

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-5-31-20

Issued at: Dillingham, Wednesday, July 8, 2020

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Friday, July 10, 2020

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Friday, July 31, 2020,
unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order reduces the bag, possession, and annual limits for king salmon, 20 inches or greater in length, in the waters of the Nushagak-Mulchatna drainage to one per day and in possession, 20 inches or greater in length, with an annual limit of two fish. The bag and possession limit for king salmon under 20 inches in length remains at five fish; no annual limit.

Up to two king salmon recorded before Friday, July 10, on the harvest portion of an Alaska sport fishing license or harvest record card do not count against the two king salmon, 20 inches or greater in length, that may be harvested on or after July 10.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 67.022. (g)(1) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Friday, July 10 through 11:59 p.m. Friday, July 31, 2020:

5 AAC 67.022. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means in the Bristol Bay area.

(g) In the Nushagak River drainage, excluding the Wood River drainage, and unless otherwise specified in 5 AAC 06.361 or 5 AAC 06.368, the following special provisions apply:

(1) the bag and possession limit for king salmon 20 inches or greater in length is one fish; the annual limit for king salmon 20 inches or greater in length is two fish; the bag and possession limit for king salmon less than 20 inches in length is five fish; up to two king salmon recorded before July 10, on the harvest portion of an Alaska sport fishing license or harvest record card do not count against the annual limit for king salmon 20 inches or greater in length that may be harvested on or after July 10.

Douglas Vincent-Lang
Commissioner

By delegation to: _____

Lee K. Borden
Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

Through July 7, 2020, an estimated 37,994 king salmon have passed the sonar at Portage Creek. The current projection of spawning escapement is below desired levels. However, uncertainty associated with the sonar count for king salmon, as well as a recent trend of later than average king salmon returns both in Bristol Bay and statewide make it difficult to accurately assess the return at this time. These

uncertainties coupled with low run indicators justify a conservative management approach in which the Nushagak River drainage sport harvest of king salmon is reduced.

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 and the Bristol Bay Area Office of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, P.O. Box 230, Dillingham, AK 99576, (907) 842-2427.