

# SPORT FISHING

## *Emergency Order*

ALASKA DEPARTMENT  
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-R-2-01-12

Issued at: Anchorage, Thursday,  
January 19, 2012

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

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m., Monday, October 1,  
2012, unless superseded by subsequent emergency  
order.

### EXPLANATION:

This emergency order increases the daily bag and possession limit for rainbow trout in Otter Lake on Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson in Anchorage to 10 fish with no size limit, and increases the number of lines allowed through the ice from two to five. This emergency order is effective from 12:01 a.m., Saturday, January 21, 2012, through 11:59 p.m., Monday, October 1, 2012.

### REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 59.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Anchorage Bowl Drainages Area (3)(A) and (7)(B) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective from 12:01 a.m., Saturday, January 21, 2012, through 11:59 p.m., Monday, October 1, 2012:

### **5 AAC 59.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Anchorage Bowl drainages area.**

- (3) rainbow/steelhead trout may be taken from January 1 - December 31 in
  - (A)(i) in Otter Lake January 14- October 1; bag and possession limit of 10 fish, no size limit; when fishing through the ice the use of five lines is allowed with two hooks per line, if both hooks are attached to the same single piece of bait.
  
- (7) northern pike may be taken from January 1 - December 31; no bag, possession, or size limits; northern pike may be taken in all lakes
  - (C) in Otter Lake January 14- October 1 ; when fishing through the ice the use of five lines is allowed with two hooks per line, if both hooks are attached to the same single piece of bait.

Cora Campbell,  
Commissioner

By delegation to:

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Dan Bosch  
Area Management Biologist

**JUSTIFICATION:**

Once stocked annually with about 10,000 rainbow trout, Otter Lake was a popular fishing location for military personnel and civilians, and has recreational cabins along its shores used by military staff. The lake has not been stocked since 2006 due to the presence of illegally introduced northern pike. Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson staff and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game are currently in the planning and permitting process to treat Otter Lake with rotenone to eradicate northern pike in the fall of 2012.

Northern pike have depleted salmon and trout in popular local fisheries on the Kenai Peninsula, the Mat-Su Valleys, and in Anchorage. As long as invasive northern pike are in Otter Lake, there is increased potential for them to be introduced to nearby waters, including nearby Sixmile Lake. Northern pike and rainbow trout have similar sensitivities to rotenone and this application will remove them from Otter Lake. Therefore, it is warranted to liberalize the bag, possession, and capture methods in Otter Lake to maximize recreational fishing opportunities on the fisheries resources prior to restoration. Once pike have been removed, Otter Lake is scheduled to be stocked in 2013 with 4,500 catchable-size rainbow trout.

JBER requires individuals visiting Otter Lake to either possess a Department of Defense (DoD) identification card or to be sponsored by a DoD card holder. Those anglers not possessing a current DoD identification card who wish to take advantage of this fishing opportunity should make arrangements for sponsorship with neighbors or friends who do have appropriate DoD identification cards.

**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.