

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-2-28-26

Issued at: Dillingham, Monday, June 22, 2026

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, June 24, 2026

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Friday, July 31, 2026, unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order prohibits the use of bait in all waters of the Nushagak-Mulchatna River drainage, excluding the Wood River drainage. Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure is allowed.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 67.022(g)(6) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, June 24 through 11:59 p.m. Friday, July 31, 2026:

5 AAC 67.022. Special provisions for 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:

(6) from June 24 – July 31, only one unbaited, single-hook artificial lure may be used.

Doug Vincent-Lang,
Commissioner



Lee Borden,
Bristol Bay Area Management Biologist

By delegation to:

JUSTIFICATION:

Nushagak River king salmon were designated a stock of concern in 2022 and recent runs have continued to fall short of the 55,000 – 120,000 fish escapement goal. Through June 21, 2026, an estimated 5,512 king salmon have passed the sonar at Portage Creek. With the run currently projecting below the escapement goal range conservative action is warranted. Therefore, it is justified to restrict the Nushagak River drainage king salmon sport fishery in an effort to conserve king salmon and help ensure fishing opportunities in the future.

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.