*  
Our file: 2025200625

Dear Lieutenant Governor Dahlstrom:

The Department of Law has reviewed the attached regulations of the Board of Fisheries against the statutory standards of the Administrative Procedure Act. The regulations concern subsistence, commercial, and sport fisheries in the Arctic, Yukon, and Kuskokwim areas. The regulations were adopted by the Board of Fisheries after the close of the public comment period.

Based upon our review, we were unable to approve the Board's proposed change to 5 AAC 01.249(1) under AS 44.62.060(b)(2) and (b)(3) due to vagueness and insufficient statutory support for addition of the words "and traditional knowledge."

We did not find any legal issues with the remainder of the regulation changes. This letter constitutes the written statement of approval under AS 44.62.060(b) and (c) that authorizes your office to file the attached regulations.

The September 24, 2025 public notice and the December 11, 2025 certification order both state that this action is not expected to require an increased appropriation. Therefore, a fiscal note under AS 44.62.060 is not required.

We have made some technical corrections to conform the regulations in accordance with AS 44.62.060, including a conforming amendment to 5 AAC 71.010(b). The corrections are incorporated into the attached copy of the regulations.

To: Hon. Nancy Dahlstrom, Lieutenant Governor  
Our file: 2025200625; 5 AAC 01.125 - 5 AAC 74.065(h)(3)

March 25, 2026  
Page 2 of 2

Sincerely,

STEPHEN J. COX  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

By: **Rebecca C. Polizzotto**  
Rebecca C. Polizzotto  
Chief Assistant Attorney General  
Legislation, Regulations, and  
Legislative Research Section

Digitally signed by  
Rebecca C. Polizzotto  
Date: 2026.03.25  
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AHR/ahr/tmg

CC w/enclosure: Shellene Hutter  
Program Coordinator  
Department of Fish and Game

Edward Lee  
Assistant Attorney General  
Department of Law

Amy H. Robinson  
Assistant Attorney General  
Department of Law

ORDER CERTIFYING THE CHANGES TO  
REGULATIONS OF THE ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

The attached regulations, dealing with subsistence, commercial and sport fisheries in the Arctic, Yukon and Kuskokwim areas, are certified to be a correct copy of the regulation changes that the Alaska Board of Fisheries adopted at its November 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025 meeting, under the authority of AS 16.05.251 and after compliance with the Administrative Procedure Act (AS 44.62), specifically including notice under AS 44.62.190 and 44.62.200 and opportunity for public comment under AS 44.62.210.

This action is not expected to require an increased appropriation.

On the record, in considering public comments, the Alaska Board of Fisheries paid special attention to the cost to private persons of the regulatory action being taken.

The regulation changes described in this order take effect on the 30th day after they have been filed by the lieutenant governor, as provided in AS 44.62.180.

Date: 12/11/2025

DocuSigned by:  
*Doug Vincent-Lang*  
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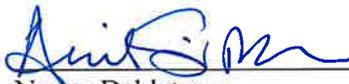
\_\_\_\_\_  
Douglas S. Vincent-Lang, Commissioner  
Department of Fish and Game

FILING CERTIFICATION

*April Simpson for*

I, Nancy Dahlstrom, Lieutenant Governor for the State of Alaska, certify that on

March 26, 2026 at 10:45 a.m., I filed the attached regulations according to the provisions of AS 44.62.040 - 44.62.120.

*for*   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nancy Dahlstrom  
Lieutenant Governor

Effective: April 25, 2026.

Register: 258, July 2026.

**FOR DELEGATION OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S AUTHORITY**

**I, NANCY DAHLSTROM, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALASKA, designate the following state employees to perform the Administrative Procedures Act filing functions of the Office of the Lieutenant Governor:**

**April Simpson, Regulations and Initiatives Specialist**

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have signed and affixed the Seal of the State of Alaska, in Juneau, on May 15th, 2023.**



A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Nancy Dahlstrom", is written over a horizontal dotted line.

