

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 3-CS-U-09-26

Issued at: Fairbanks, Wednesday,
June 17, 2026

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Monday,
June 22, 2026

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Thursday,
December 31, 2026, unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes sport fishing for chum salmon in all waters of the Tanana River drainage. All chum salmon caught incidentally in the Tanana River drainage while fishing for other species may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 74.010(b)(2) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Monday, June 22 through 11:59 p.m. Thursday, December 31, 2026:

5 AAC 74.010. Seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Tanana River Area.

(b)(2) salmon, other than king salmon: the bag and possession limit is three fish, with no size limit; sport fishing for chum salmon is closed; chum salmon may not be retained or possessed; chum salmon caught must be released immediately; a person may not remove a chum salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

Douglas Vincent-Lang
Commissioner

By delegation to: _____ *Andrew Gryska* _____

Andrew Gryska
Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The Yukon River drainagewide summer chum salmon outlook is for a run size of 345,600 fish (range of 160,000 to 580,000 fish) which is below the drainagewide escapement goal of 500,000 to 1,200,000 fish. As of June 16, an estimated 16,632 summer chum salmon were counted past the Pilot Station sonar, compared to the historical median of 60,592. In accordance with the *Yukon River Summer Chum Salmon Management Plan* (5 AAC 05.362), when the projected run size of summer chum salmon is 500,000 fish or less, the directed commercial, personal use, and sport fish chum fisheries will be closed. The pre-season forecast for fall chum salmon, which enter the Yukon River in late July, is also poor and is not expected to meet spawning escapement goals. If inseason stock assessment information indicates that chum salmon spawning escapement goals and subsistence needs in the Tanana River drainage will be met, sport fishing restrictions may be relaxed commensurate with run strength.

PREVIOUS EMERGENCY ORDERS AFFECTED:

Emergency Order 3-KS-U-01-26 issued on Feb 18, 2026, closed sport fishing for king salmon in all flowing waters of the Tanana River drainage from February 19 through September 30, 2026, remains in effect.

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) 459-7207.