

# COOK INLET SALT WATERS



Cook Inlet and North Gulf Coast shellfish regulations are on pages 62-63.

North Gulf Coast regulations begin on page 56. Prince William Sound regulations begin on page 59.

Be alert for commercial salmon drift gillnet boats fishing north of Anchor Point from about June 19 until August 10-20. They cannot easily move out of your way.



A fishing net can engulf and sink a smaller boat!

For their safety, anglers should not fish from or within 50 yards of the docks near the Homer Boat Harbor entrance.

## ▲ Razor Clam Public Access Points (Sterling Hwy.)

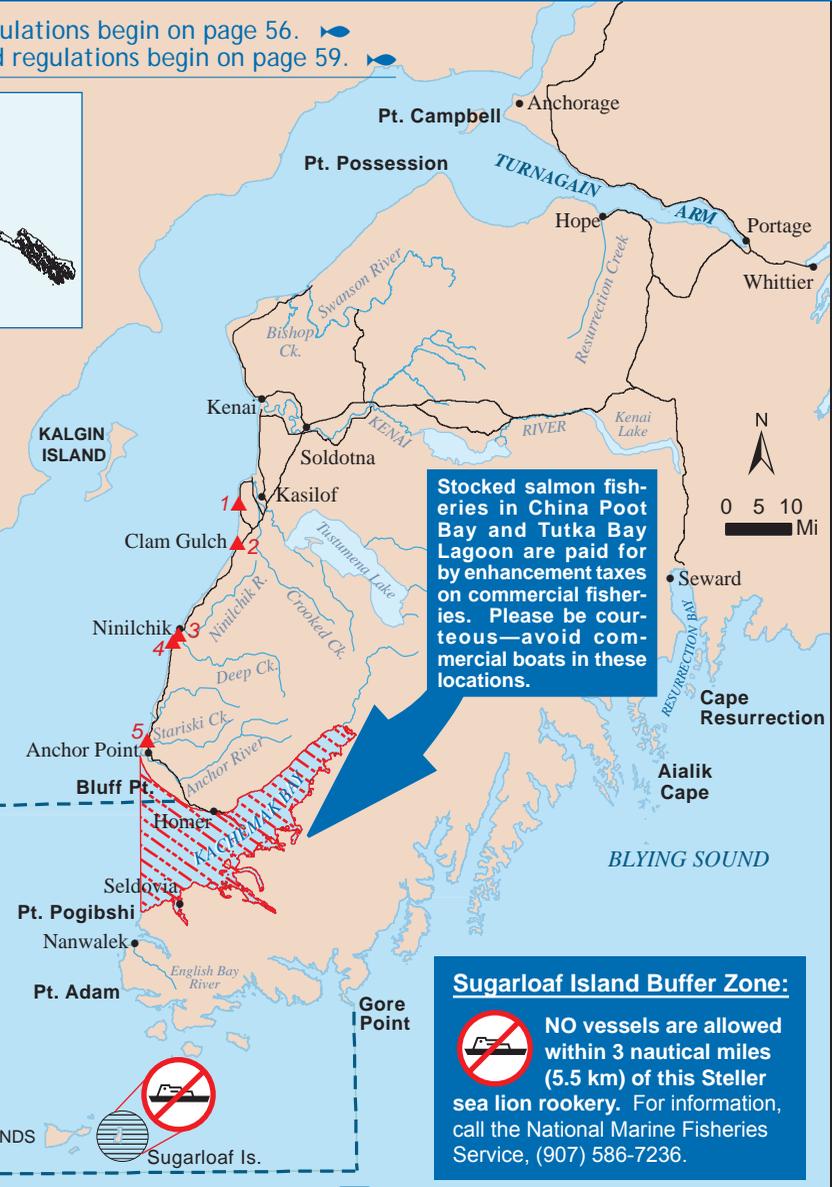
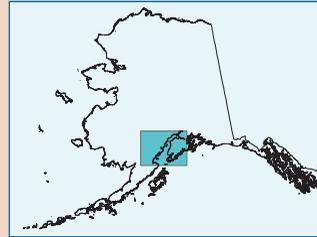
- 1 Cohoe Beach (Mile 114)
- 2 Clam Gulch Beach (Mile 117.3)
- 3 and 4 Ninilchik Beach (Mile 136 and Mile 137.8)
- 5 Whiskey Gulch Beach (Mile 154.8)

