

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 3-KS-08-16

Issued at: Fairbanks, Wednesday, June 29, 2016

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Saturday, July 2, 2016

Expiration Date: August 10, 2016, unless
superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order prohibits the use of bait while sport fishing in all tributaries of the Tanana River drainage.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 74.010. Seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Tanana River Area, (d)(2), (5)(B), (15), (16)(B) and (18) are superseded, and (d)(23) is added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective beginning 12:01 a.m. Saturday, July 2, 2016:

5 AAC 74.010. Seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Tanana River Area.

(d) In the Tanana River Management Area, the following special provisions to methods and means apply:

(2) in the Chatanika River and its tributaries, only unbaited, artificial lures may be used;

(5) in the Chena River and its tributaries, including Chena Slough (Badger Slough),
(B) bait may not be used;

(15) in the Salcha River and its tributaries only unbaited, artificial lures may be used;

(16) in Shaw Creek,
(B) bait may not be used;

(18) in the Tanana River and its tributaries within a two-mile radius of Shaw Creek, bait may not be used;

(23) in all flowing waters of Tanana River tributaries, bait may not be used.

Sam Cotten
Commissioner

by delegation to:


Klaus Wuttig
Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

As of June 27, 134,000 fish were counted at Pilot Station, which is below the average of 174,000 for this date for years with early run timing. The magnitude of the 2016 run should be sufficient to ensure escapements goals are met in the Tanana River drainage due in part to conservative management practices implemented in the Yukon and Tanana river commercial and subsistence fisheries as specified in the *Yukon River King Salmon Management Plan* (5 AAC 05.360).

Conservative management within the sport fishery is also warranted to ensure adequate escapement. Prohibiting the use of bait is expected to reduce king salmon catch rates by approximately 50% in the Tanana River drainage and is consistent with the provisions set forth in the *Chena and Salcha River King Salmon Sport Harvest Management Plan* (5 AAC 74.060).

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region III Office of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, 1300 College Road, Fairbanks, AK 99701, (907) 459-7357.