**NANCY DAHLSTROM  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**

**Title 5. Fish and Game.**

**Chapter 01. Subsistence Finfish Fishery.**

5 AAC 01.125 is repealed and readopted to read:

**5 AAC 01.125. Waters closed to subsistence fishing.** In Subdistrict 1 of the Kotzebue District, marine waters from ADF&G regulatory markers located at the Weather Service Dome south of the airport runway to the NANA building, extending one mile offshore into Kotzebue Sound perpendicular to the beach are closed. (In effect before 1988; am 4/2/88, Register 105; readopt 5/15/93, Register 126; am 7/5/2000, Register 155; am 4 / 25 / 2026, Register 258)

**Authority:** AS 16.05.251 AS 16.05.258

5 AAC 01.170(m) is amended to read:

(m) During times when the commissioner determines that it is necessary for the conservation of specific salmon species, the commissioner may, by emergency order, close the fishing season in any portion of the Norton Sound-Port Clarence Area and immediately reopen the season in any portion of the Norton Sound-Port Clarence Area to subsistence fishing with beach seines and require that specific salmon species caught with a beach seine be returned immediately to the water alive; if beach seine use is authorized by this subsection, a beach seine may not be constructed of monofilament web and may not exceed:

(1) 50 fathoms in length;

(2) 100 meshes in depth; and

**(3) a mesh size of three and one-half inches stretched measure.** (In effect before 1988; am 4/2/88, Register 105; am 7/16/92, Register 123; am/readopt 5/15/93, Register 126; am 7/3/94, Register 130; am 3/24/95, Register 133; am 6/17/2001, Register 158; am 5/19/2004, Register 170; am 6/7/2007, Register 182; am 8/23/2009, Register 191; am 5/19/2010, Register 194; am 4/13/2013, Register 206; am 5/22/2016, Register 218; am 4 / 25 / 2026, Register 258)

**Authority:** AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251 AS 16.05.258

5 AAC 01.249 is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

(7) notwithstanding the implementation dates specified in the plan objective, when Yukon River drainage fall chum salmon are designated by the board as a stock of management concern, the department shall implement this plan from July 13 through December 31. (Eff. 7/3/94, Register 130; am 3/24/95, Register 133; am 3/30/95, Register 133; am 7/12/96, Register 139; am 6/10/98, Register 146; am 6/17/2001, Register 158; am 5/19/2004, Register 170; am 5/19/2010, Register 194; am 5/22/2016, Register 218; am 6/28/2019, Register 230; am 4 / 25 / 2026, Register 258)

**Authority:** AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251 AS 16.05.258

(((Note to Publisher: Please change the period at the end of 5 AAC (6)(B)(iii) to a semicolon)))

5 AAC 01.270(c) is amended to read:

(c) Fish other than salmon may **only** be taken [ONLY] by set gillnet, drift gillnet, beach seine, fish wheel, pot, longline, fyke net, dip net, jigging gear, spear, **eel stick**, a hook and line attached to a rod or pole, handline, or lead.

Register 258, July 2026 FISH AND GAME

(In effect before 1988; am 4/2/88, Register 105; am/readopt 5/15/93, Register 126; am 7/3/94, Register 130; am 7/5/2000, Register 155; em am 7/8/2000 - 11/4/2000, Register 155; em am 5/29/2001, Register 158; am 6/17/2001, Register 158; am 5/19/2004, Register 170; am 8/23/2009, Register 191; am 5/24/2015, Register 214; am 5/22/2016, Register 218; am 6/28/2019, Register 230; am 9/19/2019, Register 231; am 6/21/2020, Register 234; am 5/24/2022, Register 246; am 6/25/2023, Register 246; am 4 / 25 / 2026, Register 258)

**Authority:** AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251 AS 16.05.258

### **Chapter 03. Arctic-Kotzebue Area.**

5 AAC 03.350 is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

(5) in Subdistrict 1 described in 5 AAC 03.200(b)(1), all marine waters from ADF&G regulatory markers located at the Weather Service Dome south of the airport runway to the NANA building, extending one mile offshore into Kotzebue Sound perpendicular to the beach. (In effect before 1988; am 7/16/92, Register 123; em am 9/8/93 - 1/5/94, Register 128; am 7/13/2012, Register 203; am 4 / 25 / 2026, Register 258)

**Authority:** AS 16.05.251

### **Chapter 70. Northwestern Area.**

5 AAC 70.011(c)(4) is amended to read:

(4) in the Pilgrim River drainage, including Salmon Lake,

(A) the bag and possession limit for Arctic grayling is one fish with no size limit;

**(B) sport fishing for king salmon is closed;**

(Eff. 5/19/2004, Register 170; am 6/7/2007, Register 182; am 9/12/2008, Register 187; am 3/14/2009, Register 189; am 4/13/2013, Register 206; am 2/23/2014, Register 209; am 2/22/2015, Register 213; am 5/24/2023, Register 246; am 4 / 25 / 2026, Register 258)

