

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-RS-6-45-06

Issued at Anchorage: August 17, 2006

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Friday, August 18, 2006

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m., Monday,
September 4, 2006, unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order increases the bag and possession limit for salmon, other than king salmon, from three per day, six in possession to six per day, twelve in possession in the Eshamy Lagoon and the Eshamy drainage. In addition, this emergency order opens the marine waters of Eshamy Lagoon inside the Department regulatory markers to snagging. The bag and possession limit for coho salmon shall remain at 3 per day, 3 in possession. This emergency order is effective beginning 12:01 a.m. Friday, August 18, 2006, through 11:59 p.m., Monday, September 4, 2006:

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 55.023 SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR SEASONS, BAG, POSSESSION, AND SIZE LIMITS, AND METHODS AND MEANS FOR THE PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND AREA. (1)(D) and (2)(A) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective beginning 12:01 a.m., Friday, August 18, 2006, through 11:59 p.m., Monday, September 4, 2006:

5 AAC 55.023 SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR SEASONS, BAG, POSSESSION, AND SIZE LIMITS, AND METHODS AND MEANS FOR THE PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND AREA.

(1) The following special provisions apply to salmon, other than king salmon;

(D) Eshamy Lagoon and the Eshamy drainage: bag limit of six fish and possession limit of twelve fish, of which only three per day and three in possession may be coho salmon;

(2)(A) Snagging is allowed beginning 12:01 a.m., Friday, August 18, 2006, through 11:59 p.m., Monday, September 4, 2006, in Eshamy Lagoon inside ADF&G regulatory markers located on the lagoon shore approximately one-half mile on either side of the ADF&G cabin.

McKie Campbell
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Brian H. Marston
Assistant Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

Eshamy Lagoon, inside ADF&G markers located on the lagoon shore approximately one-half mile from the ADF&G cabin, is closed to snagging each year until the Department determines that the escapement goal will be met. The biological escapement goal for Eshamy Lake is 20,000 - 40,000 sockeye salmon. The anticipated escapement for August 16 is 16,316 - 21,700 sockeye salmon. Actual escapement past the ADF&G weir through August 16, is 31,218 sockeye salmon, with an additional 1,000 fish below the weir in the system. With approximately 43% of the run yet to return (based on average run timing), the inseason total run projection is at least 44,000 sockeye salmon for 2006. In order to keep escapement within the desired range and in conjunction with actions taken to liberalize the commercial fishery, these emergency actions are justified. The bag and possession limit for coho salmon shall remain at 3 per day and 3 in possession, and the snagging provision is rescinded on September 4 to protect the coho salmon stock.

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region 2 Office of Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, AK 99518, (907) 267-2218.