

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 1-CO-E-28-26

Issued at: Juneau, Thursday, August
27, 2026

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Tuesday, September 1, 2026

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Saturday,
October 31, 2026

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes sport fishing in the marine waters of Gastineau Channel, south of a line between Salmon Creek Bridge and a regulatory marker across the channel on Douglas Island and north of the Juneau-Douglas Bridge. This closure provides protection for returning coho salmon necessary for hatchery broodstock.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 47.021(d)(5) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Tuesday, September 1 through 11:59 p.m. Saturday, October 31, 2026:

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.

(d) In the Juneau vicinity: in the waters that are adjacent to the Juneau City and Borough road system to a distance one-quarter mile offshore:

(5) in the waters of Gastineau Channel, south of a line between Salmon Creek Bridge and the regulatory marker across the channel on Douglas Island and north of the Juneau-Douglas Bridge sport fishing is closed.

Douglas Vincent-Lang
Commissioner

By delegation to: _____

Daniel Teske
Juneau Area Management Biologist
Division of Sport Fish

JUSTIFICATION:

The number of coho salmon returning to the Douglas Island Pink and Chum, Inc. Macaulay Salmon Hatchery is extremely low and not expected to meet broodstock goals in 2026. In 2020, the water intake pipe to the hatchery broke and caused some mortality of juvenile coho salmon released in subsequent years making the projected run for 2026 very low. Early return indicators confirm this with extremely low numbers of coho salmon returning to the hatchery to date, and a low number of tagged Macaulay Hatchery coho salmon recovered in both the sport and commercial fisheries. This closure is necessary to provide sufficient coho salmon to meet hatchery broodstock needs.

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, Douglas, AK 99811, (907) 465-4270.