

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-2-09-05

Issued at: Anchorage, Thursday, June 16, 2005

Effective Date: 06:00 a.m. Saturday June 18, 2005

Expiration Date: 11:00 p.m., Wednesday, July 13, 2005, unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order increases the bag and possession limit for Ship Creek king salmon 20 inches or greater in length to 2 fish per day and 2 in possession. The bag and possession limit for king salmon less than 20 inches remains at 10 per day, 10 in possession. This emergency order is effective from 6:00 a.m. Saturday, June 18, 2005 through 11:00 p.m., Wednesday, July 13, 2005. The Ship Creek nighttime closure from 11:00 pm to 6:00 am remains in effect. The annual limits and recording requirements are still in effect for the Ship Creek fishery.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 61.022. WATERS; SEASONS; BAG, POSSESSION, AND SIZE LIMITS; AND SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR THE SUSITNA- WEST COOK INLET AREA (m)(14)(C) and (E) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective from 6:00 a.m. Saturday, June 18, 2005 through 11:00 p.m., Wednesday, July 13, 2005:

5 AAC 61.022. WATERS; SEASONS; BAG, POSSESSION, AND SIZE LIMITS; AND SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR THE SUSITNA- WEST COOK INLET AREA

5 AAC 61.022 (m)(14)(C) The bag and possession limit for king salmon 20 inches or greater in length is two fish; a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes a part of the bag limit of the person that originally hooked the fish; a person may not remove a king salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

5 AAC 61.022 (m)(14)(E) after taking and retaining two king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, a person may not sport fish for any species of salmon that same day in waters open to king salmon fishing.

McKie Campbell
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Matthew G. Miller
Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

A partial stream survey conducted in Ship Creek on June 15 2005, enumerated 300 king salmon in closed waters upstream of the designated harvest area. Poor visibility and high water conditions in Ship Creek limited the survey to the first half-mile below the Elmendorf Hatchery. A comparable Ship Creek survey conducted under more favorable water conditions in 2004 estimated 343 king salmon in this

same section of the creek and the complete survey enumerated total Ship Creek escapement at 1,020 king salmon. Good catch rates in the fishery suggest a strong return of king salmon this year. With the run only 40-50% complete and high tides at the end of June, it is expected the hatchery's minimum brood stock needs of 250 fish for Ship Creek will be exceeded. Therefore it is warranted to increase the king salmon bag and possession limit in the Ship Creek fishery to allow for increased harvest of surplus hatchery fish.

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.