

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-4-34-10

Issued at: Kodiak, Friday,
July 9, 2010

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m., Monday, July 12, 2010

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m., Sunday, July
25, 2010, unless superseded by subsequent
emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes sport fishing for king salmon and prohibits the use of bait in all waters of the Sapsuk (also known as Nelson) River drainage effective 12:01 a.m., Monday, July 12, through 11:59 p.m., Sunday, July 25, 2010. This closure prohibits all sport fishing for king salmon, including catch-and-release fishing. King salmon may not be retained or possessed; king salmon accidentally caught while fishing for other species may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 65.020. Bag limits, possession limits, and size limits for Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Islands Area (e) are added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective from 12:01 a.m., Monday, July 12, 2010 through 11:59 p.m., Sunday, July 25, 2010.

5 AAC 65.020. Bag limits, possession limits, and size limits for Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Islands Area.

(e) In the Sapsuk (also known as Nelson) River drainage from July 12 through July 25, fishing for king salmon is closed. King salmon accidentally caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately. Only unbaited, artificial lures may be used.

Denby S. Lloyd,
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Donn Tracy,
Kodiak Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The biological escapement goal range (BEG) for Sapsuk (also known as Nelson) River king salmon is 2,400 to 4,400 fish. On average, approximately 1,800 king salmon have passed the weir by July 8. At this time, only 696 king salmon have passed the weir. Even assuming late run timing, the current weir

count indicates the escapement goal will not be achieved. In order to conserve escapement it is warranted to close the Sapsuk River drainage to fishing for king salmon. In addition, the use of bait is prohibited to minimize mortality of accidentally caught and released king salmon.

PREVIOUS EMERGENCY ORDERS AFFECTED:

None.

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.