

# SPORT FISHING

## *Emergency Order*

ALASKA DEPARTMENT  
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-7-36-18

Issued at: Homer, Friday, July 13, 2018

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Monday, July 16, 2018

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Tuesday, July 31, 2018,  
unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

### **EXPLANATION:**

This emergency order maintains the conservation zones for king salmon surrounding the Anchor River, Stariski Creek, Deep Creek, and the Ninilchik River through July 31, 2018. King salmon incidentally caught while fishing for other fish may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.

### **REGULATION:**

The provisions of 5 AAC 58.055. *Upper Cook Inlet Summer Salt Water King Salmon Management Plan* (d) are superseded by this emergency order effective beginning 12:01 a.m. Monday, July 16 through 11:59 p.m. Tuesday, July 31, 2018:

#### **5 AAC 58.055. Upper Cook Inlet Summer Salt Water King Salmon Management Plan.**

(d) The following waters, within one mile of shore, are closed to sport fishing for king salmon from July 16 through July 31.

Sam Cotten,  
Commissioner

By delegation to:

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Carol Kerkvliet  
Fisheries Biologist III

### **JUSTIFICATION:**

The Anchor River sustainable escapement goal (SEG) for king salmon is 3,800-7,600 king salmon. ADF&G is projecting the lowest run on record and will fall below the SEG by approximately 1,800 fish. King salmon are holding in the lower two miles of the Anchor River and Deep Creek. A beach seine surveys conducted within the lower two miles of the Anchor River on July 12, 2018, captured 36 king salmon and a Deep Creek survey on July 10 capture 94 king salmon.

The sustainable escapement goal for the Ninilchik River is 750-1,300 wild king salmon and the egg take goal is 140 king salmon pairs. Those years the entire escapement was monitored (1999-2005, 2016, and 2017) 520-1,245 wild king salmon had been counted through the weir by July 10. In 2018, through July 10, 2018, only 291 wild king salmon have been counted and it is unlikely the escapement will reach the SEG. Currently, the number of hatchery-reared king salmon being held for brood stock is insufficient for achieving the egg take goal. Maintaining the conservation zones surrounding the stream mouths for king salmon will increase protection for Lower Cook Inlet king salmon in this mixed stock fishery.

**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.