

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 1-08-02

Issued at Petersburg, May 31, 2002

Effective 12:01 A.M.
Date: Saturday, June 1, 2002

Expiration Date: 12:01 A.M. Thursday,
August 1, 2002. Unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order increases the king salmon bag and possession limits in the terminal salt waters of Wrangell Narrows and fresh waters of Blind Slough near Petersburg to harvest surplus hatchery-produced king salmon returning to the Crystal Lake Hatchery. The daily bag and possession limit is four king salmon 28 inches or more in length, and eight king salmon less than 28 inches in length from June 1 through July 31. King salmon caught in the terminal harvest area by nonresidents do not count toward the nonresident annual limit.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 47.022 (112) are superseded and the provisions of 5 AAC 47.022 (195) are added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective:

5 AAC 47.022. WATERS; SEASONS; BAG, POSSESSION, AND SIZE LIMITS; AND SPECIAL PROVISIONS

(1) 5 AAC 47.022 WATER	SEASON AND BAG LIMIT						SPECIAL PROVISIONS
	King Salmon	Other Salmon	Trout/ Steelhead	Dolly Varden	Halibut/ Lingcod	Other Fish/Shell fish	
(112) BLIND SLOUGH upstream of a line between Blind Point and Anchor Point ¹	1 ^{2, 3, 4}		1L, 1R	1I		1S	¹ Only unbaited, artificial lures may be used from November 16 through June 14. ² King Salmon: 4 per day, 4 in possession, 28 inches or more in length; 8 per day, 8 in possession less than 28 inches in length. These bag and possession limits are in effect from June 1 through July 31.
(194) WRANGELL NARROWS (Salt Water) south of 56° 46' N. latitude (Martinsen's Dock) and east of the longitude of the northern tip of Woewodski Island.	1 ²		1L, 1R	1I	3J, 4K	1S, 1T	³ Salmon hooked elsewhere than in the mouth may be retained. ⁴ Non-resident annual limit provisions are repealed.

JUSTIFICATION:

The Alaska Board of Fisheries adopted a management plan to distribute the harvest of Crystal Lake Hatchery chinook returns to a portion of Wrangell Narrows and fresh waters of Blind Slough among fisheries while protecting hatchery brood stock. The WRANGELL NARROWS-BLIND SLOUGH TERMINAL HARVEST AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN (5 AAC 33.381) directs the department to increase the daily bag limit to two or more king salmon 28 inches or larger, and two or more king salmon less than 28 inches in length from June 1 through July 31, if the projected king salmon return to the hatchery is greater than 4,000 fish. The projected return of king salmon to the Crystal Lake Hatchery is expected to exceed 7,000 fish in 2001. Therefore, the department is increasing the king salmon bag and possession limits in the Wrangell Narrows terminal harvest area and Blind Slough fresh water areas in accordance with the management plan.

The Alaska Board of Fisheries also authorized the department to repeal the nonresident angler annual limit provisions in hatchery terminal harvest areas if the king salmon bag limit is three or more king salmon, 28 inches or more in length (5 AAC 47.055). Since the bag limit in Wrangell Narrows terminal harvest area is four king salmon 28 inches or more in length, the annual limit provisions in this area are repealed.

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 and at the Petersburg Area Office, 16 Sing Lee Alley, P.O. Box 667, Petersburg, AK 99833, (907) 772-5231.