

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-RS-4-45-23

Issued at: Kodiak, Wednesday, July 12, 2023

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Friday, July 14, 2023

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Sunday, December 31, 2023, unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes sport fishing for sockeye salmon in the Pasagshak River drainage.

REGULATION:

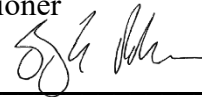
The provisions of 5 AAC 64.022(b)(13) are added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Friday, July 14 through 11:59 p.m. Sunday, December 31, 2023:

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

(b) The seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and special provisions specified in this subsection are localized exceptions to those specified in (a) of this section for finfish and shellfish in the Kodiak Area:

(13) the Pasagshak River drainage is closed to sport fishing for sockeye salmon; sockeye salmon caught must be released immediately; a person may not remove a sockeye salmon from the water before releasing the fish.

Doug Vincent-Lang,
Commissioner



By delegation to:

Tyler Polum,
Kodiak Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The sustainable escapement goal (SEG) for sockeye salmon in the Pasagshak River drainage is a lower bound of 3,000 fish. Through July 11, 2023, the weir count was only 601 sockeye salmon. The run is typically 29% complete and, based on the historical average, is not expected to achieve the escapement goal. Even with recently improved counts the last few days, there appear to be few fish holding in the river to expect the escapement goal to be achieved. Therefore, it is warranted to close the sport fishery in an effort to achieve the escapement goal.

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.