**Authority:** AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

**Chapter 71. Kuskokwim - Goodnews Area.**

5 AAC 71.010(b) is amended to read:

(b) Except as otherwise specified in (c) of this section, the following are the general bag, possession, [AND] size limits, **and fishing seasons** for finfish and shellfish in the waters of the Kuskokwim - Goodnews Area:

5 AAC 71.010(b)(1) is amended to read:

(1) king salmon 20 inches or greater in length: the bag and possession limit is three fish, of which only two fish may be 28 inches or greater in length; **king salmon may only be taken from May 1 through July 25;**

5 AAC 71.010(c)(1)(A) is repealed:

(A) repealed 4 / 25 / 2026;

Register 258, July 2026 FISH AND GAME

5 AAC 71.010 (c)(7)(E) is repealed:

(E) repealed 4 / 25 / 2026 ;

5 AAC 71.010(c)(8)(D) is repealed:

(D) repealed 4 / 25 / 2026 ;

5 AAC 71.010(c)(9)(C) is repealed:

(C) repealed 4 / 25 / 2026 ;

(Eff. 3/14/2009, Register 189; am 6/7/2009, Register 190; am 4/13/2013, Register 206; am 2/23/2014, Register 209; am 4 / 25 / 2026, Register 258 )

**Authority:** AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

#### **Chapter 74. Tanana River Area.**

The introductory text of 5 AAC 74.010(c) is amended to read:

(c) The following are the exceptions to the general bag, possession, [AND] size limits, **means**, and fishing seasons specified in (a) and (b) of this section for the Tanana River Area:

5 AAC 74.010(c)(2)(D) is amended to read:

(D) northern pike may **only** be taken [ONLY] from **April 15** [JUNE 1] through October 14;

5 AAC 74.010(c)(3)(C) is amended to read:

(C) downstream from an ADF&G regulatory marker located 300 feet downstream from the Chena River flood control structure, the bag and possession limit for Arctic grayling is one fish, any size from June 1 through March 31[, EXCEPT THAT A PERSON 16 YEARS OR OLDER MAY NOT SPORT FISH FOR ARCTIC GRAYLING IN THE CHENA RIVER DOWNSTREAM FROM AN ADF&G REGULATORY MARKER LOCATED 300 FEET DOWNSTREAM FROM THE CHENA RIVER FLOOD CONTROL STRUCTURE DURING THE EIGHT DESIGNATED YOUTH FISHING DAYS, WHICH OCCUR ON FOUR CONSECUTIVE SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS BEGINNING THE THIRD SATURDAY IN JUNE];

5 AAC 74.010(c)(13)(A) is amended to read:

(A) [SPORT FISHING FOR] northern pike **may only be taken by catch-and-release fishing** [IS CLOSED];

5 AAC 74.010(c)(18) is repealed:

(18) repealed 4 / 25 / 2026 ;

5 AAC 74.010(c)(21) is repealed:

(21) repealed 4 / 25 / 2026 ;

5 AAC 74.010(c)(23) is repealed:

(23) repealed 4 / 25 / 2026;

5 AAC 74.010(c)(27) is amended to read:

(27) in the Tolovana River drainage, northern pike may only be taken [ONLY] from April 15 [JUNE 1] through October 14;

5 AAC 74.010(c)(28) is repealed:

(28) repealed 4 / 25 / 2026;

5 AAC 74.010(c)(29) is amended to read:

(29) in stocked waters, the bag, possession, and size limit for rainbow trout, Arctic char or Dolly Varden [ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN, landlocked salmon, lake trout, and Arctic grayling is 10 of all stocked species combined, of which no more than two fish may be lake trout and only one fish may be 18 inches or greater in length; for the purposes of this paragraph, "stocked waters" include Backdown Lake, Ballaine Lake, Big "D" Pond, Birch Lake, Bluff Cabin Lake, Bolio Lake, Brodie Lake, Bullwinkle Lake, Chena Lake, Chet Lake, CHSR 25.0 Mile Pit, CHSR 30.0 Mile Pit, CHSR 45.5 Mile Pit, CHSR 47.9 Mile Pit, CHSR 56.0 Mile Pit, Coal Mine Road #5, Craig Lake, Cushman Lake, Dick's Pond, Doc Lake, Donna Lake, Donnelly Lake, Dune Lake, Forrest Lake, Four Mile Lake, Fourteen Mile Lake, Geskakmina Lake, Ghost Lake, Grayling Lake (Eielson Air Force Base), Hidden Lake (Eielson Air Force Base), Hidden Lake (Tetlin NWR), Horseshoe Lake, "J" Lake, Jan Lake, Johnson Pit #2, Kenna Lake, Ken's Pond, Kids Fishing Pond, Koole Lake, Last Lake, Lisa Lake, Little Donna Lake, Little Harding Lake, Little Lost Lake, Lost Lake, Lundgren Pond, Manchu Lake, Mark Lake,

