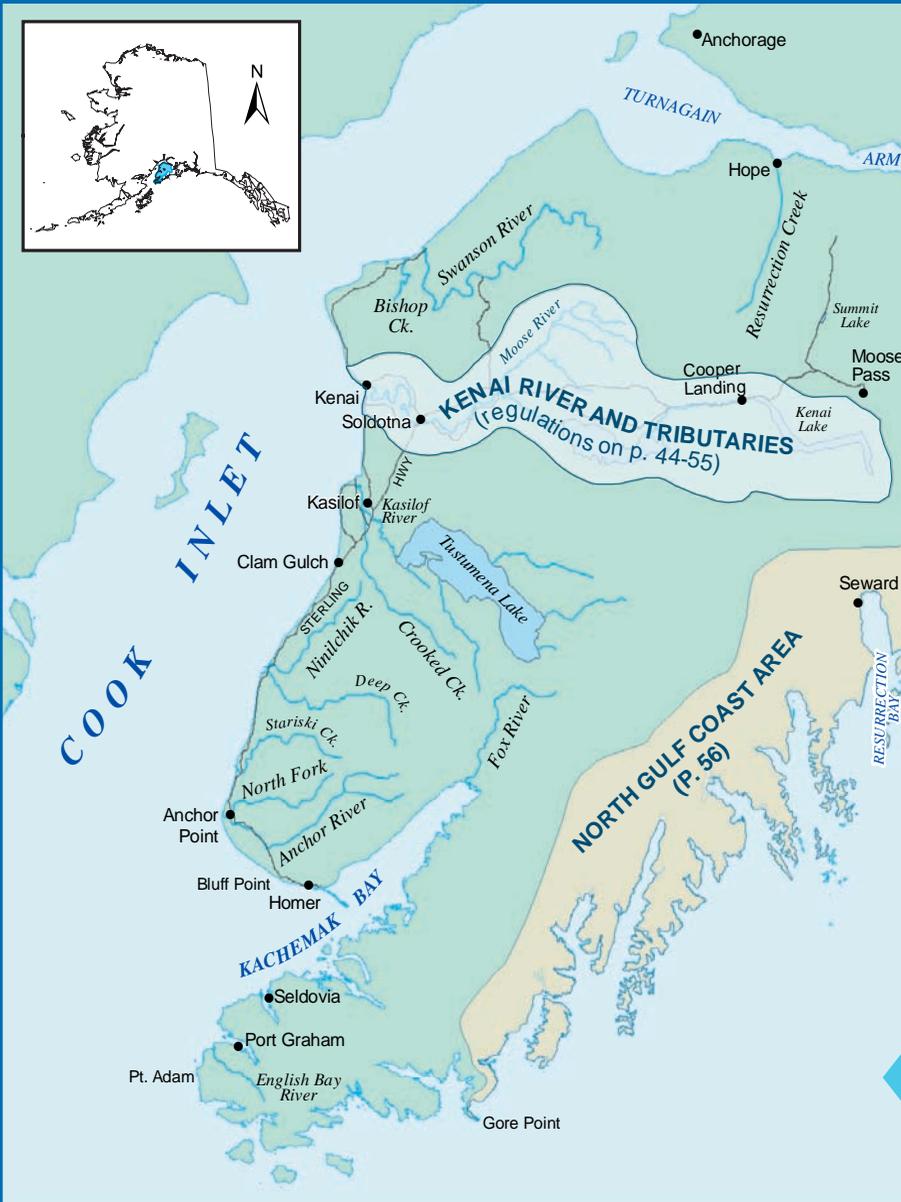
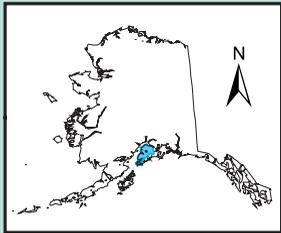


# KENAI PENINSULA FRESH WATERS

- includes Anchor River, Kasilof River, Deep Creek, Ninilchik River, Bishop Creek, Swanson River, & Resurrection Creek



## GENERAL SEASONS AND LIMITS: Kenai Peninsula fresh waters

*(Exceptions are listed afterward, by area)*

**INCLUSIVE WATERS:** All fresh waters of the Kenai Peninsula, including Upper and Lower Summit lakes (excluding the Kenai River drainage and North Gulf Coast freshwater drainages).

- Only unbaited, artificial lures are allowed in flowing waters of the Kenai Peninsula during September 16–December 31. **But** watch for more restrictive dates in exceptions listed below and in the Kenai River and its drainages.
- In flowing waters, beads fished ahead of flies, lures, or bare hooks must be fixed within 2" of the hook or be free to slide on the entire length of the line or leader.

Species	Open season	Daily limits
King salmon	CLOSED	☞ but see exceptions for Deep Cr., Anchor R., Kasilof R. and Ninilchik R.
Other salmon 16" or longer	open entire year	.3 per day/3 in possession only 2 per day/2 in possession may be coho (silver) salmon
Other salmon less than 16"		10 per day/10 in possession in combination
Salmon in stocked lakes (p. 19)		
Rainbow/steelhead trout: –in flowing waters		(annual limit applies) .2 per day/2 in possession only 1 (one) fish 20" or longer
–in lakes and ponds		.5 per day/5 in possession only 1 (one) fish 20" or longer
Arctic char/Dolly Varden: –in flowing waters	.2 per day/2 in possession	
–in lakes and ponds	.5 per day/5 in possession	
Arctic grayling	.5 per day/5 in possession	
Lake trout: –20" or longer	.2 per day/2 in possession	
–less than 20"	.10 per day/10 in possession	
Other finfish		no bag or possession limit

- A total annual limit of 5 king salmon 20" or longer may be taken from fresh waters of Cook Inlet north of the latitude of Point Adam, and from salt waters of Cook Inlet, **except** that fish harvested in Cook Inlet salt water south of Bluff Point from October 1–March 31 are not included in the limit.
- There is an annual limit of 2 rainbow/steelhead trout 20" or longer taken from Kenai Peninsula fresh waters.
- See page 15 for complete information and special regulations for northern pike.

kenai river/  
kenai peninsula

**KENAI PENINSULA FRESH WATER EXCEPTIONS** (if an individual drainage or species is not listed below, then the general seasons and limits shown on page 41 apply):

### Fresh waters north of the Kenai River:

#### Bishop Creek drainage, including Daniels Creek

- The Bishop Creek drainage is **closed year-round to all salmon fishing**.
- **Closed to all fishing** April 15–June 14.
- In all flowing waters, only unbaited, artificial lures may be used September 16–December 31.

#### Swanson River drainage—flowing waters

- All flowing waters are **closed to all fishing** April 15–June 14.
- Daily limit for rainbow/steelhead trout is 5 per day/5 in possession (only one 20" or longer).
- Bait is allowed year-round in the Swanson River drainage.
- Sucker Creek is **closed year-round to all salmon fishing**.

### Fresh waters south of the Kenai River:

#### Kasilof River (excluding Crooked Creek, Coal Creek, and Tustumena Lake and its tributaries)

- No person may possess a king salmon that is filleted or disfigured to prevent adipose finclip recognition, until the fish has been permanently offloaded from a boat or removed from the riverbank fishing site where the fish was hooked and taken from the water.

#### From its mouth upstream to the Sterling Highway Bridge:

- Sport fishing from a motorized boat is not allowed January 1–July 31. Motors 10 hp or less may be used only downstream of Trujillo's Landing, *and only after fishing from the boat has stopped for the day*.
- From ADF&G markers at the mouth of Crooked Creek downstream to ADF&G markers near the cutbank, fishing from an anchored boat is prohibited January 1–June 30.
- "Anchoring" means using an anchor or any device other than oars or paddles to slow or stop a boat's downstream drift.
- September 1–May 15, only one unbaited, **single-hook**, artificial lure is allowed.
- January 1–June 30: No person may possess a king salmon that is filleted or disfigured to prevent measurement until the fish has been permanently offloaded from a boat or removed from the riverbank fishing site where the fish was hooked and taken from the water.

#### OPEN SEASON AND BAG LIMITS:

**King salmon 20" or longer:** January 1–June 30, 2 per day/2 in possession, only 1 may be a wild king salmon recognized by the presence of the adipose fin (*fish with an adipose fin may be kept only on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays*).

July 1–July 31, 1 per day/1 in possession

**less than 20":**

January 1–July 31, 10 per day/10 in possession

**Rainbow/steelhead trout:**

**NO RETENTION ALLOWED YEAR-ROUND.** Rainbow/steelhead trout may not be removed from the water.

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#### Kasilof River (excluding Crooked Creek, Coal Creek, and Tustumena Lake and its tributaries) cont'd...

