

# SPORT FISHING

## *Emergency Order*

ALASKA DEPARTMENT  
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-RS-1-29-26

Issued at: Soldotna, Tuesday, June 23, 2026

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Thursday, June 25, 2026

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unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

### **EXPLANATION:**

This emergency order increases the bag and possession limits for salmon, other than king salmon, to six fish per day and twelve fish in possession in that area of the Kenai River upstream from Skilak Lake to ADF&G regulatory markers located approximately 300 yards upstream of the public boat launch at Sportsman's Landing and the Russian River from its mouth upstream to an ADF&G marker located approximately 600 yards downstream from the Russian River Falls.

### **REGULATION:**

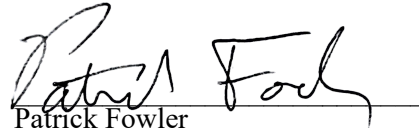
The provisions of 5 AAC 57.122. (3)(A) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order the following provisions are effective beginning 12:01 a.m. Thursday, June 25 through 11:59 p.m. Tuesday, July 14, 2026:

#### **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.**

(3)(A) in waters of the Kenai River upstream from Skilak Lake to ADF&G regulatory markers located approximately 300 yards upstream of the public boat launch at Sportsman's Landing, including the waters around the upstream end of the island near the Russian River mouth, and the Russian River from its confluence with the Kenai River upstream to an ADF&G marker located approximately 600 yards downstream from the Russian River Falls, the bag and possession limit for salmon, other than king salmon 16 inches or greater in length, is six fish per day and twelve in possession, of which only one per day and one in possession may be a coho salmon;

Doug Vincent-Lang,  
Commissioner

By delegation to:



Patrick Fowler  
Cook Inlet Management Coordinator

### **JUSTIFICATION:**

Through June 22, 2026, 22,375 sockeye salmon have passed the Russian River weir, located upstream of the falls. The lower bound of the early-run Russian River sockeye salmon biological escapement goal (BEG) of 22,000 - 42,000 sockeye salmon has been exceeded and projections indicate the upper bound of the escapement goal will be exceeded. Based on this information and in compliance with the Russian River Sockeye Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 57.150) this action will increase sport fishing opportunity by increasing the bag and

possession limit for sockeye salmon in the Russian River and a section of the Kenai River including 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.