

Southcentral Alaska Sport Fishing Regulations Summary

2016



Effective until the 2017 Summary is issued

Sport Fish at adfg.alaska.gov/

Licensing &
Regional
Regulations

Personal Use
Fisheries

Cook Inlet
Salt Waters

West Cook
Inlet

Susitna River
Drainage

Knik Arm

Anchorage
Bowl

Kenai
Peninsula

Kenai River
Drainage

North
Gulf Coast

Prince William
Sound

Alaska Board of Fisheries

The Alaska Board of Fisheries (Board) adopts Alaska's fishing regulations under statutory authority from the Alaska Legislature. The Board sets fishing seasons, bag limits, and methods and means. It also sets policy and provides direction of the management of the state's fishery resources through regulatory management plans. The Board consists of seven members that are appointed by the governor, confirmed by the Legislature, and serve 3-year terms.

The board process is one of the more open systems for incorporating public input into state fisheries policy. The Board meets four to six times per year to consider proposed changes to fishing regulations in specific areas of the state. Any individual or organization may submit a proposal to change a fishing regulation. The Board uses biological and socioeconomic information provided by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, public comment, and guidance from the Alaska Department of Public Safety and Alaska Department of Law when creating regulations.

The Board meets on a 3-year cycle. It most recently addressed Prince William Sound fishing regulations in December 2014 and Upper and Lower Cook Inlet fishing regulations in December 2013 and February 2014.

Alaska Board of Fisheries Current Members

Tom Kluberton (Chair) Talkeetna
John Jensen Petersburg
Fritz Johnson Dillingham
Orville Huntington Huslia
Sue Jeffrey Kodiak
Reed Morisky Fairbanks
Robert Mumford Anchorage

For more information on the board process, contact the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Boards Support Section at: (907) 465-4110.

Inset on the cover: Andrew "Drew" Krellner of Eagle River, age 7, fashionably fly-fishes near the confluence of the Russian and Kenai Rivers (photo by John Krellner).

Alaska Department of Fish and Game



DIVISION OF SPORT FISH

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(907) 465-4180

Bill Walker, Governor
Sam Cotten, Commissioner
Tom Brookover, Director

The Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) is responsible for managing fish and game under statutory authority from the Alaska Legislature. By law, the mission of the Department of Fish and Game is to protect, maintain, and improve the fish, game, and aquatic plant resources of the state, and manage their use and development in the best interest of the economy and the well-being of the people of the state, consistent with the sustained yield principle.

The Division of Sport Fish is one of five divisions in the Department. By law, the mission of the Division of Sport Fish is to protect and improve the state's recreational fisheries resources. Division of Sport Fish operations are largely funded by anglers and recreational boaters through contributions to Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration and the Fish and Game funds. At least 15 percent of the state's federal aid apportionment must be used for improvement of recreational boating facilities and access.

ADF&G may change fishing regulations at any time by emergency order. Statewide, over 50 emergency orders may be issued to open or close seasons or areas, modify bag limits and methods and means in any given year. Most, but not all, affect salmon fishing, as opposed to fishing for resident species. All emergency orders are widely announced via news media, and are accessible on recorded ADF&G hotlines, at ADF&G offices (see a list on the back cover), and online at:

Sport Fish at adf.g.alaska.gov/

Emergency orders are also posted at key access locations.

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HOW TO USE THIS BOOKLET

- 1 **Read the licensing requirements:** Read licensing and harvest recording requirements, pages 4 and 5.
- 2 **Know the rules where you fish:**

Read the Regional Regulations. These outline prohibited acts, allowable sport fishing gear, possession requirements for sport caught fish, and other general regulations on pages 6–7 (for finfish) or pages 8–10 (for Southcentral Alaskan shellfish).

Know the General Regulations for the area you intend to fish. Read the general regulations for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the area in which you intend to fish.

Determine if Special Regulations apply to your area. Check the Southcentral Alaska Waters index on pages 12–13. If a special regulation exists for the species when and where you plan to fish, follow the special regulation; special regulations prevail over the general regulations listed for that area. If the waters you plan to fish DO NOT APPEAR in the index or within the special regulations, follow the general regulations for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for that area.

- 3 **Check for emergency orders:** Regulations in this booklet may be changed by emergency order at any time. If an inseason change has been made by emergency order for the species when and where you plan to fish, follow the inseason regulation; inseason regulatory changes prevail over the regulations listed in this booklet. All such changes can be found by contacting any ADF&G Sport Fish Office or online at the ADF&G website:

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/>

Have a smartphone or tablet? Scan the QR code for a direct link to ADF&G's emergency order webpage:

If clarification is needed, consult an ADF&G representative (907-267-2218) or an Alaska Wildlife Trooper (907-269-5954).



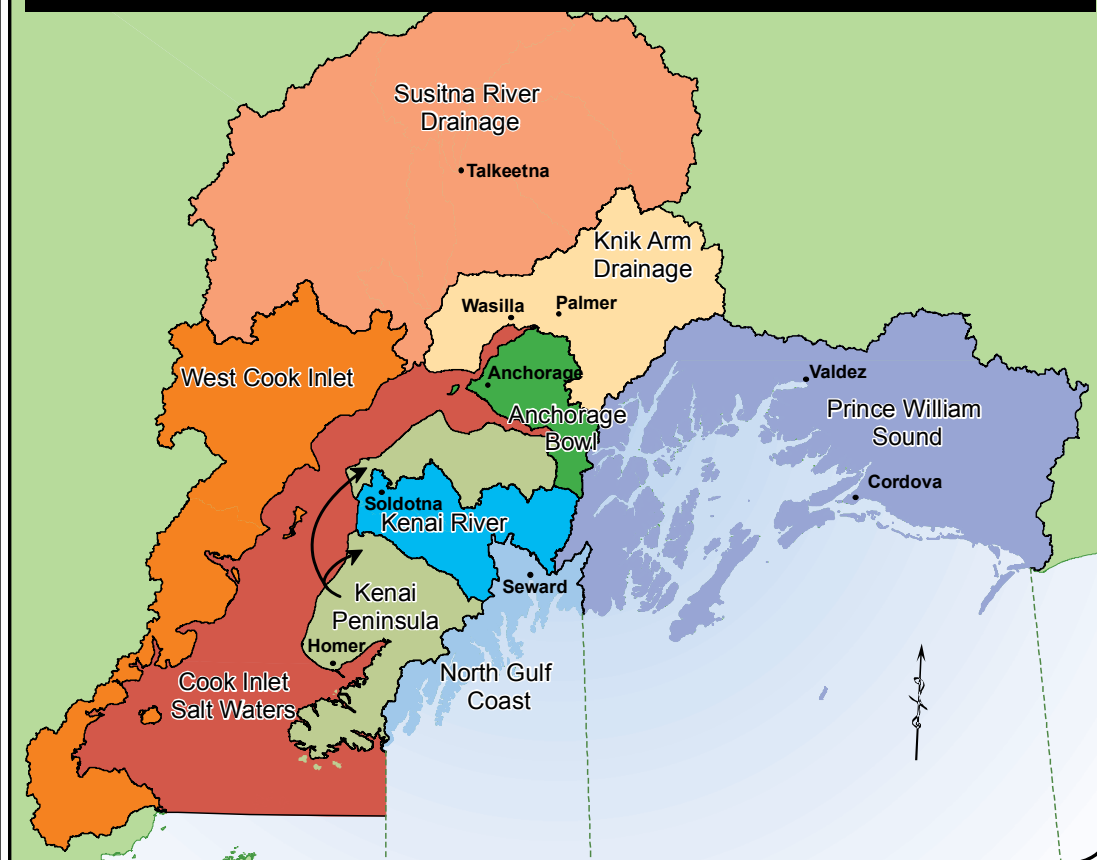
ABOUT THIS BOOKLET

This summary of Alaska sport and personal use fishing and shellfish regulations is published by the Division of Sport Fish as a service to anglers. It is not intended to be a complete digest of all fishing regulations.

For a complete list of all sport fishing regulations, see the Alaska Administrative Code, Title 5 at: <http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/folioproxy.asp?url=http://www.jnu01.legis.state.ak.us/cgi-bin/folioisa.dll/aac>.

Some regulations in this booklet may be changed by the Alaska Board of Fisheries during its regular meetings, by emergency regulation, or by emergency order at any time. See 3 in the left column for ways to find out about these changes before you fish.

SOUTHCENTRAL ALASKA - REGULATION SUMMARY AREAS



Licensing &
Regional
Regulations

Personal Use
Fisheries

Cook Inlet
Salt Waters

West Cook
Inlet

Susitna River
Drainage

Knik Arm

Anchorage
Bowl

Kenai
Peninsula

Kenai River
Drainages

North
Gulf Coast

Prince William
Sound

To sport fish in Alaska you are required to have a valid Alaska Sport Fishing License if you are 16 or older. Please see the "License Types" section below to determine what type of license you need. You may also be required to purchase a king salmon stamp or obtain a harvest record card (available at no cost). Please refer to the "King Salmon Stamp" and "Harvest Record" sections below to see if those requirements apply to you.

ALASKA SPORT FISHING LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

An Alaska sport fishing license is required for all anglers 16 and older to fish in all fresh and salt waters of Alaska (see [License Types and Fees](#) at right for licensing options).

- In accordance with the regulations outlined in this summary booklet, a **sport fishing license** permits you to take, or attempt to take, finfish or shellfish in the fresh or salt waters of Alaska. Additionally you may need the following:

1. **King salmon stamp** (see page 5).

2. **Harvest record card** (see page 5).

- Your sport fishing license, PID or DAV must be in your possession while you are sport fishing.

- All persons engaged in sport fishing or in possession of sport caught finfish or shellfish must show their sport fishing license, required harvest record and/or stamp, and their harvest to any representative of ADF&G or any peace officer of the state, upon request.

- No person may alter, loan, or transfer to any other person any sport fishing license; and no person may use any license issued to another person.

- If your sport fishing, hunting, or trapping license is revoked in any state, you may not obtain an Alaska sport fishing license.

- Your sport fishing license is valid for a calendar year.



Alaska Department of Fish & Game
Division of Sport Fish
**Sport Fishing
Harvest Record Card**

Fill in the information below. See the back of this card for more instructions, or call the Anchorage Sport Fish Information Center at (907) 267-2218.

Name _____

Check ONE: ☐ Senior ☐ Disabled Veteran ☐ Under 16

Senior or DAV license number: _____

OR, if under 16, age & birthday: _____

☐ Check here if this is a replacement for a lost card(s). By law, anglers must transfer ALL harvest information from the lost card(s) to this card.

DATE of harvest	NAME OF WATER where the fish was harvested	SPECIES OF fish harvested

Harvest record card

LICENSE TYPES and FEES

Resident licenses and fees

Annual sport fishing license \$ 24.00

Valid for calendar year.

ADF&G Permanent Identification Card (PID) \$ 0.00

Alaska residents 60 or older may apply for a PID for hunting, fishing, and trapping. For residents only - if you become a nonresident your PID is no longer valid, requiring you to license as a nonresident.

ADF&G Disabled Veteran Card (DAV) \$ 0.00

Alaska residents who are disabled veterans (with disability of 50% or greater that was incurred during military service), may apply for a DAV for hunting and fishing. For residents only - if you become a nonresident your DAV is no longer valid, requiring you to license as a nonresident.

Sport fishing license for the blind \$ 0.25

Affidavit required—available from license vendor or ADF&G.

Income restricted. \$ 5.00

Only if your income for the previous year was less than \$8,200, or you received state or federal welfare assistance in the preceding 6 months.

Nonresident military license and fee

Nonresident annual military sport fishing license \$ 24.00

Only for active duty members of military service or U.S. Coast Guard permanently stationed in Alaska, for less than 12 months or for dependent(s) of such.

Nonresident licenses and fees

1-day sport fishing license \$ 20.00

3-day sport fishing license \$ 35.00

7-day sport fishing license \$ 55.00

14-day sport fishing license \$ 80.00

Annual sport fishing license \$ 145.00

Residents of Yukon Territory may purchase nonresident licenses at Alaska resident license fees.

An Alaskan Resident is...

a person who, for the preceding 12 consecutive months, has maintained a home in Alaska with the intent to stay, and who is not claiming residency (or receiving benefits under a claim of residency) in another state, territory or country. Benefits include but are not limited to, applying for a resident fishing or hunting license in another state, obtaining a driver's license in another state, or receiving benefits of paying taxes as a resident of another state.

Active Duty Military or United States Coast Guard Personnel and Their Dependents...

- stationed in Alaska for the preceding 12 months may purchase a resident sport fishing license regardless of benefits received in another state. Resident sport fishing regulations apply.
- permanently stationed in Alaska for less than 12 months may purchase a nonresident military license at a reduced rate and are considered nonresidents. Nonresident sport fishing regulations apply.

If you have questions about your residency call your local Alaska Wildlife Troopers (telephone numbers listed on page 93).

HARVEST RECORD

Harvest records are required by **ALL** anglers when harvesting any species with an annual limit. Species with an annual limit are listed in the General Regulations section in each area.

- A harvest record **form** is printed on the back of each sport fishing license.
- A harvest record **card** is required for anglers 15 years or younger and PID or DAV licensed anglers (because they are not required to have a sport fishing license).
- Immediately upon landing and retaining a fish that has an annual limit, all anglers must enter the species, date, and location, **IN INK**, on the harvest record form on the back of their sport fishing license or their harvest record card.
- A person obtaining a duplicate or additional license or harvest record card must transfer their harvest records of species with annual limits previously landed during the current year to their new license or harvest record card.

ALASKA XXXX KING SALMON TAG

☐ \$5 DUPLICATE TYPE _____

RESIDENT: ☐ \$10 ANNUAL


NONRESIDENT:

☐ \$10 1-DAY ☐ \$20 3-DAY ☐ \$30 7-DAY

☐ \$50 14-DAY ☐ \$100 ANNUAL

☐ \$20 MILITARY ☐ \$10 ANNUAL YUKON TERRITORY

date _____ time _____ AM PM



sign here _____

King salmon stamp

KING SALMON STAMP

Anglers sport fishing for king salmon (except king salmon stocked in landlocked lakes) must purchase a current year's king salmon stamp. Stamps purchased online will have a valid number printed directly on your fishing license. If you purchase a physical stamp, it must be signed across the face of the stamp in ink and stuck to the back of your fishing license.

The following persons do not need a king salmon stamp:

- Resident and nonresident anglers 15 years or younger.
- Residents who possess an ADF&G PID or a Disabled Veteran's card license.
- Residents with the \$5.00 income restricted license
- Residents with the 25¢ license for the blind.

King Salmon Stamp Fees

Resident king salmon stamp	\$ 10.00
Nonresident 1-day stamp	\$ 10.00
Nonresident 3-day stamp	\$ 20.00
Nonresident 7-day stamp	\$ 30.00
Nonresident 14-day stamp	\$ 50.00
Nonresident annual stamp	\$ 100.00
Nonresident military annual stamp	\$ 20.00
Duplicate stamp	\$ 5.00

WHERE TO OBTAIN LICENSES/STAMPS/HARVEST CARDS

Sport fishing licenses and **King Salmon Stamps** may be purchased online at: www.adfg.alaska.gov/store or from a license vendor (most sporting goods stores).

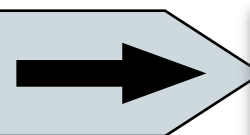
Harvest Record Cards are available from ADF&G offices and from fishing license vendors.

PID/DAV licenses—Application forms are available online at: www.licenses.adfg.alaska.gov or by contacting ADF&G Licensing at adfg.license@alaska.gov or (907) 465-2376. Forms are also available at any ADF&G office (see back cover page for office contact information).



Use our secure server to buy your licenses, stamps, and tags online!

www.adfg.alaska.gov/store/



Special Notice: The Alaska Board of Fisheries is scheduled to meet in March 2016 and will consider proposals that potentially affect finfish fisheries. Any regulations resulting from that meeting will not make the printing deadline for this regulations summary. Please contact the ADF&G office in Anchorage (267-2218) for changes to finfish regulations.

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 and all fish that are adipose finclipped along with the date and location of where caught.

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

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.

Possession or marking of live fish or live fish eggs:

- It is unlawful to possess, transport, release live fish or live fish eggs, or in any way mark any live fish prior to release;
 - except in accordance with the terms of a permit that may be issued by the Commissioner under 5 AAC 41 or AS 16.05.930(a),
 - or in accordance with sport fishing provisions listed on page 7 under "Use of sport-caught fish as bait."

Sale of sport-caught fish prohibited:

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

Felt-soled boots prohibited:

- The use of footwear with absorbent felt or other fibrous material on the soles is prohibited while sport 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.

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.

Waste of fish:

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

Use of explosives or toxicants:

- The use of any toxicant or explosive (including a shaft tipped with an explosive charge, commonly known as a bang stick or powerhead) is prohibited in the taking of fish in the waters of Alaska.



Fishing by Proxy...

Alaska residents may proxy sport fish, proxy personal use fish, and/or proxy subsistence fish for another Alaska resident who is (1) 70% or greater physically disabled (physician's affidavit required); (2) 65 years or older; or (3) legally blind (physician's affidavit required). See page 95 for more info.

No person may give or receive payment to be a beneficiary or a proxy.

Get a "Proxy Information Form" (Proxy) from any ADF&G office, or download it from http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static-sf/statewide/pdfs/07_proxy.pdf

METHODS AND MEANS

Freshwater 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 one-half inch;
- Spear, unless permitted by area regulations; or arrow, unless permitted by area regulations.

Sport fishing gear:

Unless otherwise provided in regulation, sport fishing may be conducted only by use of:

- A single line 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, except when specified by departmental emergency order.

Use of attractor (bead): An attractor (bead) when used with a fly, lure, or bare hook, must be:

- either fixed within two inches of the fly, lure, or bare hook (see illustration),
- or be free sliding on the line or leader.

For the purposes of this regulation, 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.

METHODS AND MEANS (continued)

Use of underwater spear (saltwater):

- In salt water, spears and spearguns may be used to take fish, subject to applicable seasons and limits, by persons who are completely submerged.

Ice fishing gear:

- Sport fishing through the ice is permitted using two closely attended lines, provided only one hook or artificial lure is used on each line, except that additional gear may be used for northern pike and burbot as specified in statewide or area regulations.
- The maximum number of lines/hooks that an angler may deploy is not cumulative and is equal to the maximum number of lines/hooks allowed for any species. The number of lines/hooks used to target a species may not exceed the number allowed for that species. For example, in a lake where regulations allow 15 lines for burbot and 5 lines for northern pike, the maximum number of lines you may fish is 15 (not $15 + 5 = 20$); and when setting your 15 lines, only 5 of them may be placed to target pike.

Gear for fly-fishing-only waters:

- In waters designated as fly-fishing-only waters, sport fishing is permitted only as follows;
 - with not more than one unweighted, single-hook fly with gap between point and shank of $\frac{3}{8}$ inch or less; and
 - weights may only be used 18 inches or more ahead of the fly.
 - Beads not attached to the fly are not allowed.

Sport fishing gear for northern pike:

- Unless otherwise provided by the area regulations, northern pike may be taken by spear.

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 burbot: Unless otherwise provided by area regulations, burbot may be taken in fresh water with more than one line and hook, provided:

- the total aggregate number of hooks may not exceed 15 or the daily bag limit for burbot in the waters being fished, whichever is less;
- hooks are single hooks with gap between point and shank larger than $\frac{3}{4}$ inch;
- each hook is set to rest on the bottom of the lake or stream;
- each line is identified with angler's name and address; and
- each line is physically inspected at least once in each 24-hour period.

POSSESSION OF SPORT-CAUGHT FISH (EXCEPT HALIBUT)

- 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. See Transfer of Possession Form on page 95. The statement is unnecessary if the person possessing the fish is accompanied by the person who took the fish. 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.

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.
- Consult federal regulations for: bag, size, and possession limits for guided (charter) anglers; possession and landing requirements, and inseason changes to the regulations.
- Federal halibut regulations are available from:
NOAA Fisheries Alaska Region, (907) 586-7228
<http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/sustainablefisheries/halibut/sport.htm>

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;
 - Pink salmon taken as part of a sport fishing bag limit, may be used as bait in salt water.
 - Herring and whitefish may be used as bait,
 - Species for which bag limits, seasons, or other regulatory methods and means are not provided in sport fishing regulations may be used as bait,
 - The head, tail, fins, 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.

GENERAL REGULATIONS

Inclusive waters: Salt waters of Cook Inlet, North Gulf Coast and Prince William Sound. See individual area definitions below.

Cook Inlet: 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 18).

North Gulf Coast: Salt waters within 200 miles of shore from the longitude of Gore Point to the longitude of Cape Fairfield, includes Resurrection Bay (map on page 76).

Prince William Sound: Salt waters within 200 miles of shore from Cape Suckling to Cape Fairfield.(see map on page 80).

The Fishing Season for all species is open year-round unless otherwise noted below.



KING CRAB

- **Season:** **Closed.** Except see Special Regulation for Prince William Sound (page 10).

TANNER CRAB (visual identification info page 10)

Check for emergency orders before fishing.

• **Cook Inlet and North Gulf Coast:**

- A permit is required and is available at Anchorage, Soldotna and Homer ADF&G offices, and the Fish House in Seward.
- **Season:** July 15–March 15:
 - Male crabs only, 5½ inch minimum: 5 per day, 5 in possession.
- **North Gulf Coast:**
 - 2 pots per person, maximum of 6 per vessel.
- **Cook Inlet** (except Kachemak Bay, see below):
 - 2 pots per person, maximum of 2 per vessel.
- **Kachemak Bay:**
 - **Season:** September 1–December 31 and January 15–March 15:
 - 2 pots per person, maximum of 2 per vessel.

• **Prince William Sound:**

- **Season:** **Closed.** Except see Special Regulation for Prince William Sound (page 10).

DUNGENESS CRAB

- **Season:** **Closed.**

SHRIMP

- **Cook Inlet:**
 - **Season:** **Closed.**
- **North Gulf Coast:**
 - **Season:** **Closed.** Except see Special Regulation for North Gulf Coast (page 10).
- **Prince William Sound:**
 - **Season:** April 15–September 15:
 - 5 pots per person, maximum of 5 per vessel: no limit.

RAZOR CLAMS

- **Cook Inlet from the Kenai River south to the tip of the Homer Spit:** **Closed to all clamming.**
- **Rest of Cook Inlet:** No limit.
- **North Gulf Coast:** No limit.
- **Prince William Sound:** No limit.

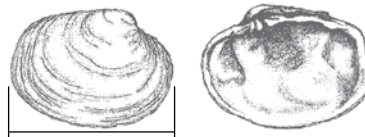
LITTLENECK AND BUTTER CLAMS

- **Cook Inlet and North Gulf Coast:**
 - 80 per day, 80 in possession in combination.
 - Littleneck clams: Must be 1½ inches or wider.
 - Butter clams: Must be 2½ inches or wider.
- **Prince William Sound:** No limit.

OTHER SHELLFISH

- No limit.

BUTTER CLAM



Minimum 2½ inches across the widest part of the shell for Cook Inlet and North Gulf Coast harvest requirement. The butter clam shell is thick and white. It has heavy concentric growth rings, but no vertical ridges. The shell's inner edge is smooth. Butter clams are 3 to 5 inches long.

PACIFIC LITTleneck CLAM



Minimum 1½ inches across the widest part of the shell for Cook Inlet and North Gulf Coast harvest requirement. Littleneck clam shells have concentric growth rings and distinct vertical ridges. The inner edge is ridged like the edge of a quarter. Littleneck clams are about 2 inches long.

METHODS AND MEANS

License: A valid sport fishing license/PID or DAV card is required and must be in your possession when harvesting and/or transporting shellfish for sport or personal use.

Permits required: A shellfish harvest permit is required and must be in your possession when taking shrimp in Prince William Sound and the North Gulf Coast and crab in Cook Inlet, North Gulf Coast and Prince William Sound.

Limits: Sport fishing bag and possession limits given here for shellfish are not in addition to those allowed under subsistence or personal use fishing regulations. Once a bag limit is removed from a pot, that pot may not be returned to the water containing any live crab.

Mutilation or disfigurement prohibited: No one may mutilate or otherwise disfigure a crab in any manner that prevents determination of its sex and/or minimum size restrictions until it has been processed or prepared for consumption. Only whole crab, cooked or uncooked, may be taken off a vessel.

Shellfish pot tampering prohibited: It is illegal to disturb, tamper with, or pull another angler's pots without prior permission of the pot's owner.

Legal gear: Clams may be taken only with rakes, shovels, manually operated clam guns, or by hand. Shrimp may be taken only with pots and ring nets. Crab may be taken only with pots, ring nets, diving gear, dip nets, hooked or hookless hand lines.

Minimum size: No person may take or possess shellfish smaller than the legal size.

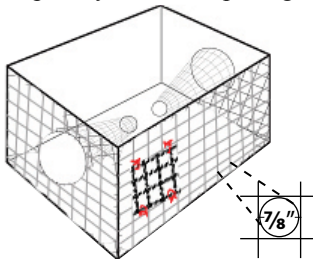
Buoy requirements: A keg or buoy attached to a pot must be plainly and legibly inscribed with the fisher's first initial, last name, home address, and the name or AK boat registration number of the vessel used to operate the pot. In Cook Inlet (including North Gulf Coast) waters, no portion of the line attaching the buoy to the crab pot may float on the surface. The line connecting the main buoy to auxiliary buoys may float.

Escapement mechanisms required: All pots must have a biodegradable escape mechanism. In addition, crab pots must contain two escape rings no less than 4 $\frac{3}{8}$ inches in diameter.

GEAR REQUIREMENTS

Rigid mesh pots:

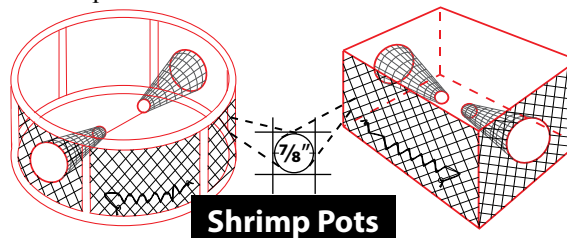
- Pots must have at least one opening in a sidewall, which may include the tunnel.
- The opening of a king crab or Tanner crab pot must be equal to or exceed a 12-inch by 8-inch rectangle, and the opening of a shrimp pot must be at least the size of a 4-inch square.
- The opening may be covered with a single panel secured to pot with no more than four single loops of 100% untreated cotton twine no larger than 30-thread.
- Each loop may only contain one knot and cannot be tied or looped around the web bars.
- The panel must be attached so that when the twine degrades, the panel will drop away from the opening.
- The opening must be within 6 inches of the bottom of the pot and parallel to it.



Rigid Mesh Pot

Shrimp pot requirement:

- Two vertical sides of all shrimp pots must be made entirely of webbing big enough to allow a $\frac{7}{8}$ -inch round wooden dowel to go through without stretching or otherwise deforming the opening.
- The two vertical sides must touch each other and cannot be covered by anything.
- The other two sides, top, bottom, and tunnels may be composed of any material.
- The $\frac{7}{8}$ -inch size allows undersize and juvenile shrimp to escape.



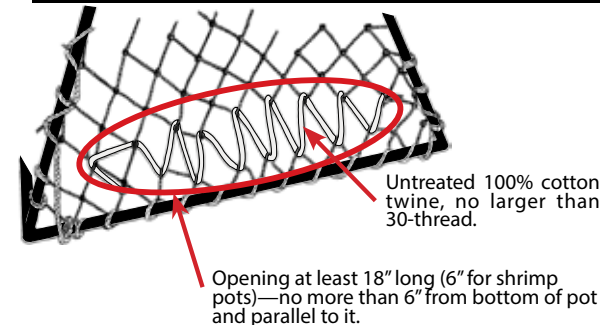
Shrimp Pots

A shrimp pot with no definable sides, such as a round pot, must have 50% of its vertical surface area covered with $\frac{7}{8}$ -inch webbing. The other 50% of its vertical sides, as well as its top and bottom, may be composed of any material.

Net mesh pots:

- Pots must have a sidewall, which may include a tunnel, with an opening equal to or exceeding 18 inches in length for crab pots and 6-inches or greater in length for shrimp pots.
- The opening must be laced, sewn, or secured together by a single length of untreated 100% cotton twine no larger than 30-thread.
- The cotton twine may be knotted at each end only.
- The opening must be within 6 inches of the bottom of the pot and parallel to it. The cotton twine cannot be tied or looped around the web bars.

Net Mesh Pot Opening Requirement



Untreated 100% cotton twine, no larger than 30-thread.

Opening at least 18" long (6" for shrimp pots)—no more than 6" from bottom of pot and parallel to it.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS

Cook Inlet:

- China Poot and Peterson Bay (Kachemak Bay):

- Intertidal beach between ADF&G markers along Shipwreck Cove and containing Otter Rock:
- Closed to the harvest of all shellfish.**

North Gulf Coast:

- Personal Use Shrimp-Alaska residents only**—All North Gulf Coast waters, including Resurrection Bay (See map on page 76):

- Season:** April 15 through September 15.
 - A permit is required. Permits are available at ADF&G offices in Anchorage, Soldotna, and Homer, and at The Fish House in Seward.
 - Shrimp may only be taken with pots and ring nets:
 - Refer to Gear Regulations on page 9.
 - 5 pots per person, maximum of 5 pots per vessel.
 - There are no bag, possession, or size limits.



Sunny summer shrimping

Prince William Sound:

- Subsistence golden king crab and Tanner crab—Alaska residents only:**

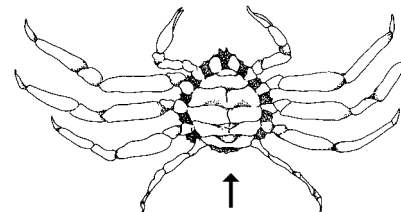
- October 1–March 31.
- A permit is required and is available at Anchorage and Cordova ADF&G offices, and the Department of Public Safety offices in Seward and Valdez.
- Open Waters: See ADF&G website for waters open to subsistence crab fishing:

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=ByAreaSubsistencePWS.fishingInfo>

or call ADF&G Cordova at (907) 424-3212.

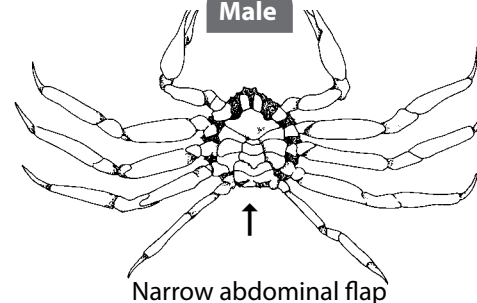
- Gear is limited to 2 pots per person with a maximum of 2 pots per vessel.
- Tanner crab:
 - 5 legal-sized (5½ inches or greater in carapace width) male Tanner crab per day, 5 in possession.
- Golden king crab:
 - Annual household limit of 3 legal-sized (7 inches as measured in a straight-line distance across the carapace, including spines) male golden king crab per year.
- Razor Clams:**
 - There are no bag or possession limits.
 - In waters east of 146° W. longitude and south of a line from the southernmost tip of Point Bentinck (Hinchinbrook Island) to the southernmost tip of Point Whitt:**
 - A permit is required and is available at the Cordova ADF&G office.
 - Only razor clams 4½ inches or longer may be taken.

TANNER CRAB (minimum size 5½ inches)

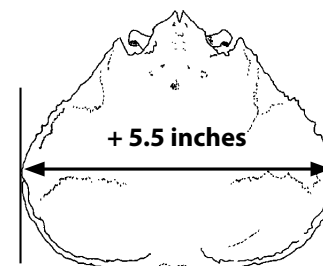
Female - **NO HARVEST ALLOWED**

Wide abdominal flap covers most of underside (females usually smaller than 5½")

Male



Narrow abdominal flap



Width measurement of Tanner crab is the straight-line distance across the carapace, **including** spines.

SOUTHCENTRAL ALASKA GUIDING REGULATIONS

STATEWIDE REGULATIONS

GUIDE VESSEL DECAL AND REGISTRATION NUMBER

All sport charter vessels used in guided recreational taking of fish in freshwater or saltwater or shellfish must have its current Division of Motor Vehicles boat registration number and its ADF&G sport fishing guide vessel decal with a current year renewal sticker displayed in plain view on each side of the vessel at all times the vessel is engaged in sport fish guide services.

SHELLFISH (CRAB, SHRIMP, MISC. SHELLFISH)

An owner, operator, or employee of a lodge, charter vessel, or other enterprise that furnishes food, lodging, or sport fishing guide services may not furnish to a client or guest of that enterprise, subsistence-, sport-, or personal use-caught shellfish, unless the shellfish:

- 1) has been taken with gear deployed and retrieved by the client or guest;
- 2) has been taken with gear that has been marked with the client's or guest's name and address; and
- 3) is to be consumed by the client or guest or is consumed in the presence of the client or guest. The captain and crew members of a charter vessel may not deploy, set, or retrieve their own gear in a subsistence, sport, or personal use fishery when that vessel is being chartered.