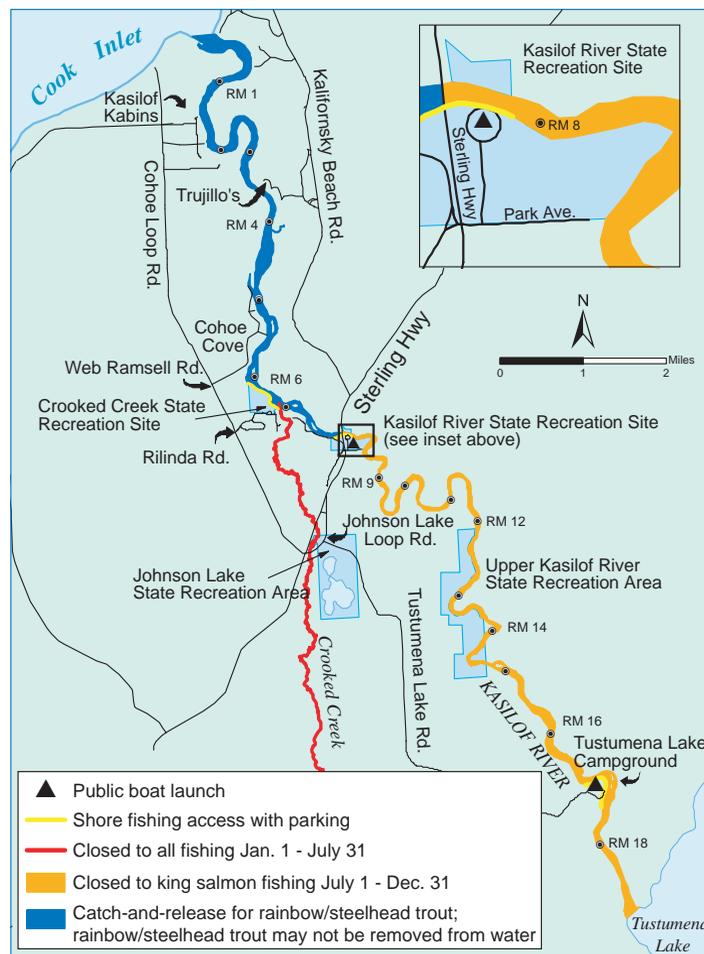
**From the Sterling Highway Bridge upstream to ADF&G markers located at the outlet of Tustumena Lake:**

- Sport fishing from a boat is not allowed August 1–August 15.
- September 16–December 31, only unbaited, artificial lures allowed.

#### OPEN SEASON AND BAG LIMITS:

**King salmon 20" or longer:** January 1–June 30, 2 per day/2 in possession, only 1 may be a wild king salmon recognized by the presence of the adipose fin (*fish with an adipose fin may be kept only on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays*)

**less than 20":** January 1–June 30, 10 per day/10 in possession



## Crooked Creek and Coal Creek

- In all flowing waters, only one unbaited, **single-hook**, artificial lure is allowed September 1–December 31.
- Open season is August 1–December 31.
- **NO RETENTION** of rainbow/steelhead trout is allowed year-round.
- Rainbow/steelhead trout may not be removed from the water.
- Daily limits for other species are shown under General Seasons and Limits on page 41.

## Tustumena Lake and tributaries

- Tustumena Lake and tributaries are **closed year-round to fishing for sockeye (red) salmon**.

## Anchor River drainage

- The entire Anchor River drainage is **closed to all fishing** January 1–May 21.
- In all flowing waters, only one unbaited, **single-hook**, artificial lure is allowed September 1–December 31.
- After taking a king salmon 20" or longer from the Anchor River, a person may not fish for any species of fish in either the Anchor River or Deep Creek on that same day.
- **RETENTION OF RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT IS NOT ALLOWED YEAR-ROUND.** Rainbow/steelhead trout may not be removed from the water.

### From its mouth upstream to the confluence of the North and South forks:

#### OPEN SEASON AND BAG LIMITS IN 2010:

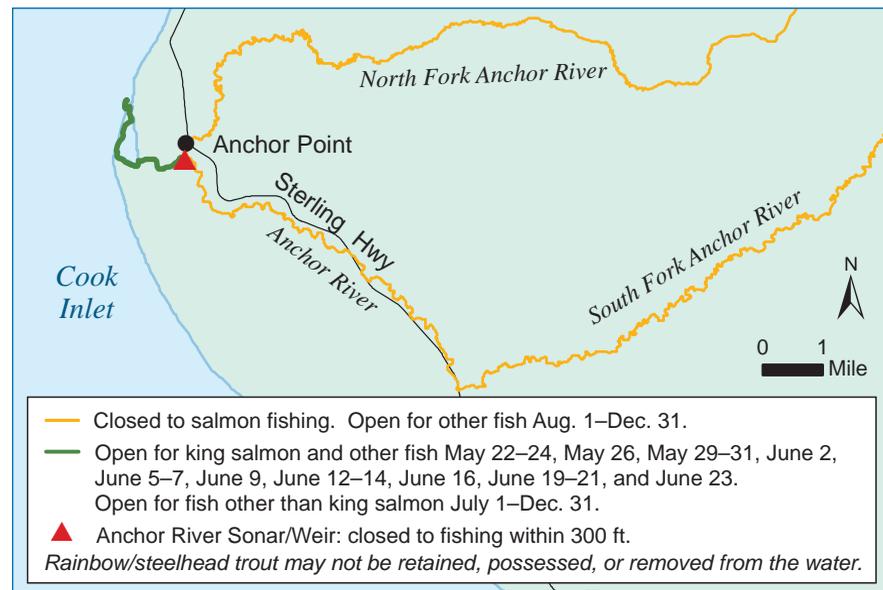
<b>King salmon</b>	May 22–24, May 26, May 29–31, June 2, June 5–7, June 9, June 12–14, June 16, June 19–21, and June 23
<b>20" or longer:</b>	Limits: 1 per day/1 in possession. Annual limit applies; see page 15.
<b>less than 20":</b>	Limits: 10 per day/10 in possession
<b>All other species:</b>	May 22–24, May 26, May 29–31, June 2, June 5–7, June 9, June 12–14, June 16, June 19–21, June 23, and July 1–Dec. 31 Limits are shown on page 41.

### Upstream from the confluence of the North and South forks:

- This section is **closed year-round to all salmon fishing**.
- This section is open to fishing for rainbow/steelhead trout August 1–December 31, but rainbow/steelhead trout **MAY NOT BE** retained or removed from the water.
- This section is open to fishing for other species August 1–December 31, following the general bag limits on page 41.
- Bridge Creek Reservoir is open to fishing year-round, following bag limits on page 41.

## Stariski Creek drainage

- From its mouth upstream to the Sterling Hwy. bridge, open season is **July 1–December 31**.
- Upstream of the Sterling Hwy. bridge, open season is **August 1–December 31**.
- In all flowing waters, only one unbaited, **single-hook**, artificial lure is allowed September 1–December 31.
- **The entire Stariski Creek drainage is closed year-round to fishing for king salmon. Other salmon may be taken only from its mouth upstream to the Sterling Hwy. bridge.**
- **RETENTION OF RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT IS NOT ALLOWED YEAR-ROUND.** Rainbow/steelhead trout may not be removed from the water.



## Deep Creek drainage

- The entire Deep Creek drainage is **closed to all fishing** January 1–May 28.
- In all flowing waters, only one unbaited, **single-hook**, artificial lure is allowed September 1–December 31.
- No more than 2 (two) king salmon 20" or longer may be taken each year from Deep Creek.
- After taking a king salmon 20" or longer from Deep Creek, a person may not fish for any species of fish in either Deep Creek or the Anchor River on that same day.
- **RETENTION OF RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT IS NOT ALLOWED YEAR-ROUND.** Rainbow/steelhead trout may not be removed from the water.

### From its mouth upstream approximately 2 miles to ADF&G markers:

#### OPEN SEASON AND BAG LIMITS IN 2010:

<b>King salmon</b>	May 29–31, June 5–7, and June 12–14
<b>20" or longer:</b>	Limits: 1 per day/1 in possession. Annual limit applies; see p. 15.
<b>less than 20":</b>	Limits: 10 per day/10 in possession
<b>All other species:</b>	May 29–31, June 5–7, June 12–14, and July 1–Dec. 31 Limits are shown on page 41.

### Upstream from ADF&G markers:

- This section is **closed year-round to all salmon fishing**.
- This section is open to fishing for rainbow/steelhead trout August 1–December 31, but rainbow/steelhead trout **MAY NOT BE** retained or removed from the water.
- This section is open to fishing for other species August 1–December 31, following the general bag limits on page 41.

... cont'd

**KENAI PENINSULA FRESH WATER EXCEPTIONS (cont'd) . . .**

**Ninilchik River drainage**

- The entire Ninilchik River drainage is **closed to all fishing** January 1–May 28.
- In all flowing waters, only one unbaited, **single-hook**, artificial lure is allowed September 1–December 31.
- **RETENTION OF RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT IS NOT ALLOWED YEAR-ROUND.** Rainbow/steelhead trout may not be removed from the water.
- In the Ninilchik River, a person may not fillet, mutilate, or otherwise disfigure a king salmon in such a manner that prevents determination whether the fish is a wild or hatchery fish until the person has stopped fishing in the Ninilchik River drainage for the day and has moved more than 100 yards away from the Ninilchik River.

