

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-4-32-16

Issued at: Kodiak, Wednesday,
July 6, 2016

Effective Date: 12:01 p.m. Wednesday, July 6, 2016

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Monday,
July 25, 2016, unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order supersedes Emergency Order 2-KS-4-09-16, issued Monday, March 14, 2016. This emergency order prohibits the retention of king salmon while sport fishing in the Ayakulik River. The use of bait is prohibited in the Ayakulik Drainage.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 64.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, annual, and size limits; and special provisions for the Kodiak Area. (b)(13) and 5 AAC 64.030. Methods, means, and general provisions – Finfish. (i) are added by this emergency order.

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

(b)(13) in the Ayakulik River drainage, retention of king salmon is prohibited, king salmon may not be retained or possessed; a king salmon may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.

5 AAC 64.030. Methods, means, and general provisions – Finfish.

(i) Only unbaited, artificial lures may be used in the Ayakulik River.

Sam Cotten
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Tyler Polum
Kodiak Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

As of July 4, a total of 4,145 king salmon have passed the Ayakulik weir. The biological escapement goal (BEG) for Ayakulik River king salmon is 4,000 to 7,000 fish. Since king salmon counts are still at the low end of the escapement goal, the king salmon sport fishery will reopen to catch-and-release only (no retention). The run is more than 80% complete according to historical run-timing and recent poor returns since 2012 have warranted only a limited harvest of king salmon on the Ayakulik River. Additionally, the use of bait is prohibited to reduce hooking mortality of released king salmon.

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; Alaska Department of Fish and Game Kodiak Area Office; and the Alaska Department of Public Safety Fish and Wildlife Protection Kodiak Office.