Monte Lake, Monterey Lake, Mosquito Creek Lake, Mullins Pit, Nenana City Pond, Nickel Lake, Nordale #2, North Chena Pond, North Pole Pond, North Twin Lake, Olnes Pond, Otto Lake, Parks 261 Pond, Parks 285 Pond, Paul's Pond, Pyrite Pond, Quartz Lake, **Rainbow Lake**, Rangeview Lake, Rapids Lake, Richardson Hwy. 28 Mile Pit, Richardson Hwy. 31 Mile Pit, Richardson Hwy. 81 Mile Pit, Shaw Pond, Sansing Pond, Sheefish Lake, Sirlin Drive Pond, South Twin Lake, Steese Hwy. 29.5 Mile Pit, Steese Hwy. 31.6 Mile Pit, Steese Hwy. 33.5 Mile Pit, Steese Hwy. 34.6 Mile Pit, Steese Hwy. 35.8 Mile Pit, Steese Hwy. 36.6 Mile Pit, Stringer Rd. Pond, Triangle Lake, Wainwright #6, Weigh Station #1, Weigh Station #2, Weasel Lake, West Iksgiza Lake, Z Pit (Chena Floodway);

5 AAC 74.010(d)(16) is repealed:

(16) repealed 4 / 25 / 2026;

5 AAC 74.010(d)(18) is repealed:

(18) repealed 4 / 25 / 2026;

(Eff. 3/14/2009, Register 189; am 6/7/2009, Register 190; am 11/28/2009, Register 192; am 5/19/2010, Register 194; am 4/13/2013, Register 206; am 2/23/2014, Register 209; am 5/22/2016, Register 218; am 6/28/2019, Register 230; am 5/24/2023, Register 246; am 7/28/2023, Register 247; am 4 / 25 / 2026, Register 258 )

**Authority:** AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 74.035 is repealed:

**5 AAC 74.035. Ice house registration.** Repealed. (Eff. 7/28/2023, Register 247;

repealed 4 / 25 / 2020, Register 258)

5 AAC 74.044(b)(2) is amended to read:

(2) the following provisions apply to the harvest of northern pike in the Minto Flats area sport fishery:

(A) the open fishing season is from April 15 [JUNE 1] through October 14;

(B) the daily bag and possession limit is five fish per day, only one of which may be 30 inches or more in length; and

(C) [IF THE SUBSISTENCE HARVEST REPORTS INDICATE THAT 750 OR MORE NORTHERN PIKE HAVE BEEN HARVESTED FROM THE CHATANIKA RIVER DRAINAGE UPSTREAM OF THE CONFLUENCE OF THE CHATANIKA RIVER AND GOLDSTREAM CREEK DURING THE PERIOD FROM JANUARY 1 UNTIL THESE WATERS ARE FREE OF ICE, THE COMMISSIONER SHALL REDUCE, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, THE DAILY BAG AND POSSESSION LIMIT TO TWO FISH PER DAY, ONLY ONE OF WHICH MAY BE 30 INCHES OR MORE IN LENGTH, IN THE LAKES AND ALL FLOWING WATERS OF THE MINTO FLATS AREA FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE CALENDAR YEAR; AND

(D)] in the Chatanika River drainage upstream from the confluence of the Chatanika River and Goldstream Creek to an ADF&G regulatory marker located at the boundary of the Fairbanks Nonsubsistence Area (approximately one mile downstream from the Murphy Dome Road), only single hooks may be used. (Eff. 3/14/2009, Register

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189; am 5/19/2010, Register 194; am 4 / 25 / 2020, Register 258)

**Authority:** AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 74.065(h)(3) is repealed:

(3) repealed 4 / 25 / 2020;

(Eff. 3/14/2009, Register 189; am 4/13/2013, Register 206; am 6/28/2019, Register 230; am

5/24/2023, Register 246; am 4 / 25 / 2020, Register 258)

**Authority:** AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251