

PERSONAL USE

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 3-RS-I-10-25

Issued at: Glennallen, Wednesday,
June 25, 2025

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Monday, June 30, 2025

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2025, unless superseded by subsequent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

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order amends the schedule for the Chitina Subdistrict personal use dip net salmon fishery for the week of June 30 – July 6, 2025.

In addition, this emergency order closes the Chitina Subdistrict personal use dip net salmon fishery to the retention of king salmon for the season. King salmon incidentally caught may not be retained and must be released immediately.

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, June 30 through 11:59 p.m. Sunday, July 6.

In addition, the provisions of 5 AAC 24.361(d)(1) and 5 AAC 77.591(e) are superseded by this emergency order effective 12:01 a.m. Monday, June 30, 2025:

5 AAC 24.361. Copper River King Salmon Management Plan.


(d)(1) king salmon may not be retained or possessed; all king salmon caught must be released immediately

5 AAC 77.591. Copper River Personal Use Dip Net Salmon Fishery Management Plan.

(e) The total annual limit for each personal use salmon fishing permit is 25 salmon for the head of household and 10 salmon for each dependent of the permit holder, except that king salmon may not be retained or possessed; king salmon caught must be released immediately.

Douglas Vincent-Lang
Commissioner

By delegation to:



Tracy R. Hansen
Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The Copper River personal use 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 10 through September 30 and directs the department to establish weekly periods based on Miles Lake sonar counts. During June 16 – 22, there were 88,012 salmon counted past the Miles Lake sonar. The preseason projection for this period was 71,202 salmon, which results in a surplus of 16,810 salmon. Copper River sockeye salmon migratory timing and the previous three-year average harvest and participation rates

indicate sufficient numbers of salmon available to allow 168 hours of fishing time during the week of June 30–July 6, an increase of 48 hours from the preseason schedule.

The *Copper River King Salmon Fishery Management Plan* (5 AAC 24.361) directs the department to manage the Copper River fisheries to achieve a sustainable escapement goal of 21,000–31,000 king salmon. Projected final estimates of inriver abundance minus projected harvest (subsistence and sport fisheries combined) indicates a final escapement nearing the lower bound of the escapement goal. King salmon harvest in the personal use fishery taken after June 30 has averaged approximately 1,300 fish annually. Because additional conservation measures are necessary to ensure achieving the spawning escapement goal, it is justified to close the Chitina Subdistrict personal use dip net salmon fishery to the retention of king salmon.

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region 3 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.