

# SPORT FISHING

## *Emergency Order*

ALASKA DEPARTMENT  
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-2-22-16

Issued at: Palmer, Friday, June 24, 2016

Effective Date: 6:00 a.m., Tuesday, June 28, 2016

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m., Wednesday,  
July 13, 2016, unless superseded by  
subsequent emergency order.

### EXPLANATION:

This emergency order rescinds Emergency Order No. 2-KS-2-08-16, issued in Palmer on Thursday, February 18, 2016. This emergency order opens the Little Susitna River drainage to sport fishing for king salmon, seven days per week from its mouth upstream to the Parks Highway beginning Tuesday, June 28, 2016. The bag and possession limit for king salmon 20 inches or greater is one per day, one in possession. Only unbaited, artificial lures are allowed.

A separate emergency order restores the annual limit on the Little Susitna River to five king salmon over 20 inches in length, effective beginning the same time as this emergency order.

### REGULATION:

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-2-08-16 is rescinded.

Sam Cotten,  
Commissioner

By delegation to:

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Sam Ivey,  
Area Management Biologist

### JUSTIFICATION:

As of June 23, 2,463 king salmon have passed the Little Susitna weir, which is located approximately at river mile 32.5, four miles upstream of the Little Susitna Public Use Facility. Historically approximately 70% of the run has passed upstream of the weir by this date. The sustainable escapement goal (SEG) for the Little Susitna River is 900 – 1,800 king salmon based on a post season aerial survey. Past comparisons of weir counts and aerial survey estimates indicate 40 – 60% of the fish passed through the weir are later counted in the aerial survey. Therefore, a weir based management target of 2,400 – 4,000 will project the SEG is achieved if at least 40% of the escapement is enumerated in the aerial survey. At this time it is justified to allow additional harvest on the Little Susitna River king salmon fishery. An anticipated harvest of 350 fish upstream of the weir due to this action is not expected to reduce the spawning escapement below the SEG.

### PREVIOUS EMERGENCY ORDERS AFFECTED:

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-08-16, which restricted harvest to Fridays-Mondays, and required the use of one, unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure only, is rescinded by this emergency order.

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.