SPORT FISHING *Emergency Order*

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH & GAME

Emergency Order No. 1-RS-H-18-14

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Thursday, July 17, 2014 Issued at Yakutat, Wednesday, July 16, 2014

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Wednesday, December 31, 2014. Unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order increases bag and possession limits for sockeye salmon on the Situk River to 6 per day and 12 in possession.

<u>REGULATION</u>: The provisions of 5 AAC 5 AAC 47.023 (b) (8) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order the following provisions are effective from 12:01 a.m. Thursday, July 16 through Wednesday, December 31, 2014:

5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska area.

(b) (8) in the Lost River and Ahrnklin River and all drainages flowing into or between the Lost River and Ahrnklin River, the bag and possession limits for sockeye salmon is a bag limit of three fish and a possession limit of six fish, except that in the Situk River the bag limit is 6 sockeye salmon per day and the possession limit is 12 sockeye salmon.

Cora Campbell Commissioner

By delegation to:

Brian Marston Yakutat Area Management Biologist Division of Sport Fish

JUSTIFICATION:

The biological escapement goal for sockeye salmon in the Situk River is 30,000 to 70,000 fish. As of July 14, 2014 more than 52,000 sockeye salmon have been counted through the Situk River weir. Average run timing data for sockeye salmon on the Situk River indicates that 40% of the run is still to come, and the escapement goal range will be exceeded. Increasing the sockeye salmon bag and possession limits will not put achievement of the escapement goal in jeopardy, and is warranted to provide additional opportunity to harvest fish surplus to the escapement goal.

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region 1 Office of Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, P. O. Box 240020, Douglas, AK 99824, (907) 465-4270.