

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-RS-5-32-18

Issued at: Dillingham, Tuesday, July 10, 2018

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Thursday, July 12, 2018

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December 31, 2018, unless superseded by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

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order reduces the bag and possession limit sockeye salmon from five fish to two fish in all waters of the Kvichak River drainage upstream of its confluence with the Alagnak River (Branch River.)

In addition, this emergency order closes sport fishing for sockeye salmon in four areas of the Kvichak River drainage to eliminate the potential for conflict between sport and subsistence fisheries.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 67.022. (e)(1) are superseded and (e)(14) are added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective beginning 12:01 a.m. Thursday, July 12 through 11:59 p.m. Monday, December 31, 2018:

5AAC 67.022. Special provisions for the seasons; bag; possession, and size limits, and methods and means in the Bristol Bay area.

(e) In the Kvichak River drainage, excluding the Alagnak River drainage, the following special provisions apply:

(1) the bag and possession limit for salmon, other than king salmon, is five fish, with no size limit, of which only two fish may be coho salmon and only two fish may be sockeye salmon.

(14) in the Kvichak River drainage the following waters are closed to sport fishing for sockeye salmon:

(A) Alexi Creek and all waters within 150 yards of its confluence with the Newhalen River;

(B) the waters of Sixmile Lake and one-quarter mile downstream of Sixmile Lake in the Newhalen River and the lower one-quarter mile of the Tazimina River;

(C) all waters within one-half-mile of the confluence of the Gibraltar River with Lake Iliamna

(D) all waters of the Kvichak River between ADF&G regulatory markers posted adjacent to the community of Igiugig.

Sam Cotten,
Commissioner

By delegation to: _____
Jason Dye
Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

These restrictions are made in accordance with 5 AAC 67.025. *Kvichak River Drainage Sockeye Salmon Management Plan* as adopted by the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

The escapement of sockeye salmon into the Kvichak River is not projected to exceed 2.0 million fish this season. As of 6:00 a.m. July 10, 2018, only 762,042 sockeye salmon have passed the counting tower at Igiugig. In addition, only 300,000 sockeye salmon are estimated in the Kvichak River downstream of the counting tower. To be in compliance with the *Kvichak River Drainage Sockeye Salmon Management Plan*, a bag limit reduction in the sport fishery is required if the escapement is projected to be fewer than 2.0 million fish. The four areas closed to sport fishing for sockeye salmon were established within the plan to eliminate the potential for conflict between sport and subsistence fisheries.

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 and the Bristol Bay Area Office of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, P.O. Box 230, Dillingham, AK 99576, (907) 842-2427.