**From its mouth upstream approximately 2 miles to ADF&G markers:**

OPEN SEASON AND BAG LIMITS IN 2010:

**Wild and hatchery king salmon**

May 29–31, June 5–7, and June 12–14

**20" or longer:**

Limits: 2 per day/2 in possession, only 1 per day and 1 in possession may be a wild king salmon, recognized by the presence of an adipose fin. Annual limit applies; see page 15.

**less than 20":**

Limits: 10 per day/10 in possession (wild or hatchery)

**Hatchery king salmon**

July 1–December 31

**20" or longer:**

Limits: 2 per day/2 in possession, each must be hatchery king salmon only, recognized by the missing adipose fin and healed fin clip scar. Annual limit applies; see page 15.

**less than 20":**

Limits: 10 per day/10 in possession. Wild king salmon of any size may not be kept or possessed.

**All other species:**

May 29–31, June 5–7, June 12–14, and July 1–Dec. 31  
Limits are shown on page 41.

**Upstream from the ADF&G markers:**

- This section is **closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
- This section is open to fishing for rainbow/steelhead trout August 1–December 31, but rainbow/steelhead trout **MAY NOT BE** retained or removed from the water.
- This section is open to fishing for other species August 1–December 31, following the general bag limits on page 41.

**English Bay River drainage**

- English Bay River, from its mouth (including the lagoon) upstream to the outlet of Lower English Bay Lake, is a fly-fishing-only water June 1–July 31.
- English Bay River and all lakes and ponds of English Bay River drainage upstream from the outlet of Lower English Bay Lake are **closed year-round to all salmon fishing.** □

**KENAI LAKE DRAINAGES**

**GENERAL SEASONS AND LIMITS: Kenai Lake Drainages**

*(Exceptions are listed afterward, by area)*

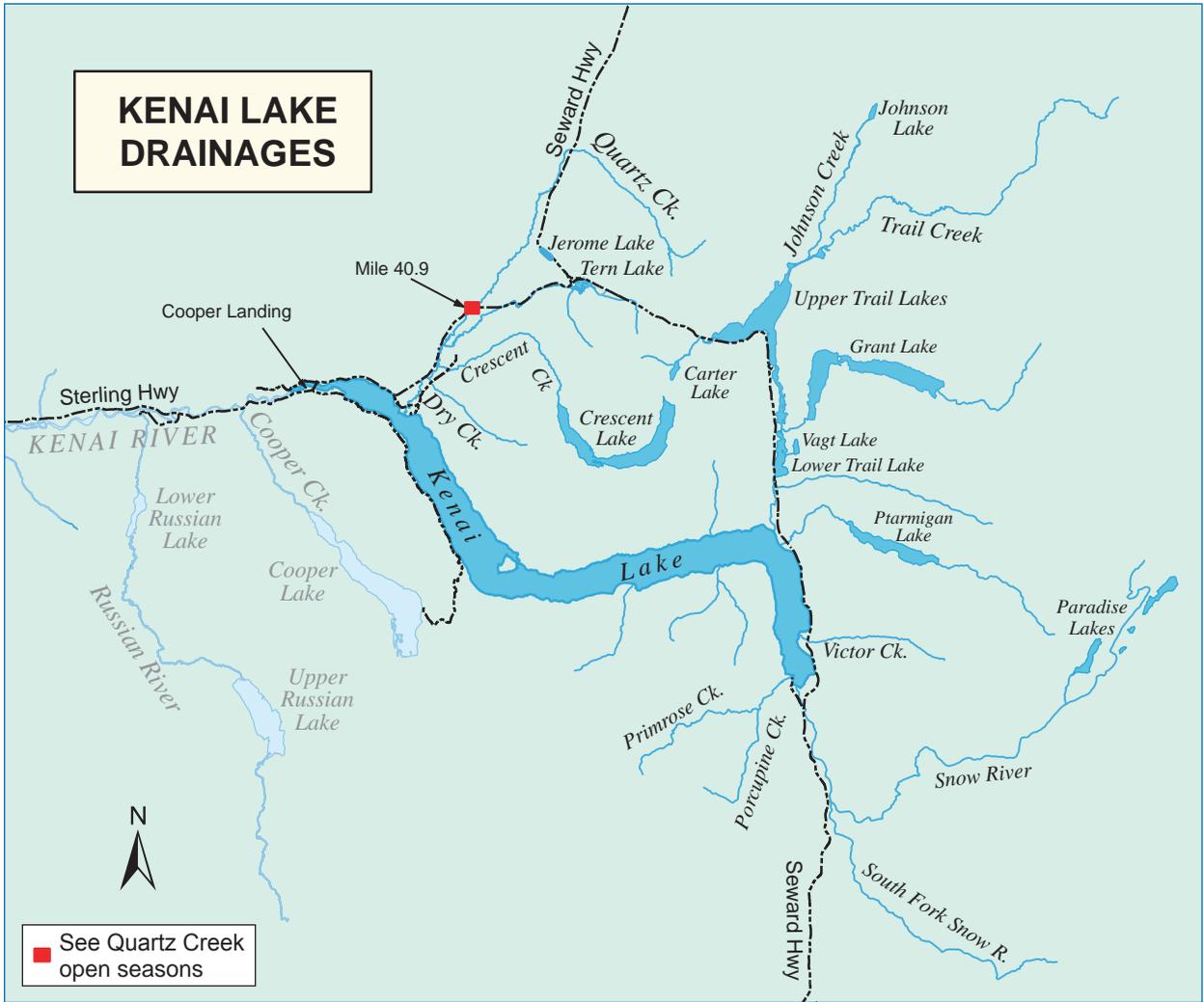
**INCLUDING:** Kenai Lake and all other lakes of the Kenai Lake drainage, and all flowing waters tributary to Kenai Lake (see map below on page 45).

- In Kenai Lake, within ¼ mile of all inlet streams, and from the Sterling Hwy. bridge upstream approximately ¼ mile to ADF&G markers located at the outlet of the lake, only one unbaited, **single-hook**, artificial lure is allowed year-round.
- In all flowing waters of the Kenai Lake and the Kenai River drainage, beads fished ahead of flies, lures, or bare hooks must be fixed within 2" of the hook, or be free to slide on the entire length of the line or leader.
- In all flowing waters of the Kenai Lake drainage, only one unbaited, **single-hook**, artificial lure is allowed year-round.

Species	Open season	Daily limits
King salmon . . . . .	CLOSED	
Other salmon . . . . .		
<b>Rainbow/steelhead trout:</b>		
–in flowing waters . . . . .	June 11–May 1 . . . . .	1 per day/1 in possession <i>must be less than 16" long</i>
–in unstocked lakes . . . . .	entire year . . . . .	2 per day/2 in possession <i>only 1 (one) fish 20" or longer</i>
–in stocked lakes (p. 19) . . . . .	entire year . . . . .	5 per day/5 in possession <i>only 1 (one) fish 20" or longer</i>
<b>Arctic char/Dolly Varden:</b>		
–in flowing waters . . . . .	June 11–May 1 . . . . .	1 per day/1 in possession <i>must be less than 16" long</i>
–in lakes and ponds . . . . .	entire year . . . . .	2 per day/2 in possession <i>only 1 (one) fish 20" or longer</i>
Arctic grayling . . . . .	lakes & ponds open entire year	. . . . .5 per day/5 in possession
<b>Lake trout:</b>		
–20" or longer . . . . .	flowing waters	. . . . .2 per day/2 in possession
–less than 20" . . . . .		
Other finfish . . . . .	open June 11–May 1	. . . . . no bag or possession limit

**EXCEPTIONS** for the Kenai Lake Drainages are listed on page 45:

. . . cont'd



**KENAI LAKE DRAINAGE EXCEPTIONS:**

**Crescent Creek drainage, including Crescent Lake**

- Open season in the Crescent Creek drainage, including Crescent Lake, is July 1–May 1.
- Daily limits for Arctic grayling are 2 per day/2 in possession. Daily limits for all other species are the same as the general bag limits on page 44.
- The Crescent Creek drainage, including Crescent Lake, is closed to all fishing May 2–June 30.

**Kenai Lake at inlet streams**

- In Kenai Lake within ¼ mile of all inlet streams, open season is June 11–May 1.
- Daily limits are the same as the general limits in flowing waters on page 44.

**Kenai Lake outlet**

- Open season in that portion of Kenai Lake within ¼ mile above the Sterling Highway bridge at the outlet of the lake is June 11–May 1.
- In Kenai Lake, within ¼ mile above the Sterling Highway bridge at the outlet of the lake, daily limits are the same as the general limits in flowing waters on page 44.

