

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-RS-1-28-20

Issued at: Soldotna, Thursday, July 2, 2020

Effective Date: 11:00 p.m. Friday, July 3, 2020

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Tuesday,
July 14, 2020, unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order rescinds Emergency Order No. 2-RS-1-9-20 issued in Soldotna on Monday, June 8, 2020, and closes the Russian River Sanctuary Area to sport fishing for sockeye salmon.

REGULATION:

Emergency Order No. 2-RS-19-20 is rescinded.

Doug Vincent-Lang,
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Colton Lipka
Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

Through Wednesday, July 1, 2020, 14,906 sockeye salmon have passed the Russian River weir, located upstream of the Russian River Falls. Department staff conducted stream foot surveys on July 1 and estimated approximately 2,500 fish are in the Russian River upstream of the powerline. ADF&G estimates that the escapement will not achieve the early-run Russian River sockeye salmon biological escapement goal (BEG) of 22,000 – 42,000 sockeye salmon under current regulations. Additionally, below average water levels are likely hindering sockeye salmon migration into the Russian River and increasing the amount of time sockeye salmon are spending in the sport fishery. Low water levels are also likely increasing angler efficiency. Based on this information, it is necessary to restrict the sport fishery to reduce harvest of sockeye salmon and to achieve the escapement goal.

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.