

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-R-2-08-10

Issued at: Anchorage, April 23, 2010

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

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unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes Symphony Lake to sport fishing until July 1 and reduces the daily bag and possession limit for Arctic grayling to 2 fish, of which only one may be 12 inches or greater in length. 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. 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 (17) are added 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

(17) in Symphony Lake

(A) open to sport fishing from 1 July through 31 December.

(B) the bag and possession limit for Arctic grayling is 2 fish, of which only one may be 12 inches or greater in length.

Denby S. Lloyd,
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Chuck Brazil
Assistant Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

Symphony Lake is a 35.6-acre alpine lake that was devoid of fish until it was stocked in 2001 with approximately 2,900 catchable (7 in) diploid grayling and stocked once more in 2003 with 4,200 fingerling diploid grayling. It has not been stocked since. Sampling in 2005 showed that the grayling were by this time naturally reproducing as evident by the collection of age classes that ranged from 1-4 years old. Bag and possession limits for grayling have been five fish, under the stocked lakes category, even though this lake is no longer stocked. Annual angler effort and catch rates are increasing at this picturesque lake and the most current catch, in 2008, was more than 3,000 grayling. There has also been an increase in complaints of illegal harvest and over limits. Therefore, it is necessary to close Symphony Lake to all sport fishing during the spawning period and to reduce the bag and possession limit for the remainder of the year in order to conserve this stock.

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.