SPORT FISHING Emergency Order

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

ALASKA DEPARTMENT **OF FISH & GAME**

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-1-36-25 Issued at: Soldotna, Tuesday, July 8, 2025

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Thursday, July 10, 2025 **Expiration Date:** 11:59 p.m. Friday, August 15, 2025, unless superseded by

subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order supersedes emergency order 2-KS-1-1-25, issued Tuesday, February 11, 2025. This emergency order closes king salmon sport fishing (including catch-and-release) in the Kasilof River downstream of the Sterling Highway Bridge to the river mouth from 12:01 a.m. Thursday, July 10 through 11:59 p.m. Thursday, July 31, 2025. Additionally, gear is restricted to only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly through 11:59 p.m. Friday, August 15, 2025.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 56.122 (a)(8)(A) and (B)(i) and (ii) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Thursday, July 10 through 11:59 p.m. Friday, August 15, 2025.

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)(8) Kasilof River drainage, excluding Crooked Creek and Tustumena Lake and its tributaries:
- (A) from the Sterling Highway Bridge to the outlet of Tustumena Lake, from July 10 July 31 sport fishing for king salmon is closed; king salmon may not be retained or possessed; king salmon may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately; only one unbaited, singlehook, artificial lure may be used;
- (B) the following special provisions apply in that portion downstream of the Sterling Highway Bridge:
 - (i) in flowing waters, from July 10 July 31, sport fishing for king salmon is closed; king salmon may not be retained or possessed; king salmon may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately;
 - (ii) in flowing waters, from July 10 August 15, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner

By delegation to:

Phill Stacey

Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

As of July 7, a total of 78 naturally-produced king salmon have been counted at the Crooked Creek hatchery facility and the run is not projected to achieve the sustainable escapement goal (SEG) of 700-1,400 naturally-produced fish 20" or greater in length. Therefore, to increase the king salmon escapement into Crooked Creek and achieve broodstock collection goals of naturally-produced and hatchery fish, the closure of the king salmon sport fishery and gear restrictions are warranted.

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.