



Dipnetting 101 Fact Sheet

More questions? Call the Anchorage Sport Fish Information Center at (907) 267-2218

Web Sites

Kenai, Kasilof, Fish Creek & other dipnetting — sonar, rules, where to get permit, maps, peaks

www.sf.adfg.state.ak.us/region2/areas/kenai/cipuhome.cfm

Chitina/Glennallen dipnetting — openings, sonar, rules, where to get permit, maps

www.sf.adfg.state.ak.us/region3/areas/ucus/chitina/chitina.cfm

Cook Inlet Commercial Fisheries — forecasts, commercial openings

www.cf.adfg.state.ak.us/region2/finfish/salmon/uci/cookinlet.php

Prince William Sound Commercial Fisheries — forecasts, commercial openings

www.cf.adfg.state.ak.us/region2/pwshome.php

Permit requirements

- ▶ A free permit is required for some dipnet fisheries. You must take the permit to the beach and log the fish on the permit as you catch them.
- ▶ If a permit is required, ALL permits must be returned to ADF&G by due date printed on the permit, whether you go or don't go, or catch fish or don't catch fish.
- ▶ Fish must be recorded on the permit before leaving the fishing site or before concealing from plain view.
- ▶ Tails of the salmon must be clipped before leaving the fishing site or before concealing from plain view.
- ▶ Permits are free, but must have Alaska resident fishing license or ADF&G PID (senior license) or ADF&G Disabled Veteran's license (no license required for Alaska residents 15 or younger).

Kenai & Kasilof dipnet general info - pp. 16 - 18 Southcentral regulation book

- ▶ **BOARD OF FISHERIES DIRECTS ADF&G TO MANAGE COOK INLET SOCKEYE FOR COMMERCIAL USES.**
- ▶ Limit for Kenai/Kasilof combined: 25 salmon for first household member + 10 salmon for each additional household member. 10 flounder. Separate from and in addition to rod and reel limits.
- ▶ Salmon and flounder only! No rainbows, Dolly Varden.
- ▶ Permit required. Available just about everywhere fishing licenses are sold: grocery stores, department stores, tackle shops, even some gas stations.
- ▶ Permits are free, but must have resident sport fishing license or ADF&G PID or ADF&G Disabled Veteran's license to get the permit.
- ▶ Sonar estimates on the web. Soldotna telephone recording (907) 262-9097
- ▶ Commercial openings on the web. If calling from Anchorage: (907) 267-2512. If calling from Soldotna: (907) 262-9611. COMMERCIAL SCHEDULE BASED ON MANAGEMENT PLAN AND RUN STRENGTH. In years of high run strength, assume there will be near-continuous Commercial Fishery openings.

Kenai River dipnet

- ▶ Open July 10 - July 31, 6 am to 11 pm.
- ▶ 1 king salmon.
- ▶ PEAK HARVEST TIMES according to permit data, and regardless of commercial openings, July 16 through July 25.

Kasilof River dipnet

- ▶ Open June 25 - August 7, 24 hours.
- ▶ No king salmon.
- ▶ PEAK HARVEST TIMES and regardless of commercial openings: July 11 through July 21.

Chitina & Glennallen dipnet general info - AYK regulation book

- ▶ 6-7 hour drive east of Anchorage.
- ▶ Peak at Miles Lake sonar: June 4 - 8, and July 5 - 9, and July 16 - 20.
- ▶ Fish take 7 - 21 days to travel to Chitina/Glennallen. Fish passage highly dependent on water level.
- ▶ Limited services in Chitina, you may want to bring your own ice, water, food.

“Chitina Subdistrict” dipnet - AYK regulation book

- Chitina Subdistrict is downstream of Chitina/McCarthy bridge.
- OPENINGS BASED ON THE NUMBER OF FISH AT MILES LAKE SONAR. Opens by Emergency Order only based on the numbers. Check the hotline: (907) 267-2511 in Anchorage or (907) 822-5224 Glennallen.
- 15 salmon for household of one or 30 for household of two or more, only 1 king salmon.
- Free permit required in addition to resident fishing license (see other side). Available just about everywhere fishing licenses are sold: grocery stores, department stores, tackle shops, even some gas stations.
- PLEASE RESPECT THE RIGHTS OF PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNERS. Access at O’Brien Creek may be limited. There is also limited camping at Liberty Falls. Be prepared to pack out what you pack in, including human waste.
- Road past O’Brien closed to ALL traffic: car, truck, foot, 4-wheeler, bike.

“Glennallen Subdistrict” dipnet

- Glennallen Subdistrict is upstream of Chitina/McCarthy bridge. Subsistence area.
- Free permit required. Available only during regular business hours at ADF&G offices in Anchorage, Palmer, Glennallen, Delta Junction, Fairbanks or Tok. Same permit as for fishwheel, but must specify dipnet only or fishwheel only.
- No fishing license required (because it’s subsistence), but must have Alaska Driver’s License or Alaska State ID.
- 30 salmon for household of one; 60 salmon for a household of 2 plus 10 for each additional household member. Only 5 king salmon. Can request more to feed large family.

China Poot Creek dipnet - pp. 16 - 17 of Southcentral regulation book

- Across Kachemak Bay; 40 - 45 min. water taxi ride at high tide.
- Open July 1 - August 7.
- 6 red salmon per person per day.
- No permit required, but must have Alaska resident fishing license, and still required to clip the tips of the tail fins.

Hooligan (eulachon, smelt) - pp. 16, 17, 40 of Southcentral regulation book

- Most often caught at Twentymile River near Portage or Susitna River near Willow Creek or Kenai River at Cunningham Park.
- No bag limit.
- No permit required, but must have Alaska sport resident fishing license with you.
- Open April 1. Closes May 31 in salt water / June 15 in freshwater.
- Peak mid- to late May at Twentymile River.

Six Things to Remember

1. Must be Alaska resident 12 consecutive months to use a dipnet. No exceptions.
2. Must have sport fishing license/permanent license in possession while dipnetting. Exceptions: Alaska resident under 16, or Glennallen permit.
3. Must have permit in possession while dipnetting. Exceptions: Hooligan and China Poot.
4. Must immediately record fish you catch. Exceptions: Hooligan and China Poot.
5. Must immediately clip the tips of the tail fins off before concealing from plain view, or before leaving fishing site. Exception: Hooligan.
6. Must return the permit, even if you didn’t go dipnetting. No exceptions.

FAQ

- Statewide definition of legal net for all dipnetting: 5 feet across widest point. Depth of bag at least 1/2 the net opening.
- Statewide definition of legal mesh for all dipnetting: Any material, as long as it’s no larger than 4 1/2 inches stretched.
- Non-residents may not participate in personal use or subsistence fisheries, including the take or transport.
- **Fish can be shared ONLY with immediate family members (regardless of residency).**
- Personal Use fish cannot be sold, bartered, or traded for anything.
- Personal Use fish are to be used only as human food or bait.