

DATA COLLECTION REQUIREMENTS

- Upon request by a Department representative or state peace officer, anglers must forfeit the heads of any salmon or trout with external or internal tags or an adipose finclip along with the date and location of catch.

LIABILITY FOR VIOLATIONS

- Unless otherwise provided by regulation or statute, a person who violates a provision of these regulations is strictly liable for the offense, regardless of that person's intent.

PROHIBITED ACTS

BAIT PROHIBITED IN FRESH WATER FROM NOVEMBER 16 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 14:

- Only unbaited, artificial lures or flies may be used.
- The use of bait is only allowed in freshwater from September 15 through November 15, unless otherwise noted in the special regulations listed on pages 14-32.

BOWFISHING:

- Bowfishing is prohibited in the fresh and salt waters of Southeast Alaska.

CLOSED WATERS/ WATERS CLOSED TO SPORT FISHING:

- Unless otherwise provided by area regulations: (a) the waters within 300 feet of a fish weir or fish ladder are closed to sport fishing, unless a lesser or greater distance is indicated by Department markers; and (b) it is unlawful to cast, drift, or place by any means a hook, bait, lure, or fly into waters closed to sport fishing.



FELT-SOLED BOOTS PROHIBITED:

- The use of footwear with absorbent felt or other fibrous material on the soles is prohibited while sport or **personal use** fishing in fresh water.

GAFFS PROHIBITED:

- A gaff may not be used to puncture any fish intended or required to be released.

MOLESTING OF FISH:

- Molesting or impeding spawning or the natural movement of fish contrary to lawful methods and means of sport fishing is prohibited.



POSSESSION, TRANSPORT, OR MARKING OF LIVE FISH, EGGS, OR AQUATIC ORGANISMS:

- It is unlawful, except in accordance with the provisions listed on page 8 under "Use of Sport-Caught Fish as Bait," or in compliance with the terms of a permit issued by the Commissioner for a person to collect, transport, possess, propagate, export, mark in any way, or release into the waters or the lands of the state, any live fish, fish eggs, or aquatic organism.
- It is unlawful for a person to possess any part of a Class A banned invasive species, including reproductive or genetic material, at any stage of its life cycle, except as follows: (1) when transporting a specimen to any department office or another location as directed by the department in a sealed container for the purpose of containing, identifying, or reporting the presence of the

Possession, Transport, or Marking of Live Fish, Eggs, or Aquatic Organisms continued...

species or (2) under the provisions of an aquatic resource permit. A person may not possess any live Class B banned invasive species at any stage of its life cycle. See page 46 for Class A & B definitions.

SALE OF SPORT-CAUGHT FISH PROHIBITED:

- No person may buy, sell, or barter sport-caught fish or their parts.

SNAGGING IN FRESH WATER PROHIBITED:

- It is unlawful to intentionally snag or attempt to snag any fish in fresh water.
- "Snag" means to hook a fish elsewhere than in its mouth. A fish unintentionally hooked elsewhere than its mouth must be released immediately.

USE OF EXPLOSIVES OR TOXICANTS:

- The use of any toxicant or explosive is prohibited in the taking of any fish in the waters of Alaska, except that a shaft tipped with an explosive charge (commonly known as a bangstick or powerhead) or a firearm may be used on board a vessel in salt water to dispatch a fish caught with legal gear.

WASTE OF FISH:

- The intentional waste or destruction of any species of sport-caught fish is prohibited.

METHODS AND MEANS

FISH LADDERS:

- Fishing is allowed within 300 feet of fish ladders unless otherwise posted by Department markers. No person may fish from, on, or in a fish ladder.

FRESH WATER SPORT FISHING:

- Fish may not be taken in fresh water by means of:
 - Fixed or weighted hooks and lures (except those of standard manufacture);
 - Multiple hooks with gap between point and shank larger than ½ inch;
 - Spear, unless permitted by area regulations.
 - **Spearguns are not legal gear in fresh waters.**
- The use of bait is only allowed from September 15 through November 15. This regulation applies to all fresh waters, unless otherwise noted in the specific exceptions listed on pages 14-32.
- Fresh waters closed to salmon fishing but open to trout, Arctic grayling, Arctic char, or kokanee fishing are also open to the taking of salmon less than 16 inches in length.
- Sport fishing through the ice is permitted with the use of two closely attended lines, provided only one hook or artificial lure is used on each line.

POWER-ASSISTED FISHING REEL:

- A power-assisted fishing reel may only be used to sport fish if:
 - The reel is mounted on a fishing rod by means of a reel seat and;
 - The reel assembly, motor, gearbox, fishing line, reel-mounted battery, or other reel-mounted attachments weigh no more than 15 pounds in total when detached from the fishing rod.

SNAGGING IN SALT WATER:

- Unless otherwise prohibited under area regulation, snagging is allowed in salt water.

SPORT FISHING GEAR:

- Unless otherwise provided in regulation, sport fishing may be conducted only by use of:
 - A single line per angler attached to not more than one plug, spoon, spinner, or series of spinners, or two flies, or two hooks.
 - The line must be closely attended.
 - No more than six lines may be fished from any vessel.
 - The maximum number of fishing lines that may be fished from a vessel engaged in charter activities is equal to the number of paying clients on board the vessel but cannot exceed six lines.

SPORT FISHING GEAR FOR HERRING AND SMELT:

- In salt water, herring and smelt may be taken with the use of 15 or less unbaited, single or multiple hooks attached to a single line.

