

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-RT-2-05-07

Issued at: Anchorage, Wednesday, May 2, 2007

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m., Thursday, May 3, 2007

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m., Monday, December 31, 2007, unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order prohibits the retention of rainbow/steelhead trout in the waters of the Campbell Creek and Chester Creek drainages, including University Lake. This emergency order is effective from 12:01 a.m., Thursday, May 3, 2007, through 11:59 p.m., Monday, December 31, 2007.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 59.122 SPECIAL PROVISIONS AND LOCALIZED ADDITIONS AND EXCEPTIONS TO THE SEASONS, BAG, POSSESSION AND SIZE LIMITS, AND METHODS AND MEANS FOR THE ANCHORAGE BOWL AREA (2)(D) and (3) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective from 12:01 a.m., Thursday, May 3, 2007, through 11:59 p.m., Monday, December 31, 2007:

5 AAC 59.122 SPECIAL PROVISIONS AND LOCALIZED ADDITIONS AND EXCEPTIONS TO THE SEASONS, BAG, POSSESSION AND SIZE LIMITS, AND METHODS AND MEANS FOR THE ANCHORAGE BOWL AREA

(2) in the Campbell Creek drainage,

(D) in the waters downstream of the forks near Piper Street, rainbow/steelhead trout may not be possessed or retained; rainbow/steelhead trout that are caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(3) in the Chester Creek drainage, rainbow/steelhead trout may not be possessed or retained; rainbow/steelhead trout that are caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

Denby Lloyd,
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Dan Bosch,
Assistant Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

In 2006, due to the loss of warm water at the state hatcheries, the rainbow trout stocking goal for the Anchorage Management Area was reduced by 66%. Campbell Creek, which is normally stocked with 3,000 rainbow trout, was stocked with only 1,525 fish, and Chester Creek was stocked with only 325 rainbow trout. In 2007, due to pathology concerns at Elmendorf Hatchery, neither of these streams will be stocked with rainbow trout. Campbell and Chester creeks are urban creeks with bike trail access along a good portion of their reaches, making them popular summer fisheries. Therefore, it is prudent to prohibit the harvest of these fish in order to conserve their availability for multiple users, provide diversity in the area's sport fisheries, and to protect the native populations of rainbow trout that reside in both streams. The catch-and-release of rainbow trout is still allowed.

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.