



December 5, 2023

Dear Community Leaders and Members of the Public Interested in AMHS:

It is time to begin the public review process for the next Alaska Marine Highway System scheduling cycle. The proposed schedule patterns to be reviewed cover the winter schedule from May 01, 2024, through September 30, 2024.

The schedule patterns proposed are based on the funding levels for FY24. The operating plan has been designed to meet community service needs while staying within available funding levels and maintaining regulatory and safety standards for the vessels.

Please take the time to review and comment on this proposed operating schedule and vessel deployment for Summer 2024. The link to access the proposed schedule patterns is:

https://dot.alaska.gov/amhs/doc/summer_considerations_2024.pdf

AMHS is also interested in knowing about any need for special events scheduling and requests and that organizers or communities give the event name, dates, location, and arrival/departure times needed for each special event.

Please provide your written comments by December 18, 2023. Information may be faxed to 907-228-6873, emailed to dot.amhs.comments@alaska.gov, and also provided by using the following links for your service area:

- Prince William Sound Service Area Playbook: dot.alaska.gov/chartingthecourse/sap/pws.shtml
- North Lynn Canal Service Area Playbook: dot.alaska.gov/chartingthecourse/sap/nlc.shtml
- Northern Inside Passage Service Area Playbook: dot.alaska.gov/chartingthecourse/sap/nip.shtml
- Southern Inside Passage Service Area Playbook: dot.alaska.gov/chartingthecourse/sap/sip.shtml
- Aleutian Chain Service Area Playbook: dot.alaska.gov/chartingthecourse/sap/ac.shtml
- Kodiak Island Service Area Playbook: dot.alaska.gov/chartingthecourse/sap/ki.shtml
- Metlakatla Service Area Playbook: dot.alaska.gov/chartingthecourse/sap/met.shtml
- Bellingham Service Area Playbook: dot.alaska.gov/chartingthecourse/sap/bel.shtml
- Prince Rupert Service Area Playbook: dot.alaska.gov/chartingthecourse/sap/ypr.shtml

A public teleconference to hear additional comments and consider adjustments is scheduled for December 19, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. for Southeast schedules and at 1:30 p.m. for Southwest and Southcentral schedules. The meetings will be held at the Alaska Marine Highway Ketchikan Central Office, 7037 North Tongass Highway for participants wishing to attend in person.

To attend by phone or by Zoom conference:

Topic: AMHS Summer 2024 Schedule - Public Meeting for Southeast AK

Date: Dec. 19, 2023

Time: 10:00 AM AKDT

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83955593196>

Join by telephone:

(253) 215-8782

Webinar ID: 839 5559 3196

Topic: AMHS Summer 2024 Schedule - Public Meeting for Southwest/PWS AK

Date Dec. 19, 2023

Time: 1:30 PM AKDT

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83162499294>

Join by telephone:

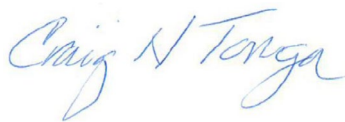
(253) 215-8782

Webinar ID: 831 6249 9294

It is the policy of the Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT & PF) that no person shall be excluded from participation in or be denied benefits of any and all programs or activities we provide based on race, religion, color, gender, age, marital status, ability, or national origin, regardless of the funding source including Federal Transit Administration, Federal Aviation Administration, Federal Highway Administration and State of Alaska Funds.

The State of Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT & PF) complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals with disabilities who may need auxiliary aids, services, and/or special modifications to comment should contact AMHS Acting General Manager, Captain Tony Karvelas at (907) 228-7252 or email at anthony.karvelas@alaska.gov no later than December 15, 2023 to make any necessary arrangements.