REGULATIONS WITHIN MANAGEMENT AREAS

COOK INLET SALT WATERS

Early run king salmon special harvest area:

- **Guides may not sport fish April 1-June 30** while a client is present or within the guide's control or responsibility, unless the guide is providing assistance to a client with a disability as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act.

WEST COOK INLET

SUSITNA RIVER DRAINAGE

KNIK ARM

ANCHORAGE BOWL

In all fresh waters open to fishing for king salmon:

- **Guides may not sport fish** while a client is present or within the guide's control or responsibility, unless the guide is providing assistance to a client with a disability as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act.

KENAI PENINSULA

Kasilof River:

- **In all fresh waters open to fishing for king salmon:**
 - **Guides may not sport fish** while a client is present or within the guide's control or responsibility, unless the guide is providing assistance to a client with a disability as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- **Downstream of the Sterling Highway bridge:**
 - A person may not sport fish from a registered guide vessel on any Sunday in July.

KENAI RIVER

FISHING FROM GUIDE BOATS ON THE KENAI RIVER:

- **Guides may not sport fish** while a client is present or within the guide's control or responsibility, unless the guide is providing assistance to a client with a disability as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- The maximum number of fishing rods operated may not exceed the number of clients on board the vessel.

• **Downstream from the outlet of Skilak Lake:**

- **Closed to sport fishing Sundays and Mondays (except Memorial Day) May 1-July 31.**
- Sport fishing allowed Tuesday-Saturday, but only from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- In July, guide boats may carry no more than 5 persons, including the guide, clients, and other passengers.
- **Upstream from the confluence of the Moose and Kenai rivers:**
 - **Closed to fishing for coho salmon from a guide vessel on Mondays (except Labor Day) August 1-November 30.** Any coho salmon caught must be immediately released.
- **Downstream from the confluence of the Moose and Kenai rivers:**
 - **Closed to all fishing from a guide vessel on Mondays (except Labor Day) August 1-November 30.**

ALASKA STATE PARKS AND ADF&G DUAL REGISTRATION REQUIRED

- Before guiding sport anglers on the Kenai River, each guide and vessel must register annually with ADF&G and the Soldotna office of Alaska State Parks.
- In addition to the ADF&G sport fishing guide vessel decal, each guide vessel shall be identified by displaying the issued Department of Natural Resources Kenai River guide stickers, and the assigned three-digit guide vessel number on both sides of the vessel just aft of the midpoint and above the water line. For specific information on Department of Natural Resources guide registration and decal requirements, call the Donald E. Gilman River Center at (907) 714-2470.
- Businesses may not provide guides, boat operators, or boats for rent to anglers unless the guides, boat operators, and boats are registered as described above.
- It is unlawful for a sport angler or a third party to contract with an individual for the purpose of operating a boat and/or guiding unless the individual employed is registered as described above.

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GENERAL REGULATIONS

Only Alaska residents, as defined on page 5, are eligible to participate in personal use fisheries.

Nonresidents may not participate in personal use fisheries. For example, nonresidents may not handle any of the gear or operate a boat that is being used for personal use fishing, or have in their possession fish harvested in a personal use fishery.

- “Personal use” is taking, fishing for, or possession of finfish, shellfish, or other fishery resources, by Alaska residents for personal use and not for sale or barter, with gill or dip net, seine, fish wheel, long line, or other means defined by the Board of Fisheries.
- **In all personal use fisheries, a sport fishing license is required (unless the angler is under 16):**
 - For anglers aged 16 to 59, a resident Alaska sport fishing license must be in possession of the person who is personal use fishing.
 - For Alaska resident anglers 60 or older and for Alaska resident disabled veterans, the ADF&G PID card or DAV card must be in possession of the person who is personal use fishing.
- In some personal use fisheries, a permit is required in addition to the sport fishing license. Personal use permits are available online at:

www.adfg.alaska.gov/store
- Salmon sport fishing bag and possession limits are in addition to those allowed under personal use fishing regulations.

COOK INLET - NORTH GULF COAST PERSONAL USE FISHERIES

SMELT (HOOLIGAN) - PERSONAL USE

- No permit is required, **but a sport fishing license is required (unless the angler is under 16).**
- Open season for smelt in salt waters is April 1–May 31; in fresh waters, it is April 1–June 15.
- Smelt may be taken by dip net in any fresh or salt water.
- Dip nets may be used to harvest smelt throughout the Kenai River April 1–June 15.
- Small, handheld gillnets may be used to take smelt in the Kenai River from its mouth upstream to an ADF&G marker located at Cunningham Park. No gillnet may exceed 20 ft in length, 4 ft in depth, and 1½ inches mesh size. The net must be attended while it is in the water. The open season for this gillnet fishery is April 1–June 15.
- There is no bag or possession limit for personal use smelt.
- Call (907) 267-2515 for recorded inseason information.
- See also “Sport fishing gear for herring and smelt,” page 7.



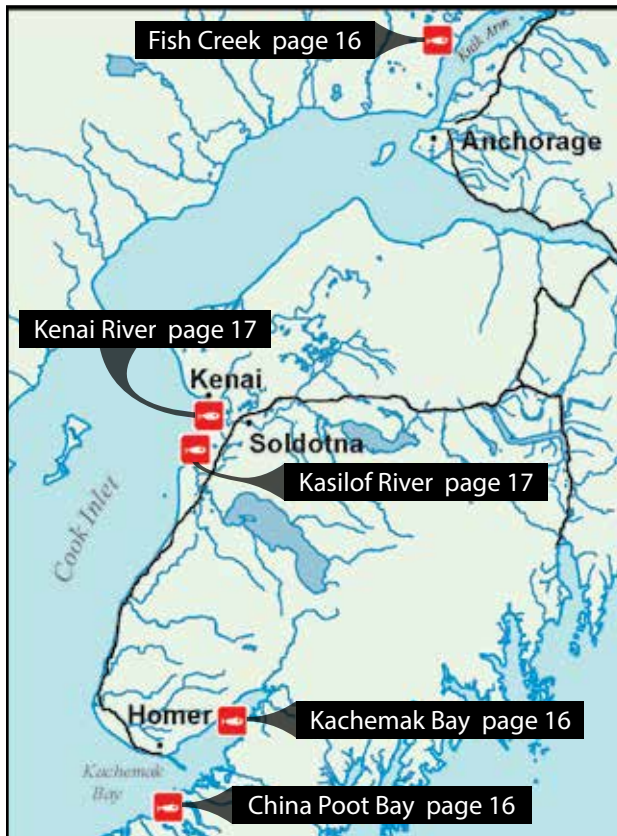
Dipnetting hooligan along Turnagain Arm by Ryan Ragan

HERRING - PERSONAL USE

- No permit is required, **but a sport fishing license is required (unless the angler is under 16).**
- Open season in salt waters north of Anchor Point is April 1–May 31; in Cook Inlet south of Anchor Point, including Resurrection Bay, open season is January 1–December 31.
- There is no bag or possession limit for personal use herring.
- Herring may be taken for personal use with gillnets, dip nets, or cast nets. Gillnets may not be used to harvest herring in Turnagain Arm (salt waters east of a line from Point Possession to Point Campbell—see map on page 18). Cast nets may be used only in Kachemak Bay east of a line from Anchor Point to Point Pogibshi (see map on page 18).
- A cast net is a circular net with a mesh size of no more than one and one-half inches and weights attached to the perimeter which, when thrown surrounds the fish and closes at the bottom when returned.
- In Cook Inlet north of Anchor Point and in the North Gulf Coast, herring gillnets may not exceed 20 ft in length, 2-inch stretch mesh. South of Anchor Point, gillnets may not exceed 50 ft in length, 2-inch stretch mesh.
- A gillnet must be attended at all times when it is being used to take fish.
- See also “Sport fishing gear for herring and smelt,” page 7.

More Personal Use Fisheries Information

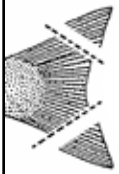
- **Kenai/Kasilof dipnetting hotline, including commercial openings:**
 - Anchorage (907) 267-2512
- **Selected Cook Inlet sonar estimates and weir counts:**
 - Soldotna (907) 262-9097
- **Smelt (hooligan) dipnetting hotline:**
 - Anchorage (907) 267-2515
- **Chitina dipnetting hotline:**
 - Anchorage (907) 267-2511
 - Glennallen (907) 822-5224
 - Personal use regulations for dipnetting at Chitina can be found in the Northern sport fishing regulation summary or on the Region 3 website.



COOK INLET PERSONAL USE SALMON FISHERIES

- Permits are required for personal use fisheries at Kenai, Kasilof, Fish Creek, and for the Kachemak Bay coho salmon gillnet fishery.
- You must have a current year's Alaska sport fishing license (or the ADF&G Permanent ID or DAV card) to obtain a permit.
- Only one permit per household, not one permit per person.
- No permit is required for the China Poot Creek personal use fishery.

- Kenai, Kasilof and Fish Creek permits are available at most license vendors in the Mat-Su Valley, Eagle River, Anchorage, and Kenai Peninsula. All Cook Inlet personal use salmon permits are free of charge.
- Kachemak Bay coho salmon gillnet fishery permits are available only at the ADF&G Homer Office, and only after August 1. Call (907) 235-8191 for more information.
- Permits must be returned to ADF&G by the date indicated on the permit. Failure to return this permit may result in a \$200 fine and loss of your future personal use fishing privileges.
- A person may not possess salmon taken under a personal use salmon fishing permit unless both tips of the tail fin have been **immediately** removed from the salmon.
- **Immediately means:**
 - **when fishing from SHORE:** before concealing the salmon from plain view or before transporting the salmon from the shoreline or streambank adjacent to the waters open to personal use fishing where the salmon was removed from the water.
 - **when fishing from A BOAT:** before concealing the salmon from plain view or before transporting the salmon from the waters open to personal use fishing where the salmon was removed from the water.



- This definition of immediately applies only to the personal use fishery and **DOES NOT** apply to recording king salmon (or other fish) taken in the sport fishery on the sport fishing license or harvest record.
- All fish harvested (salmon and flounder) must be recorded on the permit, in ink, **immediately** upon harvesting the fish.
- **Immediately means:** before concealing the salmon from plain view or transporting the salmon from the shoreline or streambank adjacent to waters open to personal use fishing where the salmon was removed from the water when fishing from shore or from the waters open to personal use fishing when fishing from a boat.

ANNUAL PERMIT LIMIT

In Cook Inlet, only **one** personal use salmon permit may be issued to each household per year. A household may have either **one** Kenai/Kasilof/Fish Creek permit or **one** Kachemak Bay coho salmon gillnet permit, but not both in the same year.

DIP NETTING TIPS

- **Stay off the dunes!:** Do not camp, walk, drive cars or 4-wheelers, or otherwise disturb the fragile dunes. Foot access is only through established footpaths, and walkways. The vegetation anchors the dunes, which in turn anchor the river beds. The dunes help prevent flooding and erosion and provide habitat for birds and animals. Please respect private property as if it were your own, and do not trespass, including "cutting through" with your vehicle or 4-wheeler.
- **Don't drive on the beach:** To protect the dunes, do not drive your car or ATV above the high tide mark. Local land managers may have vehicle access restrictions.
- **Fires:** Land managers have fire restrictions.
- **Pack out trash:** Refuse service may not be available. Please pack out your own trash.
- **Tidal currents can be fast:** If you are shore fishing, we suggest you wear a life jacket or have flotation readily available. The tides are very strong and can create unexpected hazards. If you are fishing from a boat, life jackets for adults are required by law to be available, and it is law that children under 13 wear their life jacket in an open boat.
- **Fish processing:** Use facilities if provided, do not process fish on stairs, on boardwalks, on boat ramps or on parking lots. Dispose of fish waste responsibly by using facilities provided or return waste to the river in small pieces if allowed. If you process fish at home dispose of waste properly by taking the waste to a landfill where allowed. Never discard fish waste onto the open countryside.



...continued

COOK INLET PERSONAL USE SALMON FISHERIES (continued)

CHINA POOT CREEK DIP NET FISHERY

- No permit is required, **but a sport fishing license is required (unless the angler is under 16).**
- Sockeye salmon may be taken July 1–August 7 in China Poot Creek (on the south shore of Kachemak Bay) upstream of ADF&G markers.
- The bag and possession limits are 6 sockeye salmon per person per day. Only sockeye salmon may be retained.
- Both tips of the tail fin must be removed.
- When fishing from shore, this must be done before concealing the salmon from plain view or before transporting the salmon from the shoreline or streambank adjacent to the waters open to personal use fishing where the salmon was removed from the water.
- When fishing from a boat, this must be done before concealing the salmon from plain view or before transporting the salmon from the waters open to personal use fishing where the salmon was removed from the water.

KACHEMAK BAY COHO SALMON GILLNET FISHERY

- **A permit is required in addition to a sport fishing license.** Permits are available from the Homer ADF&G office from August 1 until the fishery closes.
- The fishery takes place from August 16 through September 15. However fishing can only occur during open periods from 6:00 a.m. Monday to 6:00 a.m. Wednesday and from 6:00 a.m. Thursday to 6:00 a.m. Saturday. The fishery closes when 1,000–2,000 coho salmon are harvested. Permit holders are encouraged to report their catches on a daily basis by phone (907) 235-1738.
- Gear is a 35-fathom gillnet. Mesh size may not exceed 6 inches. Depth of the net may not exceed 45 meshes.
- The yearly harvest limit is 25 salmon for the permit holder and 10 salmon for each additional household member.
- No part of a set gillnet may be operated within 600 ft of another set gillnet. No person may operate more than one set gillnet. No part of a set gillnet may be set or operated more than 500 ft from the mean high water mark. No set gillnet may be set seaward of another set gillnet.

DIP NET: STATEWIDE DEFINITION FOR ALL FISHERIES

By regulation, a dip net is defined as a bag-shaped net supported on all sides by a rigid frame. The maximum straight-line distance between any two points on the net frame, as measured through the net opening, may not exceed 5 ft. The depth of the bag must be at least one-half the greatest straight-line distance as measured through the net opening. No portion of the bag may be constructed of webbing that exceeds a stretched measurement of 4½ inches. The frame must be attached to a single rigid handle and be operated by hand.



Dipnetting the Kenai River below the Warren Ames bridge

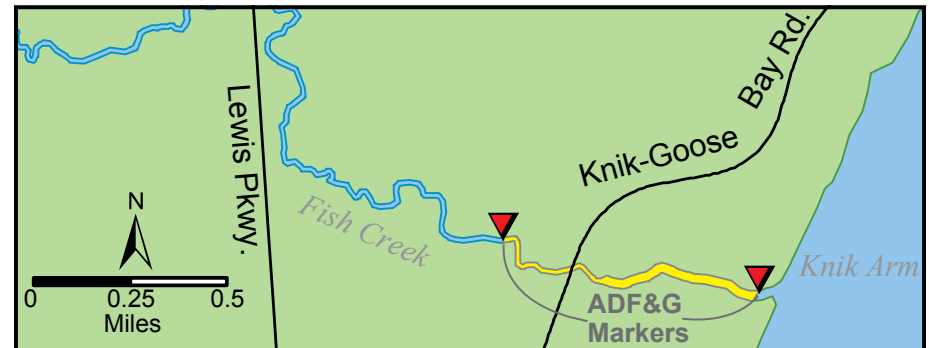
by Ken Marsh

FISH CREEK, KASILOF RIVER AND KENAI RIVER COOK INLET PERSONAL USE SALMON FISHERIES

- **A permit is required in addition to a sport fishing license.** The permit covers four fisheries: gillnetting on the Kasilof River, dipnetting on the Kenai River, dipnetting on the Kasilof River, and dipnetting on Fish Creek. Alaska residents may participate in one or all of these fisheries.
- Permits are available online at: www.adfg.alaska.gov as well as at license vendors in Anchorage, Palmer, Wasilla, Eagle River, JBER, Cooper Landing, Seward, Soldotna, Kenai, Ninilchik, Anchor Point, and Homer. ADF&G offices include: Anchorage, Palmer, Soldotna, Homer, and Fairbanks
- The total yearly harvest limit is 25 salmon and 10 flounder for the permit holder and 10 salmon for each additional household member. The limit is combined for all four fisheries, not for each fishery.

FISH CREEK PERSONAL USE DIP NET FISHERY

- **Opened only by emergency order.**
- **A permit is required in addition to a sport fishing license.**
- NO RETENTION of king salmon is allowed.
- Open area: Upstream from ADF&G markers posted on both sides of the terminus of Fish Creek to markers posted about ¼ mile upstream from Knik-Goose Bay Road. Dipnetting may occur from boat or shore.



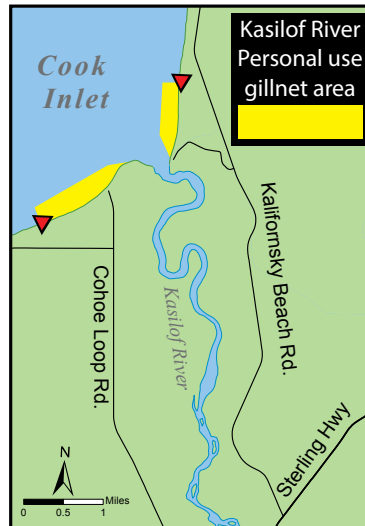
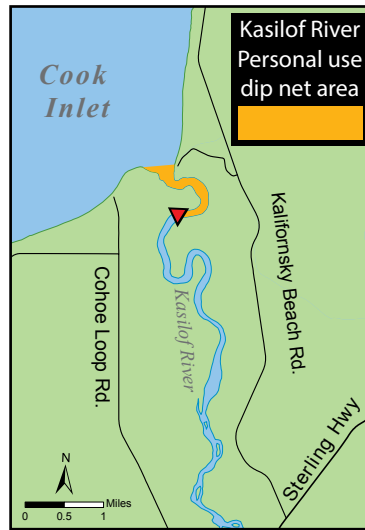
Fish Creek

KASILOF RIVER DIP NET FISHERY

- A permit is required in addition to a sport fishing license.
- Open June 25–August 7. Fishing is allowed 24 hours/day, 7 days/week.
- NO RETENTION of king salmon is allowed.
- Open area: from ADF&G markers posted on Cook Inlet outside of the mouth of the Kasilof River, to about 1 mile upstream to ADF&G markers.
- Fish may be taken from the bank or from a boat.

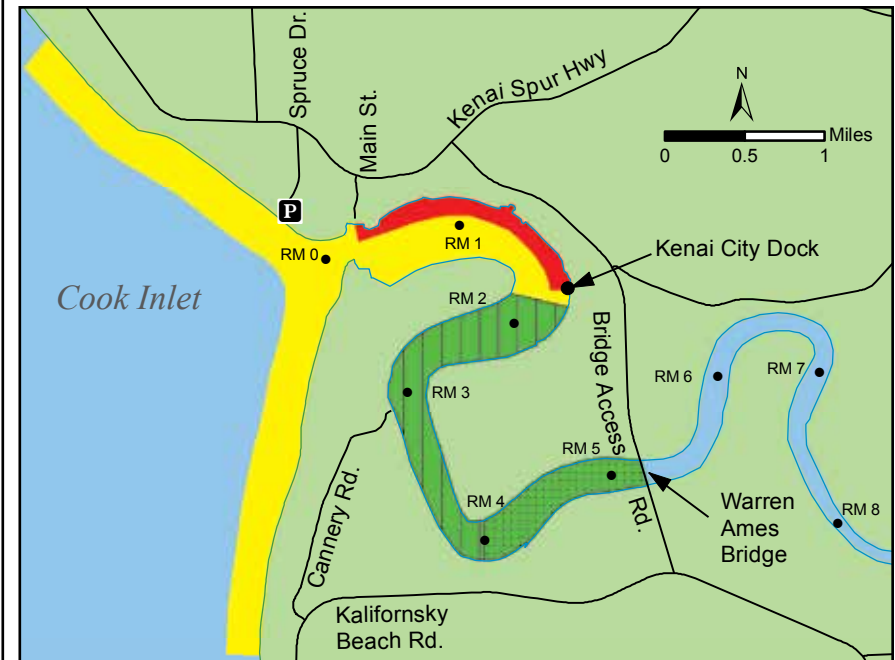
KASILOF RIVER GILLNET FISHERY

- A permit is required in addition to a sport fishing license.
- Open June 15–June 24. Fishing allowed only between 6:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m.
- Open area: salt waters about 1 mile north and south of the Kasilof River mouth, as defined by ADF&G markers. Fishing prohibited beyond 1 mile from the mean high water mark, and is also prohibited within the flowing waters or over the stream bed or channel of the Kasilof River at any stage of the tide.
- Any king salmon caught may be retained.
- Only one set gillnet per household may be fished. A set gillnet is a gillnet that has been intentionally set, staked, anchored, or otherwise fixed. Set gillnets may not exceed 10 fathoms (60 feet) in length, 6 inches in stretched mesh size, and 45 meshes in depth. A minimum distance of 100 feet must be maintained between nets. Each personal use fisherman must write his/her first initial, last name, and home address on any keg or buoy attached to a gillnet. A keg or buoy attached to a gillnet must also be inscribed with the name or the AK number of the vessel used to operate the gillnet.
- The permit holder (or a household member named on the permit) must be physically present at the fishing site at all times when the gear is being fished.
- Net sites are strictly on a “first come, first served” basis. The placement of signs, running lines, buoys, or dry nets on the beach in anticipation of incoming tides does not constitute any prior right to a net location. Sites are established only when the net actually enters the water.







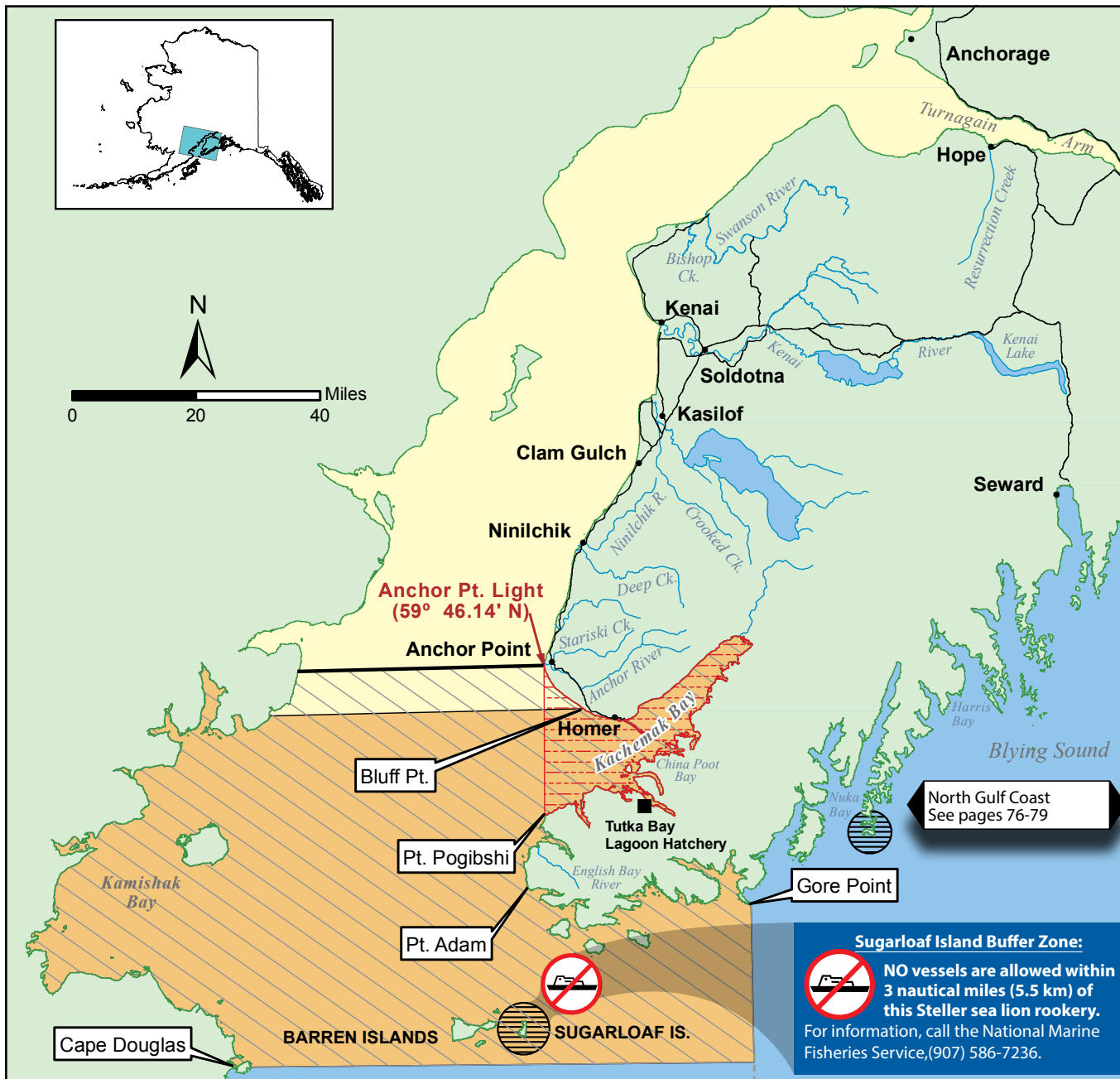
KENAI RIVER PERSONAL USE DIP NET FISHERY

- A permit is required in addition to a sport fishing license.
- Open July 10–July 31. Fishing is allowed only between 6:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m.
- Only one (1) king salmon may be retained from the Kenai River dip net fishery.
- Open area from shore: from the commercial fishing markers located in Cook Inlet north and south of the river mouth, upstream to the downstream edge of the Warren Ames Bridge, except for a section of the north shore from an ADF&G marker below the terminus of Main St. to ADF&G markers near the Kenai City Dock.
- Open area for boats: from ADF&G markers near the Kenai City Dock upstream to the downstream edge of the Warren Ames Bridge. Fish MAY NOT be taken from a boat powered by a two-stroke motor, other than direct fuel injection (DFI).



Kenai River boat and shore dipnet areas

	Open to dipnetting from shore		Open to dipnetting from shore and boat – No HP Limitation
	Closed to dipnetting		Open to dipnetting from shore and boat – 50 HP Limitation



- No snagging of any fish.
- King salmon limits:
 - 20 inches or longer: Annual limit of 5 fish. Must be recorded (see page 5).
 - 1 per day, 1 in possession of any size.

- Snagging fish allowed year-round except in See below.
- King salmon limits:
 - April 1–September 30.
 - 20 inches or longer: Annual limit of 5 fish. Must be recorded (see page 5).
 - 1 per day, 1 in possession of any size.
 - October 1–March 31.
 - No annual limit.
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession of any size.

- Snagging fish allowed year-round except in See below.
- King salmon limits:
 - April 1–September 30.
 - 20 inches or longer: Annual limit of 5 fish. Must be recorded (see page 5).
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession of any size.
 - October 1–March 31.
 - No annual limit.
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession of any size.

- Snagging of fish allowed from June 24– December 31, except in the Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon in Homer (map on pg. 20).

GENERAL REGULATIONS

Inclusive waters: Salt waters of Cook Inlet west of Gore Point and north of Cape Douglas, including Kachemak Bay and the Barren Islands.

The Fishing Season for all species is open year-round unless otherwise noted below.

KING SALMON

- **North of the latitude of Anchor Point Light (59°46.14'N):**
 - 1 per day, 1 in possession (of any size).
- **Between Anchor Point Light (59°46.14'N) and Bluff Point (59°40'N):**
 - April 1–September 30: 1 per day, 1 in possession (of any size).
 - October 1–March 31: 2 per day, 2 in possession (of any size).
- **South of the latitude of Bluff Point (59°40'N):**
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession (of any size).
- 20 inches or longer:
 - There is a combined annual limit of 5 king salmon 20 inches or longer from the waters of the following areas: Cook Inlet Salt Waters, West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, and Kenai Peninsula.
 - **Except** from October 1–March 31 within Cook Inlet salt waters south of the Anchor Point Light (59°46.14'N). These fish are not included in the limit.
 - Anglers who keep a king salmon 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.
 - A king salmon 20 inches or longer that is removed from salt water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a king salmon 20 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.

OTHER SALMON

- 6 per day, 6 in possession, only 3 per day, 3 in possession may be coho (silver) salmon.
- Pink salmon taken in a sport fishery maybe used as bait, but **are** part of your bag limit.

RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

- **No retention.** All rainbow/steelhead trout must be released immediately.

DOLLY VARDEN

- 5 per day, 5 in possession.

LINGCOD

- **Season:** July 1–December 31: 2 per day, 2 in possession, must be at least 35 inches long with head attached or 28 inches from tip of tail to front of dorsal fin with head removed.
- Lincod which are gaffed must be retained. A gaff may not be used to puncture any fish intended or required to be released.

ROCKFISH

- 5 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 per day, 2 in possession may be non-pelagic (see chart on page 90).

HALIBUT

Pacific halibut fisheries are managed by the federal government under international treaty. See page 7 for federal contact information.

- **Season:** February 1–December 31.
- **Unguided anglers:** 2 per day, 4 in possession.
- **Consult federal regulations for the following:**
 - 1) Bag, size, and possession limits for guided (charter) anglers.
 - 2) Possession and landing requirements.
 - 3) Inseason changes to the regulations.

SPINY DOGFISH

- 5 per day, 5 in possession.

SHARKS (EXCEPT SPINY DOGFISH)

- 1 per day, 1 in possession.
- There is an annual limit of 2 sharks. These harvested fish must be recorded. See page 5 for recording instructions.

OTHER FINFISH

- No limit.

SHELLFISH

- See pages 8–10.

METHODS AND MEANS

Snagging:

- Snagging is prohibited (no person may intentionally snag or attempt to snag any species of fish):
 - Year-round in Cook Inlet north of a line extending west from Anchor Point.
 - January 1–June 23 in Kachemak Bay east of a line from Anchor Point to Point Pogibshi.
 - Year-round in the Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon (see special regulations).
- Snagging is allowed:
 - Year-round in Cook Inlet south of a line extending west from Anchor Point and west of a line from Anchor Point to Point Pogibshi.
 - June 24–December 31 in Kachemak Bay east of a line from Anchor Point to Point Pogibshi, except in the Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon (see special regulations).

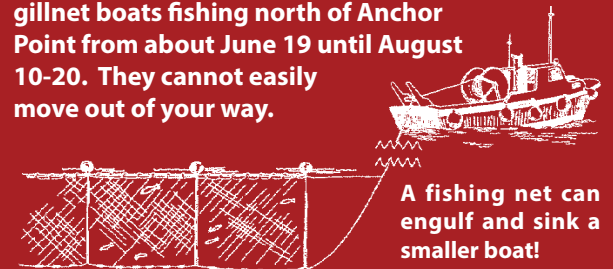
Underwater spear:

- 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 (hooligan):

- 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.

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.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS

Early run king salmon special harvest area:

Inclusive waters: All marine waters south of the latitude of the mouth of the Ninilchik River ($60^{\circ} 03.99' N$) to the latitude of Bluff Point ($59^{\circ} 40' N$) and within 1 mile of shore (See map at right).

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

 Conservation Zones:
The following salt waters are closed to all fishing April 1–June 30 except conservation zone ① is open May 28–30, June 4–6, and June 11–13 to fishing from shore.

- ① South of the latitude of the Ninilchik River ($60^{\circ} 03.99' N$) to ADF&G markers 2 miles south of Deep Creek ($60^{\circ} 00.68' N$), and within 1 mile of shore;
- ② from the latitude of an ADF&G marker located 1 mile north of Stariski Creek ($59^{\circ} 54.37' N$) to the latitude of an ADF&G marker located 1 mile south of Stariski Creek ($59^{\circ} 52.98' N$), and within 1 mile of shore; and
- ③ from the latitude of ADF&G markers 2 miles north of the Anchor River ($59^{\circ} 48.92' N$) to the latitude of the Anchor Point Light ($59^{\circ} 46.14' N$) about 1 3/4 miles south of the Anchor River, and within 1 mile of shore.

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:

- King salmon limits:
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
 - April 1–September 30, king salmon 20 inches or longer must be recorded (see page 5).
- Other salmon (including coho salmon) in combination limits: 6 per day, 6 in possession.
- Snagging is not permitted except by emergency order.
- Weights, bobbers or flotation device following a hook or hooks may not be used when these waters are closed to snagging.
- **Youth-Only King and Coho Fisheries:**
 - Youth Fishery Zones established for persons 15 years of age or younger. The first Saturday in June (June 4) and August (August 6).

