

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Emergency Order No. 1-KS-A-16-10

Issued at Ketchikan, Friday, July 2,
2010

Effective 12:01 a.m. Sunday,
Date: July 04, 2010

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Sunday,
August 15, 2010, unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order rescinds Emergency Order No. 1-KS-A-09-10, issued May 28, 2010. Effective 12:01 a.m. Sunday, July 4 through 11:59 p.m. Sunday, August 15 Neets Bay is closed to sport fishing for all species. This emergency order also establishes a bag and possession limit for all anglers (residents and nonresidents) of 6 king salmon with no size limit in terminal marine waters near Ketchikan from 12:01 a.m. Sunday, July 4 through 11:59 p.m. Saturday, July 31, 2010. King salmon harvested in this terminal marine waters area do not count toward the nonresident annual limit.

REGULATION:

Emergency Order No. 1-KS-A-09-10 is rescinded. Consistent with the stipulations within 5 AAC 47.055 Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan and 5AAC 33.370 (d) of the Neets Bay Hatchery Salmon Management Plan, the provision of 5 AAC 47.021(j)(4) is superseded and 5 AAC 47.021(j)(7) is added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective:

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

(j) In the Ketchikan vicinity:

- (4) in Neets Bay east of the longitude of the eastern most tip of Bug Island sport fishing is closed from July 4 - August 15,
- (7) in the waters of Nichols Pass north of the latitude of Driest Point, Revillagigedo Channel north of the latitude of Harbor Point, Tongass Narrows south of the latitude of the Lewis Reef Light, from July 4 – July 31:
 - (A) the bag and possession limit is 6 king salmon, no size limit; and,
 - (B) king salmon harvested in this area do not count toward the nonresident annual limit.

Denby S. Lloyd
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Kelly Piazza
Ketchikan Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (SSRAA) is currently fishing in Neets Bay to meet its corporation escapement goal. Under 5 AAC 33.370(d) District 1: Neets Bay Hatchery Salmon Management Plan, sport fishing is only allowed in the Neets Bay harvest area when SSRAA is not harvesting salmon for its corporation escapement goal. Therefore the sport fishery in Neets Bay harvest area is closed effective July 4, 2010.

The Alaska Board of Fisheries authorized the department to use its emergency order authority to harvest surplus hatchery produced king salmon in terminal harvest areas. Surplus hatchery king salmon are expected to return to the saltwater terminal area near Whitman Lake, Deer Mountain, and Tamgas hatcheries. Therefore, the department is increasing the king salmon bag and possession limit to 6 fish, with no size limit. The Southeast King Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 47.055(k)) authorizes the Department to repeal the nonresident angler annual limit in hatchery terminal harvest areas.

PREVIOUS EMERGENCY ORDERS AFFECTED:

Emergency Order 1-KS-A-09-10, issued May 28, which established a bag and possession limit for all anglers (residents and nonresidents) of 6 king salmon with no size limit in terminal marine waters near Ketchikan and Neets Bay. King salmon harvested in these terminal saltwater areas did not count toward the nonresident annual limit. This emergency order was effective 12:01 a.m. Tuesday, June 1 through 11:59 p.m. Saturday, July 31, 2010.

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region I 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 Ketchikan Area Office, 2030 Sea Level Drive, Suite 215, Ketchikan, AK 99901. (907) 225-2859.