Sincerely,



Craig Tornga
Marine Director, Alaska Marine Highway System

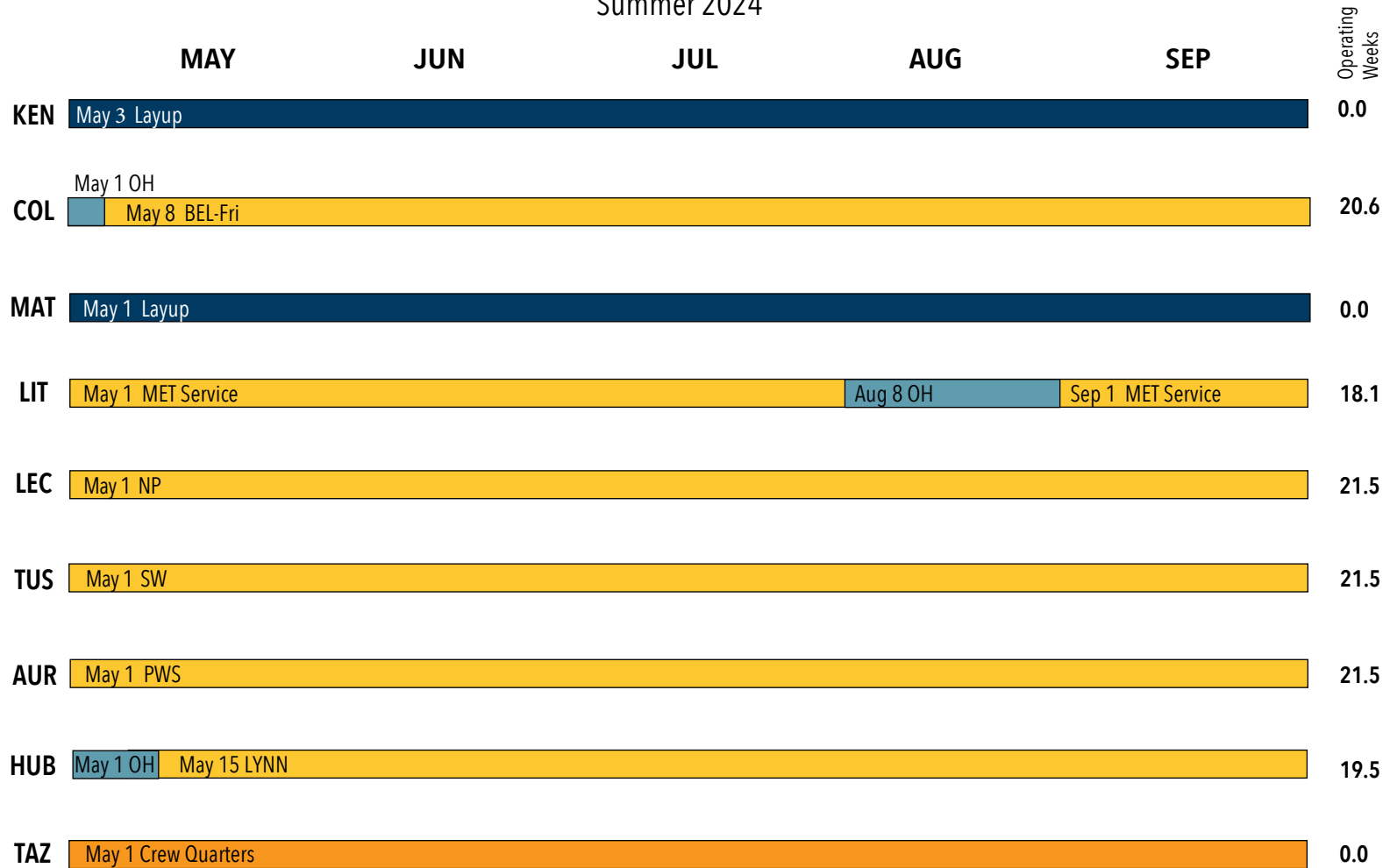
ENCLOSURES:

Draft FY 2024 Summer Operating Plan
Calendars of Events
Weekly Vessel Pattern Graphs
FY 2024 Vessel Deployment Plan

DISTRIBUTION:

All Southeast Alaska Mayors
All Southcentral Alaska Mayors
All Southwest Alaska Mayors
Alaska Travel Industry Association
ARDORS
Commercial Shipping Companies
CVBs
DOT/PF Southeast Regional Director
Marine Transportation Advisory Board
Managers, AMHS Terminals
Masters, AMHS Vessels
Unions
 IBU
 MM&P
 MEBA
Tlingit & Haida Central Council
S.E. Alaska Tribal Government Advisory Committee

Operating Plan Summer 2024



Notes: • Dates represent the first day of the period. Overhaul and refurbishment periods include vessel travel time.

