

**Cook Inlet Area Salmon Management Plans**  
**and Other Applicable Finfish Regulations**

**Subsistence Salmon Fisheries**

**5 AAC 01.593. Upper Yentna River subsistence salmon fishery.** In the Yentna River drainage outside the Anchorage–Matsu–Kenai Nonsubsistence Area described in 5 AAC 99.015(a)(3), salmon, other than king salmon, may be taken for subsistence purposes only as follows:

(1) under a subsistence permit issued under 5 AAC 01.015 and 5 AAC 01.580;

(2) in the mainstem of the Yentna River from its confluence with Martin Creek upstream to its confluence with the Skwentna River from July 15 through July 31 from 4:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday, 4:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, and 4:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Friday;

(3) only with a fish wheel as follows:

(A) each fish wheel must be equipped with a livebox; the livebox must be constructed so that it contains no less than 45 cubic feet of water volume while it is in operation;

(B) the permit holder shall attach a wood or metal plate that is at least 12 inches high by 12 inches wide, bearing the permit holder's name and address in letters and numerals at least one inch high to each fish wheel operated under this section so that the name and address are plainly visible;

(C) the permit holder shall be present to attend the fish wheel at all times while the fish wheel is in operation, and king salmon and rainbow trout must be returned alive to the water;

(D) for purposes of (A) of this paragraph, a "livebox" is a submerged container that is attached to the fish wheel that will keep fish caught by the fish wheel alive;

(4) the annual limit for a Yentna River subsistence fishing permit holder is as specified in 5 AAC 01.595(a)(2);

(5) repealed 5/21/2011. (Eff. 5/31/98, Register 146; am 5/21/2011, Register 198)

**Commercial Salmon Fisheries**

**5 AAC 21.310. Fishing seasons.** (a) If an opening date specified in this section for a fishing season in any district, subdistrict, or section falls on a date during a closed weekly fishing period under 5 AAC 21.320, the fishing season will open the first day of the next open weekly period.

(b) Salmon may be taken only as follows:

(1) Northern District: from June 25 until closed by emergency order;

(2) Central District, for set gillnet:

(A) Western Subdistrict: from June 16 until closed by emergency order;

(B) Kalgin Island, Kustatan, and Chinitna Bay Subdistricts: from June 25 until closed by emergency order;

(C) Upper Subdistrict:

(i) Kasilof Section: from June 25 through August 15, unless closed earlier by emergency order under (iii) of this subparagraph; however if the department estimates that 50,000 sockeye salmon are in the Kasilof River before June 25, but on or after June 20, the commissioner may immediately, by emergency order, open the fishery; from August 11 through August 15, the fishery is open for regular periods only;

(ii) Kenai and East Forelands Sections: from July 8 through August 15, unless closed earlier by emergency order under (iii) of this subparagraph; from August 11 through August 15, the fishery is open for regular periods only;

(iii) Kenai, Kasilof, and East Forelands Sections: the season will close August 15, unless closed earlier by emergency order after July 31, if the department determines that less than one percent of the season's total sockeye harvest has been taken per fishing period for two consecutive fishing periods; from August 11 through August 15, the fishery is open for regular fishing periods only; for purposes of this sub-subparagraph, "fishing period" means a time period open to commercial fishing as measured by a 24-hour calendar day from 12:01 a.m. until 11:59 p.m.;

(3) Central District, for drift gillnet: from the third Monday in June or June 19 whichever is later, until closed by emergency order, except that fishing with drift gillnets may not occur within

(A) two miles of the mean high tide mark on the eastern side of the Upper Subdistrict until those locations have been opened for fishing with set gillnets;

(B) one and one-half miles of the mean high tide mark of the Kenai Peninsula shoreline in that area of the Kenai and Kasilof Sections of the Upper Subdistrict south of the Kenai River, if fishing with set gillnets in that area is closed;

(C) one mile of the mean high tide mark of the Kenai Peninsula shoreline in that area of the Kenai and East Forelands Sections of the Upper Subdistrict north of the Kenai River, if fishing with set gillnets in that area is closed;

(4) Southern District:

(A) seine gear season: opened and closed by emergency order;

(B) set gillnet season: opened by emergency order, on or after June 1, and closed September 30;

(5) Kamishak Bay District: from June 1 until closed by emergency order;

(6) Outer District: open and closed by emergency order;

(7) Eastern District: open and closed by emergency order. (In effect before 1983; am 6/30/83, Register 86; am 6/30/84, Register 90; am 5/11/85, Register 94; am 6/10/89, Register 110; am 7/21/91, Register 119; am 4/7/93, Register 126; am 6/7/95, Register 135; am 5/31/96, Register 138; am 5/14/97, Register 142; am 5/18/2000, Register 154; am 6/30/2002, Register 162; am 8/8/2003, Register 167; am 2/13/2005, Register 173; am 6/11/2005, Register 174; am 6/4/2008, Register 186; am 5/21/2011, Register 198; am 6/12/2011, Register 198)

**5 AAC 21.320. Weekly fishing periods.** (a) In the set gillnet fishery,

(1) salmon may be taken in the Northern District from 7:00 a.m. Monday until 7:00 p.m. Monday and from 7:00 a.m. Thursday until 7:00 p.m. Thursday;

(2) salmon may be taken in the Central District from 7:00 a.m. Monday until 7:00 p.m. Monday and from 7:00 a.m. Thursday until 7:00 p.m. Thursday;

(3) salmon may be taken in the Southern District from 6:00 a.m. Monday until 6:00 a.m. Wednesday and from 6:00 a.m. Thursday until 6:00 a.m. Saturday;

(4) the fishing periods set forth in (1) – (3) of this subsection may be modified by emergency order.

(b) In the drift gillnet fishery,

(1) salmon may be taken in the Central District from 7:00 a.m. Monday until 7:00 p.m. Monday and from 7:00 a.m. Thursday until 7:00 p.m. Thursday, except salmon may be taken

(A) in the Chinitna Bay Subdistrict only during periods established by emergency order;

(B) repealed 6/13/99;

(2) the fishing periods set forth in (1) of this subsection may be modified by emergency order.

(c) In the seine fishery, salmon may be taken in the

(1) Chinitna Bay Subdistrict of the Central District only during periods established by emergency order;

(2) Kamishak Bay, Outer, Eastern, and Southern Districts only during periods established by emergency order. (In effect before 1983; am 4/16/83, Register 86; am 5/11/85, Register 94; am 4/7/93, Register 126; am 5/31/96, Register 138; am 6/13/99, Register 150)

**5 AAC 21.330. Gear.** (a) Purse seines, hand purse seines, and beach seines may be used in the Southern, Kamishak Bay, Outer, and Eastern Districts, and in the Chinitna Bay Subdistrict east of a line from the crane on the south shore to the largest boulder on the landward end of Glacier Spit.

(b) Set gillnets may be used only in the following locations:

(1) Southern District: within 1,000 feet of beach areas that at mean low water are connected by exposed land to the shore, except as specified in (1)(E) of this section, and only in the following locations:

(A) on Ismailof Island east of 151° 13.10' W. long., and the mainland south of Ismailof Island from 151° 13.10' W. long., to 151° 12.25' W. long.;

(B) between Barabara Point and a point on the north side of McDonald Spit at 59° 28.49' N. lat., 151° 36.12' W. long.;

(C) from the north side of McDonald Spit at 59° 28.69' N. lat., 151° 35.25' W. long., east along the outer shoreline of McDonald Spit, and including the entire shoreline of Kasitsna Bay to the headland at the west side of the entrance of Jakolof Bay;

(D) the west shore of Seldovia Bay from Point Naskowhak to a point at the latitude of an unnamed creek at 59° 25.19' N. lat., 151° 44.05' W. long.;

(E) from the old cannery site on the south shore of Port Graham along the beach to the point south of English Bay at 59° 20.94' N. lat., 151° 56.77' W. long.; set gillnets in these waters may be used within 2,500 feet of beach areas that at mean low water are connected by exposed land to the shore;

(2) Northern District: set gillnets may be used only in the following areas:

(A) those waters along the north and west coast from Point MacKenzie ( $61^{\circ} 14.33'$  N. lat.,  $149^{\circ} 59.17'$  W. long.) to the southern boundary of the district on the west shore at  $60^{\circ} 46.39'$  N. lat., except for closed waters listed in 5 AAC 21.350;

(B) waters along the west coast of Fire Island from North Point to West Point;

(C) waters along the east coast in the Northern District

(i) from Point Possession to the latitude of Birch Hill at approximately  $60^{\circ} 55.00'$  N. lat.;

(ii) from  $60^{\circ} 52.67'$  N. lat. (one-half mile north of Otter Creek) to the southern boundary of the district ( $60^{\circ} 46.39'$  N. lat.);

(3) Central District: set gillnets may be used only in the following locations:

(A) waters along the west coast in the Central District

(i) from the northern boundary of the district to the Drift River terminal and only within five miles of the mean high tide mark;

(ii) from  $60^{\circ} 29.50'$  N. lat.,  $152^{\circ} 19.00'$  W. long., to  $60^{\circ} 28.50'$  N. lat.,  $152^{\circ} 19.50'$  W. long. and only within five miles of the mean high tide mark;

(iii) from  $60^{\circ} 27.50'$  N. lat.,  $152^{\circ} 19.74'$  W. long., to  $60^{\circ} 22.75'$  N. lat.,  $152^{\circ} 16.50'$  W. long. and only within five miles of the mean high tide mark;

(iv) from  $60^{\circ} 21.47'$  N. lat.,  $152^{\circ} 21.50'$  W. long., to  $60^{\circ} 20.67'$  N. lat.,  $152^{\circ} 22.50'$  W. long. and only within five miles of the mean high tide mark;

(v) from  $60^{\circ} 16.19'$  N. lat.,  $152^{\circ} 29.90'$  W. long., to  $60^{\circ} 14.24'$  N. lat.,  $152^{\circ} 32.62'$  W. long. and from  $60^{\circ} 13.42'$  N. lat.,  $152^{\circ} 34.65'$  W. long. to  $60^{\circ} 05.25'$  N. lat.,  $152^{\circ} 34.92'$  W. long. and only within five miles of the mean high tide mark;

(vi) near Johnson River from  $60^{\circ} 01.32'$  N. lat.,  $152^{\circ} 36.25'$  W. long., to  $59^{\circ} 55.67'$  N. lat.,  $152^{\circ} 41.67'$  W. long. and only within five miles of the mean high tide mark;

(vii) along the north side of Chinitna Bay from  $59^{\circ} 53.17'$  N. lat.,  $153^{\circ}$  W. long., to  $59^{\circ} 51.52'$  N. lat.,  $153^{\circ} 08.17'$  W. long. and only within 2,500 feet of the mean high tide mark;

(B) waters along the coast of Kalgin Island within one mile of the mean lower low tide mark;

(C) waters along the east coast in the Central District

(i) within one mile of the mean high tide mark from the northern boundary of the district to the northern ADF&G regulatory marker at the mouth of the Kenai River (60° 34.09' N. lat., 151° 19.30' W. long.) then offshore on a bearing of 235° to a point one mile from the mean high tide mark;

(ii) from the latitude of the southern ADF&G regulatory marker at the mouth of the Kenai River (60° 30.32' N. lat., 151° 17.05' W. long.) to the latitude of the northern ADF&G regulatory marker at the mouth of the Kasilof River and only within one and one-half miles of the mean high tide mark;

(iii) from the southern ADF&G regulatory marker at the mouth of the Kasilof River to the latitude of the ADF&G regulatory marker at the northern limit of the closed area at the mouth of the Ninilchik River and only within one and one-half miles of the mean high tide mark;

(D) waters around Chisik Island north of the latitude of Chisik Island Light within five miles of the mean high tide mark except those waters near the Crescent River described in 5 AAC 21.350(a).

(c) Drift gillnets may be used only in the Central District, except that in the Chinitna Bay Subdistrict drift gillnets may be used only east of a line from the crane on the south shore at 59° 50.07' N. lat., 153° 05.10' W. long., to the ADF&G regulatory marker on Glacier Spit at 59° 51.72' N. lat., 153° 07.84' W. long.

(d) Repealed 3/8/74.

(e) Each fisherman shall operate or assist in operating only one type of gear at any one time. (In effect before 1982; am 4/14/82, Register 82; am 5/11/85, Register 94; am 4/18/86, Register 98; am 3/29/87, Register 101; am 6/10/89, Register 110; em am 4/30/91 – 5/30/91, Register 118 [not printed]; am 7/21/91, Register 119; am 4/7/93, Register 126; am 7/23/94, Register 131; am 5/31/96, Register 138; am 8/8/99, Register 151; am 3/11/2001, Register 157; am 3/2/2011, Register 197)

**5 AAC 21.331. Gillnet specifications and operations.** (a) No person may operate a set gillnet that has not been intentionally set, staked, anchored or otherwise fixed, and no person may operate a drift gillnet that has been intentionally set, staked, anchored or otherwise fixed.

(b) The maximum mesh size for gillnets is six inches.

(c) A drift gillnet may not be more than 150 fathoms in length and 45 meshes in depth. No person may operate more than one drift gillnet.

(d) A set gillnet may not be more than 35 fathoms in length and 45 meshes in depth. South of the latitude of Anchor Point, 30 fathoms of seine webbing may be used on the shore between high and low water levels. A person may not operate more than four set gillnets with more than 105 fathoms of set gillnet in the aggregate, except that

(1) on Fire Island a person may operate more than four set gillnets, but the aggregate length of the nets may not exceed 105 fathoms;

(2) repealed 6/11/2005.

(e) Set gillnets shall be operated in substantially a straight line. No more than 20 yards of each set gillnet may be used as a single hook.

(f) Repealed 3/8/74.

(g) Repealed 4/2/88.

(h) Notwithstanding 5 AAC 39.250(c), in the Cook Inlet Area, a person may use single filament mesh web in a drift gillnet or in a set gillnet.

(i) A CFEC permit holder who holds two Cook Inlet set gillnet CFEC permits may operate an aggregate length of set gillnets not to exceed 210 fathoms in length. A single set gillnet may not exceed 35 fathoms in length. Notwithstanding 5 AAC 39.280, in order to identify the gillnet as a dual permit set gillnet, the permit holder shall mark the buoys as specified in 5 AAC 21.334 with both of the permit holder's five-digit CFEC permit serial numbers followed by the letter "D" on the identification buoy. All identifiers must be displayed in a manner that is plainly visible, unobscured, and in a color that contrasts with the background. (In effect before 1987; am 3/29/87, Register 101; am 4/2/88, Register 105; em am 4/30/91 – 5/30/91, Register 118 [not printed]; am 7/21/91, Register 119; am 4/22/99, Register 150; am 5/18/2000, Register 154; am 6/11/2005, Register 174; am 6/4/2008, Register 186; am 5/21/2011, Register 198; am 6/12/2011, Register 198)

**5 AAC 21.333. Requirements and specifications for use of 200 fathoms of drift gillnet in the Cook Inlet Area.** (a) Except as specified in (e) – (g) of this section, two Cook Inlet drift gillnet CFEC permit holders may concurrently fish from the same vessel and jointly operate up to 200 fathoms of drift gillnet gear under this section.

(b) Before operating drift gillnet gear jointly under this section, both permit holders shall register with the department office in Anchorage, Soldotna, or Homer.

(c) When two Cook Inlet drift gillnet CFEC permit holders fish from the same vessel and jointly operate additional drift gillnet gear under this section, the vessel must display its ADF&G permanent license plate number followed by the letter "D" to identify the vessel as a dual permit vessel. The letter "D" must be removed or covered when the vessel is operating with only one registered drift gillnet CFEC permit holder on board the vessel. The permanent license plate number and letters must be displayed

- (1) in letters and numerals 12 inches high with lines at least one inch wide;
- (2) in a color that contrasts with the background;
- (3) on both sides of the hull; and
- (4) in a manner that is plainly visible at all times when the vessel is being operated.

(d) When two permit holders jointly operate gear under this section, each permit holder is responsible for ensuring that the entire unit of gear is operated in a lawful manner.

(e) The joint operation of additional drift gillnet gear under this section is not allowed when drift gillnet gear is restricted to any of the following areas:

- (1) Chinitna Bay Subdistrict;
- (2) repealed 5/21/2011;
- (3) repealed 5/21/2011;
- (4) Kasilof River Special Harvest Area as described in 5 AAC 21.365.

(f) A vessel with two registered CFEC permit holders on board, when transiting through any area where the legal limit of gillnet gear is less than 200 fathoms, may have on board up to 200 fathoms of gillnet gear if no portion of the gear is deployed into the water.

(g) Repealed 5/21/2011. (Eff. 6/4/2008, Register 186; am 6/30/2008, Register 187; am 5/21/2011, Register 198)

**5 AAC 21.334. Identification of gear.** (a) Each drift gillnet in operation must have a bright red keg or buoy at one end plainly and legibly marked with the permanent vessel license plate (ADF&G) number of the vessel operating the gear and the initials of the operator.

(b) Markers described in 5 AAC 39.280(a) are not required for set gillnets.

(c) Buoy identification requirements for set gillnets in the Upper Subdistrict of the Central District are as follows:

(1) each set gillnet must have an identification tag issued by the department; the tag must be placed on a "trailer" buoy attached to the set gillnet; the tags will be issued before each fishing season and will be sequentially numbered and colored for each year;

(2) not more than three tags will be issued to a permit holder operating set gillnets 35 fathoms in length; not more than four tags will be issued to a permit holder operating set gillnets less than 30 fathoms in length;



(3) tags lost during the season may be replaced if the permit holder submits a sworn statement or affidavit describing how the tags were lost and listing the numbers of the lost tags; replacement tag numbers will be preceded by the letter "R";

(4) buoy sticker identification tags and replacement tags are available at the ADF&G office in Soldotna from Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. only;

(5) the permit holder must obtain new tags before each fishing season;

(6) repealed 4/7/93;

(7) a CFEC permit holder may register with the department to fish in a group with other CFEC permit holders at the time the permit holders purchase buoy stickers; all permit holders in the group shall register at the same time and place; any trailer buoy with a buoy sticker attached registered to that group may be attached to any CFEC permit holder's set gillnet that is also registered to that group to comply with the identification requirements under (1) of this subsection. (In effect before 1988; em am 4/30/91 – 5/30/91, Register 118 [not printed]; am 7/21/91, Register 119; am 4/7/93, Register 126; am 5/14/97, Register 142; am 6/13/99, Register 150)

**5 AAC 21.345. Registration.** (a) A CFEC setnet permit holder shall register for a registration area described in (b) of this section before fishing, by completing a registration form available from the department and returning it to the department office in Anchorage, Soldotna, or Homer, or by mailing it to the department office in Soldotna. A CFEC setnet permit holder may not fish in more than one registration area during a registration year.

(b) Registration areas are as follows:

(1) Northern District Area: as described in 5 AAC 21.200(a);

(2) Upper Subdistrict Area: as described in 5 AAC 21.200(b)(2);

(3) Greater Cook Inlet Area: all waters of the Cook Inlet Area open to setnet fishing as described in 5 AAC 21.200(b)(1), (b)(3) – (b)(6), and (d).

(c) The registration year is January 1 – December 31.

(d) Registration is not transferable between registration areas during a registration year.

(e) Repealed 6/22/2002. (Eff. 4/7/93, Register 126; am 6/22/2002, Register 162)

**5 AAC 21.350. Closed waters.** (a) Salmon may not be taken in any of the waters listed in this section.

(b) Central District

(1) within one statute mile of the terminus of any of the following salmon streams: Kasilof River, Deep Creek, Stariski Creek, and Anchor River;

(2) Crescent River: east of a line from an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately one mile west of the terminus of the Crescent River to the northernmost tip of Chisik Island, south of the latitude of an ADF&G marker located approximately one mile north of the terminus of the Crescent River, and within a three-mile radius from the terminus of the Crescent River at mean high tide;

(3) Kenai River: waters enclosed by a line from the southern ADF&G regulatory marker at the mouth of the Kenai River (60° 30.32' N. lat., 151° 17.05' W. long.) to the Coast Guard channel marker 1 KE located at 60° 31.30' N. lat., 151° 20.50' W. long. to the northern ADF&G regulatory marker at the mouth of the Kenai River (60° 34.09' N. lat., 151° 19.30' W. long.); and, in the area between a line bearing 235° from the northern ADF&G regulatory marker and the Kenai River mouth, those waters within one mile of the mean high tide mark and, in the area between the southern ADF&G regulatory marker and the Kenai River mouth, those waters within one and one-half miles of the mean high tide mark;

(4) Ninilchik River,

(A) within one statute mile of the river terminus;

(B) between the latitude of an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately one statute mile north of the Ninilchik boat harbor entrance and the latitude of Anchor Point Light (59° 46.15' N. lat.) and extending offshore for a distance of one statute mile from mean lower low water;

(5) on the west side of the Central District from the northern boundary of the district south to Harriet Point (60° 23.75' N. lat., 152° 14.00' W. long.),

(A) within one statute mile of the terminus, at mean high tide, of the Kustatan River and the Drift River;

(B) within one statute mile of the terminus, at mean lower low water, of Cannery Creek;

(C) within one statute mile of the Big River;

(D) within 500 yards of the terminus, at mean high tide, of any anadromous fish stream;

(E) within 900 feet of the stream bed or channel of any anadromous fish stream throughout the intertidal portion of that stream out to the lower low water mark;

(6) Packers Creek: waters enclosed by a line from the south ADF&G regulatory marker located at 60° 26.11' N. lat., 151° 55.66' W. long., to 60° 25.33' N. lat., 151° 55.00' W.

long., to 60° 25.31' N. lat., 151° 52.68' W. long., to 60° 26.42' N. lat., 151° 51.71' W. long., to the north ADF&G regulatory marker located at 60° 26.42' N. lat., 151° 53.32' W. long.

(c) Northern District

(1) within one statute mile of the terminus of any of the following salmon streams: Swanson Creek, Bishop Creek, Three-mile Creek, Chuit River, Nikolai Creek, and McArthur River;

(2) Turnagain Arm and Knik Arm: east of a line from 61° 02.35' N. lat., 150° 23.64' W. long., to the site of the old West Point light on Fire Island, along the eastern shore of Fire Island to North Point, to 61° 14.64' N. lat., 149° 59.55' W. long.

(d) Southern District

(1) northeast of a line from 59° 44.43' N. lat., 152° 02.80' W. long. to a point on the shore one-half statute mile southwest of the terminus of Swift Creek at 59° 47.15' N. lat., 151° 05.45' W. long.;

(2) waters of China Poot Bay south and east of a line beneath the Homer Electric Association power line from a point on the north shore of the north arm of China Poot Bay at 59° 33.92' N. lat., 151° 15.42' W. long., to a point on the peninsula between the north and south arm of China Poot Bay at 59° 33.47' N. lat., 151° 15.71' W. long., to a point on the south shore of the south arm of China Poot Bay at 59° 33.21' N. lat., 151° 16.46' W. long.;

(3) waters of Sadie Cove south of 59° 30.00' N. lat.;

(4) repealed \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/2014;

(5) waters of Jakolof Bay south of 59° 28.07' N. lat.;

(6) waters of Seldovia Bay south of a line from 59° 25.09' N. lat., 151° 42.57' W. long. to 59° 24.84' N. lat., 151° 43.06' W. long.;

(7) waters of Port Graham Bay south of 59° 20.44' N. lat.;

(8) Northshore Subdistrict.

(e) Kamishak Bay District

(1) waters of Cottonwood Bay west of a line from 59° 38.39' N. lat., 153° 39.41' W. long. to 59° 37.68' N. lat., 153° 39.51' W. long.;

(2) waters of Chenik Lagoon south and west of 59° 13.42' N. lat., 154° 07.32' W. long.;

(3) waters of Iniskin Bay north of a line from 59° 46.05' N. lat., 153° 27.82' W. long. to 59° 46.69' N. lat., 153° 26.01' W. long.;

(4) waters of Right Arm in Iniskin Bay east of a line from 59° 43.93' N. lat., 153° 22.83' W. long. to 59° 42.90' N. lat., 153° 22.86' W. long.;

(5) waters of Ursus Cove west of a line from 59° 32.43' N. lat., 153° 46.06' W. long. to 59° 31.20' N. lat., 153° 45.74' W. long.

