

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 3-SS-U-2-21

Issued at: Fairbanks, Tuesday, August 24, 2021

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Thursday, August 26, 2021

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Friday, December 31, 2021, unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order rescinds Emergency Order 3-CS-U-2-21 issued June 28, 2021 and closes all waters of the Tanana River drainage to sport fishing for chum and coho salmon.

All chum and coho salmon caught incidentally in 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 74.010. (b)(2) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Thursday, August 26 through 11:59 p.m. Friday, December 31, 2021:

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

(b)(2) salmon, other than king salmon: the bag and possession limit is three fish, with no size limit; sport fishing for chum and coho salmon is closed; a person may not remove a chum or coho salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

Douglas Vincent-Lang
Commissioner

by delegation to:

Andrew Gryska
Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

Estimated passage of coho salmon past the Pilot Station sonar through August 23, 2021, was 12,160, which is well below the median cumulative count of 80,346, and the lowest cumulative count on record for this date. The closure of the coho salmon sport fishery is warranted throughout the entire Tanana River drainage to ensure adequate spawning escapement. Chum salmon passage estimates at the Pilot Station Sonar continue to be substantially below historic averages for this time of year and this emergency order extends the sport fishery closure for chum salmon established in Emergency Order 3-CS-U-2-21.

PREVIOUS EMERGENCY ORDERS AFFECTED: Emergency Order 3-CS-U-2-21 closed sport fishing for chum salmon in the Tanana River drainage from July 1 through December 31 and is rescinded by this emergency order.

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.