SPORT FISHING Emergency Order

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

ALASKA DEPARTMENT **OF FISH & GAME**

Emergency Order No. 3-NP-U-01-21 Issued at: Fairbanks, Wednesday,

May 12, 2021

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Tuesday, June 1, 2021 **Expiration Date:** 11:59 p.m. Thursday,

October 14, 2021

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order reduces the bag and possession limit for northern pike in all lakes and flowing waters of the Minto Flats area to two fish, only one of which may be 30 inches or greater in length.

REGULATION:

Consistent with 5 AAC 74.044. Minto Flats Northern Pike Management Plan, the provisions of 5 AAC 74.010(c)(2)(D) and (c)(27) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Tuesday, June 1 through 11:59 p.m. Thursday, October 14, 2021:

5 AAC 74.010. Seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means in the Tanana River Area.

- (c)(2) in the Chatanika River and its tributaries,
 - (D) northern pike may be taken only from June 1 through October 14, with a bag and possession limit of two fish, of which only one fish may be 30 inches or greater in length;
- (c)(27) in the Tolovana River drainage, northern pike may be taken only from June 1 through October 14, with a bag and possession limit of two fish, of which only one fish may be 30 inches or greater in length;

Douglas Vincent-Lang Commissioner

By delegation to:

Regional Management Coordinator

JUSTIFICATION:

The *Minto Flats Northern Pike Management Plan* (MFNPMP) requires the sport fish bag and possession limit to be reduced to two fish, only one fish 30 inches or greater, in the lakes and all flowing waters of the Minto Flats area (lower Chatanika River and its tributaries and lower Tolovana River drainage) if subsistence harvest reports indicate 750 or more northern pike are harvested from the Chatanika River drainage upstream of the confluence of the Chatanika and Goldstream Creek from January 1 until these waters are ice free.

From January 1 – April 15, 2021, the reported Minto Flats northern pike subsistence harvest was over 1,400 northern pike exceeding the 750 northern pike sport fish management action level prescribed by the MFNPMP. Therefore, the sport fish bag and possession limit must be reduced to comply with the provisions of the management plan.

DISTRIBUTION:

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.