

PERSONAL USE FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-RS-1-19-06

Issued at Soldotna: Friday, July 7, 2006

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m., Saturday, July 8, 2006

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m., Monday, July 31, 2006, unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order extends the area that salmon may be harvested in the personal use salmon dipnet fishery on the Kasilof River. Effective at 12:01 a.m., Saturday, July 8, sockeye salmon may be harvested by dipnetting from the shoreline, 24 hours per day, from ADF&G markers located on the Cook Inlet beaches outside the terminus of the river extending upstream to the Sterling Highway bridge. Additionally, sockeye salmon may be harvested by dipnetting, 24 hours per day, from a boat from ADF&G markers located on the Cook Inlet beaches outside the terminus of the river extending upstream to ADF&G markers placed at river mile 3.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 77.540 UPPER COOK INLET PERSONAL USE SALMON FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN (c)(2)(C), are superceded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order the following provisions are effective beginning 12:01 a.m., Saturday, July 8, 2006, through 11:59 p.m., Monday, July 31, 2006:

5 AAC 77.540 UPPER COOK INLET PERSONAL USE SALMON FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN.

(c) Salmon may be taken by dip net in the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers as follows:

(2) in the Kasilof River, as follows:

(C) from the shoreline, between ADF&G markers located on the Cook Inlet beaches outside the terminus of the river upstream to the Sterling Highway bridge; and from a boat, between ADF&G markers located on the Cook Inlet beaches outside the terminus of the river upstream to ADF&G markers located at river mile 3.

McKie Campbell,
Commissioner

By delegation to:

George Pappas
Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The escapement of sockeye salmon into the Kasilof River is currently projected to exceed the biological escapement goal range of 150,000 – 250,000 fish. As of midnight, July 5, a total of 96,954 sockeye salmon passed the Kasilof River sonar station. The timing and strength of the 2006 Kasilof River sockeye salmon return is likely late and is forecasted to be strong. As of July 5, the Kasilof River sockeye salmon run on average is 35% complete. The escapement rate of sockeye salmon into the Kasilof River is proceeding at a rate greater than needed to assure meeting the escapement goal. Therefore, it is warranted to increase the fishing area in the Kasilof River personal use salmon fishery. This liberalization is part of a formal management strategy that also includes increased commercial fishing times and areas. The management strategy also allows for commercial boats to fish in the Kasilof Terminal Harvest Area.

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, and (907) 267-2218.