



GENERAL REGULATIONS - WEST COOK INLET

Inclusive waters: All waters draining into the west side of Cook Inlet between the Susitna River and Cape Douglas (excluding the Susitna River). Includes Kalgin Island.

Fishing is open year-round for all species in lakes and ponds unless otherwise noted below or in special regulations.

October 1-December 31: All flowing waters of West Cook Inlet are closed to salmon fishing.

Check for emergency orders online at www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR prior to fishing.

KING SALMON

- **Please check emergency orders for king salmon closures or contact the local ADF&G office for more info.**
- **Season: January 1-June 30.**
- 20 inches or longer: 1 per day, 1 in possession.
 - A king salmon 20 inches or longer that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. You may not remove a king salmon 20 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
 - If you retain a king salmon 20 inches or longer, you must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.

KING SALMON continued...

- There is a combined annual limit of 5 king salmon 20 inches or longer from the waters of the following areas: Cook Inlet Salt Waters, West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai River, and Kenai Peninsula.
- Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.

OTHER SALMON

- **Season: January 1-September 30.**
- 16 inches or longer: 3 per day, 6 in possession.
 - A coho (silver) salmon 16 inches or longer that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. You may not remove a coho salmon 16 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
 - After taking a daily bag limit of coho salmon 16 inches or longer from a West Cook Inlet drainage, you may not continue to fish in West Cook Inlet waters on the same day.
- Less than 16 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.

ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN

- 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 fish may be 12 inches or longer.

ARCTIC GRAYLING

- 2 per day, 2 in possession.

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LAKE TROUT

- 2 per day, 2 in possession.

RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

- **In flowing waters:**
 - **April 15-June 14:** Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.
 - **June 15-April 14:** Open to sport fishing.
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 fish may be 20 inches or longer.
 - 20 inches or longer:
 - There is a total annual limit of 2 rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer taken north of the latitude of Point Adam, from the waters of the following areas: West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai Lake drainages, Kenai River tributaries, and Kenai Peninsula.
 - If you retain a rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer, you must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.
- **In lakes and ponds:**
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 fish may be 20 inches or longer.
 - 20 inches or longer:
 - There is an annual limit of 2 rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer taken north of the latitude of Point Adam, from the waters of the following areas: West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai Lake drainages, Kenai River tributaries, and Kenai Peninsula.
 - If you retain a rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer, you must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.

NORTHERN PIKE

- No limit.
- **Live Release Prohibited.** You are not allowed to release live pike back into the water. Pike not retained for personal use may be disposed of through lawful and safe methods, including returning dead pike to the water.
- Northern pike may be taken by spear, sport fishing gear, ice fishing gear, or by bow and arrow (the arrow must be attached to the bow with a line and the arrow must have a barbed tip).
- When fishing through the ice for northern pike, you may use two hooks on a single line, provided that both hooks are attached to one single piece of bait.

The following special rules apply to ice fishing for northern pike in the waters listed below:

- Sport fishing through the ice for northern pike is allowed using 5 lines provided that:
 - Standard ice fishing gear is used;
 - The fishing gear is closely attended, and;
 - All other species of fish caught are released immediately.
- **Chuitbuna Lake**
- **Threemile Creek drainage**

OTHER FINFISH

- No limit.

METHODS AND MEANS - WEST COOK INLET**IN DRAINAGES BETWEEN THE SUSITNA RIVER AND THE WEST FORELAND:**

- **In flowing waters:**
 - **July 14-August 31:** Bait and multiple hooks are allowed.
 - **September 1-July 13:** Only unbaited, artificial lures or flies are allowed. See map on page 11.
- **In waters open to king salmon fishing:**
 - **May 15-June 30:** Fishing is only allowed between 6 a.m. and 11 p.m. each day.
 - Northern pike: General regulations apply.

IN THE FLOWING WATERS OF DRAINAGES FROM THE WEST FORELAND SOUTH TO THE LATITUDE OF THE SOUTHERN TIP OF CHISIK ISLAND:

- **May 16-August 31:** Bait and multiple hooks are allowed. See the map on page 11.
- **September 1-May 15:** Only unbaited, artificial lures or flies are allowed.

IN THE FLOWING WATERS OF DRAINAGES SOUTH OF THE LATITUDE OF THE SOUTHERN TIP OF CHISIK ISLAND TO THE LATITUDE OF CAPE DOUGLAS:

- **May 16-July 14:** Bait and multiple hooks are allowed. See the map on page 11.
- **July 15-May 15:** Only unbaited, artificial lures or flies are allowed.

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Peaceful day on the riverbank fishing.



Rainbow trout.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS - WEST COOK INLET

WEST COOK INLET - all flowing waters:

- **October 1-December 31:**
 - **Closed to all salmon fishing.**

BELUGA RIVER DRAINAGE - including Coal Creek and tributaries of Beluga Lake:

- Open year-round to sport fishing for all species other than king salmon.
- **Closed year-round to king salmon fishing including catch-and-release.**

CHINITNA RIVER DRAINAGE - including Clearwater Creek:

- Clearwater Creek drainage - including Roscoe Creek, upstream approximately ½ mile upstream of the confluence with the Chinitna River:
 - **Closed year-round to all sport fishing.**

CHUITNA RIVER DRAINAGE:

- Open year-round to sport fishing for all species other than king salmon following general regulations on (pages 11-12).

LEWIS RIVER:

- Open year-round to sport fishing for all species other than king salmon following general regulations on (pages 11-12).

MCNEIL RIVER:

- Within ½ mile of McNeil River Falls (about 1 mile upstream from McNeil Lagoon):
 - **Closed year-round to all sport fishing.**

SHELTER CREEK:

- Upstream from an ADF&G marker approximately 1 mile upstream from its mouth:
 - **Closed year-round to all sport fishing.**

SILVER SALMON CREEK:

- Within ½ mile of its outlet at Silver Salmon Lake:
 - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**

SILVER SALMON LAKE:

- **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**

THEODORE RIVER DRAINAGE:

- Open year-round to sport fishing for all species other than king salmon following general regulations (on pages 11-12).

THREEMILE CREEK:

- Upstream from the Beluga-Tyonek Road culvert to Threemile/Tukhallah Lake:
 - Open to sport fishing year-round for species other than salmon.

THREEMILE/TUKHALLAH LAKE:

- Open to sport fishing year-round for species other than salmon.

WOLVERINE CREEK



WOLVERINE CREEK - including Big River Lake within a 500-yard radius of the mouth of Wolverine Creek:

- **June 1-July 31:** These waters are fly-fishing-only waters. See page 6 for gear allowed in fly-fishing-only waters.
- Snagging is prohibited, see definition on page 95.
- **The South Fork of Big River upstream of an island located about 1.25 miles of the South Fork confluence with Big River Lake:**
 - **Closed to all sport fishing.**



Blushed up coho salmon.