

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-RS-5-33-14

Issued at: Dillingham, Thursday, July 3, 2014

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m., Friday, July 4, 2014

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m., Wednesday, December 31, 2014, unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order increases the bag and possession limit for sockeye salmon from five per day, five in possession to ten per day, ten in possession in all waters of the Wood River drainage beginning 12:01 a.m., Friday, July 4, 2014. The limit for other salmon, except king and sockeye salmon, remains at five per day, five in possession. These limits are in combination with the more liberal limit for sockeye salmon.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 67.022. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means in the Bristol Bay Area. (h) (5) are added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective beginning 12:01 a.m., Friday, July 4, 2014, through 11:59 p.m., Wednesday, December 31, 2014:

5AAC 67.022. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means in the Bristol Bay Area.

(h) In the Wood River drainage, the following special provisions apply:

(5) the bag and possession limit for sockeye salmon is ten per day, ten in possession; the bag and possession limit for other salmon, other than king salmon, is five per day, five in possession; the limit for other salmon is in combination with the limit for sockeye salmon;

Cora Campbell,
Commissioner

By delegation to: _____

Jason E. Dye
Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The escapement of sockeye salmon on the Wood River has exceeded the upper end of the sustainable escapement goal of 1,500,000. Through July 2 over 1.9 million sockeye salmon have been counted at the Wood River tower. As provided by 5 AAC 75.003 EMERGENCY ORDER AUTHORITY (2) (A), the Department has emergency order authority to increase sport fish bag and possession limits when the total escapement is projected to exceed the escapement goal and the total harvest under the increased bag and possession limit will not reduce the escapement below the goal range. Therefore, it is warranted to increase the bag and possession limit for sockeye salmon in the Wood River sport fishery and thereby provide opportunity to harvest fish surplus to the escapement goal.

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 and the Bristol Bay Area Office of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, P.O. Box 230, Dillingham, AK 99576, (907) 842-2427.