

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 1-RS-D-23-21

Issued at: Sitka, Tuesday, August 3,
2021

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Thursday, August 5, 2021

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December 31, 2021 unless superseded by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

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes Klag Bay north of Rose Point at 57° 37' 37.60 "N. latitude and Klag Bay Lake drainage to the retention of sockeye salmon from August 5 through December 31, 2021. Any sockeye salmon caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 47.021. (g)(10) and 5 AAC 47.023. (g)(12) are added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Thursday, August 5 through 11:59 p.m. Friday, December 31, 2021:

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:

(10) in Klag Bay north of Rose Point at 57° 37' 37.60 "N. lat., sport fishing for sockeye salmon is closed; sockeye salmon may not be possessed or retained; all sockeye salmon caught must be released immediately.

5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area

(g) In the Sitka vicinity:

(12) in Klag Bay Lake drainage, sport fishing for sockeye salmon is closed; sockeye salmon may not be possessed or retained; all sockeye salmon caught must be released immediately.

Douglas Vincent-Lang
Commissioner

By delegation to: _____
Jake Wieliczekiewicz

Assistant Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The Klag Lake weir, operated by the Sitka Tribe of Alaska, was installed and operational on June 30, 2021. As of August 3, 154 sockeye salmon have been counted through the weir. Harvest of sockeye salmon in the subsistence fishery is estimated to be approximately 1,632 fish. Observations of sockeye salmon abundance in saltwater suggests fewer fish than expected at this location given the time of year. Based on historic run timing, 28% of the run should be in Klag Bay Lake through August 3. Due to the combination of run timing, current estimated subsistence harvest, and low escapement the department is closing sockeye salmon harvest in the subsistence and sport fisheries in Klag Bay to help ensure adequate escapement of sockeye salmon into Klag Bay Lake.

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, Juneau, AK 99811, (907)465-4270, and at the Sitka Area Office, 304 Lake Street, Sitka, AK 99835, (907)747- 5355.