## (f) Outer District

(1) waters of Port Chatham east of a line from 59° 13.32' N. lat., 151° 43.41' W. long. to 59° 12.59' N. lat., 151° 43.55' W. long.;

(2) waters of Windy Bay west of 151° 32.85' W. long.;

(3) waters of Taylor Bay north of 59° 18.00' N. lat.;

(4) waters of Tacoma Cove and Sunday Harbor east of 151° 01.15' W. long.;

(5) waters of Koyuktolik (Dogfish) Bay east of a line from 59° 14.45' N. lat., 151° 52.72' W. long. to 59° 14.25' N. lat., 151° 52.90' W. long.;

(6) waters of Chugach Bay west of a line from 59° 11.36' N. lat., 151° 37.57' W. long. to 59° 11.03' N. lat., 151° 37.25' W. long.;

(7) waters of Rocky Bay inshore of a line from 59° 14.92' N. lat., 151° 23.82' W. long. to 59° 14.72' N. lat., 151° 23.32' W. long.;

(8) waters of Port Dick west of a line from 59° 18.16' N. lat., 151° 17.33' W. long. to 59° 18.60' N. lat., 151° 17.10' W. long.;

(9) waters of Middle Creek north of a line from 59° 18.18' N. lat., 151° 12.13' W. long. to 59° 18.08' N. lat., 151° 13.13' W. long.;

(10) waters of Island Creek inshore of a line from 59° 17.09' N. lat., 151° 08.78' W. long. to 59° 17.11' N. lat., 151° 08.30' W. long. and inshore of a line from 59° 17.04' N. lat., 151° 08.06' W. long. to 59° 16.88' N. lat., 151° 07.15' W. long., and including the waters northwest of the island between those two lines;

(11) waters of McCarty Fjord north of a line from 57° 37.52' N. lat., 150° 19.18' W. long. to 59° 37.03' N. lat., 150° 17.01' W. long.;

(12) waters of the East Nuka Subdistrict east of a line from a point north of the entrance to McCarty Lagoon at 59° 32.76' N. lat., 150° 20.20' W. long. to a point offshore of the entrance of McCarty Lagoon at 59° 32.45' N. lat., 150° 21.00' W. long. to a point south of the entrance of McCarty Lagoon at 59° 31.90' N. lat., 150° 21.00' W. long.;

(13) waters of the East Nuka Subdistrict east of a line from a point north of the entrance to Desire Lake Creek at 59° 35.02' N. lat., 150° 17.86' W. long. to a point south of the entrance to Desire Lake Creek at 59° 34.68' N. lat., 150° 17.95' W. long.

## (g) Eastern District

(1) waters of Resurrection Bay west of a line from the old military dock pilings on the west shore of Resurrection Bay north of Caines Head at 60° 00.48' N. lat., 149° 24.20' W. long. to a point located near the Seward Airport at 60° 07.49' N. lat., 149° 24.72' W. long.;

(2) king and coho salmon may not be taken in waters of Resurrection Bay north of a line from Cape Resurrection at 59° 52.00' N. lat., 149° 16.71' W. long. to Aialik Cape at 59° 42.39' N. lat., 149° 31.29' W. long.;

(3) waters of Aialik Bay north of 59° 53.47' N. lat.

(h) In any bay, estuary, slough, or lagoon less than 300 feet in width at mean low tide.

(i) In all other streams or rivers within 500 yards of the terminus or as specified in 5 AAC 39.290. (In effect before 1982; am 4/14/82, Register 82; am 5/11/85, Register 94; am 4/18/86, Register 98; am 3/20/87, Register 101; am 6/10/89, Register 110; am 4/7/93, Register 126; am 7/23/94, Register 131; am 5/31/96, Register 138; am 6/13/99, Register 150; am 8/8/99, Register 151; am 6/11/2005, Register 174; am 5/26/2006, Register 178; am 3/2/2011, Register 197; am \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/2014, Register \_\_\_\_)

**5 AAC 21.353. Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan.** (a) The purpose of this management plan is to ensure adequate escapement of salmon into the Northern District drainages and to provide management guidelines to the department. The department shall manage the commercial drift gillnet fishery to minimize the harvest of Northern District and Kenai River coho salmon in order to provide sport and guided sport fishermen a reasonable opportunity to harvest these salmon stocks over the entire run, as measured by the frequency of inriver restrictions. The department shall manage the Central District commercial drift gillnet fishery as follows:

(1) weekly fishing periods are as described in 5 AAC 21.320(b);

(2) the fishing season will open the third Monday in June or June 19, whichever is later, and

(A) from July 9 through July 15,

(i) fishing during the first regular fishing period is restricted to the Expanded Kenai and Expanded Kasilof Sections; additional fishing time is allowed only in the Expanded Kenai and Expanded Kasilof Sections of the Upper Subdistrict;

(ii) fishing during the second regular fishing period is restricted to the Kenai and Kasilof Sections of the Upper Subdistrict and Drift Gillnet Area 1;

(iii) at run strengths greater than 2,300,000 sockeye salmon to the Kenai River, the commissioner may, by emergency order, open one additional 12-hour fishing period in the Kenai and Kasilof Sections of the Upper Subdistrict and Drift Gillnet Area 1;

(B) from July 16 through July 31,

(i) at run strengths of less than 2,300,000 sockeye salmon to the Kenai River, fishing during one regular 12-hour fishing period will be restricted to the Expanded Kenai and Expanded Kasilof Sections of the Upper Subdistrict;

(ii) at run strengths of 2,300,000 – 4,600,000 sockeye salmon to the Kenai River, fishing during one regular 12-hour fishing period per week will be restricted to either or both the Expanded Kenai and Expanded Kasilof Sections of the Upper Subdistrict or Drift Gillnet Area 1;

(iii) at run strengths greater than 4,600,000 sockeye salmon to the Kenai River, there will be no mandatory restrictions during regular fishing periods;

(C) from August 16 until closed by emergency order, Drift Gillnet Areas 3 and 4 are open for fishing during regular fishing periods;

(D) from August 11 through August 15, there are no mandatory area restrictions to regular periods, except that if the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery is closed under 5 AAC 21.310(b)(2)(C)(iii), regular fishing periods will be restricted to Drift Gillnet Areas 3 and 4.

(b) For the purposes of this section,

(1) "Drift Gillnet Area 1" means those waters of the Central District south of Kalgin Island at 60° 20.43' N. lat.;

(2) "Drift Gillnet Area 2" means those waters of the Central District enclosed by a line from 60° 20.43' N. lat., 151° 54.83' W. long. to a point at 60° 41.08' N. lat., 151° 39.00' W. long. to a point at 60° 41.08' N. lat., 151° 24.00' W. long. to a point at 60° 27.10' N. lat., 151° 25.70' W. long. to a point at 60° 20.43' N. lat., 151° 28.55' W. long.;

(3) "Drift Gillnet Area 3" means those waters of the Central District within one mile of mean lower low water (zero tide) south of a point on the West Foreland at 60° 42.70' N. lat., 151° 42.30' W. long.;

(4) "Drift Gillnet Area 4" means those waters of the Central District enclosed by a line from 60° 04.70' N. lat., 152° 34.74' W. long. to the Kalgin Buoy at 60° 04.70' N. lat., 152° 09.90' W. long. to a point at 59° 46.15' N. lat., 152° 18.62' W. long. to a point on the western shore at 59° 46.15' N. lat., 153° 00.20' W. long., not including the waters of the Chinitna Bay Subdistrict.

(c) The commissioner may depart from the provisions of the management plan under this section as provided in 5 AAC 21.363(e). (Eff. 6/11/2005, Register 174; am 6/4/2008, Register 186; am 9/12/2008, Register 187; am 5/21/2011, Register 198; am 6/12/2011, Register 198; em am 6/30/2011 – 7/13/2011, Register 199; am 11/25/2011, Register 200)

**5 AAC 21.354. Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management Plan.** (a) The purpose of this management plan is to allow for the harvest of surplus pink salmon in upper Cook Inlet for set gillnet and drift gillnet gear. Notwithstanding 5 AAC 21.310(b)(2)(C)(iii), from August 11 through August 15, the commissioner may, by emergency order, open a commercial pink salmon fishery in an even-numbered year for up to two regular 12-hour fishing periods if the commissioner determines that the sockeye salmon escapement goals in the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers are being achieved and coho salmon run strength is sufficient to withstand additional harvest.

(b) The first pink salmon commercial fishing period will occur only if, during the regular fishing periods from August 6 through August 10, the daily harvest of pink salmon exceeds 50,000 fish or the cumulative harvest is 100,000 or more pink salmon. The second pink salmon commercial fishing period will occur only if 50,000 or more pink salmon and no more than 2,500 coho salmon are harvested during the first pink salmon commercial fishing period.

(c) During a pink salmon commercial fishing period opened under this section, a

(1) set gillnet may not have a mesh size greater than four and three-quarters inches, and the set gillnet may only be operated 600 feet or greater from the shore line; and

(2) drift gillnet may not have a mesh size greater than four and three-quarters inches, and fishing with drift gillnet gear will only be opened in the areas defined in 5 AAC 21.200(b)(2)(A) and (B). (Eff. 5/21/2011, Register 198)

**5 AAC 21.355. Reporting requirements.** A commercial salmon fisherman shall, at the time of landing, report on an ADF&G fish ticket the number of salmon, by species, taken but not sold. (Eff. 6/10/89, Register 110; am 6/13/99, Register 150)

**5 AAC 21.358. Northern District Salmon Management Plan.** (a) The purposes of this management plan are to minimize the harvest of coho salmon bound for the Northern District of upper Cook Inlet and to provide the department direction for management of salmon stocks. The department shall manage the chum, pink, and sockeye salmon stocks primarily for commercial uses to provide commercial fisherman with an economic yield from the harvest of these salmon resources based on abundance. The department shall also manage the chum, pink, and sockeye salmon stocks to minimize the harvest of Northern District coho salmon, to provide sport and guided sport fisherman a reasonable opportunity to harvest these salmon resources over the entire run, as measured by the frequency of inriver restrictions, or as specified in this section and other regulations.

(b) The department shall manage the Northern District commercial salmon fisheries based on the abundance of sockeye salmon counted through the weirs on Larson, Chelatna, and Judd Lakes or other salmon abundance indices as the department deems appropriate.

(c) From July 20 through August 6, if the department's assessment of abundance indicates that restrictions are necessary to achieve the escapement goal, the commissioner may, by emergency order, close the commercial set gillnet fishery in the Northern District and

immediately reopen a season during which the number of set gillnets that may be used is limited to the following options selected at the discretion of the commissioner, except that from July 31 through August 6, the commissioner may allow the use of two set gillnets in that portion of the General District south of the Susitna River:

- (1) three set gillnets that are not more than 105 fathoms in aggregate length;
- (2) two set gillnets that are not more than 70 fathoms in aggregate length;
- (3) one set gillnet that is not more than 35 fathoms in length.

(d) In addition to the provisions specified in (b) and (c) of this section, the department shall manage the Northern District commercial salmon fisheries to minimize the incidental take of coho salmon stocks bound for the Northern District in the following manner:

(1) additional fishing periods, other than the weekly fishing periods described in 5 AAC 21.320(a)(1), may not be provided when coho salmon are expected to be the most abundant species harvested during that period; additional fishing periods may not be provided based on the abundance of Northern District coho salmon;

(2) after August 15, the department shall limit the harvest of coho salmon in the Northern District by limiting commercial fishing time to the weekly fishing periods described in 5 AAC 21.320(a)(1).

(e) Personal use fishing with a set gillnet is prohibited in the Northern District.

(f) The department shall, to the extent practicable, conduct habitat assessments on a schedule that conforms to the board's triennial meeting cycle. If the assessments demonstrate a net loss of riparian habitat caused by noncommercial fishermen, the department is requested to report those findings to the board and submit proposals to the board for appropriate modification of this management plan.

(g) The commissioner may depart from the provisions of the management plan under this section as provided in 5 AAC 21.363(e). (Eff. 5/31/96, Register 138; am 5/14/97, Register 142; am 6/13/99, Register 150; am 5/18/2000, Register 154; am 6/22/2002, Register 162; am 6/11/2005, Register 174; am 6/4/2008, Register 186; am 5/21/2011, Register 198; am 6/12/2011, Register 198)

**5 AAC 21.359. Kenai River Late–Run King Salmon Management Plan.** (a) The purposes of this management plan are to ensure an adequate escapement of late–run king salmon into the Kenai River system and to provide management guidelines to the department. The department shall manage the late–run Kenai River king salmon stocks primarily for sport and guided sport uses in order to provide the sport and guided sport fishermen with a reasonable opportunity to harvest these salmon resources over the entire run, as measured by the frequency or inriver restrictions.



(b) The department shall manage the late run of Kenai River king salmon to achieve a sustainable escapement goal of 15,000 – 30,000 king salmon, as follows:

(1) in the sport fishery,

(A) if the sustainable escapement goal is projected to be exceeded, the commissioner may, by emergency order, extend the sport fishing season up to seven days during the first week of August;

(B) from July 1 through July 31, a person may not use more than one single hook in the Kenai River downstream from Skilak Lake;

(2) in the sport fishery, that portion of the Kenai River downstream from Skilak Lake is open to unguided sport fishing from a non-motorized vessel on Mondays in July; for purposes of this section a non-motorized vessel is one that does not have a motor on board;

(3) if the projected inriver return is less than 15,000 king salmon, the department shall

(A) close the sport fisheries in the Kenai River and in the salt waters of Cook Inlet north of the latitude of Bluff Point to the taking of king salmon;

(B) close the commercial drift gillnet fishery in the Central District within one mile of the Kenai Peninsula shoreline north of the Kenai River and within one and one-half miles of the Kenai Peninsula shoreline south of the Kenai River; and

(C) close the commercial set gillnet fishery in the Upper Subdistrict of the Central District.

(c) From July 20 through July 31,

(1) repealed 6/22/2002;

(2) if the projected inriver return of late-run king salmon is less than 40,000 fish and the inriver sport fishery harvest is projected to result in an escapement below 15,000 king salmon, the department may restrict the inriver sport fishery;

(3) repealed 6/22/2002;

(4) if the inriver sport fishery is closed under (2) of this subsection, the commercial set gillnet fishery in the Upper Subdistrict shall be closed;

(5) repealed 6/11/2005.

(d) Repealed 6/22/2002.

(e) Consistent with the purposes of this management plan and 5 AAC 21.360, if the projected inriver return of king salmon is less than 40,000 fish, the department may not reduce the closed waters at the mouth of the Kenai River described in 5 AAC 21.350(b).

(f) The provisions of the Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 21.365) are exempt from the provisions of this section.

(g) The department will, to the extent practicable, conduct habitat assessments on a schedule that conforms to the Board of Fisheries (board) triennial meeting cycle. If the assessments demonstrate a net loss of riparian habitat caused by noncommercial fishermen, the department is requested to report those findings to the board and submit proposals to the board for appropriate modification of this plan.

(h) The commissioner may depart from the provisions of the management plan under this section as provided in 5 AAC 21.363(e). (Eff. 6/10/89, Register 110; em am 4/30/91 – 5/30/91, Register 118 [not printed]; am 7/21/91, Register 119; am 5/31/96, Register 138; am 5/14/97, Register 142; am 2/25/98, Register 145; am 6/13/99, Register 150; am 6/22/2002, Register 162; am 6/30/2002, Register 162; am 6/11/2005, Register 174; am 6/4/2008, Register 186; am 6/1/2013, Register 206)

**5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Late–Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan.** (a) The department shall manage the Kenai River late–run sockeye salmon stocks primarily for commercial uses based on abundance. The department shall also manage the commercial fisheries to minimize the harvest of Northern District coho, late–run Kenai River king, and Kenai River coho salmon stocks to provide personal use, sport, and guided sport fishermen with a reasonable opportunity to harvest salmon resources.

(b) The Kenai River late–run sockeye salmon commercial, sport, and personal use fisheries shall be managed to

(1) meet an optimum escapement goal (OEG) range of 700,000 – 1,400,000 late–run sockeye salmon;

(2) achieve inriver goals as established by the board and measured at the Kenai River sonar counter located at river mile 19; and

(3) distribute the escapement of sockeye salmon evenly with the OEG range, in proportion to the size of the run.

(c) Based on preseason forecasts and inseason evaluations of the total Kenai River late–run sockeye salmon return during the fishing season, the run will be managed as follows:

(1) at run strengths of less than 2,300,000 sockeye salmon,

(A) the department shall manage for an inriver goal range of 900,000 – 1,100,000 sockeye salmon past the sonar counter at river mile 19; and

(B) subject to the provisions of other management plans, the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery will fish regular weekly fishing periods, as specified in 5 AAC 21.320, through July 20, unless the department determines that the minimum inriver goal will not be met, at which time the fishery shall be closed or restricted as necessary; the commissioner may, by emergency order, allow extra fishing periods of no more than 24-hours per week, except as provided in 5 AAC 21.365;

(2) at run strengths of 2,300,000 – 4,600,000 sockeye salmon,

(A) the department shall manage for an inriver goal range of 1,000,000 – 1,200,000 sockeye salmon past the sonar counter at river mile 19;

(B) subject to the provisions of other management plans, the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery will fish regular weekly fishing periods, as specified in 5 AAC 21.320, through July 20, or until the department makes a determination of run strength, whichever occurs first; if the department determines that the minimum inriver goal will not be met, the fishery shall be closed or restricted as necessary; the commissioner may, by emergency order, allow extra fishing periods of no more than 51-hours per week, except as provided in 5 AAC 21.365; and

(C) the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery will be closed for one continuous 36-hour period per week beginning between 7:00 p.m. Thursday and 7:00 a.m. Friday and for a 24-hour closure on Tuesday from 12:00 a.m. until 11:59 p.m.;

(3) at run strengths greater than 4,600,000 sockeye salmon,

(A) the department shall manage for an inriver goal range of 1,100,000 – 1,350,000 sockeye salmon past the sonar counter at river mile 19;

(B) subject to the provisions of other management plans, the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery will fish regular weekly fishing periods, as specified in 5 AAC 21.320, through July 20, or until the department makes a determination of run strength, whichever occurs first; if the department determines that the minimum inriver goal will not be met, the fishery shall be closed or restricted as necessary; the commissioner may, by emergency order, allow extra fishing periods of no more than 84-hours per week, except as provided in 5 AAC 21.365; and

(C) the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery will be closed for one continuous 36-hour period per week, beginning between 7:00 p.m. Thursday and 7:00 a.m. Friday.

(d) The sonar count levels established in this section may be lowered by the board if noncommercial fishing, after consideration of mitigation efforts, results in a net loss of riparian habitat on the Kenai River. The department will, to the extent practicable, conduct habitat assessments on a schedule that conforms to the Board of Fisheries (board) triennial meeting cycle. If the assessments demonstrate a net loss of riparian habitat caused by noncommercial

fishermen, the department is requested to report those findings to the board and submit proposals to the board for appropriate modification of the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon inriver goal.

(e) Repealed 6/11/2005.

(f) Repealed 6/11/2005.

(g) Subject to the requirement of achieving the lower end of the optimal escapement goal, the department shall provide for a personal use dip net fishery in the lower Kenai River as specified in 5 AAC 77.540.

(h) Subject to the requirement of achieving the lower end of the optimal escapement goal, the department shall manage the sport fishery on the Kenai River, except that portion of the Kenai River from its confluence with the Russian River to an ADF&G regulatory marker located 1,800 yards downstream, as follows:

(1) fishing will occur seven days per week, 24 hours per day;

(2) the bag and possession limit for the sport fishery is three sockeye salmon, unless the department determines that the abundance of late-run sockeye salmon exceeds 2,300,000 fish, at which time the commissioner may, by emergency order, increase the bag and possession limit as the commissioner determines to be appropriate; and

(3) if the projected inriver run of sockeye salmon above the Kenai River sonar counter located at river mile 19 is less than 900,000 fish and the inriver sport fishery harvest is projected to result in an escapement below the lower end of the optimal escapement goal, the commissioner may, by emergency order, decrease the bag and possession limit, as the commissioner determines to be appropriate, for sockeye salmon in the sport fishery above the Kenai River sonar counter located at river mile 19.

(i) For the purposes of this section, "week" means a calendar week, a period of time beginning at 12:00:01 a.m. Sunday and ending at 12:00 midnight the following Saturday.

(j) The commissioner may depart from the provisions of the management plan under this section as provided in 5 AAC 21.363(e). (In effect before 1984; am 5/3/84, Register 90; am 5/11/85, Register 94; am 6/10/89, Register 110; am 6/15/95, Register 134; am 5/31/96, Register 138; am 5/8/98, Register 146; am 6/13/99, Register 150; am 6/22/2002, Register 162; em am 7/20/2004 – 11/16/2004, Register 171; am 6/11/2005, Register 174; am 7/9/2005, Register 175; am 6/4/2008, Register 186; am 5/21/2011, Register 198)

**5 AAC 21.363. Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan.** (a) The department should receive long-term direction in management of upper Cook Inlet salmon stocks and salmon species. Divisions within the department must receive long-term direction in order to accomplish their missions and plan management, research, administrative, and other programs. Upper Cook Inlet stakeholders should be informed of the long-term management objectives of

the Board of Fisheries (board). Therefore, the board establishes the following provisions for the management and conservation of upper Cook Inlet salmon stocks:

(1) consistent with the statutory priority for subsistence, the harvest of upper Cook Inlet salmon for customary and traditional subsistence uses will be provided for specific species in appropriate areas, seasons, and periods to satisfy subsistence needs; other beneficial uses, to the extent they are consistent with the public interest and overall benefit of the people of Alaska, will be allowed in order to maximize the benefits of these resources;

(2) to provide for the management and allocation of the upper Cook Inlet salmon resources, the harvest of the upper Cook Inlet salmon will be governed by specific and comprehensive management plans adopted by the board for salmon stocks and species, on a Cook Inlet basin wide basis, for different areas, and drainages and for different types of fisheries;

(3) in adopting the specific management plans described in (2) of this subsection the board will consider:

(A) the need for sustainable fisheries for all salmon stocks and salmon species throughout the Cook Inlet basin;

(B) the protection of the fisheries habitat both in the fresh water and the marine environment throughout the Cook Inlet basin; and

(C) the various needs and demands of the user groups of the salmon resources of upper Cook Inlet;

(4) in these management plans, the board may, as appropriate, address the following considerations:

(A) the need to allocate the harvestable surplus among commercial, sport, guided sport and personal use fisheries; and

(B) the need to allocate the harvestable surplus within user groups;

(5) in the absence of a specific management plan, it is the intent of the board that salmon be harvested in the fisheries that have historically harvested them, according to the methods, means, times, and locations of those fisheries;

(6) consistent with 5 AAC 39.220(b), it is the intent of the board that, in the absence of a specific management plan, where there are known conservation problems, the burden of conservation shall, to the extent practicable, be shared among all user groups in close proportion to their respective harvest on the stock of concern.

(b) Repealed 6/13/99.

(c) In this section "upper Cook Inlet salmon stocks" means those salmon that move through the Northern and Central Districts as defined in 5 AAC 21.200(a) and (b) and spawn in waters draining into those districts.

(d) Repealed 6/11/2005.

(e) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, it is the intent of the board that, while in most circumstances the department will adhere to the management plans in this chapter, no provision within a specific management plan is intended to limit the commissioner's use of emergency order authority under AS 16.05.060 to achieve established escapement goals for the management plans as the primary management objective. For the purpose of this subsection, "escapement goals" includes inriver goal, biological escapement goal, sustainable escapement goal, and optimal escapement goal as defined in 5 AAC 39.222. (Eff. 5/17/81, Register 78; am 3/29/87, Register 101; am 4/7/93, Register 126; am 5/31/96, Register 138; am 5/14/97, Register 142; am 6/13/99, Register 150; am 6/11/2005, Register 174; am 6/4/2008, Register 186)

**5 AAC 21.365. Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan.** (a) This management plan governs the harvest of Kasilof River salmon excess to spawning escapement needs. It is the intent of the Board of Fisheries that Kasilof River salmon be harvested in the fisheries that have historically harvested them, including the methods, means, times, and locations of those fisheries. Openings in the areas historically fished must be consistent with escapement objectives for upper Cook Inlet salmon and with the Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 21.363).

