

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-7-21-24

Issued at: Homer, Wednesday, June 12, 2024

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Saturday, June 15, 2024

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Wednesday, June 19, 2024, unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order supersedes Emergency Order 2-KS-7-10-24 issued March 14, 2024. It opens the lower two miles of the Anchor River to sport fishing including catch-and-release for king salmon on Saturday, June 15 through Monday, June 17, and on Wednesday, June 19, 2024. Additionally, the lower two miles of the Anchor River and Deep Creek will open to sport fishing for species other than king salmon starting July 1. Gear will be restricted to one unbaited, single-hook artificial lure from June 15 through July 15, 2024.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 56.122 (a)(2)(A) and (a)(2)(E) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Saturday, June 15 through 11:59 p.m. Wednesday, June 19, 2024:

5 AAC 56.122. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area.

(a)(2) Anchor River drainage, except the Bridge Creek reservoir:

(A) from June 15 – June 19, July 1 – July 15, and September 1 – October 31, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(E) on Saturday, June 15 through Monday, June 17 and Wednesday, June 19, from its mouth upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 200 yards upstream of the Old Sterling Highway Bridge, sport fishing is open for king salmon; king salmon may not be retained or possessed; king salmon must be released immediately, a person may not remove a king salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

Doug Vincent-Lang,
Commissioner

By delegation to:



Mike Booz
Lower Cook Inlet Sport Fish Area Manager

JUSTIFICATION:

As of June 11, 846 king salmon had been counted past the weir on the Anchor River. Based on the 2021-2023 Anchor River king salmon run timing, the escapement is projected to be 4,300 fish, which is within the sustainable escapement goal (SEG) range of 3,200-6,400. As specified in the *Anchor River, Deep Creek, and Ninilchik River king salmon sport fishery management plan* (5 AAC 56.130), if the Anchor River inseason projection is greater than the lower end of the SEG and less than 4,800 fish, the Anchor River will be open to sport fishing, closed to the retention of king salmon, and gear shall be restricted to

only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure. This emergency order is consistent with the stipulations outlined in the management plan.

PREVIOUS EMERGENCY ORDERS AFFECTED:

Emergency Order 3-KS-7-10-24, issued on Thursday, March 14, 2024, which closed sport fishing for all species in the Anchor River and Deep Creek from May 18 through July 15, 2024 is superseded by this emergency order.

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.