

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-RT-2-04-09

Issued at: Anchorage, Wednesday, April 1, 2009

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m., Friday, April 3, 2009

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m., Thursday, December 31, 2009, unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.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., Friday, April 3, 2009, through 11:59 p.m., Thursday, December 31, 2009.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 59.122 (2)(D)(G) and 5 AAC 59.122 (3) **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to the seasons, bag, possession and size limits, and methods and means for the Anchorage Bowl Drainages Area** are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective from 12:01 a.m., Friday, April 3, 2009 through 11:59 p.m., Thursday, December 31, 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.

(2) in the Campbell Creek drainage,

(D) in the waters downstream of the forks near Piper Street, only unbaited, artificial lures may be used; rainbow/steelhead trout may not be possessed or retained; rainbow/steelhead trout that are caught must be released immediately;

(G) a person 16 years of age or older may not sport fish in Campbell Creek between Dimond Boulevard and the Old Seward Highway during the designated youth fishing days which occur on the last Saturday, and Sunday in June from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.; **In 2009 this will be Saturday, June 27, and Sunday, June 28;** during the designated youth fishing days, **bait and multiple hooks may be used**, king salmon may be taken with a bag and possession limit of one fish 20 inches or greater in length, and 10 fish less than 20 inches in length; there is an annual limit of five king salmon 20 inches or greater in length and a harvest record is required as specified in 5 AAC 59.124; after taking a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, a person may not sport fish for any species of finfish in waters open to king salmon fishing on that same day;

(3) in the Chester Creek drainage, only unbaited, artificial lures may be used; rainbow/steelhead trout may not be possessed or retained; rainbow/steelhead trout that are caught must be released immediately;

Denby S. Lloyd,
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Chuck Brazil
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 1,525 fish, and Chester Creek was stocked with 325 rainbow trout. In 2007 and 2008, due to pathology concerns at Elmendorf Hatchery, neither of these streams was stocked with rainbow trout. Pathology concerns continue, and Campbell and Chester creeks will not be stocked in 2009. Campbell and Chester creeks are urban creeks with paved trail access along a good portion of their reaches, making them popular summer fisheries. Therefore, it is necessary 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/steelhead trout that reside in both streams. The catch-and-release of rainbow/steelhead trout is still allowed. During the youth only king salmon fishery (Campbell Creek between Dimond Boulevard and the Old Seward Highway between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. daily Saturday, June 27, and Sunday, June 28) bait and multiple hooks may be used.

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.