SPORT FISHING Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT **OF FISH & GAME**

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-SS-4-67-22 **Issued at:** Kodiak, Tuesday, September 20,

2022

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Thursday, September

22, 2022

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Saturday, December 31, 2022, unless superseded by

subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes sport fishing for coho salmon in the Buskin River drainage.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 64.022. (b)(15) are added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective 12:01 September 22 through 11:59 p.m. Saturday, December 31, 2022:

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

(b)(15) the Buskin River drainage is closed to sport fishing for coho salmon. Any coho salmon caught incidentally while fishing for other species must be immediately returned to the water.

> Doug Vincent-Lang Commissioner

By delegation to:

Tyler Polum

Kodiak Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The escapement goal for coho salmon into the Buskin River drainage is 4,700 to 9,600 fish. As of September 19, 2022, the weir count was 981 coho salmon and, based on 10-year average runtiming, the run is not projected to achieve the escapement goal. Department foot surveys indicate there are at least 1,000 coho salmon holding downstream of the weir, however, this would still not be enough to achieve the escapement goal and it is warranted to close the coho salmon sport fishery.

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.