**Quartz Creek**

- Open seasons in the Quartz Creek drainage upstream of the Sterling Highway bridge (■ Mile 40.9) are June 11–September 14 and November 1–May 1.
- Downstream of the Sterling Highway bridge, open season is June 11–May 1.

**Snow River drainage**

**South Fork:** Open seasons: June 11–September 14 and November 1–May 1.

**Remainder of drainage:**  
Open season: June 11–May 1. □

**ANNUAL LIMITS • RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT**

- There is a total annual limit of 2 rainbow/steelhead trout 20" or longer taken from lakes and ponds of the Kenai River drainage.
- These fish must be recorded on the back of your license (see page 15).

# UPPER KENAI RIVER TRIBUTARIES — between SKILAK LAKE and KENAI LAKE

## GENERAL SEASONS AND LIMITS: Upper Kenai River tributaries

*(Exceptions are listed afterward, by area)*

**DOES NOT INCLUDE** the Russian River, the mainstem Kenai, or Skilak Lake

- In all **flowing waters**, beads fished ahead of flies, lures, or bare hooks must be fixed within 2" of the hook, or be free to slide on the entire length of the line or leader.
- In all **flowing waters**, only one unbaited, **single-hook**, artificial lure is allowed year-round.

Species	Open season	Daily limits
King salmon	<b>CLOSED</b>	
Coho salmon 16" or longer	July 1–October 31	3 per day/3 in possession—in combination, <b>but only 2 per day/2 in possession may be coho (silver) salmon</b>
Other salmon 16" or longer	entire year	
Other salmon less than 16"	entire year	10 per day/10 in possession in combination
Coho salmon less than 16"	July 1–October 31	
<b>Rainbow/steelhead trout:</b>		
–in flowing waters	↑ lakes & ponds open entire year	1 per day/1 in possession <i>must be less than 16" long</i>
–in lakes and ponds		2 per day/2 in possession <i>only 1 (one) fish 20" or longer</i>
<b>Arctic char/Dolly Varden:</b>		
–in flowing waters	↑ lakes & ponds open entire year	1 per day/1 in possession <i>must be less than 16" long</i>
–in lakes and ponds		2 per day/2 in possession <i>only 1 (one) fish 20" or longer</i>
<b>Arctic grayling</b>	flowing waters open	5 per day/5 in possession
<b>Lake trout:</b>	June 11–May 1	
–20" or longer	↓	2 per day/2 in possession
–less than 20"		10 per day/10 in possession
<b>Other finfish</b>		no bag or possession limit

**EXCEPTIONS** (if an individual drainage or species is not listed below, then the general seasons and limits shown above apply):

### Cooper Creek

- Open season is June 11–September 14 and November 1–May 1.



### ANNUAL LIMITS • RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

- There is a total annual limit of 2 rainbow/steelhead trout 20" or longer taken from any lake or pond of Upper Kenai River tributaries.
- These fish must be recorded on the back of your license (see page 15).

### Cooper Lake

- Daily limits for Arctic char/Dolly Varden are 5 per day/5 in possession, *only 1 (one) fish 20" or longer*.

### Hidden Lake drainage

#### HIDDEN LAKE CREEK:

- **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
- Open for other species June 11–May 1.
- Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used.

#### HIDDEN LAKE:

- **Closed year-round to burbot fishing.**
- Open year-round to fishing for lake trout; daily limit is 1 per day/1 in possession, **regardless of size.**

### Jean Lake Creek

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

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# LOWER KENAI RIVER TRIBUTARIES – COOK INLET upstream to SKILAK LAKE

## GENERAL SEASONS AND LIMITS: Lower Kenai River tributaries

*(Exceptions are listed afterward, by area)*

**DOES NOT INCLUDE** the mainstem Kenai River or Skilak Lake

- In **flowing waters**, beads fished ahead of flies, lures, or bare hooks must be fixed within 2" of the hook, or be free to slide on the entire length of the line or leader.
- In all flowing waters, only one unbaited, **single-hook**, artificial lure is allowed; see column at right for Moose River exception.

Species	Open season	Daily limits
King salmon	<b>CLOSED</b>	← but see Moose River exception
Coho salmon 16" or longer	July 1–October 31	3 per day/3 in possession—in combination, <b>but only 2 per day/2 in possession may be coho salmon</b>
Other salmon 16" or longer	entire year	
Other salmon less than 16"	entire year	
Coho salmon less than 16"	July 1–October 31	10 per day/10 in possession in combination
Salmon in stocked lakes (p. 19)	entire year	
<b>Rainbow/steelhead trout:</b>		
–in flowing waters	June 11–May 1	1 per day/1 in possession <i>must be less than 18" long</i>
–in lakes and ponds	open entire year	2 per day/2 in possession <i>only 1 (one) fish 20" or longer</i>
<b>Arctic char/Dolly Varden:</b>		
–in flowing waters		1 per day/1 in possession <i>must be less than 18" long</i>
–in lakes and ponds		2 per day/2 in possession <i>only 1 (one) fish 20" or longer</i>
–in stocked lakes (p. 19)		5 per day/5 in possession <i>only 1 (one) fish 20" or longer</i>
<b>Arctic grayling</b>		5 per day/5 in possession
<b>Lake trout:</b>		
–20" or longer		2 per day/2 in possession
–less than 20"		10 per day/10 in possession
<b>Other finfish</b>		no bag or possession limit

**EXCEPTIONS** (if an individual drainage or species is not listed below, then the general seasons and limits shown above apply):

... cont'd



### Moose River drainage

**From its confluence with the Kenai River upstream to the upstream edge of the Sterling Highway bridge:**

- These waters are **fly-fishing-only** waters May 15–Aug. 15.
- These waters are open to fishing following the Lower Kenai River Mainstem General Seasons and Limits on page 49.
- See page 48 for additional restrictions to these waters.

### Remainder of drainage:

- **These waters are closed year-round to fishing for king salmon.** These waters are open to fishing for all other species June 11–May 1, following the daily limits for Lower Kenai tributaries at left.
- Multiple hooks and bait are allowed year-round in these waters.

### Slikok Creek

- Slikok Creek is **closed year-round** to fishing for **king salmon**.
- Slikok Creek is **closed to all fishing** April 15–August 15.
- See page 48 for additional restrictions to these waters.

### Soldotna Creek drainage

- Soldotna Creek from its confluence with the Kenai River upstream about 100 ft to ADF&G markers is open to fishing for all species except king salmon June 11–May 1.
- Upstream from the ADF&G markers, all flowing waters are **closed year-round to sport fishing**.

### Funny River

- That portion of the Funny River from its mouth upstream to the Funny River Road bridge is **closed to all fishing June 11–August 14**.
- See page 48 for additional restrictions to these waters. □

# THE LOWER KENAI RIVER MAINSTEM and SKILAK LAKE

See pages 4 and 51 for Gear in Fly-Fishing-Only Waters.



## Seasonal boating restrictions on the lower Kenai River near the following tributaries:

- A Slikok Creek:** From January 1–July 31, the Kenai River from ADF&G markers about 300 yd downstream of the mouth of Slikok Creek upstream to ADF&G markers about 100 yd upstream from the mouth of Slikok Creek is closed to fishing from boats. See column at right and page 47 for additional restrictions near Slikok Creek.
- B Funny River:** From January 1–July 31, the Kenai River from ADF&G markers about 1 mile downstream from the mouth of the Funny River upstream to ADF&G markers about 200 yd upstream from the mouth of the Funny River is closed to fishing from boats. See column at right and page 47 for additional restrictions near the Funny River.
- C Lower Killey River:** From January 1–July 31, the Kenai River from an ADF&G marker about  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile downstream of the mouth of the Lower Killey River upstream to an ADF&G marker about 1 mile upstream from the mouth of the Lower Killey River is closed to fishing from boats. See column at right for additional restrictions near the Lower Killey River.
- D Centennial Campground:** From May 15 to the end of the king salmon season (or July 31, whichever is later), the Kenai River from ADF&G markers 250 yd downstream from the upper breakwater at the Centennial Campground boat launch upstream to the Sterling Highway bridge in Soldotna is closed to fishing from boats.
- E Morgan's Hole:** From May 15 to the end of the king salmon season (or July 31, whichever is later), the Kenai River from an ADF&G marker about 100 yd downstream from the landing at Morgan's Hole (river mile 31) upstream to an ADF&G marker at the north section line of Section 28, T5N, R9W, Seward Meridian is closed to fishing from boats.
- F Moose River:** From May 15 to the end of the king salmon season (or July 31, whichever is later), the Kenai River within a 100-yd radius of the mouth of the Moose River is closed to fishing from boats. See page 47 for additional restrictions near the Moose River.
- G Skilak Outlet:** From August 1–December 31, the Kenai River from the swan sanctuary sign at the outlet of Skilak Lake downstream approximately 3 miles to the corresponding swan

...cont'd

sanctuary sign near river mile 47, fishing from an anchored vessel is prohibited. "Anchored vessel" means using an anchor or any device other than oars, paddles or outboard motor to slow or stop a boat's downstream drift.