## Upper Cook Inlet Salt Waters

- Annual limit: 5 king salmon 20" or longer
- Daily bag and possession limit: 1 king
- No snagging north of a line extending west from Anchor Point

## Lower Cook Inlet Salt Waters

- Seasonal limit: 5 king salmon 20" or longer, April 1–September 30
- Daily bag and possession limit: 2 kings
- Snagging year-round south of Anchor Point, except in Kachemak Bay (see below)
- Snagging is allowed in Kachemak Bay east of a line from Anchor Point to Point Pogibshi from June 24–December 31, except in the Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon (see p. 14)



Stocked salmon fisheries in China Poot Bay and Tutka Bay Lagoon are paid for by enhancement taxes on commercial fisheries. Please be courteous—avoid commercial boats in these locations.

**Sugarloaf Island Buffer Zone:**  
 NO vessels are allowed within 3 nautical miles (5.5 km) of this Steller sea lion rookery. For information, call the National Marine Fisheries Service, (907) 586-7236.

(South of the latitude of Cape Douglas, Kodiak Island/Alaska Peninsula/Aleutian Islands saltwater regulations apply.)

## Fishing in Cook Inlet salt waters

**Snagging:** With the exception of Kachemak Bay, snagging is not legal year-round in Cook Inlet salt waters north of a line extending west from Anchor Point. For Kachemak Bay snagging regulations, see page 14. In the remainder of Cook Inlet salt waters, snagging is open year-round.

**Underwater spear:** In salt water, spears may be used to take fish, subject to applicable seasons and bag limits, by persons who are completely submerged.

**Sport fishing gear for herring and smelt:** In salt water, herring and smelt may be taken with the use of 15 or fewer unbaited single or multiple hooks attached to a single line.

For other gear and bait restrictions, see page 4.

### King salmon

In fresh waters north of a line from Cape Douglas to Point Adam, and in all Cook Inlet salt waters, an annual or a seasonal harvest limit of 5 fish applies to king salmon 20" or longer, and these harvested fish *must* be recorded. See page 15.

### Halibut in Cook Inlet salt waters

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. Proxy fishing for halibut is not allowed.

- Season is Feb. 1–Dec. 31
- Unguided anglers—limit is 2 per day (no size limit), 4 in possession
- Consult federal regulations for the following:
  - Bag, size, and possession limits for guided (charter) anglers
  - Possession and landing requirements
  - Inseason changes to the regulations

#### Federal halibut regulations are available from:

NOAA Fisheries Alaska Region    International Pacific Halibut Commission  
(907) 586-7225                            (206) 634-1838  
<http://www.fakr.noaa.gov>                <http://www.iphc.washington.edu/halcom/sport.htm>

### Lingcod

Lingcod which are gaffed must be retained. A gaff may not be used to puncture any fish intended or required to be released.

### Sharks

#### Annual harvest limit and recording requirement:

The annual harvest limit is 2 sharks per person, and these harvested fish *must* be recorded. See page 15.

**Sharks** include any species of the order Lamniformes, Squaliformes, or Carcharhiniformes, including (but not limited to) salmon sharks, Pacific sleeper sharks, and spiny dogfish (sand or mud sharks). □

**REMEMBER . . .** There is an annual limit of 2 for **sharks** taken in all Alaska salt waters. Harvested sharks must be recorded immediately on the back of your license or on a harvest card.

## THE FISH & WILDLIFE SAFEGUARD PROGRAM



### Report Violations

1-800-478-3377

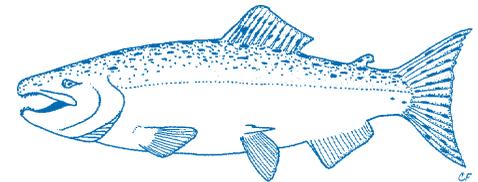
If you witness or suspect that a fish or wildlife violation has occurred, please call our toll-free number. You will not have to reveal your name, testify in court, or sign a deposition. You will remain anonymous, and you may receive a reward.