Tutka Bay Lagoon:

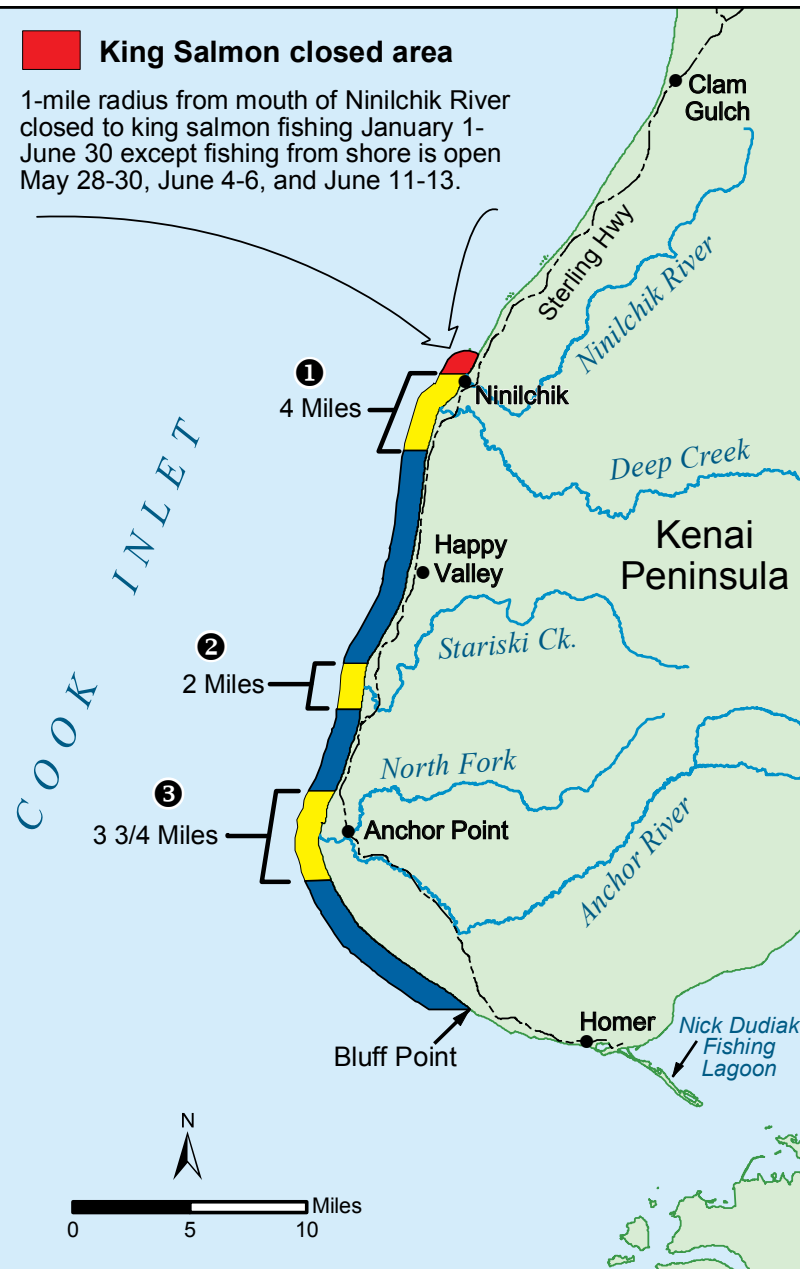
- The marine waters of Tutka Bay Lagoon within 100 yards of the Tutka Bay Lagoon hatchery net pens are closed year-round to sport fishing for any species.



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.

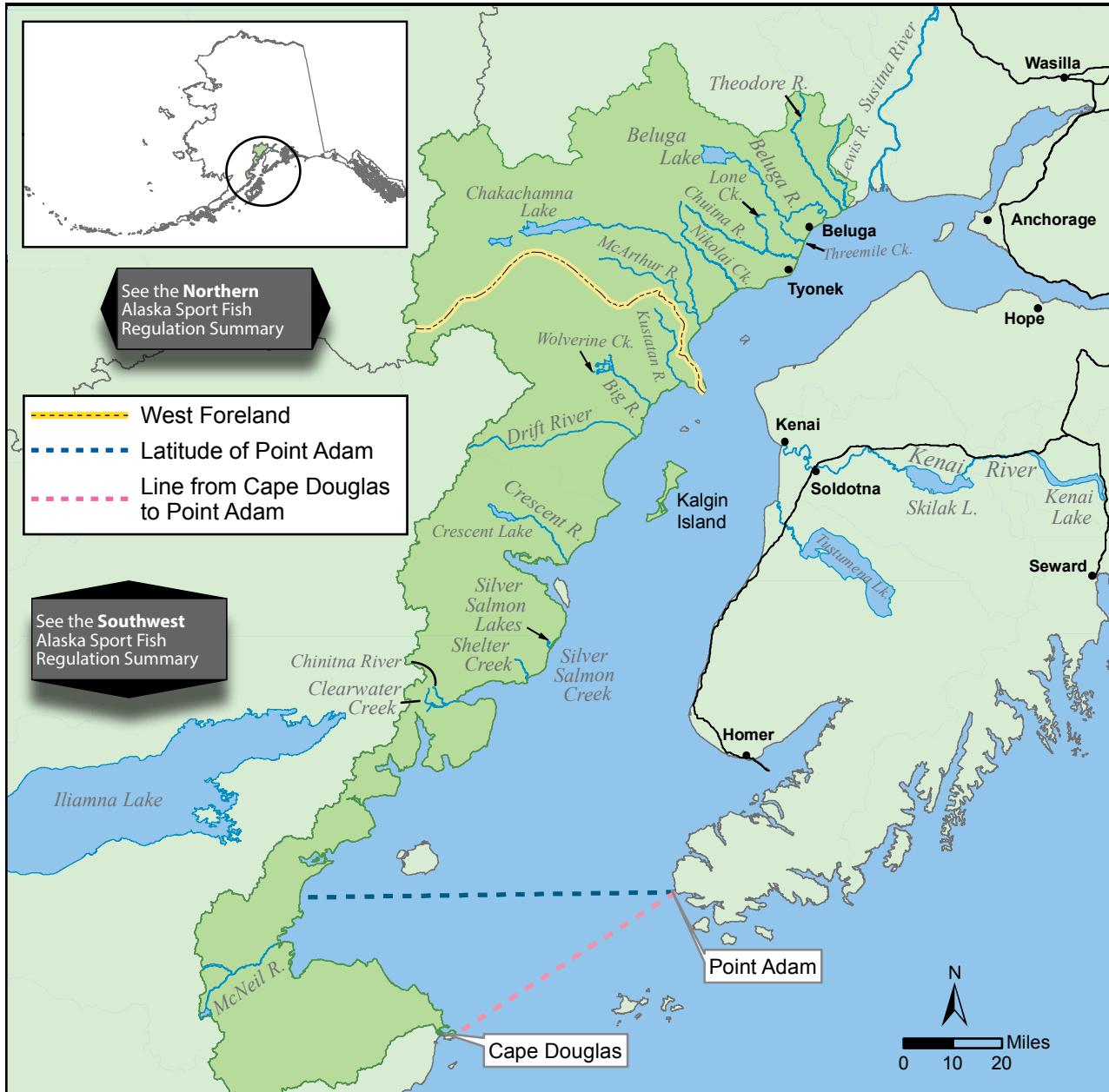
King Salmon closed area

1-mile radius from mouth of Ninilchik River closed to king salmon fishing January 1–June 30 except fishing from shore is open May 28–30, June 4–6, and June 11–13.



Early Run King Salmon Special Harvest Area

WEST COOK INLET



GENERAL REGULATIONS

Inclusive waters: All waters draining into the west side of Cook Inlet between the Susitna River and Cape Douglas (excluding the Susitna River). Includes Kalgin Island.

The Fishing Season for all species is open year-round unless otherwise noted below.

KING SALMON

- **Season:** January 1–June 30.
- 20 inches or longer:
 - 1 per day, 1 in possession.
 - A king salmon 20 inches or longer that is removed from salt or fresh water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a king salmon 20 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
- There is a combined annual limit of 5 king salmon 20 inches or longer from the waters of the following areas: Cook Inlet Salt Waters, West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai River and Kenai Peninsula.
- Anglers who keep a king salmon 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.
- Less than 20 inches:
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession.



...continued

GENERAL REGULATIONS (continued)

OTHER SALMON

- **Season:** January 1–September 30.
- 16 inches or longer:
 - 3 per day, 6 in possession.
 - A coho salmon 16 inches or longer that is removed from fresh water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a coho salmon 16 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
 - A person, after taking a daily bag limit of coho salmon 16 inches or longer from a West Cook Inlet drainage, may not continue to fish in the West Cook Inlet waters on the same day.
- Less than 16 inches:
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession.



Releasing a coho salmon

© Mark Emery

RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

- In flowing waters:
 - **Season:** June 15–April 14:
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 fish may be 20 inches or longer.
 - 20 inches or longer:
 - There is a total annual limit of 2 rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer taken north of the latitude of Point Adam, from the waters of the following areas: West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai Lake drainages, Kenai River tributaries, and Kenai Peninsula.
 - Anglers who keep a rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.
 - April 15–June 14: No retention. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.
- In lakes and ponds:
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 fish may be 20 inches or longer.
 - 20 inches or longer:
 - There is a total annual limit of 2 rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer taken north of the latitude of Point Adam, from the waters of the following areas: West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai Lake drainages, Kenai River tributaries, and Kenai Peninsula.
 - Anglers who keep a rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.

ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN

- 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 fish may be 12 inches or longer.

ARCTIC GRAYLING

- 2 per day, 2 in possession.

LAKE TROUT

- 2 per day, 2 in possession.

NORTHERN PIKE

- No limit.
- 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.
- Anglers are not allowed to release live pike back into the water. Pike not retained for personal use may be disposed of through lawful and safe methods, including returning dead pike to the water.

OTHER FINFISH

- No limit.

METHODS AND MEANS

In drainages between the Susitna River and the West Foreland:

- **In flowing waters:** Only unbaited, artificial lures are allowed during September 1–July 13.
- **In waters open to fishing for king salmon:** From May 15–June 30 fishing is not allowed between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m..
- Northern pike: General regulations (above) apply.

In the flowing waters of drainages from the West Foreland south to the latitude of the southern tip of Chisik Island:

- Only unbaited, artificial lures are allowed September 1–May 15.

In the flowing waters of drainages south of the latitude of the southern tip of Chisik Island to the latitude of Cape Douglas:

- Only unbaited, artificial lures are allowed July 15–May 15.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS

West Cook Inlet, all flowing waters:

- **Closed to salmon fishing October 1–December 31.**

Beluga River drainage—including Coal Creek and tributaries of Beluga Lake:

- **Closed to king salmon fishing.**

Chinitna River drainage—including Clearwater Creek:

- **Clearwater Creek drainage**—including Roscoe Creek, upstream approximately ½ mile upstream of the confluence with the Chinitna River:
 - **Closed year-round to all fishing.**

Chuitbuna Lake (near Beluga):

- Northern pike: Sport fishing through the ice for northern pike is allowed using 5 lines, provided;
 - standard ice-fishing gear is used,
 - the fishing gear is closely attended,
 - and all other fish caught are released immediately.
- Anglers may use two hooks on a single line, provided that both hooks are attached to one single piece of bait.

Chuitna River drainage:

- **Closed to king salmon fishing.**

Lewis River:

- **Closed to king salmon fishing.**

McNeil River:

- **Within ½ mile of McNeil River Falls (about 1 mile upstream from McNeil Lagoon):**
 - **Closed year-round to all fishing.**

Shelter Creek:

- **Upstream from an ADF&G marker approximately 1 mile upstream from its mouth:**
 - **Closed year-round to all fishing.**

Silver Salmon Creek:

- **Within ½ mile of its outlet at Silver Salmon Lake:**
 - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**

Silver Salmon Lake:

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

Theodore River drainage:

- **Closed to king salmon fishing.**

Threemile Creek:

- **Upstream from the Beluga-Tyonek Road culvert to Threemile/Tukhallah Lake:**
 - **Closed year-round to all sport fishing.**

Threemile/Tukhallah Lake:

- **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
- Northern pike: Sport fishing through the ice for northern pike is allowed using 5 lines, provided;
 - standard ice-fishing gear is used,
 - the fishing gear is closely attended,
 - and all other fish caught are released immediately.
- Anglers may use two hooks on a single line, provided that both hooks are attached to one single piece of bait.
- **Within a 300 foot radius of the lake outlet:**
 - **Closed year-round to sport fishing.**

Wolverine Creek—including Big River Lake within a 500-yd radius of the mouth of Wolverine Creek:

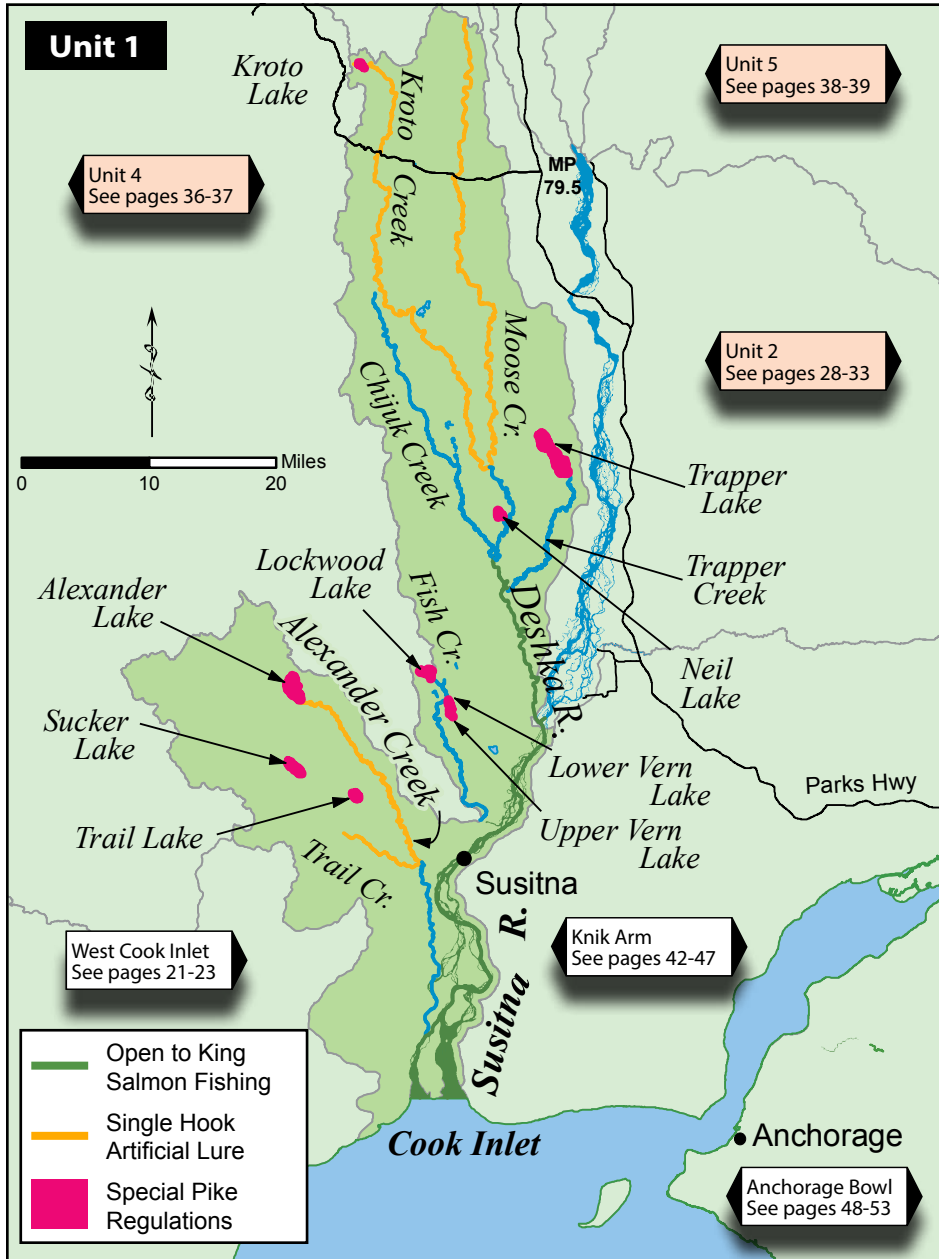
- Fly-fishing-only water June 1–July 31. See page 7 for gear in fly-fishing-only waters.



Only bears fish at McNeil River falls

by Doug Hill

SUSITNA RIVER DRAINAGE - Unit 1



GENERAL REGULATIONS

Inclusive waters: From the mouth of the Susitna River upstream to its confluence with the Deshka River (including the Deshka River drainage, but excluding the Yentna River drainage)—the waters of the Susitna River and its westside tributaries, and all eastside waters within ½ mile of the Susitna River

The Fishing Season for all species is open year-round unless otherwise noted below.

KING SALMON

- In all flowing waters, lakes, and ponds draining into the **west** side of the Susitna, and in all waters draining into the **east** side of the Susitna **within** ½ mile of the Susitna River:
 - Season:** January 1–July 13:
 - In waters open to king salmon fishing, including the Deshka River, fishing is not allowed between 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. May 15–July 13.
 - 20 inches or longer: 1 per day, 2 in possession.
 - There is a combined annual limit of 5 king salmon 20 inches or longer from the waters of the following areas: Cook Inlet Salt Waters, West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai River and Kenai Peninsula.
 - A king salmon 20 inches or longer that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a king salmon 20 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
 - Anglers who keep a king salmon 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.
 - Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.
 - In all waters draining into the east side of the Susitna more than ½ mile from the Susitna River:
 - Closed to fishing for king salmon.**

OTHER SALMON

- 16 inches or longer: 3 per day, 6 in possession.
 - A coho salmon 16 inches or longer that is removed from fresh water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a coho salmon 16 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
- Less than 16 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.

...continued

GENERAL REGULATIONS (continued)

RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

- In flowing waters:
 - June 15–April 14: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
 - April 15–June 14: No retention.
- In lakes and ponds: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
- 20 inches or longer:
 - There is a total annual limit of 2 rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer taken north of the latitude of Point Adam, from the waters of the following areas: West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai Lake drainages, Kenai River tributaries, and Kenai Peninsula, except in the stocked lakes of the Knik Arm and Susitna River areas, where the annual limit is ten (10) rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer (see pages 84–85 for a list of stocked lakes in these areas).
 - Anglers who keep a rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.

ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN

- 5 per day, 5 in possession—only 1 of which may be 12 inches or longer.

ARCTIC GRAYLING

- 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.

LAKE TROUT

- 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.

NORTHERN PIKE

- No limit.
- **Live Release Prohibited.** Anglers are not allowed to release live pike back into the water. Pike not retained for personal use may be disposed of through lawful and safe methods, including returning dead pike to the water.
- 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.

The following special rules apply to ice-fishing for northern pike in the waters listed below:

- Sport fishing through the ice for northern pike is allowed using 5 lines provided that:
 - Standard ice fishing gear is used;
 - the fishing gear is closely attended, and;
 - all other species of fish caught are released immediately.
- **Alexander Creek and Lake**
- **Fish Creek (lower Susitna River)**
- **Fish Creek (Kroto Slough)**
- **Kroto Lakes**
- **Lockwood Lake**
- **Lower and Upper Vern Lakes (Ding-Dong Lakes)**
- **Neil Lake**
- **Sucker Lake**
- **Trail Lake**
- **Trapper Lake**
- **Witsoe Creek**

BURBOT

- 5 per day, 5 in possession, no size limit.
- Bait is allowed while fishing for burbot, and burbot may be taken with more than one line and hook only if:
 - The total number of aggregate hooks/lines does not exceed the daily bag limit for burbot in the water being fished;
 - The hooks are single hooks with a gap between point and shank larger than $\frac{3}{4}$ inch;
 - Each hook is set to rest on the bottom of the lake or stream; and
 - Lines must be tended at least once each 24 hours.
- When fishing for burbot, all other fish caught must be released immediately.

OTHER FINFISH

- No limit.

METHODS AND MEANS

Bait Restriction:

- Flowing waters of the Susitna River drainage from its mouth upstream to its confluence with the Deshka River:
 - September 1 through July 13: Only unbaited, artificial lures are allowed.
 - July 14–August 31: Bait allowed.



Float tube fishing on Alexander Lake

by Ken Marsh

SPECIAL REGULATIONS

Alexander Creek drainage—includes Alexander Lake:

- Salmon (except king salmon) limits:
 - 16 inches or longer: 3 per day, 6 in possession, only 2 per day, 4 in possession may be coho (silver) salmon.
- **In all flowing waters:**
 - Rainbow/steelhead trout, Arctic char/Dolly Varden, and Arctic grayling: No retention is allowed. Any rainbow/steelhead trout, Arctic char/Dolly Varden, or Arctic grayling caught must be released immediately.
- **Alexander Creek and all waters within a ½-mile radius of the stream's confluence with the Susitna River:**
 - King salmon:
 - **Closed year-round to fishing for king salmon.**
- **All waters within a ½-mile radius of the stream's confluence with the Susitna River:**
 - **Closed to all sport fishing from May 1–July 13.**
- **In all flowing waters upstream of ADF&G markers 400 yd upstream from its confluence with Trail Creek:**
 - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure is allowed year-round.

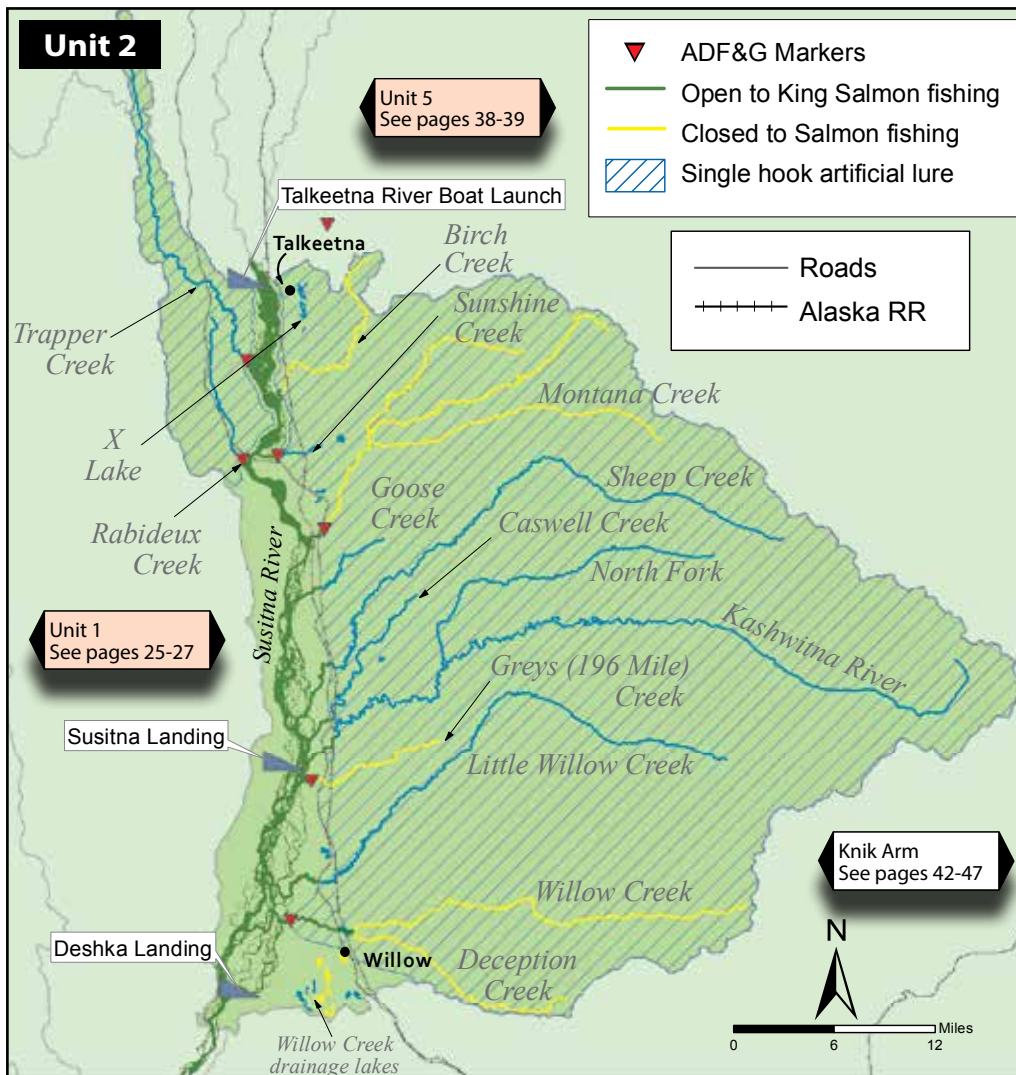


Deshka River kings

Deshka River drainage:

- King salmon limits: After taking a king salmon 20 inches or longer, a person may not fish for king salmon on that same day.
- **In flowing waters of the Deshka River drainage upstream of the forks at Moose/Kroto creeks:**
 - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure is allowed year-round.
 - Rainbow/steelhead trout: No retention of rainbow trout is allowed. All rainbow trout caught must be released immediately.
- **In flowing waters of the Deshka River drainage downstream of the forks at Moose/Kroto creeks to ADF&G markers near Chijuk Creek:**
 - Only unbaited, artificial lures are allowed September 1–July 13.
- **The Deshka River drainage, from its mouth upstream approximately 17 miles to ADF&G markers near Chijuk Creek, and all waters within a ½-mile radius of the Deshka's confluence with the Susitna River:**
 - Only unbaited, artificial lures are allowed September 1–May 31.
 - Bait is allowed June 1–August 31.
 - King salmon:
 - **Season: January 1–July 13.**





GENERAL REGULATIONS

Inclusive waters: The Susitna River drainage, from its confluence with the Deshka River, upstream to its confluence with the Talkeetna River, excluding the Talkeetna River drainage. The lower portions of most streams crossed by the Parks Highway have exceptions to the general regulations, listed on the following pages.

The Fishing Season for all species is open year-round unless otherwise noted below.

KING SALMON

- **Generally, unit 2 is closed to fishing for king salmon, but there are exceptions. See special regulations.**
- In stocked lakes (see pages 84-85 for a list of stocked lakes): 10 per day, 10 in possession, in combination with other salmon.
- In waters where king salmon fishing is allowed, the following regulations apply:
 - A king salmon 20 inches or longer that is removed from salt or fresh water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a king salmon 20 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
 - There is a combined annual limit of 5 king salmon 20 inches or longer from the waters of the following areas: Cook Inlet Salt Waters, West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai River and Kenai Peninsula.
 - Anglers who keep a king salmon 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.
 - After taking a king salmon 20 inches or longer, a person may not fish for any species of fish in any water open to king salmon fishing during that same day.
 - In waters open to king salmon fishing, fishing is not allowed between 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. May 15–July 13.

OTHER SALMON

- In stocked lakes (see pages 84-85 for a list of stocked lakes): 10 per day, 10 in possession, in combination with king salmon.
- In other lakes and ponds and in all flowing waters:
 - 16 inches or longer: 3 per day, 3 in possession, only 2 per day, 2 in possession may be coho salmon.
 - Less than 16 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession, in combination.
- A coho salmon 16 inches or longer that is removed from fresh water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a coho salmon 16 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.

RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

- In stocked lakes (see pages 84–85 for a list of stocked lakes): 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
- In other lakes and ponds: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
- In flowing waters:
 - June 15–April 14: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
 - April 15–June 14: No retention.
- 20 inches or longer:
 - There is a total annual limit of 2 rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer taken north of the latitude of Point Adam, from the waters of the following areas: West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai Lake drainages, Kenai River tributaries, and Kenai Peninsula, except in the stocked lakes of the Knik Arm and Susitna River areas, where the annual limit is ten (10) rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer (see pages 84–85 for a list of stocked lakes in these areas).
 - Anglers who keep a rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.

ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN

- In stocked lakes (see pages 84–85 for a list of stocked lakes): 5 per day, 5 in possession.
- In other lakes and ponds and in all flowing waters: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 of which may be 12 inches or longer.

ARCTIC GRAYLING

- 2 per day, 2 in possession.

LAKE TROUT

- 2 per day, 2 in possession.

BURBOT

- 5 per day, 5 in possession, no size limit.
- Bait is allowed while fishing for burbot, and burbot may be taken with more than one line and hook only if:
 - The total number of aggregate hooks/lines does not exceed the daily bag limit for burbot in the water being fished;
 - The hooks are single hooks with a gap between point and shank larger than $\frac{3}{4}$ inch;
 - Each hook is set to rest on the bottom of the lake or stream; and
 - Lines must be tended at least once each 24 hours.
- When fishing for burbot, all other fish caught must be released immediately.

NORTHERN PIKE

- No limit.
- **Live Release Prohibited.** Anglers are not allowed to release live pike back into the water. Pike not retained for personal use may be disposed of through lawful and safe methods, including returning dead pike to the water.
- 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.

OTHER FINFISH

- No limit.

METHODS AND MEANS

Bait restrictions:

- In all flowing waters of Unit 2, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure is allowed September 1–May 31, and only unbaited, artificial lures are allowed June 1–July 13. Bait allowed July 14–August 31.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS

Birch Creek:

- **From its mouth to ADF&G markers $\frac{1}{4}$ mile upstream:**

Jan. 1 - June 20	Open to all species, including king salmon.
June 21 - 24	Closed to all fishing.
June 25 - 27	Open to all species, including king salmon.
June 28 - July 1	Closed to all fishing.
July 2 - 4	Open to all species, including king salmon.
July 5 - 13	Closed to all fishing.
July 14 - Dec. 31	Open to all species, except king salmon.

- Fishing is not allowed from 11:00 p.m.–6:00 a.m., May 15–July 13.
- King salmon limits:
 - 20 inches or longer—1 per day, 1 in possession.
 - Less than 20 inches—10 per day, 10 in possession.
- **Upstream from ADF&G markers $\frac{1}{4}$ mile upstream from its mouth:**
 - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
 - Open year-round to fishing for other species.
 - Only one unbaited, single hook, artificial lure is allowed year-round.

...continued

SPECIAL REGULATIONS (continued)

Caswell, Little Willow and Sheep Creek drainages:

- From its mouth upstream to the Parks Highway bridge:

Jan. 1 - June 20	Open to all species, including king salmon.
June 21 - 24	Closed to all fishing.
June 25 - 27	Open to all species, including king salmon.
June 28 - July 1	Closed to all fishing.
July 2 - 4	Open to all species, including king salmon.
July 5 - 13	Closed to all fishing.
July 14 - Dec. 31	Open to all species, except king salmon.

- Fishing is not allowed from 11:00 p.m.–6:00 a.m., May 15–July 13.
- King salmon limits:
 - 20 inches or longer—1 per day, 1 in possession.
 - Less than 20 inches—10 per day, 10 in possession.
- Upstream of the Parks Highway bridge:**
 - General regulations on pages 28–29 apply.
 - Only one unbaited, single hook, artificial lure is allowed year-round.

Goose Creek:

- From its mouth upstream to the Parks Highway bridge:

Jan. 1 - June 20	Open to all species, except king salmon.
June 21 - 24	Closed to all fishing.
June 25 - 27	Open to all species, except king salmon.
June 28 - July 1	Closed to all fishing.
July 2 - 4	Open to all species, except king salmon.
July 5 - 13	Closed to all fishing.
July 14 - Dec. 31	Open to all species, except king salmon.

- Fishing is not allowed from 11:00 p.m.–6:00 a.m., May 15–July 13.
- Upstream of the Parks Highway bridge:**
 - Open to fishing for all species (except king salmon) year-round.
 - Only one, unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure is allowed.

Greys (196 Mile) Creek:

- From its mouth to ADF&G markers ¼ mile upstream:

Jan. 1 - June 20	Open to all species, including king salmon.
June 21 - 24	Closed to all fishing.
June 25 - 27	Open to all species, including king salmon.
June 28 - July 1	Closed to all fishing.
July 2 - 4	Open to all species, including king salmon.
July 5 - 13	Closed to all fishing.
July 14 - Dec. 31	Open to all species, except king salmon.

- Fishing is not allowed from 11:00 p.m.–6:00 a.m., May 15–July 13.
- King salmon limits:
 - 20 inches or longer—1 per day, 1 in possession.
 - Less than 20 inches—10 per day, 10 in possession.
- Upstream from ADF&G markers ¼ mile upstream from its mouth:**
 - Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
 - Closed to all fishing, April 15–June 14.**
 - This section is open to fishing for all species except salmon, January 1–April 14 and June 15–December 31.
- Upstream of the Parks Highway bridge:**
 - Only one unbaited, single hook, artificial lure is allowed year-round.



Salmon = Smiles



Kashwitna River drainage:

- From its mouth upstream to the Alaska railroad bridge:

Jan. 1 - June 20	Open to all species, including king salmon.
June 21 - 24	Closed to all fishing.
June 25 - 27	Open to all species, including king salmon.
June 28 - July 1	Closed to all fishing.
July 2 - 4	Open to all species, including king salmon.
July 5 - 13	Closed to all fishing.
July 14 - Dec. 31	Open to all species, except king salmon.

