

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-4-11-09

Issued at: Kodiak, Thursday
June 11, 2009

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m., Monday, June 15, 2009

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m., Saturday, July
25, 2009, unless superseded by subsequent
emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order supersedes Emergency Order 2-KS-4-02-09 issued in Kodiak on February 11, 2009, and prohibits the retention of king salmon in the Ayakulik River drainage. King salmon may not be possessed or retained; king salmon caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately. In addition, the use of bait is prohibited in the Ayakulik River drainage. This emergency order is effective from 12:01 a.m., Monday, June 15 through 11:59 p.m., Saturday, July 25, 2009.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 64.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits; and special provisions for the Kodiak Area. (a)(1)(D) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective from 12:01 a.m., Monday, June 15, 2009 through 11:59 p.m., Saturday, July 25, 2009:

5 AAC 64.022 Waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits; and special provisions for the Kodiak Area.

(a) (1) (D). In the Ayakulik River drainage, king salmon may not be retained or possessed. King salmon caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately. Only unbaited, artificial lures may be used in the Ayakulik River drainage.

Denby S. Lloyd,
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Donn Tracy,
Kodiak Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The biological escapement goal for Ayakulik River king salmon is 4,800 – 9,600 fish. In anticipation of a poor 2009 king salmon run to the Ayakulik River, the bag and annual limits were lowered pre-season. The weir count through June 10 was 284 king salmon, which is the third lowest count on record. Based on weir counts and other information, it appears a late and potentially weak run is developing. To reduce the sport fishing mortality of king salmon the Ayakulik River king salmon fishery is being restricted to non-retention. In addition, the use of bait is prohibited in order to reduce hooking mortality.

PREVIOUS EMERGENCY ORDERS AFFECTED:

Emergency Order 2-KS-4-02-09, which restricted sport fishing for king salmon in the Ayakulik River by reducing the bag and possession limit to one king salmon 20 inches greater in length, and an annual limit of two.

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.