(b) Achieving the lower end of the Kenai River sockeye salmon escapement goal shall take priority over not exceeding the upper end of the Kasilof River optimal escapement goal range of 160,000 to 390,000 sockeye salmon.

(c) The commercial set gillnet fishery in the Kasilof Section shall be managed as follows:

(1) fishing will be opened as described in 5 AAC 21.310(b)(2) for regular weekly fishing periods, as specified in 5 AAC 21.320;

(2) from the beginning of the fishing season through July 7,

(A) the commissioner may, by emergency order, open additional fishing periods or extend regular weekly fishing periods to a maximum of 48 hours of additional fishing time per week;

(B) the fishery shall remain closed for at least one continuous 36-hour period per week to begin between 7:00 p.m. Thursday and 7:00 a.m. Friday;

(3) beginning July 8, the set gillnet fishery in the Kasilof Section will be managed as specified in 5 AAC 21.360(c); in addition to the provisions of 5 AAC 21.360(c), the commissioner may, by emergency order, limit fishing during the regular weekly periods and any extra fishing periods to those waters within one-half mile of shore, if the set gillnet fishery in the

Kenai and East Forelands Sections are not open for the fishing period; if the commissioner determines that further restrictions are necessary to aid in achieving the lower end of the Kenai River escapement goal, the commissioner may, in an emergency order under this paragraph further restrict fishing to within 600 feet of the high tide mark in the Kasilof Section;

(4) after July 8, if the Kasilof Section set gillnet fishery is restricted to fishing within the first one-half mile of shore, the commissioner may, by emergency order, open the KRSHA described in (f) of this section to both set and drift gillnet fishing using only one gillnet, for fishing periods not to exceed 48 hours in duration without one period of 24 consecutive hours of closure; the provisions in (f)(1) – (8) of this section apply during these openings;

(5) after July 15, if the department determines that the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon run strength is projected to be less than 2,300,000 fish and the 390,000 optimal escapement goal for the Kasilof River sockeye salmon may be exceeded, the commissioner may, by emergency order, open fishing for an additional 24 hours per week in the Kasilof Section within one-half mile of shore and as specified in 5 AAC 21.360(c).

(d) The personal use fishery will be managed as specified in 5 AAC 77.540(b) and (c).

(e) Repealed 6/4/2008.

(f) The commissioner may, by emergency order, open the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area (KRSHA) to the taking of salmon by gillnets when it is projected that the Kasilof River sockeye salmon escapement will exceed 365,000 fish. It is the intent of the Board of Fisheries (board) that the KRSHA should rarely, if ever, be opened under this subsection and only for conservation reasons. Before the commissioner opens the KRSHA, it is the board's intent that additional fishing time be allowed in the remainder of the Kasilof Section first, and secondly that the mandatory closures specified in regulation be reduced in duration, if necessary to meet the escapement goals contained within this and other management plans. The Kasilof River Special Harvest Area is defined as those waters within one and one-half miles of the navigational light located on the south bank of the Kasilof River, excluding waters of the Kasilof River upstream of ADF&G regulatory markers located near the terminus of the river and waters open to set gillnetting under 5 AAC 21.330(b)(3)(C)(ii) and (iii). The following apply within the special harvest area when it is open:

(1) set gillnets may be operated only within 600 feet of the mean high tide mark;

(2) a set gillnet may not exceed 35 fathoms in length;

(3) drift gillnets may not be operated in waters within 600 feet of the mean high tide mark;

(4) no more than 50 fathoms of drift gillnet may be used to take salmon;

(5) a permit holder may not use more than one gillnet to take salmon at any time;

(6) a person may not operate a gillnet outside the special harvest area when operating a gillnet in the special harvest area;

(7) there is no minimum distance between gear, except that a gillnet may not be set or operated within 600 feet of a set gillnet located outside of the special harvest area; and

(8) a vessel may not have more than 150 fathoms of drift gillnet or 105 fathoms of set gillnet on board.

(g) The commissioner may depart from the provisions of the management plan under this section as provided in 5 AAC 21.363(e).

(h) For the purposes of this section, "week" means a calendar week, a period of seven consecutive days beginning at 12:01 a.m. Sunday and ending at 12:00 midnight the following Saturday. (Eff. 4/18/86, Register 98; am 6/22/2002, Register 162; am 7/3/2002, Register 163; am 9/28/2002, Register 163; em am 7/20/2004 – 11/16/2004, Register 171; am 2/13/2005, Register 173; am 6/11/2005, Register 174; am 10/1/2006, Register 179; am 6/4/2008, Register 186; am 5/21/2011, Register 198)

**5 AAC 21.366. Northern District King Salmon Management Plan.** (a) The purpose of this management plan is to ensure an adequate escapement of king salmon into the Northern District drainages and to provide management guidelines to the department. The department shall manage the Northern District king salmon stocks primarily for sport and guided sport uses in order to provide sport and guided sport fishermen with a reasonable opportunity to harvest these salmon over the entire run as measured by the frequency of inriver restrictions. The department shall manage the Northern District for the commercial harvest of king salmon as follows:

(1) except as specified in (8) of this section, the season will open for commercial fishing periods with the first fishing period beginning on the first Monday on or after May 25, except when May 25 falls within a closed period, in which case the season opens the next following open period and continues through June 24, unless closed earlier by emergency order;

(2) fishing periods are from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Mondays;

(3) the harvest may not exceed 12,500 king salmon;

(4) set gillnets may not exceed 35 fathoms in length and six inches in mesh size;

(5) no CFEC permit holder may operate more than one set gillnet at a time;

(6) no set gillnet may be set or operated within 1,200 feet of another set gillnet;

(7) no CFEC permit holder may set a gillnet seaward of a set gillnet operated by another CFEC permit holder;



(8) from May 25 through June 24, the area from an ADF&G regulatory marker located one mile south of the Theodore River to the Susitna River is open to fishing the second regular Monday period only;

(9) if the Theodore, Lewis, or Ivan River is closed to sport fishing, the commissioner shall close, by emergency order, the area from an ADF&G regulatory marker located one mile south of the Theodore River to the Susitna River to commercial king salmon fishing for the remainder of the fishing periods provided for under this section;

(10) if the Deshka River is closed to sport fishing, the commissioner shall close, by emergency order, the commercial king salmon fishery throughout the Northern District for the remainder of the fishing periods provided for under this section; and

(11) if the Chuitna River is closed to sport fishing, the commissioner shall close, by emergency order, the area from a point at the wood chip dock located approximately at 61° 02.56' N. lat., 151° 14.36' W. long., to the Susitna River to commercial king salmon fishing for the remainder of the directed king salmon fishery.

(b) The commissioner may depart from the provisions of the management plan under this section as provided in 5 AAC 21.363(e). (Eff. 4/18/86, Register 98; am 5/14/97, Register 142; am 6/13/99, Register 150; am 6/22/2002, Register 162; am 6/11/2005, Register 174; am 6/4/2008, Register 186; em am 5/1/2009 – 8/28/2009, Register 190; am 5/21/2011, Register 198)

**5 AAC 21.368. Big River Sockeye Salmon Management Plan.** (a) The purpose of this management plan is to authorize a harvest of Big River sockeye salmon by set gillnets in a portion of the Kustatan and Kalgin Island Subdistricts.

(b) Salmon may be taken in waters of the Kustatan Subdistrict along the mainland shore from the terminus of the Kustatan River, southwest to the southern boundary of the subdistrict, and in the Kalgin Island Subdistrict along the western shore from Light Point (60° 29.00' N. lat., 151° 50.50' W. long.) to the Kalgin Island Light on the southern end of Kalgin Island at 60° 20.80' N. lat., 152° 05.09' W. long.

(c) The open fishing season is from June 1 through June 24, except that if June 1 falls within a closed weekly fishing period, the season will open the next following open period.

(d) Fishing periods are from 7:00 a.m. through 7:00 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

(e) Salmon may be taken by set gillnets only as follows:

(1) a set gillnet may not exceed 35 fathoms in length nor five and one-half inches in mesh size;

(2) no CFEC permit holder may operate more than one set gillnet at a time;

(3) no set gillnet may be set or operated within 1,800 feet of another set gillnet;

(4) no set gillnet may extend more than 35 fathoms seaward of the mainland beach at the lowest tide of the current day;

(5) repealed 4/7/93.

(f) Commercial salmon fishing is prohibited as follows, and no other closed waters provision applies:

(1) within one statute mile of the terminus, at mean high tide, of the Kustatan River and of the Drift River, and within one statute mile of the Big River;

(2) within 500 yards of the terminus, at mean high tide, of Montana Bill Creek and of Bachatna Creek (also known as Johnson Slough);

(3) in the freshwater portions of any anadromous fish stream, in accordance with 5 AAC 39.290.

(g) The commissioner shall close, by emergency order, the fishery, when the harvest of king salmon reaches 1,000 fish.

(h) The commissioner may depart from the provisions of the management plan under this section as provided in 5 AAC 21.363(e). (Eff. 6/10/89, Register 110; am 4/7/93, Register 126; am 6/11/2005, Register 174; am 6/4/2008, Register 186)

## **SPORT FINFISH FISHERIES**

### **Kenai Peninsula Area**

**5 AAC 56.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area.** Unless otherwise specified in 5 AAC 56.122 or by an emergency order issued under AS 16.05.060, the following are the general seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means that apply to sport fishing for finfish in the Kenai Peninsula Area:

(1) king salmon

(A) 20 inches or greater in length may not be retained or possessed; the season is closed for king salmon 20 inches or greater in length; a king salmon caught that is 20 inches or greater in length must be released immediately; a person may not remove a king salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

(B) less than 20 inches in length

(i) in flowing waters and unstocked lakes and ponds, may not be retained or possessed; king salmon less than 20 inches in length that are caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed; a person may not remove a king salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

(ii) from January 1 – December 31, may be taken in stocked lakes and ponds; bag and possession limit of 10 fish; for the purpose of this sub-paragraph, "stocked lakes and ponds" means Arc Lake, Aurora Lake, Barbara Lake, Cabin Lake, Cecille Lake, Centennial Lake, Chugach Estates Lake, Douglas Lake, Elephant Lake, Encelewski Lake, Island Lake, Johnson Lake, Longmare Lake, Loon Lake, Quintin Lake, Rogue Lake, Scout Lake, Sport Lake, Thetis Lake, Tirmore Lake, Troop Lake, and Upper Summit Lake;

(2) salmon, other than king salmon,

(A) 16 inches or greater in length may be taken from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of three fish, of which only two may be coho salmon; if retention of coho salmon is allowed under this chapter, a coho salmon 16 inches or greater in length that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person originally hooking it; a person may not remove a coho salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

(B) less than 16 inches in length may be taken from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of 10 fish;

(3) Arctic char/Dolly Varden may be taken in

(A) flowing waters from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of two fish; no size limit;

(B) lakes and ponds from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of five fish; no size limit;

(4) rainbow/steelhead trout, as follows:

(A) may be taken in flowing waters from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of two fish, of which only one may be 20 inches or greater in length;

(B) may be taken in lakes and ponds from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of five fish, of which only one may be 20 inches or greater in length;

(C) there is an annual limit of two fish 20 inches or greater in length, and a harvest record is required as specified in 5 AAC 75.006; notwithstanding the annual limit established for rainbow/steelhead trout in this subparagraph, the annual limit for rainbow/steelhead trout in the combined waters of the Kenai Peninsula Area and in the other areas in the Cook Inlet region that are open to sport fishing for rainbow/steelhead

trout under 5 AAC 57 – 5 AAC 62 is two rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or greater in length;

(5) Arctic grayling may be taken from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of five fish; no size limit;

(6) lake trout

(A) 20 inches or greater in length may be taken from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of two fish;

(B) less than 20 inches in length may be taken from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of 10 fish;

(7) northern pike may be taken from January 1 – December 31; no, bag, possession, or size limit; northern pike may be taken

(A) by spear and bow and arrow; the arrow must have a barbed tip and be attached by a line to the bow; for the purposes of this subparagraph, "bow" means a long bow, recurve bow, compound bow, and crossbow;

(B) with two hooks per line when fishing through the ice and if both hooks are attached to the same single piece of bait;

(8) burbot: may be taken from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of two fish; no size limit;

(9) other finfish not specified in this section may be taken from January 1 – December 31; no bag, possession, or size limits. (Eff. 10/1/2006, Register 179; am 6/12/2011, Register 198; am \_\_\_/\_\_\_/2014, Register \_\_\_)

**5 AAC 56.122. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area.** (a) Unless otherwise specified by an emergency order issued under AS 16.05.060, the following are special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the general seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means set out in 5 AAC 56.120 and 5 AAC 75 for the Kenai Peninsula Area:

(1) from September 16 – December 31 in flowing waters, except the Swanson River drainage, and the Kasilof River drainage below the Sterling Highway Bridge, only unbaited, artificial lures may be used;

(2) Anchor River drainage, except the Bridge Creek reservoir:

(A) in flowing waters, from July 1 – July 15 and September 1 – October 31, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(B) rainbow/steelhead trout may not be possessed or retained; rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately; a person may not remove rainbow/steelhead trout from the water before releasing the fish;

(C) from its mouth upstream to the junction of the North and South forks sport fishing is open

(i) on the weekend, and the Monday and Wednesday following that weekend, before Memorial Day weekend and the following four weekends and the Monday and Wednesday following each of those weekends; and

(ii) from July 1 – October 31;

(D) upstream from the junction of the North and South forks sport fishing is open from August 1 – October 31, except for salmon;

(E) sport fishing is open for king salmon from its mouth upstream to the junction of the North and South forks only on the weekend, and the Monday and Wednesday following that weekend, before Memorial Day weekend and the following four weekends and the Monday and Wednesday following each of those weekends; for king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, the bag and possession limit is one fish; as part of the Cook Inlet region annual limit specified for king salmon in (b) of this section, a person may not retain more than two king salmon 20 inches or greater in length each year from the Anchor River and Deep Creek combined; a harvest record is required as specified in 5 AAC 75.006; a person who takes and retains a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length from the Anchor River, Deep Creek, or the Ninilchik River may not sport fish in any of those drainages for the rest of that day; a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes a part of the bag limit of the person originally hooking it; a person may not remove a king salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

(3) Bishop Creek drainage, including Daniels Creek:

(A) from June 15 – April 14, flowing waters are open to sport fishing;

(B) is closed to sport fishing for salmon;

(4) Crooked Creek drainage:

(A) from August 1 – December 31, is open to sport fishing;

(B) from September 1 – December 31, in flowing waters, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(C) rainbow/steelhead trout may not be possessed or retained; rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately; a person may not remove rainbow/steelhead trout from the water before releasing the fish;

(5) Deep Creek drainage:

(A) from July 1 – July 15 and September 1 – October 31, in flowing waters, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(B) rainbow/steelhead trout may not be possessed or retained; rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately; a person may not remove rainbow/steelhead trout from the water before releasing the fish;

(C) open to sport fishing from the mouth to ADF&G regulatory markers located two miles upstream,

(i) on Memorial Day weekend and the following two weekends and the Monday following each of those weekends; and

(ii) from July 1 – October 31;

(D) open to sport fishing for king salmon from its mouth upstream to ADF&G regulatory markers located two miles upstream only on Memorial Day weekend and the following two weekends and the Monday following each of those weekends; bag and possession limit for king salmon 20 inches or greater in length is one fish; as part of the Cook Inlet region annual limit specified for king salmon in (b) of this section, a person may not retain more than two king salmon 20 inches or greater in length each year from the Anchor River and Deep Creek combined; a harvest record is required as specified in 5 AAC 75.006; a person who takes and retains a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length from Deep Creek, the Anchor River, or the Ninilchik River may not sport fish in any of those drainages for the rest of that day; a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes a part of the bag limit of the person originally hooking it; a person may not remove a king salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

(E) upstream of ADF&G regulatory markers located approximately two miles upstream from its mouth, from August 1 – October 31, is open to sport fishing, except for salmon;

(6) Ninilchik River drainage:

(A) from September 1 – October 31, in flowing waters, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(B) rainbow/steelhead trout may not be possessed or retained; rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately; a person may not remove rainbow/steelhead trout from the water before releasing the fish;

(C) open to sport fishing from its mouth to ADF&G regulatory markers located approximately two miles upstream

(i) on Memorial Day weekend and the following two weekends and the Monday following each of those weekends; and

(ii) from July 1 – October 31;

(D) open to sport fishing for king salmon from its mouth upstream to ADF&G regulatory markers located approximately two miles upstream

(i) on Memorial Day weekend and the following two weekends and the Monday following each of those weekends; bag and possession limit of one king salmon, 20 inches or greater in length; a person who takes and retains a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length from the Ninilchik River, Deep Creek, or the Anchor River may not sport fish in any of those drainages for the rest of that day;

(ii) from July 1 – October 31; bag and possession limit of one hatchery king salmon, 20 inches or greater in length; naturally-produced king salmon may not be retained; a person who takes and retains a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length from the Ninilchik River drainage may not sport fish in the Ninilchik River drainage for the rest of that day; and

(iii) with an annual limit of five king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, except as provided in (b) of this section; a harvest record is required as specified in 5 AAC 75.006; a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag and possession limit of the person originally hooking it; a person may not remove a king salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

(E) a person may not possess a king salmon that has been filleted, mutilated, or otherwise disfigured in a manner that prevents the determination that the fish is a hatchery king salmon, until the person has stopped fishing in the Ninilchik River drainage for the day and has moved more than 100 yards away from waters open to sport fishing in the Ninilchik River drainage;

(F) open to sport fishing, except for salmon, from August 1 – October 31 upstream of ADF&G regulatory markers located approximately two miles upstream from the mouth;

(7) English Bay River drainage:

(A) English Bay River from its mouth, including the lagoon, upstream to Lower English Bay Lake, from June 1 – July 31, is fly-fishing-only water;

(B) upstream of the outlet of Lower English Bay Lake, the drainage, including flowing waters, lakes, and ponds, from January 1 – December 31, are open to sport fishing, except for salmon;

(8) Kasilof River drainage, excluding Crooked Creek and Tustumena Lake and its tributaries:

(A) king salmon 20 inches or greater in length may be taken from January 1 – June 30, upstream of Sterling Highway Bridge, and from January 1 – July 31, downstream of the Sterling Highway Bridge; bag and possession limit of one fish; annual limit of five king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, except as provided in (b) of this section; a harvest record is required as specified in 5 AAC 75.006; from January 1 – June 30,

(i) the bag and possession limit for king salmon 20 inches or greater in length is two fish, of which only one fish may be a naturally-produced king salmon; a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person originally hooking it; a person may not remove a king salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

(ii) a naturally-produced king salmon may be retained on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays only; a naturally-produced king salmon 20 inches or greater in length that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person originally hooking it; a person may not remove a king salmon from the water before releasing the fish; the commissioner may, by emergency order, increase the days for retention of naturally-produced king salmon;

(iii) a person may not possess a king salmon that has been filleted, mutilated, or otherwise disfigured in a manner that prevents the determination that the fish is a hatchery king salmon, until the fish is permanently offloaded from the vessel if the fish was taken from a vessel or permanently transported away from the fishing site if the fish was taken from the riverbank;

(B) the following special provisions apply in that portion downstream of the Sterling Highway Bridge:

(i) from July 1 – July 31, the bag and possession limit for king salmon 20 inches or greater in length is one fish; a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person originally hooking it; a person may not remove a king salmon from the water before releasing the fish;



(ii) in flowing waters, from September 16 – May 15, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(iii) on any Sunday in July, a person may not sport fish from a registered sport fishing guide vessel;

(iv) from January 1 – July 31, a person may not sport fish from a vessel that has on board a motor that is more than 10 horsepower;

(v) from January 1 – July 31, a motor may be used only between the mouth of the Kasilof River and an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately three miles upstream, and only after fishing from the vessel has ceased for the day; a person may not deploy sport fishing gear from a vessel after a motor has been used to propel that vessel on the same day;

(vi) from January 1 – June 30, a person may not sport fish from an anchored vessel from an ADF&G regulatory marker located near the confluence of Crooked Creek, downstream approximately 2,700 feet to an ADF&G regulatory marker located near the cutbank;

(vii) rainbow/steelhead trout may not be possessed or retained; rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately; a person may not remove rainbow/steelhead trout from the water before releasing the fish;

(C) from August 1 – August 15, fishing from a boat is prohibited in the flowing waters of the Kasilof River upstream of the Sterling Highway Bridge;

(9) Resurrection Bay drainages:

(A) in flowing water, from September 1 – December 31, only unbaited, artificial lures, may be used;

(B) closed to sport fishing for salmon;

(C) Seward Lagoon and the waters leading into 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) the designated youth sport fishery occurs for king salmon, the third Friday and weekend in June, and the second Friday and weekend in July;

(ii) the designated youth sport fishery occurs for coho salmon, the last Friday and weekend in August, and the first Friday and weekend in September;

(iii) a single hook, or a single-hook artificial lure, with bait may be used;

(iv) bag and possession limit of two fish;

(v) as specified in 5 AAC 75.022(c), a person may not snag a fish;

(D) notwithstanding (B) of this paragraph, the waters downstream from the Seward Highway and downstream from Nash Road are open to sport fishing for salmon, except king salmon, from June 16 – December 31; only single-hook, artificial lures may be used; the bag and possession limit is three salmon per day, of which only two may be coho salmon;

(E) a person 16 years of age or older may not sport fish in First Lake during the four designated youth fishing days, which occur from the Thursday before the third Saturday in May through the following Sunday;

(10) Stariski Creek drainage:

(A) in flowing waters, from July 1 – July 15 and September 1 – October 31, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(B) rainbow/steelhead trout may not be possessed or retained; rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately; a person may not remove rainbow/steelhead trout from the water before releasing the fish;

(C) from its mouth upstream to the Sterling Highway Bridge, from July 1 – October 31, is open to sport fishing, except for king salmon;

(D) upstream from the Sterling Highway Bridge, from August 1 – October 31, is open to sport fishing, except for salmon;

(11) Swanson River drainage:

(A) sport fishing with bait is allowed in all waters open to sport fishing;

(B) flowing waters, from June 15 – April 14, are open to sport fishing, except for king salmon;

(C) Sucker Creek is closed to sport fishing for salmon;

(D) the bag and possession limit for rainbow/steelhead trout is five fish, of which only one may be 20 inches or greater in length;

(12) Tustumena Lake and its tributaries:

(A) Tustumena Lake and its tributaries are closed to sport fishing for sockeye salmon;

(B) except as specified in (A) of the paragraph, the tributaries of Tustumena Lake are open to sport fishing only from June 11 – May 1;

(13) in Stormy Lake, five lines may be used to fish for northern pike through the ice; allowable gear is limited to standard ice fishing gear as specified in 5 AAC 56.120(7)(B); fishing gear must be closely attended to as specified in 5 AAC 75.033; all other species of fish caught must be released immediately.

(b) Notwithstanding an annual limit established in this section for king salmon, the annual limit for king salmon in the combined waters of the Kenai Peninsula Area and the other areas in the Cook Inlet region that are open to sport fishing for king salmon under 5 AAC 57 – 5 AAC 62 is five king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, not more than two of which may be taken from that portion of the Kenai River drainage open to king salmon fishing, and not more than two of which may be taken, in combination, from Deep Creek and the Anchor River, except that from January 1 through June 30, a king salmon less than 28 inches in length taken from the Kenai River does not count towards the annual limit.