■ On Line

■ Overhaul (OH)

■ Layup (LU)

■ Maintenance

BEL: Bellingham to Skagway

NP: Northern Panhandle Dayboat

SW: Southwest

MET: Metlakatla Service

PWS: Prince William Sound

LYNN: Lynn Canal

Mainline Vessels 20.6

Feeder Vessels 59.4

Southwest Vessels 43.3

Total Operating Weeks 123.6

Alaska Marine Highway System
Summer 2024
12/5/2023

Proposed Vessel Deployment

- Columbia to operate on the Friday Bellingham Route May through September.
- LeConte to sail Northern Panhandle May through September.
- Lituya to sail 5 days per week between Annette Bay and Ketchikan, May through September. She will be in overhaul in August.
- Tustumena to sail the Southwest Route May through September with one chain trip per month.
- Aurora to sail PWS May through September.
- Hubbard to sail Lynn Canal 6 days per week mid-May through September
- Kennicott Cross Gulf ****Pending Crew****

Guide to Reading and Using AMHS Scheduling Graphs (Or Spider Graphs as they are affectionately known)

The AMHS scheduling graphs convey a massive amount of information on a single page, and they can be confusing to understand and interpret. The following explanations and suggestions may help.

1. The title of the graph defines the geographic area depicted by the chart and the time period to which it applies. When “Wk 1 & 3” or “Wk 2 & 4” appear, it implies that the schedule alternates every other week of the month (i.e. that the schedule is not the same every week). Essentially, a week 1 schedule would be followed by week 2, then back to week 3 (which is the same as week 1) and so on to round out the 4 weeks of a month.
2. The days of the week and times of the day are spread across the top axis of the chart. Midnight to midnight is shown for each day with only noon shown on the graph for reference and to declutter it.
3. The various ports are shown on the left side axis of the chart using their three letter AMHS designator. A key to decipher port and ship codes is on page 2 of this guide. Ports with only one dock or ship berth are shown on a single line. Ports with multiple docks have a line for each dock (e.g. JNU 1, JNU 2, JNU 3). They are generally arranged in geographic order, such as Skagway at the top (north) and Bellingham at the bottom (south).
4. Each ship is shown in a different color, and has the ship’s three letter identifier listed beside it throughout the chart for reference. A solid bar of a particular ship’s color in a specific port’s row on the chart indicates the time for that ship to be in that port. By reference to the top axis, you can determine the approximate times of those in port periods.
5. Thin lines of a ship’s color between ports indicate transit time for that particular ship between the two ports at either end of the line.
6. Thin lines that “run off the right edge of the chart” are continued, either on the left edge of the same chart (if running on a weekly scheduling cycle) or on the left edge of the alternating Wk 1&3, Wk 2&4 chart (if running on a two week scheduling cycle).
7. Ships that transition between geographic areas (e.g. Kennicott going across the Gulf of Alaska) have a notation box at the end of their thin transit line indicating such “To X-Gulf” or “Fr X-Gulf”

Suggestions for use:

1. To see what a particular ship does, just follow that ship’s colored line as it zigzags across the chart to determine what ports it visits and on what days and at what approximate times.
2. To see what service a particular community receives, just follow that community’s horizontal row across the chart to see what ships stop in that community and on which days of the week and times of the day that happens. You can also determine, by looking at that ship’s thin transit lines, where a ship serving your community is coming from and where it is going to next.

AMHS Community and Ship Three Letter Codes

Communities

ANB=Annette Bay
AKU = Akutan
ANG = Angoon
BEL = Bellingham, WA
CBY = Cold Bay
CDV = Cordova
CHB = Chenega Bay
CHG = Chignik
FPS = False Pass
GUS = Gustavus
HNS = Haines
HNH = Hoonah
HOM = Homer
JNU = Juneau (Auke Bay)
KAE = Kake
KCV = King Cove
KOD = Kodiak
KTN = Ketchikan
OLD = Old Harbor
ORI = Port Lions
OUZ = Ouzinkie
PEL = Pelican
PSG = Petersburg
SDP = Sand Point
SDV = Seldovia
SGY = Skagway
SIT = Sitka
TAT = Tatitlek
TKE = Tenakee
UNA = Unalaska/Dutch Harbor
VDZ = Valdez
WRG = Wrangell
WTR = Whittier
YAK = Yakutat
YPR = Prince Rupert, BC

