

# SPORT FISHING

## *Emergency Order*

ALASKA DEPARTMENT  
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 1-KS-D-14-19

Issued at: Sitka, Thursday, May 23,  
2019

Effective        12:01 a.m. Saturday,  
Date:            June 1, 2019

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Friday,  
June 14, 2019, unless superseded by  
subsequent emergency order.

**EXPLANATION:** This emergency order liberalizes regulations in the saltwater area near Hidden Falls to target hatchery king salmon returning to Hidden Falls Hatchery.

**REGULATION:** The provisions of 5 AAC 47.021(g)(9) are added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Saturday, June 1 through 11:59 p.m. Friday, June 14, 2019:

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

(g) In the Sitka vicinity:

(9) the waters of Chatham Strait, within one nautical mile of the Baranof Island shoreline south of the latitude of South Point and north of 57°06.83' N. lat. (south of Takatz Bay) excluding waters of Kelp Bay as described in 5 AAC 33.374(a) and westward to a line at 57°13.18' N. latitude, 134°51.88' W. longitude to 57°12.91' N. latitude, 134°51.50' W. longitude to 57°12.81' N. latitude, 134°51.48' W. longitude to 57°12.65' N. latitude, 134°51.48' W. longitude:

- (A) the bag and possession limit is one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;
- (B) from June 1 through June 14, a nonresident annual limit is three king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length.

Doug Vincent-Lang  
Commissioner

By delegation to:

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Troy Tydingco  
Sitka Area Management Biologist  
Division of Sport Fish

**JUSTIFICATION:** The waters of Chatham Strait are closed through June 14 to the retention of king salmon to protect wild stocks of king salmon returning to mainland rivers. However, returning hatchery king salmon are available for harvest near the Hidden Falls Hatchery. The

expected total run of hatchery king salmon to Hidden Falls in 2019 (1,900 fish) is in excess of broodstock needs (500 fish). In 2018, the broodstock needs at Hidden Falls were 500 fish with a projection of a 2,000 king salmon run. Ultimately, 1,350 fish returned of which 30 were taken in the sport fishery and 295 for broodstock. The requested closure area in addition to the currently closed area near the hatchery is for additional broodstock protection. This opening will allow opportunity for anglers to retain hatchery king salmon.

**PREVIOUS EMERGENCY ORDERS AFFECTED:** Emergency Order 1-KS-R-03-19 establishes areas and times when king salmon may not be retained in the vicinity of Haines, Skagway, Juneau, Petersburg, Wrangell and Ketchikan; these actions are being taken to reduce the harvest of Southeast Alaska wild king salmon stocks and meet objectives for king salmon management within the Pacific Salmon Treaty and are not affected by this emergency order.

**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 99811, (907) 465-4270.