

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Emergency Order No. 1-DC-H-04-07

Issued at Yakutat, Thursday, May 3, 2007

Effective Date: 12:01 A.M.
Friday, May 4, 2007

Expiration Date: 11:59 P.M. Monday,
December 31, 2007. Unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes the marine waters in the Yakutat vicinity to sport fishing for Dungeness crab, effective May 4.

REGULATION:

The provisions of **5 AAC 47.021 Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of Southeast Alaska** (b)(3), are added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order the following provisions are effective:

(b) in the Yakutat vicinity; (3) in all waters northeast of a line across Yakutat Bay from Point Manby (59° 32.56'N. lat., 139° 51.95'W. long.) to Ocean Cape (59° 41.72'N. lat, 140° 18.38'W. long) sport fishing for Dungeness crab is closed from May 4, 2007 to December 31, 2007.

Denby Lloyd
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Robert Johnson
Yakutat Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The most recent surveys conducted by the Department indicate the Yakutat area Dungeness crab stocks are not rebuilding following the closure of the commercial fishery in 2000. Since 2005 the Dungeness crab sport fishery, in the Yakutat vicinity, has also been closed. State Wide Harvest Survey estimates of sport Dungeness crab harvest, prior to 2005, also indicated a declining trend in the Yakutat area Dungeness crab stocks. Because these indications suggest that the stock is not rebuilding, the sport and personal use fishery will continue to be closed in 2007. The subsistence fishery will remain open as managers monitor harvest in Yakutat Bay to determine if additional conservation measures are necessary.

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.