

### Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

ALASKA MARINE HIGHWAY SYSTEM Office of the Marine Director

> 7037 North Tongass Highway Ketchikan, Alaska 99901-9101 Main: 907.228.7250 Fax: 907.228.6873

July 8, 2025

Dear Community Leaders and AMHS Stakeholders,

The Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS) is initiating the public review process for the upcoming Winter 2025/2026 operating schedule, which covers October 1, 2025, through April 30, 2026.

The proposed schedule reflects Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) funding levels. Our planning prioritizes community service needs while ensuring alignment with available resources and strict compliance with safety and regulatory requirements.

We encourage your review and input on the proposed schedule and vessel deployment. Your feedback is essential to shaping a service plan that meets community needs. You can find the schedule online at: <a href="https://dot.alaska.gov/amhs/doc/winter\_considerations\_2025-2026.pdf">https://dot.alaska.gov/amhs/doc/winter\_considerations\_2025-2026.pdf</a>

If your community is planning a special event during this period that may require schedule adjustments, please include the event name, dates, location, and any specific transportation needs in your response.

Please submit your written comments by July 22, 2025, via:

- Email: dot.amhs.comments@alaska.gov
- Fax: 907-228-6873

To gather additional feedback and consider potential schedule refinements, a public teleconference will be held on **July 22**, **2025.** The meeting will take place at the AMHS Ketchikan Central Office (7037 North Tongass Highway) for those wishing to attend in person.

- 10:30 a.m. for Southeast schedules
- 11:30 a.m. for Southwest and Southcentral schedules

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 Captain Tony Karvelas at (907) 228-7252 or email at <u>anthony.karvelas@alaska.gov</u> no later than **July 22**, **2025** to make any necessary arrangements. We appreciate your continued engagement and look forward to your input.

Sincerely,

Craig Tornga Marine Director, Alaska Marine Highway System

ENCLOSURES:

Draft Winter 2025-2026 Operating Plan Winter 2025-2026 Vessel Deployment Plan Weekly Vessel Pattern Graphs Calendars of Events

"Keep Alaska Moving through service and infrastructure."

### To attend by phone or by video conference

#### Topic: AMHS Winter Schedule 2025-2026 Public Meeting for Southeast AK

When: July 22, 2025, at 10:30 AM Alaska time

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86470124816 By phone: (253) 215-8782 Webinar ID: 864 7012 4816

#### Topic: AMHS Winter Schedule 2025-2026 Public Meeting for Southwest AK and PWS

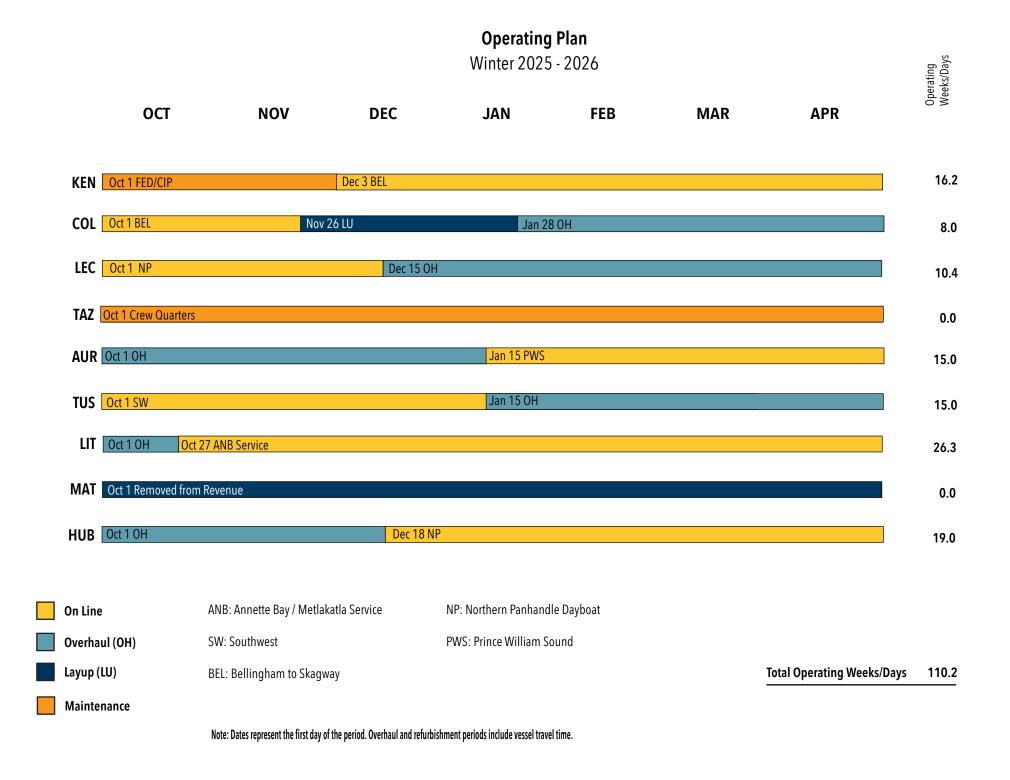
When: July 22, 2025, at 11:30 AM Alaska time