- Fishing is not allowed from 11:00 p.m.–6:00 a.m., May 15–July 13.
- King salmon limits:
 - 20 inches or longer—1 per day, 1 in possession.
 - Less than 20 inches—10 per day, 10 in possession.
- Upstream of the Alaska railroad bridge:**
 - General regulations on pages 28–29 apply except—
 - North fork of the Kashwitna River, and all waters within a ¼ mile radius of its confluence with the Kashwitna River:**
 - Only one unbaited, single hook, artificial lure is allowed year-round.
 - Rainbow/steelhead trout limits:
 - Season is open year-round but no retention is allowed. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.

Little Willow Creek drainage:

- See Caswell Creek Special Regulations.

Montana Creek drainage:

- Entire drainage including all waters within ½ mile radius of its confluence with the Susitna River:
 - Rainbow/steelhead trout and Arctic grayling: No retention allowed year-round. All rainbow trout and Arctic grayling caught must be released immediately.
- From its mouth upstream to ADF&G markers ½ mile above the Parks Highway:

Jan. 1 - June 20	Open to all species, including king salmon.
June 21 - 24	Closed to all fishing.
June 25 - 27	Open to all species, including king salmon.
June 28 - July 1	Closed to all fishing.
July 2 - 4	Open to all species, including king salmon.
July 5 - 13	Closed to all fishing.
July 14 - Dec. 31	Open to all species, except king salmon.

- Fishing is not allowed from 11:00 p.m.–6:00 a.m., May 15–July 13.
- King salmon limits:
 - 20 inches or longer—1 per day, 1 in possession.
 - Less than 20 inches—10 per day, 10 in possession.
- Upstream of the Parks Highway:
 - Only one unbaited, single hook, artificial lure is allowed year-round.
- Upstream of ADF&G markers ½ mile above the parks highway:
 - Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.
 - Rainbow/steelhead trout and Arctic grayling:
 - Open year-round, but no retention of these species is allowed. All rainbow trout and Arctic grayling caught must be released immediately.

Rabideux, Sunshine and Trapper Creek drainages:

- From the mouth to ADF&G markers ¼ mile upstream (all drainages):

Jan. 1 - June 20	Open to all species, including king salmon.
June 21 - 24	Closed to all fishing.
June 25 - 27	Open to all species, including king salmon.
June 28 - July 1	Closed to all fishing.
July 2 - 4	Open to all species, including king salmon.
July 5 - 13	Closed to all fishing.
July 14 - Dec. 31	Open to all species, except king salmon.

- Fishing is not allowed from 11:00 p.m.–6:00 a.m., May 15–July 13.
- King salmon limits:
 - 20 inches or longer—1 per day, 1 in possession.
 - Less than 20 inches—10 per day, 10 in possession.
- Upstream from ADF&G markers ¼ mile upstream of the creek’s mouth (all drainages):
 - Open to fishing year-round following general limits on pages 28–29.
 - Rabideux Creek:
 - All waters upstream of the Parks Highway:
 - Only one unbaited, single hook, artificial lure is allowed year-round.
 - Sunshine Creek:
 - All waters upstream from ADF&G markers ¼ mile upstream from its mouth:
 - Open to fishing year-round following general limits on page 28–29.
 - Only one unbaited, single hook, artificial lure is allowed year-round.
 - Trapper Creek:
 - All waters upstream of the Susitna River Road:
 - Only one unbaited, single hook, artificial lure is allowed year-round.

Sheep Creek drainage:

- See Caswell Creek Special Regulations.

Sunshine Creek drainage:

- See Rabideux Creek Special Regulations.

Susitna River and all flowing waters within a ¼-mile radius of the River, from its confluence with the Deshka River upstream to its confluence with the Talkeetna River:

Jan. 1 - June 20	Open to all species, including king salmon.
June 21 - 24	Closed to all fishing.
June 25 - 27	Open to all species, including king salmon.
June 28 - July 1	Closed to all fishing.
July 2 - 4	Open to all species, including king salmon.
July 5 - 13	Closed to all fishing.
July 14 - Dec. 31	Open to all species, except king salmon.

- Fishing is not allowed from 11:00 p.m.–6:00 a.m., May 15–July 13.
- King salmon limits:
 - 20 inches or longer—1 per day, 1 in possession.
 - Less than 20 inches—10 per day, 10 in possession.

Trapper Creek drainage:

- See Rabideux Creek Special Regulations.



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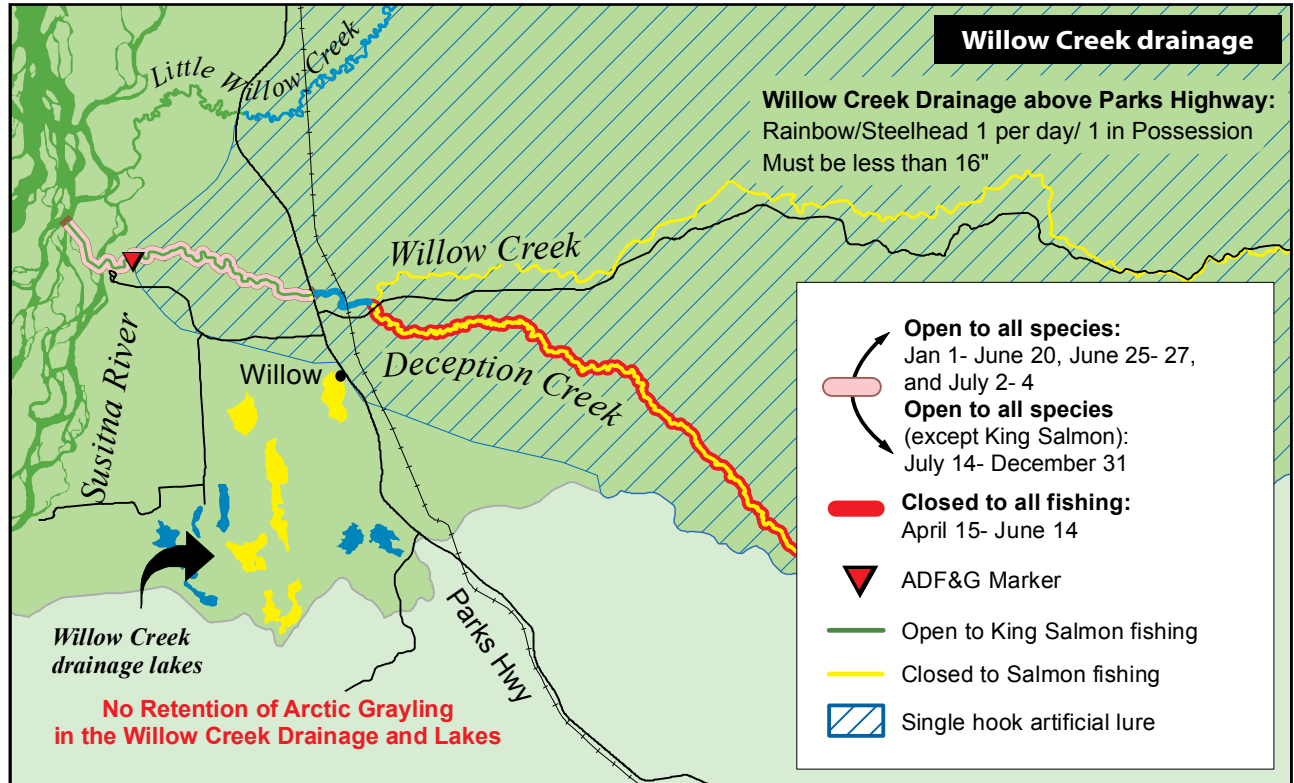
SPECIAL REGULATIONS (continued)

Willow Creek drainage:

- Arctic grayling: No retention in the entire drainage, including all waters within a ½ mile radius of its confluence with the Susitna River. All Arctic grayling caught must be released immediately.
- From its mouth upstream to the Parks Highway:**

Jan. 1 - June 20	Open to all species, including king salmon.
June 21 - 24	Closed to all fishing.
June 25 - 27	Open to all species, including king salmon.
June 28 - July 1	Closed to all fishing.
July 2 - 4	Open to all species, including king salmon.
July 5 - 13	Closed to all fishing.
July 14 - Dec. 31	Open to all species, except king salmon.

- Fishing from a boat for any species is prohibited in a portion of the Susitna River at the furthest downstream mouth of Willow Creek from May 1–July 13. The area closed to fishing from a boat is from an ADF&G marker located on the upstream bank, downstream approximately 300 yards to another ADF&G marker.
- Fishing is not allowed from 11:00 p.m.–6:00 a.m., May 15–July 13.
- King salmon limits:
 - 20 inches or longer—1 per day, 1 in possession.
 - Less than 20 inches—10 per day, 10 in possession.
- Rainbow/steelhead: No retention, including all waters within a ½ mile radius of its confluence with the Susitna River. All rainbow trout caught must be released immediately.



- Upstream from ADF&G markers ½ mile upstream from its mouth:**
 - Only one unbaited, single hook, artificial lure is allowed year-round.
- Upstream of the Parks Highway:**
 - Closed to king salmon fishing.**
 - Only one unbaited, single hook, artificial lure is allowed year-round.
 - Rainbow/steelhead trout limits:
 - April 15–June 14: No retention.
 - June 15–April 14: 1 per day, 1 in possession, less than 16 inches long.

- Upstream of the Parks Highway to its confluence with Deception Creek:**
 - Open to fishing for all species except king salmon year-round.
- Upstream of Deception Creek:**
 - Closed to salmon fishing.**
- Deception Creek drainage:**
 - Closed to salmon fishing.**
 - Closed to all fishing April 15–June 14.**

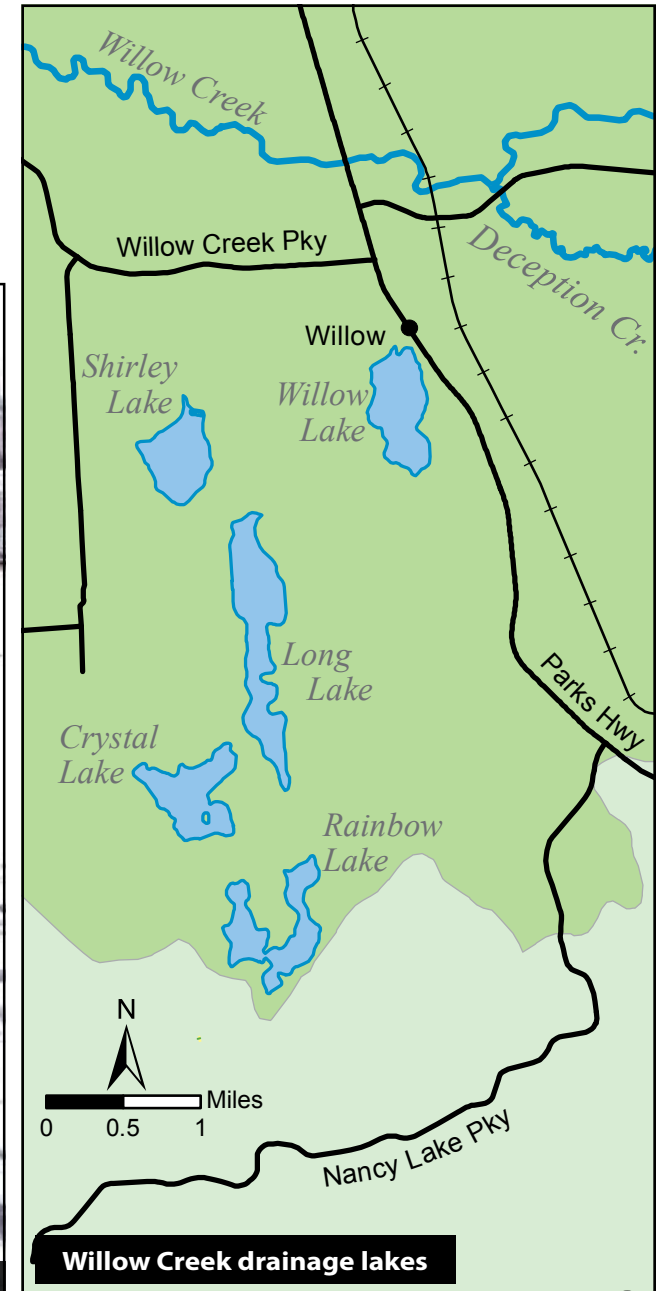
- **Willow Creek drainage lakes (Crystal, Long, Rainbow, Shirley and Willow):**
 - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
 - Rainbow/steelhead trout: Open year-round.
 - Arctic grayling: No retention. All Arctic grayling caught must be released immediately.
- **Crystal Lake:**
 - Rainbow/steelhead trout limits: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 may be over 20 inches in length.
 - Northern pike:
 - Sport fishing through the ice for northern pike is allowed using 5 lines provided that:
 - standard ice fishing gear is used;
 - the fishing gear is closely attended, and;
 - all other species of fish caught are released immediately.
- **Long Lake:**
 - Rainbow/steelhead trout limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 may be over 20 inches in length.
 - Northern pike:
 - Sport fishing through the ice for northern pike is allowed using 5 lines provided that:
 - standard ice fishing gear is used;
 - the fishing gear is closely attended, and;
 - all other species of fish caught are released immediately.
- **Rainbow Lake:**
 - Rainbow/steelhead trout limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 may be over 20 inches in length.
- **Shirley Lake:**
 - Rainbow/steelhead trout limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 may be over 20 inches in length.
- **Willow Lake:**
 - Rainbow/steelhead trout limits: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 may be over 20 inches in length.

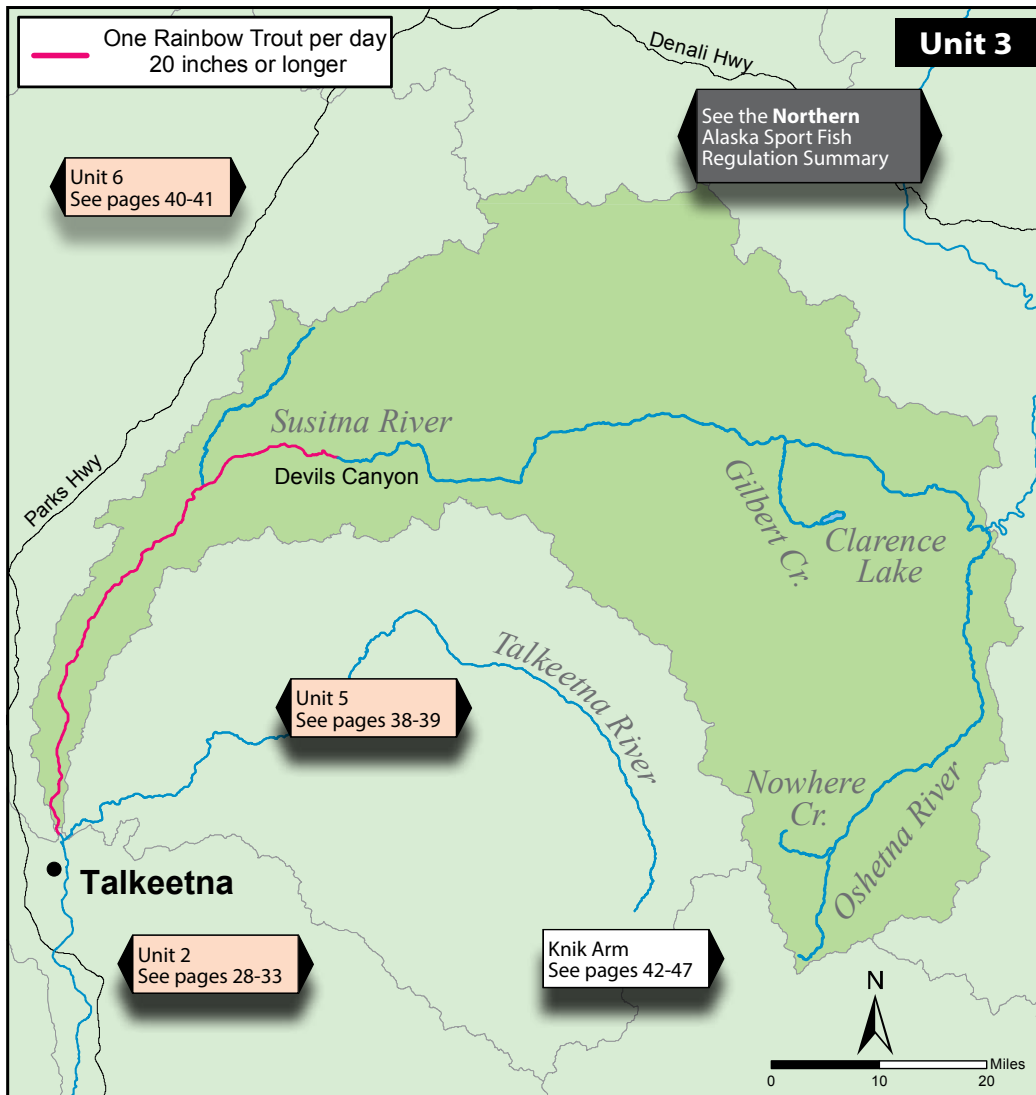
X Lake (near Talkeetna):

- **Closed to all fishing November 1–April 30.**
- Open season is May 1–October 31.
- Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure is allowed.
- Rainbow trout/steelhead: No retention of rainbow trout allowed. All rainbow trout caught must be released immediately.



Fishing is cool





Spawning sockeye

© Mark Emery

GENERAL REGULATIONS

Inclusive waters: Susitna River drainages from its confluence with the Talkeetna River upstream to its confluence with the Oshetna River (including the Oshetna River drainage, but excluding the Chulitna River drainage).

The Fishing Season for all species is open year-round unless otherwise noted below.

KING SALMON

- Upstream from its confluence with the Talkeetna, to and including Devils Canyon:
 - Season:** January 1–July 13:
 - May 15–July 13: Fishing is not allowed between 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. .
 - 20 inches or longer: 1 per day, 2 in possession.
 - A king salmon 20 inches or longer that is removed from salt or fresh water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a king salmon 20 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
 - There is a combined annual limit of 5 king salmon 20 inches or longer from the waters of the following areas: Cook Inlet Salt Waters, West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai River and Kenai Peninsula.
 - Anglers who keep a king salmon 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.
 - Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.
- Upstream of Devils Canyon: **Closed to king salmon fishing.**

OTHER SALMON

- 16 inches or longer: 3 per day, 3 in possession.
 - A coho salmon 16 inches or longer that is removed from fresh water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a coho salmon 16 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
- Less than 16 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.

RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

- In lakes and ponds: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
- In flowing waters upstream from its confluence with the Talkeetna River to and including Devils Canyon:
 - June 15–April 14: 1 per day, must be 20 inches or longer.
 - April 15–June 14: No retention.
- In flowing waters upstream of Devils Canyon:
 - June 15–April 14: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
 - April 15–June 14: No retention.
- 20 inches or longer:
 - There is a total annual limit of 2 rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer taken north of the latitude of Point Adam, from the waters of the following areas: West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai Lake drainages, Kenai River tributaries, and Kenai Peninsula.
 - Anglers who keep a rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.

ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN

- 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 of which may be 12 inches or longer.

ARCTIC GRAYLING

- Upstream from its confluence with the Talkeetna River, to and including Devils Canyon:
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession.
- Upstream of Devils Canyon:
 - 5 per day, 5 in possession.

BURBOT

- 5 per day, 5 in possession.
- Bait is allowed while fishing for burbot, and burbot may be taken with more than one line and hook only if:
 - The total number of aggregate hooks/lines does not exceed the daily bag limit for burbot in the water being fished;
 - The hooks are single hooks with a gap between point and shank larger than $\frac{3}{4}$ inch;
 - Each hook is set to rest on the bottom of the lake or stream; and
 - Lines must be tended at least once each 24 hours.
- When fishing for burbot, all other fish caught must be released immediately.

NORTHERN PIKE

- No limit.
- **Live Release Prohibited.** Anglers are not allowed to release live pike back into the water. Pike not retained for personal use may be disposed of through lawful and safe methods, including returning dead pike to the water.
- 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.

LAKE TROUT

- 2 per day, 2 in possession.

OTHER FINFISH

- No limit.

METHODS AND MEANS

Bait restrictions:

- In all flowing waters of Unit 3, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure is allowed year-round.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS

Clarence Lake:

- Rainbow/steelhead trout limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
- Arctic grayling limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession.

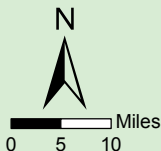
Susitna River:

- **Upstream from its confluence with the Talkeetna River, to and including Devils Canyon:**
 - Fishing is not allowed from 11:00 p.m.–6:00 a.m., May 15–July 13.
- **Upstream of its confluence with the Talkeetna River to Devils Canyon (excluding the Chulitna River drainage)—Trophy rainbow trout waters in Unit 3:**
 - Rainbow/steelhead trout limits:
 - 20 inches or longer:
 - 1 per day, 1 in possession. Annual limit of 2. Anglers who keep a rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.
 - Less than 20 inches:
 - No retention.

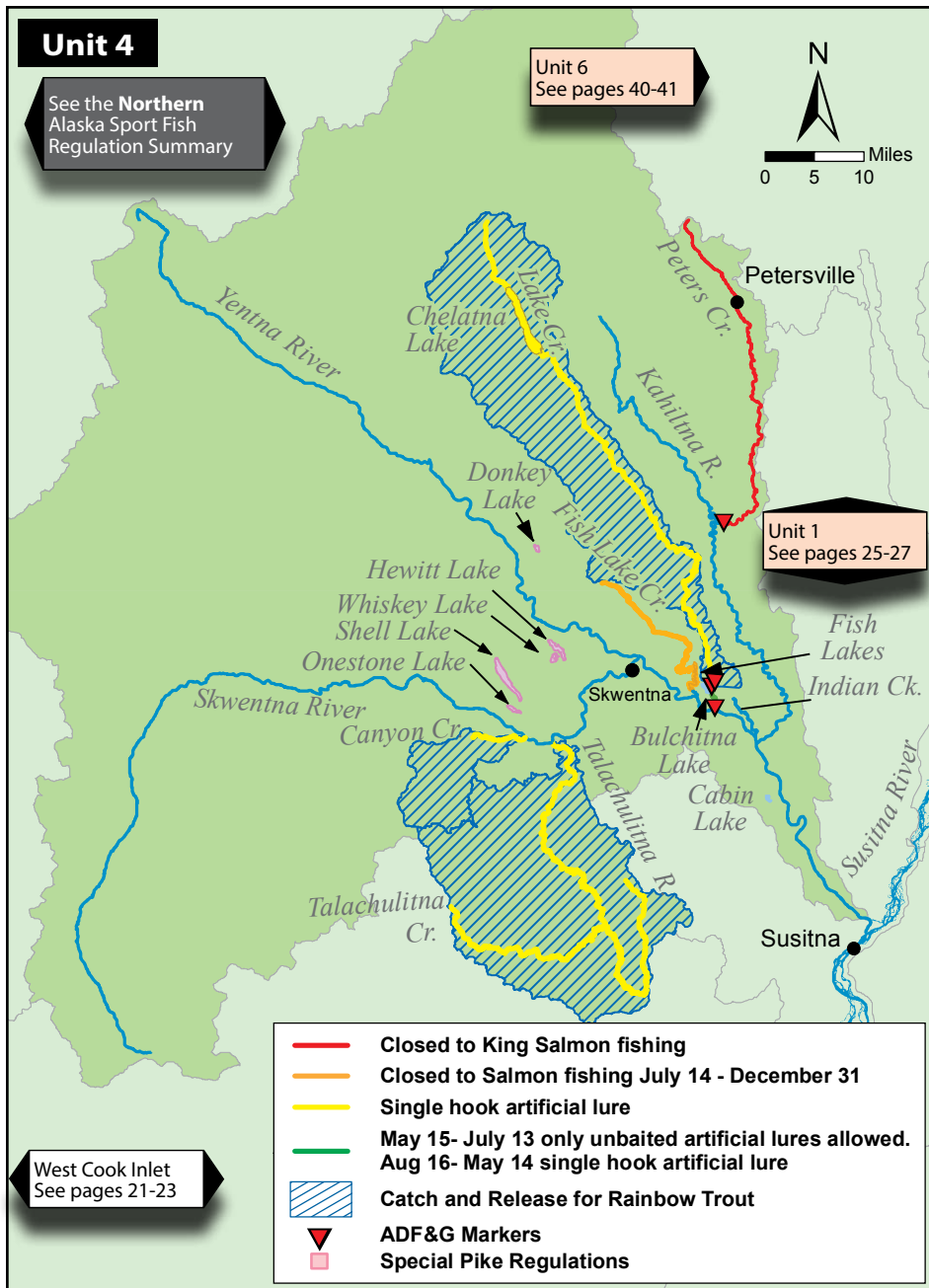
Unit 4

See the **Northern**
Alaska Sport Fish
Regulation Summary

Unit 6
See pages 40-41



Unit 1
See pages 25-27



GENERAL REGULATIONS

Inclusive waters: Flowing waters, lakes and ponds of the Yentna River drainage.

The Fishing Season for all species is open year-round unless otherwise noted below.

KING SALMON

- **Season:** January 1–July 13:
 - In waters open to king salmon fishing, fishing is not allowed between 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. May 15–July 13.
 - 20 inches or longer: 1 per day, 2 in possession.
 - A king salmon 20 inches or longer that is removed from salt or fresh water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a king salmon 20 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
 - There is a combined annual limit of 5 king salmon 20 inches or longer from the waters of the following areas: Cook Inlet Salt Waters, West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai River and Kenai Peninsula.
 - Anglers who keep a king salmon 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.
- Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.

OTHER SALMON

- 16 inches or longer: 3 per day, 6 in possession.
 - A coho salmon 16 inches or longer that is removed from fresh water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a coho salmon 16 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
- Less than 16 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.

RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

- In lakes and ponds: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
- In flowing waters:
 - June 15–April 14: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
 - April 15–June 14: No retention.
- 20 inches or longer:
 - There is a total annual limit of 2 rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer taken north of the latitude of Point Adam, from the waters of the following areas: West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai Lake drainages, Kenai River tributaries, and Kenai Peninsula.
 - Anglers who keep a rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.

ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN

- 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 of which may be 12 inches or longer.

ARCTIC GRAYLING

- 2 per day, 2 in possession.

NORTHERN PIKE

- No limit.
- **Live Release Prohibited.** Anglers are not allowed to release live pike back into the water. Pike not retained for personal use may be disposed of through lawful and safe methods, including returning dead pike to the water.
- 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.

The following special rules apply to ice-fishing for northern pike in the waters listed below:

- Northern pike limits: Sport fishing through the ice for northern pike is allowed using 5 lines provided that:
 - Standard ice fishing gear is used;
 - the fishing gear is closely attended, and;
 - all other species of fish caught are released immediately.
- **Cabin Lakes**
- **Donkey Lake**
- **Hewitt Lake**
- **Indian Creek**
- **Onestone lake**
- **Shell Lake**
- **Whiskey Lake**

LAKE TROUT

- 2 per day, 2 in possession.

BURBOT

- 5 per day, 5 in possession, no size limit.
- Bait is allowed while fishing for burbot, and burbot may be taken with more than one line and hook only if:
 - The total number of aggregate hooks/lines does not exceed the daily bag limit for burbot in the water being fished;
 - The hooks are single hooks with a gap between point and shank larger than $\frac{3}{4}$ inch;
 - Each hook is set to rest on the bottom of the lake or stream; and
 - Lines must be tended at least once each 24 hours.
- When fishing for burbot, all other fish caught must be released immediately.

OTHER FINFISH

- No limit.

METHODS AND MEANS

Bait restrictions:

- In all flowing waters of Unit 4, only unbaited, artificial lures are allowed September 1–July 13.
- Bait is allowed July 14–August 31.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS

Canyon Creek:

- Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure is allowed year-round.
- Rainbow/steelhead trout: No retention year-round.

Fish Lake Creek drainage:

- After taking a king salmon 20 inches or longer, a person may not fish for king salmon anywhere on that same day.
- **Upstream from the inlet of the first lake:**
 - January 1–July 13: Open season for salmon.

Lake Creek drainage:

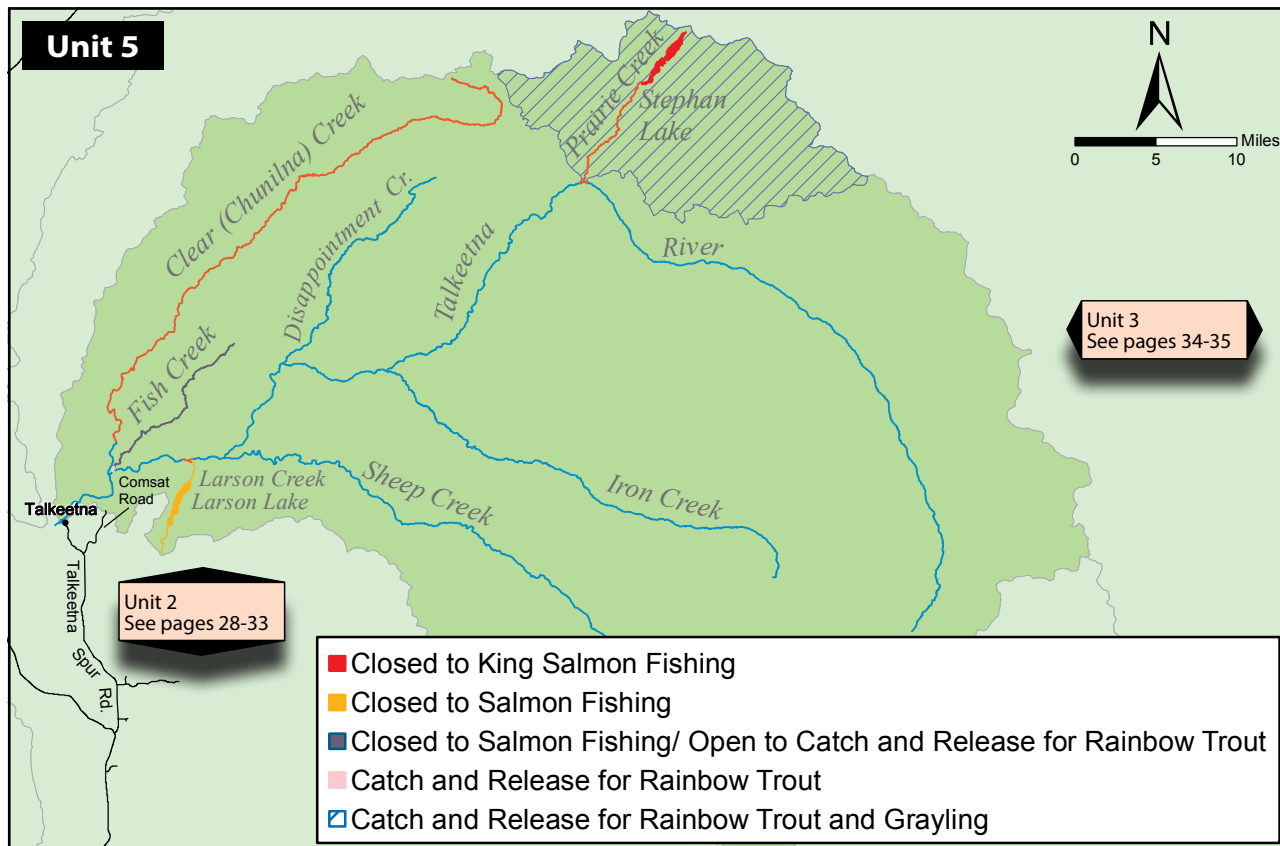
- King salmon limits: After taking a king salmon 20 inches or longer, a person may not fish for king salmon anywhere on that same day.
- **From ADF&G markers 100 yards upstream of its mouth to ADF&G markers $\frac{1}{4}$ mile upstream of the creek that drains Bulchitna Lake (including Chelatna Lake):**
 - August 16–May 14: Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure is allowed.
 - May 15–July 13: Only unbaited, artificial lures are allowed.
 - Rainbow/steelhead trout limit:
 - August 16–June 14: No retention.
 - June 15–August 15: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
- **Upstream from ADF&G markers $\frac{1}{4}$ mile upstream of the creek that drains Bulchitna Lake (including Chelatna Lake):**
 - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure is allowed year-round.
 - Rainbow trout/steelhead trout: No retention year-round.

Peters Creek

- **All waters upstream of ADF&G markers located 1 mile upstream:**
 - **Closed year-round to king salmon fishing.**

Talachulitna River drainage—including all waters within a $\frac{3}{4}$ -mile radius of its confluence with the Skwentna River:

- Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure is allowed year-round.
- King salmon limits: Once an angler retains a king salmon 20 inches or longer, they must stop fishing for king salmon within a one mile radius of the mouth of the Talachulitna for the remainder of the day.
- Rainbow/steelhead trout: No retention year-round.



