

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-4-17-26

Issued at: Kodiak, Monday, February 9, 2026

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, April 1, 2026

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Tuesday, September 15, 2026, unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order reduces the king salmon bag and possession limit in the salt waters of the Kodiak Management Area to one fish.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 64.022(a)(1)(B) are modified by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective from 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, April 1 through 11:59 p.m. Tuesday, September 15, 2026:

5 AAC 64.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, annual, and size limits; and special provisions for the Kodiak Area.

(a)(1) king salmon: may be taken from January 1 – December 31, as follows:

(B) in salt waters: bag and possession limit of two fish; no size limit; no annual limit; a harvest record not required; except from April 1 through September 15; bag and possession limit of one fish; no size limit;

Doug Vincent-Lang
Commissioner



By delegation to:

Tyler Polum
Kodiak Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

Gulf of Alaska fresh waters saw record low king salmon runs in many drainages in 2024 and 2025 and additional restrictions are needed for conservation of king salmon in 2026. King salmon stocks throughout Cook Inlet and Gulf of Alaska have returned at levels that have failed to achieve established goals, triggering stock of concern designation for many of them. King salmon stocks are experiencing a period of low productivity and a more comprehensive and precautionary management approach to king salmon sport fisheries in the northern Gulf of Alaska is necessary. Additionally, the 2026 forecasts of king salmon stocks in Gulf of Alaska and Cook Inlet are below the lower end of established escapement goals warranting restrictions to king salmon sport fisheries throughout the region. These restrictions to Gulf of Alaska king salmon

limits, in some cases in addition to management plans and actions taken by the Alaska Board of Fisheries, are warranted to reduce harvest of king salmon in these mixed stock fisheries.

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; Alaska Department of Fish and Game Kodiak Area Office; and the Alaska Department of Public Safety Alaska Wildlife Troopers Kodiak Office.