

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 1-KS-R-27-19

Issued at: Sitka, Wednesday, August 14, 2019.

Effective 12:01 a.m. Friday,
Date: August 16, 2019

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Tuesday,
December 31, 2019 unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order rescinds Emergency Order 1-KS-R-23-19, issued July 22, 2019, which modified Southeast Alaska king salmon regulations by establishing a period of king salmon nonretention for nonresident anglers to keep the sport fishery within its allocation of the Pacific Salmon Treaty all gear harvest limit. The reduction of treaty king salmon harvest achieved by this period of nonretention to date is sufficient to keep the sport fishery within its allocation of the Pacific Salmon Treaty all gear harvest limit. The *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan* stipulates the regional king salmon sport fish bag and possession limits and any other management measures will be based upon the Southeast Alaska Winter Troll catch per unit of effort (CPUE). The Southeast Alaska Winter Troll CPUE for the 2019 season is 3.38 which, according to the plan, prescribes that the bag limit will be one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length; the nonresident king salmon annual harvest limit will be three fish from January 1-June 30, and one fish July 1-December 31. Any king salmon harvested that applies to the harvest limit during the earlier time period will apply toward the later time period's harvest limit. In addition, a resident bag limit of two king salmon 28 inches or greater in length will be established for the inside waters that were closed to reduce harvest of Alaska wild king salmon once they open by a subsequent emergency order. Regional resident king salmon regulations and resident and nonresident regulations in the designated sport terminal areas in the Juneau vicinity remain unchanged. This emergency order does not supersede Emergency Order 1-KS-E-10-19 issued May 23, 2019 which liberalized king salmon regulations in the designated sport terminal harvest area in the vicinity of Juneau. This emergency order also does not supersede Emergency Order 1-KS-R-17-19, issued June 10, 2019, that established a resident bag and possession limit of two king salmon 28 inches or greater in length in the king salmon nonretention areas once they reopened as mandated by the *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan* (5 AAC 47.055).

REGULATION:

Consistent with stipulations within 5 AAC 47.055 *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan*, the provisions of 5 AAC 47.020 (19) are added by this emergency order and become effective 12:01 a.m. Friday, August 16, 2019. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective:

5 AAC 47.020. General provisions for seasons and bag, possession, annual, and size limits for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

(19) king salmon:

- (A) bag and possession limit of one king salmon 28 inches or greater in length;
- (B) from July 1 through December 31, a nonresident's annual harvest limit is one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length, and any king salmon 28 inches or greater in length harvested by a nonresident from January 1 through December 31 will apply toward the one fish annual harvest limit; a harvest record under 5 AAC 75.006 is required.

Doug Vincent-Lang
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Bob Chadwick
Regional Management Coordinator
Division of Sport Fish

JUSTIFICATION:

The Southeast Alaska king salmon sport fishery is managed under the directives of the *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan* (5 AAC 47.055). This plan prescribes management measures based upon the Southeast Alaska Winter Troll CPUE. The Southeast Alaska Winter Troll CPUE for the 2019 season is 3.38 which equates to 25,844 king salmon allocated to the sport fishery. To address the implementation of the new treaty agreement which includes provisions to reduce the Alaska harvest ceiling the following year if the Alaska harvest ceiling is exceeded, the sport fishery is being managed conservatively with a harvest target of 25,300 treaty king salmon in 2019. As directed by the *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan*, nonresident anglers will be restricted to stay within the sport harvest allocation and the department shall only restrict resident anglers if nonresident angler restrictions are insufficient to remain within the sport harvest allocation. Based on harvest estimates to date and projected harvest of king salmon for the remainder of the season a period of king salmon nonretention for nonresident anglers is no longer necessary to ensure that the sport fishery remains within its harvest allocation.

PREVIOUS EMERGENCY ORDERS AFFECTED:

Emergency Order 1-KS-R-23-19, issued July 22, 2019, is rescinded by this emergency order.

Emergency Order 1-KS-E-10-19 issued May 23, 2019 which established designated sport terminal areas to provide Alaska hatchery king salmon harvest opportunity while protecting wild Alaska king salmon remains in effect.

Emergency Order 1-KS-R-17-19 issued June 10, 2019 which established king salmon nonretention areas in the vicinity of Haines, Skagway, Juneau, Petersburg, Wrangell, and Ketchikan to reduce the harvest of Southeast Alaska wild king salmon stocks and a resident bag and possession limit of two king salmon 28 inches or greater in length once these nonretention

areas reopen as mandated by the *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan* (5 AAC 47.055) remains in effect.

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region 1 Office of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, P. O. Box 110024, Douglas, AK 99811, (907) 747-5551.