

# SPORT FISHING

## *Emergency Order*

ALASKA DEPARTMENT  
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 1-RS-D-16-05

Issued at Sitka, Wednesday, June 29, 2005

Effective 11:59 p.m. Friday,  
Date: July 1, 2005

Expiration Date: 11:59 P.M. Saturday  
December 31, 2005 unless superseded by a  
subsequent emergency order.

### EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes the Salmon Lake drainage and all marine waters within .03 nautical mile radius of the Salmon Lake outlet stream to retention and possession of sockeye salmon. This emergency order also closes all marine and freshwaters of the Ford Arm drainage east of a line from Trap Point to a point on the Chichagof Island shoreline at 57° 32.86' N. latitude, 136° 00.12' W. longitude to retention and possession of sockeye salmon.

### REGULATION:

Notwithstanding 5AAC 47.020(2) and 5 AAC 47.022(b)(2), the following provisions are effective:

#### **5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions to the waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits for the salt waters of Southeast Alaska Area.**

(g) In the Sitka vicinity:

(6) in all marine waters in Silver Bay within .03 nautical mile radius of the Salmon Lake drainage outlet stream, sockeye salmon may not be possessed or retained; all sockeye salmon must be released immediately.

(7) in all marine waters east of a line from Trap Point to a point on the Chichagof Island shoreline at 57° 32.86' N. latitude, 136° 00.12' W. longitude, sockeye salmon may not be possessed or retained; all sockeye salmon must be released immediately.

#### **5 AAC 47.023. Special Provisions for waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits, and method and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area (g)(11)(C) and (13) are added to read.**

(g) In the Sitka vicinity:

(11) Salmon Lake Drainage,

(C) In the Salmon Lake drainage, sockeye salmon may not be possessed or retained; all sockeye salmon must be released immediately.

(13) Ford Arm Drainage

(A) In the Ford Arm drainage, sockeye salmon may not be possessed or retained; all sockeye salmon must be released immediately.

McKie Campbell  
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Bob Chadwick  
Sitka Area Management Biologist  
Division of Sport Fish

JUSTIFICATION:

A weir at the Salmon Lake outlet is being operated by the Sitka Tribe of Alaska (STA). Sockeye salmon returns through the weir have been monitored since June 15, 2005. The total return through the weir to date has been 24 sockeye salmon. Based on results from operation of a weir at this location during the 2001-2004 seasons, 15% of the run may be expected to have returned to the lake by the present time. Low stream flow conditions currently exist at Salmon Lake which can impede the passage of sockeye into the lake. A boat survey conducted June 28 of the inter-tidal area of the Salmon Lake stream and adjacent marine waters indicated that few sockeye are accumulating in the terminal area. The sport and subsistence fisheries are being closed at this time to provide for spawning escapement needs.

Ford Arm is an early run sockeye system. Historic harvest data from Ford Arm show that the subsistence harvest peaks in late June or early July indicating that the peak abundance of sockeye in the terminal area occurs during this period. An aerial survey was conducted on June 26 and a boat survey was conducted on June 28. Both surveys indicated few sockeye are accumulating in the terminal area. The sport and subsistence fisheries are being closed at this time to provide for spawning escapement needs.

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 Sitka Area Office, 304 Lake Street, Room 103, Sitka, AK 99835, (907)747-5355.