

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-2-26-17

Issued at: Anchorage, Tuesday, July 11, 2017

Effective Date: 6:00 a.m. Wednesday, July 12, 2017

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Monday, July 31, 2017,
unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order extends the season and increases the bag and possession limit for king salmon in Ship Creek. The sport fishing season for king salmon will be extended through 11:59 p.m. Monday, July 31, 2017, and the bag limit will increase from one fish per day to two fish per day.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 59.122 (14)(A), (C), and (E) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective from 6:00 a.m. Wednesday, July 12 through 11:59 p.m. Monday, July 31, 2017:

5 AAC 59.122. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods, and means for the Anchorage Bowl Drainages Area

(14) in the Ship Creek drainage,

(A) the waters from its mouth upstream to a cable 100 feet downstream of the Chugach Power Plant dam are open to sport fishing for all finfish species, except that sport fishing for king salmon is open only from January 1 – July 31;

(C) the bag and possession limit for king salmon 20 inches or greater in length is two fish; except as provided in (b) of this section, there is an annual harvest limit of five king salmon 20 inches or greater in length and a harvest record is required as specified in 5 AAC 75.006; a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes a part of the bag limit of the person that originally hooked the fish; a person may not remove a king salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

(E) after taking and retaining two king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, a person may not sport fish for any species of salmon that same day in waters open to king salmon fishing;

Sam Cotten,
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Jay Baumer
Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The William Jack Hernandez Sport Fish Hatchery has achieved its king salmon brood goal. As of July 9, 2017, 489 female king salmon are holding in the raceway for collecting brood stock. A foot survey was conducted in Ship Creek on July 6 and an additional 495 king salmon were estimated to be in the closed waters upstream of the designated harvest area. Therefore, it is anticipated that the king salmon egg collection goal will be met and additional sport fishing opportunity is warranted.

The annual harvest limit (five king salmon) which applies to the Anchorage Bowl Drainages and other areas of the Cook Inlet region open to sport fishing for king salmon remains in effect. The bag and possession limit for king salmon less than 20 inches remains at ten per day, ten in possession. As per normal regulation, the nighttime sport fishing closure on Ship Creek from 11:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m. expires at 12:01 a.m. Friday, July 14.

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.