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81145032264 By phone: (253) 215-8782 Webinar ID: 811 4503 2264

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.





### Winter 2025-2026 - Proposed Vessel Deployment

۲	M/V Kennicott	December 3 - April 30	
	🔶 Friday Bellingham route		
	Federal CIP Project and Overhaul October 1 through	December 2	
٠	M/V Columbia	October 1 - November 25	
	🔶 Friday Bellingham route		
	Layup and Overhaul November 26 through April 30		
•	M/V LeConte	October 1 - December 15	
	Northern Panhandle		
	<ul> <li>Overhaul December 15 through April 30</li> </ul>		
•	M/V Tazlina	Maintenance	
	<ul> <li>Begins Federal/CIP project in October</li> </ul>		
•	M/V Aurora	January 15 - April 30	
	✤ Prince William Sound		
	<ul> <li>Overhaul October 1 through January 14</li> </ul>		
•	M/V Tustumena	October 1 - January 15	
	✤ Southwest Route		
	<ul> <li>Overhaul January 15 through April 30</li> </ul>		
•	M/V Lituya	October 27 - April 30	
	<ul> <li>Overhaul October 1 through October 26</li> </ul>		
	🔶 5-Days/Week Annette Bay – Ketchikan		
٠	M/V Matanuska	Maintenance	
	Removed from Revenue		
	Being used as a hotel ship in Ketchikan		
٠	M/V Hubbard	December 18 - April 30	
	<ul> <li>Northern Panhandle</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Overhaul October 1 through December 17</li> </ul>		

### **AMHS Community and Ship Three Letter Codes**

rev 09-10-24

#### COMMUNITIES

#### SHIPS

ANB = Annette BayAKU = AkutanANG = AngoonBEL = Bellingham, WA CBY = Cold BayCDV = CordovaCHB = Chenega BayCHG = ChignikFPS = False PassGUS = Gustavus HNS = HainesHNH = HoonahHOM = HomerJNU = Juneau (Auke Bay) KAE = Kake KCV = King Cove KOD = Kodiak KTN = Ketchikan OLD = Old Harbor ORI = Port Lions OUZ = Ouzinkie PEL = PelicanPSG = PetersburgSDP = Sand Point SDV = Seldovia SGY = SkagwaySIT = Sitka TAT = TatitlekTKE = Tenakee UNA = Unalaska/Dutch Harbor VDZ = ValdezWRG = Wrangell WTR = Whittier YAK = Yakutat YPR = Prince Rupert, BC

- AUR = Aurora COL = Columbia HUB = Hubbard KEN = Kennicott LEC = LeConte LIT = Lituya MAT = Matanuska TAZ = Tazlina
- TUS = Tustumena

#### Guide to Reading and Using AMHS Scheduling Graphs

rev 09-10-24

(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 code. 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, JNU3). 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. Suggestions for use:

