

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 1-KS-E-05-23

Issued at: Juneau, Wednesday,
March 8, 2023

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Thursday,
June 1, 2023

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Thursday,
August 31, 2023 unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order establishes a bag and possession limit of four king salmon with no size limit in a designated saltwater sport harvest area near Juneau. King salmon caught in the designated saltwater sport harvest area do not count toward the nonresident annual limit.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 47.021(l)(4) are added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Thursday, June 1 through 11:59 p.m. Thursday, August 31, 2023:

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

(l) In the Juneau vicinity:

(4) in a designated saltwater sport harvest area in the vicinity of Juneau, consisting of the contiguous waters of Stephens Passage, Auke Bay, Fritz Cove and Gastineau Channel, enclosed on the west by a line running from the tip of Point Louisa to the navigational aid at the northern tip of Portland Island (58° 21.13'N., 134° 45.52'W) then along the eastern shore of Portland Island to its most southern point and ending on Douglas Island at the northern tip of Outer Point, and enclosed on the east by the Juneau-Douglas Bridge and all salt waters of Lena Cove south of a line from Pt. Lena to a regulatory marker on the mainland shore located at 58° 24.20'N. lat., 134° 45.64'W. long.,

(A) the bag and possession limit is four king salmon, no size limit; and,

(B) king salmon harvested in this area do not count toward the nonresident annual limit.

Doug Vincent-Lang
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Daniel J. Teske
Juneau Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The Alaska Board of Fisheries authorized the department to use its emergency order authority to increase sport bag and possession limits and annual limits for hatchery-produced king salmon in hatchery terminal harvest areas when escapement is expected to be in excess of the broodstock requirements. The *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan* authorizes the department to repeal the nonresident annual limit

in hatchery terminal harvest areas. Hatchery-produced king salmon surplus to broodstock needs are expected to return to the salt waters near Juneau. Therefore, the department is increasing the king salmon bag and possession limits and repealing the nonresident annual limit in the designated saltwater sport harvest area near Juneau. Southeast Alaska wild king salmon stocks are in a period of low production and conservative measures are in place to protect those fish. However, the timing of this liberalization and the location in a small area near the hatchery release sites means the incidence of wild stock harvest is low.

PREVIOUS EMERGENCY ORDERS AFFECTED:

Emergency Order 1-KS-R-03-23 established resident and nonresident king salmon bag and possession limits and a nonresident king salmon annual limit as per the *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan*.

Emergency Order 1-KS-R-04-23 established 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 the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, P.O. Box 110024, Juneau, AK 99811, (907) 465-4270.