

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 1-KS-R-24-20

Issued at Sitka, Monday, September
28, 2020.

Effective 12:01 a.m. Thursday,
Date: October 1, 2020

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Friday,
December 31, 2021 unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION: This emergency order rescinds Emergency Order 1-KS-R-23-20, issued July 29, 2020, that established liberalized regional resident and nonresident king salmon bag and possession limits and nonresident harvest limits for the Southeast Alaska king salmon sport fishery in season to increase king salmon harvest that was significantly reduced due to the Covid-19 pandemic. These liberalized regulations were implemented limited outside of the *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan* utilizing the departments emergency order authority. One provision prescribed by the plan that cannot be implemented under the department emergency order authority is the use of two rods. Given the sport fishery king salmon catch per unit effort is significantly lower during the fall and winter season and anglers opportunity would be increased by allowing the use of two rods, this emergency order reestablishes Southeast Alaska regional king salmon bag and possession limit and the use of two rods under the mandates of the plan. The 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 CPUE. The 2019-2020 Southeast Alaska Winter Troll CPUE is 4.83, 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 total harvest limit will be three fish from January 1-June 30, two fish from July 1-July 7, and one fish from July 8-December 31. Any king salmon harvested during the earlier time periods will apply toward the later time period's nonresident harvest limit, in addition from October 1 through March 31, a resident sport angler may use two rods when fishing for king salmon.

REGULATION: Consistent with stipulations within 5 AAC 47.055 *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan*, the provisions of 5 AAC 47.020 (20) are added by this emergency order and become effective 12:01 a.m. Thursday, October 1, 2020. 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.

(20) king salmon:

- (A) the bag and possession limit is one king salmon 28 inches or greater in length;
- (B) from January 1 through June 30, a nonresident's total annual harvest limit is three king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length; a harvest record under 5 AAC 75.006 is required;

- (C) from July 1 through July 7, a nonresident's total annual harvest limit is two king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length, and any king salmon harvested by a nonresident from January 1 through June 30 will apply towards the two fish total harvest limit; a harvest record under 5 AAC 75.006 is required;
- (D) from July 8 through December 31, a nonresident's total harvest limit is one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length, and any king salmon harvested by a nonresident from January 1 through July 7 will apply towards the one fish total harvest limit; a harvest record under 5 AAC 75.006 is required;
- (E) from October 1 through March 31, a resident sport angler may use two rods when fishing for king salmon, a person using two rods under this paragraph may only retain salmon;

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 2020 season is 4.83 which equates to 37,900 king salmon allocated to the sport fishery. Under these management measures the sport fishery will remain within its allocation. Regional king salmon sport fish bag and possession limits and other management measures for 2021 will be based on the 2019/2020 Southeast Alaska Winter Troll CPUE until the 2020/2021 Southeast Alaska Winter Troll CPUE is announced. Once the 2020/2021 Southeast Alaska Winter Troll CPUE is available a subsequent announcement will be made outlining the Southeast Alaska regional king salmon regulations for the remainder of 2021.

PREVIOUS EMERGENCY ORDERS AFFECTED:

Emergency Order 1-KS-R-23-20, issued July 29, 2020, is rescinded by this emergency order.

Emergency Order 1-KS-R-17-20 issued June 9, 2020 which established king salmon nonretention in the vicinity of Haines and Skagway to reduce the harvest of Southeast Alaska wild king salmon stocks remains in effect until December 31, 2020.

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.