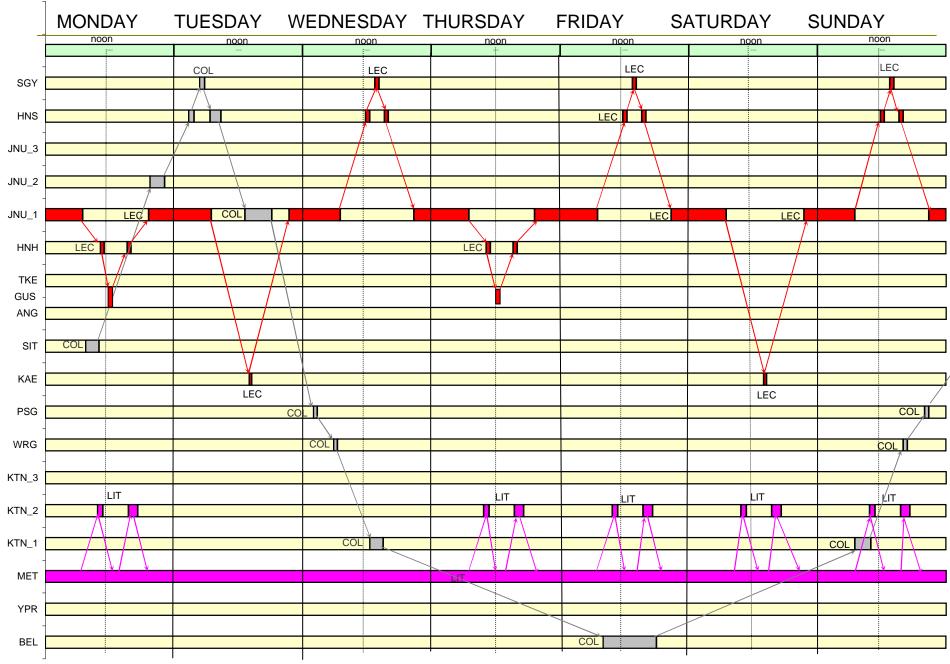
- To see what a particular ship does, just follow that ship's colored line as it zigzags across the chart to determine what ports it visits and on what days and at what approximate times.
- To see what service a particular community receives, just follow that community's horizontal row across the chart 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.

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Winter 2025-26 SE OCT-NOV Wk 1 & 3



Revised 06-12-2025

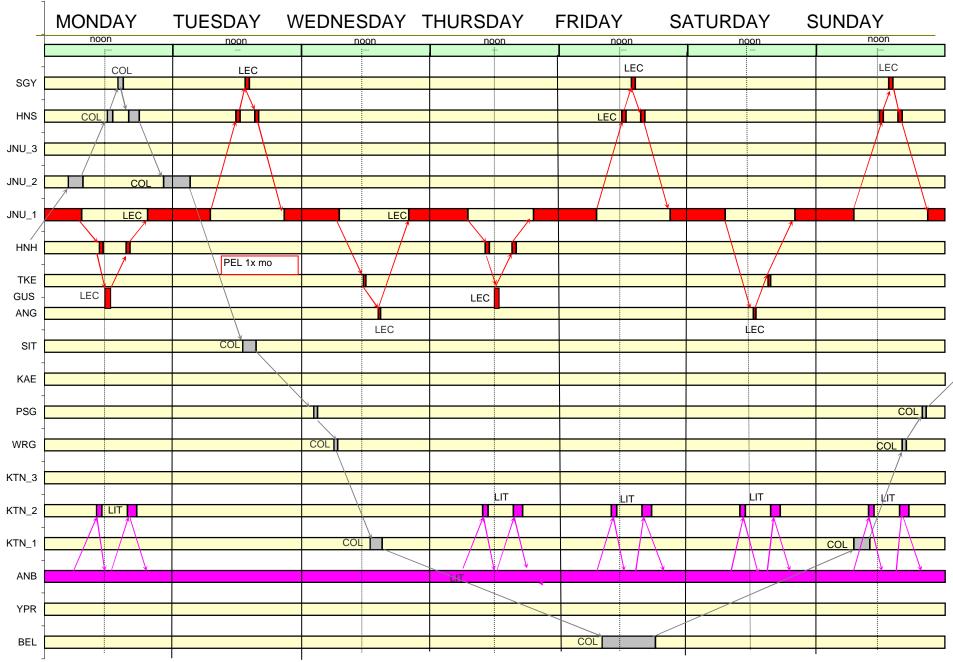


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Winter 2025-26 SE OCT-NOV Wk 2 & 4