(c) In this section,

(1) "anchored vessel" means a vessel on which any device other than oars or paddles is used to slow or stop the downstream drift of the vessel;

(2) "fishing site" means the riverbank where the fish was hooked and removed from the water;

(3) "hatchery king salmon" means a king salmon with a clipped adipose fin as evidenced by a healed fin clip scar where the adipose fin is normally located;

(4) "naturally-produced king salmon" means a king salmon with an adipose fin intact. (Eff. 10/1/2006, Register 179; am 11/12/2006, Register 180; am 3/15/2008, Register 185; am 6/4/2008, Register 186; am 3/2/2011, Register 197; am 6/12/2011, Register 198; am \_\_\_/\_\_\_/2014, Register \_\_\_; am \_\_\_/\_\_\_/2014, Register \_\_\_)

**5 AAC 56.140. Kasilof River guiding and guided fishing requirements.** In addition to the provisions of 5 AAC 57.160 and this chapter applicable to the Kasilof River, from January 1 through July 31, the guided sport fishery for early-run and late-run Kasilof River king salmon will be managed as follows:

(1) a sport fishing guide may not sport fish while a client is present or is within the sport fishing guide's control or responsibility; notwithstanding the provisions of this paragraph, a sport fishing guide may provide assistance to a client with a disability in order to enable the client to engage in sport fishing; in this paragraph "disability" has the same meaning given in 42 U.S.C. 12102(2)(A) and (C), as amended as of February 8, 1994;

(2) repealed 6/12/2011. (Eff. 6/4/2008, Register 186; am 6/12/2011, Register 198)

**5 AAC 56.180. Riparian Habitat Fishery Management Plan for the Kenai Peninsula Area.** (a) The Board of Fisheries (board) finds that freshwater fisheries in upper Cook Inlet, including the Kenai Peninsula Area, subject to access limitations of federal, state, and local landowners, are a recognized use of the fishery resources of upper Cook Inlet. The board also finds that, in some situations, freshwater fisheries negatively affect riparian habitats of upper Cook Inlet.

(b) The board recognizes the importance of maintaining the structural and functional integrity of upper Cook Inlet riparian habitats. Given this, the board will consider, as part of its deliberations, avoidable impacts to upper Cook Inlet riparian habitats related to sport fishing.

(c) If the commissioner determines that freshwater fisheries are likely to result in riparian habitat loss that could negatively affect the fishery resources of upper Cook Inlet, the commissioner may close, by emergency order, those riparian areas to fishing. This authority extends only to riparian areas in which there is a state, federal, or municipal property interest. The commissioner may reopen, by emergency order, those riparian areas to fishing if the commissioner determines that an opening will not compromise the integrity of the riparian habitats the emergency order is designed to protect. During seasons in areas opened by emergency order, the commissioner may establish fishing periods and may designate any or all of the following as locations from which fishing may occur:

(1) boats;

(2) boardwalks or similar structures;

(3) docks;

(4) gravel bars;

(5) natural formations identified by the commissioner;

(6) other areas identified by the commissioner as areas where use for fishing will not compromise the integrity of the habitat the closure is designed to protect. (Eff. 10/1/2006, Register 179)

## **Kenai River Drainage Area**

**5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area.** (a) Unless otherwise specified in 5 AAC 57.121 – 5 AAC 57.123 or by an emergency order issued under AS 16.05.060, the following are the general seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means that apply to sport fishing for finfish in the Kenai River Drainage Area:

(1) salmon may be landed only with the aid of a landing net or by hand;

(2) king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, as follows:

(A) may be taken only from January 1 – July 31, in the Kenai River from its mouth upstream to the outlet of Skilak Lake and in the Moose River from its confluence with the Kenai River upstream to the northernmost edge of the Sterling Highway Bridge, with a bag and possession limit of one fish, as follows:

(i) from January 1 – June 30, from its mouth upstream to the outlet of Skilak Lake, and from July 1 – July 14, from the Soldotna Bridge upstream to the outlet of Skilak Lake and in Moose River from its confluence with the Kenai River upstream to the northernmost edge of the Sterling Highway Bridge, only king salmon that are less than 46 inches in length or 55 inches or greater in length may be retained;

(ii) if retention is permitted under this subparagraph, a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person originally hooking it; a person may not remove a king salmon from the water before releasing the fish; except as provided in (b)(1) of this section, there is an annual limit of two king salmon and a harvest record is required as specified in 5 AAC 75.006;

(iii) a king salmon 55 inches or greater in length taken from the Kenai River from January 1 – July 31 must be sealed as specified in 5 AAC 57.160;

(iv) from January 1 – July 14, a person may not possess a king salmon that has been filleted, headed, mutilated, or otherwise disfigured in a manner that prevents determination of the length of fish taken until the fish is permanently offloaded from a vessel if the fish was taken from a vessel or permanently transported away from the fishing site if the fish was taken from the riverbank; for the purposes of this sub-subparagraph, "fishing site" means the riverbank where the fish was hooked and removed from the water becoming part of the angler's bag limit;

(B) king salmon 20 inches or greater in length may not be taken

(i) in the Kenai River upstream of the outlet of Skilak Lake, including Kenai Lake; and

(ii) in the Kenai River drainage lakes and tributaries including Kenai Lake tributaries, except the lower Moose River;

(C) a person, after taking and retaining a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length from the Kenai River, may not sport fish from a boat in the Kenai River downstream from Skilak Lake for any species of fish on that same day;

(3) king salmon less than 20 inches in length may be taken in

(A) flowing waters and unstocked lakes and ponds only from January 1 – July 31; bag and possession limit of 10 fish;

(B) repealed 6/12/2011;

(4) salmon, other than king salmon,

(A) 16 inches or greater in length, as follows:

(i) sockeye, pink, and chum salmon may be taken from January 1 – December 31;

(ii) coho salmon may be taken in the Lower Section only from July 1 – November 30 and in the Middle and Upper Sections only from July 1 – October 31; a person after taking and retaining a bag limit of coho salmon 16 inches or greater in length from the Kenai River may continue to sport fish only from the Soldotna Bridge upstream to the ADF&G regulatory markers at the outlet of Skilak Lake;

(iii) except as provided in (iv) of this subparagraph, the bag and possession limit for sockeye, coho, and chum salmon in combination is three fish, of which no more than two may be coho salmon; in addition, the bag and possession limit for pink salmon is six fish;

(iv) from September 1 – November 30, in the flowing waters of the Kenai River, excluding the tributaries, the bag and possession limit for coho salmon is three fish per day;

(v) if retention of coho salmon is allowed under this chapter, a coho salmon 16 inches or greater in length that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person originally hooking it; a person may not remove a coho salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

(B) less than 16 inches in length may be taken from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of 10 fish;

(5) Arctic char/Dolly Varden may be taken from

(A) January 1 – December 31, in all flowing waters from the mouth of the Kenai River upstream to Skilak Lake, and the waters of Skilak Lake, except the waters within a one-half mile radius of the Kenai River inlet; bag and possession limit of one fish less than 18 inches in length; Arctic char/Dolly Varden 18 inches or greater in length may not be retained; Arctic char/Dolly Varden caught that are 18 inches or greater in length must be released immediately;

(B) January 1 – December 31, in the lakes and ponds of the Kenai River drainage, including Kenai Lake and lakes tributary to Kenai Lake, except Skilak Lake; bag and possession limit of two fish, of which only one may be 20 inches or greater in length;

(C) June 11 – May 1, in all flowing waters from the waters of Skilak Lake within a one-half mile radius of the Kenai River inlet, upstream to Kenai Lake, including the flowing waters of the Kenai Lake drainage; bag and possession limit of one fish less than 16 inches in length; Arctic char/Dolly Varden 16 inches or greater in length may not be retained; Arctic char/Dolly Varden caught that are 16 inches or greater in length must be released immediately;

(6) rainbow/steelhead trout

(A) are subject to an annual limit of two fish 20 inches or greater in length, except as provided in (b)(2) of this section, and a harvest record is required as specified in 5 AAC 75.006;

(B) may be taken from June 11 – May 1, in all flowing waters from the mouth of the Kenai River upstream to Skilak Lake, and the waters of Skilak Lake, except the water within a one-half mile radius of the Kenai River inlet; bag and possession limit of one fish less than 18 inches in length; rainbow/steelhead trout 18 inches or greater in length may not be retained; rainbow/steelhead trout caught that are 18 inches or greater in length must be released immediately;

(C) may be taken from June 11 – May 1, in all flowing waters upstream of Skilak Lake, and the waters of Skilak Lake within a one-half mile radius of the Kenai River inlet; bag and possession limit of one fish less than 16 inches in length; rainbow/steelhead trout 16 inches or greater in length may not be retained; rainbow/steelhead trout caught that are 16 inches or greater in length must be released immediately;

(D) may be taken from January 1 – December 31, in the lakes and ponds, including Kenai Lake and lakes tributary to Kenai Lake, except Skilak Lake and stocked lakes; bag and possession limit of two fish, of which only one may be 20 inches or greater in length;

(E) repealed 6/12/2011;

(7) Arctic grayling may be taken from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of five fish; no size limit;

(8) lake trout

(A) 20 inches or greater in length may be taken from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of two fish;

(B) less than 20 inches in length may be taken from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of 10 fish;

(9) northern pike may be taken from January 1 – December 31; no bag, possession, or size limit; northern pike may be taken

(A) by spear and bow and arrow; the arrow must have a barbed tip and be attached by a line to the bow; for the purposes of this subparagraph, "bow" means a long bow, recurve bow, compound bow, and crossbow;

(B) with two hooks per line when fishing through the ice and if both hooks are attached to the same single piece of bait;

(10) burbot: may be taken from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of two fish; no size limit;

(11) other finfish not specified in this section may be taken from January 1 – December 31; no bag, possession, or size limits.

(b) Notwithstanding an annual limit established in this section for

(1) king salmon, the annual limit for king salmon in the combined waters of the Kenai River Drainage Area and the other areas in the Cook Inlet region that are open to sport fishing for king salmon under 5 AAC 56 – 5 AAC 62 is five king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, not more than two of which may be taken from that portion of the Kenai River drainage open to king salmon fishing, and not more than two of which may be taken, in combination, from Deep Creek and the Anchor River, except that from January 1 through June 30, a king salmon less than 28 inches in length taken from the Kenai River does not count towards the annual limit;

(2) rainbow/steelhead trout, the annual limit for rainbow/steelhead trout in the combined waters of the Kenai River Drainage Area and the other areas in the Cook Inlet region that are open to sport fishing for rainbow/steelhead trout under 5 AAC 56 – 5 AAC 62 is two rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or greater in length. (Eff. 10/1/2006, Register 179; am 11/12/2006, Register 180; am 6/4/2008, Register 186; am 6/12/2011, Register 198; am \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/2014, Register \_\_\_\_)

**5 AAC 57.121. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Lower Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area.** Unless otherwise specified by an emergency order issued under AS 16.05.060, the following are the special provisions and localized exceptions to the general seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means set out in 5 AAC 57.120 and 5 AAC 75 for the Lower Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area:

(1) sport fishing gear restrictions:



(A) from January 1 – June 30, in the Kenai River, only one unbaited single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(B) from July 1 – July 31, in the Kenai River from its mouth upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located at the outlet of Skilak Lake, only one single hook, may be used;

(C) from September 1 – December 31, in the Kenai River from the mouth of the Upper Killey River upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located at the outlet of Skilak Lake, only unbaited, artificial lures may be used;

(D) from December 1 – December 31, in the Kenai River from its mouth upstream to the outlet of Skilak Lake, only unbaited artificial lures may be used;

(E) from May 15 – August 15, the Moose River from its confluence with the Kenai River upstream to the upstream edge of the Sterling Highway Bridge, and the waters of the Kenai River within a 100-yard radius of the Moose River, are fly-fishing-only waters;

(F) from January 1 – July 31, the following waters are fly-fishing-only waters:

(i) that portion of the Kenai River from an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 300 yards downstream from the mouth of Slikok Creek, upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 100 yards upstream from the mouth of Slikok Creek;

(ii) that portion of the Kenai River from an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately one mile downstream from the mouth of Funny River, upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 200 yards upstream from the mouth of the Funny River;

(G) from January 1 – July 31, that portion of the Kenai River from an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately three-quarters of a mile downstream from the mouth of the Lower Killey River, upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately one mile upstream from the mouth of the Lower Killey River, is fly-fishing-only waters;

(H) in Hidden Lake Creek, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(I) in Mackey Lakes, Derks Lake, Sevena Lake, Union Lake, and the unnamed lakes on Tote Road, five lines may be used to fish for northern pike through the ice; allowable gear is limited to standard ice fishing gear as specified in 5 AAC 57.120(9)(B); fishing gear must be closely attended as specified in 5 AAC 75.033; all other species of fish caught must be released immediately;

(2) the following waters of the Kenai River are closed to sport fishing, as follows:

(A) from April 15 – August 15, Slikok Creek;

(B) from January 1 – December 31, the flowing waters of Soldotna Creek upstream of ADF&G markers located approximately 100 feet upstream from its confluence with the Kenai River;

(C) from May 2 – June 10, the flowing waters of Soldotna Creek downstream from an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 100 feet upstream from its confluence with the Kenai River;

(D) from January 1 – July 31, that portion of the Kenai River from an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately one mile downstream from the mouth of the Funny River, upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 200 yards upstream from the mouth of the Funny River, is closed to the taking of king salmon;

(E) from June 11 – August 14, the Funny River from the Kenai River upstream to the Funny River Road Bridge;

(F) from May 2 – June 10, the flowing waters of Moose River upstream of the upper edge of the Sterling Highway Bridge;

(G) from January 1 – July 31, that portion of the Kenai River from an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately three-quarters of a mile downstream from the mouth of the Lower Killey River, upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately one mile upstream from the mouth of the Lower Killey River, is closed to the taking of king salmon;

(H) from May 2 – June 10, Hidden Lake Creek;

(I) from July 1 – August 15, the Kenai River riparian habitats described in 5 AAC 57.180(d) are closed to all sport fishing, except to sport fishing from a boat that is more than 10 feet from shore and is not connected to the shore or any riparian habitat;

(J) from January 1 – July 31, the waters in that portion of the Kenai River from an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 300 yards downstream from the mouth of Slikok Creek, upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 100 yards upstream from the mouth of Slikok Creek, is closed to the taking of king salmon;

(K) from May 2 – June 10, in that portion of the Kenai River from the mouth of the Upper Killey River upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located at the outlet of Skilak Lake;

(3) a person may not sport fish from a boat

(A) on any Monday in May, June, and July, except Memorial Day, in that portion of the Kenai River from the Sterling Highway Bridge upstream to the outlet of Skilak Lake, except that unguided sport fishing from a nonmotorized vessel is allowed on Mondays in May, June, and July as described in 5 AAC 21.359(b)(2); for the purposes of this subparagraph, "nonmotorized vessel" is a vessel that does not have a motor on board;

(B) from January 1 – July 31, in the following waters:

(i) in that portion of the Kenai River from an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 300 yards downstream from the mouth of Slikok Creek upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 100 yards upstream from the mouth of Slikok Creek;

(ii) in that portion of the Kenai River from an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately one mile downstream from the mouth of the Funny River, upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 200 yards upstream from the mouth of Funny River;

(C) from May 15 until the end of the king salmon season, or July 31, whichever is later, in the following waters:

(i) in that portion of the Kenai River from an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 250 yards downstream from the upper breakwater at Centennial Park boat launch, upstream to the Sterling Highway Bridge at Soldotna;

(ii) in that portion of the Kenai River from an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 100 yards downstream from the landing at Morgan's Hole, at river mile 31, upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located at the north section line of Section 28, Township 5 North, Range 9 West, Seward Meridian;

(iii) in that portion of the Kenai River within a 100–yard radius of the mouth of the Moose River, and the Moose River upstream to the upstream edge of the Sterling Highway Bridge;

(D) from January 1 – July 31, in that portion of the Kenai River from an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately three–quarters of a mile downstream from the mouth of the Lower Killey River, upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately one mile upstream from the mouth of the Lower Killey River;

(E) that is anchored in that portion of the Kenai River from an ADF&G regulatory marker located at the outlet of Skilak Lake, downstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located at approximately river mile 47, from August 1 – December 31;

for the purposes of this paragraph, "anchored vessel" means a vessel on which any device other than oars, paddles, or a motor is used to slow or stop the downstream drift of the vessel;

(F) notwithstanding the provisions of (A) of this paragraph, on any Monday in May, June, and July, except Memorial Day, in that portion of the Kenai River from its mouth upstream to the Sterling Highway Bridge, and except as described in 5 AAC 21.359(b)(2), a vessel that has on board the vessel no more than one motor that is not more than 10 horsepower may be used only between the mouth of the Kenai River and ADF&G regulatory markers located at Cunningham Park, and only after fishing from the vessel has ceased for that day; a person may not deploy sport fishing gear from a vessel after a motor has been used to propel that vessel on the same day;

(G) from July 1 – July 31, in that portion of the Kenai River from an ADF&G regulatory marker located at approximately river mile 11 upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located at approximately river mile 12, a person may not sport fish for any species of fish from a vessel that is making upstream progress relative to the water with the aid of a motor;

(4) sport fishing from guided vessels is restricted in waters of the Kenai River as specified in 5 AAC 57.140(c) and 5 AAC 57.170(b)(2);

(5) Hidden Lake is closed to sport fishing for burbot;

(6) in Hidden Lake, the bag and possession limit for lake trout is one fish, with no size limit. (Eff. 10/1/2006, Register 179; am 11/12/2006, Register 180; am 12/30/2006, Register 180; am 6/4/2008, Register 186; am 6/12/2011, Register 198)

**5 AAC 57.122. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Middle Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area.** Unless otherwise specified by an emergency order issued under AS 16.05.060, the following are special provisions and localized exceptions to the general seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means set out in 5 AAC 57.120 and 5 AAC 75 for the Middle Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area:

(1) the following waters of the Middle Section of Kenai River drainage are open to sport fishing, only as follows:

(A) from June 11 – May 1, the Kenai River the waters of Skilak Lake within a one-half mile radius of the Kenai River inlet, upstream to the downstream edge of the Sterling Highway Bridge at the outlet of Kenai Lake;

(B) from June 11 – September 14, and from November 1 – May 1, Cooper Creek;

(C) from June 11 – May 1, flowing waters of the Russian River drainage upstream of a point approximately 100 yards from its confluence with the Kenai River, excluding Upper Russian (Goat) Creek, only one single hook with a gap between point and shank of three–eighths inch or less may be used;

(D) from July 15 – May 1, the Russian River Sanctuary, including waters upstream from ADF&G regulatory markers located just downstream of the ferry crossing on the Kenai River to ADF&G regulatory markers located approximately 300 yards upstream of the public boat launch at Sportsman's Landing (including the waters around the upstream end of the island near the Russian River mouth) and the Russian River from its mouth upstream 100 yards to ADF&G regulatory markers is open to sport fishing, except sockeye salmon may be taken only from July 15 – August 20;

(E) from June 11 – August 20, the waters of the Kenai River near the confluence of the Russian River, from the powerline crossing on the Kenai River upstream to the Ferry Crossing, are open to sport fishing for sockeye salmon;

(F) from June 11 – August 20, the waters of the Russian River from its mouth upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 600 yards downstream from the falls are open to sport fishing for sockeye salmon;

(G) from June 11 – July 31, and from September 1 – May 1, the Upper Russian (Goat) Creek upstream from an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 300 yards from its confluence with Upper Russian Lake;

(H) from June 11 – May 1, Jean Lake Creek;

(I) from July 1 – September 30, the waters of the Russian River from its mouth upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 600 yards downstream from the falls are open to sport fishing for coho salmon;

(2) from July 1 – August 15, the Kenai River riparian habitats described in 5 AAC 57.180(d) are closed to sport fishing, except sport fishing is allowed from a boat that is more than 10 feet from shore and is not connected to the shore or any riparian habitat;

(3) the following bag and possession limits apply:

(A) in the Russian River and in the Kenai River, from ADF&G regulatory markers located at the power line crossing near the confluence of the Russian River, upstream to ADF&G regulatory markers located approximately 300 yards upstream of the public boat launch at Sportsman's Landing, including the waters around the upstream end of the island near the Russian River mouth, the bag and possession limit for salmon, other than king salmon 16 inches or greater in length, is three fish, of which only one per day and one in possession may be a coho salmon;

(B) in Upper and Lower Russian lakes, the bag and possession limit for rainbow/steelhead trout is two fish, of which only one may be 20 inches or greater in length;

(C) in Cooper Lake, the bag and possession limit for Arctic char/Dolly Varden is five fish, of which only one may be greater than 20 inches in length;

(4) the following sport fishing gear restrictions apply:

(A) in flowing waters, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure, with a gap between point and shank of three-eighths inch or less, may be used;

(B) in the Russian River drainage, including Upper and Lower Russian Lakes, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure, with a gap between point and shank of three-eighths inch or less, may be used;

(C) the Russian River from its confluence with the Kenai River, upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 600 yards downstream from the falls, from June 11 – August 20, is fly-fishing-only water;

(D) the Russian River sanctuary area, which consists of waters upstream from ADF&G regulatory markers located just downstream of the ferry crossing on the Kenai River, to ADF&G regulatory markers located approximately 300 yards upstream of the public boat launch at Sportsman's Landing, including the waters around the upstream end of the island near the Russian River mouth, and the Russian River from its mouth upstream 100 yards to ADF&G regulatory markers, from July 15 – August 20, is fly-fishing-only waters;

(E) that portion of the Kenai River from an ADF&G regulatory marker located below the Ferry Crossing on the Kenai River downstream to the power line crossing from June 11 – August 20, is fly-fishing-only water;

(F) repealed 6/12/2011;

(5) the Russian River drainage upstream of an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 600 yards downstream from the falls is closed to sport fishing for salmon;

(6) from January 1 – December 31, a person may not deploy sport fishing gear from a vessel in the flowing waters of the Kenai River between ADF&G regulatory markers located approximately one-quarter mile above the Sterling Highway Bridge at the outlet of Kenai Lake, downstream to ADF&G regulatory markers located at approximately river mile 80.7, during motor use or after a motor has been used to propel that vessel on that same day. (Eff. 10/1/2006, Register 179; am 11/12/2006, Register 180; am 6/4/2008, Register 186; am 6/12/2011, Register 198)

**5 AAC 57.123. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Upper Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area.** Unless otherwise specified by an emergency order issued under AS 16.05.060, the following are special provisions and localized exceptions to the general seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means set out in 5 AAC 57.120 and 5 AAC 75 for the Upper Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area:

(1) Kenai Lake from the Sterling Highway Bridge at the outlet, upstream to ADF&G regulatory markers located approximately one-quarter mile upstream, is open to sport fishing only from June 11 – May 1;

(2) in Kenai Lake within one-quarter mile of the Sterling Highway Bridge at the outlet

(A) only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(B) the bag and possession limit for rainbow/steelhead trout is one fish less than 16 inches in length; rainbow/steelhead trout 16 inches or greater in length may not be retained; rainbow/steelhead trout caught that are 16 inches or greater in length must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(3) in all flowing waters of the Kenai Lake drainage, the bag and possession limit for rainbow/steelhead trout is one fish less than 16 inches in length; rainbow/steelhead trout 16 inches or greater in length may not be retained; rainbow/steelhead trout caught that are 16 inches or greater in length must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(4) from January 1 – December 31,

(A) waters of the Kenai Lake drainage are closed to fishing for salmon;

(B) in stocked lakes of the Kenai Lake drainage, including Jerome, Carter, Vagt, Long, Rainbow, and Meridian Lakes, the bag and possession limit for rainbow/steelhead trout is five fish, of which only one may be 20 inches or greater in length;

(C) in the flowing waters of the Kenai Lake drainage, including waters of Kenai Lake within one-quarter mile radius of all inlet streams, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(5) in waters of Kenai Lake within a one-quarter mile radius of all inlet streams, the bag and possession limit for rainbow/steelhead trout is one fish less than 16 inches in length; rainbow/steelhead trout 16 inches or greater in length may not be retained; rainbow/steelhead trout caught that are 16 inches or greater in length must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(6) Crescent Creek drainage, as follows:

(A) open to sport fishing from July 1 – May 1;

(B) in flowing waters, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(C) in Crescent Lake, from July 1 – May 1, the bag and possession limit for rainbow/steelhead trout is two fish, of which only one may be 20 inches or greater in length;

(D) from July 1 – May 1, the Crescent Creek drainage, except Crescent Lake, is open to sport fishing for rainbow/steelhead trout; the bag and possession limit for rainbow/steelhead trout is one fish less than 16 inches in length; rainbow/steelhead trout 16 inches or greater in length may not be retained; rainbow/steelhead trout caught that are 16 inches or greater in length must be released immediately, and returned to the water unharmed;

(E) the bag and possession limit for Arctic grayling is two fish, with no size limit;

(7) Quartz Creek drainage, excluding Crescent Creek, as follows:

(A) only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(B) closed to sport fishing for salmon;

(C) open to sport fishing for finfish other than salmon, from its mouth to the upstream side of the Sterling Highway Bridge, from June 11 – May 1;

(D) from June 11 – September 14, and from November 1 – May 1, upstream of the Sterling Highway Bridge, including Devils Creek, Johns Creek, Jerome Creek, Summit Creek, and Slate Creek, is open to sport fishing for finfish other than salmon;

(E) the bag and possession limit for Arctic char/Dolly Varden is one fish less than 16 inches in length; Arctic char/Dolly Varden 16 inches or greater in length may not be retained; Arctic char/Dolly Varden caught that are 16 inches or greater in length must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(F) the bag and possession limit for rainbow/steelhead trout is one fish less than 16 inches in length; rainbow/steelhead trout 16 inches or greater in length may not be retained; rainbow/steelhead trout caught that are 16 inches or greater in length must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(8) Snow River drainage, as follows:

(A) only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;



(B) closed to sport fishing for salmon;

(C) the South Fork of the Snow River is open to sport fishing for finfish other than salmon from June 11 – September 14, and from November 1 – May 1;

(D) the remainder of the Snow River drainage, not specified in (C) of this paragraph, is open to sport fishing for finfish other than salmon from June 11 – May 1;

(E) the bag and possession limit for Arctic char/Dolly Varden is one fish less than 16 inches in length; Arctic char/Dolly Varden 16 inches or greater in length may not be retained; Arctic char/Dolly Varden caught that are 16 inches or greater in length must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(F) the bag and possession limit for rainbow/steelhead trout is one fish less than 16 inches in length; rainbow/steelhead trout 16 inches or greater in length may not be retained; rainbow/steelhead trout caught that are 16 inches or greater in length must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed. (Eff. 10/1/2006, Register 179; am 6/12/2011, Register 198)

**5 AAC 57.140. Kenai River guiding and guided fishing requirements in the Kenai River Drainage Area.** (a) In addition to the requirements of 5 AAC 75.075 – 5 AAC 75.077 and before providing sport fishing guide services on the Kenai River, a sport fishing guide and vessel must be registered at the Soldotna office of the Department of Natural Resources, division of parks and outdoor recreation. Once registered, a vessel registration remains valid for the remainder of the calendar year, unless the vessel is de-registered with the Department of Natural Resources, division of parks and outdoor recreation.

