

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 01-KS-C-14-16

Issued at: Petersburg, Thursday,
May 26, 2016

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, June 1, 2016

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Sunday,
July 31, 2016 unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order amends the king salmon bag and possession limits in the terminal waters of Wrangell Narrows and the fresh waters of Blind Slough, near Petersburg, to harvest surplus Crystal Lake Hatchery king salmon. From June 1 through July 31, the bag and possession limit is two king salmon 28 inches or greater in length, and two king salmon less than 28 inches in length. King salmon caught by nonresident anglers within the terminal harvest area during this period do not count toward the nonresident annual limit.

REGULATION:

Consistent with 5 AAC 33.381. District 6: Wrangell Narrows-Blind Slough Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan and 5 AAC 47.055. Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan, the provisions in 5 AAC 47.021(1)(2) are added and the provision of 5 AAC 47.023(h)(1)(D) is superseded. The following provisions are in effect from 12:01 a.m., June 1 through 11:59 p.m. July 31, 2016:

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

(1) In the Petersburg/Wrangell vicinity:

(2) In the terminal waters of Wrangell Narrows in section 6-A north and east of the northern tip of Woewodski Island (56° 35.7' N. lat. and 132° 59.3' W. Long.) and south of 56° 46' N. latitude,

(A) the bag and possession limit is two king salmon 28 inches or greater in length and two king salmon less than 28 inches in length;

(B) king salmon harvested in this area do not count toward the nonresident annual limit.

5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of Southeast Alaska Area.

(h) In the Petersburg/Wrangell vicinity:

- (1) Blind Slough, upstream from a line between Blind Point and Anchor Point,
 - (D) king salmon harvested in this area do not count toward the nonresident annual limit.

Sam Cotten
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Patrick Fowler
Petersburg/Wrangell Area
Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The sport fishery for hatchery produced king salmon in terminal waters of Wrangell Narrows and the fresh waters of Blind Slough is managed under the Wrangell Narrows-Blind Slough Terminal Harvest Area Management Plan (5 AAC 33.381). This plan distributes harvest of the Crystal Lake Hatchery king salmon run among sport and commercial fisheries while preserving a portion of the run for hatchery broodstock. In 2016, the projected Crystal Lake Hatchery king salmon return to the terminal area is 3,900 fish. When the projected king salmon run to the terminal harvest area is at least 2,000 fish but less than 4,000 fish, the Wrangell Narrows-Blind Slough Terminal harvest Area Management Plan (5 AAC 33.381) instructs the department to establish a bag and possession limit of two king salmon 28 inches or greater in length, and two king salmon less than 28 inches in length from June 1 through July 31 within the boundaries of the Wrangell Narrows-Blind Slough Terminal Harvest Area.

The Southeast King Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 47.055) authorizes the department to repeal the nonresident angler annual limit provisions in hatchery terminal harvest areas.

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 110024, Juneau, AK 99811, (907) 465-4270 and at the Petersburg Area Office, 16 Sing Lee Alley, P.O. Box 667, Petersburg, AK 99833, (907) 772-5228.