

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-RS-5-39-18

Issued at: Dillingham, Monday, July 16, 2018

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Tuesday, July 17, 2018

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Monday,
December 31, 2018, unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order increases the bag and possession limit for sockeye salmon from five to ten fish in all waters of the Nushagak-Mulchatna River drainage, excluding the Wood River drainage. The bag and possession limit for other salmon, except king and sockeye salmon, remains at five fish. These limits are in combination with the more liberal limit for sockeye salmon.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 67.022. (g)(7) are added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective beginning 12:01 a.m. Tuesday, July 17 through 11:59 p.m. Monday, December 31, 2018:

5AAC 67.022. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means in the Bristol Bay Area.

(g) In the Nushagak River drainage, excluding the Wood River drainage, and unless otherwise specified in 5 AAC 06.361 or 5 AAC 06.368, the following special provisions apply:

(7) the bag and possession limit for sockeye salmon is ten fish; the bag and possession limit for other salmon, other than king salmon, is five fish;

Sam Cotten,
Commissioner

By delegation to: _____

Jason E. Dye
Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The escapement of sockeye salmon in the Nushagak River has exceeded the escapement goal of 370,000 to 900,000 fish. Through July 15, 2018, nearly 970,000 sockeye salmon have been counted at the Portage Creek sonar. As provided by 5 AAC 75.003 (2)(A), ADF&G 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 goal range. Therefore, it is warranted to increase the bag and possession limit for sockeye salmon in the Nushagak-Mulchatna River sport fishery.

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 and the Bristol Bay Area Office of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, P.O. Box 230, Dillingham, AK 99576, (907) 842-2427.