(b) Downstream from the outlet of Skilak Lake, a person may not sport fish from a registered guide vessel on any Sunday from May 1 through July 31, and on any Monday in July, except that a person may fish from a registered sport fishing guide vessel during the last two Sundays in May and the first Sunday in June under the terms of a permit issued by the commissioner, for approved charitable nonprofit organizations or for educational public service activities.

(c) From May 1 through July 31, sport fishing from a registered sport fishing guide vessel downstream of Skilak Lake is permitted only from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

(d) On the Kenai River, a person may not engage in guided sport fishing from a vessel unless the vessel has a current Alaska Department of Natural Resources, division of parks, guide sticker prominently attached to the exterior of the vessel.

(e) On the Kenai River, a client may not engage in guided sport fishing unless the person guiding the client is in compliance with the provisions of (a) and (d) of this section.

(f) A person may not book, contract, or arrange for guided sport fishing from a vessel, unless that person is in compliance with the provisions of (a) and (d) of this section.

(g) During July, a vessel used for guided sport fishing on the Kenai River downstream of the outlet of Skilak Lake may not carry more than five persons, including the sport fishing guide, clients, and other passengers.

(h) On the Kenai River, from January 1 through December 31,

(1) a sport fishing guide may not sport fish from a vessel while a client is present or is within the sport fishing guide's control or responsibility, except that a sport fishing guide may provide assistance to a client with a disability in order to enable the client to engage in sport fishing; in this paragraph, "disability" has the same meaning given in 42 U.S.C. 12102(2)(A) and (C), as amended as of February 8, 1994;

(2) the maximum number of fishing rods that may be operated may not exceed the number of clients on board the vessel.

(i) From July 31 or the end of the king salmon season, whichever is later, through November 30, sport fishing from a vessel that is registered with the Department of Natural Resources, division of parks and outdoor recreation, as a sport fishing guide vessel is restricted as follows:

(1) downstream from the confluence of the Moose River and Kenai River, sport fishing on Mondays is prohibited;

(2) upstream from the confluence of the Moose River and Kenai River, sport fishing for coho salmon on Mondays is prohibited; any coho salmon caught must be released immediately without further harm. (Eff. 10/1/2006, Register 179; am 6/4/2008, Register 186; am 8/1/2008, Register 187)

**5 AAC 57.150. Russian River Sockeye Salmon Management Plan.** (a) The purpose of this management plan is to ensure an adequate escapement, as determined by the department, of sockeye salmon into the Russian River system and to provide management guidelines to the department to reduce conflicts between various users of this resource. Because early and late Russian River system sockeye salmon are discrete stocks with established escapement goals, these stocks shall be managed by the department as a separate entity without regard to Kenai River system sockeye salmon run size, except as specified in this section.

(b) Early Russian River sockeye salmon stocks have been harvested primarily by the sport fishery since 1974. Since the bulk of the early Kenai River sockeye salmon run (those salmon passing the department sonar counter located near Soldotna before June 21) is comprised of Russian River sockeye salmon stocks, the department shall manage the early sockeye salmon stocks to achieve the escapement goals for the Kenai and Russian Rivers.

(c) Late Russian River sockeye salmon stocks are harvested in the Cook Inlet commercial salmon gillnet and the Kenai and Russian Rivers sport fisheries. The department shall manage the fisheries to achieve the escapement goal of sockeye salmon into the Russian River upstream of the department's counting weir at the outlet of Lower Russian Lake. If inseason restrictions

are necessary to meet the escapement goal, the department shall restrict Kenai River drainage sport fisheries as described in (d) of this section. Since, at present, it is not possible to separate the harvest of late Russian River sockeye salmon from other sockeye salmon stocks in Cook Inlet, restrictions on the commercial fishery to conserve Russian River sockeye salmon and meet the escapement goal shall be limited to meeting the inriver goals for the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon, as specified in 5 AAC 21.360.

(d) If the department is not able to project that the escapement goal of late-run Russian River sockeye salmon will be achieved the commissioner shall, by emergency order, modify the Kenai River drainage sport and personal use fisheries to achieve the escapement goal by using the following options, selected at the discretion of the commissioner:

(1) a reduction of bag and possession limit to two or one sockeye salmon in all waters of the Kenai and Russian Rivers fly-fishing-only waters;

(2) a prohibition on sockeye salmon fishing in the Kenai and Russian Rivers fly-fishing-only waters upstream from the ferry crossing on the Kenai River;

(3) a prohibition on sockeye salmon fishing in all waters of the Kenai and Russian Rivers fly-fishing-only waters;

(4) a prohibition on sockeye salmon fishing from the confluence of the Kenai and Russian Rivers downstream to, and including, Skilak Lake.

(e) It is the intent of the Board of Fisheries (board) that the department use, to the extent practicable, the least restrictive of the individual or combined options under (d) of this section to achieve the late-run Russian River sockeye salmon escapement goal. The department shall, to the extent practicable, use the options under (d) of this section, to avoid the necessity for complete closures by initiating early, less restrictive options, as opposed to later, more restrictive actions.

(f) The department will, to the extent practicable, conduct habitat assessments on a schedule that conforms to the board's triennial meeting cycle. If assessments demonstrate a net loss of riparian habitat caused by noncommercial fishermen, the department is requested to report those findings to the board and submit proposals to the board for appropriate modification of this plan. (Eff. 10/1/2006, Register 179; am 11/12/2006, Register 180)

**5 AAC 57.160. Kenai River and Kasilof River Early-run King Salmon Management Plan.** (a) The purpose of this management plan is to ensure an adequate escapement of early-run king salmon into the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers, to conserve the unique large size early-run king salmon in the Kenai River, and to provide the department with management guidelines.

(b) The department shall manage the Kenai River early-run king salmon sport and guided sport fisheries to achieve the optimal escapement goal, to provide reasonable harvest opportunities over the entire run, and to ensure the age and size composition of the harvest closely approximates the age and size composition of the run.

(c) The department shall manage the Kasilof River early-run king salmon sport and guided sport fisheries to achieve the sustainable escapement goal, to provide reasonable harvest opportunities over the entire run while ensuring adequate escapement of naturally-produced king salmon, and to minimize the effects of conservation actions for the Kenai River on the Kasilof River.

(d) In the Kenai River,

(1) the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and other special provisions for king salmon are set out in 5 AAC 57.120 – 5 AAC 57.123 and in (4) of this subsection;

(2) if the spawning escapement is projected to be less than the lower the end of the optimal escapement goal, the commissioner shall, by emergency order, restrict as necessary the taking of king salmon in the sport and guided sport fisheries in the Kenai River to achieve the optimal escapement goal using one of the following methods:

(A) prohibit the retention of king salmon less than 55 inches in length, except king salmon less than 20 inches in length, downstream from the outlet of Skilak Lake through June 30, and require that upstream from the Soldotna Bridge to the outlet of Skilak Lake and in the Moose River from its confluence with the Kenai River upstream to the northernmost edge of the Sterling Highway Bridge, from July 1 through July 14, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used and only king salmon less than

(i) 46 inches in length and 55 inches or greater in length may be retained; or

(ii) 20 inches in length and 55 inches or greater in length may be retained; or

(B) close the sport and guided sport fisheries to the taking of king salmon in the Kenai River

(i) downstream from the outlet of Skilak Lake through June 30;  
and

(ii) from July 1 through July 14, upstream from the Soldotna Bridge to the outlet of Skilak Lake and in the Moose River from its confluence with the Kenai River upstream to the northernmost edge of the Sterling Highway Bridge;

(3) if the spawning escapement is projected to fall within the optimal escapement goal, the commissioner shall, by emergency order, liberalize the sport fishery downstream from the outlet of Skilak Lake, by allowing the use of bait if the department projects that the total harvest under a liberalized sport fishery will not reduce the spawning escapement below the

optimal escapement goal; only king salmon less than 46 inches in length or 55 inches or greater in length may be retained;

(4) a person may not possess, transport, or export from this state, a king salmon 55 inches or greater in length taken from the Kenai River from January 1 through July 31, unless the fish has been sealed by an authorized representative of the department within three days after the taking; the person taking the fish must sign the sealing certificate at the time of sealing; the seal must remain on the fish until the preservation or taxidermy process has commenced; a person may not falsify any information required on the sealing certificate; in this paragraph,

(A) "sealing" means the placement of an official marker or locking tag (seal) by an authorized representative of the department on a fish and may include

(i) collecting and recording biological information concerning the conditions under which the fish was taken;

(ii) measuring the specimen submitted for sealing; and

(iii) retaining specific portions of the fish for biological information, including scales, fin rays, and vertebrae;

(B) "sealing certificate" means a form used by the department for recording information when sealing a fish.

(e) In the Kasilof River, the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and other special provisions for king salmon are set out in 5 AAC 56.120(a) and 5 AAC 56.122(8). (Eff. 10/1/2006, Register 179; am 6/4/2008, Register 186)

**5 AAC 57.170. Kenai River Coho Salmon Management Plan.** (a) The purpose of this management plan is to ensure an adequate escapement of coho salmon into the Kenai River drainage and to provide management guidelines to the department. The department shall manage the Kenai River coho salmon stocks primarily to provide sport and guided sport fishermen with a reasonable opportunity to harvest these salmon resources over the entire run.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provisions in this chapter, for the conservation of coho salmon stocks, the department shall manage sport fishing in the Kenai River drainage as follows:

(1) coho salmon fishing is closed in the Middle and Upper Sections from November 1 through June 30, and in the Lower Section from December 1 through June 30; any coho salmon caught incidentally must be released immediately without further harm;

(2) repealed 6/4/2008;

(3) coho salmon may be taken as follows:

(A) from July 1 through October 31, in the Middle and Upper Sections;

(B) from July 1 through November 30, in the Lower Section;

(C) from July 1 through August 31, the daily bag and possession limit for coho salmon 16 inches or greater in length is two fish;

(D) from September 1 through November 30, the daily bag and possession limit for coho salmon 16 inches or greater in length is three fish.

(c) If the commissioner determines that additional conservation measures are necessary for the inriver sport or personal use fisheries, the commissioner may close, by emergency order, the season and immediately reopen a season during which any or a combination of the following restrictions may be applied:

- (1) the daily bag and possession limit for coho salmon is one fish;
- (2) only unbaited artificial lures may be used;
- (3) fishing time may be reduced;
- (4) fishing areas may be reduced.

(d) The department will, to the extent practicable, conduct habitat assessments on a schedule that conforms to the Board of Fisheries (board) triennial meeting cycle. If the assessments demonstrate a net loss of riparian habitat caused by noncommercial fishermen, the department is requested to report those findings to the board and submit proposals to the board for appropriate modification of this management plan. (Eff. 10/1/2006, Register 179; am 11/12/2006, Register 180; am 6/4/2008, Register 186)

**5 AAC 57.180. Riparian Habitat Fishery Management Plan for the Kenai River Drainage Area.** (a) The Board of Fisheries (board) finds that freshwater fisheries in upper Cook Inlet, including the Kenai River Drainage Area, subject to access limitations of federal, state, and local landowners, are a recognized use of the fishery resources of upper Cook Inlet. The board also finds that, in some situations, freshwater fisheries negatively affect riparian habitats of upper Cook Inlet.

(b) The board recognizes the importance of maintaining the structural and functional integrity of upper Cook Inlet riparian habitats. Given this, the board will consider, as part of its deliberations, avoidable impacts to upper Cook Inlet riparian habitats related to sport fishing.

(c) If the commissioner determines that freshwater fisheries are likely to result in riparian habitat loss which could negatively affect the fishery resources of upper Cook Inlet, the commissioner may close, by emergency order, those riparian areas to fishing. This authority extends only to riparian areas in which there is a state, federal, or municipal property interest. The commissioner may reopen, by emergency order, those riparian areas to fishing if the commissioner determines that an opening will not compromise the integrity of the riparian habitats the emergency order is designed to protect. During seasons in areas opened by

emergency order, the commissioner may establish fishing periods and may designate any or all of the following as locations from which fishing may occur:

- (1) boats;
- (2) boardwalks or similar structures;
- (3) docks;
- (4) gravel bars;
- (5) natural formations identified by the commissioner;

(6) other areas identified by the commissioner as areas where use for fishing will not compromise the integrity of the habitat the closure is designed to protect.

(d) From July 1 through August 15, the following Kenai River riparian habitats are closed to all fishing, except fishing from a boat that is located more than 10 feet from shore and not connected to the shore or any riparian habitat:

(1) on the north bank of the Kenai River, between ADF&G regulatory markers located at river mile 6.6 and river mile 6.8;

(2) in the Alaska State Park's Eagle Rock Unit, on the south bank of the Kenai River, between ADF&G regulatory markers located at river mile 10.7 and river mile 12.0;

(3) on islands located between river miles 11 and 14 and at river miles 17.0 and 17.3;

(4) at the Alaska State Park's Pillars Unit, on the north bank of the Kenai River, between ADF&G regulatory markers located at river mile 12.4 and river mile 12.6;

(5) at the Alaska State Park's Honeymoon Cove Unit, on the south bank of the Kenai River, between ADF&G regulatory markers located at river mile 12.5 and river mile 13.0;

(6) on the north bank of the Kenai River, between ADF&G regulatory markers located at river mile 13.2 and river mile 13.5;

(7) on the west bank of the Kenai River, between ADF&G regulatory markers located at river mile 14.0 and river mile 14.4;

(8) on the south bank of the Kenai River, between ADF&G regulatory markers located at river mile 14.4 and river mile 14.6;

(9) on the west bank of the Kenai River, between ADF&G regulatory markers located at river mile 17.5 and river mile 17.6;

(10) on the north bank of the Kenai River, between ADF&G regulatory markers located at river mile 18.6 and river mile 18.8;

(11) on the north bank of the Kenai River, between ADF&G regulatory markers located at river mile 18.9 and at river mile 20.2;

(12) on the south bank of the Kenai River, between ADF&G regulatory markers located at river mile 20.9 and river mile 21.0;

(13) at the Soldotna Airport property, on the south bank of the Kenai River, between ADF&G regulatory markers located at river mile 22.7 and river mile 23.5;

(14) on the south bank of the Kenai River, between ADF&G regulatory markers located at river mile 23.8 and river mile 24.2;

(15) on the south bank of the Kenai River, between ADF&G regulatory markers located at river mile 26.4 and river mile 30.0;

(16) on the north bank of the Kenai River from an ADF&G regulatory marker located at the upstream edge of the boat ramp at the end of Keystone Drive at approximately river mile 27.3, upstream to ADF&G regulatory markers located at the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge boundary delineated by the power line at river mile 28.0;

(17) in the Caymas Subdivision, on the north bank of the Kenai River, between ADF&G regulatory markers located at river mile 31.8 and river mile 32.3;

(18) on the south bank of the Kenai River, between ADF&G regulatory markers located at river mile 31.5 and river mile 32.5;

(19) at the Alaska State Park's Nilnunqua Unit, on the south bank of the Kenai River, between ADF&G regulatory markers located at river mile 36.0 and river mile 36.6;

(20) on the north bank of the Kenai River, between ADF&G regulatory markers located approximately 150 feet apart at approximately river mile 44.6;

(21) on the north bank of the Kenai River, between ADF&G regulatory markers located at river mile 45.8 and river mile 46.3;

(22) at Jim's Landing, on the north bank of the Kenai River, from an ADF&G regulatory marker located at the large rock at river mile 69.7 to an ADF&G regulatory marker located just downstream from the boat launch;

(23) on lands commonly referred to as Sportman's, on the north bank of the Kenai River, upstream from the ferry crossing from an ADF&G regulatory marker located at river mile 73.5 to an ADF&G regulatory marker located at river mile 73.6;



(24) on the south bank of the Kenai River, near river mile 82.0 at the outlet of Kenai Lake, from an ADF&G regulatory marker located at the Sterling Highway bridge to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 1,000 feet downstream.

(e) For purposes of this section, "riparian habitat" means all areas within 10 feet in either direction from the Kenai River waterline. (Eff. 10/1/2006, Register 179)

### **Cook Inlet–Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area**

**5 AAC 58.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, annual, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet–Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area.** (a) Except as provided in (b) and (c) of this section, the following are the seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and special provisions for finfish and shellfish in the Cook Inlet–Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area:

(1) king salmon: may be taken from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of two fish; no size limit; an annual harvest limit of five king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, except as provided in (c) of this section; a harvest record is required as specified in 5 AAC 75.006; a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length that is removed from the water shall be retained and becomes a part of the bag limit of the person originally hooking it; a person may not remove a king salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

(2) salmon, other than king salmon: may be taken from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of six fish, of which only three per day and in possession may be coho salmon; no size limit;

(3) rainbow/steelhead trout: no open season; may not be retained or possessed; all rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately; a person may not remove a rainbow/steelhead trout from the water;

(4) Arctic char/Dolly Varden: may be taken from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of five fish; no size limit;

(5) halibut: may be taken only from February 1 – December 31; bag limit of two fish; possession limit of four fish; no size limit;

(6) rockfish: may be taken from January 1 – December 31; bag limit of five fish and 10 in possession, of which only one per day and two in possession may be nonpelagic rockfish as defined in 5 AAC 75.995; no size limit;

(7) lingcod: may be taken only from July 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of two fish; minimum size is 35 inches in length with the head attached or, if the head is removed, 28 inches in length from the front of the dorsal fin to the top of the tail;

(8) sharks may be taken only as specified in 5 AAC 75.012;

(9) king crab: no open season; may not be retained or possessed;

(10) Dungeness crab: no open season; may not be retained or possessed;

(11) Tanner crab: may be taken only from July 15 – March 15, except that the waters east of Cape Fairfield are closed and when the sport fishery in the Kamishak District or Barren Islands District is closed to the taking of Tanner crab, the sport fishery in the Eastern, Outer, and Central Districts shall remain closed as specified under 5 AAC 35.410(c); bag and possession limit of five male crab; minimum size is five and one-half inches across the widest part of the shell, including spines; a shellfish harvest recording form is required as specified in 5 AAC 58.026;

(12) littleneck clams and butter clams: may be taken from January 1 – December 31; with a combined bag and possession limit of 80 clams; minimum size for littleneck clams is one and one-half inches in length across the widest part of the shell; minimum size for butter clams is two and one-half inches in length across the widest part of the shell;

(13) repealed 7/13/2012;

(14) razor clams: may be taken from January 1 – December 31 as follows:

(A) from the mouth of the Kenai River to the southernmost tip of the Homer Spit: the bag limit is the first 60 clams harvested; the possession limit is 120 clams;

(B) on the remaining beaches of the Cook Inlet–Resurrection Bay Area: no bag, possession, or size limits;

(15) shrimp: no open season; may not be retained or possessed;

(16) other finfish and shellfish not specified in this subsection: from January 1 – December 31; no bag, possession, or size limits.