GENERAL REGULATIONS

Inclusive waters: Flowing waters, lakes and ponds of the Talkeetna River drainage.

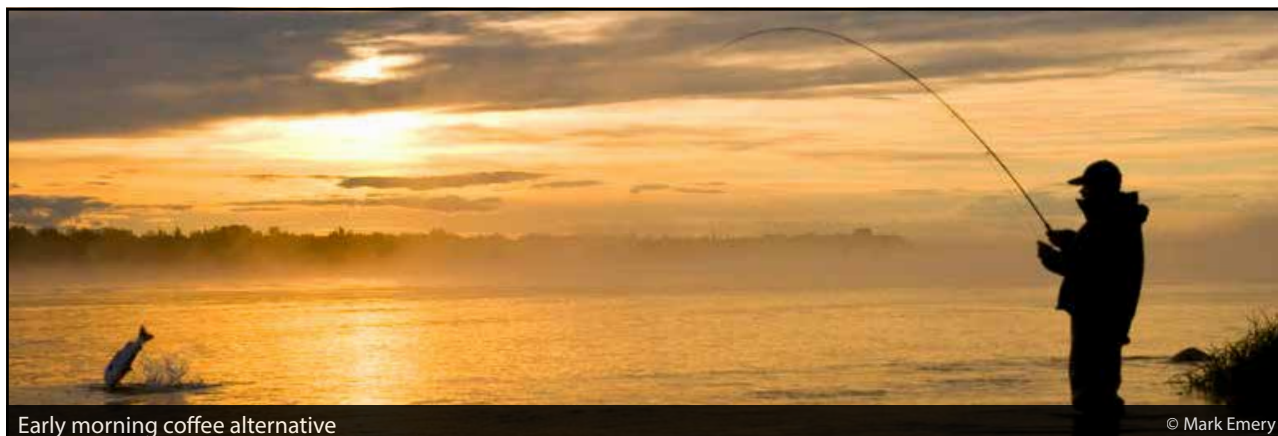
The Fishing Season for all species is open year-round unless otherwise noted below.

KING SALMON

- **Season:** January 1–July 13:
 - In waters open to king salmon fishing, fishing is not allowed between 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. May 15–July 13.
 - 20 inches or longer: 1 per day, 2 in possession.
 - A king salmon 20 inches or longer that is removed from salt or fresh water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a king salmon 20 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
 - There is a combined annual limit of 5 king salmon 20 inches or longer from the waters of the following areas: Cook Inlet Salt Waters, West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai River and Kenai Peninsula.
 - Anglers who keep a king salmon 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.
- Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.

OTHER SALMON

- 16 inches or longer: 3 per day, 3 in possession.
- A coho salmon 16 inches or longer that is removed from fresh water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a coho salmon 16 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
- Less than 16 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.



Early morning coffee alternative

© Mark Emery

ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN

- 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 of which may be 12 inches or longer.

ARCTIC GRAYLING

- 2 per day, 2 in possession.

LAKE TROUT

- 2 per day, 2 in possession.

RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

- In lakes and ponds: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
- In flowing waters:
 - June 15–April 14: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
 - April 15–June 14: No retention.
- 20 inches or longer:
 - There is a total annual limit of 2 rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer taken north of the latitude of Point Adam, from the waters of the following areas: West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai Lake drainages, Kenai River tributaries, and Kenai Peninsula.
 - Anglers who keep a rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.

BURBOT

- 5 per day, 5 in possession, no size limit.
- Bait is allowed while fishing for burbot, and burbot may be taken with more than one line and hook only if:
 - The total number of aggregate hooks/lines does not exceed the daily bag limit for burbot in the water being fished;
 - The hooks are single hooks with a gap between point and shank larger than ¾ inch;
 - Each hook is set to rest on the bottom of the lake or stream; and
 - Lines must be tended at least once each 24 hours.
- When fishing for burbot, all other fish caught must be released immediately.

NORTHERN PIKE

- No limit.
- **Live Release Prohibited.** Anglers are not allowed to release live pike back into the water. Pike not retained for personal use may be disposed of through lawful and safe methods, including returning dead pike to the water.
- 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.

OTHER FINFISH

- No limit.

METHODS AND MEANS

Bait restrictions:

- In all flowing waters of Unit 5, only unbaited, artificial lures are allowed September 1–July 13.
- Bait is allowed July 14–August 31.



Nice rainbow trout



SPECIAL REGULATIONS

Clear (Chunilna) Creek drainage:

- After taking a king salmon 20 inches or longer, a person may not fish anywhere for king salmon on that same day.
- **Upstream of ADF&G markers 2 miles upstream from its mouth:**
 - **Closed to fishing for king salmon.**

Fish Creek drainage:

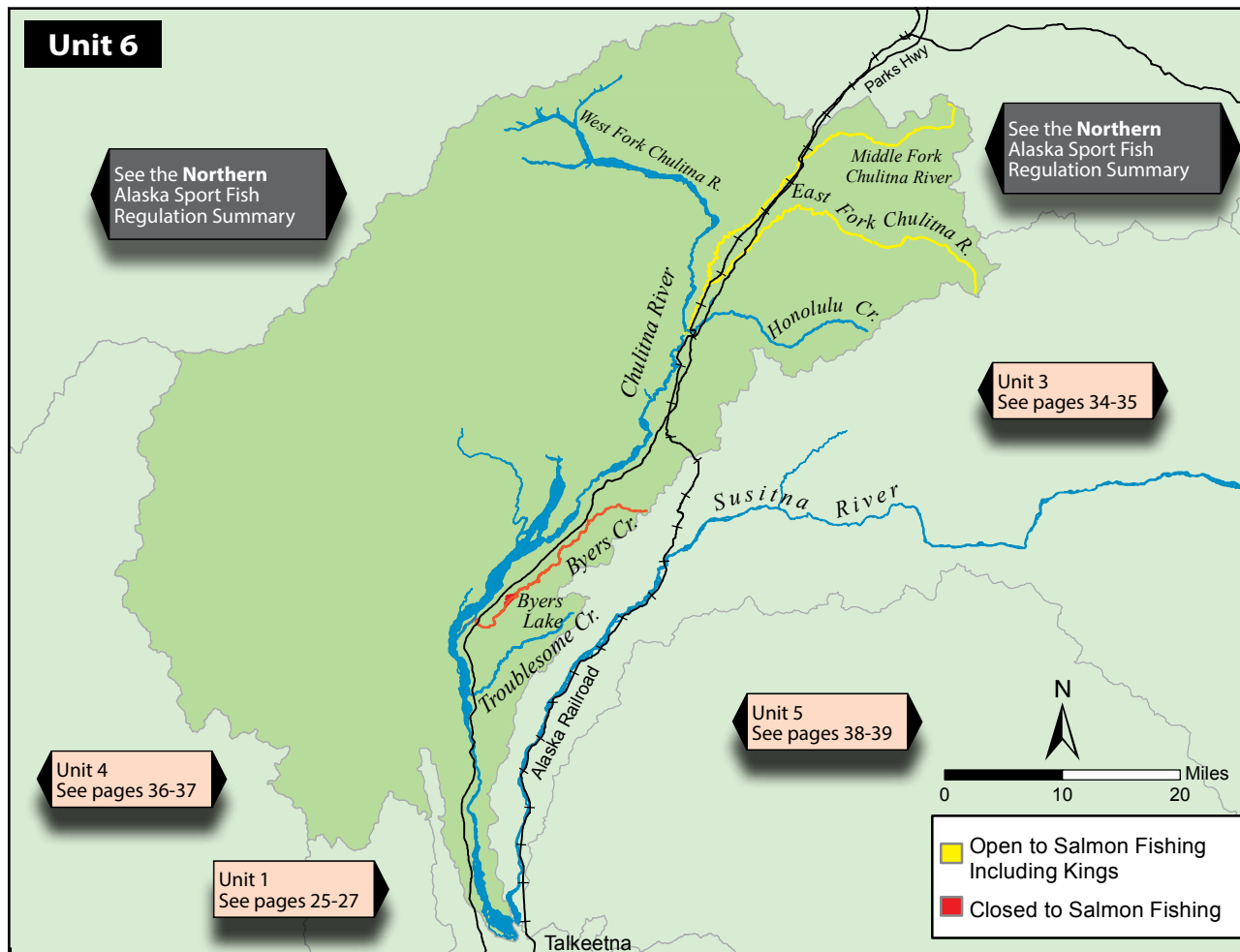
- Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure is allowed.
- Rainbow/steelhead trout limits: No retention.
- **Upstream of an ADF&G marker ¼ mile upstream of its confluence with the Talkeetna River:**
 - **Closed to fishing for all salmon year-round.**

Larson Creek drainage:

- **The Larson Creek drainage, including all waters within a ¼-mile radius of its confluence with the Talkeetna River:**
 - **Closed to king salmon fishing.**
- **The Larson Creek drainage upstream of an ADF&G marker ¼ mile upstream of its confluence with the Talkeetna River:**
 - **Closed to all salmon fishing.**

Prairie Creek drainage and all waters within a ¼-mile radius of its confluence with the Talkeetna River:

- **Closed to king salmon fishing.**
- Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure is allowed.
- Rainbow/steelhead trout and Arctic grayling limits: No retention.



GENERAL REGULATIONS

Inclusive waters: Flowing waters, lakes and ponds of the Chulitna River drainage.

The Fishing Season for all species is open year-round unless otherwise noted below.

KING SALMON

- **Generally, unit 6 is closed to fishing for king salmon, but see the special regulations for the Chulitna River.**
- A king salmon 20 inches or longer that is removed from salt or fresh water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a king salmon 20 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
- There is a combined annual limit of 5 king salmon 20 inches or longer from the waters of the following areas: Cook Inlet Salt Waters, West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai River and Kenai Peninsula.
- Anglers who keep a king salmon 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.
- After taking a king salmon 20 inches or longer, a person may not fish for any species of fish in any water open to king salmon fishing during that same day.

OTHER SALMON

- 16 inches or longer: 3 per day, 3 in possession.
- A coho salmon 16 inches or longer that is removed from fresh water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a coho salmon 16 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
- Less than 16 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.

ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN

- 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 of which may be 12 inches or longer.



A fly-fisherman prepares to release a southcentral Alaska rainbow trout

by Ken Marsh

RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

- In lakes and ponds: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
- In flowing waters:
 - June 15–April 14: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
 - April 15–June 14: No retention.
- 20 inches or longer:
 - There is a total annual limit of 2 rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer taken north of the latitude of Point Adam, from the waters of the following areas: West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai Lake drainages, Kenai River tributaries, and Kenai Peninsula, except in the stocked lakes of the Knik Arm and Susitna River areas, where the annual limit is ten (10) rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer (see pages 84-85 for a list of stocked lakes in these areas).
- Anglers who keep a rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.

ARCTIC GRAYLING

- 2 per day, 2 in possession.



LAKE TROUT

- 2 per day, 2 in possession.

BURBOT

- 5 per day, 5 in possession, no size limit.
- Bait is allowed while fishing for burbot, and burbot may be taken with more than one line and hook only if:
 - The total number of aggregate hooks/lines does not exceed the daily bag limit for burbot in the water being fished;
 - The hooks are single hooks with a gap between point and shank larger than ¾ inch;
 - Each hook is set to rest on the bottom of the lake or stream; and
 - Lines must be tended at least once each 24 hours.
- When fishing for burbot, all other fish caught must be released immediately.

NORTHERN PIKE

- No limit.
- **Live Release Prohibited.** Anglers are not allowed to release live pike back into the water. Pike not retained for personal use may be disposed of through lawful and safe methods, including returning dead pike to the water.
- 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.

OTHER FINFISH

- No limit.

METHODS AND MEANS

Bait restrictions:

- In all flowing waters of Unit 6, only unbaited, artificial lures are allowed September 1–July 13.
- Bait is allowed July 14–August 31.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS

Byers Creek drainage:

- **From its mouth upstream to the Parks Highway:**
 - Open to fishing for salmon (except king salmon).
- **From the Parks Highway upstream, including Byers Lake:**
 - **Closed year-round to fishing for all salmon.**

East Fork Chulitna River drainages—The East Fork of the Chulitna River and its drainages, including all waters within a ¼-mile radius of the confluence of the East Fork and West Fork of the Chulitna River, and including the Middle Fork of the Chulitna and the first ¼ mile of Honolulu Creek:

- January 1–July 13:
 - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used January 1–July 13.
 - Open to fishing for all species, including king salmon:
 - King salmon limits:
 - King salmon may be kept only during January 1–June 16, June 21–23, June 28–30, and July 5–7.
 - 20 inches or longer: 1 per day, 1 in possession.
 - Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.
- July 14–December 31: Open to fishing for all species except king salmon.

Jan. 1 - July 13	Open to all species, including king salmon.
Jan. 1 - June 20	King salmon may be retained.
June 21 - 24	No retention of king salmon.
June 25 - 27	King salmon may be retained.
June 28 - July 1	No retention of king salmon.
July 2 - 4	King salmon may be retained.
July 5 - 8	No retention of king salmon.
July 9 - 11	King salmon may be retained.
July 12 - 13	No retention of king salmon.
July 14 - Dec. 31	Open to all species, except king salmon.

GENERAL REGULATIONS

Inclusive waters: Bounded on the north by (but not including) Willow Creek, on the west by a line ½ mile east of the Susitna River, on the south by Cook Inlet and Knik Arm, and on the east by the Upper Susitna River drainage upstream of its confluence with the Oshetna River and includes all waters within the Matanuska and Knik River drainages.

The Fishing Season for all species is open year-round unless otherwise noted below.

KING SALMON

- The fresh waters of the Knik Arm are **closed to king salmon fishing**, except the Little Susitna drainage and Eklutna Tailrace. See special regulations.
- In stocked lakes (see pages 84-85 for a list of stocked lakes): 10 per day, 10 in possession, in combination with other salmon.
- In Knik Arm waters open to king salmon fishing:
 - There is a combined annual limit of 5 king salmon 20 inches or longer from the waters of the following areas: Cook Inlet Salt Waters, West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, and Kenai Peninsula.
 - A king salmon 20 inches or longer that is removed from salt or fresh water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a king salmon 20 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
 - Anglers who keep a king salmon 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.



OTHER SALMON

- In stocked lakes (see pages 84–85 for a list of stocked lakes):
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession in combination with king salmon.
- In other lakes and ponds and in all flowing waters:
 - 16 inches or longer:
 - 3 per day/3 in possession, only 2 per day/2 in possession may be coho (silver) salmon.
 - Less than 16 inches:
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession in combination.
- A coho salmon 16 inches or longer that is removed from fresh water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a coho salmon 16 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.

RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

- In stocked lakes (see pages 84–85 for a list of stocked lakes):
 - 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 fish may be 20 inches or longer.
 - 20 inches or longer:
 - There is an annual limit of 10 rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer from stocked lakes.
- In other lakes and ponds and in all flowing waters:
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 fish may be 20 inches or longer.
 - 20 inches or longer:
 - There is a total annual limit of 2 rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer taken north of the latitude of Point Adam, from the waters of the following areas: West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai Lake drainages, Kenai River tributaries, and Kenai Peninsula.
- Anglers who keep a rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.

ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN

- In stocked lakes (see pages 84-85 for a list of stocked lakes):
 - 5 per day, 5 in possession.
- In other lakes and ponds and in all flowing waters:
 - 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 fish may be 12 inches or longer.

ARCTIC GRAYLING

- In stocked lakes (see pages 84-85 for a list of stocked lakes):
 - 5 per day, 5 in possession.
- In other lakes and ponds and in all flowing waters:
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession.

LAKE TROUT

- 2 per day, 2 in possession.

BURBOT

- 5 per day, 5 in possession.
- Burbot lines must be closely attended.

NORTHERN PIKE

- No limit.
- 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.

OTHER FINFISH

- No limit.

METHODS AND MEANS

The use of bait:

- Bait is allowed unless prohibited in the special regulations that follow.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS

Anderson Lake:

- Northern pike: Sport fishing through the ice for northern pike is allowed using 5 lines, provided standard ice-fishing gear is used, the fishing gear is closely attended, and all other fish caught are released immediately. Anglers may use 2 hooks on a single line, provided that both hooks are attached to one single piece of bait.

Big Lake (see Fish Creek drainage).

Bonnie Lakes connecting stream—from the outlet at Upper Bonnie lake to the inlet of Lower Bonnie Lake:

- Open season is July 1–April 14.

Bodenburg Creek—including all waters of Knik River within a 100-yd radius of the mouth of the creek (see map on page 46):

- Closed year-round to fishing for salmon.**
- No retention of rainbow/steelhead trout allowed April 15–June 14.

Cottonwood Creek drainage:

- A person who takes a bag limit of salmon from Cottonwood Creek may not fish for any species of fish in waters open to salmon fishing on that same day.
- All lakes of the Cottonwood Creek drainage, including Wasilla Lake, are **closed year-round to fishing for salmon**.
- From its mouth upstream to ADF&G markers 1 mile upstream from the Palmer Hayflats State Game Refuge access road:**
 - Open season for all species except king salmon is June 15–April 14, but fishing is allowed only on Saturdays and Sundays and only between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
- All flowing waters of Cottonwood Creek above the ADF&G markers 1 mile upstream from Palmer Hayflats State Game Refuge access road:**
 - Closed year-round to fishing for salmon.** Open season for other species is June 15–April 14.



First king salmon from Eklutna Tailrace

Eklutna Tailrace:

- Salmon (except king salmon):
 - 16 inches or longer limits:
 - 3 per day, 3 in possession, all 3 may be coho (silver) salmon.
 - Less than 16 inches:
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession in combination.
- All waters within a ½-mile radius of its confluence with the Knik River, and to an ADF&G marker located 2 miles downstream of the confluence:**
 - King salmon limits:
 - Open to fishing for king salmon from January 1–December 31.
 - Once you have retained a king salmon 20 inches or longer, you may no longer fish in any waters open to king salmon fishing on that same day.
 - The daily limit for king salmon 20 inches or longer is 1 per day, 1 in possession; less than 20 inches is 10 per day, 10 in possession.
- Eklutna Tailrace Youth-Only King and Coho Fisheries:**
 - Youth Fishery Zones established for persons 15 years of age or younger:
 - The third Saturday in June from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (June 18, 2016), and the third Saturday in August from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (August 20, 2016).

Figure Eight Lake:

- Northern pike: Sport fishing through the ice for northern pike is allowed using 5 lines, provided standard ice-fishing gear is used, the fishing gear is closely attended, and all other fish caught are released immediately. Anglers may use 2 hooks on a single line, provided that both hooks are attached to one single piece of bait.

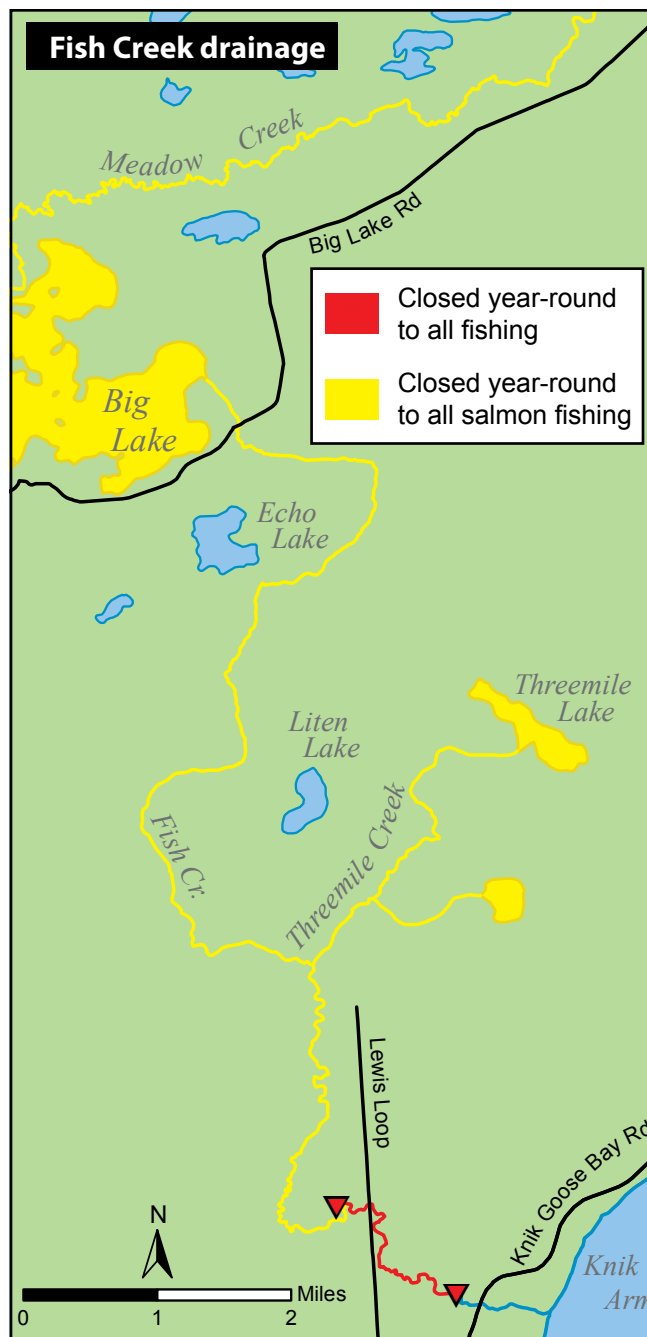
Fish Creek drainage—including Big Lake:

- A person who takes a bag limit of salmon from Fish Creek may not fish for any species of fish in waters open to salmon fishing on that same day.
- **From ADF&G markers at the mouth of Fish Creek upstream to ADF&G markers ¼ mile upstream from the Knik-Goose Bay Rd.:**
 - Open season for all species except king salmon is August 13–December 31.
 - Fishing is allowed only on Saturdays and Sundays and only between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
 - Youth-Only Fishery:
 - Anglers 15 years of age and younger may fish for all species, except king salmon.
 - Fishing is allowed only between 6:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m. daily on the first Saturday and Sunday in August each year. During 2016, this will be August 6–7. General regulations and limits apply.
- **From the ADF&G markers ¼ mile upstream from the Knik-Goose Bay Rd., upstream to ADF&G markers located ¼ mile upstream of the Lewis Rd. bridge:**
 - **Closed year-round to all fishing.**
- **Flowing waters from the ADF&G markers ¼ mile upstream of the Lewis Rd. bridge, including Meadow Creek:**
 - **Closed year-round to salmon fishing.**
 - Open season for other species is June 15–April 14.
- **Fish Creek drainage lakes:**
 - **Closed year-round to salmon fishing.**



Dolly Varden

by Ken Marsh



Fish Creek drainage (continued):

• Big Lake:

- **Closed year-round to salmon fishing.**
- Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure is allowed November 1–April 30, including fishing for burbot.
- When fishing through the ice, anglers may use two lines, but each line may have only one single hook.
- Arctic char/Dolly Varden daily limits: 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be 20 inches or longer.
- Burbot limits:
 - **Closed to the retention of burbot, March 15–April 30.**
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession, May 1–March 14.
- Northern pike:
 - Anglers may fish for northern pike through the ice in Big Lake using 5 lines from November 1–March 15, between 8 a.m.–5 p.m.:
 - Hook gap must be at least 3/4 inch from point to shank.
 - Two single hooks are allowed per line as long as both hooks are attached to the same piece of bait.
 - A whole legally recognized bait fish such as herring or smelt must be used if fishing with bait.
 - Bait must be suspended above the bottom of the lake.
 - Fishing lines must be closely attended.
 - All other species of fish must be immediately released unharmed.

Flathorn Lake:

- Northern pike: Sport fishing through the ice for northern pike is allowed using 5 lines, provided standard ice-fishing gear is used, the fishing gear is closely attended, and all other fish caught are released immediately. Anglers may use 2 hooks on a single line, provided that both hooks are attached to one single piece of bait.

...continued

SPECIAL REGULATIONS (continued)

Jim Creek drainage— including all waters downstream to the Knik River and continuing downstream on the Knik River to within 100 yards of its confluence with Bodenburg Creek:

- Daily limits are the same as shown under general seasons and limits on page 43, **except that from the second Saturday in August (August 13, 2016) through December 31, sport fishing for any species is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays.**

Jim Creek drainage (continued):

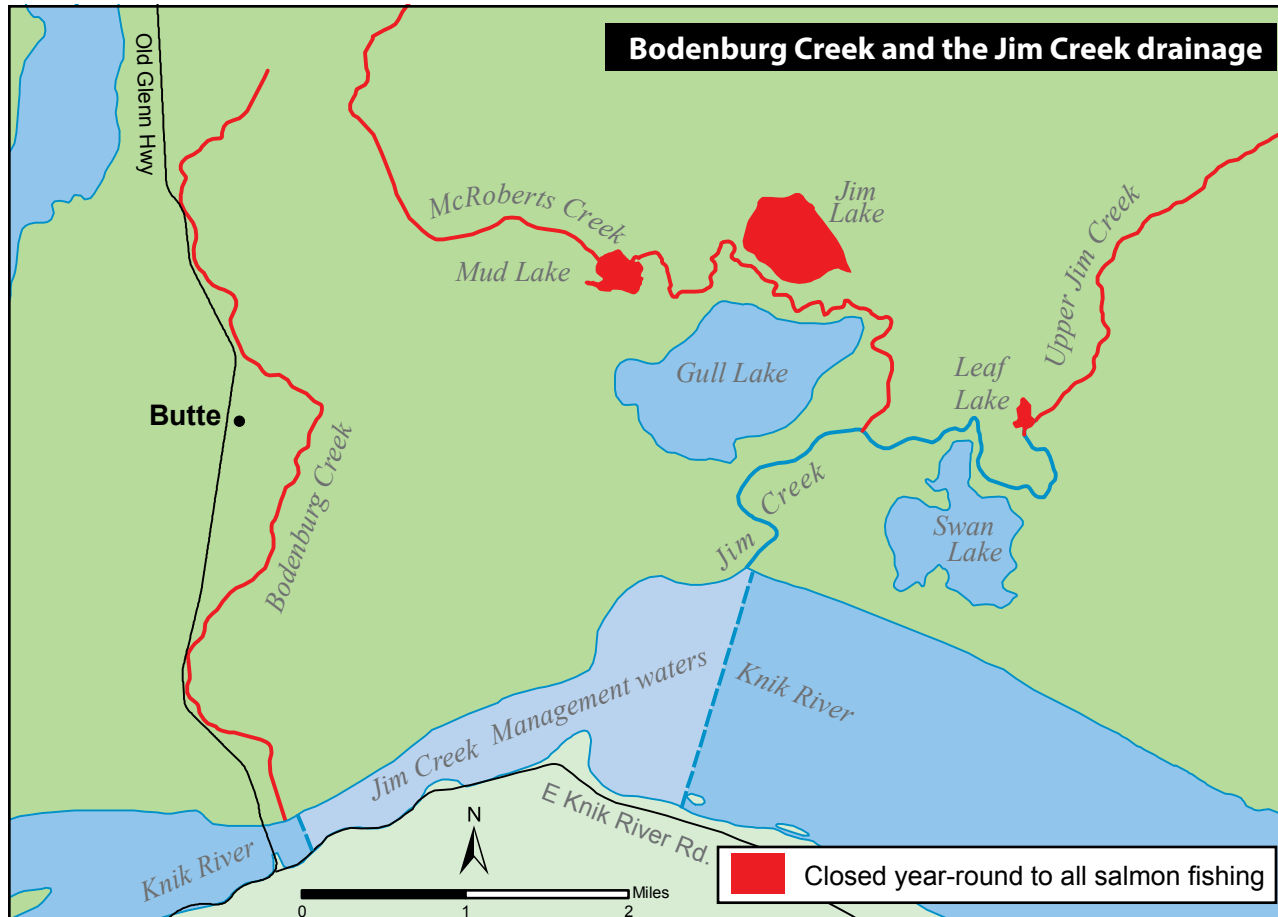
- A person who takes a bag limit of salmon from Jim Creek may not fish for any species of fish in waters open to salmon fishing on that same day.
- Upper Jim Creek (upstream of Leaf Lake), Jim Lake, Leaf Lake, Mud Lake, and McRoberts Creek:**
 - Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**

Johnson Lake (near Palmer):

- Closed year-round to all fishing.**

The Little Susitna River drainage:

- A person who takes a bag limit of other salmon 16 inches or longer from the Little Susitna River may not fish for any species of fish in the Little Susitna River downstream of the Parks Hwy that same day.
- In waters open to king salmon fishing, no fishing is allowed between 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. May 15–July 13.
- A coho salmon removed from the water shall be retained. No person may remove from the water a coho salmon he/she intends to release.
- King salmon limits:
 - After taking a king salmon 20 inches or longer, a person may not fish on that same day anywhere in waters open to king salmon fishing.
- Little Susitna River flowing waters, from its mouth upstream to the Parks Highway:**
 - Open season for all species (except king salmon) is year-round.
 - Only unbaited, artificial lures are allowed October 1–August 5. Bait is allowed August 6–September 30.
 - King salmon limits:
 - Open season for king salmon is January 1–July 13.
 - The daily limit for king salmon 20 inches or longer is 1 per day, 1 in possession; less than 20 inches is 10 per day, 10 in possession.
 - Rainbow/steelhead trout limits: No retention April 15–June 14. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.
- Nancy Lake Creek drainage, upstream of an ADF&G marker about ¼ mile upstream of its confluence with the Little Susitna River:**
 - Closed to all salmon fishing, including catch-and-release.**



The Little Susitna River drainage (continued):

- **Little Susitna River flowing waters upstream of the Parks Highway:**
 - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
 - Open season for other species is June 15–April 14.
 - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure is allowed.

Long Lake (Kepler-Bradley Complex):

- Open season is May 1–October 31.
- Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure is allowed.
- Rainbow trout limits: No retention. All rainbow trout caught must be released immediately.

Memory Lake:

- Northern pike limits: Sport fishing through the ice for northern pike is allowed using 5 lines, provided standard ice-fishing gear is used, the fishing gear is closely attended, and all other fish caught are released immediately. Anglers may use 2 hooks on a single line, provided that both hooks are attached to one single piece of bait.



Nancy Lake Recreation Area Lakes:

- **Nancy Lake:**
 - **Closed year-round to burbot fishing.**
 - Northern pike limits: Anglers may fish for northern pike through the ice using 5 lines from November 1–March 15, between 8 a.m.–5 p.m.; hook gap must be at least 3/4 inch from point to shank; two single hooks are allowed per line as long as both hooks are attached to the same piece of bait; a whole legally recognized bait fish such as herring or smelt must be used if fishing with bait; bait must be suspended above the bottom of the lake; lines must be closely attended; and all other species of fish must be immediately released unharmed.
- **Nancy Lake Recreation Area Lakes (except Nancy Lake):**
 - Northern pike limits: Sport fishing through the ice for northern pike is allowed using 5 lines provided standard ice-fishing gear is used, the fishing gear is closely attended, and all other species of fish caught are released immediately. Anglers may use 2 hooks on a single line, provided both hooks are attached to one single piece of bait.

Palmer-Wasilla Zone flowing waters (see map on page 42)—The Palmer-Wasilla Zone consists of all flowing waters inside a zone bounded on the north by Willow Creek, on the west by a line ½ mile east of the Susitna River, on the south by Cook Inlet and Knik Arm, and on the east by the Matanuska River and Moose Creek (but excluding Willow Creek, the Matanuska River, and Moose Creek):

- Open season in the Palmer-Wasilla Zone is June 15–April 14 (but see the Little Susitna River exception above).
- Daily limits are the same as listed on page 43 under general regulations.

Prator Lake:

- Northern pike: Sport fishing through the ice for northern pike is allowed using 5 lines, provided standard ice-fishing gear is used, the fishing gear is closely attended, and all other fish caught are released immediately. Anglers may use 2 hooks on a single line, provided that both hooks are attached to one single piece of bait.

