

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No.: 3-KS-10-13

Issued at: Fairbanks, Tuesday, July 9, 2013

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Friday, July 12, 2013

Expiration Date: Saturday, August 31, 2013,
unless superseded by subsequent emergency
order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order prohibits the retention of sport caught king salmon in all flowing waters of the Tanana River drainage effective 12:01 a.m. Friday, July 12, 2013. The use of bait in all tributaries of the Tanana River drainage is also prohibited.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 74.010. Seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Tanana River Area. (b)(1) and (d)(2), (5)(B), (15), (16)(B), and (18) are superseded and (d)(22) is added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective beginning 12:01 a.m. Friday, July 12, 2013:

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

(b)(1) king salmon may not be retained or possessed. King salmon caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.

(d) In the Tanana River Management Area, the following special provisions to methods and means apply:

(22) in all flowing waters of the Tanana River tributaries the use of bait is prohibited.

Cora Campbell
Commissioner

by delegation to: _____



Audra L. J. Brase
Tanana River Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The cumulative passage of 109,590 king salmon past the Yukon River sonar at Pilot Station (through July 7) is well below the historic average of 133,500 king salmon. This follows the trend in low production that has been observed since 2007. Tanana River subsistence and personal use fisheries are being restricted in response to the poor return in an effort to meet king salmon escapement goals on the Chena and Salcha rivers. Sport fishing opportunities may be further restricted or liberalized based on inseason run assessments from the counting tower projects on the Chena and Salcha rivers.

This action closing the Tanana River king salmon sport fisheries to retention and prohibiting the use of bait in the Tanana tributaries is consistent with measures that have been taken throughout the Yukon and Tanana river drainages to conserve king salmon and is necessary to meet the escapement goals for king salmon in the Chena and Salcha rivers.

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region III Office of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, 1300 College Road, Fairbanks, AK 99701, (907) 459-7228.