

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-RS-6-45-21

Issued at: Anchorage, Wednesday, July 14, 2021

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Thursday, July 15, 2021

Expiration Date: 11:59p.m. Friday,
December 31, 2021, unless superseded
by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order increases the sockeye salmon bag and possession limit to 12 fish per day and 24 in possession in the Coghill River drainage. The limit for other salmon, except king, coho, and sockeye salmon, remains at six per day and 12 in possession. Additionally, this emergency order reduces the area closed to fishing adjacent to the Coghill River weir to 50 feet.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 55.023. (11) are added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Thursday, July 15 through 11:59 p.m. Friday, December 31, 2021:

5 AAC 55.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Prince William Sound Area.

(11) in the Coghill River drainage: bag limit for sockeye salmon of 12 fish and possession limit of 24 fish; the waters within 50 feet of the Coghill River weir are closed to sport fishing.

Douglas Vincent-Lang
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Brittany Blain-Roth
Assistant Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The sockeye escapement goal range for the Coghill River is 20,000 – 60,000 fish. As of July 13, 2021, an estimated 56,197 sockeye salmon have passed through the weir on the Coghill River. At this time, it is estimated that 71% of the run has passed the weir. An estimated 1,000 sockeye salmon are currently holding below the weir. As provided by 5 AAC 75.003. *Emergency Order Authority* (2)(A), the department 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. Sockeye salmon escapement is now anticipated to exceed the upper end of the goal which warrants an increase in the sockeye salmon bag and possession limit and a reduction in the area closed to sport fishing adjacent to the weir.

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.