Revised 06-13-2025

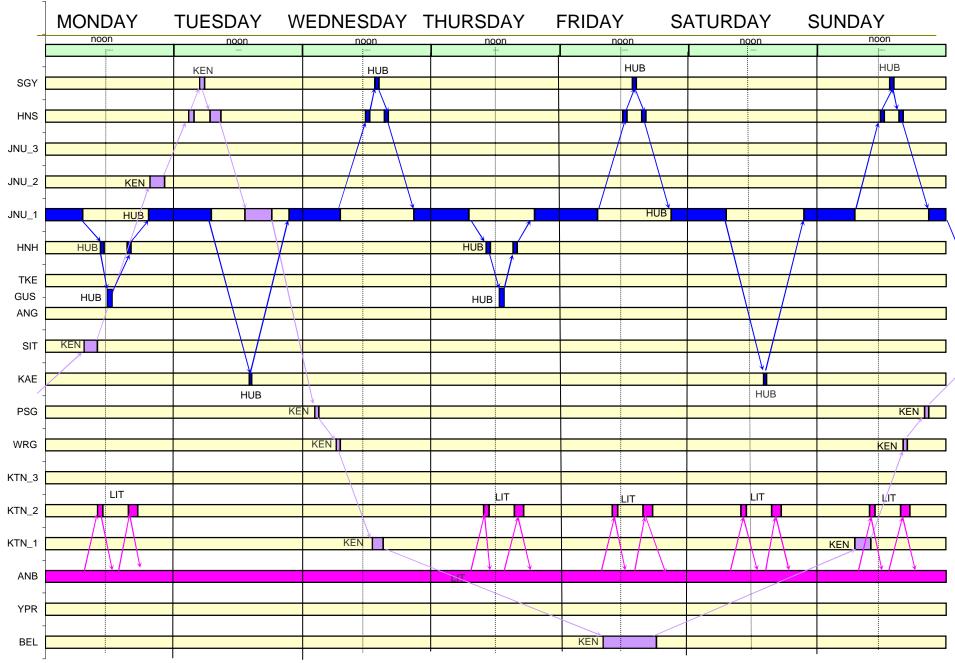


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Winter 2025-26 SE DEC-APR Wk 1 & 3



Revised 06-13-2025

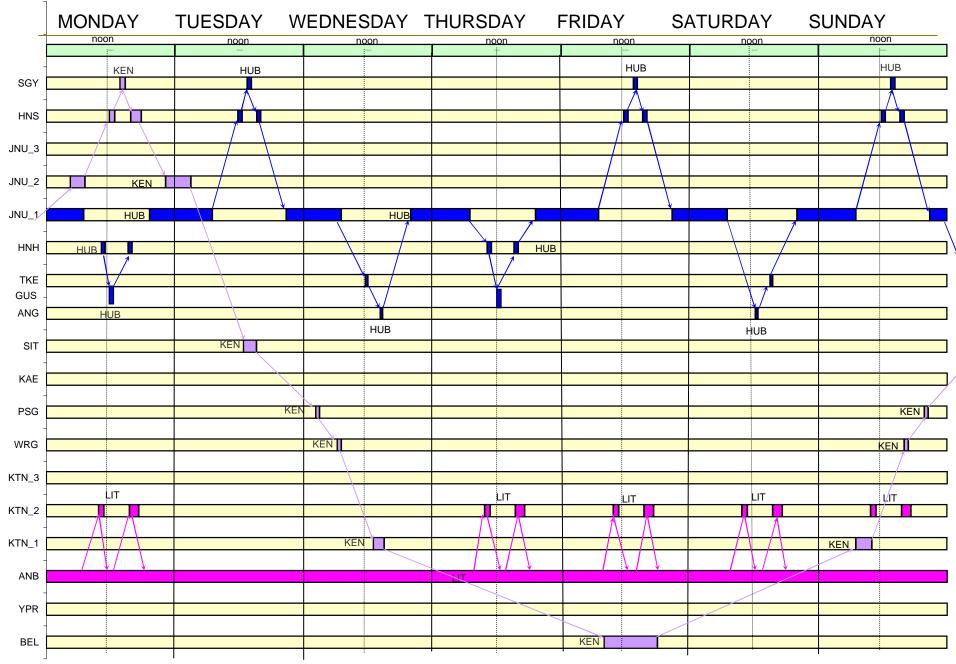


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Winter 2025-26 SE DEC-APR Wk 2 & 4



