

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-RT-2-06-06

Issued at: Anchorage, Thursday, May 11, 2006

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m., Saturday, May 13, 2006

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m., Sunday, December 31, 2006, unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order reduces the daily bag and possession limit for rainbow/steelhead trout in the stocked waters of the Anchorage Management Area to 2 fish per day, 2 fish in possession, of which only one may be 20" or greater in length. This emergency order is effective from 12:01 a.m., Saturday, May 13, 2006, through 11:59 p.m., Sunday, December 31, 2006.

Lakes affected by this emergency order include Alder Pond, Airstrip/Willow Pond, Beach Lake, Campbell Point Lake, Cheney Lake, University Lake (also called Behn or APU Lake), Clunie Lake, Delong Lake, Dishno Lake, Edmonds Lake, Fish Lake, Green Lake, Gwen Lake, Hillberg Lake, Jewel Lake, Lake Otis, Lower Fire Lake, Mirror Lake, Otter Lake, Rabbit Lake, Sand Lake, Spring Lake, Symphony Lake, Taku Campbell Lake, Triangle Lake, Upper Sixmile Lake, and Waldon Lake.

Streams affected by this emergency order include Campbell Creek and Chester Creek.

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AND SIZE LIMITS; AND SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR THE SUSITNA-WEST COOK INLET AREA (l) (3) (A); (m) (2) (D); and (m) (3) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order the following provisions are effective from 12:01 a.m., Saturday, May 13, 2006, through 11:59 p.m., Sunday, December 31, 2006:

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

(l) (3) rainbow trout/steelhead

(A) may be taken from January 1 – December 31 in stocked lakes and ponds: bag and possession limit of two fish, of which only one may be 20 inches or greater in length; for the purpose of this subparagraph, "stocked lakes and ponds" include Alder Pond, Airstrip/Willow Pond, Beach Lake, Campbell Point Lake, Cheney Lake, University Lake (Behn or APU Lake), Clunie Lake, Delong Lake, Dishno Lake, Edmonds Lake, Fish Lake, Green Lake, Gwen Lake, Hillberg Lake, Jewel Lake, Lake Otis, Lower Fire Lake, Mirror Lake, Otter Lake, Rabbit Lake, Sand Lake, Spring Lake, Symphony Lake Taku Campbell Lake, Triangle Lake, Upper Sixmile Lake, and Waldon Lake.

(m) (2) in the Campbell Creek drainage,

(D) in waters downstream of the forks near Piper Street, the bag and possession limit for rainbow/steelhead trout is two fish, of which only one per day may be 20 inches or greater in length.

(m) (3) in the Chester Creek drainage, the bag and possession limit for rainbow/steelhead trout is two fish, of which only one per day may be 20 inches or greater in length.

McKie Campbell,
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Dan Bosch,
Assistant Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The past years' rainbow trout stocking goal in the Anchorage Sport Fish Management Area has been to release 106,500 catchable-sized rainbow trout each year. These fish averaged 8 inches long and were distributed among 25 lakes and two streams. The stocked lakes are some of the most popular fisheries in Anchorage, averaging over 55,000 angler days of effort per year, with a catch of over 113,000 rainbow trout per year over the last ten years (1995-2004). However, due to the loss of warm water at the state fish hatcheries only 33% of the annual rainbow trout stocking goal, or about 34,000 catchable-sized fish, are available for stocking for this entire management area. The 2006 rainbow trout average 12 inches long and weigh about three times more than prior years' fish. It is anticipated that, due to the significantly larger size of these fish, the stocked fisheries will be even more popular this year. Therefore, it is prudent to limit the harvest of these fish to help spread the harvest among users and ensure good fishing throughout the year.

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.