

# SPORT FISHING

## *Emergency Order*

ALASKA DEPARTMENT  
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-SS-2-51-25

Issued at: Palmer, Tuesday, August 19, 2025

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Thursday, August 21, 2025

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Wednesday,  
December 31, 2025, unless superseded by  
subsequent emergency order.

### EXPLANATION:

This emergency order supersedes Emergency Order No. 2-SS-2-49-25, issued on Wednesday, August 13, 2025 and closes the Little Susitna River from its confluence with Cook Inlet upstream to the Parks Highway to retention of coho salmon and maintains the gear restriction that prohibits the use of bait effective 12:01 a.m., Thursday, August 21, 2025. Only unbaited, artificial lures may be used. Coho salmon may not be retained or possessed; coho salmon accidentally caught while fishing for other species may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.

### REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 60.122 (9)(B) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective, beginning 12:01 a.m. Thursday, August 21 through 11:59 p.m. Wednesday, December 31, 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.**

(9) in the Little Susitna River drainage,

(B) from August 21 - September 30, in the flowing waters from its mouth upstream to the Parks Highway, only unbaited, artificial lures may be used; from August 21 – December 31, bag and possession limit for salmon, other than king salmon, greater than 16 inches in length is three fish, of which none may be coho salmon; bag and possession limit for salmon, other than king salmon, less than 16 inches in length is ten fish, of which none may be coho salmon; coho salmon of any length may not be retained or possessed; coho salmon caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately;

Doug Vincent-Lang  
Commissioner

By delegation to:



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Samantha Oslund  
Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The Little Susitna River coho salmon sustainable escapement goal (SEG) is 9,200 – 17,700 fish. As of August 18, 2025, only 2,960 coho salmon had passed upstream of the weir and the escapement is projected to be 4,239 fish and is not likely to achieve the SEG. Therefore, it is warranted to conserve the remaining coho salmon returning to the Little Susitna River to maximize the escapement towards the SEG.

PREVIOUS EMERGENCY ORDERS AFFECTED:

Emergency order No. 2-SS-2-49-25, which reduced the daily bag and possession limit for coho salmon to one fish beginning August 15, 2025, is rescinded.

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region 2 Office of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, AK 99518, (907) 267-2218.