## Seasonal king salmon and tackle restrictions on the lower Kenai River near the following tributaries:

- A Slikok Creek:** From January 1–July 31, the Kenai River from ADF&G markers about 300 yd downstream of the mouth of Slikok Creek upstream to ADF&G markers about 100 yd upstream from the mouth of Slikok Creek is a fly-fishing-only water and is closed to fishing for king salmon. See column at left and page 47 for additional restrictions near Slikok Creek.
- B Funny River:** From January 1–July 31, the Kenai River from ADF&G markers about 1 mile downstream from the mouth of the Funny River upstream to ADF&G markers about 200 yd upstream from the mouth of the Funny River is a fly-fishing-only water and is closed to fishing for king salmon. See column at left and page 47 for additional restrictions near the Funny River.
- C Lower Killey River:** From January 1–July 31, the Kenai River from an ADF&G marker about  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile downstream of the mouth of the Lower Killey River upstream to an ADF&G marker about 1 mile upstream from the mouth of the Lower Killey River is a fly-fishing-only water and is closed to fishing for king salmon. See column at left for boating restrictions.

## Drift-only Mondays downstream of Skilak Lake

Downstream from the outlet of Skilak Lake, no one may fish from any motorized vessel on Mondays (except Memorial Day) during May, June, and July. For purposes of this regulation, a motorized vessel is one that has a motor on board. See pages 6 and 7 for additional boating restrictions on the Kenai River.

## Seasonal fishing closure between Upper Killey River and Skilak Lake

That portion of the Kenai River between the Upper Killey River and the outlet of Skilak Lake is closed to all fishing May 2–June 10. □

# THE LOWER KENAI RIVER MAINSTEM and SKILAK LAKE (cont'd) . . .

## GENERAL SEASONS AND LIMITS: Lower Kenai River mainstem and Skilak Lake

**INCLUSIVE WATERS:** The mainstem Kenai River from its mouth upstream to and including Skilak Lake, except within a ½-mile radius of the upper Kenai River inlet (see page 50 for upper Kenai River regulations).

- Salmon may be landed **only** with the aid of a landing net or by hand. No gaffs are allowed.
- No person, after taking a king salmon 20" or longer from the Kenai River, may, on that same day, fish from a boat for any species of fish in the Kenai River downstream from Skilak Lake.
- **January 1–July 14:** No person may possess a king salmon that is filleted or disfigured to prevent measurement until the fish has been permanently offloaded from a boat or removed from the riverbank fishing site where the fish was hooked and taken from the water.
- All Kenai River **king salmon 55" or longer must be sealed** within 3 days of harvest by ADF&G staff in the Soldotna Office at 43961 Kalifornsky Beach Road; Soldotna, Alaska; (907) 262-9368.
- After taking a bag limit of coho (silver) salmon from the Kenai River, a person may not fish in the Kenai River downstream from the Soldotna Bridge on that same day.
- There are special bank access regulations on the Kenai River. See pages 52 and 53 for complete information. See pages 54 and 55 for public access points on the Kenai River.

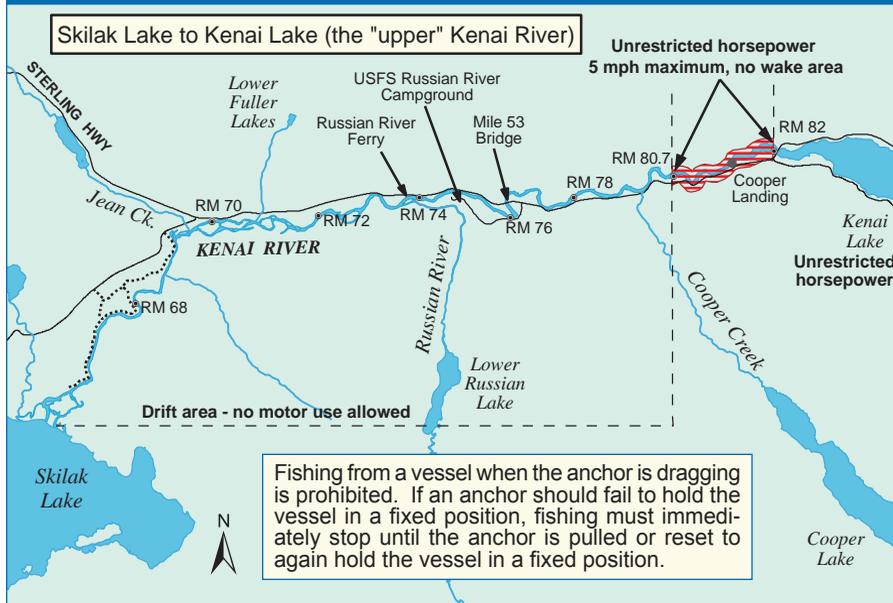
### Kenai River gear restrictions

- In flowing waters, beads fished ahead of flies, lures, or bare hooks must be fixed within 2" of the hook or be free sliding on the entire length of the line or leader. See page 15 for additional information.
- Selected areas near tributary streams have **special tackle and king salmon regulations** that override the gear restrictions below. See page 48 for a complete listing.
- The following gear restrictions apply to the remainder of the flowing waters of the mainstem Kenai River **outside** the tributary stream areas listed on page 48:
  - **January 1–June 30:** Only one unbaited, single-hook lure is allowed.
  - **July 1–July 31:** Bait is allowed, but anglers must still use only one single-hook lure.
  - **August 1–August 31:** Bait and multiple hooks are allowed on the Kenai River from its mouth upstream to an ADF&G marker at Skilak Lake.
  - **September 1–November 30:** Bait and multiple hooks are allowed on the Kenai River from its mouth upstream to the Upper Killey River.
  - **September 1–December 31:** Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures are allowed on the Kenai River from the Upper Killey River upstream to an ADF&G marker at Skilak Lake.
  - **December 1–December 31:** Only unbaited, artificial lures are allowed on the Kenai River from its mouth upstream to the Upper Killey River.
- In **Skilak Lake**, except within a ½ mile of the upper Kenai River inlet (see page 50), multiple hooks and bait are allowed year-round.

... continued ↗

Species	Open season	Daily limits
<b>King salmon</b> . . . . .	<b>20" or longer:</b>	
–mouth of Kenai River to Soldotna bridge . . . . .	January 1–June 30 . . . . .	1 per day/1 in possession <i>must be less than 46" or 55" or longer</i>
↗ Annual limit applies; see page 15.	July 1–July 31 . . . . .	1 per day/1 in possession <i>20" or longer</i>
–Soldotna bridge upstream to Skilak Lake . . . . .	January 1–July 14 . . . . .	1 per day/1 in possession <i>must be less than 46" or 55" or longer</i>
↗ Annual limit applies; see page 15.	July 15–July 31 . . . . .	1 per day/1 in possession <i>20" or longer</i>
–in Skilak Lake . . . . .	<b>CLOSED to all king salmon</b>	
<b>Coho salmon 16" or longer</b> . . . . .	July 1–November 30 . . . . .	3 per day/3 in possession—in combination, <b>but only 2 per day/2 in possession may be coho salmon through Aug. 31</b>
<b>Sockeye (red) and chum salmon 16" or longer</b> . . . . .	entire year . . . . .	
<b>Pink salmon 16" or longer</b> . . . . .	entire year . . . . .	6 per day/6 in possession
<b>Chum, pink, or sockeye salmon less than 16"</b> . . . . .	entire year . . . . .	10 per day/10 in possession in combination
<b>Coho salmon less than 16"</b> . . . . .	July 1–November 30 . . . . .	
<b>King salmon less than 20"</b> . . . . .	January 1–July 31 . . . . .	
<b>Rainbow/steelhead trout:</b>		
–from mouth of Kenai River upstream to Skilak Lake, including Skilak Lake . . . . .	June 11–May 1 . . . . .	1 per day/1 in possession <i>must be less than 18" long</i>
<b>Arctic char/Dolly Varden:</b>		
–from mouth of Kenai River upstream to Skilak Lake, including Skilak Lake . . . . .	entire year . . . . .	1 per day/1 in possession <i>must be less than 18" long</i>
<b>Arctic grayling</b> . . . . .	entire year . . . . .	5 per day/5 in possession
<b>Lake trout:</b>		
–20" or longer . . . . .	entire year . . . . .	2 per day/2 in possession
–less than 20" . . . . .	entire year . . . . .	10 per day/10 in possession
<b>Other finfish</b> . . . . .	entire year . . . . .	no bag or possession limit

# THE UPPER KENAI RIVER MAINSTEM and RUSSIAN RIVER



## GENERAL SEASONS AND LIMITS: Upper Kenai River & Russian River

**INCLUSIVE WATERS:** The mainstem Kenai River, from waters of Skilak Lake within a ½-mile radius of the river inlet upstream to the Sterling Highway bridge at the outlet of Kenai Lake, including the Russian River drainage.

