

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-RS-4-26-23

Issued at: Kodiak, Wednesday, June 14, 2023

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Saturday, June 17, 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Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Sunday, December 31, 2023, unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.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 Buskin River drainage.

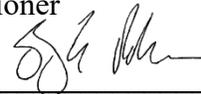
REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 64.022(b)(12) are added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Saturday, June 17 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)(12) the Buskin River drainage is closed to sport fishing for sockeye salmon. A 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 biological escapement goal (BEG) for sockeye salmon in the Buskin River drainage is 5,000 to 8,000 fish. Through June 13, 2023, the weir count was only 276 sockeye salmon and based on historical run timing, the run is typically 32% complete and expected to reach its peak in the next week. Even given the exceptionally late run timing seen last season, the run is not expected to achieve the escapement goal. 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.