Revised 06-13-2025



### Winter 2025-2026 SE Community Events

rev 6-24-25

٠	OCTOBER	
	ANB/ANS Grand Camp Convention	
	🔶 Alaska Day Celebration	SIT
	2A Volleyball Seeding Tournament - Oct 16-18	HNS
	✤ Wrestling - Oct 24-25	SGY
٠	NOVEMBER	
	🔶 Bald Eagle Festival	HNS
	✤ Whale Fest	SIT
	✤ Region V 2A Volleyball - Nov 20-22	SGY
٠	DECEMBER	
	<ul> <li>Victorian Yuletide Celebration</li> </ul>	SGY
	🔶 Clarke Cochrane Christmas Classic	KTN
	✤ Region V Wrestling Dec 12-13	SIT
٠	JANUARY	
	✤ Legislature Reconvenes	JNU
	🔶 Alcan 200 Snowmachine Race	HNS
	✤ Edgecumbe Invitational	SIT
٠	FEBRUARY	
	✤ Dick Hotch Basketball Tourney	HNS
	✤ Sitka Jazz Fest	SIT
	🔶 1A Basketball Tourney - Feb 25-28	SIT
٠	MARCH	
	🔶 2A/3A/4A Basketball Tourney - Mar 4-7	JNU
	🔶 Buckwheat Ski Classic	SGY
	🔶 Gold Medal Basketball Tourney	JNU
٠	APRIL	
	🔶 Alaska State Folk Festival	JNU
	🔶 High School Music Festival - Apr 9-11	KTN
	✤ Stikine River Birding Festival	WRG
	✤ Art Festival	
	✤ Legislature session ends	JNU

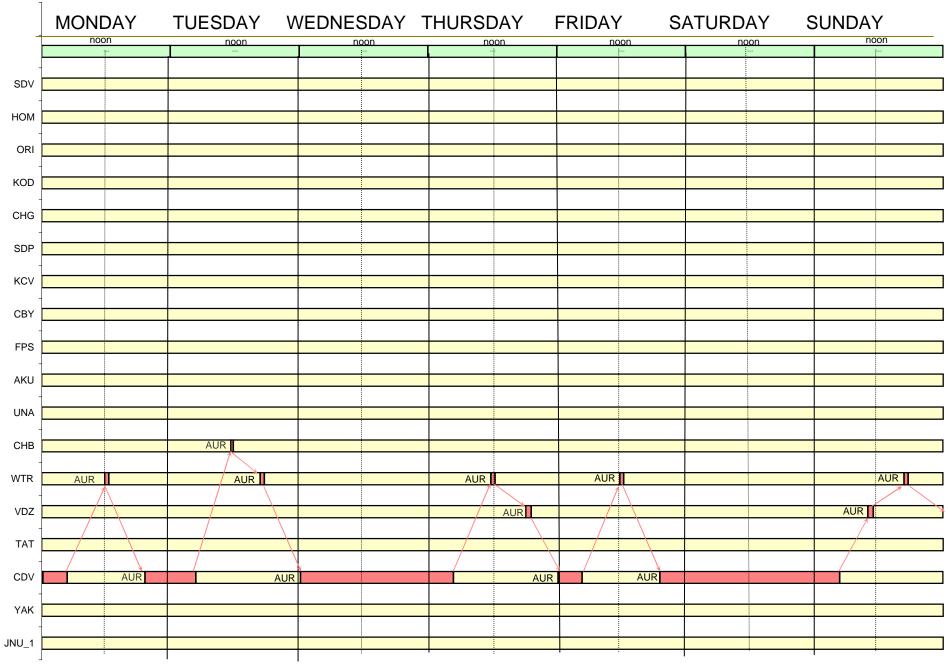
Please review the above Community Calendar of Events and comment on any events that are missed for your community. Schedule patterns may be changed if warranted to be able to provide service to/from the events.

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Winter 2025-26 PWS mid JAN-APR Wk 1 & 2



