PERSONAL USE FISHING Emergency Order **ALASKA DEPARTMENT**

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 3-RS-I-11-17

Issued at: Glennallen, Tuesday, August 8, 2017

OF FISH & GAME

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Monday, August 14, 2017

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. August 31, 2017, unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order amends the schedule for the personal use dip net salmon fishery in the Chitina Subdistrict of the Upper Copper River for the period of August 14 through August 31, 2017.

REGULATION:

Consistent with the COPPER RIVER PERSONAL USE DIP NET SALMON FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN, 5 AAC 77.591, the personal use dip net salmon fishery in the Chitina Subdistrict of the Upper Copper River District will be open from 12:00 p.m. Tuesday, August 15 through 11:59 p.m. Thursday, August 31.

by delegation to:

Mark A. Somerville

Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The Copper River personal use fishery is managed under direction outlined in the Copper River Personal Use Dip Net Salmon Fishery Management Plan (5 AAC 77.591). The plan establishes the season from June 7 through September 30, and directs the department to establish weekly periods based on Miles Lake sonar counts. During July 24 – July 28, there were 16,716 salmon counted past the Miles Lake sonar. The preseason projection for this period was 32,526 salmon, which results in a deficit of 15,810 salmon. Copper River sockeye salmon migratory timing and the previous five-year average harvest and participation rates indicate sufficient numbers of salmon available to allow 396 hours of fishing time during the period of August 14 – August 31, a decrease of 36 hours from the preseason schedule. The fishery is open continuously by regulation from September 1 - 30.

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 and the Glennallen Area Office of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, PO Box 47, Glennallen, AK 99588, (907) 822-3309.

Sam Cotten Commissioner