# SPORT FISHING Emergency Order

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

ALASKA DEPARTMENT **OF FISH & GAME** 

Emergency Order No. 3-CS-U-12-22 **Issued at:** Fairbanks, Thursday,

June 16, 2022

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Monday, June 20, 2022 **Expiration Date:** 11:59 p.m. Saturday,

December 31, 2022, unless superseded

by subsequent emergency order.

### **EXPLANATION:**

This emergency order closes all waters of the Tanana River drainage to sport fishing for chum salmon. Chum salmon may not be targeted and those caught incidentally 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 (b)(2) are superseded by this emergency order.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. Monday, June 20 through 11:59 p.m. Saturday, December 31, 2022:

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 and chum salmon: the bag and possession limit is three fish, with no size limit; sport fishing for chum salmon is closed; chum salmon may not be retained or possessed; chum salmon caught must be released immediately; a person may not remove a chum salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

> Douglas Vincent-Lang Commissioner

By delegation to:

Andrew Gryska

Area Management Biologist

# **JUSTIFICATION:**

The 2022 Yukon River drainage chum salmon run size was forecasted to be similar to the 2021 run. The 2022 preseason forecast was for a Yukon River drainage run size of 162,000–542,000 chum salmon. The inseason data on run strength and timing currently indicates it is both weak and late, and likely to be below the lower bound of the inriver escapement goal of 500,000 – 1,200,000, or if the lower bound is achieved, provide limited surplus fish for harvest. Per the *Yukon River Summer Chum Salmon Management Plan* (5 AAC 05.362) when the projected run size of summer chum salmon is 650,000 fish or less, the commercial, personal use, and sport fish directed summer chum fisheries will be closed. Tanana River drainage subsistence and personal use fisheries for chum salmon will also be closed and closure of the sport fishery is warranted throughout the Tanana River drainage.

# **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.