Wasilla Creek drainage—including Rabbit Slough:

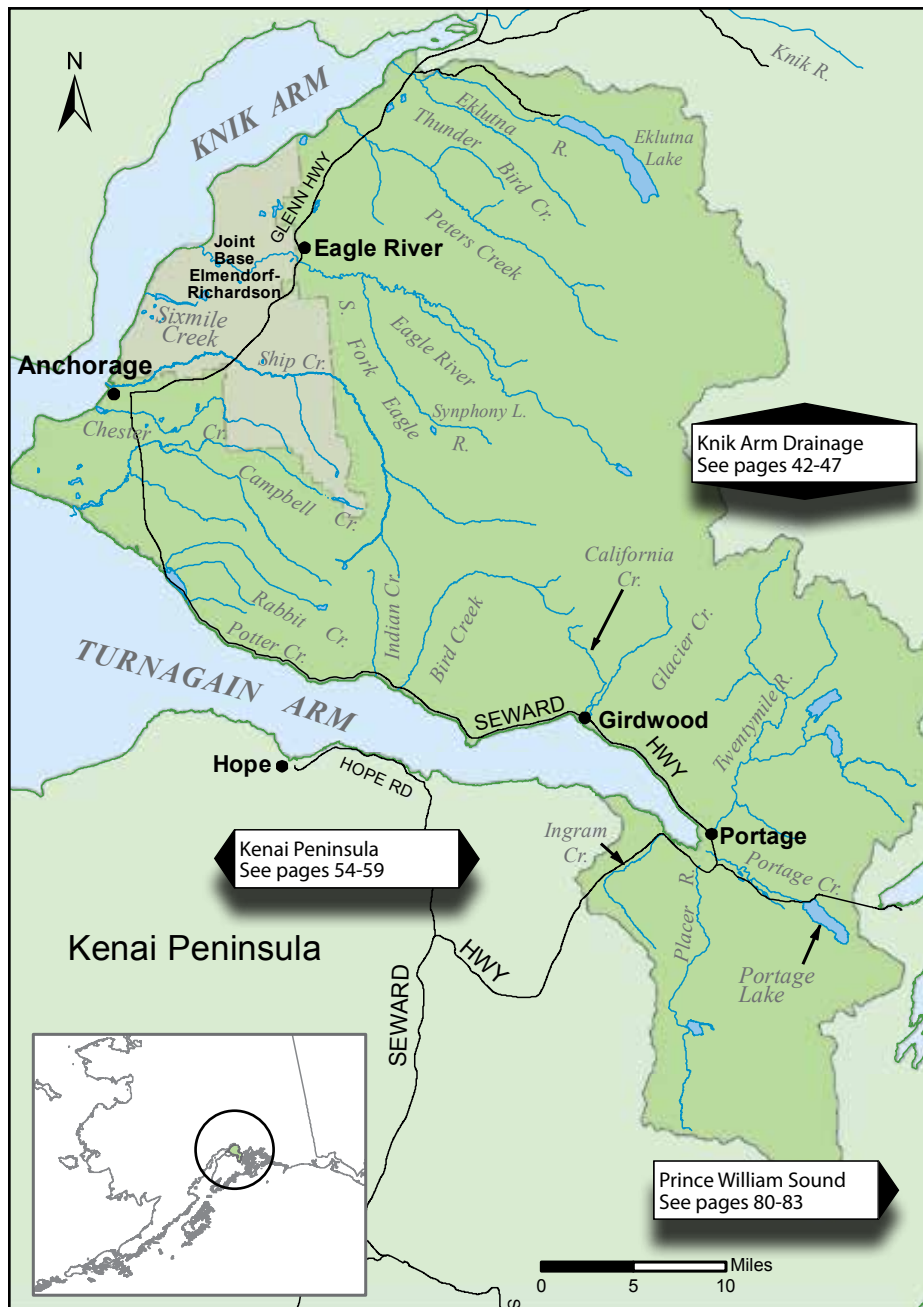
- A person who takes a bag limit of salmon from the Wasilla Creek drainage (including Rabbit Slough) may not fish for any species of fish in waters open to salmon fishing on that same day.
- Motorized watercraft having a total propshaft rating greater than 3 HP may not be used on Wasilla Creek on Saturdays and Sundays, July 15–August 15.
- **300 ft downstream and 300 ft upstream of Palmer-Fishhook Rd.:**
 - **Closed year-round to all fishing.**
- **From its mouth upstream to the Alaska Railroad bridge, including lakes and ponds:**
 - Open season for all species except king salmon is June 15–April 14, but fishing is allowed only on Saturdays and Sundays and only between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
- **Upstream of the Alaska Railroad bridge:**
 - **Closed to all salmon fishing.**

Wishbone Lake (near Sutton):

- Open season is May 1–October 31.
- Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure is allowed.
- Rainbow trout limits: No retention. All rainbow trout caught must be released immediately.

Wolverine Lake drainage (near Palmer)—from its confluence with Wolverine Creek upstream to and including Wolverine Lake:

- Open season is June 15–April 14.



GENERAL REGULATIONS

Inclusive waters: All waters draining into the east side of Knik Arm south of, and including, the Eklutna River drainage, and all waters draining into the north and west sides of Turnagain Arm, and all waters draining into the south side of Turnagain Arm east of, and including, Ingram Creek.

The Fishing Season for all species is open year-round unless otherwise noted below.

KING SALMON

- The fresh waters of the Anchorage Bowl are **closed to king salmon fishing**, except Campbell Creek, Eagle River, Ship Creek and stocked lakes. See special regulations.
- In stocked lakes (see pages 84–85 for a list of stocked lakes): 5 per day, 5 in possession.
- In other Anchorage Bowl waters open to king salmon fishing:
 - There is a combined annual limit of 5 king salmon 20 inches or longer from the waters of the following areas: Cook Inlet Salt Waters, West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai River and Kenai Peninsula.
 - A king salmon 20 inches or longer that is removed from salt or fresh water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a king salmon 20 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
 - Anglers who keep a king salmon 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.

OTHER SALMON

- In lakes and ponds and in all flowing waters:
 - Closed to salmon fishing** unless allowed under special regulations.
- A coho salmon 16 inches or longer that is removed from fresh water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a coho salmon 16 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.

RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

- In stocked waters (see pages 84–85 for a list of stocked waters):
 - 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 fish may be 20 inches or longer.
- In other lakes and ponds and in all unstocked flowing waters:
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 fish may be 20 inches or longer.
- 20 inches or longer:
 - There is a total annual limit of 2 rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer taken north of the latitude of Point Adam, from the waters of the following areas: West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai Lake drainages, Kenai River tributaries, and Kenai Peninsula.
 - Anglers who keep a rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.

ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN

- In stocked lakes (see pages 84–85 for a list of stocked lakes):
 - 5 per day, 5 in possession.
- In other lakes and ponds and in all flowing waters:
 - 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 fish may be 12 inches or longer.

ARCTIC GRAYLING

- In stocked lakes (see pages 84–85 for a list of stocked lakes):
 - 5 per day, 5 in possession.
- In other lakes and ponds and in all flowing waters:
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession. See special regulations for Symphony Lake.

LAKE TROUT

- 2 per day, 2 in possession.

NORTHERN PIKE

- No limit.
- 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.

OTHER FINFISH

- No limit.



Bird Creek

by Ken Marsh

METHODS AND MEANS

Use of Beads:

- In all flowing waters, beads fished ahead of flies, lures, or bare hooks must be fixed within 2 inches of the hook, or be free to slide on the entire length of the line or leader.

Fishing in Anchorage Bowl drainages:

- Anglers must observe all municipal ordinances and regulations, and receive permission to fish from private property. For current motor boat restrictions, go to <http://www.muni.org/Parks/lakes.cfm>.

To fish on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER):

- Go to www.jber.isportsman.net to register and obtain a permit.
- **Elmendorf Portion**—Department of Defense ID or accompanied by a JBER sponsor, and a recreational access pass required.
- **Ft. Richardson Portion**—A recreational access permit and an installation access pass are both required.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS

Bird Creek drainage:

- **Closed to all sport fishing, January 1–July 13.**
- **Closed year-round to king salmon fishing.**
- **From its mouth upstream approximately 500 yards to an ADF&G marker:**
 - Open to fishing for salmon (except king salmon), July 14–December 31.
 - Salmon (except king salmon) limits:
 - 16 inches or longer:
 - 3 per day, 3 in possession in combination.
 - Less than 16 inches:
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession in combination.
- **Upstream from the ADF&G marker approximately 500 yards upstream of its mouth:**
 - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
- In Bird Creek upstream of the marker placed upstream of the Seward Highway bridge, all land is privately owned. Obtain permission before fishing from private land.

Campbell Creek:

Entire drainage:

- **Closed to all sport fishing, April 15–June 14.**
- Rainbow/steelhead trout limits: Campbell Creek is a stocked rainbow/steelhead trout water; therefore, the limits for stocked waters from the general regulations apply. **Waters above the forks near Piper Street are closed to retention (see map on page 50).**
- Arctic Char/Dolly Varden limits: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 fish may be 12 inches or longer.
- **From its mouth upstream to ADF&G markers under the Dimond Blvd. bridge—including Campbell Lake:**
 - **Closed year-round to all fishing.**
- **From ADF&G markers under the Dimond Blvd. bridge to the Old Seward Highway:**
 - Youth-Only Fishery:
 - Anglers 15 years of age and younger may fish for king salmon. Fishing is allowed only between 6:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m. on the last Saturday and Sunday of June each year. During 2016, this will be Saturday, June 25 and Sunday, June 26.
 - Youth-Only King salmon limits:
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 fish may be 20 inches or longer.
 - Anglers who keep a king salmon 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.
 - After taking a king salmon 20 inches or longer in this fishery a person may not sport fish for any species of finfish in waters open to king salmon fishing that same day.
 - Anglers 16 years of age and older may **NOT** sport fish in the Campbell Creek from ADF&G markers under the Dimond Blvd. bridge to the Old Seward Highway between 6:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 25 and Sunday, June 26.

...continued

SPECIAL REGULATIONS (continued)

Campbell Creek (continued):

- From ADF&G markers under the Dimond Blvd. bridge to ADF&G markers near Shelikof St.:
 - Coho (silver) salmon limits:
 - Season for coho only is July 14–September 30.
 - 3 per day, 3 in possession.
 - **Closed to all other salmon species fishing.**
- From ADF&G markers near Shelikof St. upstream to ADF&G markers on the upstream side of the Lake Otis Pkwy. bridge:
 - **Closed year-round to all fishing.**

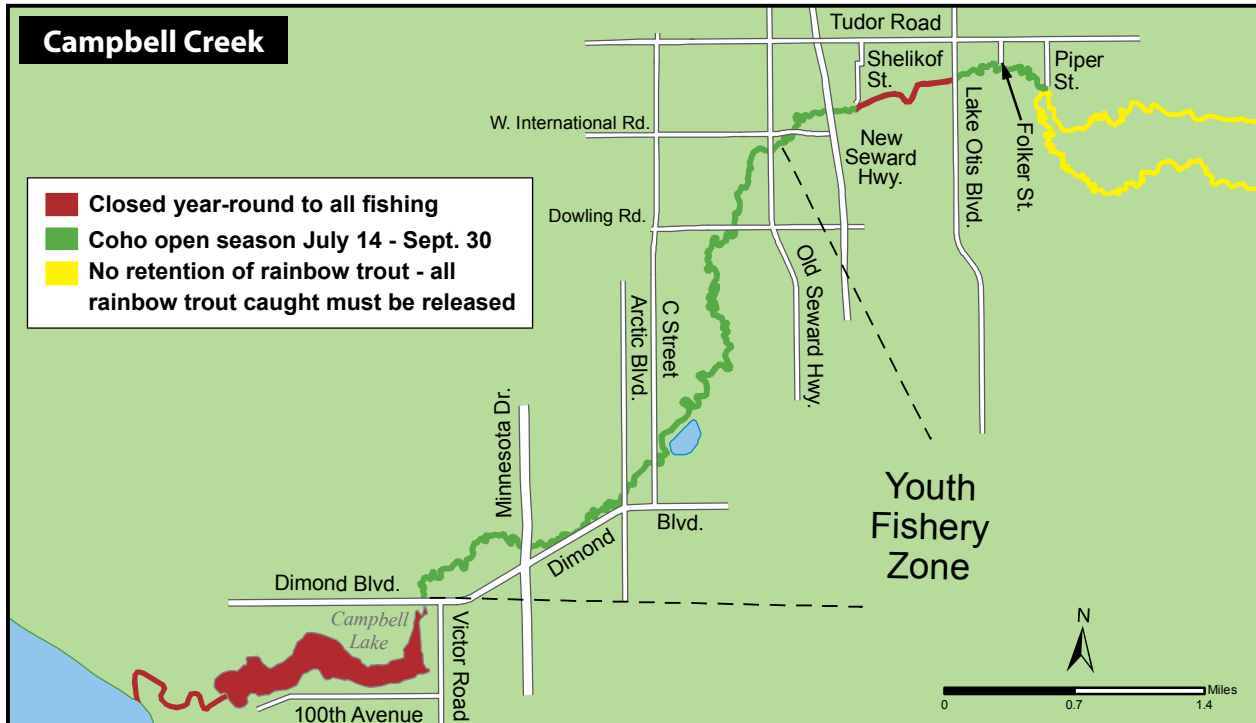
- From ADF&G markers on the upstream side of the Lake Otis Pkwy. bridge to an ADF&G marker located near Piper St.:
 - Coho (silver) salmon limits:
 - Season for coho only is July 14–September 30.
 - 3 per day, 3 in possession.
 - **Closed to all other salmon species fishing.**
- Upstream of the forks near Piper St.:
 - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure is allowed year-round.
 - Rainbow/steelhead trout limits: No retention. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.

Chester Creek drainage:

- **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
- **Closed to all sport fishing, April 15–June 14.**
- Stocked rainbow trout water.

Eagle River drainage:

- In those waters of Eagle River open to salmon fishing:
 - Salmon (except king salmon) limits:
 - 16 inches or longer:
 - 3 per day, 3 in possession, only 2 per day, 2 in possession may be coho (silver) salmon.
 - Less than 16 inches:
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession in combination.
- From its mouth upstream to the Route Bravo bridge on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson:
 - **Closed year-round to all fishing.**
- From the Route Bravo bridge upstream to ADF&G markers at Mile 7.4 of the Eagle River Road, including waters within 100 yards of its confluence with the South Fork (but not including South Fork):
 - Open year-round to fishing for all species (except king salmon).
- From Bailey Bridge on Fort Richardson upstream to ADF&G markers in the Alaska State Parks' Eagle River Campground:
 - Open to fishing for king salmon during the following 3-day periods in 2016: May 28–30, June 4–6, June 11–13, and June 18–20.
 - King salmon limits: 1 per day, 1 in possession, only 1 fish may be 20 inches or longer.
 - There is an annual limit of 2 king salmon 20 inches or longer from the waters of this area.
 - Anglers who keep a king salmon 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.
 - After taking a king salmon 20 inches or longer, a person may not fish for any species of fish that same day in waters open to king salmon sport fishing.
- From the ADF&G markers at Mile 7.4 of the Eagle River Road upstream, and the North Fork and its tributaries (but not including South Fork):
 - Open to fishing for all species (except king salmon), September 16–May 31.



Eagle River drainage (continued):

- **South Fork Eagle River:**
 - **From its confluence with Eagle River upstream to the falls:**
 - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
 - Open to fishing for all species (except salmon), August 15–May 31.
 - **From the falls upstream:** General regulations apply.

Eklutna River drainage:

- **In those waters of Eklutna River open to salmon fishing:**
 - Salmon (except king salmon) limits:
 - 16 inches or longer:
 - 3 per day, 3 in possession, only 2 per day, 2 in possession may be coho (silver) salmon.
 - Less than 16 inches:
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession in combination.
- **From its mouth upstream to the Glenn Highway bridge:**
 - Open year-round to salmon (except king salmon) fishing.
- **Upstream of the Glenn Highway bridge:**
 - Open to salmon fishing (except king salmon), January 1–September 30.

Glacier Creek drainage (including California Creek):

- **In waters of Glacier Creek open to salmon fishing:**
 - Salmon (except king salmon) limits:
 - 16 inches or longer:
 - 3 per day, 3 in possession, only 2 per day, 2 in possession may be coho (silver) salmon.
 - Less than 16 inches:
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession in combination.
- **From its mouth upstream to ADF&G markers 25 yards above the confluence of California Creek:**
 - Open year-round to salmon (except king salmon) fishing.
- **From ADF&G markers 25 yards above the confluence of California Creek upstream:**
 - Open to salmon (except king salmon) fishing, January 1–September 30.
- **California Creek drainage:**
 - **From its confluence with Glacier Creek upstream 25 yards to ADF&G markers above the confluence:**
 - Open year-round to salmon (except king salmon) fishing.
 - **Upstream from ADF&G markers 25 yards above the confluence with Glacier Creek:**
 - Open to salmon (except king salmon) fishing, January 1–September 30.

Indian Creek:

- **Downstream of the Seward Highway:**
 - Open year-round to fishing for all species (except king salmon).
 - Salmon (except king salmon) limits:
 - 16 inches or longer:
 - 3 per day, 3 in possession, only 2 per day, 2 in possession may be coho (silver) salmon.
 - Less than 16 inches:
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession in combination.
- **Upstream of the Seward Highway:**
 - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
 - Open to fishing for other species (except salmon) January 1–June 30.

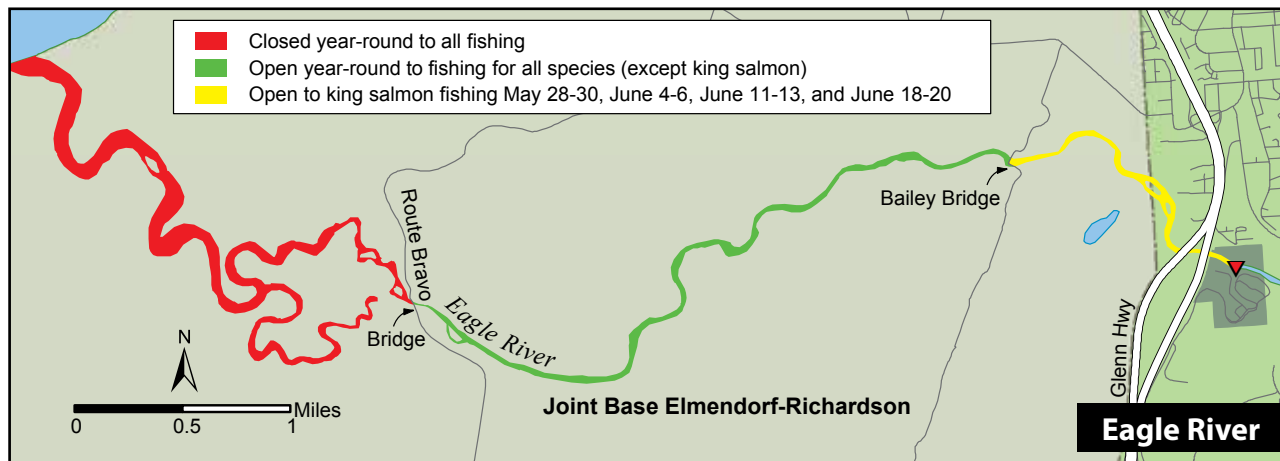
Ingram Creek drainage:

- **In waters of Ingram Creek open to salmon fishing:**
 - Salmon (except king salmon) limits:
 - 16 inches or longer:
 - 3 per day, 3 in possession, only 2 per day, 2 in possession may be coho (silver) salmon.
 - Less than 16 inches:
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession in combination.
- **From its mouth upstream to ADF&G markers about 50 yd upstream of the Seward Highway:**
 - Open year-round to salmon (except king salmon) fishing.
- **Upstream of ADF&G markers about 50 yd upstream of the Seward Highway:**
 - Open to salmon (except king salmon) fishing, January 1–September 30.

...continued

To fish on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER): Go to www.jber.isportsman.net to register and obtain a permit.

- **Elmendorf Portion**—Department of Defense ID or accompanied by a JBER sponsor, and a recreational access pass required.
- **Ft. Richardson Portion**—A recreational access permit and an installation access pass are both required.



SPECIAL REGULATIONS (continued)

Peters Creek drainage:

- **From its mouth upstream to the Glenn Highway:**
 - Open year-round to salmon (except king salmon) fishing.
 - Salmon (except king salmon) limits:
 - 16 inches or longer:
 - 3 per day, 3 in possession, only 2 per day, 2 in possession may be coho (silver) salmon.
 - Less than 16 inches:
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession in combination.
- **Upstream of the Glenn Highway:**
 - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**

Placer River drainage—includes Lower Explorer Creek and Skookum Creek:

- Open year-round to fishing for all species (except king salmon).
- **In those waters of Placer River drainage open to salmon fishing:**
 - Salmon (except king salmon) limits:
 - 16 inches or longer:
 - 3 per day, 3 in possession, only 2 per day, 2 in possession may be coho (silver) salmon.
 - Less than 16 inches:
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession in combination.
 - **Lower Explorer Creek, upstream from ADF&G markers near its confluence with Lower Explorer Pond:**
 - Open to fishing for all species (except king salmon), January 1–July 13.
 - **In Skookum Creek upstream of the Alaska Railroad bridge:**
 - Open to fishing for all species (except king salmon), January 1–July 13.

Portage Creek drainage—includes Williwaw Creek and Placer Creek:

- Open year-round to fishing for all species (except king salmon).
- **In those waters of Portage Creek open to salmon fishing:**
 - Salmon (except king salmon) limits:
 - 16 inches or longer:
 - 3 per day, 3 in possession, only 2 per day, 2 in possession may be coho (silver) salmon.
 - Less than 16 inches:
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession in combination.
 - **In all waters of Lower Railroad Slough that enter Portage Creek from the north about 2 miles upstream of the Seward Highway, upstream from ADF&G markers at its confluence with Portage Creek:**
 - Open to fishing for all species (except king salmon), January 1–July 13.
 - **Williwaw Creek:**
 - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
 - Open to fishing for other species (except salmon) September 16–June 30.
 - **The Placer Creek drainage (all Bear Valley streams):**
 - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
 - Open year-round to fishing for other species (except salmon).



Fishing Ship Creek

Potter Creek/Potter Marsh:

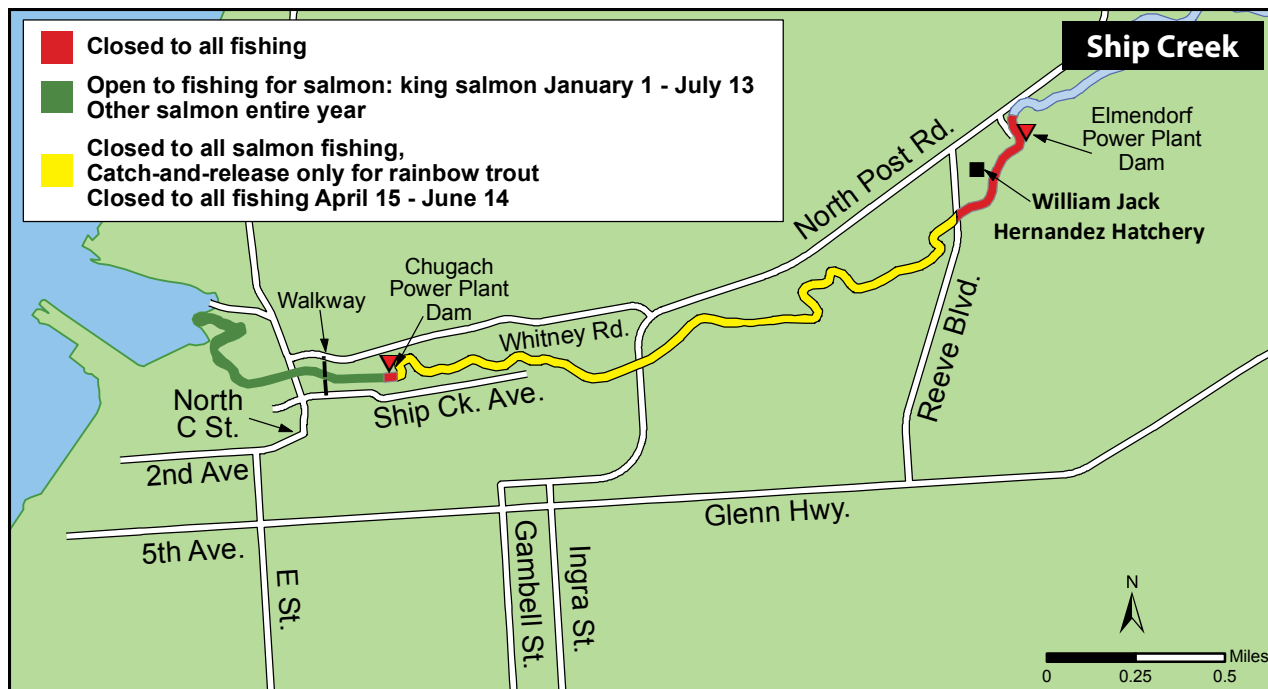
- **Closed year-round to all sport fishing.**

Rabbit Creek:

- **Downstream of Old Seward Highway:**
 - **Closed year-round to all sport fishing.**

Ship Creek:

- **Closed to all sport fishing, between 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. from May 15–July 13.**
- Anglers must observe all posted Alaska Railroad regulations regarding access to Ship Creek. Park only in designated areas. Call the railroad at 265-2463 for more information.
- **From the mouth of Ship Creek upstream to a point 100 ft downstream of the Chugach power plant dam (marked by a cable stretched across the creek):**
 - Open to king salmon fishing, January 1–July 13.
 - King salmon limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 fish may be 20 inches or longer.
 - Anglers who keep a king salmon 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.
 - After taking a king salmon 20 inches or longer, a person may not fish for any species of fish that same day in waters open to king salmon sport fishing.
- Open year-round to salmon (except king salmon) fishing.
- Salmon (except king salmon) limits:
 - 16 inches or longer:
 - 3 per day, 3 in possession, all 3 may be coho (silver) salmon.
 - Less than 16 inches:
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession in combination.
- **From a point 100 ft downstream of the Chugach power plant dam (marked by a cable stretched across the creek) to ADF&G markers 100 ft upstream of the Chugach power plant dam:**
 - **Closed year-round to all sport fishing.**



Ship Creek (continued):

- From ADF&G markers 100 ft upstream of the Chugach power plant dam to the upstream side of the Reeve Blvd. bridge:
 - Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.
 - Closed to all sport fishing, April 15–June 14.
 - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used.
 - Rainbow/steelhead trout limits: No retention. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.
- From the upstream side of the Reeve Blvd. bridge to an ADF&G marker 300 ft above the Elmendorf power plant dam:
 - Closed year-round to all fishing.
- The waters upstream from an ADF&G marker 300 ft above the Elmendorf power plant dam:
 - Open to sport fishing. General regulations apply.

Sixmile Creek—Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson:

- From ADF&G markers located at its mouth upstream to Lower Sixmile Lake:
 - Closed year-round to all sport fishing.

Symphony Lake:

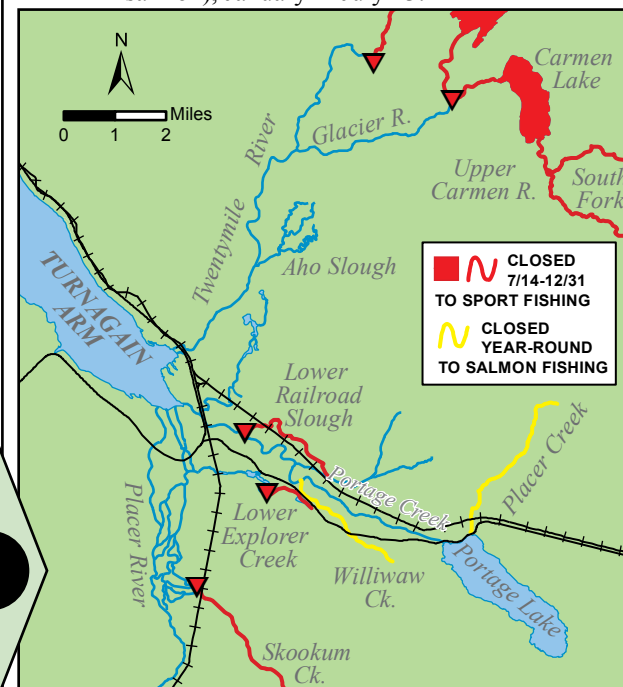
- Closed to all sport fishing, May 1–June 30.
- Arctic grayling limits: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 fish may be greater than 12 inches in length.

Smelt (hooligan) dipnetting in Cook Inlet (includes Twentymile River):

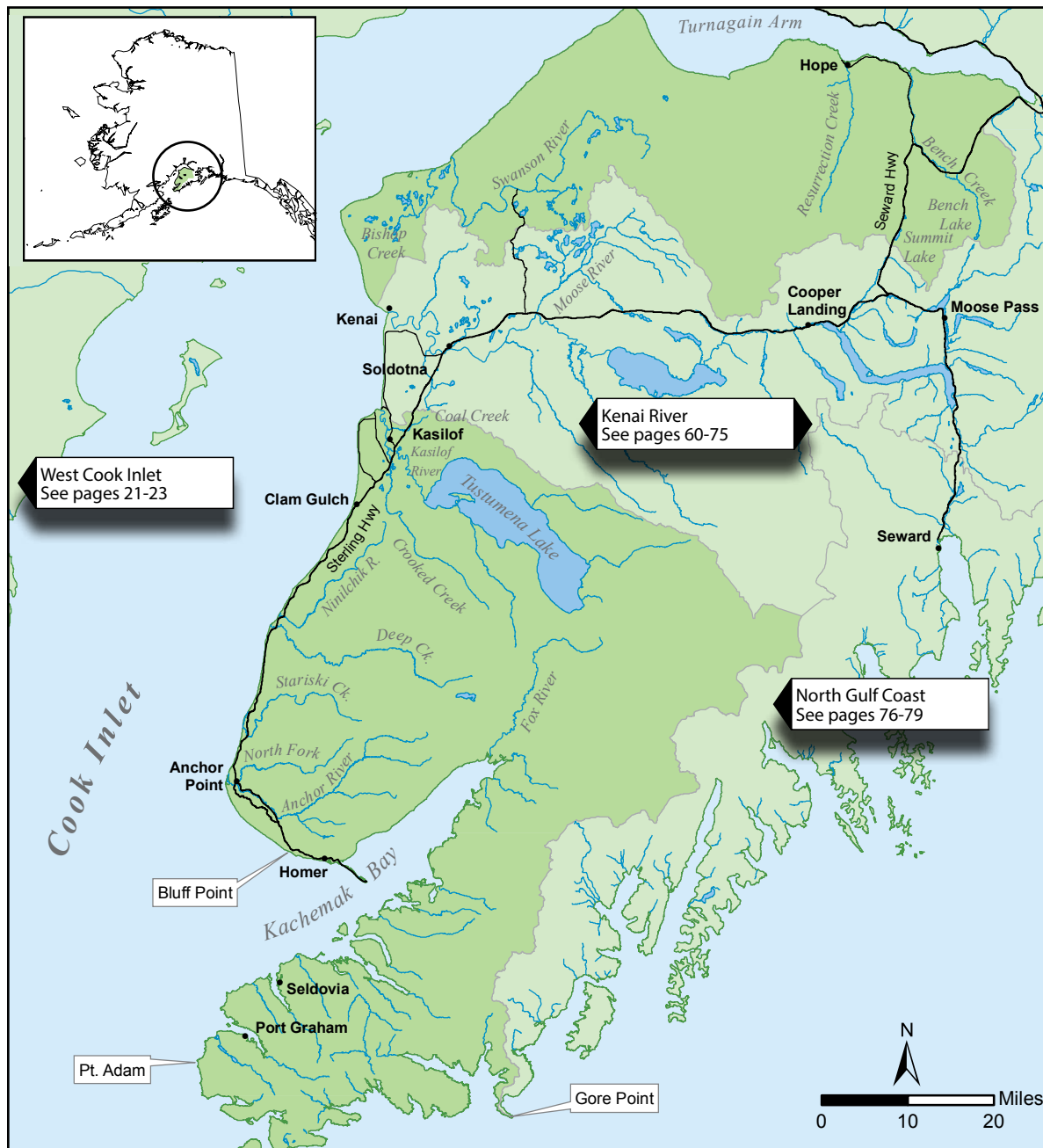
- See personal use regulations on page 14.
- Cook Inlet personal use website:
<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=PersonalUseByAreaSouthcentral.main>
- Cook Inlet hooligan website:
<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=PersonalUsebyAreaSouthcentralHerringAndHooligan regs>

Twentymile River drainage—including the Upper Carmen River and Glacier River:

- Open year-round for all species (except king salmon) fishing.
- Salmon (except king salmon) limits:
 - 16 inches or longer:
 - 3 per day, 3 in possession, only 2 per day, 2 in possession may be coho (silver) salmon.
 - Less than 16 inches:
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession in combination.
- Upstream from ADF&G markers about 10 miles upstream of the Seward Highway.
 - Open to fishing for all species (except king salmon), January 1–July 13.
- Upper Carmen and Glacier River drainages:
 - Upstream from ADF&G markers at their confluence:
 - Open to fishing for all species (except king salmon), January 1–July 13.



Placer River, Portage Creek and Twentymile River



GENERAL REGULATIONS

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).

The Fishing Season for all species is open year-round unless otherwise noted below.

