## ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

**NEWS RELEASE** 



Sam Cotten, Commissioner Jeff Regnart, Director



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## UPPER COOK INLET PERSONAL USE FISHING ANNOUNCEMENT No. 1 EMERGENCY ORDER NUMBER 2S-03-15

Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Fishing Announcement No. 1 reduces the hours the personal use set gillnet fishery at the mouth of the Kasilof River is open from 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. to 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. daily, from Monday, June 15, 2015 through Wednesday, June 24, 2015.

The department manages the Kasilof River early-run king salmon sport fishery to achieve a sustainable escapement goal (SEG) of 650–1,700 naturally-produced king salmon. Since 2009, low escapements have occurred despite restrictions to the Kasilof River early-run king salmon sport fishery. The department has determined that in-season restrictions to the early-run king salmon sport fishery in the Kasilof River during 2015 will provide the best chance to achieve the SEG for naturally-produced king salmon in Crooked Creek and to meet king salmon stocking goals that increased in 2014. Therefore, the Division of Sport Fisheries issued an emergency order on February 19, 2015 that prohibited the retention of naturally-produced king salmon in the Kasilof River from Sundays through Fridays, reduced the bag and possession limit of hatchery-produced king salmon 20 inches or greater in length to one fish, and prohibited the use of bait and multiple hooks beginning 12:01 a.m., Friday, May 1, 2015, through 11:59 p.m., Tuesday, June 30, 2015.

To reduce the harvest of Kasilof River king salmon in the personal use gillnet fishery at the mouth of the Kasilof River, the number of hours this fishery is open each day is being reduced from 17 hours per day to 12 hours per day, or from 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. daily.

The Kasilof River personal use dip net fishery will open by regulation at 12:01 a.m. on Thursday, June 25, 2015, and is open 24 hours per day.