

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-4-24-19

Issued at: Kodiak, Monday, June 24, 2019

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, June 26, 2019

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Thursday,
July 25, 2019, unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order supersedes emergency order 2-KS-4-07-19 issued February 4, 2019. This emergency order closes sport fishing for king salmon in the Ayakulik River drainage. King salmon caught incidentally while fishing for other species must not be removed from the water and must be released immediately. In addition, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used in the Ayakulik River drainage.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 64.022 (b)(10) are superseded and 5 AAC 64.030 (e) are added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective from 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, June 26 through 11:59 p.m. Thursday, July 25, 2019.

5 AAC 64.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, annual, and size limits; and special provisions for the Kodiak Area.

(b)(10) in the Ayakulik River drainage, sportfishing for king salmon is closed; all king salmon caught must be released immediately and return to the water unharmed; a person may not remove a king salmon from the water before releasing the fish.

5 AAC 64.030. Methods, means, and general provisions – Finfish.

(e) Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used in the Ayakulik River.

Doug Vincent-Lang
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Tyler Polum
Kodiak Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

As of June 23, 2019, the weir count for Ayakulik River king salmon is only 1,198, which is well below average. The biological escapement goal (BEG) for Ayakulik River king salmon is 4,800 to 8,400 fish and the run is historically past the mid-point. Based on current weir counts and historical run timing, the king salmon run is not projected to meet escapement objectives.

Additionally, in order to reduce mortality, the use of bait is prohibited, and lures are limited to one single-hook, artificial lure within the Ayakulik River drainage.

PREVIOUS EMERGENCY ORDERS AFFECTED:

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-4-07-19, which restricted king salmon fishing in the Ayakulik River drainage to catch-and-release only, is superseded by this emergency order.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; Alaska Department of Fish and Game Kodiak Area Office; and the Alaska Department of Public Safety Fish and Wildlife Protection Kodiak Office.