

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-RS-4-19-21

Issued at: Kodiak, Friday, June 11, 2021

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Tuesday, June 15, 2021

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Friday, December 31, 2021, unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes the Buskin River drainage to sport fishing for sockeye salmon.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 64.022(b)(13) are added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective from 12:01 a.m. Tuesday, June 15 through 11:59 p.m. Friday, December 31, 2021:

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

(b)(13) the Buskin River drainage is closed to sport fishing for sockeye salmon, all sockeye salmon caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately;

Doug Vincent-Lang,
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Tyler Polum,
Kodiak Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The biological escapement goal (BEG) for sockeye salmon in the Buskin River drainage is 5,000 to 8,000 fish. Through June 10, 2021, the weir count was just 114 sockeye salmon, which is nearly the lowest count on record for Buskin River sockeye salmon through this date. Based on historical run timing about 27% of the run has occurred and the run is projected to fall below the escapement goal. Therefore, it is warranted to close the sockeye salmon sport fishery in an effort 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.