

# SPORT FISHING

## *Emergency Order*

ALASKA DEPARTMENT  
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-1-20-18

Issued at: Soldotna, Monday, June 18, 2018

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, June 20, 2018

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unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

### EXPLANATION:

This emergency order prohibits sport fishing for king salmon of all sizes in the Kenai River from the mouth upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 300 yards downstream from the mouth of Slikok Creek through June 30, 2018. Sport fishing for king salmon of all sizes in the Kenai River is also prohibited from an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 300 yards downstream from the mouth of Slikok Creek, upstream to the outlet of Skilak Lake through July 31, 2018.

### REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area. (a)(2)(A)(i) and (3)(A) are superseded, and (3)(B) is added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective beginning 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, June 20 through 11:59 p.m. Friday, Tuesday, July 31, 2018

### **5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area.**

(a)(2) king salmon 20 inches or greater in length as follows:

(A) may be taken only from January 1 - July 31, in the Kenai River from its mouth upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located at the outlet of Skilak Lake, with a bag and possession limit of one fish, as follows:

(i) from January 1 - June 30, from its mouth upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located at the outlet of Skilak Lake, sport fishing for king salmon is prohibited; from July 1 - July 31, from an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 300 yards downstream from the mouth of the Slikok Creek upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located at the outlet of Skilak Lake, sport fishing for king salmon is prohibited;

(a)(3) king salmon less than 20 inches in length as follows:

(A) from May 1 – June 30, in unstocked lakes and ponds and in the Kenai River from its mouth upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker at the outlet of Skilak Lake, sport fishing for king salmon is prohibited; from July 1 – July 31, in unstocked lakes and ponds and that portion of the Kenai River from an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 300 yards downstream from the mouth of Slikok Creek, upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker at the outlet of Skilak Lake sport fishing for king salmon is prohibited;

(B) from July 1 – July 31, may be taken in flowing waters and unstocked lakes and ponds and in the Kenai River from its mouth upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 300 yards downstream from the mouth of Slikok Creek, bag and possession limit of ten fish;

Sam Cotten,  
Commissioner

By delegation to:

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Matt G Miller  
Fisheries Biologist IV

JUSTIFICATION:

Consistent with 5 AAC 57.160. *Kenai River and Kasilof River Early-Run King Salmon Management Plan*, From January 1-June 30, from its mouth upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 300 yards downstream from the mouth of the Slikok Creek, if the inseason inriver run projection is below the lower end of the optimal escapement goal, the commissioner shall close, by emergency order, the sport fishery to the taking of king salmon. In addition, from January 1-July 31, from an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 300 yards downstream from the mouth of the Slikok Creek upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located at the outlet of Skilak Lake, if the inseason inriver run projection is below the lower end of the optimal escapement goal, the commissioner shall close, by emergency order, the sport fishery to the taking of king salmon.

The optimal escapement goal (OEG) for early-run Kenai River king salmon is 3,900 to 6,600 king salmon 75 cm mid eye to tail fork length and longer. Through June 16, an estimated 2,116 large king salmon have passed the RM 13.7 king salmon sonar. The inseason inriver run projection is 3,609 large king salmon based upon a run timing of three days late. Therefore, as directed by the management plan, it is warranted to close sport fishing for king salmon.

PREVIOUS EMERGENCY ORDERS AFFECTED:

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-1-13-18 which prohibited the retention of king salmon of all sizes in the Kenai River from the mouth upstream to the outlet of Skilak Lake. Retention of king salmon will remain prohibited July 1 through July 15, 2018, in waters of the Kenai River drainage from an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 300 yards downstream from the mouth of Slikok Creek, upstream to the outlet of Skilak Lake is superseded by this emergency order.

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.