

# SPORT FISHING

## *Emergency Order*

ALASKA DEPARTMENT  
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 01-KS-C-09-06

Issued at Petersburg, Friday, June  
23, 2006

Effective 12:01 A.M.  
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2006

Expiration Date: 11:59 P.M. Friday,  
July 14, 2006 unless superseded by  
subsequent emergency order.

### EXPLANATION:

This emergency order permits retention of king salmon hooked other than in the mouth by anglers fishing in the fresh waters of Blind Slough, near Petersburg. The area referenced in this regulation includes waters of Blind Slough upstream of a line between Blind Point and Anchor Point, and downstream of a line between department markers located approximately 100 yards upstream from the end of the access trail to Blind River rapids. This change will be in effect from 12:01 A.M. June 24 through 11:59 P.M. July 14, 2006.

### REGULATION:

The provision of 5 AAC 47.023(h)(1)(B) is superceded by this emergency order in the above described area. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are in effect:

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

(h) In the Petersburg/Wrangell vicinity:

- (1) in Blind Slough, upstream of a line between Blind Point and Anchor Point,
  - (B ) In the waters downstream of a line between department markers located approximately 100 yards upstream from the end of the access trail to Blind River rapids, anglers may retain king salmon hooked other than in the mouth.

Mckie Campbell  
Commissioner

By delegation to:

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Douglas Fleming  
Petersburg/Wrangell Area  
Management Biologist

**JUSTIFICATION:**

In 2006, the Alaska Board of Fisheries adopted a regulation whereby a period of retaining king salmon hooked other than in the mouth (snagged) would be permitted only by emergency order. This option was afforded to the department for improving our ability to attain broodstock requirements for the Crystal Lake Hatchery. The projected Crystal Lake hatchery king salmon run is 5,200 king salmon to the Terminal Harvest Area. Inseason monitoring of the commercial fishery and aerial survey counts of king salmon in Blind Slough affirm that the preseason projection appears accurate at this time.

The sport fishery for hatchery produced king salmon in terminal waters of Wrangell Narrows and fresh waters of Blind Slough is managed under the Wrangell Narrows-Blind Slough Terminal Harvest Area Management Plan (5 AAC 33.381) and the Southeast King Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 47.055). The Wrangell Narrows-Blind Slough Terminal Harvest Area Management Plan (5 AAC 33.381) distributes harvest of the Crystal Lake Hatchery king salmon stock among sport and commercial troll fisheries while preserving a portion of the run for hatchery brood stock. When the projected king salmon run to the terminal harvest area is greater than 4,000 fish, the Wrangell Narrow-Blind Slough Terminal Harvest Area Management Plan (5 AAC 33.381) instructs the department to increase the daily bag limit to more than two king salmon 28 inches or greater in length, and more than two king salmon less than 28 inches in length from June 1 through July 31. This emergency order simply creates a limited time and area for liberalized catching and harvesting of surplus king salmon. A possibility exists for further action regarding this run prior to July 31 if conditions warrant.

**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.