

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 1-KS-C-12-11

Issued at Petersburg, Tuesday, May
31, 2011.

Effective 12:01 A.M.
Date: Wednesday, June 1, 2011

Expiration Date: 11:59 P.M. Sunday,
July 31, 2011 unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION: This emergency order modifies the king salmon bag and possession limits for the terminal waters of the Wrangell Narrows and closes Blind Slough to sport fishing as prescribed in the District 6: Wrangell Narrow-Blind Slough Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan. In the terminal waters of Wrangell Narrows, from June 1 through July 31, the bag and possession limit is two king salmon 28 inches or greater in length, two king salmon less than 28 inches in length. The regionwide nonresident annual limit established by Emergency Order 01-KS-R-02-11, allowing five king salmon 28 inches or greater in length, remains in effect in the terminal waters of Wrangell Narrows. Harvests of king salmon smaller than 28 inches in this area do not apply toward the nonresident annual limit. Blind Slough is closed to all sport fishing for the protection of king salmon brood stock.

REGULATION:

Consistent with 5 AAC 33.381. District 6: Wrangell Narrows-Blind Slough Terminal Harvest Area Management Plan and 5 AAC 47.055. Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan, the provision of 5 AAC 47.023.(h)(1) is superseded and the provisions of 5 AAC 47.023.(h)(1) are added. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective, beginning 12:01 A.M. Wednesday, June 1 through 11:59 P.M. Sunday, July 31, 2011:

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.

(h) In the Petersburg/Wrangell vicinity,

(4) In the terminal waters of Wrangell Narrows in Section 6-A north and east of the northern tip of Woewodski Island (56° 36' N and 132° 59' W) and south of 56° 46' N. latitude,

(A) from June 1 through July 31, the bag and possession limit is two king salmon 28 inches or greater in length, and two king salmon less than 28 inches in length, and;

(B) king salmon less than 28 inches in length harvested in this area do not count toward the nonresident annual limit.

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

(h) In the Petersburg/Wrangell vicinity:

(1) all waters of Blind Slough, upstream from a line between Blind Point and Anchor Point are closed to fishing from June 1 through July 31, 2011.

Cora Campbell
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Douglas Fleming
Petersburg/Wrangell Area
Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The sport fishery for hatchery-produced king salmon in terminal waters of Wrangell Narrows and Blind Slough is managed under the Wrangell Narrows-Blind Slough Terminal Harvest Area Management Plan (5 AAC 33.381). This plan distributes harvest of the Crystal Lake Hatchery king salmon run among sport and commercial troll fisheries while preserving a portion of the run for hatchery brood stock. In 2011, the Crystal Lake Hatchery adult king salmon return is projected to be 1,600 fish. As prescribed in the plan, if the projected king salmon return to the terminal harvest area is between 1,000 and 2,000 fish, the department is to close Blind Slough to sport fishing and set the bag and possession limit in the terminal waters of Wrangell Narrows at two king salmon 28 inches or greater in length, and two king salmon less than 28 inches in length from June 1 through July 31.

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 and at the Petersburg Area Office, 16 Sing Lee Alley, P.O. Box 667, Petersburg, AK 99833, (907) 772-5231.