

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 1-KS-D-16-24

Issued at: Sitka, Monday, May 13, 2024

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, May 15, 2024

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Wednesday, July 31, 2024, unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION: This emergency order closes the saltwater area of Bear Cove to sport fishing to protect king salmon needed for broodstock at Medvejie Hatchery.

REGULATION: The provisions of 5 AAC 47.021(g)(3) are superseded by this emergency order. The following provisions are effective from 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, May 15 through 11:59 p.m. Wednesday, July 31, 2024:

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.

(g) In the Sitka vicinity:

(3) all waters of Bear Cove east of a line from a point on the Baranof Island shoreline at 57° 00.63' N. lat., 135° 09.80' W. long. to a point on the Baranof shoreline at 57° 01.07' N. lat., 135° 09.93' W. long., are closed to sport fishing;

Doug Vincent-Lang
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Troy Tydingco
Sitka Area Management Biologist
Division of Sport Fish

JUSTIFICATION:

King salmon returning to Medvejie Hatchery are not expected to meet broodstock goals (5,000 fish) in 2024. Northern Southeast Aquaculture Association (NSRAA) forecast a total return of approximately 10,000 king salmon, however, based on historical harvest, it is likely that the common property sport and commercial fisheries outside of Bear Cove will harvest more than 5,000 fish leaving a shortfall for broodstock.

PREVIOUS EMERGENCY ORDERS AFFECTED: Emergency Order 1-KS-R-09-24 establishes areas and times when king salmon may not be retained in the vicinity of Haines,

Skagway, Juneau, Sitka, 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. Emergency Order 1-KS-R-08-24 established king salmon bag, possession, and annual limits for the Southeast Alaska region and remains in effect outside of the area and times described by this emergency order.

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 99811-0024, (907) 465-4270.