- Salmon may be landed **only** with the aid of a landing net **or** by hand.
- In **flowing waters**, beads fished ahead of flies, lures, or bare hooks must be fixed within 2" of the hook or be free to slide on the entire length of the line or leader. See page 15.
- Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure is allowed year-round. **The gap between point and shank must be 3/8" or less.**
- After taking a bag limit of coho salmon 16" or longer from the Kenai River, a person may not fish in the Kenai River downstream from the Soldotna Bridge on that same day.
- *Only (1) one coho salmon may be taken from the Russian River and Sanctuary Area (see page 51).*
- See pages 6 and 7 for motorboat restrictions and page 53 for seasonal bank closures.

Species	Open season	Daily limits
King salmon	CLOSED	
Coho salmon 16" or longer	July 1–October 31	3 per day/3 in possession—in combination, <b>but only 2 per day/2 in possession may be coho salmon through Aug. 31</b>
Sockeye (red) and chum salmon 16" or longer	Open June 11 to May 1	
Pink salmon 16" or longer		6 per day/6 in possession
Chum, pink, or sockeye salmon less than 16"	July 1–October 31	10 per day/10 in possession in combination
Coho salmon less than 16"		
Rainbow/steelhead trout	Open June 11 to May 1	1 per day/1 in possession <i>must be less than 16"</i>
Arctic char/Dolly Varden		1 per day/1 in possession <i>must be less than 16"</i>
Arctic grayling		5 per day/5 in possession
Lake trout:		
–20" or longer		2 per day/2 in possession
–less than 20"	10 per day/10 in possession	
Other finfish		no bag or possession limit

**EXCEPTIONS** for the Kenai/Russian River confluence area and the Russian River drainage are listed below on page 51.

### UPPER KENAI RIVER BANK PROTECTION ZONE NEAR THE FERRY

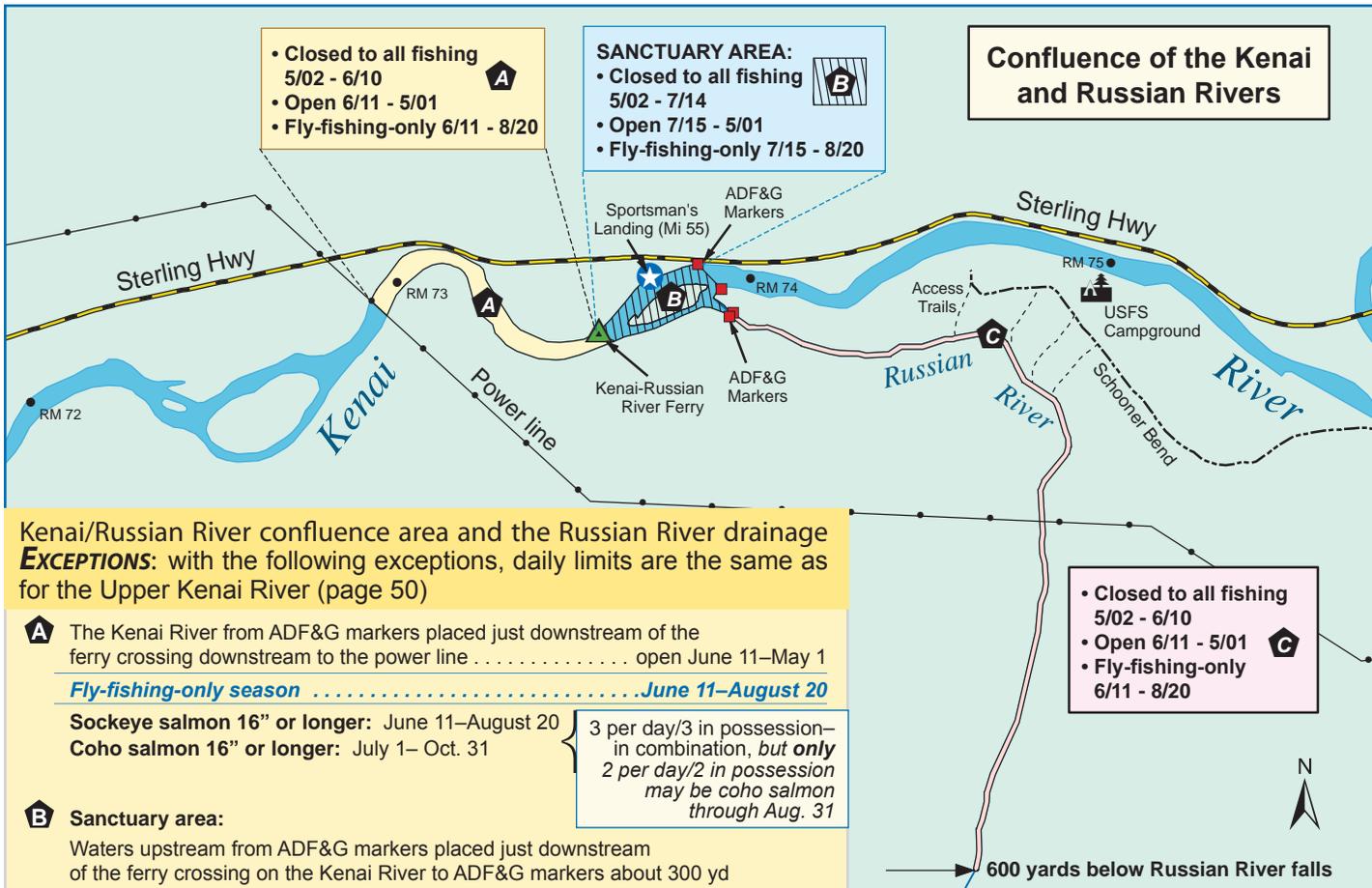
- **Bank protection zone:** During July 1–August 15, the north bank of the Kenai River between markers at river mile 73.5 and 73.6, just downstream of the boat launch at Sportsman's Landing, is **closed to all fishing**, *except* that a person can fish in this area from a boat that is located more than 10 ft from shore and not connected to the shore in any way. See page 53.

### UPPER KENAI RIVER MAINSTEM AND RUSSIAN RIVER GEAR RESTRICTIONS

- **Unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures only:** The maximum gap allowed between point and shank is 3/8". Single hook means a fish hook with one point, with or without a barb.

### UPPER KENAI RIVER MOTOR USE RESTRICTION

- Between markers located at the outlet of Kenai Lake downstream to approximately river mile 80.7, a person may not sport fish from a vessel during motor use or after a motor has been used to propel that vessel on that same day.



## Remainder of the Russian River drainage

**Russian River flowing waters** (upstream from an ADF&G marker about 600 yd downstream of the falls):

- Open season June 11–May 1.
- The Russian River drainage upstream of an ADF&G marker 600 yd downstream of the falls is **closed to all salmon fishing**.
- Open season in Upper Russian/Goat Creek, upstream from ADF&G markers about 300 yd upstream from its confluence with Upper Russian Lake, is September 1–May 1 and June 11–July 31.
- Except in fly-fishing-only waters, only one unbaited, **single-hook, with a gap of 3/8" or less**, artificial lure is allowed in the Russian River drainage.
- Upstream of the outlet of Lower Russian Lake, anglers are allowed 2 rainbow/steelhead trout per day/ 2 in possession, only 1 (one) 20" or longer.
- In flowing waters, daily limits for other species are the same as shown for the Upper Kenai River on page 50.

