

# SPORT FISHING

## *Emergency Order*

ALASKA DEPARTMENT  
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

**Emergency Order No.** 1-KS-D-12-20

**Issued at:** Sitka, Tuesday, May 26  
2020

**Effective Date:** 12:01 a.m. Monday,  
June 1, 2020

**Expiration Date:** 11:59 p.m. Sunday,  
June 14, 2020, unless superseded by  
subsequent emergency order.

**EXPLANATION:** This emergency order liberalizes regulations in the saltwater area near Hidden Falls to target hatchery king salmon returning to Hidden Falls Hatchery.

**REGULATION:** The provisions of 5 AAC 47.021(g)(9) are added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Monday, June 1 through 11:59 p.m. Sunday, June 14, 2020:

**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:

(9) the waters of Chatham Strait, within one nautical mile of the Baranof Island shoreline south of the latitude of South Point and north of 57°06.83' N. lat. (south of Takatz Bay) excluding waters of Kelp Bay as described in 5 AAC 33.374(a) and westward to a line at 57°13.18' N. latitude, 134°51.88' W. longitude to 57°12.91' N. latitude, 134°51.50' W. longitude to 57°12.81' N. latitude, 134°51.48' W. longitude to 57°12.65' N. latitude, 134°51.48' W. longitude:

- (A) the bag and possession limit is one king salmon 28 inches or greater in length;
- (B) from June 1 through June 14, a nonresident's annual harvest limit is three king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length.

Doug Vincent-Lang  
Commissioner

By delegation to:

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Troy Tydingco  
Sitka Area Management Biologist  
Division of Sport Fish

**JUSTIFICATION:** The waters of Chatham Strait are closed through June 14 to the retention of king salmon to protect wild stocks of king salmon returning to mainland rivers. However, returning hatchery king salmon are available for harvest near the Hidden Falls Hatchery. The

expected total return of hatchery king salmon to Hidden Falls in 2020 (1,000 fish) is in excess of broodstock needs (350 fish). The currently closed area near the hatchery is for additional broodstock protection. This opening will allow opportunity for anglers to retain hatchery king salmon.

**PREVIOUS EMERGENCY ORDERS AFFECTED:** Emergency Order 1-KS-R-05-20 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* based on the 2020 winter troll catch per unit effort.

Emergency Order 1-KS-R-06-20 establishes 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 Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, P. O. Box 110024, Douglas, AK 99811, (907) 465-4270.