

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-2-2-26

Issued at: Anchorage, February 9, 2026

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Friday, May 1, 2026

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Monday, July 13, 2026,
unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes sport fishing for king salmon in the entire Eagle River drainage. In addition, sport fishing gear is limited to one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure with a gap between the point and the shank of the hook that is half-inch or less when fishing in waters of Eagle River between the Route Bravo Bridge upstream to the ADF&G regulation marker located at mile 7.4 of the Eagle River Road. Single hook is defined as a hook with only one point.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 59.122 (4)(B) and (F) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Friday, May 1 through 11:59 p.m. Monday, July 13, 2026:

5 AAC 59.122. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Anchorage Bowl Drainages Area.

(4) in the Eagle River drainage,

(B) the waters from Route Bravo Bridge upstream to ADF&G regulatory markers located at mile 7.4 of the Eagle River Road, including waters within 100 yards of its confluence with the South Fork, but not including South Fork, is open to sport fishing for all finfish species, except king salmon; only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure with a gap between the point and shank of the hook that is half-inch or less;

(F) the waters from Bailey Bridge on Ft. Richardson Army Base upstream to ADF&G regulatory markers in the Chugach State Park Eagle River Campground are closed to sport fishing for king salmon; king salmon may not be retained or possessed; king salmon caught must be released immediately; a person may not remove a king salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

Doug Vincent-Lang,
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Brittany Blain-Roth

Brittany Blain-Roth
Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

King salmon stocks throughout Southcentral Alaska are experiencing a period of low productivity and below average escapements have resulted in restrictions throughout Cook Inlet. Eagle River escapements estimated during ground-based peak spawning surveys have been following these same trends and it is therefore warranted to close the king salmon sport fishery in the waters of the Eagle River drainage that are open to king salmon fishing. In addition, similar to the Northern Cook Inlet fresh waters, a hook size and bait restriction is also warranted as a precautionary approach to protect king salmon returning to the Eagle River drainage.

DISTRIBUTION:

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