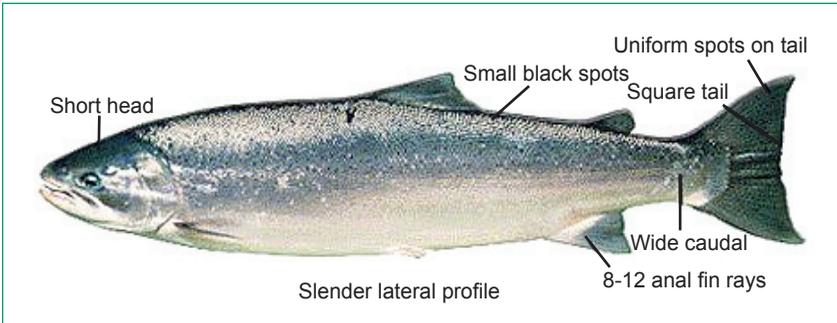


# ALERT FOR ATLANTIC SALMON IN SOUTHEAST ALASKA WATERS

Please report any observations of this non-native species to the nearest ADF&G office.

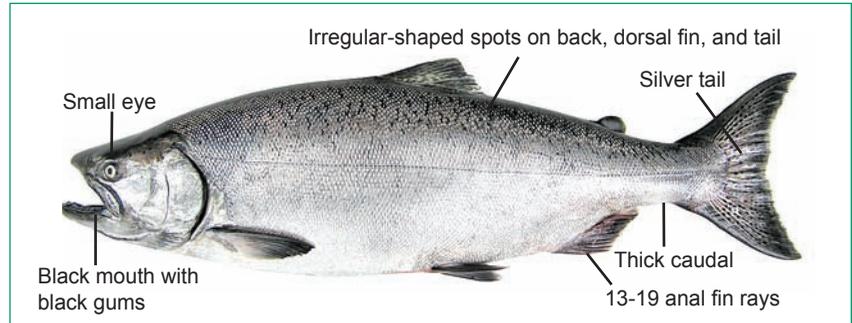
Over the past few years, ADF&G has verified harvests of Atlantic salmon in Southeast Alaska salt waters. Atlantic salmon are not native to the Pacific Ocean; they are raised in areas along the West Coast outside Alaska, and their presence in Southeast Alaska waters is biologically undesirable. Last year, anglers reported catching Atlantic salmon in several of Southeast Alaska's freshwater systems. Alaska sport fishing regulations do not limit harvest of Atlantic salmon, but if you catch one, you can help us determine their status by bringing the entire fish to the nearest ADF&G office for biological sampling. The illustrations below will help you distinguish Atlantic salmon from native Alaska species.

## Steelhead Trout



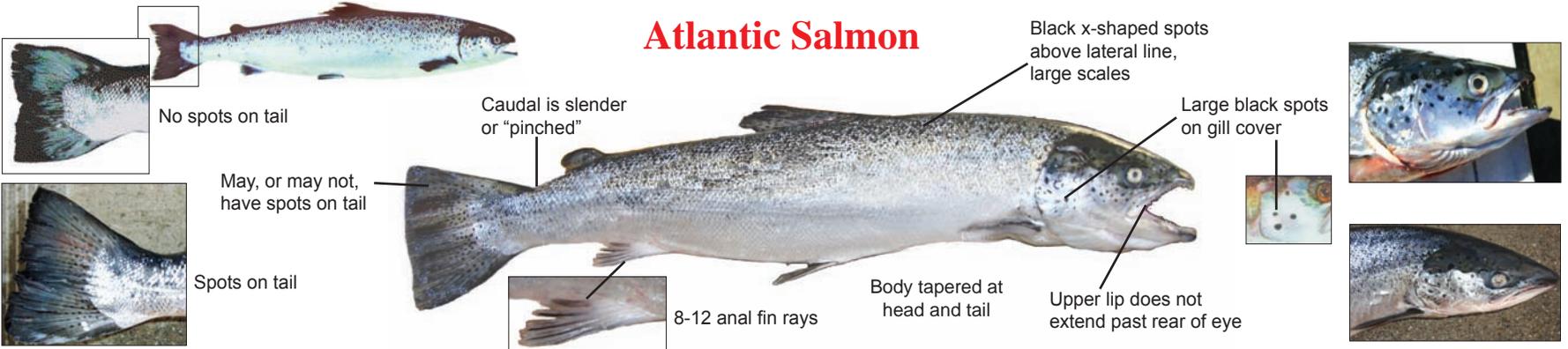
Graphic courtesy of Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

## King Salmon



Photograph courtesy of Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

## Atlantic Salmon



Atlantic salmon photographs courtesy of Troy Tydingco.

### Steelhead Identification Characteristics:

- Head blunt, jaw short—may not extend past the eye
- Gums and tongue completely white
- Distinct dark spots on dorsal fin
- Square-shaped tail with distinct spots—no silver pigment on tail
- May have reddish stripe along sides; gill cover may be pinkish

### Atlantic Salmon Identification Characteristics:

- Body tapered at head and tail
- Black spots on gill cover distinguish from all Pacific species
- Base of tail is slender or "pinched" in appearance
- Black x-shaped spots on back
- Large scales
- Upper jaw does not extend past rear of eye
- Fewer than 13 anal fin rays

### King Salmon Identification Characteristics:

- Blue-gray back with silvery sides
- Black mouth with black gums at base of teeth on lower jaw
- Silver, spotted tail
- Small, irregular-shaped black spots on back, dorsal fin, and usually on both lobes of tail
- 13-19 anal fin rays

# HOW TO IDENTIFY THE FIVE SALMON SPECIES FOUND IN ALASKA

## **KING (Chinook, tye, blackmouth) SALMON:**

Blue-gray back with silvery sides. Small, irregular-shaped black spots on back, dorsal fin, and usually on both lobes of the tail.



Black mouth with **BLACK** gums at base of teeth on lower jaw. →



Spawning king salmon adults lose their silvery bright color and turn maroon to olive brown.

## **CHUM (dog, keta, calico) SALMON:**

Dull gray back with yellowish-silver sides. No distinct spots on back or tail. Large eye pupil—covers nearly the entire eye.



Spawning adults develop olive green coloration on the back with maroon sides covered with irregular dull red bars. Males exhibit many large canine-like teeth.

## **COHO (silver) SALMON:**

Greenish-blue back with silvery sides. Small black spots on the back, dorsal fin, and usually on upper lobe of tail only.



Black mouth with **WHITE** gums at base of teeth on lower jaw. ←



Spawning coho salmon adults develop greenish-black heads and dark brown to maroon bodies.

## **SOCKEYE (red) SALMON:**

Dark blue-black back with silvery sides. No distinct spots on back, dorsal fin, or tail.



Spawning sockeye salmon adults develop dull-green heads and brick-red to scarlet bodies.

## **PINK (humpy) SALMON:**

Large spots on the back and large black oval blotches on both tail lobes. Very small scales.



Spawning adults turn dull gray on their backs and upper sides and creamy white below. Males develop a pronounced hump.

