

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-RS-4-36-24

Issued at: Kodiak, Tuesday, July 2, 2024

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, July 3, 2024

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Tuesday,
December 31, 2024, unless superseded
by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order increases the bag and possession limit for sockeye salmon to five fish in the Buskin River drainage. The combined bag and possession limit for all salmon, except king and coho salmon, remains at five fish but all five may be sockeye salmon.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 64.022(b)(12) are added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective from 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, July 3 through 11:59 p.m. Tuesday, December 31, 2024:

5 AAC 64.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, annual, and size limits; and special provisions for the Kodiak Area.

(b)(12) in the Buskin River drainage, the bag and possession limit for sockeye salmon, 20 inches or greater in length, is five fish; the bag and possession limit for sockeye salmon is not additive to the combined bag and possession limit for salmon, other than king salmon, of five fish;

Doug Vincent-Lang,
Commissioner

By delegation to:



Tyler Polum,
Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The biological escapement goal (BEG) for sockeye salmon in the Buskin River drainage is 5,000 to 8,000 fish. Through June 30, 2024, the weir count was 5,272 sockeye salmon. Based on historical run timing, about 63% of the run has occurred and the run is projected to exceed the upper bound of the BEG. With several weeks of the run expected yet and current counts projecting to exceed the BEG based on historical run-timing, it is warranted to increase the bag and possession limit for sockeye salmon to provide additional harvest opportunities for anglers.

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region 2 Office of Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, AK 99518, (907) 267-2218.