

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Emergency Order No. 1-RS-B-19-08

Issued at Craig, Monday, July 7, 2008

Effective 12:01 a.m.
Date: Wednesday, July 9, 2008

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Wednesday,
December 31, 2008. Unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes all freshwaters in the Hatchery Creek drainage, including Sweetwater Lake, on Prince of Wales Island to the harvest of sockeye salmon. All sockeye salmon caught must be released immediately.

REGULATION:

The provisions of **5 AAC 47.023 Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area (k)(8)(E)** are added 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 the Southeast Alaska Area.

(k) In the Prince of Wales Island vicinity:

(8) In Sweetwater Lake drainage,

(E) the retention of sockeye salmon is prohibited; all sockeye salmon must be released immediately.

Denby S. Lloyd
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Steven McCurdy
Prince of Wales Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The number of sockeye salmon counted through a weir on Hatchery Creek above the falls as of the morning of July 6, 2008 is fifteen. At the same date last year 2,547 fish had been passed through the weir, which was over 58% of the entire escapement of sockeye salmon. In addition, observation in the lower river and at the falls by ADF&G staff indicate only a few hundred fish are present. Although it is possible the run is very late this year indications are that the escapement is extremely small and may be insufficient to sustain this stock of fish.

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; at the

Emergency Order Number 1-RS-B-19-08

**July 7, 2008
Page 2**

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