

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

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

Issued at Petersburg, Wednesday,
May 30, 2012.

Effective 12:01 A.M.
Date: Friday, June 1, 2012

Expiration Date: 11:59 P.M. Tuesday,
July 31, 2012 unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION: This emergency order modifies the king salmon bag, possession and nonresident annual limits for the terminal waters of the Wrangell Narrows and the fresh waters of Blind Slough, near Petersburg, to harvest surplus Crystal Lake Hatchery king salmon as prescribed in the District 6: Wrangell Narrow-Blind Slough Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 33.381) and allowed by the Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 47.055). As prescribed by these plans this emergency order establishes the following regulations: 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. King salmon caught by nonresident anglers within the terminal harvest area in the Wrangell Narrows and the freshwaters of Blind Slough during this period do not count toward the nonresident annual limit.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 47.023.(h)(1)(D) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective beginning 12:01 A.M. Friday, June 1 through 11:59 P.M. Tuesday, July 31, 2012:

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,

(2) 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 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) in Blind Slough, upstream of a line between Blind Point and Anchor Point,

(D) King salmon harvested in this area do not count toward the nonresident annual limit.

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 2012, the Crystal Lake Hatchery adult king salmon return is projected to be 2,900 fish to the terminal harvest area. As prescribed in the plan, if the projected king salmon return to the terminal harvest area is between 2,000 and 4,000 fish, the department is to set the bag and possession limit 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 within the boundaries of the Wrangell Narrows-Blind Slough Terminal Harvest Area. The Southeast King Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 47.055) authorizes the department to repeal the nonresident angler annual limit provisions in hatchery terminal harvest areas.

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.