SPORT FISHING *Emergency Order*

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-RS-1-32-23

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Friday, June 30, 2023

Issued at: Soldotna, Wednesday, June 28, 2023

ALASKA DEPARTMENT

OF FISH & GAME

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Sunday, December 31, 2023, unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order increases the bag and possession limit for sockeye salmon, 16 inches or longer, to six fish per day and twelve in possession in all portions of the Kasilof River open to salmon fishing. No more than two salmon per day and two in possession may be coho salmon.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 56.122(a)(8)(E) are added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Friday, June 30 through 11:59 p.m. Sunday, December 31, 2023.

5 AAC 56.122. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area.

(a)(8) Kasilof River drainage, excluding Crooked Creek and Tustumena Lake and its tributaries:

(E) salmon, other than king salmon, 16 inches or greater in length; bag limit of six fish per day; possession limit of twelve fish, of which only two fish per day and in possession may be coho salmon;

Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner

By delegation to:

JennyCottes

Jenny Gates Acting Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The biological escapement goal on the Kasilof River is 140,000-320,000 sockeye salmon. Through June 26, 2023, a total of 73,074 sockeye salmon have passed the Kasilof River sonar site. The current escapement level of sockeye salmon into the Kasilof River is proceeding at a rate that is projected to exceed the biological escapement goal. Therefore, it is warranted to increase the bag and possession limit for the Kasilof River sockeye 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.