

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-RS-1- 39-06

Issued at Soldotna, August 7, 2006

Effective 6:00 p.m., Monday, August 7, 2006
Date:

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2006, unless superseded by subsequent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

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order rescinds Emergency Order 2-RS-1-38-06 issued on August 3, 2006. This emergency order increases the bag limit for salmon 16" or longer, other than king salmon, from three (3) per day and three in possession to six (6) per day and six in possession in all portions of the Kenai River open to salmon fishing, except in the Russian River and the Kenai River "fly-fishing-only waters" at the confluence of the Russian River, including that portion of the Kenai River from ADF&G regulatory markers located approximately 300 yards upstream of the public boat launch at Sportsman's Landing downstream to the power line. No more than two salmon 16" or longer per day and in possession may be coho salmon. This emergency order is effective at 6:00 p.m., Monday, August 7, 2006.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 56.023(a)(3)(A)(iii) are superceded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order the following provisions are effective beginning 6:00 p.m. Monday, August 7, 2006:

5 AAC 56.023 SEASONS; BAG, POSSESSION, AND SIZE LIMITS; AND SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR THE KENAI RIVER DRAINAGE.

(a)(3) salmon, other than king salmon,

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

(iii) bag and possession limit for sockeye, coho, and chum salmon in combination is six fish, of which no more than two may be coho salmon; in addition, the bag and possession limit for pink salmon is six fish;

McKie Campbell,
Commissioner

By delegation to:

George Pappas,
Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The Kenai River Late Run Sockeye Management Plan 5 ACC 21.360 (h)(2) stipulates that the department may, by emergency order, increase the bag and possession limit to six sockeye salmon when the department determines that the abundance of late-run sockeye exceeds two million salmon.

As of August 7, 2006, ADF&G inseason assessments indicate the Kenai River sockeye salmon run will exceed 2,000,000 fish. The Kenai River sockeye salmon late run is later and stronger than previously estimated.

Therefore, it is warranted to increase the bag and possession limit for salmon, other than kings, to six per day and in possession, no more than two of which may be coho salmon, in all portions of the Kenai River open to salmon fishing, except in the Russian River and Upper Kenai River “fly-fishing-only waters,” which include that portion of the Kenai River from ADF&G regulatory markers located approximately 300 yards upstream of the public boat launch at Sportsman’s Landing downstream to the power line.

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.