

PERSONAL USE

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 3-RS-I-20-23

Issued at: Glennallen, Wednesday,
July 26, 2023

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Monday, July 31, 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2023, unless superseded by subsequent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 July 31 – August 31, 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. Monday, July 31 through 11:59 p.m. Thursday, August 31.

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 July 17–23, there were 94,453 salmon counted past the Miles Lake sonar. The preseason projection for this period is 31,546 salmon, resulting in a surplus of 62,907 salmon. Salmon passage has consistently exceeded the daily projection by more than double for the past week. The Miles Lake sonar is scheduled to cease operations on July 28, and it is unlikely that salmon passage will drop below the projection for the remainder of the sonar operation. Based on the number of Copper River sockeye salmon past the sonar as of July 24, known Copper River sockeye salmon migratory timing and the previous three-year average harvest and participation rates, sufficient numbers of salmon will be available to justify opening the personal use fishery, continuously, through August 31. The fishery is open by regulation from September 1–30.

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.