

# SPORT FISHING

## *Emergency Order*

ALASKA DEPARTMENT  
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-R-2-15-09

Issued at: Anchorage, Monday, June 22, 2009

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m., Tuesday, June 23, 2009

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m., Monday, July 13, 2009,  
unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

### EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes the Bird Creek drainage to fishing. This emergency order is effective from 12:01 a.m., Tuesday, June 23, 2009, through 11:59 p.m., Monday, July 13, 2009.

### 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to the seasons, bag, possession and size limits, and methods and means for the Anchorage Bowl Drainages Area (1) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective from 12:01 a.m., Tuesday, June 23, 2009, through 11:59 p.m., Monday, July 13, 2009:

### **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 Drainages Area.**

(1) the Bird Creek drainage

(A) is closed to sport fishing from June 23 - July 13;

(B) from its mouth upstream 500 yards to an ADF&G regulatory marker is open from July 14 - December 31 to sport fishing for salmon, except king salmon, with a bag and possession limit for salmon of three fish 16 inches or greater in length;

(C) upstream of the ADF&G regulatory marker located 500 yards upstream of the mouth from July 14- December 31 is closed to sport fishing for all salmon;

Denby S. Lloyd,  
Commissioner

By delegation to:

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Chuck Brazil  
Assistant Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

King salmon runs throughout Southcentral Alaska are depressed this year. Bird Creek supports a small run of wild king salmon that has an annual average escapement of approximately 125 fish. Four of the lowest escapements on record have occurred since 2002, including 2008 when only about 100 fish were counted. Due to the small size of this wild run, there is no open season for harvest or catch and release. Illegal harvest and mortality associated with incidental catch from anglers targeting other species could negatively impact the sustainability of this small stock. Therefore, it is warranted to close the Bird Creek drainage to all sport fishing until July 14 for the conservation of king salmon.

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region II Office of Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, AK 99518, (907) 267-2218.