

# SPORT FISHING

## *Emergency Order*

ALASKA DEPARTMENT  
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

**Emergency Order No.** 2-KS-7-28-22

**Issued at:** Homer, Monday, June 13, 2022

**Effective Date:** 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, June 15, 2022

**Expiration Date:** 11:59 p.m. Friday, July 15, 2021, unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

### **EXPLANATION:**

This emergency order supersedes Emergency Order 2-KS-7-10-22, issued January 26, 2022, and prohibits sport fishing for king salmon (including catch-and-release) in the salt waters of Cook Inlet north of the latitude of Bluff Point (59° 40.00' N. lat.). King salmon incidentally caught while fishing for other fish may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.

### **REGULATION:**

The provisions of 5 AAC 58.022. (b)(1)(A) are superseded by this emergency order. The provisions of 5 AAC 58.055. (h) are added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, June 15 through 11:59 p.m. Friday, July 15, 2022:

#### **5 AAC 58.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, annual, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet – Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area.**

(b)(1) in the waters of Cook Inlet north of the latitude of Bluff Point (59° 40.00' N. lat.):

(A) sport fishing for king salmon is closed; king salmon caught incidentally may not be removed from the water and must be release immediately;

#### **5 AAC 58.055. Upper Cook Inlet Summer Salt Water King Salmon Management Plan**

(h) Notwithstanding (d) of this section, from June 15 through July 15, in the Cook Inlet salt waters north of the latitude of Bluff Point (59° 40.00' N. lat) sport fishing is allowed, sport fishing for king salmon is prohibited; king salmon may not be retained or possessed; king salmon that are caught while fishing for other species may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.

Doug Vincent-Lang,  
Commissioner

By delegation to:

  
Mike Booz  
Lower Cook Inlet Sport Fish Area Manager

### **JUSTIFICATION:**

In the Kenai River, through June 11, an estimated 599 large king salmon have been enumerated past the RM 13.7 king salmon sonar. Based on the on-time to five days late run timing, the inseason king salmon escapement projection ranges from 1,100 to 1,800 which falls below the optimal escapement goal (OEG) of 3,900-6,600 large king salmon (75 cm mid eye to tail fork length and longer).

As of June 12, 2022, a total of 382 king salmon had been counted in the Anchor River. Based on the 2019-2021 Anchor River king salmon run timing, the 2022 escapement is projected to be less than 2,000 king salmon which would fall below the sustainable escapement goal (SEG) of 3,800-7,600.

As of June 12, 2022, a total of 182 naturally-produced king salmon had been counted at the lower Ninilchik River weir. Based on the 2019-2021 Ninilchik River naturally-produced king salmon run timing, the 2022 escapement is projected to be less than 500 king salmon. Approximately 1,100 naturally-produced king salmon are needed at this weir to achieve the SEG of 750-1,300 and broodstock collection goal for stocking the Ninilchik River. Only naturally-produced king salmon can be used as broodstock for stocking the Ninilchik River.

**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.