

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 1-SHR-E-01-15

Issued at Juneau, Wednesday,
December 31, 2014

Effective 12:01 a.m. Thursday,
Date: January 1, 2015

Expiration Date: Thursday, December 31,
2015 at 11:59 p.m. unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes the sport fishery for shrimp in the Southeast Alaska salt waters of the Juneau area section 11-A.

REGULATION:

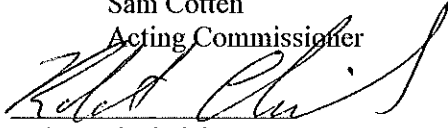
Under this emergency order the provisions of 5 AAC 47.021 (e)(3) is added. The following provision is effective from 12:01 A.M. January 1, 2015 through 11:59 P.M. December 31, 2015:

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.

(e)(3) in the Juneau area section 11-A as described in 5 AAC 33.200 (k) as all marine waters south of the latitude of Little Island Light and east of a line from Little Island Light to Point Retreat Light and north and west of a line from a point at 58° 12.33'N. lat., 134° 10'W. long., to the Coast Guard marker and light on Point Arden, sport fishing for shrimp is closed.

Sam Cotten
Acting Commissioner

By delegation to:



Robert Chadwick
Regional Management Coordinator
Sport Fish Division

JUSTIFICATION

The decline in commercial shrimp fishery catch per unit of effort (CPUE) in the Juneau area section 11-A indicates low abundance levels. Creel census data from 2003-2007 shows the sport and personal use shrimp fishery harvest approximately equal to the commercial harvest. Closure of the sport fishery and personal use fishery is necessary to rebuild stocks. Tagging studies have shown spot shrimp (the primary target species in all shrimp fisheries in the area) are relatively long lived and move little as adults, rendering them vulnerable to localized depletion. Spot shrimp begin life as males and convert to females after several years. Shrimp fishermen tend to target larger, predominantly female shrimp and fishery impacts are greatest to the most reproductively significant segment of the population.

DISTRIBUTION

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region 1 office of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, P.O. Box 110024, Juneau, AK 99811, (907) 465-4270.