(b) The seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and special provisions set out in this subsection are localized exceptions to those specified in (a) of this section for the Cook Inlet–Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area:

(1) in waters of Cook Inlet north of the latitude of Bluff Point (59° 40.00' N. lat.):

(A) king salmon:

(i) may be taken from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of one fish; no size limit; an annual harvest limit of five king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, except as provided in (c) of this section; a harvest record is required as specified in 5 AAC 75.006; a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length that is removed from the water shall be retained and becomes a part of the bag of the person originally hooking it; a person may not remove a king salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

(ii) the salt waters within a one mile radius of the terminus of the Ninilchik River are closed to sport fishing for king salmon from January 1 – June 30, except that sport fishing from shore is allowed on Memorial Day weekend and the following two weekends and the Monday following each of those weekends;

(iii) in the salt waters south of the latitude of the mouth of the Ninilchik River ( $60^{\circ} 03.99'$  N. lat.) to the latitude of Bluff Point ( $59^{\circ} 40.00'$  N. lat.), and within one mile of shore, a person may not, after taking a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, fish for any species of fish on that same day as specified in 5 AAC 58.055(e);

(B) Tanner crab: in Kachemak Bay, east of a line from Point Pogibshi to Anchor Point, the open season is from July 15 – December 31 and from January 15 or the beginning of the commercial Tanner crab season, whichever is later, through March 15;

(C) the following waters, within one mile of shore, are closed to all sport fishing from April 1 through June 30, as specified in 5 AAC 58.055(d):

(i) south of the latitude of the Ninilchik River to the latitude of an ADF&G regulatory marker located two miles south of Deep Creek at  $60^{\circ} 00.68'$  N. lat., except that sport fishing from shore is allowed on Memorial Day weekend and the following two weekends and the Monday following each of those weekends;

(ii) from the latitude of an ADF&G regulatory marker located one mile north of Stariski Creek at  $59^{\circ} 54.37'$  N. lat. to the latitude of an ADF&G regulatory marker located one mile south of Stariski Creek at  $59^{\circ} 52.98'$  N. lat.;

(iii) from the latitude of an ADF&G regulatory marker located two miles north of the Anchor River at  $59^{\circ} 48.92'$  N. lat. to the latitude of the Anchor Point Light at  $59^{\circ} 46.14'$  N. lat.;

(2) in the waters of Cook Inlet south of the latitude of the Anchor Point Light at  $59^{\circ} 46.14'$  N. lat., including all of Kachemak Bay, to the latitude of Cape Douglas at  $58^{\circ} 51.10'$  N. lat., and east to the longitude of Gore Point at  $150^{\circ} 57.85'$  W. long.:

(A) king salmon: from October 1 – March 31, king salmon do not need to be entered on a harvest record and do not count against the annual limit set out in (a)(1) of this section;

(B) salmon, other than king salmon: in the waters from the Homer city dock near the entrance of the Homer Boat Harbor, including the entire Homer Boat Harbor, northwest along the east side of the Homer Spit to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 200 yards northwest of the entrance to the fishery enhancement lagoon on the Homer Spit, including the enhancement lagoon, and to a distance 300 feet

from the shore, the bag and possession limit for salmon, other than king salmon, is six fish, of which six per day and in possession may be coho salmon;

(C) a person 16 years of age or older may not sport fish in the Homer Spit youth fishery zone, established by ADF&G regulatory markers to include a portion of the Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon, during designated youth fishery days, which occur on the first Saturday in June and the first Saturday in August;

(D) Tanner crab: in Kachemak Bay east of a line from Point Pogibshi to Anchor Point, the open season is from July 15 – December 31 and from January 15 or the beginning of the commercial Tanner crab season, whichever is later, through March 15;

(E) in the waters of Tutka Bay Lagoon sport fishing is prohibited within 100 yards of the Tutka Bay Lagoon hatchery net pens;

(3) in waters east of the longitude of Gore Point (150° 57.85' W. long.), to the longitude of Cape Fairfield (148° 50.25' W. long.), and north of the latitude of Cape Douglas (58° 51.10' N. lat.):

(A) in the salt waters north of a line between Cape Resurrection and Aialik Cape (Resurrection Bay Terminal Harvest Area):

(i) king salmon: from May 1 – August 31, the bag and possession limit is two fish; from September 1 – April 30, the bag and possession limit is one fish; king salmon do not need to be entered on a harvest record and do not count against the annual limit set out in (a)(1) of this section;

(ii) salmon, other than king salmon: bag and possession limit is six fish, of which six per day and in possession may be coho salmon;

(iii) lingcod: no open season; may not be retained or possessed;

(B) in the salt waters south of a line between Cape Resurrection and Aialik Cape:

(i) king salmon: from January 1 – December 31, the bag and possession limit is one fish; king salmon do not need to be entered on a harvest record and do not count against the annual limit set out in (a)(1) of this section;

(ii) salmon, other than king salmon: bag and possession limit between Gore Point and Cape Fairfield is six fish, of which only three per day and in possession may be coho salmon;

(iii) lingcod: may be taken only from July 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of one fish; minimum size is 35 inches in length with the

head attached or, if the head is removed, 28 inches in length from the front of the dorsal fin to the top of the tail;

(C) rockfish: in the waters between Gore Point and Cape Fairfield, the bag limit is four fish and eight in possession, of which only one per day and two in possession may be a nonpelagic rockfish as defined in 5 AAC 75.995; no size limit;

(4) the following waters are closed to the taking of all shellfish:

(A) the intertidal beach along Shipwreck Cove in China Poot Bay enclosed by a line from 59° 34.34' N. lat., 151° 18.11' W. long., to 59° 34.26' N. lat., 151° 17.96' W. long., to 59° 34.20' N. lat., 151° 17.94' W. long., to 59° 34.19' N. lat., 151° 17.81' W. long., to 59° 34.13' N. lat. to 151° 17.75' W. long., to 59° 34.13' N. lat., 151° 17.77' W. long., to 59° 34.19' N. lat., 151° 17.96' W. long., to 59° 34.26' N. lat., 151° 17.98' W. long., to 59° 34.33' N. lat., 151° 18.14' W. long., as marked by ADF&G regulatory markers located in the upper intertidal area;

(B) the intertidal beach by Otter Rock in Peterson Bay enclosed by a line from 59° 34.78' N. lat., 151° 17.84' W. long., to 59° 34.70' N. lat., 151° 17.68' W. long., to 59° 34.79' N. lat., 151° 17.68' W. long., as marked by ADF&G regulatory markers located in the upper intertidal area.

(c) Notwithstanding an annual limit established in this section for king salmon, the annual limit for king salmon in the combined waters of the Cook Inlet–Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area and the other areas in the Cook Inlet region that are open to sport fishing for king salmon under 5 AAC 56 – 5 AAC 62 is five king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, not more than two of which may be taken from that portion of the Kenai River drainage open to king salmon fishing, and not more than two of which may be taken, in combination, from Deep Creek and the Anchor River, except that from January 1 through June 30, a king salmon less than 28 inches in length taken from the Kenai River does not count towards the annual limit. (Eff. 2/25/98, Register 145; am 3/5/99, Register 149; am 6/13/99, Register 150; am 5/18/2000, Register 154; am 7/5/2000, Register 155; am 3/8/2002, Register 161; am 8/24/2002, Register 163; am 12/29/2002, Register 164; am 6/5/2003, Register 166; am 3/13/2004, Register 169; am 12/1/2004, Register 172; am 2/13/2005, Register 173; am 8/14/2005, Register 175; am 7/1/2006, Register 178; am 3/15/2008, Register 185; am 9/12/2008, Register 187; am 4/24/2009, Register 190; am 8/23/2009, Register 191; am 3/2/2011, Register 197; am 7/13/2012, Register 203; am 6/1/2013, Register 206; am \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/2014, Register \_\_\_\_; am \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/2014, Register \_\_\_\_)

**5 AAC 58.055. Upper Cook Inlet Salt Water Early–run King Salmon Management Plan.** (a) The goal of this management plan is to stabilize the sport harvest of early–run king salmon in the mixed stock salt water sport fishery in upper Cook Inlet.

(b) The Early Run King Salmon Special Harvest Area consists of all salt waters south of the latitude of the mouth of the Ninilchik River (60° 03.99' N. lat.) to the latitude of Bluff Point (59° 40.00' N. lat.) and within one mile of shore.

(c) From April 1 through June 30, within the waters described in (b) of this section, a person who is a sport fishing guiding may not sport fish while a client is present or is within the guide's control or responsibility. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, a sport fishing guide may provide assistance to a client with a disability in order to enable the client to engage in sport fishing. For the purposes of this subsection, "disability" has the meaning given in 42 U.S.C. 12102(2)(A) and (2)(C), as amended as of February 8, 1994.

(d) The following waters, within one mile of shore, are closed to all sport fishing from April 1 through June 30:

(1) south of the latitude of the Ninilchik River to the latitude of an ADF&G regulatory marker located two miles south of Deep Creek at 60° 00.68' N. lat., except that sport fishing from shore is allowed on Memorial Day weekend and the following two weekends and the Monday following each of those weekends;

(2) from the latitude of an ADF&G regulatory marker located one mile north of Stariski Creek at 59° 54.37' N. lat. to the latitude of an ADF&G regulatory marker located one mile south of Stariski Creek at 59° 52.98' N. lat.;

(3) from the latitude of an ADF&G regulatory marker located two miles north of the Anchor River at 59° 48.92' N. lat. to the latitude of the Anchor Point Light at 59° 46.14' N. lat.

(e) Within the waters described in (b) of this section, from April 1 through June 30, a person may not, after taking a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, fish for any species of fish on that same day.

(f) A guideline harvest level of 8,000 king salmon 20 inches or greater in length may be taken before July 1 from the salt waters of Cook Inlet north of the latitude of Bluff Point. (Eff. 5/22/96, Register 138; am 6/13/99, Register 150; am 3/8/2002, Register 161; am 12/29/2002, Register 164; am 12/1/2004, Register 172; am 2/10/2005, Register 173; am 3/15/2008, Register 185; am 3/2/2011, Register 197; am \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/2014, Register \_\_\_\_)

**Anchorage Bowl Area**

**5 AAC 59.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Anchorage Bowl Drainages Area.** Unless otherwise specified in 5 AAC 59.122 or by an emergency order issued under AS 16.05.060, the following are the general seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means that apply to sport fishing for finfish in the Anchorage Bowl Drainages Area:

(1) king salmon

(A) 20 inches or greater in length may not be retained or possessed; no open season; king salmon 20 inches or greater in length that are caught must be released

immediately; a person may not remove a king salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

(B) less than 20 inches in length

(i) may not be retained or possessed in flowing waters and unstocked lakes and ponds; no open season; king salmon less than 20 inches in length that are caught must be released immediately; a person may not remove a king salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

(ii) may be taken in stocked lakes and ponds from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of 10 fish; for purposes of this sub-paragraph, "stocked lakes and ponds" has the meaning given in (3)(A) of this section;

(2) salmon, other than king salmon,

(A) 16 inches or greater in length may not be retained or possessed; no open season; salmon, other than king salmon, 16 inches or greater in length that are caught must be released immediately;

(B) less than 16 inches in length

(i) may not be retained or possessed in flowing waters and unstocked lakes and ponds; no open season; salmon other than king salmon, less than 16 inches that are caught must be released immediately;

(ii) may be taken in stocked lakes and ponds from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of 10; for the purposes of this sub-paragraph, "stocked lakes and ponds" has the same meaning given in (3)(A) of this section;

(C) notwithstanding the provisions of this paragraph, in areas where the retention of coho salmon is allowed under 5 AAC 59.122 a coho salmon 16 inches or greater in length that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person originally hooking it; a person may not remove a coho salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

(3) rainbow/steelhead trout may be taken from January 1 – December 31 in

(A) stocked lakes and ponds; bag and possession limit of five fish, of which only one may be 20 inches or greater in length; for the purpose of this subparagraph, "stocked lakes and ponds" include Alder Pond, Airstrip/Willow Pond, Beach Lake, Campbell Point Lake, Cheney Lake, University Lake (Behn or APU Lake), Clunie Lake, DeLong Lake, Dishno Lake, Edmunds Lake, Fish Lake, Green Lake, Gwen Lake, Hillberg Lake, Jewell Lake, Lake Otis, Lower Fire Lake, Mirror Lake, Otter Lake,

Rabbit Lake, Sand Lake, Spring Lake, Taku Campbell Lake, Triangle Lake, Upper Sixmile Lake, and Waldon Lake;

(B) flowing waters and unstocked lakes and ponds; bag and possession limit of two fish, of which only one may be 20 inches or greater in length; an annual limit of two fish 20 inches or greater in length; a harvest record is required as specified in 5 AAC 75.006; notwithstanding the annual limit established for rainbow/steelhead trout in this subparagraph, the annual limit for rainbow/steelhead trout in the combined waters of the Anchorage Bowl Drainages Area and in the other areas in the Cook Inlet region that are open to sport fishing for rainbow/steelhead trout under 5 AAC 56 – 5 AAC 62 is two rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or greater in length;

(4) Arctic char/Dolly Varden may be taken from January 1 – December 31 in

(A) stocked lakes and ponds; bag and possession limit of five fish; no size limit; for the purpose of this subparagraph, "stocked lakes and ponds" has the meaning given in (3)(A) of this section;

(B) flowing waters and unstocked lakes and ponds; bag and possession limit of five fish, of which only one may be greater than 12 inches in length;

(5) Arctic grayling may be taken from January 1 – December 31

(A) stocked lakes and ponds; bag and possession limit of five fish; no size limit; for the purposes of this subparagraph, "stocked lakes and ponds" has the meaning given in (3)(A) of this section;

(B) flowing waters and unstocked lakes and ponds; bag and possession limit of two fish, of which only one may be greater than 12 inches in length;

(6) lake trout may be taken from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of two fish; no size limit;

(7) northern pike may be taken from January 1 – December 31; no bag, possession, or size limits; northern pike may be taken in all lakes

(A) by spear and bow and arrow; the arrow must have a barbed tip and be attached by a line to the bow; for the purposes of this subparagraph, "bow" means a long bow, recurve bow, compound bow, or crossbow;

(B) with two hooks per line, when fishing through the ice, if both hooks are attached to the same single piece of bait;

(8) other finfish not specified in this subsection may be taken from January 1 – December 31; no bag, possession, or size limits. (Eff. 10/1/2006, Register 179; am 6/12/2011, Register 198; am \_\_\_/\_\_\_/2014, Register \_\_\_)



**Knik Arm Drainages Area**

**5 AAC 60.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Knik Arm Drainages Area.** Unless otherwise specified in 5 AAC 60.122 or by an emergency order issued under AS 16,05.060, the following are the general seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means that apply to sport fishing for finfish in the waters of the Knik Arm Drainages Area:

## (1) king salmon

(A) 20 inches or greater in length may not be retained or possessed; the season is closed for king salmon 20 inches or greater in length; a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length that is caught must be released immediately; a person may not remove a king salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

## (B) less than 20 inches in length

(i) may not be retained or possessed in flowing waters and unstocked lakes and ponds; king salmon less than 20 inches in length that are caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed; a person may not remove a king salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

(ii) may be taken in stocked lakes and ponds from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of 10 fish; for purposes of this sub-paragraph "stocked lakes and ponds" has the meaning given in (3)(B) of this section;

## (2) salmon, other than king salmon,

(A) 16 inches or greater in length may be taken from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit is three fish, of which no more than two per day and two in possession may be coho salmon; if retention of coho salmon is allowed under this chapter, a coho salmon 16 inches or greater in length that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person originally hooking it; a person may not remove a coho salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

(B) less than 16 inches in length may be taken from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of 10 fish;

## (3) rainbow/steelhead trout

(A) are subject to an annual limit of two fish 20 inches or greater in length, except that in stocked lakes, the annual limit is 10 fish 20 inches or greater in length; a harvest record is required as specified in 5 AAC 75.006; notwithstanding the annual limit established for rainbow/steelhead trout in this subparagraph, the annual limit for rainbow/steelhead trout in the combined waters of the Knik Arm Drainages Area and in

the other areas in the Cook Inlet region that are open to sport fishing for rainbow/steelhead trout under 5 AAC 56 – 5 AAC 62 is two rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or greater in length, except that in stocked lakes the annual limit is 10 rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or greater in length;

(B) may be taken in stocked lakes and ponds from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of five fish, of which only one may be 20 inches or greater in length; for the purposes of this subparagraph, "stocked lakes and ponds" include Barley Lake, Bear Paw Lake, Bench Lake, Beverly Lake, Big Beaver Lake, B–J Lake, Boot Lake, Bruce Lake, Butterfly Lake, Canoe Lake, Carpenter Lake, Coyote Lake, Dawn Lake, Diamond Lake, Echo Lake (Bradley Kepler), Farmer Lake, Finger Lake, Florence Lake, Golden Pond, Homestead Lake, Honey Bee Lake, Ida Lake, Irene Lake, Kepler/Bradley Lakes, Klaire Lake, Kalmbach Lake, Knik Lake, Knob Lake, Lalen Lake, Little Beaver Lake, Little Lonely Lake, Little No Luck Lake, Loberg (Junction) Lake, Long Lake (MP 86 Glenn Hwy), Loon Lake, Lorraine Lake, Lucille Lake, Lynne Lake, Marion Lake, Matanuska Lake, Meirs Lake, Memory Lake, Morovo Lake, North Knob Lake, North Rolly Lake, Prator Lake, Ravine Lake, Reed Lake, Rhein Lake, Rocky Lake, Ruby Lake, Seventeen Mile Lake, Seymour Lake, Slipper Lake, South Rolly Lake, Tanaina Lake, Threemile Lake, Twin Island Lake, Vera Lake, Victor Lake, Visnaw Lake, Walby Lake, Weiner Lake, and Wolf Lake;

(C) may be taken in unstocked lakes and ponds from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of two fish, of which only one may be 20 inches or greater in length;

(4) Arctic char/Dolly Varden may be taken in

(A) flowing waters and unstocked lakes and ponds from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of five fish, of which only one may be greater than 12 inches in length;

(B) stocked lakes and ponds from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of five fish; no size limit; for the purpose of this subparagraph, "stocked lakes and ponds" has the meaning given in (3)(B) of this section;

(5) Arctic grayling may be taken in

(A) flowing waters and unstocked lakes and ponds from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of two fish; no size limit;

(B) stocked lakes and ponds from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of five fish; no size limit; for the purpose of this subparagraph, "stocked lakes and ponds" has the meaning given in (3)(B) of this section;

(6) lake trout may be taken from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of two fish; no size limit;

(7) northern pike may be taken from January 1 – December 31; no bag, possession, or size limits; northern pike may be taken in all lakes

(A) by spear and bow and arrow; the arrow must have a barbed tip and be attached by a line to the bow; for the purposes of this paragraph, "bow" means a long bow, recurve bow, compound bow, or crossbow;

(B) with two hooks per line when fishing through the ice and if both hooks are attached to the same single piece of bait;

(8) burbot may be taken from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of five fish; no size limit; in all waters, except those designated as special management areas for rainbow trout in 5 AAC 60.185, bait may be used for burbot fishing only if the gear specified in this paragraph is used; burbot may be taken with more than one line and hook only if

(A) the aggregate number of hooks does not exceed the daily bag limit for burbot in the waters being fished;

(B) the hooks are single hooks with a gap between the point and the shank at least three-fourths of an inch or larger;

(C) each hook is set to rest on the bottom of the lake or stream;

(D) notwithstanding the 24-hour provision in 5 AAC 75.033, the angler remains with the fishing gear at all times;

(9) other finfish not specified in this subsection may be taken from January 1 – December 31; no bag, possession, or size limits. (Eff. 10/1/2006, Register 179; am 11/12/2006, Register 180; am 6/12/2011, Register 198; am \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/2014, Register \_\_\_\_)

**5 AAC 60.122. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Knik Arm Drainages Area.** (a) Unless otherwise specified by an emergency order issued under AS 16.05.060, the following are localized additions and exceptions to the general seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means specified in 5 AAC 60.120 and 5 AAC 75 for the Knik Arm Drainages Area:

(1) from June 15 – April 14, the flowing waters of the Palmer–Wasilla Zone are open to sport fishing; the Palmer–Wasilla Zone consists of all flowing waters inside a zone bounded on the north by Willow Creek, on the west by a line one-half mile east of the Susitna River, on the south by Cook Inlet and Knik Arm, and on the east by the Matanuska River and Moose Creek, but excluding Willow Creek, the Matanuska River, and Moose Creek;

(2) the Bodenbug Creek drainage, including all waters within a 100-yard radius of its confluence with the Knik River, is closed to sport fishing for salmon;

(3) from July 1 – April 14, the outlet at Upper Bonnie Lake to the inlet of Lower Bonnie Lake is open to sport fishing;

(4) in the Cottonwood Creek drainage,

(A) from June 15 – April 14, from its mouth upstream to an ADF&G marker located one mile upstream from the Palmer Hayflat State Game Refuge access road, sport fishing is allowed only on Saturdays and Sundays from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.;

(B) the flowing waters upstream of an ADF&G regulatory marker located one mile upstream from the Palmer Hayflat State Game Refuge access road are closed to sport fishing for salmon;

(C) a person who takes a bag limit of salmon from Cottonwood Creek may not sport fish for any species of finfish that same day in waters open to sport fishing for salmon;

(D) all Cottonwood Creek drainage lakes are closed to sport fishing for salmon;

(E) in Anderson Lake, five lines may be used to take northern pike through the ice; allowable gear is limited to standard ice fishing gear as specified in 5 AAC 60.120(7)(B); fishing gear must be closely attended as specified in 5 AAC 75.033; all other species of fish caught must be released immediately;

(5) in the Fish Creek drainage,

(A) the waters from ADF&G regulatory markers located at its mouth upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located one-quarter mile upstream from the Knik–Goose Bay Road, are open to sport fishing beginning the second Saturday in August through December 31 on Saturdays and Sundays from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., except that sport fishing for king salmon is closed;

(B) after taking a bag limit of salmon a person may not sport fish that same day in waters open to salmon fishing;

(C) the waters from an ADF&G regulatory marker located one-quarter mile upstream from the Knik–Goose Bay Road upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located one-quarter mile upstream of the Lewis Road Bridge are closed to sport fishing;

(D) the waters upstream of an ADF&G regulatory marker located one-quarter mile upstream of the Lewis Road Bridge, including Meadow Creek, are closed to sport fishing for salmon;

(E) Fish Creek drainage lakes, including Big Lake, are closed to sport fishing for salmon;

(F) in Big Lake,

(i) from November 1 – April 30, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used, except when fishing through the ice, two lines may be used, if only one single hook is used on each line;

(ii) from November 1 – March 15, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., five lines may be used to take northern pike through the ice; allowable gear is limited to standard ice fishing gear specified in 5 AAC 60.120(7)(B); only a single hook with a gap between the point and the shank that is three-fourth inch or larger may be used; each hook must be set above the bottom of the lake; only a whole and intact bait fish for which no seasonal or harvest limit exists as specified in 5 AAC 75.026(b) may be used as bait; fishing gear must be closely attended as specified in 5 AAC 75.033; all other species of fish caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(iii) from November 1 – March 14, the bag and possession limit for burbot is two fish, except that from March 15 – April 30, burbot may not be retained or possessed;

(G) the bag and possession limit for Arctic char/Dolly Varden is one fish, which must be 20 inches or greater in length;

(H) the waters from an ADF&G regulatory marker located at the mouth of Fish Creek to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately one-quarter mile upstream of the Knik Goose Bay Road, are open to sport fishing to a person under 16 years of age, from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on the first Saturday and Sunday in August;

(6) Flathorn and Figure Eight Lakes are open to sport fishing through the ice for northern pike using five lines; allowable gear is limited to standard ice fishing gear as specified in 5 AAC 60.120(7); the fishing gear must be closely attended, and all other fish caught must be released immediately;

(7) Johnson Lake (near Palmer) is closed to all sport fishing;

(8) in the Knik River drainage, including Jim Creek and the Eklutna Tailrace, as follows:

(A) the Knik River within a 100-yard radius of its confluence with Bodenbergs Creek is closed to sport fishing for salmon;

(B) Upper Jim Creek (upstream of Leaf Lake), Jim Lake, and McRoberts Creek are closed to sport fishing for salmon;

(C) in the Eklutna Tailrace, the bag and possession limit for salmon, other than king salmon, 16 inches or greater in length is three fish, of which three may be coho salmon;

(D) in flowing waters from April 15 – June 15, rainbow/steelhead trout may not be retained or possessed; rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(E) in the Eklutna Tailrace, from its confluence with the Knik River upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 100 feet downstream of the Old Glenn Highway, and in the waters within a one-half mile radius and downstream a distance of two miles from its confluence with the Knik River, from January 1 – December 31, the bag and possession limit for king salmon 20 inches or greater in length is one fish; after taking a bag limit of one king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, a person may not sport fish for any species of finfish on that same day; bait is allowed; except as provided in (b) of this section, there is an annual limit of five king salmon 20 inches or greater in length and a harvest record is required as specified in 5 AAC 75.006;

(9) in the Little Susitna River drainage,

(A) from January 1 – July 13, in flowing waters from its mouth upstream to the Parks Highway sport fishing is open for king salmon with a bag and possession limit of one fish king salmon 20 inches or greater in length; except as provided in (b) of this section, there is an annual limit of five king salmon 20 inches or greater in length and a harvest record is required as specified in 5 AAC 75.006;

(B) from October 1 – August 5, in the flowing waters from its mouth upstream to the Parks Highway, only unbaited, artificial lures may be used;

(C) from April 15 – June 14, in the flowing waters from its mouth upstream to the Parks Highway, rainbow/steelhead trout may not be retained or possessed; rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(D) from May 15 – July 13, in waters open to sport fishing for king salmon, fishing is not allowed from 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.;

(E) in waters open to sport fishing for king salmon, a person may not sport fish for any species of fish on the same day after taking and retaining a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length;

(F) a person, after taking a bag limit of salmon, other than king salmon, 16 inches or greater in length from the Little Susitna River, may not sport fish that same day for any species of fish in waters open to sport fishing for salmon on the Little Susitna River;

(G) from June 15 – April 14, the flowing waters upstream of the Parks Highway are open to sport fishing, except for salmon;

(H) the flowing waters upstream of the Parks Highway are closed to sport fishing for salmon;

(I) repealed 6/12/2011;

(J) in flowing waters upstream of the Parks Highway, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(K) the Nancy Lake Creek drainage upstream of an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately one-quarter mile upstream of its confluence with the Little Susitna River is closed to sport fishing for salmon;

(10) in Nancy Lake Recreation Area Lakes, as follows:

(A) Nancy Lake is closed to sport fishing for burbot;

(B) all Nancy Lake Recreational Area lakes, except Nancy Lake, are open to sport fishing through the ice for northern pike using five lines; allowable gear is limited to standard ice-fishing gear as specified in 5 AAC 60.120(7); the fishing gear must be closely attended, and all other fish caught must be released immediately;

(C) in Nancy Lake, from November 1 – March 15, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., five lines may be used to take northern pike through the ice; allowable gear is limited to standard ice fishing gear specified in 5 AAC 60.120(7)(B); only a single hook with a gap between the point and the shank that is three-fourths inch or larger may be used; each hook must be set above the bottom of the lake; only a whole and intact bait fish for which no seasonal or harvest limit exists as specified in 5 AAC 75.026(b) may be used as bait; fishing gear must be closely attended as specified in 5 AAC 75.033; all other species of fish caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(11) the Wasilla Creek drainage, including Rabbit Slough,

(A) is closed to all sport fishing within 300 feet of Palmer-Fishhook Road;

(B) except as provided in (D) of this paragraph, is closed to sport fishing for salmon;

(C) repealed 6/12/2011;

(D) from June 15 – April 14, downstream of the Alaska Railroad Bridge is open to sport fishing for salmon, except king salmon, only on Saturday and Sunday from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; bag and possession limit of three fish, of which only two may be

coho salmon; a person who takes the bag limit of salmon from Wasilla Creek may not sport fish for any species of fish that same day in waters open to sport fishing for salmon;

(12) in Wishbone Lake (near Sutton) and Long Lake (Kepler–Bradley Complex)

(A) sport fishing is open from May 1 – October 31; only one unbaited, single–hook, artificial lure may be used;

(B) rainbow/steelhead trout may not be retained or possessed; rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(13) the Wolverine Lake drainage (near Palmer) from its confluence with Wolverine Creek upstream to and including Wolverine Lake is open to sport fishing from June 15 – April 14;

(14) in Memory and Prator Lakes, five lines may be used to take northern pike through the ice; allowable gear is limited to standard ice fishing gear as specified in 5 AAC 60.120(7)(B); fishing gear must be closely attended as specified in 5 AAC 75.033; all other species of fish caught must be released immediately.

