

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 1-KS-D-12-06

Issued at Sitka, Wednesday, July 5,
2006

Effective 12:01 A.M. Thursday,
Date: July 6, 2006

Expiration Date: December 31, 2006, at
11:59 P.M. unless superseded by a subsequent
emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes all salt waters of Bear Cove east, of a line between the ADF&G regulatory markers located on the north and south shores of Bear Cove to the retention and possession of king salmon by sport anglers from July 6 through December 31.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 ACC 47. 021. (g)(3) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective:

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

(g) In the Sitka vicinity:

(3) the Bear Cove Special Harvest Area described as those waters of Bear Cove east of a line between ADF&G regulatory markers located on the north and south shores of Bear Cove.

(A) closed to snagging; a fish hooked anywhere other than the mouth must be released immediately;

(B) King salmon may not be possessed or retained; all king salmon caught must be released immediately.

McKie Campbell
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Bob Chadwick
Sitka Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

King salmon returning to Medvejie Hatchery are not expected to meet brood stock goals in 2006 due to poor ocean survival. Ocean survival of king salmon returning to Medvejie Hatchery this year is estimated at less than 1%. This is less than the ten year average ocean survival of 2.5%. As of July 3, 2006, only 1,000 king salmon were observed in Bear Cove. An additional 3,500 fish are needed to meet brood stock needs. This closure of the sport fishery is therefore necessary to help ensure king salmon brood stock needs at Medvejie Hatchery are achieved.

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, Sitka Area Office, 304 Lake Street, Room 103, Sitka, AK 99835, (907)747-5355.