

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-1-16-98

Issued at Soldotna: July 21, 1998

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. July 23, 1998

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. July 31, 1998,
unless superseded by subsequent emergency
order

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order restricts terminal tackle in the Kenai River downstream from Skilak Lake to artificial lures only. Bait may not be used. The lure may have attached to it not more than two single hooks of any size or two multiple hooks. If multiple (treble) hooks are used the gap between point and shank may not exceed one half inch.

This emergency order does not affect that area at the confluence of the Kenai and Moose Rivers. This area remains a fly-fishing-only area as provided for in regulation.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 56.022 (b)(10) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order the following provisions are effective:

In the Kenai River downstream from a department marker at the outlet of Skilak Lake (except in that area of the Kenai and Moose Rivers designated as a fly-fishing-only area) only unbaited artificial lures may be used from 12:01 a.m. July 23 through July 31.

JUSTIFICATION:

The Kenai River Late Chinook Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 21.359) directs the department to achieve a minimum spawning escapement of 15,500; an optimum spawning escapement of 22,300. At this time a spawning escapement of less than 22,300 is projected. The management plan directs the department to restrict the Kenai River sport fishery through time and/or area closures and/or permitting a catch-and release only fishery and/or restricting terminal gear to achieve the optimum spawning escapement level. At this time the most appropriate management action to achieve the escapement goal and which would be least disruptive to the fishery is to restrict terminal gear to unbaited artificial lures.