(b) Notwithstanding an annual limit established in this section for king salmon, the annual limit for king salmon in the combined waters of the Knik Arm Drainages Area and the other areas in the Cook Inlet region that are open to sport fishing for king salmon under 5 AAC 56 – 5 AAC 62 is five king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, not more than two of which may be taken from that portion of the Kenai River drainage open to king salmon fishing, and not more than two of which may be taken, in combination, from Deep Creek and the Anchor River, except that from January 1 through June 30, a king salmon less than 28 inches in length taken from the Kenai River does not count towards the annual limit. (Eff. 10/1/2006, Register 179; am 11/12/2006, Register 180; am 6/4/2008, Register 186; am 6/12/2011, Register 198; am \_\_\_/\_\_\_/2014, Register \_\_\_)

**Susitna River Drainage Area**

**5 AAC 61.110. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Susitna River Drainage Area.** (a) Unless otherwise specified in 5 AAC 61.112 – 5 AAC 61.123 or by emergency order issued under AS 16.05.060, the following are the general seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Susitna River Drainage Area:

(1) king salmon

(A) 20 inches or greater in length may be taken only from January 1 – July 13; bag and possession limit is one fish; except as provided in (b) of this section, there is an annual limit of five king salmon 20 inches or greater in length and a harvest record is required, as specified in 5 AAC 75.006; a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length



removed from the water shall be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person originally hooking it; a person may not remove a king salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

(B) less than 20 inches in length

(i) may be taken from January 1 – July 13 in flowing waters and unstocked lakes and ponds; bag and possession limit of 10 fish; a person may not remove a king salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

(ii) may be taken from January 1 – December 31 in stocked lakes and ponds; bag and possession limit of 10 fish; a person may not remove a king salmon from the water before releasing the fish; for the purposes of this sub-subparagraph, "stocked lakes and ponds" has the same meaning given in (3)(D) of this section;

(2) salmon, other than king salmon,

(A) 16 inches or greater in length may be taken from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit is three fish, of which no more than two per day and two in possession may be coho salmon; if retention of coho salmon is allowed under this chapter, a coho salmon 16 inches or greater in length that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person originally hooking it; a person may not remove a coho salmon from the water before releasing the fish; the commissioner may, by emergency order, increase or decrease the bag and possession limit for coho salmon based on abundance indices;

(B) less than 16 inches in length may be taken from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of 10 fish;

(3) rainbow/steelhead trout

(A) are subject to an annual limit of two fish 20 inches or greater in length, except that in stocked lakes the annual limit is 10 fish, 20 inches or greater in length; a harvest record is required as specified in 5 AAC 75.006;

(B) may be taken in flowing waters from June 15 – April 14; bag and possession limit of two fish, of which only one may be 20 inches or greater in length;

(C) may not be retained or possessed in flowing waters from April 15 – June 14;

(D) may be taken in stocked lakes and ponds from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of five fish, of which only one may be 20 inches or greater in length; the annual limit for rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or greater in length is 10 fish, and a harvest record is required as specified in 5 AAC 75.006; for the purposes of

this subparagraph, "stocked lakes and ponds" include Benka Lake, Christiansen Lake, Crystal Lake, Gate Lake, Kashwitna Lake, North Friend Lake, South Friend Lake, Tigger Lake, West Sunshine Lake, Willow Lake, Y Lake, Mile 180 Lake (Broad Pass Lake), and Peggy Lake;

(E) may be taken in unstocked lakes and ponds from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of two fish, of which only one may be 20 inches or greater in length;

(4) Arctic char/Dolly Varden may be taken in

(A) flowing waters and unstocked lakes and ponds from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of five fish, of which only one may be greater than 12 inches in length;

(B) stocked lakes and ponds from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of five fish; no size limit; for purposes of this subparagraph, "stocked lakes and ponds" has the meaning given in (3)(D) of this section;

(5) Arctic grayling may be taken in

(A) flowing waters and unstocked lakes and ponds from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of two fish; no size limit;

(B) stocked lakes and ponds from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of five fish; no size limit; for purposes of this subparagraph, "stocked lakes and ponds" has the meaning given in (3)(D) of this section;

(6) lake trout may be taken from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of two fish; no size limit;

(7) burbot may be taken from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of five fish; no size limit; in all waters, except those designated as special management areas for rainbow trout in 5 AAC 61.185, bait may be used for burbot fishing only if the gear specified in this paragraph is used; burbot may be taken with more than one line and hook only if

(A) the aggregate number of hooks does not exceed the daily bag limit for burbot in the waters being fished;

(B) the hooks are single hooks with a gap between the point and the shank at least three-fourths of an inch or larger;

(C) each hook is set to rest on the bottom of the lake or stream;

(D) in all flowing waters of the Susitna and Yentna Rivers, each line is closely attended by the angler as specified in 5 AAC 75.033;

(8) northern pike may be taken from January 1 – December 31; no bag, possession, or size limit; a northern pike caught may not be released back into the water alive; notwithstanding 5 AAC 75.065, under this section there are no restrictions on the use or disposal of sport-caught northern pike; northern pike may be taken in

(A) all lakes by spear and bow and arrow; the arrow must have a barbed tip and be attached by a line to the bow; for the purposes of this subparagraph, "bow" means a long bow, recurve bow, compound bow, or crossbow;

(B) in all lakes, with two hooks per line when fishing through the ice and if both hooks are attached to the same single piece of bait;

(9) other finfish not specified in this subsection may be taken from January 1 – December 31; no bag, possession, or size limits.

(b) Notwithstanding an annual limit established in this section for

(1) king salmon, the annual limit for king salmon in the combined waters of the Susitna River Drainage Area and the other areas in the Cook Inlet region that are open to sport fishing for king salmon under 5 AAC 56 – 5 AAC 62 is five king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, not more than two of which may be taken from that portion of the Kenai River drainage open to king salmon fishing, and not more than two of which may be taken, in combination, from Deep Creek and the Anchor River, except that from January 1 through June 30, a king salmon less than 28 inches in length taken from the Kenai River does not count towards the annual limit;

(2) rainbow/steelhead trout, the annual limit for rainbow/steelhead trout in the combined waters of the Susitna River Drainage Area and the other areas in the Cook Inlet region that are open to sport fishing for rainbow/steelhead trout under 5 AAC 56 – 5 AAC 62 is two rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or greater in length, except that in stocked lakes the annual limit is 10 rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or greater in length. (Eff. 10/1/2006, Register 179; am 6/12/2011, Register 198; am \_\_\_/\_\_\_/2014, Register \_\_\_)

**5 AAC 61.112. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 1 of the Susitna River Drainage Area.** Unless otherwise specified by an emergency order issued under AS 16.05.060, the following are localized additions and exceptions to the general seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means to the general provisions specified in 5 AAC 61.110 and 5 AAC 75 for Unit 1 of the Susitna River Drainage Area:

(1) from September 1 – July 13, in flowing waters only unbaited, artificial lures may be used;

(2) in waters open to sport fishing for king salmon, from May 15 – July 13, sport fishing for any finfish species is closed from 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.;

(3) except in Alexander Creek, the bag and possession limit for salmon, other than king salmon, 16 inches or greater in length is three fish per day with six in possession; after taking a bag limit of three salmon 16 inches or greater in length, a person may not sport fish for salmon on that same day;

(4) except in the Alexander Creek drainage, the bag and possession limit for king salmon 20 inches or greater in length is one per day and two in possession;

(5) in the Alexander Creek drainage, and all waters within a one-half mile radius of the confluence of Alexander Creek with the Susitna River,

(A) sport fishing for king salmon is closed from January 1 – December 31;

(B) repealed 6/4/2008;

(C) in flowing waters upstream of ADF&G regulatory markers located approximately 400 yards upstream of Trail Creek, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(D) in flowing waters, rainbow/steelhead trout, Arctic char/Dolly Varden, and Arctic grayling may not be retained or possessed;

(E) repealed 6/12/2011;

(F) repealed 6/12/2011;

(G) Sucker Lake and Alexander Lake are open to sport fishing through the ice for northern pike using five lines with bait if

(i) the fishing gear is closely attended by the angler as specified in 5 AAC 75.033; and

(ii) all other species of fish caught are released immediately;

(H) from May 1 – July 13, sport fishing is closed within a one-half mile radius of the confluence of Alexander Creek and the Susitna River;

(6) in the Deshka River drainage, including Trapper Lake,

(A) in flowing waters upstream of the Moose/Kroto Creeks, from January 1 – December 31, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used; in all other flowing waters from September 1 – July 13 only unbaited, artificial lures may be used;

(B) from its mouth upstream to ADF&G regulatory markers near Chijuk Creek (river mile 17), and in all waters within a one-half mile radius of its confluence

with the Susitna River, king salmon may be taken from January 1 – July 13; from September 1 – May 14, only unbaited, artificial lures may be used; from May 15 – August 31, bait may be used; the remainder of the drainage is closed from January 1 – December 31 to sport fishing for king salmon;

(C) after taking and retaining a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, a person may not sport fish for king salmon on that same day;

(D) in flowing waters upstream of the Moose/Kroto Creeks, rainbow/steelhead trout may not be retained or possessed; rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(E) Trail, Neil, Trapper, and Kroto Lakes are open to sport fishing for northern pike using five lines with bait if

(i) the fishing gear is closely attended by the angler as specified in 5 AAC 75.033; and

(ii) all other species of fish caught are released immediately;

(7) in the flowing waters of Alexander Creek, Fish Creek (lower Susitna River drainage), Fish Creek (Kroto Slough), and Witsoe Creek, five lines may be used to fish for northern pike through the ice; allowable gear is limited to standard ice fishing gear as specified in 5 AAC 61.110(8)(B); fishing gear must be closely attended as specified in 5 AAC 75.033; all other species of fish caught must be released immediately. (Eff. 10/1/2006, Register 179; am 11/12/2006, Register 180; am 6/4/2008, Register 186; am 6/21/2009, Register 190; am 6/12/2011, Register 198)

**5 AAC 61.114. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 2 of the Susitna River Drainage Area.** Unless otherwise specified by an emergency order issued under AS 16.05.060, the following are localized additions and exceptions to the general seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means specified in 5 AAC 61.110 and 5 AAC 75 for Unit 2 of the Susitna River Drainage Area:

(1) from January 1 through the third Monday in June, and on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday for two consecutive weeks starting on the Saturday following the third Monday in June, Unit 2 is open to sport fishing for all finfish species, including king salmon;

(2) from July 14 – December 31, Unit 2 is open to sport fishing for all finfish species, except king salmon;

(3) in flowing waters only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used from September 1 – May 31 and from June 1 – July 13, only unbaited, artificial lures may be used;

(4) after taking and retaining a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, a person may not sport fish for any species of fish in any water open to king salmon fishing during that same day;

(5) in the Birch Creek drainage,

(A) the waters upstream from an ADF&G regulatory marker located one-quarter mile upstream from its mouth are open to sport fishing, except for salmon;

(B) in flowing waters upstream from an ADF&G regulatory marker located one-quarter mile upstream from its mouth, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(6) in the Caswell, Little Willow, and Sheep Creek drainages,

(A) the waters upstream of the Parks Highway are open to sport fishing, except for king salmon;

(B) upstream of the Parks Highway only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(7) in the Greys Creek drainage,

(A) from April 15 – June 14, the waters upstream from an ADF&G regulatory marker located one-quarter mile upstream from its mouth are closed to all sport fishing; from January 1 – December 31, the same waters are closed to sport fishing for salmon;

(B) upstream from the Parks Highway only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(8) in the Rabideux, Sunshine, and Trapper Creek drainages,

(A) the waters upstream from ADF&G regulatory markers located one-quarter mile upstream from their mouths are open to sport fishing, except for king salmon;

(B) in all flowing waters of Rabideux Creek upstream of the Parks Highway only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(C) in all flowing waters of Sunshine Creek drainage more than one-quarter mile upstream from its mouth only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(D) in all flowing waters of Trapper Creek upstream of the Susitna River Road, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(9) in the Kashwitna River drainage,

(A) the waters upstream of the Alaska Railroad Bridge are open to sport fishing for all finfish species, except king salmon;

(B) in the North Fork of the Kashwitna River and all waters within one quarter-mile radius of its confluence with the Kashwitna River, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(C) in the North Fork of the Kashwitna River and all waters within one quarter-mile radius of its confluence with the Kashwitna River rainbow/steelhead trout may not be retained; rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(10) in the Montana Creek drainage and all flowing waters within one-half mile radius of its confluence with the Susitna River,

(A) rainbow/steelhead trout and Arctic grayling may not be retained or possessed; rainbow/steelhead trout and Arctic grayling caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(B) upstream of the Parks Highway only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(C) the waters upstream of an ADF&G regulatory marker located one-half mile above the Parks Highway are open to sport fishing, except for salmon;

(11) in the Willow Creek drainage flowing waters and all waters within a one-half mile radius of its confluence with the Susitna River,

(A) Arctic grayling may not be retained or possessed; Arctic grayling caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(B) from the confluence with the Susitna River upstream to the Parks Highway, rainbow/steelhead trout may not be retained or possessed; rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(C) from June 15 – April 14, upstream of the Parks Highway Bridge, the rainbow/steelhead trout bag and possession limit is one fish less than 16 inches in length; from April 15 – June 14, rainbow/steelhead trout may not be retained; rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(D) upstream of an ADF&G regulatory marker one-half mile upstream from its mouth only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(E) the waters from the Parks Highway upstream to its confluence with Deception Creek are open to sport fishing, except for king salmon;

(F) the waters from its confluence with Deception Creek upstream are open to sport fishing, except for salmon;

(G) from April 15 – June 14, the Deception Creek drainage is closed to sport fishing;

(H) Deception Creek is closed to sport fishing for salmon;

(I) from May 1 – July 13, sport fishing from a boat for any species is prohibited in the portion of the Susitna River from an ADF&G regulatory marker located at the mouth of Willow Creek on the upstream bank of the furthest downstream confluence of Willow Creek and the Susitna River, to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 300 yards downstream from the mouth of Willow Creek;

(12) in the Willow Creek drainage lakes (Crystal, Shirley, Long, Rainbow, and Willow Lakes),

(A) except as otherwise specified in this paragraph, the lakes are open to sport fishing;

(B) the lakes are closed to sport fishing for salmon;

(C) Arctic grayling may not be retained or possessed;

(D) in Crystal and Willow Lakes, the bag and possession limit for rainbow/steelhead trout is five fish, of which only one may be 20 inches or greater in length;

(E) in Shirley, Long, and Rainbow Lakes, the bag and possession limit for rainbow/steelhead trout is two fish, of which only one may be 20 inches or greater in length;

(F) in Crystal and Long Lakes, five lines may be used to fish for northern pike through the ice; allowable gear is limited to standard ice fishing gear as specified in 5 AAC 61.110(8)(B); fishing gear must be closely attended as specified in 5 AAC 75.033; all other species of fish caught must be released immediately;

(13) in X Lake,

(A) from May 1 – October 31, the sport fishing season is open;

(B) only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;



(C) rainbow/steelhead trout may not be retained or possessed; rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(14) in the Goose Creek drainage,

(A) sport fishing for king salmon is closed;

(B) in the waters upstream of the Parks Highway

(i) sport fishing is open, except for king salmon;

(ii) only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(15) from May 15 – July 13, in waters open to sport fishing for king salmon, sport fishing is not allowed from 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. (Eff. 10/1/2006, Register 179; am 6/4/2008, Register 186; am 6/12/2011, Register 198)

**5 AAC 61.116. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 3 of the Susitna River Drainage Area.** Unless otherwise specified by an emergency order issued under AS 16.05.060, the following are localized additions and exceptions to the general seasons, bag, possession, and size limits and methods and means in 5 AAC 61.110 and 5 AAC 75 for Unit 3 of the Susitna River Drainage Area:

(1) in flowing waters only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(2) from May 15 – July 13, in waters open to sport fishing for king salmon, sport fishing is not allowed from 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.;

(3) from June 15 – April 14, in flowing waters upstream to and including Devils Canyon, the bag and possession for rainbow/steelhead trout is one fish per day 20 inches or greater in length;

(4) from April 15 – June 14, in flowing waters rainbow/steelhead trout may not be retained; rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(5) in Clarence Lake, the Arctic grayling bag and possession limit is two fish;

(6) the bag and possession limit for salmon, other than king salmon, is three fish. (Eff. 10/1/2006, Register 179; am 6/12/2011, Register 198)

**5 AAC 61.118. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 4 of the Susitna River Drainage Area.** Unless otherwise specified by an emergency order issued under AS 16.05.060, the following are localized

additions and exceptions to the general seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means specified in 5 AAC 61.110 for Unit 4 of the Susitna River Drainage Area:

(1) from September 1 – July 13, in all flowing waters, only unbaited, artificial lures may be used;

(2) from May 15 – July 13, in waters open to sport fishing for king salmon, fishing is not allowed from 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.;

(3) the bag and possession limit for salmon, other than king salmon, is three fish per day with six in possession;

(4) the bag and possession limit for king salmon 20 inches or greater in length is one per day and two in possession; once a person has retained a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, a person may not sport fish for king salmon within a one-mile radius of the confluence of the Talchulitna River and the Susitna River for the remainder of that day;

(5) in the Canyon Creek drainage,

(A) in the flowing waters, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(B) rainbow/steelhead trout may not be retained or possessed; rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(6) in the Fish Lake Creek drainage,

(A) after taking a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, a person may not sport fish for king salmon on that same day;

(B) upstream of the first lake, sport fishing for salmon is allowed only from January 1 – July 13;

(7) in the Lake Creek drainage,

(A) from August 16 – May 14, from an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 100 yards upstream of its mouth to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately one-quarter mile upstream of Bulchitna Lake, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used; in that same area from May 15 – July 13, only unbaited, artificial lures may be used;

(B) upstream from an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately one-quarter mile upstream of Bulchitna Lake only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(C) after taking and retaining a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, a person may not sport fish for king salmon on that same day;

(D) from August 16 – June 14, from an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 100 yards upstream of its mouth to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately one-quarter mile upstream of Bulchitna Lake, rainbow/steelhead trout may not be retained; rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately, and returned to the water unharmed;

(E) from June 15 – August 15, from an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 100 yards upstream of its mouth to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately one-quarter mile upstream of Bulchitna Lake, the rainbow/steelhead trout bag and possession limit is two fish of which only one fish may be 20 inches or greater in length;

(F) upstream of an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately one-quarter mile upstream from Bulchitna Lake, rainbow/steelhead trout may not be retained or possessed; rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(8) in the Peters Creek drainage upstream of an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately one mile upstream of its confluence with the Kahiltna River sport fishing is closed for king salmon;

(9) the Talchulitna River drainage and all waters within a three-quarter mile radius of its confluence with the Skwentna River,

(A) in flowing waters only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(B) rainbow/steelhead trout may not be retained or possessed; rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(10) in Whiskey, Hewitt, Donkey, Upper and Lower Vern, No Name (Cabin), One Stone, and Lockwood Lakes, and the flowing waters of Indian Creek, five lines may be used to fish for northern pike through the ice; allowable gear is limited to standard ice fishing gear as specified in 5 AAC 61.110(8)(B); fishing gear must be closely attended as specified in 5 AAC 75.033; all other species of fish caught must be released immediately. (Eff. 10/1/2006, Register 179; am 6/4/2008, Register 186; am 6/12/2011, Register 198)

**5 AAC 61.120. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 5 of the Susitna River Drainage Area.** Unless otherwise specified by an emergency order issued under AS 16.05.060, the following are localized additions and exceptions to the general seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods

and means specified in 5 AAC 61.110 and 5 AAC 75 for Unit 5 of the Susitna River Drainage Area:

(1) from September 1 – July 13, in all flowing waters only unbaited, artificial lures may be used;

(2) from May 15 – July 13, in waters open to sport fishing for king salmon, fishing is not allowed from 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.;

(3) in the Clear (Chunilna) Creek drainage,

(A) the waters upstream of an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately two miles from its mouth are closed to sport fishing for king salmon;

(B) after taking and retaining a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, a person may not sport fish for king salmon on the same day;

(C) in the Fish Creek drainage only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(D) in the Fish Creek drainage rainbow/steelhead trout may not be retained or possessed, rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(4) the Larson Creek drainage and all waters within one-quarter mile of its confluence with the Talkeetna River are closed to sport fishing for king salmon, and the Larson Creek drainage upstream of an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately one-quarter mile upstream of its confluence with the Talkeetna River is closed to sport fishing for all salmon;

(5) in the Prairie Creek drainage and all waters within one-quarter mile of its confluence with the Talkeetna River

(A) all waters are closed to sport fishing for king salmon;

(B) only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(C) rainbow/steelhead trout may not be retained or possessed; rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(D) Arctic grayling may not be retained or possessed; Arctic grayling caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(6) the bag and possession limit for salmon, other than king salmon, is three fish. (Eff. 10/1/2006, Register 179; am 6/12/2011, Register 198)

**5 AAC 61.122. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 6 of the Susitna River Drainage Area.** Unless otherwise specified by an emergency order issued under AS 16.05.060, the following are localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means specified in 5 AAC 61.110 and 5 AAC 75 for Unit 6 of the Susitna River Drainage Area:

