

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-4-41-21

Issued at: Kodiak, Monday, July 12, 2021

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, July 14, 2021

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Monday, August 9, 2021, unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes sport fishing for king salmon in the Chignik River drainage downstream to Mensis Point. King salmon caught incidentally while fishing for other species may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately. In addition, only one unbaited, single hook, artificial lure may be used for sport fishing.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 65.020. (1)(A) are superseded and 5 AAC 65.022. (f) is added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, July 14 through 11:59 p.m. Monday, August 9, 2021:

5 AAC 65.020. General provisions for seasons and bag, possession, annual, and size limits for the Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Islands Area.

(1) king salmon:

(A) in fresh waters: may be taken only from January 1 through July 25; except that in the Chignik River drainage, downstream to Mensis Point and including Chignik and Black lakes and their tributaries, sport fishing for king salmon is closed, king salmon caught incidentally while fishing for other species may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately; and as follows:

5 AAC 65.022. Special provisions for bag, possession, and annual limits, and methods and means in the Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Islands Area.

(f) In the Chignik River drainage, downstream to Mensis Point and including Chignik and Black lakes and their tributaries; only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used.

Doug Vincent-Lang,
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Tyler Polum,
Kodiak Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The biological escapement goal (BEG) for king salmon in the Chignik River drainage is 1,300 to 2,700 fish. The weir count as of July 11, 2021, was 243 king salmon, which is well below average for this date. Based on historical run timing, the projected total escapement indicates that the BEG will not be achieved

and closing the king salmon sport fishery is warranted. In addition, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used through August 9 to reduce the probability of hooking mortality and further conserve 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.