Local Alaska Wildlife Troopers' office phone numbers are as follows:

<i>Anchorage</i> . . . . .	269-5954
<i>Anchor Point</i> . . . . .	235-3010
<i>Cantwell</i> . . . . .	768-4050
<i>Cordova</i> . . . . .	424-3184
<i>Glennallen</i> . . . . .	822-3263
<i>Mat-Su West</i> . . . . .	373-8318
<i>Palmer</i> . . . . .	745-4247
<i>Seward</i> . . . . .	224-3935
<i>Soldotna</i> . . . . .	262-4573
<i>Valdez</i> . . . . .	835-4307

## Health Guidelines for Eating Alaska Fish

Alaska fish is an excellent source of low-fat protein and important nutrients. Some fish contain elevated levels of mercury, which can harm unborn babies and young children. The Department of Health and Social Services Web site offers specific fish consumption advice for women who are or can become pregnant, nursing mothers, and children 12 and under. Go to <http://www.epi.hss.state.ak.us/eh/fish/default.htm> or call (907) 269-8000.



Remember to include fish at least twice a week as part of a balanced diet!

**GENERAL SEASONS AND LIMITS: Cook Inlet salt waters**

**INCLUSIVE WATERS:** Salt waters of Cook Inlet west of Gore Point and north of Cape Douglas, including Kachemak Bay and the Barren Islands (see map on page 12).

- The marine waters of Tutka Bay Lagoon within 100 yards of the Tutka Bay Lagoon hatchery net pens are closed year-round to sport fishing for any species.
- No person may intentionally snag or attempt to snag any species of fish **in Cook Inlet north of a line extending west from Anchor Point.**
- No person may intentionally snag or attempt to snag any species of fish in Kachemak Bay **east of a line from Anchor Point to Point Pogibshi from January 1–June 23.**
- Snagging is allowed in Kachemak Bay east of a line from Anchor Point to Point Pogibshi from June 24–December 31, **except that** in the Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon as described below, periods when snagging is allowed after June 23 are opened and closed by emergency order (EO). Call ADF&G offices for recent EOs.

Species	Open season	Daily limits
<b>King salmon</b>	entire year	
–North of the latitude of Bluff Point (59° 40' N)		1 per day/1 in possession
–South of the latitude of Bluff Point		2 per day/2 in possession
<b>Other salmon</b>	entire year	6 per day/6 in possession <i>only 3 per day/3 in possession may be coho (silver) salmon</i>
<b>Lingcod</b>	July 1–Dec. 31	2 per day/2 in possession <i>must be at least 35" long with head attached or 28" from tip of tail to front of dorsal fin with head removed</i>
<b>Rockfishes</b>	entire year	5 per day/10 in possession <i>only 1 per day/2 in possession may be non-pelagic (see chart on page 10)</i>
<b>Rainbow/steelhead trout</b>	entire year	
–North of a line from Cape Douglas to Point Adam		<b>NO RETENTION</b>
–In all salt waters south of a line from Cape Douglas to Point Adam, west of the longitude of Gore Point, and north . . . . . 20" or longer, 1 per day/1 in possession of the latitude of Cape Douglas: . . . . . less than 20", no bag or possession limit		
<b>Dolly Varden</b>	entire year	5 per day/5 in possession
<b>Halibut</b>	Feb. 1–Dec. 31	2 per day/4 in possession
<b>Sharks</b>	entire year	1 per day/1 in possession
<b>Other finfish</b>	entire year	no bag or possession limit

