

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-2-38-26

Issued at: Anchorage, Wednesday, July 1, 2026

Effective Date: 6:00 a.m. Friday, July 3, 2026

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Thursday, December 31, 2026, unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes Ship Creek to sport fishing for all species from its mouth upstream to a cable 100 feet downstream of the Chugach Power Plant Dam through July 13, 2026 and closes Ship Creek to the retention of king salmon for the remainder of the year.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 59.122. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Anchorage Bowl Drainages Area (14)(A) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective 6:00 a.m. Friday, July 3 through 11:59 p.m. Thursday, December 31, 2026:

5 AAC 59.122. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, annual and size limits, and methods and means for the Anchorage Bowl Drainages Area.

(14) in the Ship Creek drainage,

(A) the waters from its mouth upstream to a cable 100 feet downstream of the Chugach Power Plant dam are closed to sport fishing for all finfish species through 11:59 p.m. Saturday, July 13 and king salmon through 11:59 p.m. Thursday, December 31;

Doug Vincent-Lang,
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Brittany Blain-Roth
Brittany Blain-Roth
Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The William Jack Hernandez Sport Fish Hatchery collects broodstock from king salmon returning to the Ship Creek drainage for the primary purpose of providing king salmon sport fishing opportunities in the Anchorage Bowl and throughout Southcentral Alaska. Between 750 and 1,250 adult king salmon are required to meet the brood needs of the king salmon stocking programs. High and turbid water conditions in the creek have made stream survey conditions difficult and only partial foot surveys of Ship Creek have been conducted to this point in the season. As of June 29, 2026, 34 king salmon have entered the raceway

and 232 king salmon were observed near the hatchery under high water conditions. Historically, 50% of the run has escaped the fishery and been counted by this date in June. Given the uncertainty of the escapement data and the poor performance of other Southcentral king salmon runs this year, it is necessary to prohibit the harvest of Ship Creek king salmon for the remainder of the year so that broodstock needs can be met for Southcentral Alaska.

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region II Office of Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, AK 99518, (907) 267-2218.