

# PERSONAL USE

## *Emergency Order*

ALASKA DEPARTMENT  
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

**Emergency Order No.** 3-RS-I-11-22

**Issued at:** Glennallen, Thursday, June 16, 2022

**Effective Date:** 12:01 a.m. Monday, June 20, 2022

**Expiration Date:** 11:59 p.m. August 31, 2022, unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

### EXPLANATION:

This emergency order supersedes Emergency Order 3-RS-I-10-22 issued Wednesday, June 15, 2022 and provides the correct regulatory language for the nonretention of king salmon in the Chitina Subdistrict personal use dip net salmon fishery. This emergency order amends the schedule for the Chitina Subdistrict personal use dip net salmon fishery for the week of June 20 – 26, 2022.

In addition, this emergency order closes the Chitina Subdistrict personal use dip net salmon fishery to the retention of king salmon. King salmon incidentally caught may not be retained and must be released immediately.

### REGULATION:


Consistent with 5 AAC 77.001.(b) and 5 AAC 77.591. *Copper River Personal Use Dip Net Salmon Fishery Management Plan* and 5 AAC 24.361. *Copper River King Salmon Management Plan* the Chitina Subdistrict personal use dip net salmon fishery will be open from 12:01 a.m. Monday, June 20 through 11:59 p.m. Sunday, June 26, 2022. In addition, the provisions of 5 AAC 77.591.(e) are superseded by this emergency order effective 12:01 a.m. Monday, June 20, 2022:

#### **5 AAC 77.591. Copper River Personal Use Dip Net Salmon Fishery Management Plan.**

(e) The total annual limit for each personal use salmon fishing permit is 25 salmon for the head of household and 10 salmon for each dependent of the permit holder, except that king salmon may not be possessed or retained; king salmon caught must be released immediately.

Douglas Vincent-Lang  
Commissioner

By delegation to: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Mark A. Somerville  
Area Management Biologist

### JUSTIFICATION:

The Chitina Subdistrict personal use dip net salmon fishery is managed under direction of the *Copper River Personal Use Dip Net Salmon Fishery Management Plan* (5 AAC 77.591). The plan establishes the season from June 7 through September 30 and directs the department to establish weekly periods based on Miles Lake sonar counts. During June 6 – 12, there were 152,886 salmon counted past the Miles Lake sonar. The preseason projection for this period was 86,076 salmon, which results in a surplus of 68,810 salmon. Copper River sockeye salmon migratory timing and the previous five-year average harvest and participation rates indicate

sufficient numbers of salmon available to allow 168 hours of fishing time during the week of June 20 – 26, an increase of 36 hours from the preseason schedule.

The *Copper River King Salmon Fishery Management Plan* directs the department to manage all Copper River fisheries to achieve a sustainable escapement goal of 21,000 to 31,000 king salmon in the Copper River drainage. The 2022 king salmon run to the Copper River appears to be weaker than the preseason forecast of 40,000 king salmon. The inseason inriver abundance estimate, based on Native Village of Eyak fish wheel capture rates at Baird Canyon and fish wheel recapture rates at Canyon Creek, project a final inriver estimate near the lower bound of the king salmon spawning escapement goal. Additionally, declines in daily king salmon apportionment at the Miles Lake sonar are consistent with declining capture rates at the NVE Baird Canyon fish wheels. Therefore, prohibiting the retention of king salmon in the Chitina Subdistrict personal use dip net fishery is justified to ensure the sustainable escapement goal is achieved.

**DISTRIBUTION:**

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region III Office of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, 1300 College Road, Fairbanks, AK 99701, (907) 459-7357, and the Glennallen Area Office of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, PO Box 47, Glennallen, AK 99588, (907) 822-3309.