

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 1-RF-R-01-10

Issued at Juneau, Monday, March 15,
2010.

Effective 12:01 A.M. Tuesday,
Date: March 16, 2010

Expiration Date: 11:59 P.M. Friday,
December 31, 2010 unless superseded by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The provisions of 5 AAC 47.020 (8)(B), 5AAC 47.0021 (g)(1)(B) and (j)(1) are superseded by this emergency order.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. March 15, 2010 through 11:59 P.M. December 31, 2010:

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; possession limit of four fish which only two may be yelloweye; with an annual limit of two yelloweye rockfish;
- (iv) immediately after harvesting a yelloweye rockfish nonresident anglers must record, in ink, all yelloweye rockfish harvested either on the back of their sport fishing license or on a nontransferable harvest record;
- (v) a sport fishing guide and sport fishing guide crew member working on a chartered vessel in the salt waters of Southeast Alaska may not retain non-pelagic rockfish while clients are on board the vessel.

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; possession limit of four fish which only two may be yelloweye; with an annual limit of two yelloweye rockfish;
- (iv) immediately after harvesting a yelloweye rockfish nonresident anglers must record, in ink, all yelloweye rockfish harvested either on the back of their sport fishing license or on a nontransferable harvest record;
- (v) a sport fishing guide and sport fishing guide crew member working on a chartered vessel in the salt waters of Southeast Alaska may not retain non-pelagic rockfish while clients are on board the vessel.

(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;

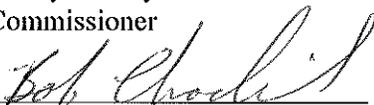
(A) non-pelagic rockfish:

- (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; possession limit of four fish which only two may be yelloweye; with an annual limit of two yelloweye rockfish;
- (iv) immediately after harvesting a yelloweye rockfish nonresident anglers must record, in ink, all yelloweye rockfish harvested either on the back of their sport fishing license or on a nontransferable harvest record;

- (v) a sport fishing guide and sport fishing guide crew member working on a chartered vessel in the salt waters of Southeast Alaska may not retain non-pelagic rockfish while clients are on board the vessel.

Denby S. Lloyd
Commissioner

By delegation to:


Bob Chadwick
Regional Management Coordinator
Division of Sport Fish

JUSTIFICATION:

The Alaska Board of Fisheries established management provisions for a subgroup of non-pelagic rockfish (demersal shelf rockfish) to be imposed on the sport fishery for controlling harvest (5 AAC 47.065). The Board allocated 16% of the total allowable catch of demersal shelf rockfish to the sport fishery. The measures being imposed during 2010 are intended to limit harvest and total mortality to within the sport allocation. Managers will continue to monitor sport harvest of non-pelagic rockfish and may take additional management actions necessary to keep the sport fishery within its 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.