

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 1-RS-D-19-09

Issued at Sitka, Thursday, July 23,
2009.

Effective 12:01 a.m.
Date: Saturday, July 25, 2009

Expiration Date: Thursday, December 31,
2009 at 11:59 p.m. unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes Klag Bay north of Rose Point and the Klag Bay Lake drainage, Lake Anna north of 57°38.53' N. latitude, and the Lake Anna drainage, and Ford Arm east of the longitude of Round Point (135°59.75' W. longitude), and the Ford Arm drainage to fishing for sockeye salmon from July 25 through December 31, 2009.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits for the salt waters of Southeast Alaska Area (g)(6-8); and 5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area (g)(12-14) are added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order the following provisions are effective beginning at 12:01 a.m., Saturday July 25 through 11:59 p.m., Thursday, December 31, 2009.

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

(g) In the Sitka vicinity:

- (6) In Klag Bay north of the latitude of Rose Point, sockeye salmon fishing is closed; all sockeye salmon must be released immediately.
- (7) In Lake Anna north of 57°38.53' N. latitude, sockeye salmon fishing is closed; all sockeye salmon must be released immediately.
- (8) In Ford Arm east of the longitude of Round Point (135°59.75' W. longitude) sockeye salmon fishing is closed; all sockeye salmon must be released immediately.

5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits, and method and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

(g) In the Sitka vicinity:

- (12) Klag Bay Lake drainage, sockeye salmon fishing is closed; all sockeye salmon must be released immediately.
- (13) Lake Anna drainage, sockeye salmon fishing is closed; all sockeye salmon must be released immediately.
- (14) Ford Arm drainage sockeye salmon fishing is closed; all sockeye salmon must be released immediately.

Denby S. Lloyd
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Troy Tydingco
Sitka Area Management Biologist
Division of Sport Fish

JUSTIFICATION:

The Klag Bay weir, operated by the Sitka Tribe of Alaska (STA), has passed 106 sockeye salmon, as of July 21. Based on an on-sight creel survey conducted by STA, approximately 5,000 sockeye have been harvested by subsistence fishermen. The 5-year average escapement in Klag Bay based on weir counts is 12,455 sockeye, with a high of 17,657 sockeye in 2006 and a low of 4,273 sockeye in 2008. The 5-year average subsistence harvest in Klag Bay is 2,516 sockeye. Prior to this year the highest recorded harvest for Klag Bay was 4,065 sockeye in 2002.

Due to the low water conditions on West Chichigof Island sockeye salmon are unable to enter the freshwater streams. The weather forecast is for the current dry conditions to continue for an extended period of time, making the sockeye salmon runs on West Chichigof Island vulnerable to harvest. Due to the combination of low water conditions, high subsistence harvest and low escapement the department is closing these systems until escapements are achieved.

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.