PERSONAL USE Emergency Order

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

ALASKA DEPARTMENT **OF FISH & GAME**

Emergency Order No. 3-RS-I-13-23

Issued at: Glennallen, Wednesday,

June 21, 2023

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Tuesday, June 27, 2023

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. August 31, 2023, unless superseded by subsequent

emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order amends the schedule for the Chitina Subdistrict personal use salmon fishery for the week of June 26 – July 2, 2023.

REGULATION:

Consistent with 5 AAC 77.001(b) and 5 AAC 77.591 Copper River Personal Use Dip Net Salmon Fishery Management Plan, the personal use dip net salmon fishery in the Chitina Subdistrict of the Upper Copper River District will be open from 12:01 a.m. Tuesday, June 27 through 11:59 p.m. Sunday, July 2.

> Douglas Vincent-Lang Commissioner

By delegation to:

Mark A. Somerville Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The Chitina Subdistrict personal use 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 12 - 18, there were 82,503 salmon counted past the Miles Lake sonar. The preseason projection for this period is 64,196 salmon, resulting in a surplus of 18,307 salmon and a possible 155 hours of fishing time during the week of June 26–July 2. However, the preseason projection for cumulative sonar passage through June 18 is 362,251 salmon, while the actual cumulative passage through June 18 is 269,047 salmon resulting in a deficit of 93,204 salmon. Based on cumulative sonar passage, Copper River sockeye salmon migratory timing, and the previous three-year average harvest and participation rates, there are sufficient numbers of salmon available to allow 144 hours of fishing time during the week of June 26–July 2, resulting in an increase of 24 hours from the preseason schedule.

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.