(1) from September 1 – July 13, in flowing waters, only unbaited, artificial lures may be used;

(2) all waters of Unit 6 are closed to sport fishing for king salmon, except as described in (4) of this section for the East Fork of the Chulitna River;

(3) the Byers Creek drainage upstream of the Parks Highway is closed to sport fishing for all salmon;

(4) in the East Fork of the Chulitna River drainage, including all waters within a one-quarter mile radius of its confluence of the East Fork and West Fork and including the Middle Fork of the Chulitna and the first quarter mile of Honolulu Creek

(A) from January 1 – July 13, the waters are open to sport fishing for all finfish species, including king salmon; king salmon may be retained only from January 1 through the third Monday in June and on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday for three consecutive weeks starting on the Saturday following the third Monday in June; the remaining days are catch-and-release sport fishing only for king salmon;

(B) from January 1 – July 13, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(C) from July 14 – December 31, the waters are open to sport fishing for all finfish species, except king salmon;

(5) after taking and retaining a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, a person may not sport fish for any species of finfish in any water open to sport fishing for king salmon on that same day;

(6) the bag and possession limit for salmon, other than king salmon, is three fish. (Eff. 10/1/2006, Register 179; am 6/12/2011, Register 198)

**5 AAC 61.123. Restrictions on sport fishing after taking king salmon 20 inches or greater in length in the Susitna River Drainage Area.** Notwithstanding any other provision in this chapter, or unless modified by an emergency order issued under AS 16.05.060, a person, after taking a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, may not fish for

(1) any species of finfish on the same day in the following waters open to fishing for king salmon:

(A) that portion of the Susitna River, including waters within a one-quarter mile radius of its tributaries' confluences, from its confluence with the Deshka River upstream to its confluence with the Talkeetna River;

(B) Birch Creek (Birch Creek Slough), only those waters within a one-quarter mile radius of its confluence with the Susitna River;

(C) Caswell Creek from its mouth upstream to the Parks Highway and all waters within a one-quarter mile radius of its confluence with the Susitna River;

(D) East Fork Chulitna River drainage, including all waters within a one-quarter mile radius of its confluence with the West Fork Chulitna River and the Chulitna River;

(E) Goose Creek from its mouth upstream to the Parks Highway and all waters within a one-quarter mile radius of its confluence with the Susitna River;

(F) Kashwitna River drainage from its mouth upstream to the Alaska Railroad Bridge and all waters with a one-quarter mile radius of its confluence with the Susitna River;

(G) Little Willow Creek from its mouth upstream to the Parks Highway and all waters within a one-quarter mile radius of its confluence with the Susitna River;

(H) Montana Creek from its mouth upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately one-half mile upstream from the Parks Highway Bridge and all waters within a one-quarter mile radius of its confluence with the Susitna River;

(I) Sheep Creek from its mouth upstream to the Parks Highway and all waters within a one-quarter mile radius of its confluence with the Susitna River;

(J) Sunshine Creek, only those waters within a one-quarter mile radius of its confluence with the Susitna River;

(K) Willow Creek from its mouth upstream to the Parks Highway Bridge and all waters within a one-quarter mile radius of its confluence with the Susitna River;

(L) any waters open to sport fishing for king salmon in the Knik Arm Drainages Area under 5 AAC 60 and the West Cook Inlet Area under 5 AAC 62;

(2) king salmon in the following waters open to fishing for king salmon:

(A) Alexander Creek from its mouth upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 400 yards upstream of its confluence with Trail Creek and all waters within one-half mile of its confluence with the Susitna River;

(B) Clear (Chunilna) Creek from its mouth to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately two miles upstream and all waters within a one-half mile radius of its confluence with the Talkeetna River;

(C) Deshka River and its tributaries upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located adjacent to Chijuk (No Name) Creek (river mile 17) and all waters within a one-half mile radius of its confluence with the Susitna River;

(D) Fish Lake Creek from its mouth upstream to ADF&G regulatory markers located at the mouth of Fish Lake Creek's inlet to the first lake and all waters within a one-half mile radius of its confluence of the Yentna River;

(E) Lake Creek drainage and all waters within a one-half mile radius of its confluence with the Yentna River. (Eff. 10/1/2006, Register 179; am 11/12/2006, Register 180)

## **West Cook Inlet Area**

**5 AAC 62.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the West Cook Inlet Area.** Unless otherwise specified in 5 AAC 62.122 or by an emergency order issued under AS 16.05.060, the following are the general seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the West Cook Inlet Area:

(1) king salmon

(A) 20 inches or greater in length may be taken only from January 1 – June 30; bag and possession limit is one fish; there is an annual limit of five fish and a harvest record is required, as specified in 5 AAC 75.006; a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length that is removed from the water shall be retained and becomes a part of the bag limit of the person originally hooking it; a person may not remove a king salmon from the water before releasing the fish; notwithstanding the annual limit established for king salmon in this subparagraph, the annual limit for king salmon in the combined waters of the West Cook Inlet Area and the other areas in the Cook Inlet region that are open to sport fishing for king salmon under 5 AAC 56 – 5 AAC 61 is five king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, not more than two of which may be taken from that portion of the Kenai River drainage open to king salmon fishing, and not more than two of which may be taken, in combination, from Deep Creek and the Anchor River, except that from January 1 through June 30, a king salmon less than 28 inches in length taken from the Kenai River does not count towards the annual limit;

(B) less than 20 inches in length may be taken only from January 1 – June 30; bag and possession limit is 10 fish;

(2) salmon, other than king salmon,

(A) 16 inches or greater in length may be taken only from January 1 – September 30; bag limit is three fish per day, and six in possession; if retention of coho salmon is allowed under this chapter, a coho salmon 16 inches or greater in length that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person originally hooking it; a person may not remove a coho salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

(B) less than 16 inches in length may be taken only from January 1 – September 30; bag and possession limit is 10 fish; if retention of coho salmon is allowed under this chapter, a coho salmon 16 inches or greater in length that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person originally hooking it; a person may not remove a coho salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

### (3) rainbow/steelhead trout

(A) are subject to an annual limit of two fish 20 inches or greater in length and a harvest record is required as specified in 5 AAC 75.006; notwithstanding the annual limit established for rainbow/steelhead trout in this subparagraph, the annual limit for rainbow/steelhead trout in the combined waters of the West Cook Inlet and in the other areas in the Cook Inlet region that are open to sport fishing for rainbow/steelhead trout under 5 AAC 56 – 5 AAC 61 is two rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or greater in length;

(B) may be taken in flowing waters only from June 15 – April 14; bag and possession limit of two fish, of which only one may be 20 inches or greater in length;

(C) may not be retained or possessed in flowing waters April 15 – June 14;

(D) may be taken in lakes and ponds from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of two fish, of which only one may be 20 inches or greater in length;

(4) Arctic char/Dolly Varden may be taken from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of five fish, of which only one may be greater than 12 inches in length;

(5) Arctic grayling may be taken from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of two fish; no size limit;

(6) lake trout may be taken from January 1 – December 31; bag and possession limit of two fish; no size limit;

(7) northern pike may be taken from January 1 – December 31; no bag, possession, or size limit; a northern pike caught may not be released back into the water alive; notwithstanding 5 AAC 75.065, under this section there are no restrictions on the use or disposal of sport-caught northern pike; northern pike may be taken in northern pike may be taken in all lakes



(A) by spear and bow and arrow; the arrow must have a barbed tip and be attached by a line to the bow; for the purposes of this subparagraph, "bow" means a long bow, recurve bow, compound bow, or crossbow;

(B) with two hooks per line when fishing through the ice and if both hooks are attached to the same single piece of bait;

(8) burbot may be taken from January 1 – December 31; no bag, possession, or size limit; burbot may be taken with bait in all waters with more than one line and hook only if

(A) the aggregate number of hooks does not exceed the daily bag limit for burbot in the waters being fished;

(B) the hooks are single hooks with a gap between the point and the shank at least three-fourths of an inch or larger;

(C) each hook is set to rest on the bottom of the lake or stream;

(D) notwithstanding the 24-hour provision in 5 AAC 75.033, the angler remains with the fishing gear at all times;

(9) other finfish not specified in this subsection may be taken from January 1 – December 31; no bag, possession, or size limit. (Eff. 10/1/2006, Register 179; am 11/12/2006, Register 180; am 6/12/2011, Register 198)

**5 AAC 62.122. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the West Cook Inlet Area.** Unless otherwise specified by an emergency order issued under AS 16.05.060, the following are localized additions and exceptions to seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means specified in 5 AAC 62.120 and 5 AAC 75 for the West Cook Inlet Area:

(1) in drainages between the Susitna River and the West Foreland,

(A) in flowing waters, from September 1 – July 13, only unbaited, artificial lures may be used;

(B) from May 15 – June 30, in waters open to sport fishing for king salmon, fishing is not allowed for any species of finfish from 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.;

(C) northern pike may be taken by spear, sport fishing gear, or bow and arrow; the arrow must have a barbed tip and be attached to the bow with a line;

(D) after taking a bag limit of coho salmon 16 inches or greater in length, a person may not sport fish for any species of finfish during that same day;

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(2) in drainages between the West Foreland and Cape Douglas, after taking a bag limit of coho salmon 16 inches or greater in length, a person may not sport fish for any species of finfish during that same day;

(3) in drainages from the West Foreland south to the latitude of the southern tip of Chisik Island at 60° 05.66' N. lat., from September 1 – May 15, in flowing waters, only unbaited, artificial lures may be used;

(4) in drainages south of the latitude of the southern tip of Chisik Island at 60° 05.66' N. lat. to the latitude of Cape Douglas at 58° 51.10' N. lat., in flowing waters, from July 15 – May 15, only unbaited, artificial lures may be used;

(5) the Chuitna River drainage is closed to sport fishing for king salmon;

(6) the Clearwater Creek drainage, including Roscoe Creek, is closed to sport fishing upstream from an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately one-half mile upstream of its confluence with the Chinitna River;

(7) the Lewis River is closed to sport fishing for king salmon;

(8) the McNeil River is closed to sport fishing within one-half mile of McNeil River Falls (approximately one mile upstream from McNeil Lagoon);

(9) Shelter Creek is closed to sport fishing upstream from an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately one mile upstream from its mouth;

(10) Silver Salmon Lake and Silver Salmon Creek within one-half mile of its outlet at Silver Salmon Lake are closed to sport fishing for salmon;

(11) the Theodore River drainage is closed to sport fishing for king salmon;

(12) Threemile Creek is closed to sport fishing upstream from the Beluga Tyonek Road culvert to Threemile/Tukhallah Lake;

(13) Threemile/Tukhallah Lake is

(A) closed to sport fishing within a 300-foot radius of the lake outlet;

(B) closed to sport fishing for salmon;

(C) open to sport fishing through the ice for northern pike using five lines; allowable gear is limited to standard ice fishing gear as specified in 5 AAC 61.030; the fishing gear must be closely attended, and all other fish caught must be released immediately;

(14) Wolverine Creek, including Big River Lake within a 500–yard radius of the mouth of Wolverine Creek, from June 1 – July 31, is fly–fishing–only waters;

(15) in Chuitbuna Lake, five lines may be used to fish for northern pike through the ice; allowable gear is limited to standard ice fishing gear as specified in 5 AAC 62.120(7)(B); fishing gear must be closely attended as specified in 5 AAC 75.033; all other species of fish caught must be released immediately;

(16) the Beluga River drainage is closed to sport fishing for king salmon. (Eff. 10/1/2006, Register 179; am 6/4/2008, Register 186; am 6/12/2011, Register 198)

## **Personal Use Fisheries**

**5 AAC 77.010. Methods, means, and general restrictions.** (a) Finfish, shellfish, and aquatic plants may be taken for personal use only by a holder of a valid resident Alaska sport fishing license or by an Alaskan resident exempt from licensing under AS 16.05.400.

(b) It is unlawful to buy, sell, trade or barter fish or their parts taken under the regulations in 5 AAC 77.

(c) It is unlawful to take fish within 300 feet of any dam, fish ladder, weir, culvert or other artificial obstruction.

(d) Each personal use fisherman shall plainly and legibly inscribe the fisherman's first initial, last name, and home address on a keg or buoy attached to a gillnet, pot, or ring net. A keg or buoy attached to a pot or ring net must also be inscribed with the name or the division of motor vehicles boat registration number, issued under 2 AAC 70, of the vessel used to operate the pot or ring net.

(e) The gillnet web in a gillnet used for personal use fishing for salmon must contain

(1) at least 30 filaments, each of which must be of equal diameter; or

(2) at least six filaments, each of which must be at least 0.20 millimeters in diameter.

(f) A person may not possess salmon taken under the authority of a personal use salmon fishing permit unless both tips of the tail fin have been removed from the salmon before the salmon is concealed from plain view or transported from the fishing site.

(g) It is unlawful to take female king, Tanner, or Dungeness crab.

(h) No person may mutilate or otherwise disfigure a crab in any manner that would prevent determination of the minimum size restrictions in 5 AAC 77, until the crab has been processed or prepared for consumption.

(i) No more than five pots, regardless of type, per person with a maximum of 10 pots, regardless of type, per vessel may be used to take shellfish at any time, except that in the Southeastern Alaska and Yakutat Areas, no more than 10 shrimp pots per person with a maximum of 20 shrimp pots per vessel may be used in addition to pots, other than shrimp pots, in the taking of shrimp at any time.

(j) The harvest, bag, possession, and pot limits for shellfish in this chapter are not in addition to those allowed under subsistence fishing regulations contained in 5 AAC 02.

(k) Unless otherwise specified in this chapter, gear used in the personal use taking of shellfish is limited to the following:

(1) shrimp may be taken only with pots and ring nets;

(2) crab may be taken only with pots, ring nets, diving gear, dip nets, hooked or hookless handlines, or by hand; a line attached to a pole or rod may be used in the Bering Sea only when fishing a line through the ice;

(3) clams may be taken only by hand or with rakes, shovels, and manually operated clam guns;

(4) abalone may be taken only with abalone irons, diving gear, or by hand.

(l) In the personal use taking of shellfish not otherwise specified in this chapter

(1) there is no closed season;

(2) there is no bag and possession limit;

(3) trawls, hand jigging, hand-operated dredges, and all gear specified in (k) of this section may be used, except that in the waters described in 5 AAC 38.140(k) (Southeastern Alaska) sea cucumbers may not be taken with the use of diving gear.

(m) Pots used for personal use fishing must comply with the escape mechanism requirements in 5 AAC 39.145. (Eff. 6/20/82, Register 82; am 7/1/86, Register 99; am 7/12/86, Register 99; am 10/26/86, Register 100; am 4/2/88, Register 105; am 6/25/89, Register 110; am 9/19/90, Register 115; am 2/27/91, Register 117; am 7/16/92, Register 123; am 4/1/94, Register 129; am 6/5/94, Register 130; am 9/5/97, Register 143; am 5/31/98, Register 146; am 12/1/2004, Register 172; am 7/13/2012, Register 203; add'l am 7/13/2012, Register 203)

**5 AAC 77.015. Personal use fishing permits and reports and display of personal use fish.** (a) A permit is not required to take fish unless otherwise specified in 5 AAC 77.

(b) Permits for the taking of finfish will be issued only to holders of a valid resident Alaska sport fishing license and Alaska residents exempt from licensing under AS 16.05.400.

Permits for the taking of shellfish and aquatic plants will be issued only to holders of a valid Alaska sport fishing license and persons exempt from licensing under AS 16.05.400.

(c) When a personal use fishing permit is required, the following permit conditions apply, unless otherwise specified by the regulations in 5 AAC 77:

(1) the numbers of fish taken may not exceed the limits set out in the permit;

(2) the permit must be obtained from a local representative of the department before taking fish;

(3) the permit and the permittee's sport fishing license must be retained in the possession of the permittee and be readily available for inspection upon request by a peace officer of the state while taking or transporting the species for which the permit is issued;

(4) the permit may designate the species and numbers of fish to be harvested, time and area for taking, the type and amount of fishing gear and other conditions necessary for management or conservation purposes;

(5) if specified on the permit, each fisherman shall keep accurate daily records of the catch involved, showing the number of fish taken by species, location and date of the catch, and such other information as the department may require for management or conservation purposes;

(6) personal use fishing reports must be completed on forms provided by the department and submitted to the department office from which the permit was issued at the time specified by the department for each particular area and fishery;

(7) if applicable, the total annual possession limit for the permittee will be entered on each permit by the department representative issuing the permit; and

(8) if applicable, the department representative issuing the permit will require from an applicant documented proof of residency or other criteria required by regulation, or in the absence of such documentation, a signed affidavit setting forth duration of residency or other criteria required by regulation, to determine the applicable type of permit, annual possession limit and residency of the applicant.

(d) If the return of catch information necessary for management and conservation purposes is required by a personal use fishing permit, a permittee who fails to comply with such reporting requirements is ineligible to receive a personal use permit for that activity during the following calendar year, unless the permit applicant demonstrates to the department that failure to report was due to unavoidable circumstances.

(e) Repealed 5/31/98.

(f) Upon request by an employee of the department, a person must show to the employee

(1) that person's record of catch taken under this chapter; and

(2) fish taken and possessed by the person in a personal use fishery. (Eff. 6/20/82, Register 82; am 7/30/89, Register 111; am 5/29/93, Register 126; am 5/31/98, Register 146; am 7/18/99, Register 151)

**5 AAC 77.525. Personal use salmon fishery.** (a) Only one personal use salmon fishing permit may be issued to each household per year.

(b) Repealed 7/21/91.

(c) In the personal use taking of salmon, unless otherwise specified in 5 AAC 77.500 – 5 AAC 77.548, the total annual limit for each personal use salmon fishing permit is 25 salmon for the head of a household and 10 salmon for each dependent of the permit holder.

(d) Notwithstanding any provision in 5 AAC 01 – 77, in the Cook Inlet Area, a person may possess sport-caught and personal-use caught salmon on the same day. (Eff. 6/20/82, Register 82; am 6/30/83, Register 86; am 7/1/86, Register 99; em am 4/30/91 – 5/30/91, Register 118 [not printed]; am 7/21/91, Register 119; am 6/22/2002, Register 162)

**5 AAC 77.527. Personal use smelt fishery.** In the personal use taking of smelt,

(1) there are no bag or possession limits;

(2) smelt may be taken

(A) in salt water from April 1 through May 31;

(B) in fresh water from April 1 through June 15;

(C) with dip nets; and

(D) with a drift gillnet only from April 1 through May 31, as follows:

(i) a drift gillnet may be used only in the Kenai River downstream of an ADF&G regulatory marker at Cunningham Park;

(ii) a drift gillnet may not be more than 20 feet in length, four feet in depth, and one and one-half inches in mesh size; and

(iii) a drift gillnet must be attended by the person operating the gillnet at all times that the net is fishing;

(3) repealed 7/21/99. (Eff. 7/1/86, Register 99; am 3/29/87, Register 101; am 4/7/93, Register 126; am 7/21/99, Register 151; am 3/8/2002, Register 161)

## **5 AAC 77.540. Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon Fishery Management Plan.**

(a) Salmon may be taken for personal use under this section only under a personal use permit issued under 5 AAC 77.015 and 5 AAC 77.525; in addition to the requirements under 5 AAC 77.015, a person

(1) shall, before a permit may be issued, show the person's resident sport fish license, or proof, satisfactory to the department, that the person is exempt from licensing under AS 16.05.400; the person's sport fish license number shall be recorded on the permit;

(2) shall record all fish harvested on the permit, in ink, immediately upon harvesting the fish; for the purpose of this paragraph, "immediately" means before concealing the salmon from plain view or transporting the salmon from the fishing site;

(3) shall return the permit to the department by the date specified on the permit.

(b) Salmon may be taken with a set gillnet in the Central District as follows:

(1) from June 15 through June 24;

(2) fishing periods will be daily from 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.;

(3) repealed 6/22/2002;

(4) salmon may be taken only from ADF&G regulatory markers located at the mouth of the Kasilof River to ADF&G commercial fishing regulatory markers located approximately one mile from the mouth on either side of the Kasilof River; fishing is prohibited beyond one mile from the mean high tide mark and is also prohibited within the flowing waters or over the stream bed or channel of the Kasilof River at any stage of the tide;

(5) salmon may be taken only by set gillnets as follows:

(A) a set gillnet may not exceed 10 fathoms in length, six inches in mesh size, and 45 meshes in depth;

(B) no part of a set gillnet may be operated within 100 feet of another set gillnet;

(C) a person may not operate more than one set gillnet; the permit holder shall attend the set gillnet at all times when it is being used to take fish;

(D) only one set gillnet may be operated per household;

(6) the annual limit is as specified in 5 AAC 77.525.

(c) Salmon may be taken by dip net in the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers as follows:

(1) in the Kenai River, as follows:

(A) from July 10 through July 31, seven days per week, from 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.; the commissioner may extend, by emergency order, the personal use fishery to 24-hours per day if the department determines that the abundance of the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon is greater than two million fish;

(B) the annual limit is as specified in 5 AAC 77.525, except that only one king salmon may be retained per household;

(C) from a boat, in the area from an ADF&G regulatory marker located near the Kenai city dock upstream to the downstream side of the Warren Ames Bridge, except that salmon may not be taken from a boat powered by a two stroke motor other than a motor manufactured as a direct fuel injection motor;

(D) from shore, in the area from ADF&G regulatory markers located on the Cook Inlet beaches outside the terminus of the river upstream to the downstream side of the Warren Ames Bridge, except dipnetting is closed on the north shore from an ADF&G regulatory marker located below the end of Main Street, upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located near the Kenai City Dock;

(2) in the Kasilof River, as follows:

(A) from June 25 through August 7, 24-hours per day;

(B) the annual limit is as specified in 5 AAC 77.525, except that king salmon may not be retained and any king salmon caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(C) from ADF&G regulatory markers located on the Cook Inlet beaches outside the terminus of the river upstream for a distance of one mile.

(d) Salmon may be taken by dip net in Fish Creek only as follows:

(1) the commissioner may open, by emergency order, the personal use dip net fishery in Fish Creek from July 10 through July 31, if the department projects that the escapement of sockeye salmon into Fish Creek will be more than 50,000 fish;

(2) the annual limit is a specified in 5 AAC 77.525, except that no king salmon may be retained and any king salmon caught must be returned to the water unharmed;

(3) from a boat or shore, in those waters upstream from ADF&G regulatory markers located on both sides of the terminus of Fish Creek, to ADF&G regulatory markers located approximately one-quarter mile upstream from Knik-Goose Bay Road.

(e) Repealed 6/22/2002.



(f) A person may retain flounder incidentally caught when fishing for salmon in the Cook Inlet Area under this section. A person may retain up to 10 flounder under this subsection per year and must record those flounder retained by the person on that person's permit specified in (a) of this section.

(g) In the Beluga River, salmon may be taken by dip net only as follows:

(1) salmon, other than king salmon, may be taken only by a person 60 years of age or older; a person authorized to take salmon under this subsection may not authorize a proxy to take or attempt to take salmon on behalf of that person under 5 AAC 77.016 and AS 16.05.405;

(2) from July 10 through August 31, the fishery is open 24 hours per day from an ADP&G regulatory marker located approximately one-quarter mile upstream of the Beluga River Bridge, downstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately one mile below the bridge;

(3) the annual limit is as specified in 5 AAC 77.525, except that within the total annual limit one king salmon may be retained per household;

(4) the commissioner will close, by emergency order, the fishery when 500 salmon, other than king salmon, have been harvested;

(5) a permit holder for this fishery shall report weekly to the department as specified in the permit. (Eff. 6/7/95, Register 135; am 9/29/95, Register 135; am 5/31/96, Register 138; am 6/21/97, Register 142; am 5/8/98, Register 146; am 6/13/99, Register 150; am 6/22/2002, Register 162; am 6/11/2005, Register 174; am 6/4/2008, Register 186; am 6/12/2011, Register 198)