

## FAQs

### IS IT ILLEGAL TO CROSS A SALMON STREAM?

Crossing a stream known to support salmon requires a permit. Many popular trails already have General Permits for pre-approved crossing locations. For crossing locations that do not have a General Permit, contact your local Habitat Division office for individual permit requirements. Unauthorized crossing of a salmon stream is a violation of AS 16.05.871.

### HOW DO I KNOW IF I AM CROSSING A SALMON STREAM?

The smallest of streams can provide rearing habitat important to juvenile salmon. ADF&G maintains the Fish Resource Monitor website to provide the public information on the location of salmon-bearing streams. A link is provided on the back panel.

### WHERE DO I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

For more information on regulations regarding salmon stream crossings and other ORV recreation information, please see the Links and Resources section on the back cover or contact your local ADF&G Habitat Division office.

## Links and Resources

**ADF&G Stream Crossing:**  
<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=uselicense.crossing>

**ADF&G Fish Resource Monitor**  
<https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/SARR/AWC/index.cfm?ADFG=main.interactive>

**Salmon Stream Terminology**  
<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=uselicense.faqs>

**ORV Riding Information**  
<http://www.treadlightly.org>



### Alaska Department of Fish and Game

**Area/Regional Offices:**

**Anchorage: 907.267.2342**

**Craig: 907.826.2560**

**Fairbanks: 907.459.7289**

**Juneau/Douglas: 907.465.4105**

**Kenai Peninsula: 907.714.2475**

**Palmer: 907.861.3200**

This brochure was prepared by ADF&G under award NA08NMF4380597 from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, administered by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. The statements, findings, conclusions, and recommendations are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration or the U.S. Department of Commerce.

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# Off Road Vehicle Crossings at Salmon Streams

The intersection of people and fish



# SALMON STREAMS AND OFF ROAD VEHICLES

## SALMON STREAMS: LOOK BEFORE YOU CROSS

Salmon are present in many Alaskan streams all year. Adult salmon return to streams to spawn (lay their eggs) in the gravel. Juvenile salmon also use the streams to mature before moving to the ocean. Juveniles rely on slower moving water and streambank vegetation for cover. Crossing streams can affect salmon eggs and young juvenile salmon in the gravel. The ability to identify these important salmon habitats is key to their protection.

## STREAM OF KNOWLEDGE

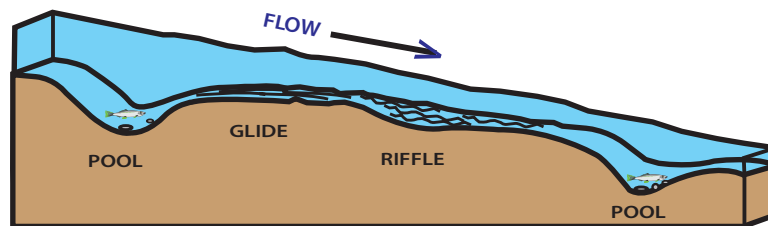
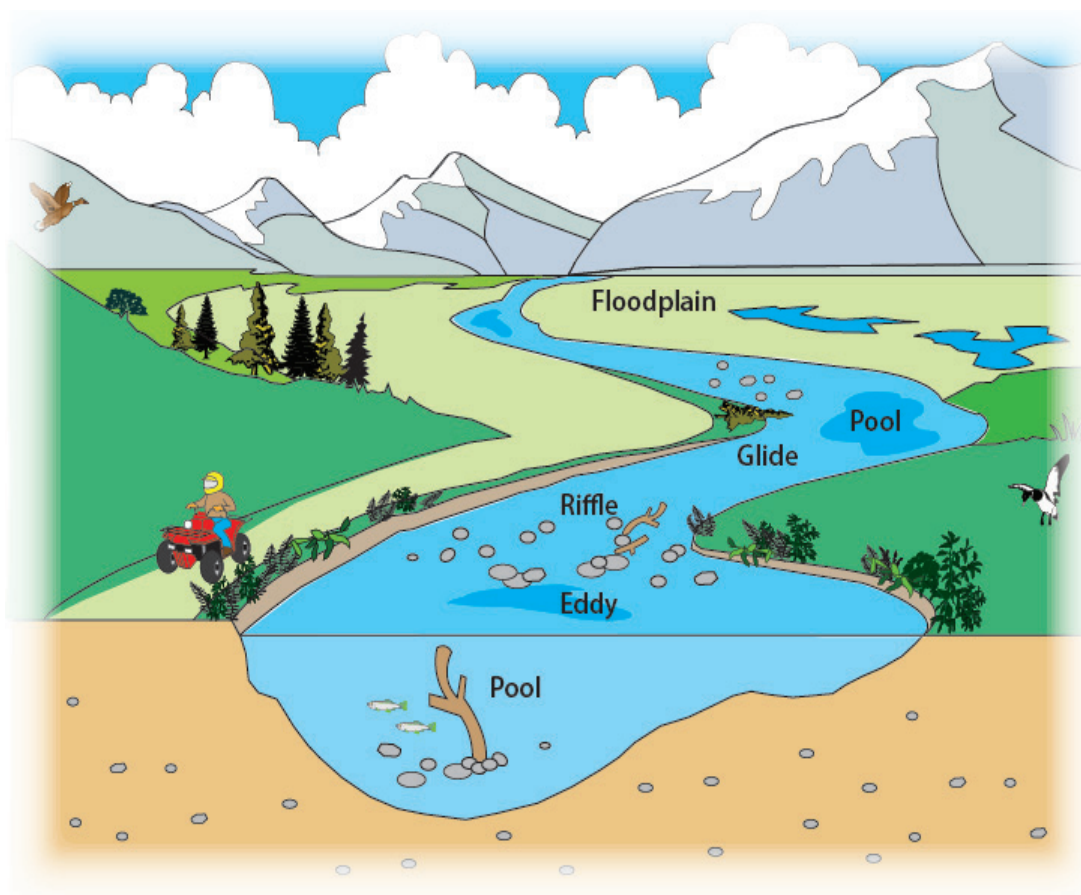
Knowing the characteristics of a stream can help minimize disturbance to fish while you cross.

**Pool:** Deepest part of the stream, Fish like to rest in the deep, slow water.

**Glide:** Relatively shallow area between pools and riffles. Good gravels here provide excellent spawning habitat for fish.

**Riffle:** Area of fast moving water over a large cobble streambed.

Whether you are using your Off Road Vehicle (ORV) to access fishing or hunting areas or just out for a ride, stewardship of our salmon streams and our ORV trails is important to our recreational needs in Alaska.



Typical profile of a salmon stream. See if you can spot these stream characteristics on your next ride!

## HOW CAN I HELP?

Recreating around salmon streams can be done safely for both the rider and the fish!

- Stay on designated trails with approved salmon stream crossing locations.
- Avoid crossing in spawning areas.
- Cross at the proper speed and travel as perpendicular to the water flow as possible to minimize your time in the water.
- Protect streambank vegetation by riding at least 10 feet from the edge of the stream.
- Planning your route ahead of time is critical to your safety. It can also help minimize the number of stream crossings.
- Get involved with a local ORV or ATV club. Local clubs do training, outreach, and stewardship events.
- Talk to a habitat biologist in your local ADF&G area office.