

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 3-RS-01-14

Issued at: Glennallen, Wednesday, June 18, 2014

Effective 12:01 a.m. Monday, June 23, 2014
Date:

Expiration Date: December 31, 2013, unless
superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order liberalizes the bag and possession limit in the Copper River drainage for sockeye salmon 16 inches or longer. Beginning at 12:01 a.m., Monday, June 23, the limit for sockeye salmon in the Copper River drainage is six fish per day, six in possession.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 52.022. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Upper Copper River and Upper Susitna River Area. (a)(4)(A) and 5AAC 52.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Upper Copper River and Upper Susitna River Area. (9)(D)(ii), (9)(H)(i), (12)(A)(ii), (12)(B)(ii), (12)(C)(ii), (12)(D)(ii), (12)(F), (18)(A)(ii), (20)(A)(ii), (20)(B)(ii) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective, beginning 12:01 a.m. Monday, June 23, 2014:

5 AAC 52.022. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Upper Copper River and Upper Susitna River Area.

(a)(4) salmon, other than king salmon: may be taken only from January 1 – December 31, as follows;

(A) greater than 16 inches in length; bag and possession limit of six fish of which only three per day and in possession may be pink, chum, or coho salmon;

5 AAC 52.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Upper Copper River and Upper Susitna River Area.

(9) in the Gulkana River drainage,

(D)(ii) salmon, other than king salmon, may be taken only from September 10–December 31;

(H)(i) salmon, other than king salmon, may be taken from January 1–July 31;

(12) in the Klutina River drainage, bait and artificial lures may be used;

(A)(ii) salmon, other than king salmon, may be taken only from January 1–July 19;

(B)(ii) salmon, other than king salmon, may be taken only from January 1–July 19;

(C)(ii) salmon, other than king salmon, may be taken only from January 1–July 19;

(D)(ii) salmon, other than king salmon, may be taken only from January 1–July 19;

(F) salmon, other than king salmon, may be taken only from January 1–July 19;

(18) in Paxson Lake;

(A)(ii) salmon, other than king salmon, may be taken only from July 20–December 31;

(20) in the Summit Lake drainage;

(A)(ii) salmon, other than king salmon, may be taken only from July 20–December 31;

(B)(ii) salmon, other than king salmon, may be taken only from August 1–December 31;

Cora Campbell
Commissioner



by delegation to:

Mark A. Somerville
Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The sustainable escapement goal for sockeye salmon in the Copper River drainage is 360,000–750,000 fish. The 2014 inriver goal for the upper Copper River is 748,000 salmon. As of June 16, the Miles Lake sonar cumulative count was 653,828 salmon. Based on current sonar counts and projected counts for the remainder of the run, the 2014 sockeye salmon escapement is expected to exceed the upper end of the sustainable escapement goal. As provided by 5 AAC 75.003. *Emergency order authority.* (2)(A), the department has emergency order authority to increase sport fish bag and possession limits when the total escapement is projected to exceed the escapement goal and the total harvest under the increased bag and possession limit will not reduce the escapement below the escapement goal. Therefore, it is warranted to provide additional harvest opportunity and increase the sockeye salmon bag and possession limit in the upper Copper River drainage.

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region III Office of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, 1300 College Road, Fairbanks, AK 99701, (907) 459-7357 and the Glennallen Area Office of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, PO Box 47, Glennallen, AK 99588, (907) 822-3309.