

# SPORT FISHING

## *Emergency Order*

ALASKA DEPARTMENT  
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-RS-1-04-98

Issued at Soldotna: April 23, 1998

Effective Date: 12:01 A.M. July 1, 1998

Expiration Date: Effective until  
superseded by subsequent emergency order  
or action by Board of Fisheries.

### EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile of river bank to fishing. The area closed is on the north bank of the Kenai River between ADF&G regulatory markers located at the upstream edge of the boat ramp at the end of Keystone Drive at approximately river mile 27.3, upstream to ADF&G markers at the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge boundary delineated by the power line at river mile 28.0. Anglers are allowed to fish within this zone if they are fishing from a boat located more than 10 feet offshore which is not connected to the bank. This area is closed annually to bank fishing from July 1 through August 15.

### REGULATION:

Notwithstanding 5 AAC 56.065 the following provisions are effective:

The north bank of the Kenai River between ADF&G regulatory markers located at the upstream edge of the boat ramp at the end of Keystone Drive at approximately river mile 27.3, upstream to ADF&G markers at the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge boundary delineated by the power line at river mile 28.0 is closed to fishing within 10 feet of the waterline (either direction) from July 1 through August 15. Anglers are allowed to fish within this zone if they are fishing from a boat located more than 10 feet offshore which is not connected to the bank.

### JUSTIFICATION:

Protection of riparian bank habitats is critical to assure that the fishery resources of the Kenai River are conserved for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. One threat to these habitats is trampling by anglers fishing for sockeye salmon. The area listed above was recently purchased for the purpose of providing long-term habitat protection and has been identified as critical fish habitat that is prone to bank degradation by shoreline anglers. The objective of this emergency order is to prevent expansion of shoreline angling onto this relatively pristine area of critical fish habitat.