



**Kuskokwim River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission
Weekly River-Wide Teleconference
Monday, July 19, 2021 | 10am AKDT**

Join by computer: <https://zoom.us/j/5694903415>

Join toll-free by phone: 833-548-0282

Meeting ID: 569 490 3415

About:

Every Monday of king salmon season, the Kuskokwim River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (KRITFC) and Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge (YDNWR) co-host a river-wide teleconference for fishermen along the Kuskokwim River to call in and discuss fishing regulations, closures and openers, fish camp updates, Traditional Knowledge, and management action. This call is held toll-free on Zoom and open to the public. In 2021, it will be held Mondays at 10am starting May 17 until the end of the fisheries management season.

Hosts on this call:

Mary Peltola, Executive Director of KRITFC

People on this call: 5

Summary:

- The KRITFC In-Season Managers and Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge team are meeting tomorrow (7/20) at 10am to discuss next steps in management and potentially lifting restrictions.
- Silvers are starting to come in, people are still catching some kings, and berry picking season has begun.

Full Notes:

- **Mary Peltola – KRITFC:** Good morning. Steven, did you happen to go fishing last weekend?
- **Steven Alexie – Napaskiak:** Yes, I did. I drift netted on Friday. I think most of the fish, even the reds, have passed. I caught a few pinks. So, I think it's time to open the river. How many times in the week this time of year we like to get fresh fish, and we mostly target reds. Silvers come in, and they're starting to trickle in.
- **Mary Peltola – KRITFC:** We are planning on meeting with the Refuge tomorrow at 10am, and the In-Season Managers will most likely be conveying that same sentiment to Boyd tomorrow.
- **Steven Alexie – Napaskiak:** Okay, that's all I wanted to say, if you could pass that on. I'm going to listen to Yuk to Yuk now.

- **Mary Peltola – KRITFC:** Okay, the other thing I want to mention is that I will talk to Boyd about doing this call on Tuesday morning next year because of Yuk to Yuk. When Boyd issued his third emergency special action, it had fishing openings up through Sunday, and now those have all expired. We're meeting to find out next steps. Boyd will be receiving the advice of the In-Season Managers. I'm not sure what their turnaround time is. I'm not sure why they're on the call, and to me, that indicates they're all hands on deck on something else. Terese, do you mind giving a little update on Bethel boat harbor surveys on Friday?
- **Terese Schomogyi – KRITFC:** Last Friday, because ONC no longer had funding to run their Bethel boat harbor surveys, I coordinated with the Refuge to take that over. It went well, there just weren't a whole lot of people out. We got 55 interviews in total, and I think we were able to survey most of the boats that came in from fishing. It was a busy day because it was beautiful weather around here, so there were lots of people heading out to camp or berry pick. Some people who fished were catching a lot – 20 or 30 fish, mostly reds – but others weren't doing so well. I think it just depended on the tide, and where they were fishing, and for how long. It was a really low tide all day, a lot of people commented on that. Folks were catching some silvers and humpies, and a lot of whitefish too. I think most people are done and waiting for the silvers to come in strong and they'll go fish again.
- **Mary Peltola – KRITFC:** Thank you, I saw a lot of berry pictures this weekend. Adolph, did you fish or pick berries this weekend?
- **Adolph Lupie – Tuntutuliak:** I went up to fish camp, but my daughter was fishing at the mouth of the [Tunt] river. She caught 2 kings and 2 reds. I didn't see anybody fishing when I came home from fish camp.
- **Mary Peltola – KRITFC:** I'm amazed that you guys are still catching kings.
- **Adolph Lupie – Tuntutuliak:** I fixed up the fish camp so we could go berry pick soon. Downriver, they're still hard to pick.
- **Mary Peltola – KRITFC:** We still have very few participants. I think we can call it a wrap; we just don't have very much to share at this point.
- **Adolph Lupie – Tuntutuliak:** I'm wishing that the Kuskokwim is opened so we can go down whenever we want. It's pretty hard to catch now down here. I was talking to my cousin and wondering why the fish are all gone. Maybe they already swam up.
- **Mary Peltola – KRITFC:** The river is still closed until we hear from Boyd. Quyan Adolph, thanks Paige and Cory, we'll talk to you all next week.