

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-7-13-23

Issued at: Homer, Thursday, March 02, 2023

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Saturday, May 20, 2023

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Saturday, July 15, 2023,
unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes the waters of the Anchor River and Deep Creek to sport fishing from May 20 through July 15, 2023.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 56.122. (a)(2)(C) and (E) and (a)(5)(C) and (D) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Saturday, May 20 through 11:59 p.m. Saturday, July 15, 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)(2) Anchor River drainage, except the Bridge Creek reservoir:

(C) from its mouth upstream to the junction of the North and South Forks sport fishing is closed;

(E) from its mouth upstream to the junction of the North and South Forks sport fishing is closed;

(a)(5) Deep Creek drainage:

(C) from its mouth to ADF&G regulatory markers located approximately two miles upstream, sport fishing is closed;

(D) from its mouth to ADF&G regulatory markers located approximately two miles upstream, sport fishing is closed;

Doug Vincent-Lang,
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Mike Booz

Mike Booz
Lower Cook Inlet Sport Fish Area Manager

JUSTIFICATION:

The Anchor River sustainable escapement goal (SEG) of 3,800–7,600 king salmon has not been met 3 of the last 5 five years including 2022. The 2023 preseason forecast is for a run size of 3,659 king salmon which is below the lower end of the SEG. In the last three years, the performance of the preseason king salmon forecast has on average been within 9% of the actual run. Since 2017, over 50% of the escapement has been counted during July. The later run timing warrants closing the Anchor River and Deep Creek to sport fishing through July 15. Deep Creek king salmon escapement has shown similar trends to the king salmon run in the Anchor River.

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.