

# SPORT FISHING

## *Emergency Order*

ALASKA DEPARTMENT  
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

**Emergency Order No.** 1-KS-R-16-20

**Issued at:** Sitka, Tuesday, June 9,  
2020.

**Effective Date:** 12:01 a.m. Monday,  
June 15, 2020

**Expiration Date:** 11:59 p.m. Wednesday,  
September 30, 2020 unless superseded by  
subsequent emergency order.

**EXPLANATION:** This emergency order rescinds Emergency Order 1-KS-R-05-20, issued February 11, 2020, that established regional resident and nonresident king salmon bag and possession limits and nonresident harvest limits for the Southeast Alaska king salmon sport fishery for the 2020 season based on the Southeast Alaska Winter Troll CPUE. 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 CPUE.

Since implementation of these regulations the Southeast Alaska sport king salmon fishery is estimated to be significantly below its treaty allocation in 2020 due to a significant decrease in nonresident effort related to COVID-19 interstate travel mandates and cancellations of large cruise ship operations. This emergency order establishes a resident bag limit of three king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length; a nonresident bag limit of one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length; and a nonresident annual limit of 4 king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length. The additional king salmon opportunity provided by these new regional limits is estimated to increase sport king salmon treaty harvest without exceeding the sport fishery allocation.

**REGULATION:** Consistent with objectives within 5 AAC 47.055 *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan*, the provisions of 5 AAC 47.020 (21) are added by this emergency order and become effective 12:01 a.m. Monday, June 15, 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.**

(21) king salmon:

- (A) resident bag and possession limit of three fish, 28 inches or greater in length;
- (B) nonresident bag and possession limit of one fish, 28 inches or greater in length;
- (C) nonresident annual limit of four fish, 28 inches or greater in the length, a harvest record under 5 AAC 75.006 is required;

By delegation to:

Doug Vincent-Lang  
Commissioner

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Bob Chadwick  
Regional Management Coordinator  
Division of Sport Fish

**JUSTIFICATION:** Due to the unforeseen reduction in nonresident harvest caused by COVID-19 interstate travel mandates and cancellations of large cruise ship operations, without modification the 2020 sport harvest of treaty king salmon is estimated to be 24,800-30,000, approximately 8,000-13,000 fish below the sport fishery allocation of 37,900. Implementation of less restrictive king salmon regulations allowing for a resident bag and possession limit of three fish and a nonresident bag limit of one fish, with an annual limit of 4, is estimated to result in a 2020 sport harvest of approximately 31,600-38,400 treaty king salmon which would likely not exceed the sport allocation of treaty king salmon.

The Southeast Alaska king salmon fishery will be monitored inseason and management action will be taken if needed to keep the sport fishery within the sport allocation.

**PREVIOUS EMERGENCY ORDERS AFFECTED:**

Emergency Order 1-KS-R-05-20, issued February 11, 2020, is rescinded by this emergency order.

Emergency Order 1-KS-R-17-20 issued June 9, 2020 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 remains in effect.

Emergency Orders 1-KS-C-13-20, and 1-KS-A-14-20 issued May 26, 2020; and Emergency Order 1-KS-E-18-20 issued June 9, 2020 which established designated sport terminal areas, in the Juneau, Sitka, Petersburg/Wrangell and Ketchikan management areas to provide Alaska hatchery king salmon harvest opportunity while protecting wild Alaska king salmon remain 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.