

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-SS-4-29-07

Issued at: Kodiak, Monday, July 23, 2007

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m., Wednesday, August 1, 2007

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m., December 31, 2007, unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order opens the Buskin River drainage above Bridge 1 to salmon fishing, beginning 12:01 a.m., Wednesday, August 1. The Buskin River drainage above Bridge 1 is usually closed by regulation to sport fishing for salmon from August 1 to September 15. Effective August 1, the entire Buskin drainage will remain open to sport fishing for salmon for the remainder of the year. The closed waters around the weir will remain in effect as posted.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 64.022 WATERS; SEASONS; BAG, POSSESSION, AND SIZE LIMITS; AND SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR THE KODIAK AREA. (b) (1) (B) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order the following provisions are effective beginning 12:01 a.m., Wednesday, August 1, 2007, through 11:59 p.m., December, 31, 2007:

5 AAC 64.022. WATERS; SEASONS; BAG, POSSESSION, AND SIZE LIMITS; AND SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR THE KODIAK AREA.

(b) (1) (B) the Buskin River drainage upstream of Bridge 1, except as posted around the weir, is open to sport fishing for salmon from August 1 through December 31.

Denby S. Lloyd,
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Leonard Schwarz
Kodiak Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

Over the past 10 years, coho weir counts in the Buskin River have been very strong, ranging from 8,000 - 16,000 fish, with an average of 12,000 through the weir. The current escapement goal is a range of 3,200 to 7,200 spawning coho. For the past 10 years, the upper bound of the escapement goal range was exceeded every year, by an average of more than 4,000 coho. With this year's return, the Department is again anticipating that the upper end of the escapement goal will be exceeded and thus there is no need

to restrict sport harvest by closing waters above Bridge 1 to salmon fishing during the August 1 – September 15 time period.

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; Alaska Department of Fish and Game Kodiak Area Office; and the Alaska Department of Public Safety Fish and Wildlife Protection Kodiak Office.