SPORT FISHING *Emergency Order*

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH & GAME

Emergency Order No. 3-CS-Y-1-2020

Effective 12:01 a.m. Saturday, August 1, 2020 Date:

Issued at: Fairbanks, Thursday, July 30, 2020

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Thursday, December 31, 2020, unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes all waters of the Yukon River drainage (excluding the Tanana River drainage) to sport fishing for chum salmon.

All chum salmon caught incidentally in the Yukon River drainage (excluding the Tanana River drainage) while fishing for other species may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 73.010. (b)(2) are superseded by this emergency order. These provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Saturday, August 1 through 11:59 p.m. Thursday, December 31, 2020:

5 AAC 73.010. Seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Yukon River Area.

(b)(2) salmon, other than king and chum salmon: the bag and possession limit is 10 fish, with no size limit; sport fishing for chum salmon is closed;

Douglas Vincent-Lang Commissioner

DocuSigned by: Lisa Stul -42EA54D53E9B465.

by delegation to:

Lisa Stuby Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The current 2020 fall chum salmon projection is for a run size of less than 450,000 fish. Estimated passage of fall chum salmon through the Pilot Station sonar for July 29, 2020 was 69,935 fish, which is well below the historical median of 166,000 for this date. The *Yukon River Drainage Fall Chum Salmon Management Plan* (5 AAC 01.249) directs the department to close the commercial, personal use, and sport fisheries when the projected run size is between 300,000 and 500,000 chum salmon. If inseason stock assessment information indicates that the actual run will be above 500,000 chum salmon, sport fishing restrictions may be relaxed commensurate with run strength.

<u>DISTRIBUTION:</u> The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region III Office of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, 1300 College Road, Fairbanks, AK 99701, (907) 459-7207.