Ships

AUR = Aurora
CHE = Chenega (Fast Ferry)
COL = Columbia
FWX = Fairweather (Fast Ferry)
KEN = Kennicott
LEC = LeConte
LIT = Lituya
MAL = Malaspina
MAT = Matanuska
TAK = Taku
TUS = Tustumena

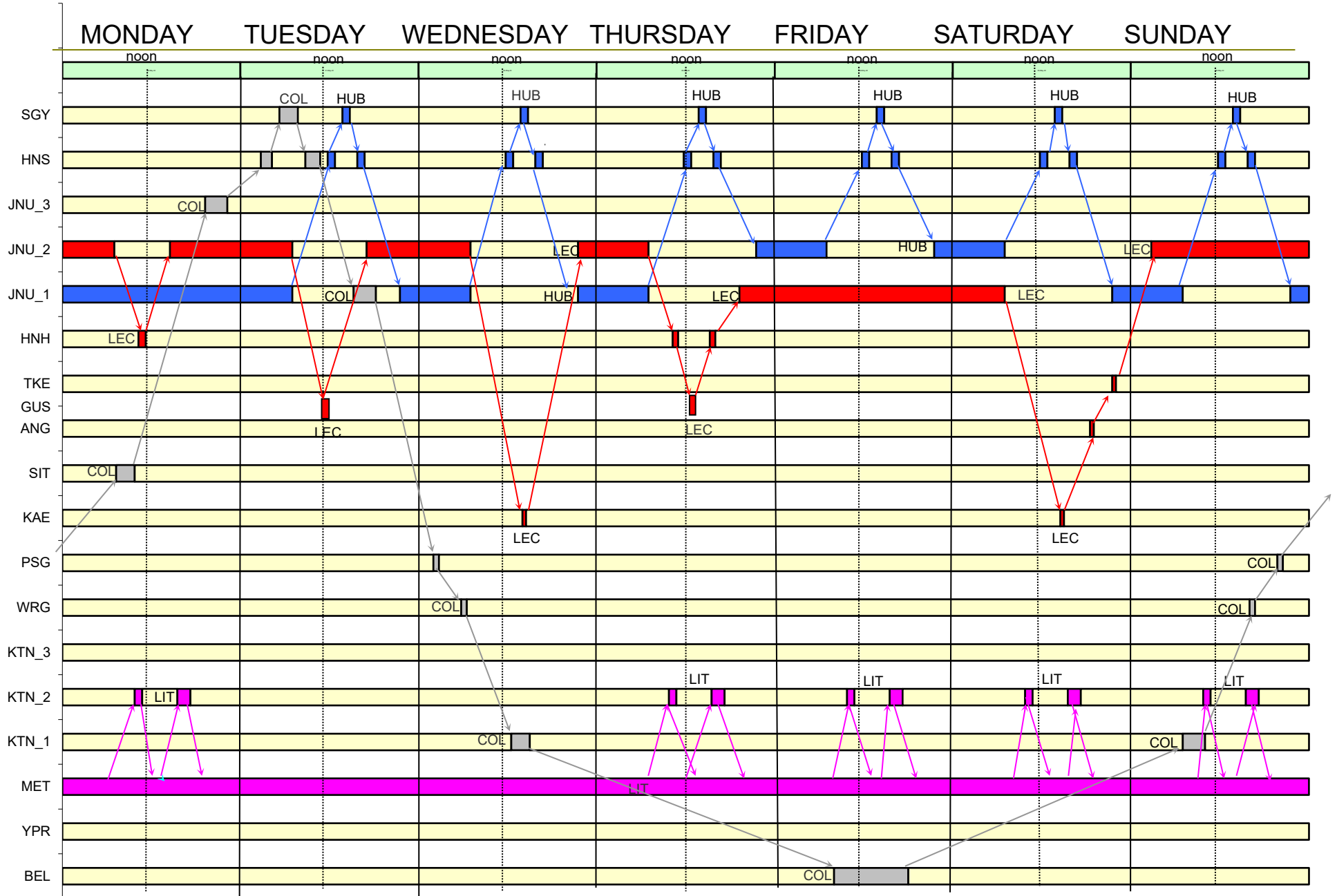
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Summer 2024 SE Week 1 & 3

