PERSONAL USE Emergency Order

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

ALASKA DEPARTMENT **OF FISH & GAME**

Emergency Order No. 3-RS-I-14-22

Issued at: Glennallen, Wednesday,

June 22, 2022

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Monday, June 27, 2022

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. August 31, 2022, unless superseded by subsequent

emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order amends the schedule for the Chitina Subdistrict personal use dip net salmon fishery for the week of June 27 – July 3, 2022.

In addition, this emergency order supersedes that portion of the Emergency Order No. 3-RS-I-11-22, issued on Thursday, June 16, 2022, which closed the Chitina Subdistrict personal use dip net salmon fishery to the retention of king salmon and opens the Chitina Subdistrict personal use dip net salmon fishery to the retention of king salmon.

REGULATION:

Consistent with 5 AAC 77.001.(b) and 5 AAC 77.591. Copper River Personal Use Dip Net Salmon Fishery Management Plan and 5 AAC 24.361. Copper River King Salmon Management Plan the Chitina Subdistrict personal use dip net salmon fishery will be open from 12:01 a.m. Monday, June 27 through 11:59 p.m. Sunday, July 3, 2022. In addition, the provisions of 5 AAC 77.591.(e) are reinstated by this emergency order effective 12:01 a.m. Monday, June 27, 2022:

Douglas Vincent-Lang

Commissioner

By delegation to:

Mark A. Somerville

Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The Chitina Subdistrict personal use dip net salmon fishery is managed under direction of the Copper River Personal Use Dip Net Salmon Fishery Management Plan (5 AAC 77.591). The plan establishes the season from June 7 through September 30 and directs the department to establish weekly periods based on Miles Lake sonar counts. During June 13 - 19, there were 90,771 salmon counted past the Miles Lake sonar. The preseason projection for this period was 64,584 salmon, which results in a surplus of 26,187 salmon. Copper River sockeye salmon migratory timing and the previous five-year average harvest and participation rates indicate sufficient numbers of salmon available to allow 168 hours of fishing time during the week of June 27 – July 3, an increase of 54 hours from the preseason schedule.

The Copper River King Salmon Fishery Management Plan directs the department to manage all Copper River fisheries to achieve a sustainable escapement goal of 21,000 to 31,000 king salmon in the Copper River drainage. As of June 15, the 2022 king salmon run to the Copper River was

projected to be weaker than the preseason forecast of 40,000 king salmon. Since that time, king salmon migration into the Copper River has improved with all indices of abundance projecting a final inriver run estimate sufficient to allow additional harvest and achieve the Copper River drainage king salmon escapement goal. Therefore, allowing the retention of king salmon in the Chitina Subdistrict personal use salmon fishery, for the remainder of the season, is justified.

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) 459-7357, and the Glennallen Area Office of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, PO Box 47, Glennallen, AK 99588, (907) 822-3309.