

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-7-09-21

Issued at: Homer, Friday, February 1, 2021

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Saturday, May 22, 2021

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Wednesday,
June 23, 2021, unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order restricts gear to only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure in the Anchor River from May 22 through June 23, 2021, and Deep Creek from May 29 through June 14, 2021.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 56.122. (a)(2)(A) and (a)(5)(A) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Saturday, May 22 through 11:59 p.m. Wednesday, June 23, 2021:

5 AAC 56.122. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area.

(a)(2) Anchor River drainage, except the Bridge Creek Reservoir:

(A) in flowing waters, from May 22 - June 23, July 1 - July 15 and from September 1 - October 31, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(a)(5) Deep Creek drainage:

(A) in flowing waters, from May 29 - June 14, July 1 - July 15 and from September 1 - October 31, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

Doug Vincent-Lang,
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Mike Booz
Lower Cook Inlet Sport Fish Area Manager

JUSTIFICATION:

Anchor River and Deep Creek king salmon stocks have experienced variable run sizes over the last three years. The sustainable escapement goal (SEG) for Anchor River king salmon is 3,800 - 7,600 fish. The lower bound of the Deep Creek SEG is 350 king salmon based on an aerial survey. In 2018 and 2020, the SEG was not achieved for Anchor River or Deep Creek king salmon, despite closing the fisheries early in the season. In 2019, the SEG was met for both stocks with preseason emergency order restrictions. With the uncertainty of the 2021 run strength for these stocks, it is justified to begin the 2021 season conservatively.

Increased harvest opportunity may be allowed by subsequent emergency order if inseason assessment indicates the runs are stronger than anticipated and are sufficiently strong enough to achieve goals.

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.