

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 3-I-23-26

Issued at: Fairbanks, Monday,
September 14, 2026

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Wednesday,
September 16, 2026

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Monday,
May 31, 2027, unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order eliminates the requirement to register ice houses in the Upper Copper River and Upper Susitna River Area for the 2026–2027 ice fishing season.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 52.025(a) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, September 16 through 11:59 p.m. Monday, May 31, 2027:

5 AAC 52025. Ice house registration.

(a) from September 16, 2026 through May 31, 2027, a person using an ice house that is not removed from the ice daily in the upper Copper River and Susitna River drainages is not required to register the ice house with, or receive a permit from, the department;

Douglas Vincent-Lang
Commissioner

By delegation to: _____


Tracy R. Hansen
Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The Upper Copper River and Upper Susitna River Area is the only sport fishing management area in Alaska that continues to require registration of ice houses. The Board of Fisheries eliminated the same requirement in the Tanana River drainage in November 2025. Ice house registration is no longer necessary for management of the area's sport fisheries and places an unnecessary administrative burden on the department and the public. Eliminating the registration requirement for the 2026–2027 ice fishing seasons provides consistency with ice house requirements statewide.

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.