

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. **2-KS-1-04-99**

Issued at Soldotna, June 14, 1999

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m.
June 16, 1999

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. June 30, 1999
Unless superseded by subsequent emergency
order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order permits the usage of bait and multiple hooks in the Kenai River downstream from an ADF&G marker at the outlet of Skilak Lake to the river's terminus at Cook Inlet, effective 12:01 a.m. Wednesday June 16, 1999. Bait and multiple hooks may be used in the waters of the main-stem of the Kenai River except:

- a) Within a 100-yard radius of its confluence with the Moose River, and;
- b) At the mouth of Slikok Creek between a marker located approximately 100 yards upstream and 300-yards downstream of its confluence with the Kenai River.

The confluence area of the Moose River is designated a fly fishing only area from May 15 to August 15. The confluence area of Slikok Creek is designated a fly fishing only area from January 1 to July 14. All other Kenai River special provisions, methods and means and bag and possession limits remain in effect.

These regulatory changes are effective at 12:01 a.m., Wednesday, June 16.

REGULATION:

Notwithstanding provisions of 5 AAC 56.022 (b) (10); and consistent with provisions of 5 AAC 56.070 (b) (1), the following provisions are effective:

Effective 12:01 a.m. Wednesday June 16, 1999, bait and multiple hooks may be used in the Kenai River downstream from an ADF&G marker at the outlet of Skilak Lake to the river's terminus at Cook Inlet, except as follows:

- a) Within a 100-yard radius of its confluence with the Moose River, and;
- b) At the mouth of Slikok Creek between a marker located approximately 100 yards upstream and 300-yards downstream of its confluence with the Kenai River.

Frank Rue
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Michael L. Bethe
Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The Kenai River Early Run Chinook Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 56.070) directs the department to achieve a spawning escapement of from 7,200 to 14,400 chinook salmon. To date, total in-river return is estimated to be approximately 11,500 chinook salmon. Total harvest is estimated to be approximately 1,850 chinook salmon. Harvest rates have been good, but angler effort has been very low compared to historic trends. We can now confidently project a total return of early run chinook salmon of approximately 20,000 fish and a spawning escapement in excess of the upper range goal of 14,400 fish. Under these circumstances, the Kenai River Early Run Chinook Salmon Management Plan directs the department to establish, by emergency order, a fishing period during which bait and multiple hooks may be used in the Kenai River downstream of Skilak Lake. This emergency order implements management plan instructions to the department and permits usage of bait and multiple hooks in the Kenai River from Skilak Lake downstream to the river terminus at Cook Inlet.

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.