

# SPORT FISHING

## *Emergency Order*

ALASKA DEPARTMENT  
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-RS-2-27-05

Issued at: Palmer, Monday, August 8, 2005

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m., Saturday, August 13, 2005

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m., December 31, 2005, unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

### **EXPLANATION:**

This emergency order prohibits the retention of sockeye salmon while sport fishing in the waters of Fish Creek (Big Lake drainage) that are open to salmon fishing. This emergency order is effective beginning 12:01 a.m., Saturday, August 13, 2005.

### **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AND SIZE LIMITS; AND SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR THE SUSITNA-WEST COOK INLET AREA, Knik Arm drainage (k)(5)(A) are superceded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective beginning 12:01 a.m., Saturday, August 13, 2005:

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

(k)(5)in the Fish Creek drainage

(A) waters from ADF&G regulatory markers located at its mouth upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located one-quarter mile upstream from the Knik-Goose Bay Road, are open to sport fishing beginning the second Saturday in August through December 31 on Saturdays and Sundays from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., except that sport fishing for king salmon is closed, and sockeye salmon may not be possessed or retained;

McKie Campbell,  
Commissioner

By delegation to:

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Dave Rutz,  
Area Management Biologist

**JUSTIFICATION:**

The current sustainable escapement goal (SEG) range for the Fish Creek drainage is 20,000 to 70,000 sockeye salmon, as measured at the weir located at River Mile 3, in operation from July 6 through August 15. On average, approximately 90% of the escapement has passed the weir by August 7. Normally by this date, approximately 59,000 sockeye salmon have passed the weir; however, at this time, only 12,418 fish have been counted and the total escapement is projected to be approximately 13,307 fish, well below the escapement goal range of 20,000 to 70,000 fish. As provided by 5 AAC 75.003. EMERGENCY ORDER AUTHORITY (1)(A), the department has emergency order authority to decrease sport fish bag and possession limits when the total escapement is projected to be less than the lower end of the escapement goal range. Therefore, it is warranted to prohibit the retention of sockeye salmon while sport fishing in Fish Creek.

**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.