

# SPORT FISHING

## *Emergency Order*

ALASKA DEPARTMENT  
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 1-RF-R-01-07

Issued at Juneau, Friday April 6, 2007.

Effective 12:01 A.M. Wednesday,  
Date: May 16, 2007

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December 31, 2007 unless superseded by  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

### EXPLANATION:

This emergency order establishes sport fishing bag and possession limits for non-pelagic rockfish for both resident and nonresident anglers, requires retention of all non-pelagic rockfish caught until the bag limit is reached, and establishes an annual limit of two yelloweye rockfish with harvest reporting requirements for nonresident anglers. Additionally, charter vessel operators and crew members will be prohibited from retaining non-pelagic rockfish while clients are on board the vessel.

### REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 47.020 (8)(B), 5AAC 47.0021 (g)(1)(B) and (j)(1) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective beginning 12:01A.M. May 16, 2007 through 11:59 P.M. December 31, 2007:

#### **5 AAC 47.020. General provisions for seasons and bag, possession, annual, and size limits for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.**

##### (8)(B) non-pelagic rockfish:

- (i) all non-pelagic rockfish caught must be retained until the bag limit is reached;
- (ii) the resident bag limit is three non-pelagic rockfish only one of which may be a yelloweye rockfish; possession limit of six fish of which only two may be yelloweye rockfish;
- (iii) the nonresident bag limit is two non-pelagic rockfish only one of which may be a yelloweye; with an annual limit of two yelloweye rockfish; possession limit of four fish which only two may be yelloweye;
- (iv) immediately after harvesting a yelloweye rockfish the nonresident angler must record, in ink, all yelloweye rockfish harvested either on the back of their sport fishing license or on a nontransferable harvest record;

#### **5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons and bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.**

##### (g) In the Sitka vicinity:

- (1) in the Sitka Sound Special Use Area, defined as that area of Sitka Sound enclosed on the north by lines from Kruzof Island at 57° 20.50' N. lat., 135° 45.17' W. long. to Chichagof Island at 57° 22.05' N. lat., 135° 43' W. long., and from Chichagof Island at 57° 22.58' N. lat., 135° 41.30' W. long., to Baranof Island at 57° 22.28' N. lat., 135° 40.95' W. long., and on the south and west by a line running from the southernmost tip of Sitka Point at 56° 59.38' N. lat., 135° 49.57' W. long., to Hanus Point at 56° 51.92' N. lat., 135° 30.50' W.

long., to the green day marker in Dorothy Narrows to Baranof Island at 56° 49.28' N. lat., 135° 22.60' W. long.,

(B) non-pelagic rockfish:

- (i) all non-pelagic rockfish caught must be retained until the bag limit is reached;
- (ii) the resident bag limit is three non-pelagic rockfish only one of which may be a yelloweye rockfish; possession limit of six fish of which only two may be a yelloweye rockfish;
- (iii) the nonresident bag limit is two non-pelagic rockfish only one of which may be a yelloweye rockfish; with an annual limit of two yelloweye rockfish; possession limit of four fish which only two may be yelloweye;
- (iv) immediately after harvesting a yelloweye rockfish the nonresident angler must record, in ink, all yelloweye rockfish harvested either on the back of their sport fishing license or on a nontransferable harvest record;

(j) In the Ketchikan vicinity:

- (1) in the waters of Behm Canal, Clarence Strait, Tongass Narrows, Nichols Passage, George Inlet, Carroll Inlet, Thorne Arm, Revillagigedo Channel, and all contiguous waters enclosed by the latitude of Bushy Point Light (55°, 44.00' N. lat.), a line from Point Alava to the southernmost tip of Ham Island, a line from Cedar Point to Dall Head to a point in midstream Clarence Strait at the latitude of Dall Head (55°, 07.12' N. lat.) to Caamano Point, the bag and possession limit for non-pelagic rockfish is three fish, of which no more than one may be a yelloweye rockfish,;

(B) non-pelagic rockfish:

- (i) all non-pelagic rockfish caught must be retained until the bag limit is reached;
- (ii) the resident bag limit is three non-pelagic rockfish only one of which may be a yelloweye rockfish; possession limit of six fish of which only two may be a yelloweye rockfish;
- (iii) the nonresident bag limit is two non-pelagic rockfish only one of which can be a yelloweye rockfish; with an annual limit of two yelloweye rockfish; possession limit of four fish which only two may be yelloweye;
- (iv) nonresident immediately after harvesting a yelloweye rockfish the nonresident angler must record, in ink, all yelloweye rockfish harvested either on the back of their sport fishing license or on a nontransferable harvest record;

Denby Lloyd  
Commissioner

By delegation to:

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Charles O. Swanton  
Regional Management Coordinator  
Division of Sport Fish

**JUSTIFICATION:**

The Board of Fisheries established management provisions for a subgroup of non-pelagic rockfish (demersal shelf rockfish) to be imposed within the sport fishery for controlling harvest (5 AAC 47.065). The board acted upon concerns regarding recent harvest levels of demersal shelf rockfish within the sport fishery during 2001 through 2005. The Board allocated 16% (66 metric tons) of the total allowable catch of demersal shelf rockfish to the sport fishery. An approximate harvest of 71 metric tons during the 2006 season dictates that further restrictions are required. The measures being imposed during 2007 are intended to reduce harvest and total mortality to within the 66 metric ton allocation.

**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 110024, Douglas, AK 99824, (907) 465-4270.