

# SPORT FISHING

## *Emergency Order*

ALASKA DEPARTMENT  
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

**Emergency Order No.** 1-KS-E-18-20

**Issued at:** Juneau, Tuesday June 9,  
2020

**Effective Date:** 12:01 a.m. Monday,  
June 15, 2020

**Expiration Date:** 11:59 p.m. Monday,  
August 31, 2020 unless superseded by  
subsequent emergency order.

### **EXPLANATION:**

This emergency order rescinds Emergency Order 1-KS-E-11-20, issued May 26, 2020, which established a bag and possession limit of two king salmon with no size limit in a designated saltwater sport harvest area near Juneau. This emergency order establishes a bag and possession limit of four (4) king salmon with no size limit in the designated saltwater sport harvest area near Juneau. King salmon caught in the designated saltwater sport harvest area under this new emergency order would not count toward the nonresident annual limit.

### **REGULATION:**

Consistent with the provisions outlined in 5 AAC 75.003(2)(B) which authorizes liberalization of sport fishing regulations to harvest surplus hatchery fish, the provisions of 5 AAC 47.021. (m) is added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Monday, June 15 through 11:59 p.m. Monday, August 31, 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.**

(p) In the Juneau vicinity:

(1) in a designated saltwater sport harvest area in the vicinity of Juneau, consisting of the contiguous waters of Stephens Passage, Auke Bay, Fritz Cove and Gastineau Channel, enclosed on the west by a line running from the tip of Point Louisa to the navigational aid at the northern tip of Portland Island (58° 21.13'N., 134° 45.52'W) then along the eastern shore of Portland Island to its most southern point and ending on Douglas Island at the northern tip of Outer Point, and enclosed on the east by the Juneau-Douglas Bridge and all salt waters of Lena Cove south of a line from Pt. Lena to a regulatory marker on the mainland shore located at 58° 24.20'N. lat., 134° 45.64'W. long.,

(A) the bag and possession limit is four (4) king salmon, no size limit; and,

(B) king salmon harvested in this area do not count toward the nonresident annual limit.

Doug Vincent-Lang  
Commissioner

By delegation to:

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Daniel J. Teske  
Juneau Area Management Biologist

**JUSTIFICATION:**

This action is being taken to harvest surplus hatchery king salmon in the Juneau area. These liberalized regulations provide opportunity for anglers to harvest king salmon. This additional opportunity is being provided in an effort to attract anglers to the terminal hatchery areas where they are more likely to harvest a hatchery king salmon and to reduce effort in the other areas where they are more likely to catch wild southeast Alaska king salmon. The Alaska Board of Fisheries authorized the department to use its emergency order authority to increase sport bag and possession limits and annual limits for hatchery-produced king salmon in hatchery terminal harvest areas when escapement is expected to be in excess of the broodstock requirements. The *Southeast King Salmon Management Plan* authorizes the department to repeal the nonresident annual limit in hatchery terminal harvest areas. Hatchery-produced king salmon surplus to broodstock needs are expected to return to the salt waters near Juneau. Since implementation of Emergency Order 1-KS-E-11-20, nonresident effort in the Southeast Alaska sport king salmon fishery is estimated to be significantly lower than expected due to the COVID-19 interstate travel mandates and cancellations of large cruise ship operations. Therefore, the department is increasing the king salmon bag and possession limits and repealing the nonresident annual limit in the designated saltwater sport harvest area (DSSHA) near Juneau. Southeast Alaska wild king salmon stocks are in a period of low production and conservative measures were established in January 2020 to protect those wild fish. The June 15 timing of this harvest liberalization and the locations of the small DSSHA near the hatchery release sites do not impact wild stocks since the incidence and harvest of wild stocks in the DSSHA are low due to the majority of these wild fish having already returned to their natal streams.

**PREVIOUS EMERGENCY ORDERS AFFECTED:**

Emergency Order 1-KS-R-16-20 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 is not affected by this emergency order.

Emergency Order 1-KS-R-17-20 established areas and times when king salmon may not be retained in the vicinity of Haines, Skagway, Juneau, Petersburg, Wrangell and Ketchikan; these actions were taken to reduce the harvest of Southeast Alaska wild king salmon stocks and meet objectives for king salmon management within the State of Alaska *Policy for the management of sustainable salmon fisheries* and the Pacific Salmon Treaty and are not affected by this emergency order.

Emergency Order 1-KS-E-11-20 established a two king salmon bag and possession limit with no size limit for all anglers in the hatchery areas near Juneau and is rescinded by this emergency order.

**DISTRIBUTION:**

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region 1 office of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, P.O. Box 110024, Juneau, AK 99811, (907) 465-4270.