

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-RS-8-19-18

Issued at: Anchorage, Thursday, June 14, 2018

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Saturday, June 16, 2018

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unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order increases the Resurrection Bay drainages bag and possession limit for sockeye salmon in the fresh waters downstream from the Seward Highway and downstream from Nash Road to the saltwater markers from three to six fish.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 56.122 (9)(D) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective from 12:01 a.m. Saturday, June 16 through 11:59 p.m. Tuesday, July 31, 2018:

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

(9)(D) notwithstanding (B) of this paragraph, the waters downstream from the Seward Highway and downstream from Nash Road are open to sport fishing for salmon, except king salmon, from June 16-December 31; only single-hook, artificial lures may be used; the bag and possession limit is six salmon per day, of which only two may be coho salmon;

Sam Cotten,
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Jay Baumer
Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

Bear Lake sockeye salmon has a sustainable escapement goal (SEG) of 700-8,300 fish and is managed for escapement of 5,152-12,752 sockeye salmon, which meets both the SEG and hatchery broodstock requirements. As of June 12, 2018, more than 10,100 sockeye salmon have passed the Bear Creek Weir, with large numbers of sockeye salmon still entering the river. The upper end of the SEG is expected to be exceeded and broodstock requirements will be met. To provide additional sport fishing opportunity to harvest sockeye salmon surplus to the escapement goal, as authorized in 5 AAC 75.003 (2)(A), increasing the bag and possession limit is warranted.

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.