**Kenai/Russian River confluence area and the Russian River drainage**  
**EXCEPTIONS:** with the following exceptions, daily limits are the same as for the Upper Kenai River (page 50)

**A** The Kenai River from ADF&G markers placed just downstream of the ferry crossing downstream to the power line . . . . . open June 11–May 1  
**Fly-fishing-only season** . . . . . **June 11–August 20**

**Sockeye salmon 16" or longer:** June 11–August 20 } 3 per day/3 in possession—in combination, **but only**  
**Coho salmon 16" or longer:** July 1–Oct. 31 } 2 per day/2 in possession  
*may be coho salmon through Aug. 31*

**B** **Sanctuary area:**  
 Waters upstream from ADF&G markers placed just downstream of the ferry crossing on the Kenai River to ADF&G markers about 300 yd upstream of the public boat launch at Sportsman's Landing (including the waters around the upstream end of the island in front of the Russian River mouth), **and** the Russian River from its mouth upstream about 100 yd to ADF&G markers . . . . . open July 15–May 1  
**Fly-fishing-only season** . . . . . **July 15–August 20**

**Sockeye salmon 16" or longer:** July 15–August 20 } 3 per day/3 in possession—in combination, **but only**  
**Coho salmon 16" or longer:** July 15–Oct. 31 } 1 per day/1 in possession  
*may be coho salmon*

**C** The Russian River from 100 yd upstream of its mouth to an ADF&G marker 600 yd downstream of the falls . . . . . open June 11–May 1  
**Fly-fishing-only season** . . . . . **June 11–August 20**

**Sockeye salmon 16" or longer:** June 11–August 20 } 3 per day/3 in possession—in combination, **but only**  
**Coho salmon 16" or longer:** July 1–Sept. 30 } 1 per day/1 in possession  
*may be coho salmon*

### Upper and Lower Russian lakes

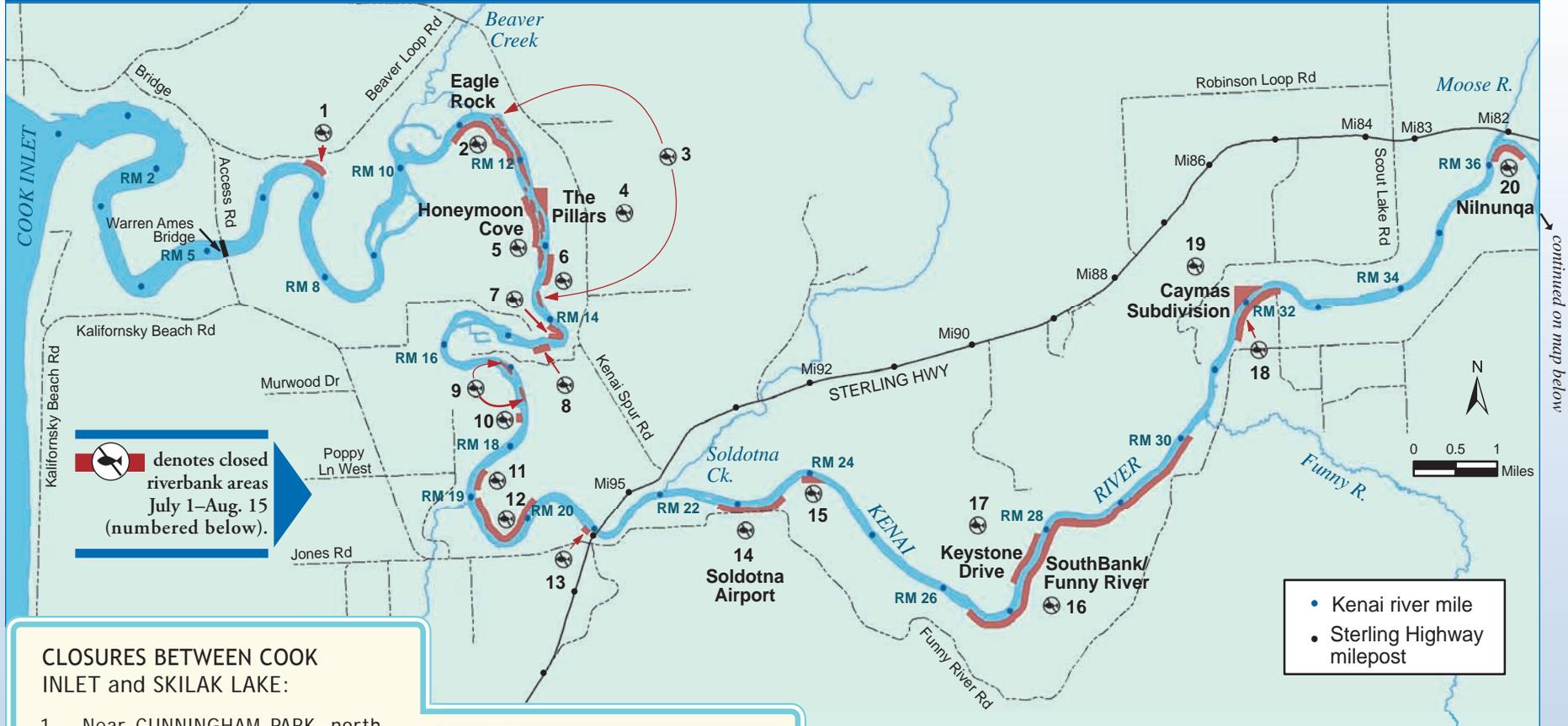
- Upper and Lower Russian lakes are **closed year-round to all salmon fishing**.
- Open season for all other species in Upper and Lower Russian lakes is year-round.
- Daily limit for rainbow/steelhead trout: 2 per day/2 in possession, only 1 (one) 20" or longer.
- Daily limit for Dolly Varden: 2 per day/2 in possession, only 1 (one) 20" or longer. □

### GEAR IN FLY-FISHING-ONLY WATERS

• **One unweighted, single-hook, unbaited fly with gap between point and shank of 3/8" or less is allowed. The fly must weigh less than 1/4 oz. Artificial flies are defined on page 5.**

- **If weights are used, they must be at least 18" ahead of the fly.**
- **Beads not attached to the fly are not allowed in fly-fishing-only waters.**

## Seasonal riverbank closures along the Kenai River



### CLOSURES BETWEEN COOK INLET and SKILAK LAKE:

- |   |  |    |   |    |   |    |   |
|---|--|----|---|----|---|----|---|
| 1 | Near CUNNINGHAM PARK—north bank between river miles 6.6 and 6.8  | 7  | WEST BANK—between river miles 14.0 and 14.4                     | 12 | NORTH BANK—between river miles 18.9 and 20.2                                | 17 | Near KEYSTONE DRIVE—north bank from river mile 27.3 (upstream edge of boat ramp at the end of Keystone Drive) to the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge boundary at river mile 28 (near the powerline). |
| 2 | EAGLE ROCK—south bank between river miles 10.7 and 12.0          | 8  | Near BIG EDDY ROAD—south bank between river miles 14.4 and 14.6 | 13 | Near SOLDOTNA VISITOR'S CENTER—south bank between river miles 20.9 and 21.0 | 18 | Near BYRD DRIVE—south bank from river mile 31.5 to 32.5   |
| 3 | STATE-OWNED ISLANDS—between river miles 11 and 14                | 9  | STATE-OWNED ISLANDS—between river miles 17.0 and 17.3           | 14 | near SOLDOTNA AIRPORT—south bank between river miles 22.7 and 23.5          | 19 | CAYMAS SUBDIVISION—north bank, river mile 31.8 to 32.3  |
| 4 | THE PILLARS area—north bank between river miles 12.4 and 12.6    | 10 | Near Poacher's Cove—west bank between river miles 17.5 and 17.6 | 15 | SOUTH BANK—between river miles 23.8 and 24.2                                |    |   |
| 5 | HONEYMOON COVE area—south bank between river miles 12.5 and 13.0 | 11 | NORTH BANK—between river miles 18.6 and 18.8                    | 16 | SOUTH BANK/FUNNY RIVER—river mile 26.4 to 30.0                              |    |   |
| 6 | Near Falling-in-Hole—east bank between river miles 13.2 and 13.5 |    |   |    |   |    |   |

continued on map below

...continued from map above

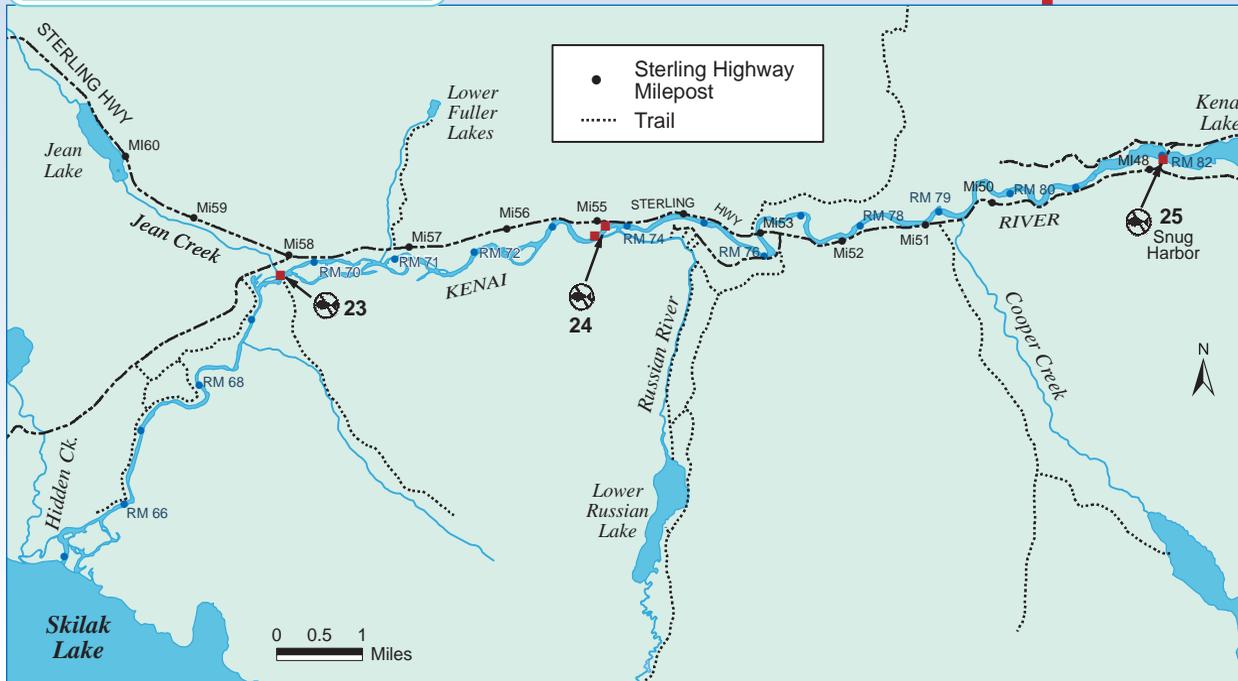


**Closures (cont'd):**

- 20 NILNUNQA—south bank between river miles 36.0 and 36.6
- 21 Near KENAI KEYS—north bank between ADF&G markers at river mile 44.6
- 22 THOMPSON'S HOLE—north bank between river miles 45.8 and 46.3

