

# SPORT FISHING

## *Emergency Order*

ALASKA DEPARTMENT  
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

**Emergency Order No.** 2-KS-8-34-26

**Issued at:** Anchorage, Thursday, June 25, 2026

**Effective Date:** 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, July 1, 2026

**Expiration Date:** 11:59 p.m. Friday, July 31, 2026, unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.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) until 11:59 p.m. Friday, July 31, 2026.

**REGULATION:**

The provisions of 5 AAC 56.122 (a)(9)(C)(i) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, July 1 through 11:59 p.m. Friday, July 31, 2026:

**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:

(i) unless modified by emergency order, the designated youth sport fishery occurs for king salmon from June 17 – July 31;

Douglas Vincent-Lang  
Commissioner

By delegation to: *Brittany Blain-Roth*  
Brittany Blain-Roth  
North Gulf Coast Sport Fish Area Manager

**JUSTIFICATION:**

The Seward Lagoon and waters draining out of the lagoon are stocked annually by the department with king salmon smolt to provide sport fishing opportunity. King 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 opportunities for youth anglers in the lagoon and waters flowing from the lagoon. The fish returning to these waters are not intended to naturally reproduce in the lagoon or be used for hatchery broodstock. King salmon have returned to the lagoon later over the last few years and it is anticipated to be the same this year. Extending the season of the youth-only sport fishery is warranted to provide additional sport fishing opportunity to youth anglers under the age of 16 years old to harvest late-returning stocked king salmon.

**DISTRIBUTION:**

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region 2 Office of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, AK 99518, (907) 267-2218.