KING SALMON

- The fresh waters of the Kenai Peninsula are **closed to king salmon fishing**, except Anchor River, Deep Creek, Kasilof River and Nilmilchik Rivers. See special regulations.
- In Kenai Peninsula fresh waters open to king salmon fishing by special regulation:
 - There is a combined annual limit of 5 king salmon 20 inches or longer from the waters of the following areas: Cook Inlet Salt Waters, West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai River and Kenai Peninsula.
 - A king salmon 20 inches or longer that is removed from salt or fresh water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a king salmon 20 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
 - Anglers who keep a king salmon 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.

OTHER SALMON

- In stocked lakes (see pages 84–85 for a list of stocked lakes):
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession in combination.
- In other lakes, ponds and all flowing waters:
 - 16 inches or longer:
 - 3 per day, 3 in possession, only 2 per day, 2 in possession maybe coho (silver) salmon.
 - A coho salmon 16 inches or longer that is removed from fresh water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a coho salmon 16 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
 - Less than 16 inches:
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession in combination.

RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

- In flowing waters:
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 fish may be 20 inches or longer. If 20 inches or longer see below.
- In lakes and ponds:
 - 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 fish may be 20 inches or longer. If 20 inches or longer see below.
- 20 inches or longer:
 - There is a total annual limit of 2 rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer taken north of the latitude of Point Adam, from the waters of the following areas: West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai Lake drainages, Kenai River tributaries, and Kenai Peninsula.
 - Anglers who keep a rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.

ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN

- In flowing waters:
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession.
- In lakes and ponds:
 - 5 per day, 5 in possession.

LAKE TROUT

- 20 inches or longer:
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession.
- Less than 20 inches:
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession.

ARCTIC GRAYLING

- 5 per day, 5 in possession.

BURBOT

- 2 per day, 2 in possession.

NORTHERN PIKE

- No limit.
- 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.

The following special rules apply to ice-fishing for northern pike in the waters listed below:

- Sport fishing through the ice for northern pike is allowed using 5 lines provided that:
 - Standard ice fishing gear is used;
 - the fishing gear is closely attended, and;
 - all other species of fish caught are released immediately.
- **Tote Road Lakes** • **Hall Lake**
- **Tiny Lake**

OTHER FINFISH

- No limit.

METHODS AND MEANS

Bait restriction in flowing waters:

- 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 the special regulations listed below and in the Kenai River and its drainages.

Use of Beads:

- In all flowing waters, beads fished ahead of flies, lures, or bare hooks must be fixed within 2 inches of the hook, or be free to slide on the entire length of the line or leader.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS

Anchor River drainage (see map on page 56):

- **Closed to all fishing November 1–May 20.**
- Rainbow/steelhead trout limits (entire drainage):
 - No retention. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
- **In all flowing waters:**
 - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure is allowed July 1–15 and September 1–October 31.
- **From its mouth upstream approximately 2 miles to ADF&G markers, near the confluence of the North and South forks:**
 - King salmon:
 - **Season:** May 21–23, May 25, May 28–30, June 1, June 4–6, June 8, June 11–13, June 15, June 18–20, and June 22.
 - 20 inches or longer:
 - 1 per day, 1 in possession, only 1 fish may be 20 inches or longer.
 - There is a combined annual limit of 5 king salmon 20 inches or longer from the waters of the following areas: Cook Inlet Salt Waters, West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai River and Kenai Peninsula.
 - No more than 2 of these 5 king salmon 20 inches or longer may be taken from the Anchor River and Deep Creek combined (see page 57).
 - Anglers who keep a king salmon 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.
 - After harvesting a king salmon 20 inches or longer from the Anchor River, a person may not fish for any species of fish in either the Anchor River, Deep Creek or the Ninilchik River for the rest of that day.
 - Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.
- All other species:
 - **Season:** May 21–23, May 25, May 28–30, June 1, June 4–6, June 8, June 11–13, June 15, June 18–20, and June 22 and July 1–October 31.
 - General regulations on pages 54–55 apply.

...continued

SPECIAL REGULATIONS (continued)

Anchor River drainage (continued):

- **Upstream from the ADF&G markers, near the confluence of the North and South forks:**
 - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
- **Season:** August 1–October 31.
 - Rainbow/steelhead trout:
 - No retention is allowed. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
 - All other species (except salmon): Follow the general regulations.
- **Bridge Creek Reservoir:**
 - Open to fishing year-round following general regulations on pages 54–55.

Bench Creek drainage, including Bench Lake:

- **Season:** June 11 – May 1.

Bishop Creek drainage, including Daniels Creek:

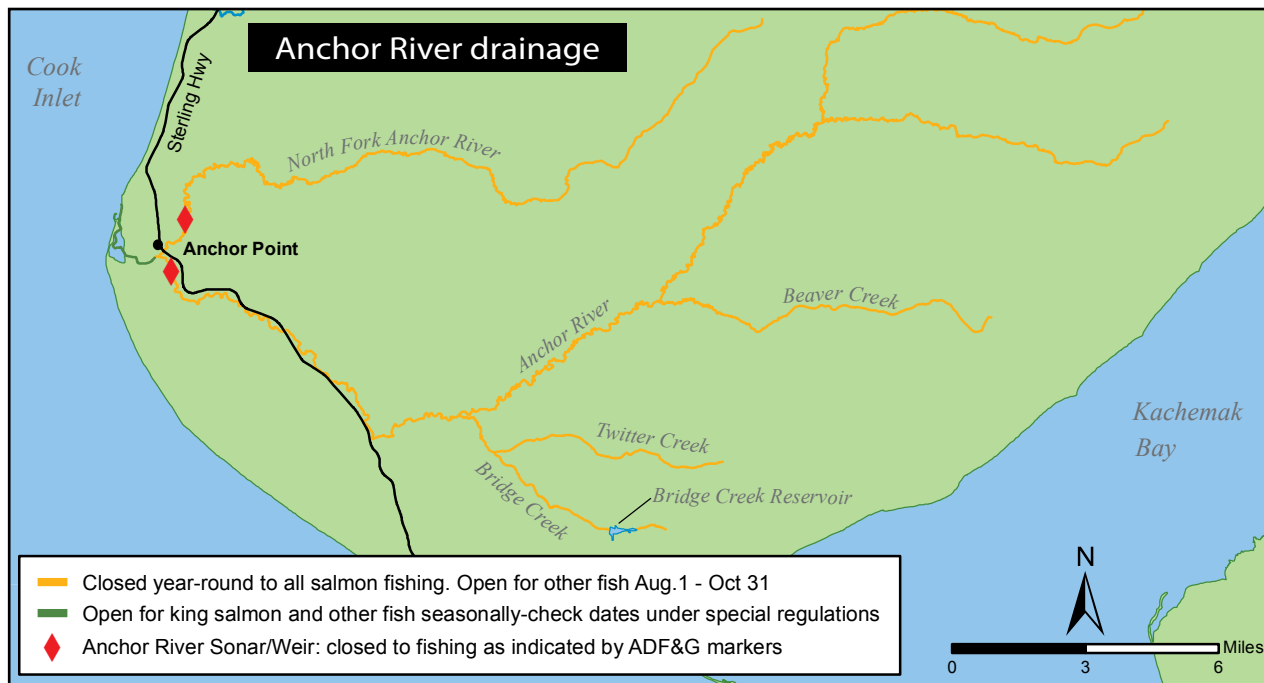
- **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
- **Closed to all fishing, April 15–June 14.**
- **In all flowing waters:**
 - Only unbaited, artificial lures may be used September 16–December 31.

Crooked Creek and Coal Creek:

- **Season:** August 1–December 31.
- Rainbow/steelhead trout:
 - No retention is allowed. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
- **In all flowing waters:**
 - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure is allowed September 1–December 31.

Deep Creek drainage:

- **Closed to all fishing November 1–May 27.**
- Rainbow/steelhead trout (entire drainage):
 - No retention is allowed. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
- **In all flowing waters:**
 - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure is allowed July 1–15 and September 1–October 31.
- **From its mouth upstream approximately 2 miles to ADF&G markers:**
 - King salmon:
 - **Season:** May 28–30, June 4–6, June 11–13.
 - 20 inches or longer:
 - 1 per day, 1 in possession.
 - There is a combined annual limit of 5 king salmon 20 inches or longer from the waters of the following areas: Cook Inlet Salt Waters, West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai River and Kenai Peninsula.
 - No more than 2 of these 5 king salmon 20 inches or longer may be taken from the Anchor River (see pages 55–56) and Deep Creek combined.
 - Anglers who keep a king salmon 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.
 - After taking a king salmon 20 inches or longer from Deep Creek, a person may not fish for any species of fish in either the Anchor River, Deep Creek or the Ninilchik River for the rest of that day.
 - Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.
- Other species:
 - **Season:** May 28–30, June 4–6, June 11–13, and July 1–October 31.
- General regulations on pages 54–55 apply.



...continued

An Anchor River king salmon



Deep Creek drainage (continued):

- **Upstream from ADF&G markers:**
 - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
 - Rainbow/steelhead trout:
 - **Season:** August 1–October 31, but no retention is allowed. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
 - Other species (except salmon):
 - **Season:** August 1–October 31, general regulations on pages 54–55 apply.

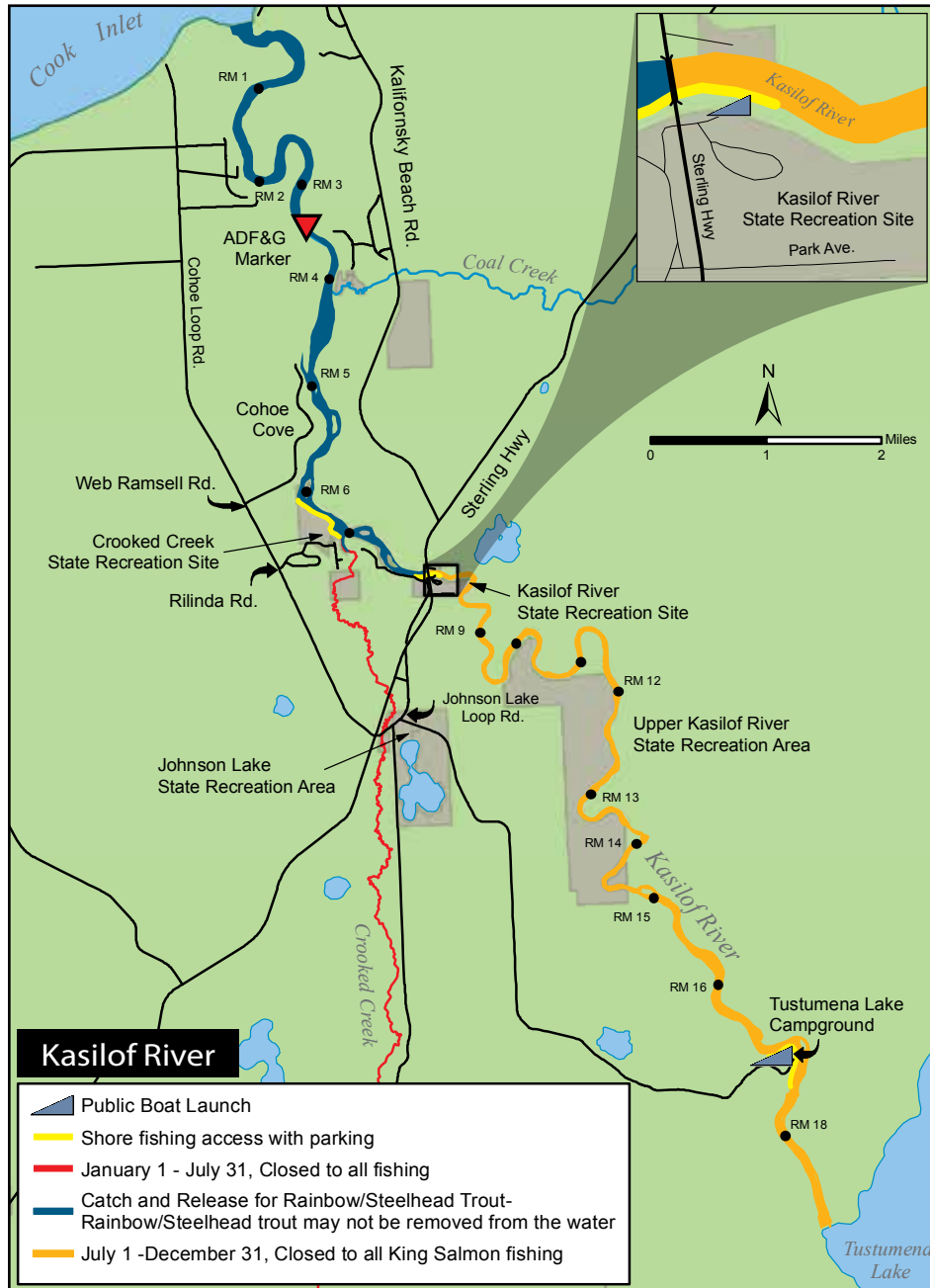
English Bay River drainage:

- **From its mouth (including the lagoon) upstream to the outlet of Lower English Bay Lake:**
 - Fly-fishing-only June 1–July 31. See page 7 for a description of acceptable gear.
- **English Bay River and all lakes and ponds of English Bay River drainage upstream from the outlet of Lower English Bay Lake:**
 - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**

Kasilof River—excluding Crooked Creek, Coal Creek, and Tustumena Lake and its tributaries (see map on page 58):

- King salmon:
 - January 1–June 30: 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 ADF&G markers located at approximately river mile 3, and only after fishing from the boat has stopped for the day.
 - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure is allowed, September 16–May 15.
- King salmon:
 - 20 inches or longer:
 - January 1–June 30:
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 may be a naturally-produced 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.
 - There is a combined annual limit of 5 king salmon 20 inches or longer from the waters of the following areas: Cook Inlet Salt Waters, West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai River and Kenai Peninsula.
 - Anglers who keep a king salmon 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.
 - Less than 20 inches:
 - January 1–July 31: 10 per day, 10 in possession.
- Rainbow/steelhead trout:
 - No retention is allowed. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.

...continued



SPECIAL REGULATIONS (continued)

Kasilof River—excluding Crooked Creek, Coal Creek, and Tustumena Lake and its tributaries (continued):

- **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.
- **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.
 - Only unbaited, artificial lures allowed, September 16–December 31.
 - King salmon:
 - **Season:** January 1–June 30:
 - 20 inches or longer:
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 may be a naturally-produced king salmon recognized by the presence of the adipose fin (fish with an adipose fin may be kept only on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays)
 - There is a combined annual limit of 5 king salmon 20 inches or longer from the waters of the following areas: Cook Inlet Salt Waters, West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai River and Kenai Peninsula.
 - Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.



Ninilchik River drainage:

- **Closed to all fishing November 1–May 27.**
- King Salmon:
 - 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.
- 20 inches or longer:
 - There is a combined annual limit of 5 king salmon 20 inches or longer from the waters of the following areas: Cook Inlet Salt Waters, West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai River and Kenai Peninsula.
 - Anglers who keep a king salmon 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.
- Rainbow/steelhead trout (entire drainage):
 - No retention is allowed. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
- **In all flowing waters:**
 - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure is allowed September 1–October 31.
- **From its mouth upstream approximately 2 miles to ADF&G markers:**
 - **Wild or hatchery king salmon:**
Season: May 28–30, June 4–6, and June 11–13.
 - 20 inches or longer:
 - 1 per day, 1 in possession, of either wild or hatchery king salmon.
 - After taking a king salmon 20 inches or longer from the Ninilchik River, a person may not fish for any species in the Anchor River, Deep Creek or Ninilchik River for the rest of the day.
 - Less than 20 inches:
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession, of either wild or hatchery king salmon.

Ninilchik River drainage—From its mouth upstream approximately 2 miles to ADF&G markers (continued):

- **Hatchery king salmon only limits—**
(Distinguished from a wild king salmon by the adipose fin. Hatchery king salmon are missing their adipose fin and have a healed fin clip scar):
Season: July 1–October 31. All wild king salmon caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
 - 20 inches or longer:
 - 1 per day, 1 in possession.
 - After taking a **hatchery king salmon 20 inches or longer** from the Ninilchik River, a person may not fish for any species in the Ninilchik River for the rest of the day.
 - Less than 20 inches:
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession, of **hatchery king salmon** only.
- Other species:
 - **Season:** May 28–30, June 4–6, June 11–13, and July 1–October 31.
 - General regulations on pages 54–55 apply.
- **Upstream from the ADF&G markers:**
 - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
 - Rainbow/steelhead trout:
 - **Season:** August 1–October 31, but no retention is allowed. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
 - Other species:
 - Open to fishing for other species, except salmon, August 1–October 31, following the general regulations.

Stariski Creek drainage:

- **Closed year-round to fishing for king salmon.**
- Rainbow/steelhead trout:
 - No retention is allowed. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
- **In all flowing waters:**
 - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure is allowed July 1–15 and September 1–October 31.
- **From its mouth upstream to the Sterling Highway bridge:**
 - **Season:** is July 1–October 31.
- **Upstream of the Sterling Highway bridge:**
 - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
 - Other species: Season is August 1–October 31.

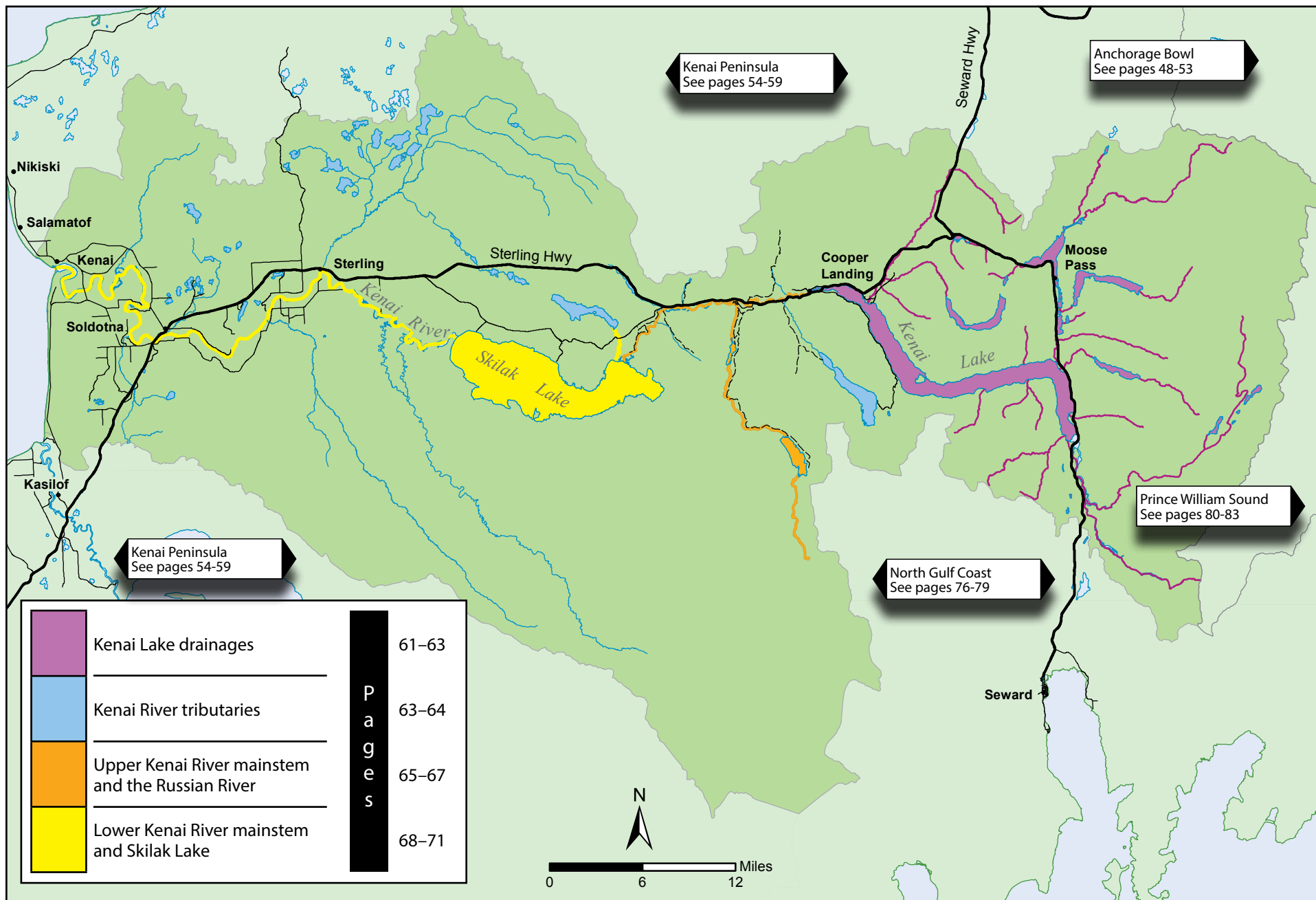
Swanson River drainage:

- **In all flowing waters:**
 - **Closed to all fishing April 15–June 14.**
 - Bait is allowed year-round.
 - Rainbow/steelhead trout limits: 5 per day, 5 in possession (only one 20 inches or longer).
- **Sucker Creek:**
 - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**

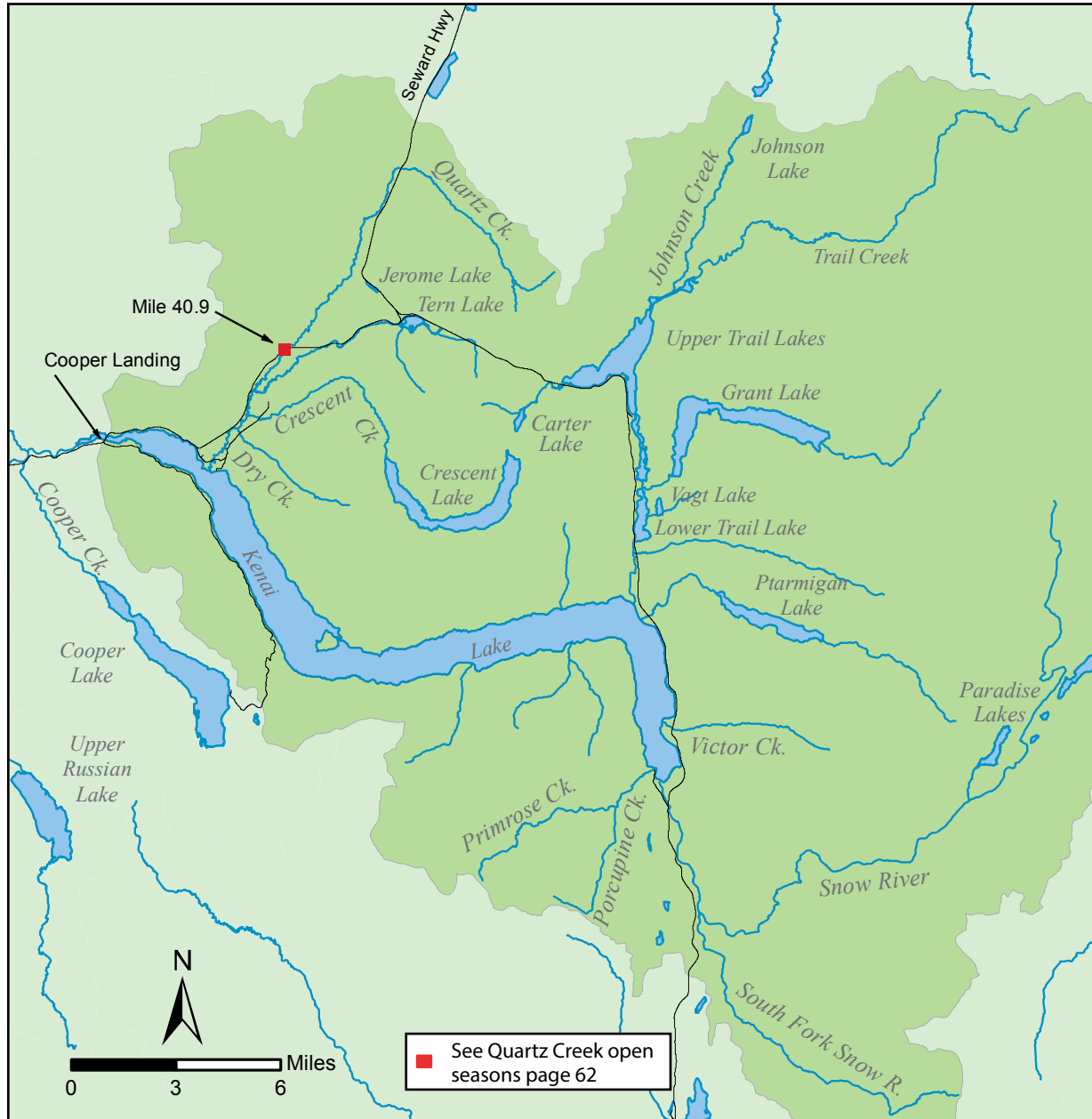
Tustumena Lake and tributaries:

- **Closed year-round to fishing for sockeye (red) salmon.**
- **Tustumena Lake tributaries:**
 - **Closed to all fishing May 2–June 10.**





KENAI RIVER - Kenai Lake Drainages



GENERAL REGULATIONS

Inclusive waters: Kenai Lake and all other lakes of the Kenai Lake drainage, and all flowing waters tributary to Kenai Lake.

The Fishing Season for all species is open year-round unless otherwise noted below.

KING SALMON

- **Closed to king salmon fishing.**

OTHER SALMON

- **Closed to all salmon fishing.**

RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

- In flowing waters:
 - **Season:** June 11–May 1:
 - 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 16 inches long.
- In unstocked lakes: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 fish may be 20 inches or longer.
- In stocked lakes (see pages 84–85 for a list of stocked lakes): 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 fish may be 20 inches or longer.
- 20 inches or longer:
 - There is a total annual limit of 2 rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer taken north of the latitude of Point Adam, from the waters of the following areas: West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai Lake drainages, Kenai River tributaries, and Kenai Peninsula.
 - Anglers who keep a rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.

ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN

- In flowing waters:
 - **Season:** June 11–May 1:
 - 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 16 inches long.
- In lakes and ponds: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 fish may be 20 inches or longer.

...continued

GENERAL REGULATIONS (continued)

ARCTIC GRAYLING

- In lakes and ponds:
 - 5 per day, 5 in possession.
- In flowing waters:
 - **Season:** June 11–May 1:
 - 5 per day, 5 in possession.

LAKE TROUT

- In lakes and ponds:
 - 20 inches or longer: 2 per day, 2 in possession.
 - Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.
- In flowing waters:
 - **Season:** June 11–May 1:
 - 20 inches or longer: 2 per day, 2 in possession.
 - Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.

BURBOT

- In lakes and ponds: 2 per day, 2 in possession.
- In flowing waters:
 - **Season:** June 11–May 1: 2 per day, 2 in possession.

OTHER FINFISH

- In lakes and ponds: No limit.
- In flowing waters:
 - **Season:** June 11–May 1: No limit.



Crescent Lake grayling

METHODS AND MEANS

Bait restrictions:

- **In Kenai Lake (except within ¼ mile of all inlet streams):**
 - Bait and multiple hooks are allowed.
- **Within ¼ mile of all inlet streams of Kenai Lake and on the Kenai River from the Sterling Highway bridge upstream approximately ¼ mile to ADF&G markers located at the outlet of Kenai Lake:**
 - Only one unbaited, single-hook artificial lure is allowed year-round.
- **In all flowing waters of the Kenai Lake drainages:**
 - Beads fished ahead of flies, lures, or bare hooks must be fixed within 2 inches of the hook, or be free to slide on the entire length of the line or leader.
 - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure is allowed year-round.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS

Crescent Creek drainage—including Crescent Lake:

- Open season is June 11–May 1.
- Arctic grayling limits: 2 per day/2 in possession.

Kenai Lake within ¼ mile of all inlet streams:

- Open season is June 11–May 1.

Kenai Lake outlet:

- **Kenai Lake within ¼ mile above the Sterling Highway bridge at the outlet of the lake:**
 - Open season is June 11–May 1.

Quartz Creek:

- **Upstream of the Sterling Highway bridge (■ Mile 40.9):**
 - Open season is 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 season is June 11–September 14 and November 1–May 1.
- **Remainder of drainage:**
 - Open season is June 11–May 1.

KENAI RIVER - Kenai River Tributaries

GENERAL REGULATIONS

Inclusive waters: See map on page 60. Tributaries of the Kenai River between Kenai Lake and Cook Inlet (except those noted below):

- **Upper Kenai River tributaries** are those that join the Kenai River between Kenai Lake and Skilak Lake, and **DOES NOT** include the Russian River, the mainstem Kenai River, or Skilak Lake.
- **Lower Kenai River tributaries** are those that join the Kenai River between Skilak Lake and Cook Inlet, and **DOES NOT** include the mainstem Kenai River or Skilak Lake.

The Fishing Season for all species is open year-round unless otherwise noted below.

KING SALMON

- **Closed to king salmon fishing.**

OTHER SALMON

- 16 inches or longer:
 - Coho salmon season is July 1–October 31.
 - 3 per day, 6 in possession, only 2 per day, 2 in possession may be coho salmon.
 - A coho salmon 16 inches or longer that is removed from fresh water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a coho salmon 16 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
- Less than 16 inches:
 - Coho salmon season is July 1–October 31.
 - 10 per day/10 in possession in combination.

ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN

- In lakes and ponds: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 fish may be 20 inches or longer.
- In flowing waters:
 - **Upper Kenai River tributaries:**
 - Open June 11–May 1: 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than **16** inches long.
 - **Lower Kenai River tributaries:**
 - Open entire year: 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than **18** inches long.

RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

- In flowing waters:
 - **Season:** June 11–May 1:
 - **Upper Kenai River tributaries:** 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than **16** inches long.
 - **Lower Kenai River tributaries:** 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than **18** inches long.
- In lakes and ponds: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
 - 20 inches or longer:
 - There is a total annual limit of 2 rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer taken north of the latitude of Point Adam, from the waters of the following areas: West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai Lake drainages, Kenai River tributaries, and Kenai Peninsula.
 - Anglers who keep a rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.

LAKE TROUT

- 20 inches or longer: 2 per day, 2 in possession.
- Less than 20 inches: 10 per day/10 in possession.
 - **Upper Kenai River tributaries:**
 - In flowing waters:
 - **Season:** June 11–May 1.

ARCTIC GRAYLING

- In lakes and ponds: 5 per day, 5 in possession.
- In flowing waters:
 - **Upper Kenai River tributaries:**
 - **Season:** June 11–May 1:
 - 5 per day, 5 in possession.
 - **Lower Kenai River tributaries:**
 - Open entire year: 5 per day, 5 in possession.

NORTHERN PIKE

- **Upper Kenai River tributaries:**
 - In lakes and ponds: No limit.
 - In flowing waters:
 - **Season:** June 11–May 1: No limit.
- **Lower Kenai River tributaries:**
 - No limit.
- 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.

The following special rules apply to ice-fishing for northern pike in the waters listed below:

- Sport fishing through the ice for northern pike is allowed using 5 lines provided that:
 - Standard ice fishing gear is used;
 - the fishing gear is closely attended, and;
 - all other species of fish caught are released immediately.
- **Sevena Lake**

...continued

GENERAL REGULATIONS (CONTINUED)

BURBOT

- **Upper Kenai River tributaries:**
 - In lakes and ponds: 2 per day, 2 in possession.
 - In flowing waters:
 - **Season:** June 11–May 1:
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession.
- **Lower Kenai River tributaries:**
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession.

OTHER FINFISH

- **Upper Kenai River tributaries:**
 - In lakes and ponds: No limit.
 - In flowing waters:
 - **Season:** June 11–May 1: No limit.
- **Lower Kenai River tributaries:**
 - No limit.

METHODS AND MEANS

Bait restrictions:

- **In all flowing waters of the Kenai River tributaries:**
 - Beads fished ahead of flies, lures, or bare hooks must be fixed within 2 inches of the hook, or be free to slide on the entire length of the line or leader.
 - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure is allowed year-round. See Moose River special regulation for exception.



LOWER KENAI RIVER TRIBUTARIES SPECIAL REGULATIONS

Lower Kenai River tributaries are those that join the Kenai River between Skilak Lake and Cook Inlet, and **DOES NOT** include the mainstem Kenai River or Skilak Lake.

Funny River

- **From its mouth upstream to the Funny River Road bridge:**
 - **Closed to all fishing June 11–August 14.**
 - See page 70 for additional restrictions to these waters.

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–August 15. See page 7 for a description of allowed gear.
 - **Closed year-round to fishing for king salmon.**
 - Open to fishing for all other species following the Lower Kenai River Mainstem General Seasons and Limits on Pages 68–71.
 - See page 71 for additional restrictions to these waters.
- **Remainder of drainage:**
 - **Closed year-round to fishing for king salmon.**
 - These flowing waters are open to fishing for all other species June 11–May 1, following the daily limits for Lower Kenai tributaries above.
 - Multiple hooks and bait are allowed June 11–May 1 in these waters.

