

# SPORT FISHING

## *Emergency Order*

ALASKA DEPARTMENT  
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-RS-5-31-19

Issued at: Dillingham, Wednesday, July 3, 2019

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Friday, July 5, 2019      Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Tuesday,  
December 31, 2019, unless superseded by  
subsequent emergency order.

### **EXPLANATION:**

This emergency order increases the bag and possession limit for sockeye salmon from five to ten fish in all waters of the Nushagak-Mulchatna River drainage, excluding the Wood River drainage. The bag and possession limit for other salmon, except king and sockeye salmon, remains at 5 fish. These limits are in combination with the more liberal limit for sockeye salmon.

### **REGULATION:**

The provisions of 5 AAC 67.022. (g) (7) is added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Friday, July 5, through 11:59 p.m. Tuesday, December 31, 2019:

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

(g) In the Nushagak River drainage, excluding the Wood River drainage, and unless otherwise specified in 5 AAC 06.361 or 5 AAC 06.368, the following special provisions apply:

(7) the bag and possession limit for sockeye salmon is ten fish; the bag and possession limit for other salmon, other than king salmon, is five fish;

Douglas Vincent-Lang,  
Commissioner

By delegation to: \_\_\_\_\_

Lee K. Borden  
Assistant Area Management Biologist

### **JUSTIFICATION:**

The escapement of sockeye salmon in the Nushagak River is projected to exceed the upper end of the sustainable escapement goal of 370,000 - 900,000 fish. Through July 2, 2019, approximately 405,083 sockeye salmon have been counted at the Portage Creek sonar. As provided by 5 AAC 75.003 Emergency order authority (2)(A), the department has emergency order authority to increase sport fish bag and possession limits when the total escapement is projected to exceed the escapement goal and the total harvest under the increased bag and possession limit will not reduce the escapement below the goal range. Therefore, it is warranted to increase the bag and possession limit for sockeye salmon in the Nushagak-Mulchatna River sport 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 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.