

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-RS-1-45-12

Issued at: Soldotna, Friday July 20, 2012

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m., Saturday, July 21, 2012

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Monday,
December 31, 2012, unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order increases the bag and possession limit for salmon 16 inches or longer, other than king salmon and coho salmon, from three per day, three in possession, to six per day, 12 in possession, in the Kenai River from its mouth upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located at the outlet of Skilak Lake. No more than two salmon 16 inches or longer per day and in possession may be coho salmon. This emergency order is effective at 12:01 a.m., Saturday, July 21, 2012.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area (4)(A)(iii) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective beginning at 12:01 a.m., Saturday, July 21, 2012 through 11:59 p.m., Monday, December 31, 2012.

5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area.

(4) salmon, other than king salmon,

(A) 16 inches or greater in length, as follows:

(iii) except as provided in (iv) of this subparagraph in the Kenai River from its mouth upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located at the outlet of Skilak Lake, bag limit for sockeye, coho, and chum salmon in combination is six fish, of which no more than two may be coho salmon; possession limit for sockeye, coho, and chum salmon in combination is 12 fish, of which no more than two may be coho salmon; in addition, the bag and possession limit for pink salmon is six fish;

Cora Campbell,
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Robert N. Begich
Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan 5 AAC 21.360 (h)(2) stipulates that the department may, by emergency order, increase the bag and possession limit as appropriate when the department determines that the abundance of late-run Kenai River sockeye salmon exceeds 2,300,000 fish.

As of July 20, 2012, the department projects the Kenai River sockeye salmon run is greater than 2.3 million fish and anticipates the optimal escapement goal (700,000 – 1,400,000 sockeye salmon) will be achieved. Therefore, it is warranted to increase the bag and possession limit for salmon, other than king salmon, to six per day, twelve in possession, of which no more than two may be coho salmon.

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.