

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-SS-7-52-14

Issued at: Anchorage, Thursday, September 4, 2014

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Friday, September 5, 2014

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Sunday, September, 7
2014, unless superseded by subsequent emergency
order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order increases the bag limit and possession limit for coho salmon during the youth-only fishery in Seward Lagoon to 6 fish per day, 6 in possession. This emergency order is effective from 12:01 a.m. Friday, September 5, 2014 through 11:59 p.m. Sunday, September 7, 2014.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 56.122 Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area (9)(C)(iv) is superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective from 12:01 a.m. Friday, September 5, 2014 through 11:59 p.m. Sunday, September 7, 2014.

5 AAC 56.122 Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area.

(9) Resurrection Bay Drainages:

(C) Seward Lagoon and the waters leading into Seward Lagoon are closed to sport fishing, except that a person under 16 years of age may sport fish during a designated youth sport fishery, as follows:

(iv) bag and possession limit of 6 fish;

Cora Campbell,
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Mike Thalhauser
Assistant Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

Over 200,000 coho salmon smolt were stocked in the Seward Lagoon in 2013. Healthy smolt from William Jack Hernandez Sport Fish Hatchery and better than anticipated marine survival are resulting in strong returns to the beaches of Seward and the Seward Lagoon. The lagoon and stream leading to the lagoon are open by regulation this weekend only to youth anglers age 15 and younger, and are closed to all fishing the remainder of the year. An evaluation of fishing conditions prior to this youth-only fishery estimated that there were over 1,000 coho salmon in the stream leading into the Seward Lagoon, with many fish already in the lagoon. These fish are not needed for escapement or hatchery brood stock. Therefore, it is warranted to increase the coho salmon bag and possession limit in the Seward Lagoon youth-only fishery to allow for increased harvest opportunity of surplus hatchery fish.

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region II Office of Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, AK 99518, (907) 267-2218.