

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 1-XX-R-03-04

Issued at Juneau, April 22, 2004

Effective 12:01 A.M.
Date: Monday, April 26, 2004

Expiration Date: Sunday, September 26,
2004 at 11:59 P.M. unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order prohibits the filleting and heading of king salmon, coho salmon and lingcod by marine boat anglers during designated times and areas of Southeast Alaska.

REGULATION:

Consistent with 5 AAC 75.003(3), the following provisions are effective:

In Southeast Alaska, marine boat anglers possessing sport caught king salmon, coho salmon, or lingcod and returning to any port on the road system of the communities identified below, during the designated times, may not fillet, mutilate, or discard the head of these fish until the fish have been offloaded, unless they are preserved or have been consumed onboard:

Ketchikan:	12:01 A.M. Monday, April 26,	through 11:59 P.M. Sunday, September 26, 2004.
Craig:	12:01 A.M. Monday, May 3,	through 11:59 P.M. Sunday, September 12, 2004.
Klawock:	12:01 A.M. Monday, May 3,	through 11:59 P.M. Sunday, September 12, 2004.
Sitka:	12:01 A.M. Monday, April 26,	through 11:59 P.M. Sunday, September 26, 2004.
Juneau:	12:01 A.M. Monday, April 26,	through 11:59 P.M. Sunday, September 26, 2004.
Petersburg:	12:01 A.M. Monday, May 3,	through 11:59 P.M. Sunday, September 12, 2004.
Wrangell:	12:01 A.M. Monday, April 26,	through 11:59 P.M. Sunday, September 12, 2004.
Haines:	12:01 A.M. Monday, May 10,	through 11:59 P.M. Sunday, June 27, 2004.
Skagway:	12:01 A.M. Monday, June 7,	through 11:59 P.M. Tuesday, August 31, 2004.
Gustavus:	12:01 A.M. Monday, May 10,	through 11:59 P.M. Sunday, September 12, 2004.
Elfin Cove:	12:01 A.M. Monday, May 10,	through 11:59 P.M. Sunday, September 12, 2004.
Yakutat:	12:01 A.M. Monday, April 26,	through 11:59 P.M. Sunday, September 26, 2004.

JUSTIFICATION:

The department conducts on-site creel sampling programs in Southeast Alaska to estimate sport fishing effort, harvest levels, harvest contribution of hatchery and select wild salmon stocks, and length and sex composition of lingcod. Many anglers fillet, de-head, and process fish before returning to port, which makes it impossible for Fish and Game staff to recover tagged heads of king and coho salmon, first identified by a missing adipose fin, and determine length and sex of lingcod. The result is reduced ability to estimate the contribution of chinook and coho salmon stocks to the sport fishery and length and sex composition of sport harvested lingcod. Therefore, the Alaska Board of Fisheries adopted regulations giving the department the authority to restrict these activities by Emergency Order during times and in locations necessary to for data collection. This action is necessary for data collection to estimate sport fishing effort, harvest, harvest contribution of hatchery and select wild salmon stocks, and length and sex composition of lingcod. This regulation will be in effect for the duration of the

local creel sampling programs. Anglers returning to these ports still have the ability to consume king salmon, coho salmon and lingcod onboard, as well as preserve these fish if they choose, before offloading.

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.

Kevin C. Duffy
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Tom Brookover
Regional Management Coordinator