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Hubbard Commence May 15

Revised 11-30-2023



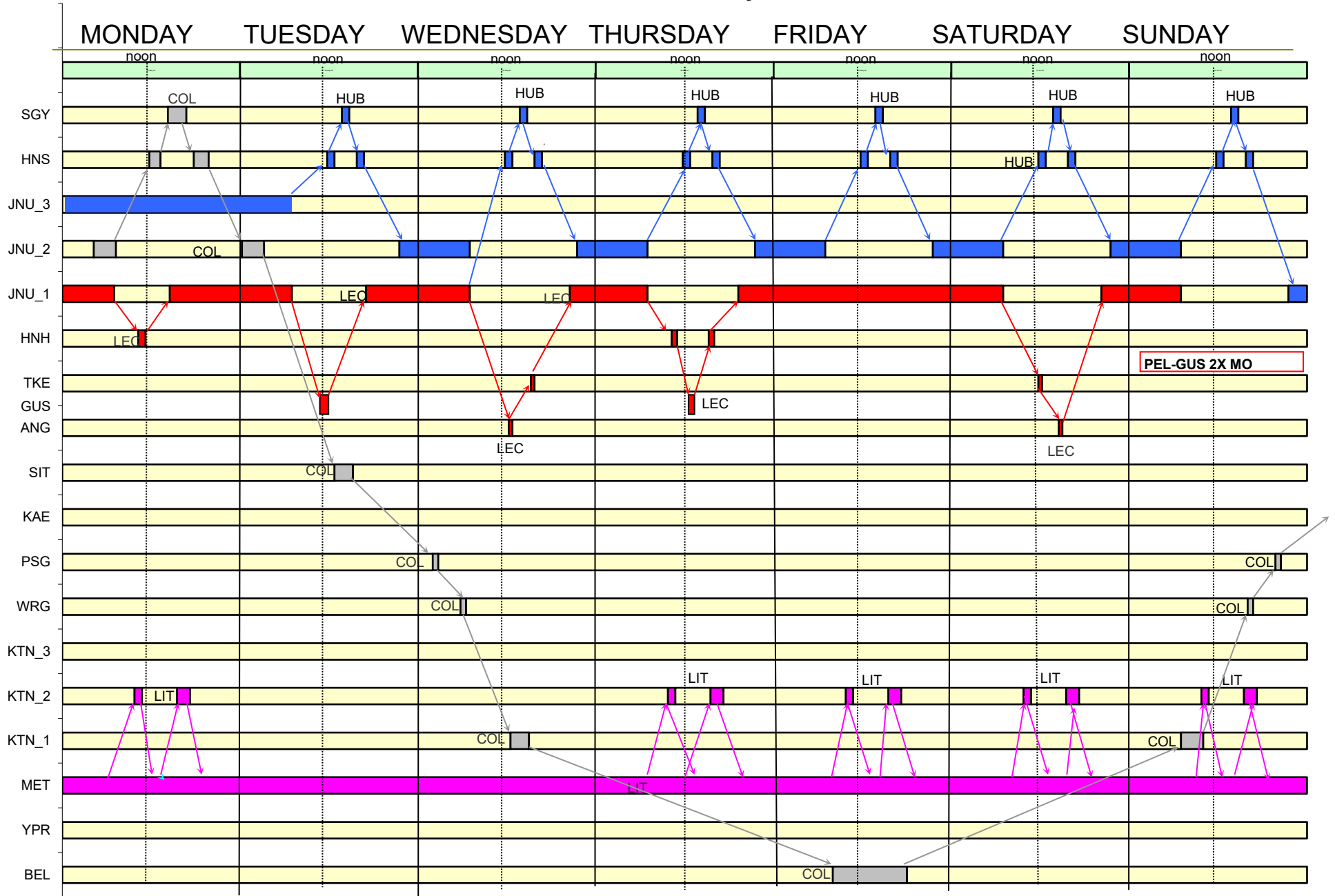
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Summer 2024 SE Week 2 & 4

