

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-7-25-26

Issued at: Homer, Wednesday, June 10, 2026

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Saturday, June 13, 2026

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Wednesday, June 17, 2026, unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order supersedes emergency order (EO) 2-KS-7-4-26 issued February 9, 2026. It opens the waters of the Anchor River to catch and release sport fishing for king salmon on Saturday, June 13 through Monday, June 15, and on Wednesday, June 17, 2026. Additionally, gear will be restricted to one unbaited, single-hook artificial lure. Both the Anchor River and Deep Creek will also reopen to sport fishing for species other than king salmon on July 1, 2026.

REGULATION:

The provisions of EO 2-KS-7-4-26, 5 AAC 56.122 (a)(2)(A) and (a)(2)(E) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Saturday, June 15 through 11:59 p.m. Wednesday, June 19, 2024:

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)(2) Anchor River drainage, except the Bridge Creek reservoir:

(A) from June 13- June 17, July 1–July 15, and September 1–October 31, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(E) on Saturday, June 13 through Monday, June 15 and Wednesday, June 17, from its mouth upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 200 yards upstream of the Old Sterling Highway Bridge, sport fishing is open and king salmon may be caught and released;; king salmon may not be retained or possessed; king salmon 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:

Mike Booz

Mike Booz

Lower Cook Inlet Sport Fish Area Manager

JUSTIFICATION:

As of June 9, 756 king salmon have been counted in the Anchor River. Based on the 2023-2025 Anchor River king salmon run timing, the escapement is projected to be 3,800 fish, which is within the Sustainable Escapement Goal (SEG) range of 3,200-6,400. As specified in the *Anchor River, Deep Creek, and Ninilchik River king salmon sport fishery management plan* (5 AAC 56.130), if the Anchor River inseason projection is greater than the lower end of the SEG and less than 4,800 fish, the Anchor River will be opened to catch and release sport fishing for king salmon and gear shall be restricted to only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure. This emergency order is consistent with the stipulations outlined in the

management plan. With rescinding emergency order 2-KS-7-4-26, the Anchor River and Deep Creek will reopen to sport fishing for all species other than king salmon on July 1.

PREVIOUS EMERGENCY ORDERS AFFECTED: Emergency Order 2-KS-7-4-26 previously closed the Anchor River to sport fishing based on the preseason forecast for king salmon. This emergency order supersedes emergency order 2-KS-7-4-26 and replaces management provisions for the Anchor River based on inseason information.

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.