**RIPARIAN HABITAT:**

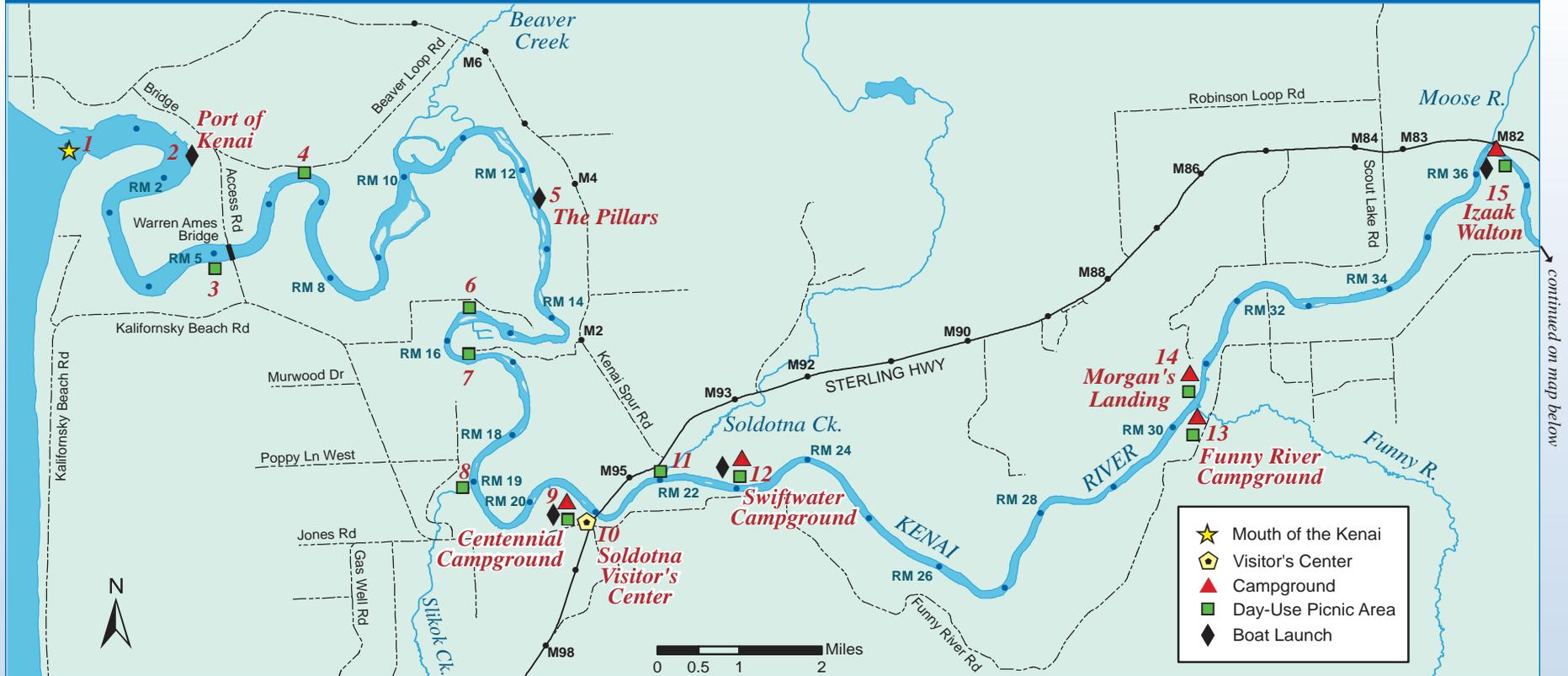
To lessen angler impact on riparian habitat ("riparian habitat" means all areas within 10 feet in either direction from the Kenai River waterline), riverbank closures are in effect July 1–August 15. In these areas, fishing is only allowed from a boat located more than 10 feet from shore and not connected to the shore in any way. Fishing from the bank or in the water within 10 feet of the Kenai River waterline is NOT ALLOWED.



**CLOSURES UPSTREAM OF SKILAK LAKE:**

- 23 Near JIM'S LANDING—north bank from river mile 69.7 to an ADF&G marker just downstream of the boat launch
- 24 At the RUSSIAN RIVER FERRY/ SPORTSMAN'S LANDING—north bank, upstream of the ferry crossing, between river miles 73.5 and 73.6
- 25 COOPER LANDING boat launch (just past the Sterling Highway bridge at the outlet of Kenai Lake)—south bank near river mile 82.0, from the bridge downstream about 1,000 ft to an ADF&G marker

## Public Access Points on the Kenai River



### SITE # - NAME - MANAGER - FACILITY

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| 1 MOUTH OF THE KENAI   | 11 SOLDOTNA CREEK PARK - City of Soldotna - Day-Use Picnic Area, Boardwalk Access                          | 18 UPPER SKILAK LAKE - Kenai National Wildlife Refuge-Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area, Boat Launch                 |
| 2 PORT OF KENAI - City of Kenai - Boat Launch  | 12 SWIFTWATER CAMPGROUND - City of Soldotna-Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area, Boat Launch, Boardwalk Access | 19 HIDDEN LAKE - Kenai National Wildlife Refuge-Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area, Boat Launch                       |
| 3 KENAI FLATS STATE RECREATION SITE - Alaska State Parks - Day-Use Picnic Area               | 13 FUNNY RIVER CAMPGROUND - Alaska State Parks - Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area                           | 20 JIM'S LANDING - Kenai National Wildlife Refuge-Day-Use Picnic Area, Boat Launch                                 |
| 4 CUNNINGHAM PARK - City of Kenai - Day-Use Picnic Area                                      | 14 MORGAN'S LANDING - Alaska State Parks - Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area, Boardwalks                     | 21 KENAI NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE VISITOR'S INFORMATION CENTER   |
| 5 THE PILLARS - Alaska State Parks - Boat Launch   | 15 IZAAK WALTON STATE RECREATION SITE - Alaska State Parks - Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area, Boat Launch  | 22 STERLING HIGHWAY MILEPOST 57 PULLOUT  |
| 6 CIECHANSKI - Alaska State Parks - Day-Use Picnic Area                                      | 16 BING'S LANDING - Alaska State Parks - Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area, Boat Launch                      | 23 RUSSIAN RIVER / SPORTSMAN'S LANDING- U.S. Forest Service - Foot-Traffic Ferry, Boat Launch, Day-Use Picnic Area |
| 7 BIG EDDY - Alaska State Parks - Day-Use Picnic Area  | 17 LOWER SKILAK LAKE - Kenai National Wildlife Refuge-Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area, Boat Launch         | 24 RUSSIAN RIVER CAMPGROUND - U.S. Forest Service-Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area                                  |
| 8 SLIKOK CREEK - Alaska State Parks - Day-Use Picnic Area                                    |  |  |
| 9 CENTENNIAL PARK CAMPGROUND - City of Soldotna-Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area, Boat Launch |  |  |
| 10 SOLDOTNA VISITOR'S CENTER - Boardwalk   |  |  |

...continued below



- 25 COOPER CREEK CAMPGROUND - U.S. Forest Service - Campground
  - 26 COOPER LANDING - Alaska State Parks- Boat Launch
  - 27 QUARTZ CREEK CAMPGROUND - U.S. Forest Service - Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area, Boat Launch
  - 28 CRESCENT CREEK CAMPGROUND - U.S. Forest Service - Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area
  - 29 TRAIL RIVER CAMPGROUND - U.S. Forest Service - Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area
  - 30 PTARMIGAN CREEK CAMPGROUND - U.S. Forest Service - Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area
  - 31 PRIMROSE CAMPGROUND - Campground, Boat Launch
- There are many private facilities as well; contact the city's Chamber of Commerce or Visitor's Center.*

