

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 1-SS-D-26-12

Issued at Sitka, Thursday, September
13, 2012

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Saturday,
September 15, 2012

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Monday,
December 31, 2012, unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION: This emergency order closes Bear Cove to sport fishing to protect coho needed for broodstock at Medvejie Hatchery.

REGULATION: The following provisions become effective from 12:01 a.m. Saturday, September 15, through 11:59 p.m. Monday, Dec 31, 2012:

5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of Southeast Alaska Area.

(g) In the Sitka vicinity:

- (8) Bear Cove, described as those waters of Silver Bay east of a line that extends from 57°1.065'N. Latitude, 135° 9.920'W. Longitude. to 57° 0.626'N Latitude, 135° 9.832'W. Longitude, is closed to sport fishing.

Cora Campbell
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Patrick Fowler
Assistant Sitka Area Management Biologist
Division of Sport Fish

JUSTIFICATION:

Due to low projected marine survival of coho returning to Medvejie Hatchery, the hatchery broodstock goal of 510 fish is not expected to be met. Historically, approximately 30% of Salmon Lake coho (the source of Medvejie stock) have returned to nearby Salmon Lake by September 12th. As of September 12th 2012, no coho salmon have been recovered for broodstock at the hatchery while 246 adult coho have passed the Salmon Lake weir. A closure of the sport fishery is therefore necessary to ensure coho salmon broodstock needs are met at Medvejie Hatchery. If the number of adult coho salmon returning to Bear Cove increase to a level at which concern for broodstock has been alleviated, the sport fishery may be opened.

DISTRIBUTION: The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region 1 office of Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, P. O. Box 240020, Douglas, AK 99824, (907) 465-4270.