

PERSONAL USE

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 3-RS-I-21-26

Issued at: Glennallen, Wednesday,
July 29, 2026

Effective Date: 12:00 p.m. Friday, August 7, 2026

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2026, unless superseded by subsequent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

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order opens the Chitina Subdistrict personal use dip net salmon fishery for specific fishing periods during the weeks of August 3, 10, 17, and 24, 2026.

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 for 48 hours each week as follows: from 12:00 p.m. (noon) Friday, August 7 through 12:00 p.m. (noon) Sunday, August 9; from 12:00 p.m. (noon) Friday, August 14 through 12:00 p.m. (noon) Sunday, August 16; from 12:00 p.m. (noon) Friday, August 21 through 12:00 p.m. (noon) Sunday, August 23; and from 12:00 p.m. (noon) Friday, August 28 through 12:00 p.m. (noon) Sunday, August 30.

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 fishing periods based on Miles Lake sonar counts. As of July 26, a total of 567,402 salmon were counted past the Miles Lake sonar compared to a target objective of 590,700 salmon for this date, a deficit of 23,298 salmon with 94% of the run past the sonar. Additionally, sonar passage from July 20–26 has trended about 60% below daily objectives indicating the Copper River sockeye salmon run may be near its end. Due to overall low sockeye salmon passage and concerns that the sockeye salmon escapement goal may not be met with unrestricted personal use harvest, limited openings of 48 hours per week in the Chitina Subdistrict from August 3 through August 30 is justified. The Chitina Subdistrict personal use fishery will reopen at 12:01 a.m. on Tuesday, September 1 and remain open through 11:59 p.m. Wednesday, September 30 in accordance with regulation.

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.