

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-2-17-15

Issued at: Palmer, Wednesday, May 27, 2015

Effective Date: 6:00 a.m., Friday, May 29, 2015

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m., Tuesday,
September 15, 2015, unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order increases the area of the Little Susitna River closed to sport fishing by relocating the ADF&G regulatory marker downstream approximately 2,000 feet from the department's fish counting weir located at river mile 32.5. This emergency order is effective from 6:00 a.m., Friday, May 29, 2015, through 11:59 p.m., Tuesday, September 15, 2015.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 60.122. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Knik Arm Drainages Area. (9)(M) are added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective, beginning 6:00 a.m., Friday, May 29, 2015, through 11:59 p.m., Tuesday, September 15, 2015:

5AAC 60.122. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Knik Arm Drainages Area.

(9) in the Little Susitna River drainage,

(M) the waters within approximately 2,000 feet downstream of an ADF&G fish counting weir located at river mile 32.5 and 300 feet upstream of the weir, as indicated by ADF&G regulatory markers, are closed to sport fishing;

Sam Cotten,
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Sam Ivey,
Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

5 AAC 75.050. designates a 300-foot area around any fish weir as closed to sport fishing in order to provide uninterrupted passage for fish and minimize vulnerability of salmon and potential for overharvest of fish that can become concentrated prior to passing a weir. Closing a portion of the Little Susitna River to sport fishing beyond the 300 foot area established in regulation downstream of the weir is necessary to protect

salmon staging in several pools downstream of the weir. In addition, closure of this portion of the river to sport fishing will help ensure intended conservation benefits will be met from emergency orders currently in effect to limit king salmon harvest.

PREVIOUS EMERGENCY ORDERS AFFECTED:

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-2-08-15, which established a combined annual limit of two king salmon 20 inches or greater in length for fish harvested in the Susitna River drainage and the Little Susitna River beginning May 1, remains in effect.

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-09-15, which restricted sport fishing gear to one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure only and prohibited retention of king salmon on Tuesday-Friday, remains in effect.

DISTRIBUTION:

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