

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-R-2-04-10

Issued at: Anchorage, April 23, 2010

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m., Wednesday, April 26, 2010

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m., Friday, December 31, 2010, unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes the Campbell Creek and Chester Creek drainages, including University Lake, to all fishing from April 26 through June 14 and prohibits the retention of rainbow/steelhead trout the remainder of the year. In the Chester Creek drainage, only unbaited artificial lures may be used.

This emergency order is effective from 12:01 a.m., Monday, April 26, 2010, through 11:59 p.m., Friday, December 31, 2010.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 59.122 (2)(A)(D) 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to the seasons, bag, possession and size limits, and methods and means for the Anchorage Bowl Drainages Area are superseded by this emergency order.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., Monday, April 26, 2010, through 11:59 p.m., Friday, December 31, 2010:

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,
 - (A) sport fishing is closed from April 26 through June 14;
 - (D) in the waters downstream of the forks near Piper Street, rainbow/steelhead trout may not be possessed or retained; rainbow/steelhead trout that are caught must be released immediately;

- (3) in the Chester Creek drainage,
 - (A) sport fishing is closed from April 26 through June 14;
 - (B) only unbaited, artificial lures may be used;
 - (C) 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:

Only triploid rainbow trout, which do not spawn, have been stocked into Chester and Campbell creeks since 1999. Therefore, all spawning rainbow trout in these drainages are wild fish. Since 2007, due to pathology concerns at Elmendorf Hatchery, both Campbell and Chester Creeks have not been stocked with rainbow trout. Campbell and Chester creeks are urban creeks with paved trail access along a good portion of their reaches, making them popular spring and summer fisheries. These small populations of wild rainbow trout are particularly vulnerable during spawning. Therefore, it is necessary to close both streams to all sport fishing during the spring spawning period and to prohibit the harvest of these fish the remainder of the year in order to conserve their availability for multiple users, provide diversity in the area's sport fisheries, and to protect these native populations of rainbow/steelhead trout.

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.