**COOK INLET SALT WATERS EXCEPTIONS:**

**Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon (The Fishing Hole)**

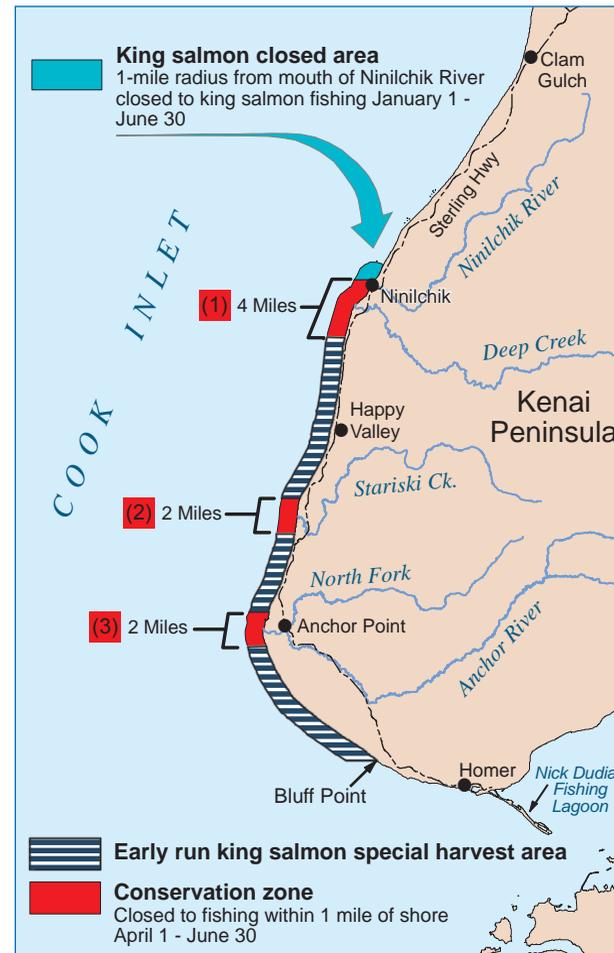
- Along the east side of the Homer Spit, from the Homer City Dock near the entrance of the Homer Boat Harbor to ADF&G markers about 200 yd northwest of the entrance to the Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon (including the Homer Boat Harbor and the fishing lagoon) to a distance of 300 ft from shore, the daily bag and possession limit for king salmon is 2. The daily bag and possession limit for other salmon (including coho salmon) is 6. King salmon 20" or longer must be recorded April 1–Sept. 30 (see page 15). Snagging is not permitted here except by emergency order. Weights or bobbers following a hook or hooks may not be used when these waters are closed to snagging.
- Youth Fishery Zones established for persons 15 years of age or younger: the first Saturday in June (June 5, 2010), and the first and third Saturdays in August (Aug. 7 and Aug. 21, 2010).

**EARLY RUN KING SALMON SPECIAL HARVEST AREA**

**INCLUSIVE WATERS:** all marine waters south of the latitude of the mouth of the Ninilchik River to the latitude of Bluff Point (59° 40' N) and within 1 mile of shore (see map below).

From April 1 through June 30, **a person may not, after taking a king salmon 20" or longer, fish for any species of fish that same day within this special harvest area.**

Salt waters within a 1-mile radius north of the terminus of the Ninilchik River are **closed to fishing for king salmon** January 1–June 30.



The following salt waters are **closed to all fishing April 1–June 30:**

- (1) south of the latitude of the Ninilchik River (60° 03.99' N) to ADF&G markers 2 miles south of Deep Creek (60° 00.68' N), and within 1 mile of shore;
- (2) from the latitude of an ADF&G marker located 1 mile north of Stariski Creek (59° 54.37' N) to the latitude of an ADF&G marker located 1 mile south of Stariski Creek (59° 52.98' N), and within 1 mile of shore; and
- (3) from the latitude of ADF&G markers 1 mile north of the Anchor River (59° 48.25') to the latitude of ADF&G markers 1 mile south of the Anchor River (59° 46.64'), and within 1 mile of shore. □

# SPECIAL REGULATIONS in COOK INLET SALT and FRESH WATERS

## KING SALMON

### Annual/Seasonal Limits

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 Cook Inlet salt waters—**except that** king salmon harvested in Cook Inlet salt waters south of Bluff Point from October 1 to March 31 (see map on page 12) **and king salmon longer than 20" but less than 28" harvested in the Kenai River from January 1 through June 30** are not included in the limit.

Of these 5 total king salmon:

- no more than 2 may be taken from the Kenai River,
- no more than 2 may be taken from Deep Creek.

There are no king salmon annual or seasonal limits in effect for North Gulf Coast or Prince William Sound salt waters.