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Hubbard Commence May 15

Revised 12-01-2023



Summer 2024

rev 11-28-23

MAY

Great Ak Craftbeer and Homebrew Fest
Little Norway

HNS May 25
PSG

JUNE

Kluane Bike Relay
Celebration

HNS June 15
JNU June 5-8

JULY

Dustball Tournament
SE Alaska State Fair

WHT
HNS Jul 25-28

AUGUST

Founder'sDay
Dog Salmon Festival

MET Aug 07
KAE

SEPTEMBER

Mudball
Klondike Road Relay

SIT
SGY Sep 6-7

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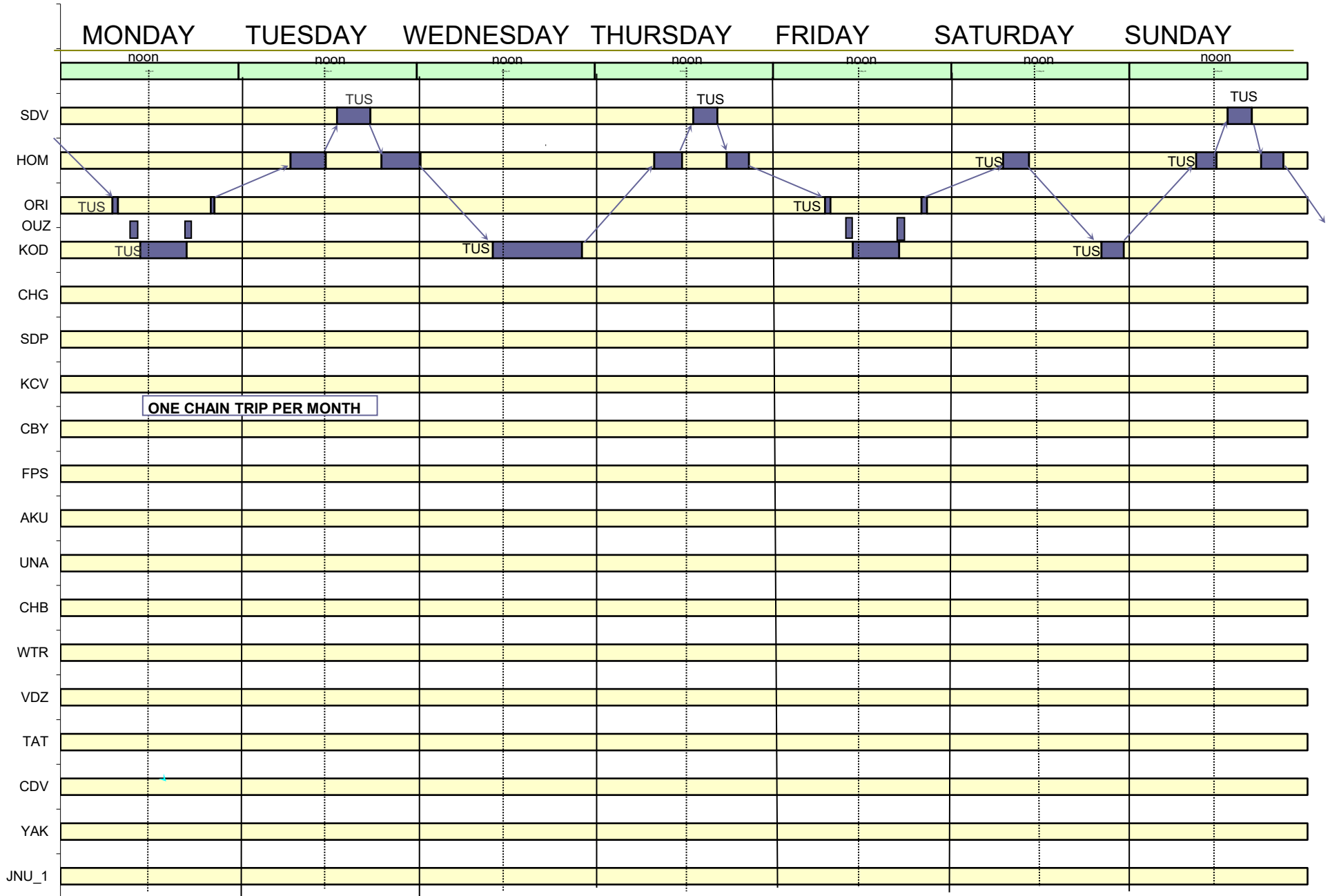
Please review the above Community Calendar of Events and comment on any events that are missed for your community. Schedule patterns may be changed if warranted to be able to provide service to/from the events.

