

# SPORT FISHING

## *Emergency Order*

ALASKA DEPARTMENT  
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

**Emergency Order No. 2-RS-2-45-25**

**Issued at:** Palmer, Wednesday, August 6, 2025

**Effective Date:** 5:00 a.m. Saturday, August 9, 2025

**Expiration Date:** 10:00 p.m. Saturday, August 16, 2025, unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

### EXPLANATION:

This emergency order increases the bag and possession limits for salmon, other than king salmon and coho salmon, 16 inches or greater in length to six fish in the waters of Fish Creek open to fishing for salmon. Sport fishing in Fish Creek is allowed seven days per week, from 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. each day. Other Knik Arm waters, including the Little Susitna River, Eklutna Tailrace, and Jim, Wasilla, and Cottonwood Creeks are unaffected by this emergency order.

### REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 60.122(a)(5)(A)(i) is added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective beginning 5:00 a.m. Saturday, August 9 through 10:00 p.m. Saturday, August 16, 2025:

#### **5 AAC 60.122. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Knik Arm Drainages Area (5) in the Fish Creek drainage, (a)(5) in the Fish Creek drainage,**

(A) from its mouth, including all waters within a one-quarter mile radius of its confluence with Knik Arm at 61.286.13 N. lat., 149.46.14 W. long., upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located one-quarter mile upstream from the Knik-Goose Bay Road, are open to sport fishing from June 15 – July 14, and beginning the second Saturday in August through December 31 from 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m, except that sport fishing for king salmon is closed;

(i) salmon, other than king salmon, 16 inches or greater in length, bag and possession limit is six fish, of which no more than two per day and two in possession may be coho salmon; a coho salmon 16 inches or greater in length that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person originally hooking it; a person may not remove a coho salmon from the water before releasing the fish,

Doug Vincent-Lang,  
Commissioner



By delegation to:

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Samantha Oslund,  
Area Management Biologist

**JUSTIFICATION:**

The sustainable escapement goal (SEG) for sockeye salmon in Fish Creek is 15,000-45,000 fish. As of August 5, the weir count of 38,566 sockeye salmon is within the SEG and the escapement is projected to exceed the goal range. Therefore, it is warranted to increase the bag and possession limit for sockeye salmon. Sockeye salmon harvested in the personal use fishery prior to the effective date of this emergency order will not lower the escapement below the SEG as the fishery is downstream of the weir.

The SEG for coho salmon in Fish Creek is 1,200-4,400 fish. Weir counts to date indicate 778 coho salmon have passed the weir. As only 14% of the historical coho salmon run typically passes the weir by this date, it is too early to assess coho salmon abundance at this time, therefore sport fishing limits for coho salmon will remain as written in regulation.

**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.