Revised 06-05-2025

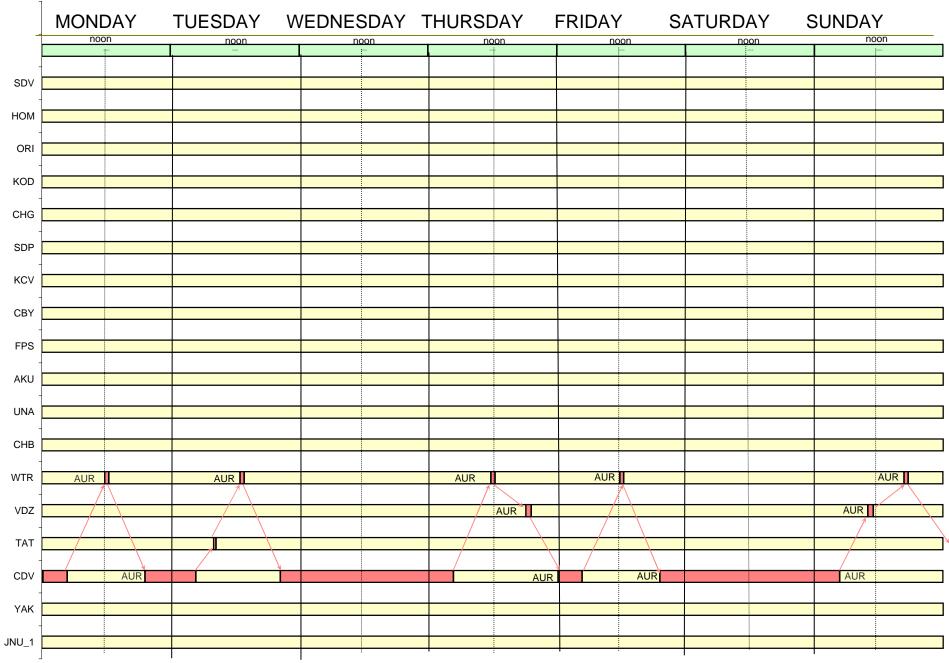


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Winter 2025-26 PWS mid JAN-APR Wk 3 & 4



Revised 06-04-2025

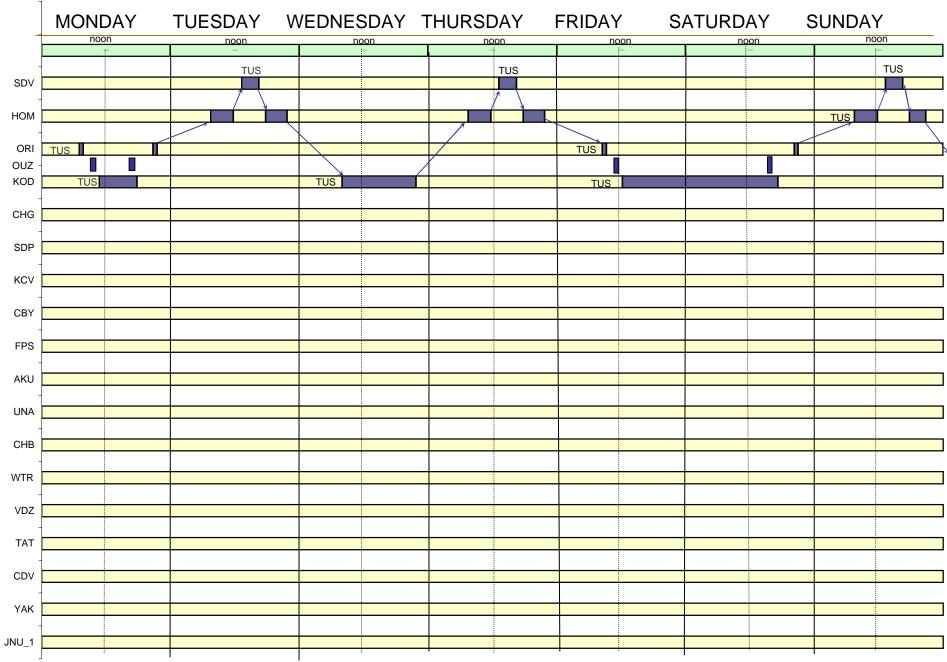


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#### Winter 2025-26 SW OCT-MID JAN



Revised 06-05-2025



### Winter 2025–2026 SW/SC Community Events

rev 6-24-25

٠	OCTOBER	
	🔶 Valdez Museum Road House Dinner	VDZ
	Kachemak Heritage Land Trust Auction	НОМ
٠	NOVEMBER	
	✤ Sobriety Celebration	CDV
۲	DECEMBER	
	✤ Nutcracker Faire	НОМ
٠	JANUARY	
	✤ Legislature Reconvenes	JNU
	✤ Iceworm Festival	CDV
٠	FEBRUARY	

MARCH

#### ♦ APRIL

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.