SPORT FISHING GEAR FOR SQUID:

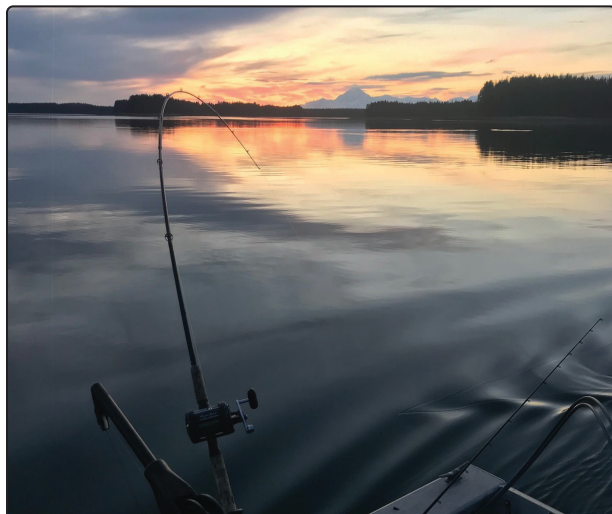
- Squid may be taken with the use of not more than two squid jigs attached to a single line. See page 47 for definition of a squid jig. Standard sport fishing gear described above may also be used to target squid.

USE OF ATTRACTOR (BEAD):

- An attractor, including a bead, when used with an artificial fly, artificial lure, or bare hook, must be:
 - Either fixed within two inches of the bare hook, fly, or lure,
 - Or be free sliding on the line or leader.
 - A bead fished on the line above a bare single hook is legal gear in waters where only flies may be used.

 USE OF UNDERWATER SPEAR (SALT WATER):

- Subject to applicable seasons and bag and possession limits, a person who is completely submerged or swimming on the surface may use a spear or speargun in salt water to take fish if the spear or speargun is not tipped with an explosive charge.



Trolling for salmon with a beautiful sunset.

USE OF SPORT-CAUGHT FISH AS BAIT

- Unless provided for in this section, fish taken under sport fishing regulations may not be used as bait, except;
 - Herring, chum salmon, pink salmon, and whitefish may be used as bait.
 - Species for which bag limits and seasons are not provided for in sport fishing regulations.
 - The head, tail, fins, closely trimmed skeleton, and viscera of legally taken sport fish, may be used as bait.
- Live herring and other species for which no seasonal or harvest limits are specified in sport fishing regulations may be used as live bait, except that live fish may not be used as bait for sport fishing in fresh water.
- Live bait may be possessed, transported, or released only in the salt waters of the regulatory area in which it was taken.

POSSESSION OF SPORT-CAUGHT FISH

- Sport-caught fish, their parts, and articles manufactured from such fish may be possessed within the state by any person at any time, and may be transported within and exported out of the state by any person at any time, except that no person may possess any unpreserved fish, or part of one, not legally taken by the angler, unless the angler furnishes, upon request of any peace officer of the state, a statement signed by the person taking the fish stating the type of fish, number of fish, location, date taken, and license number. The statement is unnecessary if the person possessing the fish is accompanied by the person who took the fish. See Transfer of Possession Form on page 44. No person may possess fish which were not legally taken.
- A person may possess only the limit of fish allowed for the water on which that person is fishing.
- Upon request by an employee of the department, or a peace officer of the state, a person must present for inspection any fish taken or possessed by the person in a sport fishery.
- Upon request by an employee of the department or a peace officer of the state, a person while taking fish must present, for inspection, any apparatus designed to be or capable of being used to take fish in a sport fishery.



A beautiful spawned colored coho salmon.

POSSESSION OF SPORT-CAUGHT HALIBUT

- Pacific halibut fisheries are managed by the federal government under international treaty.
- Federal possession and landing requirements for sport-caught halibut differ from state regulations. Possession includes unpreserved AND preserved fish for halibut, but possession limits only apply in saltwaters.
- Transfer of Possession forms are not valid for halibut.
- Consult federal regulations for halibut bag, size, and possession limits for guided (charter) anglers; and possession and landing requirements.
- Federal halibut regulations are available through NOAA Fisheries Alaska Region at (907) 586-7228. www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/fisheries/sport-halibut



Successful day of halibut fishing for this angler.



Beautiful steelhead trout from the Situk River.

SPORT FISH GUIDING

- All individuals and businesses who are providing sport fishing guide services must register and obtain a guide and/or business registration with ADF&G before guiding clients.
- All sport charter vessels used for the guided taking of fish or shellfish in fresh or salt water must have a current Division of Motor Vehicles boat registration number or USCG documentation number and an ADF&G sport fishing guide vessel decal with the current year renewal sticker.
- Decals must be displayed in plain sight on each side of the vessel any time sport fishing guide services are taking place.
- In Southeast Alaska, all saltwater sport fishing businesses must use an eLogbook.
- Additional information on requirements for sport fish guides and businesses can be found online at www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=SFGuidesLicense.main.



Just a little family fishing fun on the ocean.

SPORT FISHING FROM COMMERCIALY LICENSED VESSELS

- A person sport fishing from a vessel licensed for commercial salmon fishing shall immediately mark harvested salmon by removing its dorsal (large back) fin. This marking requirements doesn't apply to commercial vessels that are also registered as charter vessels when paying clients are on board.
- Sport fishing from a commercially licensed vessel while commercially caught salmon are in possession is illegal in waters closed to commercial salmon fishing.
- A person may not sport fish and commercial fish for salmon from the same vessel on the same day.
- A person may not possess unpreserved sport caught salmon on any commercial salmon vessel while engaged in commercial salmon fishing.
- Additional restrictions and provisions apply to persons and vessels who participate in commercial shellfish fisheries. For specific information, see commercial shellfish regulations.