

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 01-KS-C-11-07

Issued at Petersburg, Thursday,
June 28, 2007

Effective 12:01 A.M.
Date: Friday, June 29, 2007

Expiration Date: 11:59 P.M. Sunday,
July 15, 2007 unless superseded by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 designated fresh waters of Blind Slough, near Petersburg. The area referenced in this regulation includes waters of Blind Slough 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 29 through 11:59 P.M. July 15, 2007.

REGULATION:

Consistent with the stipulations within 5 AAC 47.055, Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan and 5 AAC 33.381, Wrangell Narrow-Blind Slough Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan, the provision of 5 AAC 47.023(h)(1)(B) is superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective:

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.

Denby S. Lloyd
Commissioner

By delegation to: _____

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 while allowing increased opportunity to harvest king salmon surplus to hatchery broodstock needs. The 2007 projected Crystal Lake hatchery king salmon run is 5,500 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 is accurate. Surplus hatchery produced king salmon are currently returning to the terminal waters of Wrangell Narrows and the fresh waters of Blind Slough.

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.