

# SPORT FISHING

## *Emergency Order*

ALASKA DEPARTMENT  
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-DV-1-02-17

Issued at: Soldotna, Wednesday, December  
28, 2016

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Sunday, January 1, 2017

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December 31, 2017, unless superseded by  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

### EXPLANATION:

This emergency order prohibits the retention of Arctic char/Dolly Varden in Stormy Lake. Sport fishing through the ice is permitted using two closely attended lines, provided only one hook or artificial lure is used on each line.

### REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 56.122. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area. (15) are added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective beginning at 12:01 a.m. Sunday, January 1 through 11:59 p.m. Sunday, December 31, 2017:

### **5 AAC 56.122. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area.**

(15) in Stormy Lake, Arctic char/Dolly Varden may not be retained or possessed; Arctic char/Dolly Varden caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed; allowable gear is limited to standard ice fishing gear as specified in 5 AAC 75.021.

Sam Cotten,  
Commissioner

By delegation to:

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Brian Marston  
Area Management Biologist

### JUSTIFICATION:

Stormy Lake was successfully treated with rotenone to eradicate nonnative northern pike in September 2012. Prior to the treatment, eggs were taken from native Arctic char and reared in the William Jack Hernandez Hatchery. The resulting fingerling Arctic char were stocked into Stormy Lake during summer 2013. Post-treatment surveys of Stormy Lake to determine if the native Arctic char restoration project was successful are encouraging. Arctic char restored to Stormy Lake are now age 4. As shown by weekly sampling events through the fall of 2016, the Arctic char have not reached maturity and have yet to undergo a spawning event. Arctic char are a species with slow growth rates and low population densities and it is unknown how long it will take for these fish to become sexually mature. To allow for the restoration of native fish in Stormy Lake, it is prudent to apply conservative regulations on this stock until they are able to propagate.

### 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.