SPORT FISHING *Emergency Order*

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH & GAME

Emergency Order No. 3-KS-U-13-22

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Monday, June 20, 2022

Issued at: Fairbanks, Thursday, June 16, 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Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Saturday, December 31, 2022, unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.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 king salmon. King 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 (b)(1) and (c)(12) are superseded by this emergency order.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)(1) sport fishing for king salmon is closed; king salmon may not be retained or possessed; king salmon caught must be released immediately; a person may not remove a king salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

(c)(12) the Goodpaster River drainage is closed to sport fishing for salmon; salmon may not be retained or possessed; salmon caught must be released immediately; a person may not remove a salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

Douglas Vincent-Lang Commissioner

DocuSigned by: Indrew Dryska By delegation to:

Andrew Gryska Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The 2022 Yukon River drainage king salmon run size was forecasted to be similar to the 2021 run and may not be large enough to meet escapement objectives. The 2022 preseason forecast was for a Yukon River drainage run size of 99,000–150,000 king salmon. The inseason data on run strength and timing indicates it is both weak and late. The Yukon River drainage king salmon management strategy is to take a conservative approach this season, and subsistence and personal use fishing for salmon have been or will be closed within the Yukon River drainage, including the Tanana River drainage. Closing the Tanana River drainage king salmon sport fisheries is warranted to achieve the king salmon escapement goals on the Chena and Salcha Rivers and is consistent with the conservation measures being taken in Yukon River drainage subsistence and personal use fisheries.

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.