

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-SS-8-64-23

Issued at: Anchorage, Wednesday, September 6, 2023

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Thursday, September 7,
2023

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Sunday, October 1, 2023,
unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order extends the youth-only sport fishery in the Seward Lagoon and waters draining out of the Seward Lagoon (lagoon outfall streams) by 24 days. This extension will provide additional sport fishing opportunity for individuals that are under the age of 16 years old to fish for coho salmon until 11:59 p.m. Sunday, October 1, 2023.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 56.122 (a)(9)(C)(ii) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Thursday, September 7 through 11:59 p.m. Sunday, October 1, 2023:

5 AAC 56.122. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area.

(9) Resurrection Bay drainages:

(C) Seward Lagoon and the waters draining out of Seward Lagoon are closed to sport fishing, except that a person under 16 years of age may sport fish during a designated youth sport fishery, as follows:

(ii) unless modified by emergency order, the designated youth sport fishery occurs for coho salmon from August 25 – October 1;

Doug Vincent-Lang,
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Brittany Blain-Roth
Brittany Blain-Roth
Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The Seward Lagoon and waters draining out of the lagoon are stocked annually by the department with coho salmon smolt to provide sport fishing opportunity. Coho salmon returning to this location are primarily caught in salt water, but the Alaska Board of Fisheries established a youth-only fishery to provide sport fishing opportunity for youth anglers in the lagoon and waters draining out of the lagoon. The fish returning to these waters are not intended to naturally reproduce in the lagoon or be used for hatchery broodstock. Fish are still returning in Resurrection Bay and into the lagoon at this time and

extending the season of the youth-only sport fishery is warranted to provide additional angling and harvest opportunity to youth anglers under the age of 16 years old.

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region II Office of Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, AK 99518, (907) 267-2218.