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Summer 2024 SW

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Revised 12-01-2023



Summer 2023 SW/SC Community Events

rev 11-28-23

MAY

PWS Shorebird Festival	CDV	May 2-5
Kodiak Crab Festival	KOD	May 23-27

JUNE

Copper River Nouveau	CDV	
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JULY

Copper River Salmon Jam	CDV	20-Jul
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AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

Cordova Fungus Festival

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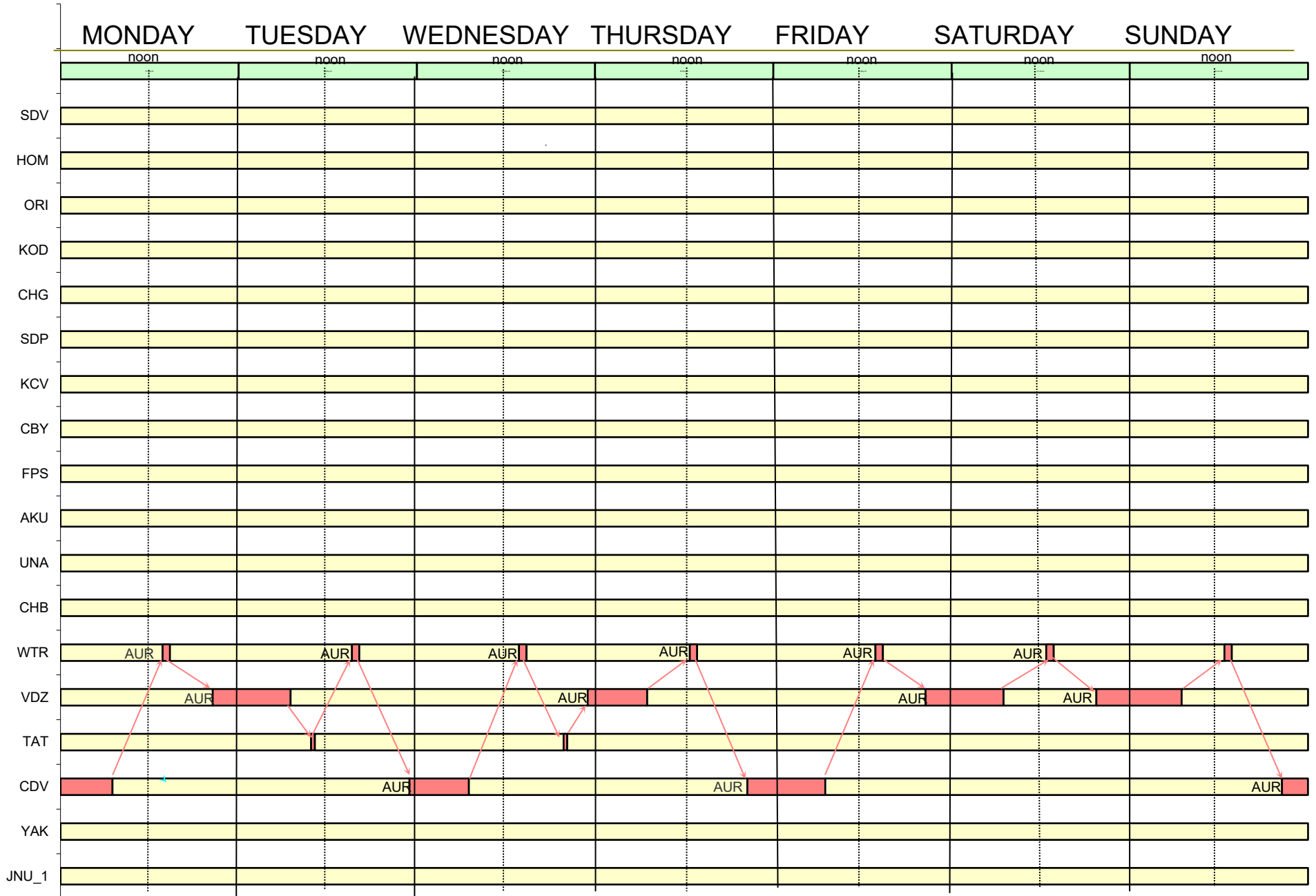
Please review the above Community Calendar of Events and comment on any events that are missed for your community. Schedule patterns may be changed if warranted to be able to provide service to/from the events.

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Summer 2024 PWS Week 1 & 3

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Revised 11-30-2023



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Summer 2024 PWS Week 2 & 4

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Revised 11-30-2023

