

# SPORT FISHING

## *Emergency Order*

ALASKA DEPARTMENT  
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

**Emergency Order No. 2-RS-1-26-26**

**Issued at Soldotna:** Tuesday, June 16, 2026

**Effective Date:** 12:01 a.m. Thursday, June 18, 2026

**Expiration Date:** 11:59 p.m. Tuesday, July 14, 2026, unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

**EXPLANATION:**

This emergency order opens the Russian River Sanctuary Area to sport fishing for sockeye salmon.

**REGULATION:**

The provisions of 5 AAC 57.122 (10)(A) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Thursday, June 18, through 11:59 p.m. Tuesday, July 14, 2026.

**5 AAC 57.122. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Middle Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area.**

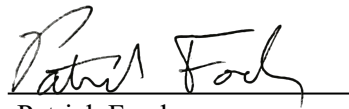
(10) the following waters of the Middle Section are open to sport fishing, only as follows:

(A) from June 18 – April 30, the Russian River sanctuary area, as defined in subparagraph

(4)(D) of this section, is open to sport fishing, except sockeye salmon may be taken only from June 18 – August 20;

Doug Vincent-Lang  
Commissioner

By delegation to:



Patrick Fowler  
Cook Inlet Management Coordinator

**JUSTIFICATION:**

Through June 15, 2026, 6,061 sockeye salmon have passed the Russian River weir. Based on projections of escapement from the Kenai River mile 13.7 sonar and the Russian River weir, ADF&G now estimates that the biological escapement goal (BEG) of 22,000 – 42,000 sockeye salmon will be achieved. Consistent with the *Russian River Sockeye Salmon Management Plan* (5 AAC 57.150), this action will increase opportunity by allowing anglers the opportunity to harvest sockeye salmon in the Russian River Sanctuary Area.

**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.