

Submitted by Board Member Henaayee Irwin, prepared by the Alaska Department of Fish and Gameⁱ.

March 20, 2026

Substitute language for Yukon River King Salmon Stock of Concern Management Plan

5 AAC Chapter 01 is amended by adding a new section to read:

5 AAC 01.XXX Yukon River King Salmon Stock of Concern Management Plan

(a) The purpose of this management plan is to provide management tools and guidelines to the department for the management of Yukon River salmon fisheries consistent with AS 16.05.258, 5 AAC 39.220, 5 AAC 39.222, the Pacific Salmon Treaty and the 7-year agreement. While Yukon River king salmon are listed as a stock of management concern, this plan is intended to ensure the sustained yield of king salmon stocks large enough to meet sustainable escapement goals, while allowing for harvest opportunity in the subsistence, sport and commercial fisheries.

(1) In addition to management measures specified in 5 AAC 05.360, and opportunity provided in 5 AAC 93.212; the subsistence fishery management measures could be relaxed in specific tributaries within Alaska if updated stock composition and run assessment data indicates areas where specific restrictions are no longer needed to ensure the established escapement goals will be met.

(2) A fish wheel operated under this subsection must be operated as specified in 5 AAC 05.362(j)(1) – (2).

(b) The provisions of this management plan will remain in effect while Yukon River king salmon are listed as a stock of management concern. The department may recommend removal of this designation at the first Arctic/Yukon/Kuskokwim Board of Fisheries meeting when the following conditions exist:

(1) the majority of the lower bounds of the established BEG and SEG ranges are met or exceeded in five consecutive years and is expected to be met in the future years;

(2) if annual yields or harvestable surpluses are below the historical range, the department may recommend changing the stock of concern designation to a stock of yield concern.

ⁱ Preparation of draft substitute language at the request of a Board member does not imply ADF&G support. The Department will state its position on the language during deliberation.