

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 1-XX-R-01-06

Issued at Juneau, April 26, 2006

Effective 12:01 A.M.
Date: Friday, April 28, 2006

Expiration Date: Sunday, September 24,
2006 at 11:59 P.M. unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order prohibits the filleting and de-heading of lingcod, king salmon, coho salmon, and non-pelagic rockfish 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 lingcod, king salmon, coho salmon, or non-pelagic rockfish and returning to any port on the road system of the communities identified below, during the designated times, may not fillet, mutilate, or de-head these fish until the fish have been offloaded, unless they are preserved or have been consumed onboard:

Ketchikan:	12:01 A.M. Friday, April 28,	through 11:59 P.M. Sunday, September 24, 2006.
Craig:	12:01 A.M. Monday, May 1,	through 11:59 P.M. Sunday, September 10, 2006.
Klawock:	12:01 A.M. Monday, May 1,	through 11:59 P.M. Sunday, September 10, 2006.
Sitka:	12:01 A.M. Friday, April 28,	through 11:59 P.M. Sunday, September 24, 2006.
Juneau:	12:01 A.M. Friday, April 28,	through 11:59 P.M. Sunday, September 24, 2006.
Petersburg:	12:01 A.M. Friday, April 28,	through 11:59 P.M. Sunday, September 10, 2006.
Wrangell:	12:01 A.M. Friday, April 28,	through 11:59 P.M. Sunday, September 10, 2006.
Haines:	12:01 A.M. Monday, May 8,	through 11:59 P.M. Sunday, June 25, 2006.
Skagway:	12:01 A.M. Monday, May 22,	through 11:59 P.M. Thursday, August 31, 2006.
Gustavus:	12:01 A.M. Monday, May 8,	through 11:59 P.M. Sunday, September 10, 2006.
Elfin Cove:	12:01 A.M. Monday, May 8,	through 11:59 P.M. Sunday, September 10, 2006.
Yakutat:	12:01 A.M. Friday, April 28,	through 11:59 P.M. Sunday, September 10, 2006.

McKie Campbell
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Rolland Holmes
Regional Supervisor

JUSTIFICATION:

The department conducts on-site creel sampling programs in Southeast Alaska to estimate sport fishing effort, harvests, contributions of hatchery and select wild salmon stocks, length and sex composition of lingcod, and length and weight of non-pelagic rockfish. Many anglers fillet, de-head, and process fish before returning to port, which makes it impossible for Fish and Game staff to determine length and sex of lingcod, recover tagged heads of king and coho salmon, and weight of non-pelagic rockfish. The result is a diminished ability to estimate the length and sex composition of sport harvested lingcod, contribution of king and coho salmon stocks to the sport fishery, and estimate the average weight of non-pelagic rockfish in the sport fishery. 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 for data collection. These actions are important to fisheries management. 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 lingcod, and non-pelagic rockfish 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.