If you intend to release a king salmon 20" or longer, you may not remove it from the water. A king salmon 20" or longer removed from the water must be retained, and becomes a part of the bag limit of the person originally hooking it.

### Recording requirement

Anglers who keep a king salmon 20" or longer from an area with an annual limit or from an area when a seasonal limit is in effect must immediately record that harvest. See box on right for recording instructions.

There are no king salmon recording requirements in effect for North Gulf Coast or Prince William Sound salt waters.

## SHARKS

### Annual limit

There is a total annual limit of two (2) sharks taken from any Alaska salt water.

**Inclusive shark species:** any species of the order Lamniformes, Squaliformes, or Carcharhiniformes, including (but not limited to) salmon sharks, Pacific sleeper sharks, and spiny dogfish (sand or mud sharks).

### Recording requirement

Anglers who keep a shark must immediately record that harvest. See box at right for recording instructions.

## RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

### Annual limit

- There is a total annual limit of two (2) rainbow/steelhead trout 20" or longer taken from any fresh water of Cook Inlet north of the latitude of Point Adam, except in the stocked lakes of the Knik Arm and Susitna River areas, where the annual limit is ten (10) rainbow/steelhead trout 20" or longer.

### Recording requirement

Anglers who keep a rainbow trout 20" or longer must immediately record that harvest. See box on right for recording instructions.

## NORTHERN PIKE

Except in Alexander Lake, northern pike may be taken by spear, sport fishing gear, ice fishing gear, or by bow and arrow (the arrow must be attached to the bow with a line and the arrow must have a barbed tip). When fishing through the ice for northern pike, anglers may use two hooks on a single line, provided that both hooks are attached to one single piece of bait.

In the following lakes, sport fishing through the ice for northern pike is allowed using 5 lines, provided that: (1) standard ice fishing gear is used, (2) the fishing gear is closely attended, and (3) all other species of fish caught are released immediately.

**Northern Cook Inlet:** Alexander, Anderson, Memory, Prator, Long, Crystal, Shell, Onestone, Chuitbuna, Figure Eight, Sucker, Flathorn, Lower Vern, Upper Vern, Lockwood, Whiskey, Hewitt, Donkey, Threemile/Tukhallah, Trapper, Trail, Neil, and Kroto lakes, No Name/Cabin Lake, and lakes of the Nancy Lake Recreation Area (except Nancy Lake). Flowing waters of Alexander Creek, Fish creeks (both in lower Susitna River and Kroto Slough), Witsoe Creek, and Indian Creek.

**Kenai Peninsula:** Mackey Lakes, Tote Road Lakes, and Cisca, Derks, Sevena, Stormy, and Union lakes. □

## Attractors or Beads. . .



In flowing waters of West Cook Inlet, Kenai Peninsula, Anchorage Bowl, Knik Arm, and Susitna River drainages (Cook Inlet drainage flowing waters) attractors (beads) when used with a fly, lure, or bare hook must be either fixed within two inches of the hook or free sliding on the line or leader. For proper spacing, see illustration [left]. For the purposes of this section, a bead not attached to the hook is an attractor, not a fly.

**A bead fished on the line above a bare hook is not legal gear in fly-fishing-only waters (see page 4).**

## HOW TO RECORD YOUR HARVESTS—for species with annual/seasonal limits



For anglers who are required to purchase a sport fishing license, space is provided on the back of the license. Immediately upon landing a king salmon 20" or longer, a rainbow/steelhead trout 20" or longer, or any species of shark, fill out the harvest information on the back of the license. **YOU MUST USE INK.**

A free harvest record card is available at ADF&G offices and most license vendors for individuals not required to be licensed: children under 16, anglers with the ADF&G Disabled Veteran's Permanent ID (DAV) card, and resident anglers 60 or older who have the ADF&G PID card. Immediately upon landing a king salmon 20" or longer, a rainbow/ steelhead trout 20" or longer, or any species of shark, fill out the harvest information on the card. You must use ink.

If you lose your sport fishing license or harvest record card, license vendors can issue duplicates. You must transfer (re-record) your harvest information onto the duplicate. □