Slikok Creek:

- **Closed year-round to fishing for king salmon.**
- **Closed to all fishing April 15–August 15.**
- See page 70 for additional restrictions to these waters.

Soldotna Creek drainage:

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

UPPER KENAI RIVER TRIBUTARIES SPECIAL REGULATIONS

Upper Kenai River tributaries are those that join the Kenai River between Kenai Lake and Skilak Lake, and **DOES NOT** include the Russian River, the mainstem Kenai River, or Skilak Lake.

Cooper Creek:

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

Cooper Lake:

- Arctic char/Dolly Varden limits: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 fish 20 inches or longer.

Hidden Lake drainage

- **Hidden Lake Creek:**
 - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
 - Open for other species June 11–May 1.
- **Hidden Lake:**
 - **Closed year-round to burbot fishing.**
 - Lake trout limits: 1 per day, 1 in possession, regardless of size.

Jean Lake Creek

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

GENERAL REGULATIONS

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.

The Fishing Season for all species is open June 11–May 1 unless otherwise noted below.

KING SALMON

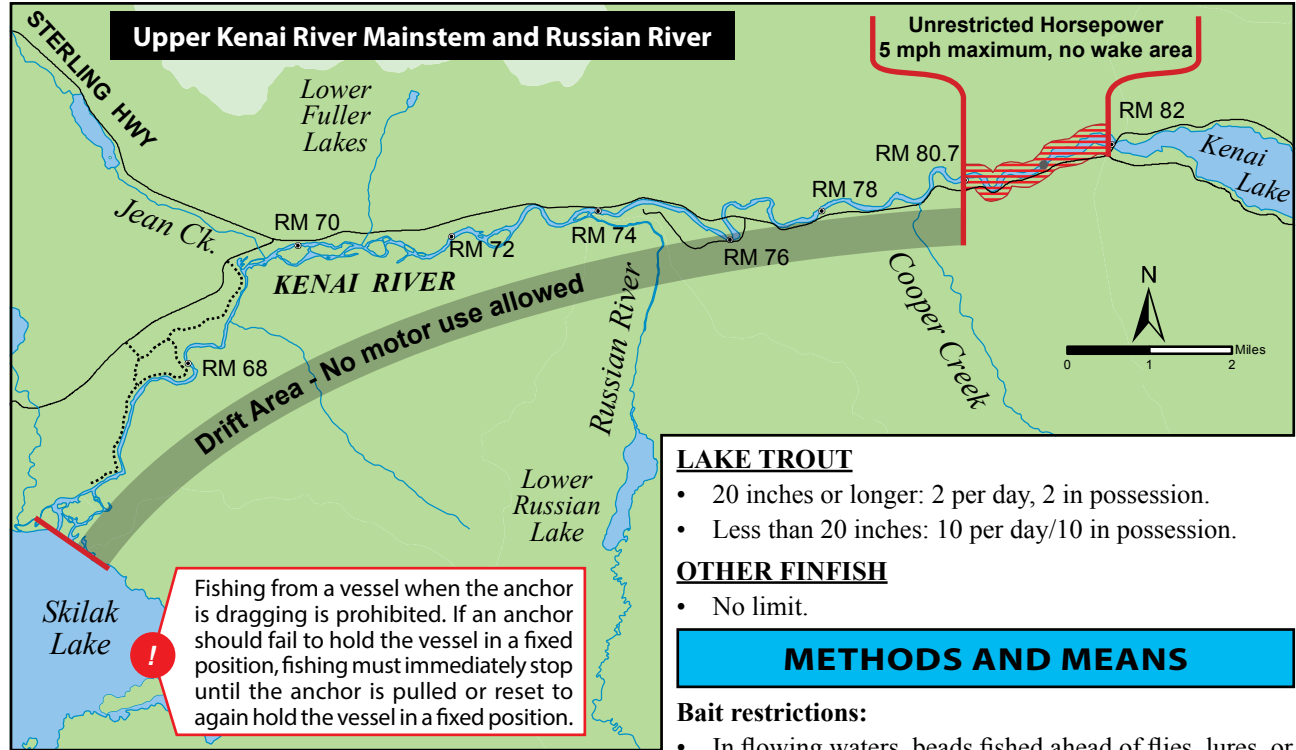
- **Closed to king salmon fishing.**

OTHER SALMON

- Coho salmon:
 - **Season:** July 1–October 31.
 - A coho salmon 16 inches or longer that is removed from fresh water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a coho salmon 16 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
 - After taking a bag limit of coho salmon 16 inches or longer from the Kenai River, a person may not fish in the Kenai River downstream from the Soldotna Bridge on that same day.
- Pink, chum and sockeye (red) salmon:
 - **Season:** June 11–May 1.
- 16 inches or longer:
 - Pink salmon:
 - 6 per day, 6 in possession.
 - Coho, Sockeye (red) and chum salmon:
 - 3 per day, 6 in possession, only 2 per day, 2 in possession may be coho salmon through August 31.
- Less than 16 inches:
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession in combination.

RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

- 1 per day, 1 in possession, **must be less than 16 inches long.**



ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN

- 1 per day, 1 in possession, **must be less than 16 inches long.**

ARCTIC GRAYLING

- 5 per day, 5 in possession.

NORTHERN PIKE

- No limit.
- 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.

LAKE TROUT

- 20 inches or longer: 2 per day, 2 in possession.
- Less than 20 inches: 10 per day/10 in possession.

OTHER FINFISH

- No limit.

METHODS AND MEANS

Bait restrictions:

- In flowing waters, beads fished ahead of flies, lures, or bare hooks must be fixed within 2 inches of the hook or be free to slide on the entire length of the line or leader. See page 7.
- Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure is allowed year-round. The gap between point and shank must be ⅜ inch or less.

River bank closures:

- There are special bank access regulations on the Kenai River. See pages 72–74 for public access points on the Kenai River.

Gear restrictions:

- Salmon may be landed only with the aid of a landing net or by hand.
- See page 75 for motorboat restrictions.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS

Kenai River/Russian River confluence area:

- A** The Kenai River upstream of the powerline to ADF&G markers placed just downstream of the ferry crossing:
- Sport fishing season is June 11–May 1, however, from June 11–August 20 these waters are fly-fishing-only waters. See page 7 for a description of allowed gear.
 - Sockeye and coho salmon 16 inches or longer limits: See table.

A 16 inches or longer: COHO AND SOCKEYE SALMON

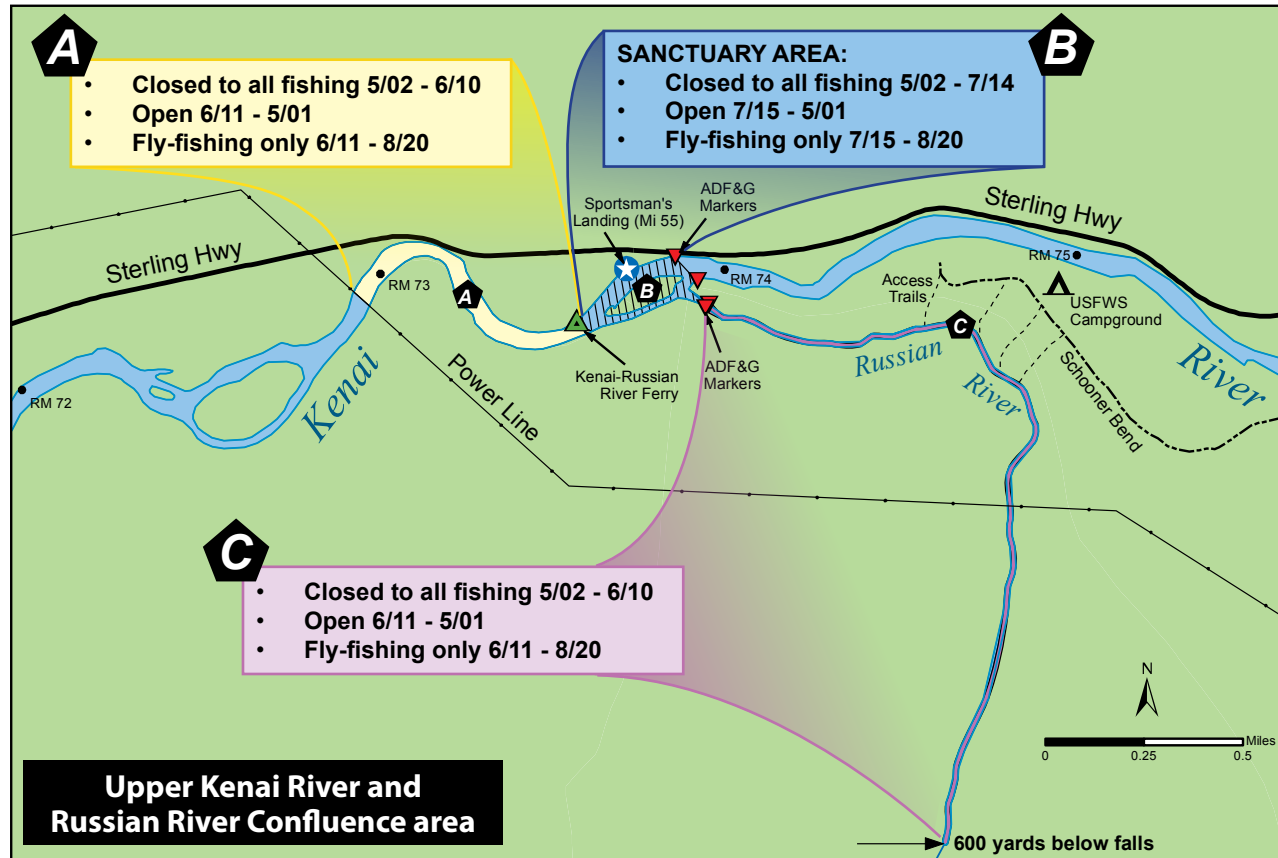
June 11 - June 30	Sockeye salmon. 3 per day, 6 in possession. No retention of coho salmon.
July 1 - Aug. 20	Sockeye or coho salmon. 3 per day, 6 in possession in combination, but only 1 per day, 1 in possession may be coho salmon.
Aug. 21 - Oct. 31	Coho salmon. 1 per day, 1 in possession. No retention of sockeye salmon.

- B** The Kenai River upstream from ADF&G markers placed just downstream of the ferry crossing 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:

- Sport fishing season is July 15–May 1, however, from July 15–August 20 these waters are fly-fishing-only waters. See page 7 for a description of allowed gear.
- The Kenai River between markers at river mile 73.5 and 73.6, just downstream of the boat launch at Sportsman's Landing:
 - July 1–August 15:
 - The north bank is closed to all fishing.** Anglers 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.
- Sockeye and coho salmon 16 inches or longer limits: See table below.

B 16 inches or longer: COHO AND SOCKEYE SALMON

July 15 - Aug. 20	Sockeye or coho salmon. 3 per day, 6 in possession in combination, but only 1 per day, 1 in possession may be coho salmon.
Aug. 21 - Oct. 31	Coho salmon. 1 per day, 1 in possession. No retention of sockeye salmon.





Russian River:

- Except in fly-fishing-only waters, only one unbaited, single-hook, with a gap of $\frac{3}{8}$ inch or less, artificial lure is allowed in the Russian River drainage.

C The Russian River from 100 yd upstream of its mouth to an ADF&G marker 600 yd downstream of the falls (See map above and at left):

- Sport fishing season is June 11–May 1, however, from June 11–August 20 these waters are fly-fishing-only waters. See page 7 for a description of allowed gear.
- Sockeye and coho salmon 16 inches or longer limits: See table below.

C 16 inches or longer: COHO AND SOCKEYE SALMON

June 11 - June 30	Sockeye salmon. 3 per day, 6 in possession. No retention of coho salmon.
July 1 - Aug. 20	Sockeye or coho salmon. 3 per day, 6 in possession in combination, but only 1 per day, 1 in possession may be coho salmon.
Aug. 21 - Sept. 30	Coho salmon. 1 per day, 1 in possession. No retention of sockeye salmon.

- **Upstream from an ADF&G marker about 600 yd downstream of the falls:**
 - **Closed to all salmon fishing.**
 - Sport fishing season is June 11–May 1.
- **Lower and Upper Russian Lakes:**
 - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
 - Open season for all other species in Upper and Lower Russian lakes is year-round.
 - Rainbow/steelhead trout limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 may be 20 inches or longer.
 - Dolly Varden limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 may be 20 inches or longer.
- **Upper Russian/Goat Creek, upstream from ADF&G markers about 300 yards upstream from its confluence with Upper Russian Lake:**
 - Sport fishing season is September 1–May 1 and June 11–July 31.

Kenai River upstream of the Russian River confluence area:

- **The Kenai River upstream of approximately river mile 80.7 to the outlet of Kenai Lake:**
 - An angler 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.

! GEAR IN FLY-FISHING-ONLY WATERS

- **One unweighted, single-hook, unbaited fly with gap between point and shank of $\frac{3}{8}$ " or less is allowed. The fly must weigh less than $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. Artificial flies are defined on page 92.**
- **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.**



Russian River sockeye

by Ryan Ragan

GENERAL REGULATIONS

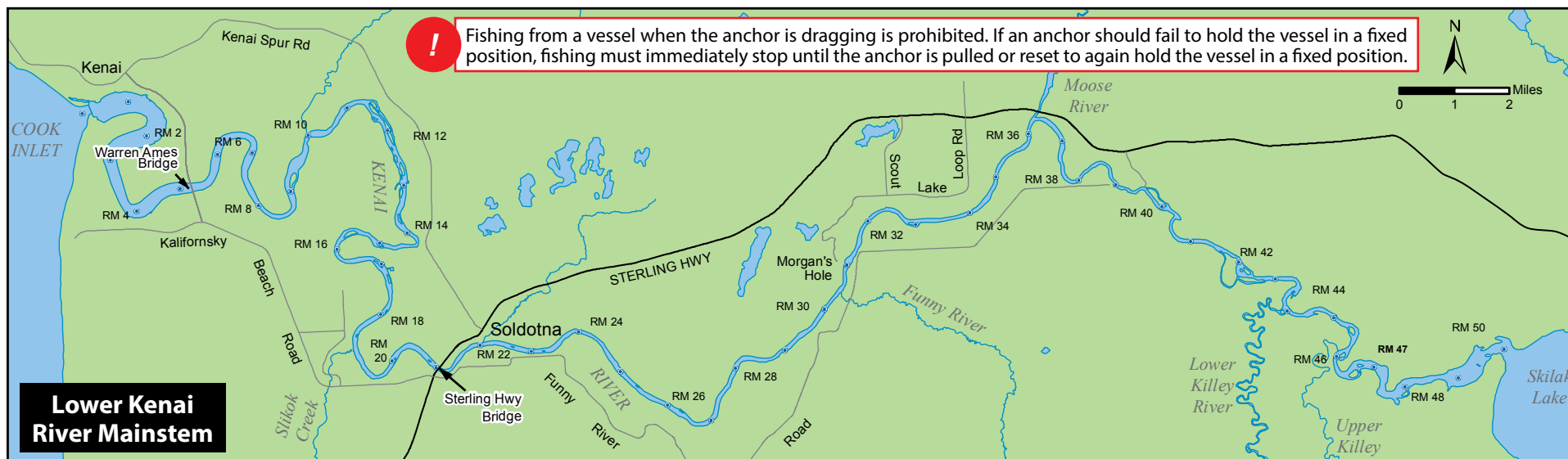
Inclusive waters: The mainstem Kenai River from its mouth, denoted by a line from the green light tower on the north shore and an ADF&G marker on the south shore, upstream to and including Skilak Lake, except within a ½-mile radius of the upper Kenai River inlet (see page 65 for Upper Kenai River regulations).

The Fishing Season for all species is open year-round unless otherwise noted below.

KING SALMON

- **Kenai River mouth upstream to 300 yards below Slikok Creek:**
 - **January 1–June 30:** 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 42 inches in length or longer than 55 inches.
 - **July 1–July 31:** 1 per day, 1 in possession.
- **300 yards below Slikok Creek upstream to Skilak Lake:**
 - **January 1–July 14:** 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 42 inches in length or longer than 55 inches.
 - **July 15–July 31:** 1 per day, 1 in possession.
- **Skilak Lake:**
 - **Closed to king salmon fishing.**
- **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.

- King salmon 20 inches or longer:
 - There is a combined annual limit of 5 king salmon 20 inches or longer from the waters of the following areas: Cook Inlet Salt Waters, West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai River and Kenai Peninsula. **Of these 5 total king salmon no more than 2 may be taken from the Kenai River.**
 - **January 1–June 30: King salmon 20 inches or longer but less than 28 inches in length are not included in this limit.**
 - A king salmon 20 inches or longer that is removed from salt or fresh water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a king salmon 20 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
 - No person, after taking a king salmon 20 inches 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.
 - Anglers who keep a king salmon 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.
 - All Kenai River king salmon 55 inches 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.
- King salmon less than 20 inches:
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession, in combination with coho (in season), sockeye, chum, or pink salmon less than 16 inches in length (see table below).



COHO SALMON

- 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.
- 16 inches or longer:
 - A coho salmon 16 inches or longer that is removed from fresh water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a coho salmon 16 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
 - For seasons and limits see table below.
- Less than 16 inches: See table below.

SOCKEYE AND CHUM SALMON

- 16 inches or longer: See table below.
- Less than 16 inches: See table below.

PINK SALMON

- 16 inches or longer: 6 per day, 6 in possession.
- Less than 16 inches: See table below.



COHO, CHUM, AND SOCKEYE SALMON	
16 inches or longer:	
Jan. 1 - June 30	Sockeye or chum salmon. 3 per day, 6 in possession in combination. No retention of coho salmon.
July 1 - August 31	Sockeye, chum, or coho salmon. 3 per day, 6 in possession in combination, but only 2 per day, 2 in possession may be coho salmon.
Sept. 1 - Nov. 30	Sockeye, chum, or coho salmon. 3 per day, 6 in possession in combination.
Dec. 1 - Dec. 31	Sockeye or chum salmon. 3 per day, 6 in possession in combination. No retention of coho salmon.

RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

- From the mouth of Kenai River upstream to one mile upstream of Lower Killey River:
 - 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 18 inches long.
- From one mile upstream of Lower Killey River upstream to Skilak Lake, including Skilak Lake:
 - June 11-May 1: 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 18 inches long.

ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN

- 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 18 inches long.

ARCTIC GRAYLING

- 5 per day, 5 in possession.

LAKE TROUT

- 20 inches or longer: 2 per day, 2 in possession.
- Less than 20 inches: 10 per day/10 in possession.

BURBOT

- 2 per day, 2 in possession.

Less than 16 inches: COHO, CHUM, PINK, AND SOCKEYE SALMON



Less than 20 inches: KING SALMON

Jan. 1 - June 30	Sockeye, chum, or pink salmon less than 16 inches in length and king salmon less than 20 inches in length. 10 per day, 10 in possession in combination. No retention of coho salmon.
July 1 - July 31	Sockeye, chum, pink, or coho salmon less than 16 inches in length and king salmon less than 20 inches in length. 10 per day, 10 in possession in combination.
Aug. 1 - Nov. 30	Sockeye, chum, pink, or coho salmon less than 16 inches in length. 10 per day, 10 in possession in combination. No retention of king salmon.
Dec. 1 - Dec. 31	Sockeye, pink, or chum salmon less than 16 inches in length.. 10 per day, 10 in possession in combination. No retention of coho or king salmon.

NORTHERN PIKE

- No limit.
- 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.

OTHER FINFISH

- No limit.

METHODS AND MEANS

Landing a salmon:

- Salmon may be landed **only** with the aid of a landing net or by hand. No gaffs are allowed.

River bank closures:

- There are special bank access regulations on the Kenai River. See pages 72-74 for complete information and a list of public access points on the Kenai River.

Drift-only Mondays (downstream of Skilak Lake):

- **Downstream from the outlet of Skilak Lake:**
 - Mondays, May 1–July 31 (except Memorial Day):
 - Between the outlet of Skilak Lake and the Sterling Hwy bridge in Soldotna:
 - **Closed to fishing from any motorized vessel** (a motorized vessel is one that has a motor on board).
 - Between the Sterling Hwy bridge and the mouth of the Kenai River:
 - **Closed to fishing from any motorized vessel that has on board more than one single motor greater than 10 hp.** A motor 10 hp or less may be used only downstream of an ADF&G marker at Cunningham Park, and only after fishing from the vessel has stopped for the day.

METHODS AND MEANS (continued)

Gear restrictions:

- In flowing waters, beads fished ahead of flies, lures, or bare hooks must be fixed within 2 inches of the hook or be free sliding on the entire length of the line or leader.

The following gear restrictions are listed in upstream progression from the mouth of the Kenai River to Skilak Lake.

Selected areas near tributary streams have special tackle and king salmon regulations that override the gear restrictions below. See Special Regulations.

- **From the mouth of the Kenai River to ADF&G regulatory marker at Skilak Lake:**
 - January 1–June 30:
 - Only one unbaited, single-hook lure is allowed.
- **From the mouth of the Kenai River to ADF&G regulatory markers located about 300 yd downstream of the mouth of Slikok Creek:**
 - July 1–July 31:
 - Bait is allowed, but anglers must still use only one single-hook lure.
- **The Kenai River from ADF&G markers about 300 yd downstream of the mouth of Slikok Creek upstream to an ADF&G marker at the outlet of Skilak Lake:**
 - July 1–July 14:
 - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure is allowed.
 - July 15–July 31:
 - Bait is allowed, but anglers must still use only one single-hook lure.

- **From the mouth of the Kenai River to an ADF&G regulatory marker at Skilak Lake:**
 - August 1–August 31:
 - Bait and multiple hooks allowed.
- **From the mouth of the Kenai River to the Upper Killey River:**
 - September 1–November 30:
 - Bait and multiple hooks allowed.
 - December 1–December 31:
 - Only unbaited, artificial lures are allowed.
- **The Kenai River from the Upper Killey River upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker at Skilak Lake:**
 - September 1–December 31:
 - Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures are allowed.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS

Special Regulations are listed in upstream progression from the mouth of the Kenai River to, and including, Skilak Lake.

That portion of the Kenai River between ADF&G regulatory markers located at river mile 11 and river mile 12:

- **A** July 1–July 31:
 - **Back-trolling prohibited.** A person may not sport fish for any species of fish from a vessel that is making upstream progress relative to the water with the aid of a motor.

The Kenai River from ADF&G markers about 300 yd downstream of the mouth of Slikok Creek upstream to ADF&G markers about 300 yd upstream from the mouth of Slikok Creek:

- **B** January 1–July 31:
 - **Closed to fishing for king salmon.**
 - **Closed to fishing from boats.**
 - Fly-fishing only. See page 7 for a description of allowed gear.



Lower Kenai River rainbow

That portion of the Kenai River between ADF&G regulatory markers 250 yd downstream from the upper breakwater at the Centennial Campground boat launch upstream to the Sterling Highway bridge in Soldotna:

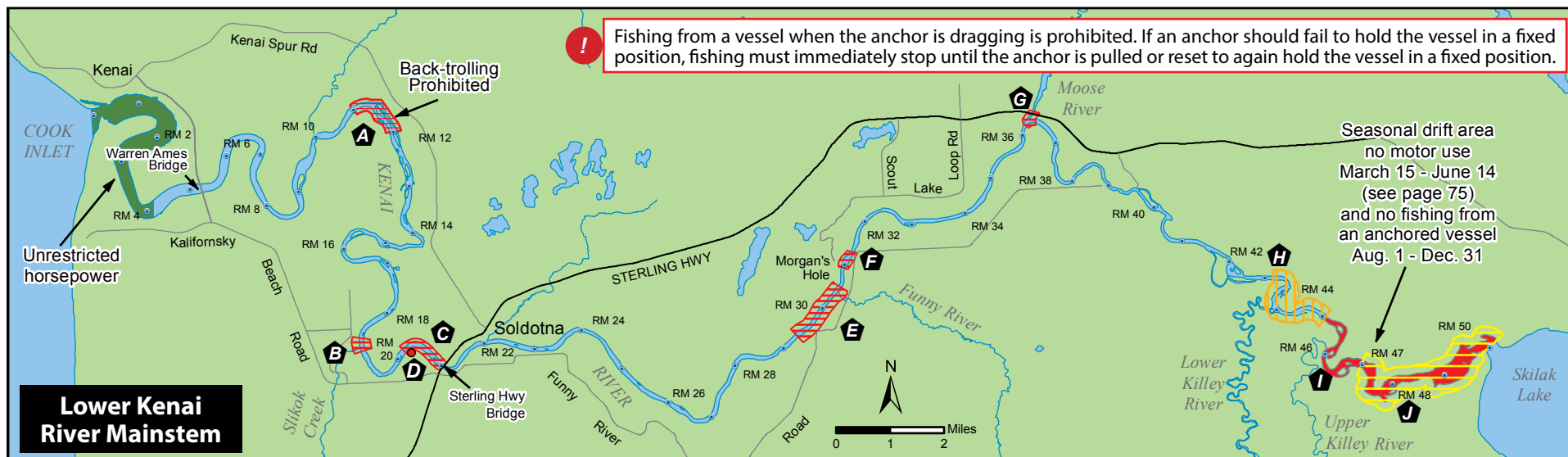
- **G** May 15 to the end of the king salmon season (or July 31, whichever is later):
 - **Closed to fishing from boats.**

Soldotna Centennial Campground boat launch lagoon:

- **D** July 1–August 30:
 - **Closed to all fishing.**

Funny River confluence area:

- **E** The Kenai River from ADF&G markers about 1 mile downstream of the mouth of Funny River upstream to ADF&G markers about 200 yd upstream from the mouth of the Funny River:
 - January 1–July 31:
 - **Closed to fishing for king salmon.**
 - **Closed to fishing from boats.**
 - Fly-fishing only. See page 7 for a description of allowed gear.



Morgan's Hole:

- F** 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:
- May 15 to the end of the king salmon season (or July 31, whichever is later):
 - Closed to fishing from boats.**

Moose River confluence area:

- G** The Kenai River from ADF&G markers located approximately 100 yd downstream from the mouth of the Moose River, upstream to ADF&G markers located approximately 100 yd upstream of the mouth of the Moose River:
- From May 15 to the end of the king salmon season (or July 31, whichever is later):
 - Closed to fishing from boats.**

Lower Killey River confluence area:

- H** 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:
- January 1–July 31:
 - Closed to fishing for king salmon.**
 - Closed to fishing from boats.**
 - Fly-fishing only. See page 7 for a description of allowed gear.

The Kenai River from an ADF&G marker about 1 mile upstream from the mouth of the Lower Killey River upstream to Skilak Lake:

- I** May 2–June 10:
- Closed to all fishing.**



Skilak Lake:

- J** Skilak Lake outlet:
- The Kenai River from the swan sanctuary sign at the outlet of Skilak Lake downstream approximately 3 miles to the corresponding swan sanctuary sign near river mile 47:
- August 1–December 31:
 - Closed to fishing from an anchored vessel.** "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.
 - Skilak Lake:
 - Closed to king salmon fishing.**
 - Except that part of the lake within $\frac{1}{2}$ mile of the upper Kenai River inlet:
 - Bait and multiple hooks allowed year-round.

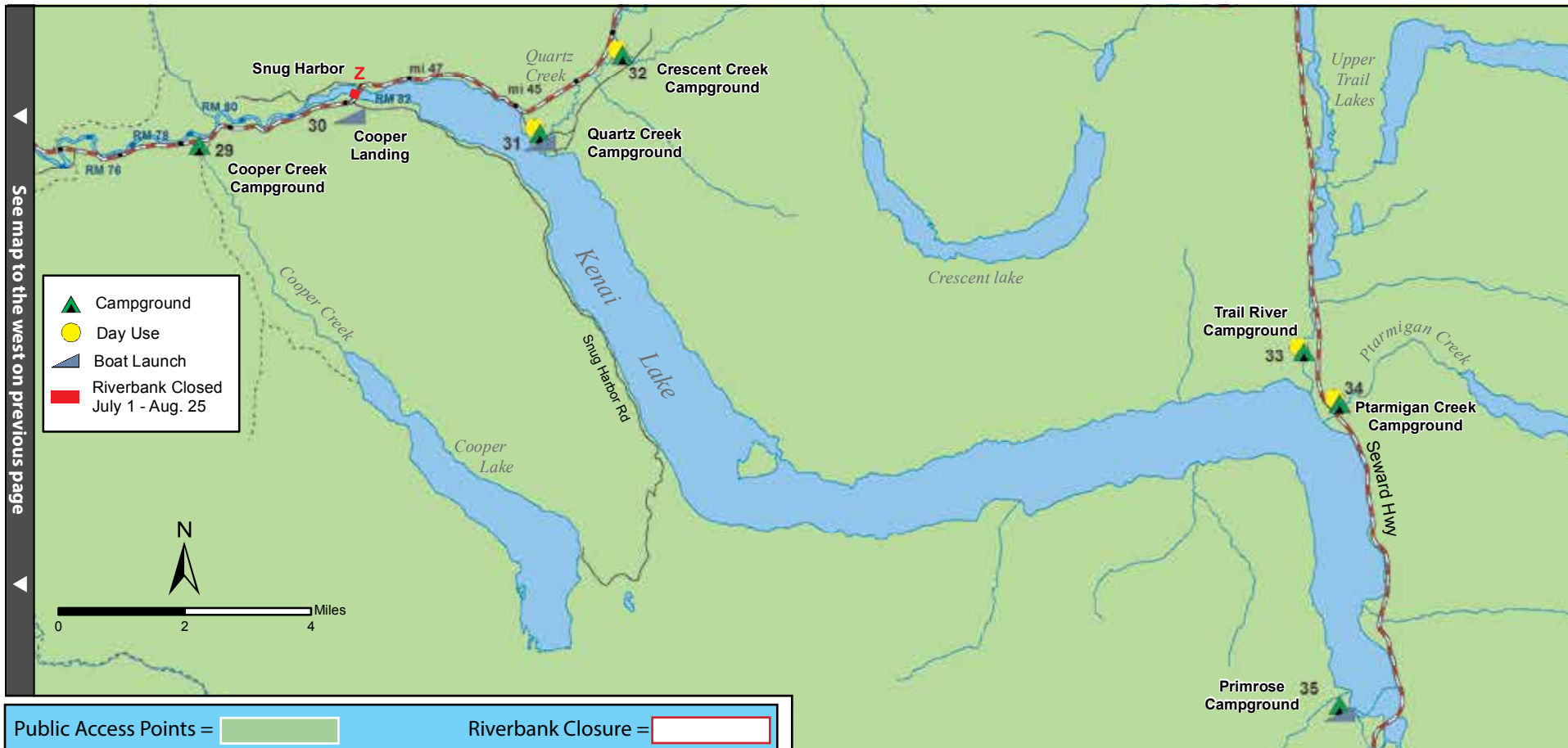
17	Funny River Campground	Alaska State Parks - Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area
18	Morgan's Landing	Alaska State Parks - Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area, Boardwalks
R	Near KEYSTONE DRIVE	North bank from river mile 27.3 (upstream edge of boat ramp at the end of Keystone Drive) to the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge boundary at river mile 28 (near the powerline)
S	HANSEN RIVER RANCH	South bank from river mile 31.5 to 32.5
T	CAYMAS SUBDIVISION	North bank, river mile 31.8 to 32.3
U	NILNUNQA	South bank between river miles 36.0 and 36.6
19	Izaak Walton State Recreation Site	Alaska State Parks - Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area, Boat Launch
20	Bing's Landing	Alaska State Parks - Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area, Boat Launch
V	Near KENAI KEYS	North bank between ADF&G markers at river mile 44.6
W	THOMPSON'S HOLE	North bank between river miles 45.8 and 46.3
21	Lower Skilak Lake	Kenai National Wildlife Refuge- Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area, Boat Launch
22	Upper Skilak Lake	Kenai National Wildlife Refuge- Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area, Boat Launch

23	Hidden Lake	Kenai National Wildlife Refuge- Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area, Boat Launch
24	Jim's Landing	Kenai National Wildlife Refuge- Day-Use Picnic Area, Boat Launch
X	Near JIM'S LANDING	North bank from river mile 69.7 to an ADF&G marker just downstream of the boat launch
25	Kenai National Wildlife Refuge Visitor's Information Center	
26	Sterling Highway Milepost 57 Pullout	
27	Russian River / Sportsman's Landing	U.S. Forest Service - Foot-Traffic Ferry, Boat Launch, Day-Use Picnic Area
Y	At the RUSSIAN RIVER FERRY/ SPORTSMAN'S LANDING	North bank, upstream of the ferry crossing, between river miles 73.5 and 73.6
28	Russian River Campground	U.S. Forest Service- Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area

Public Access Points =

Riverbank Closure =





29	Cooper Creek Campground	U.S. Forest Service - Campground
30	Cooper Landing	Alaska State Parks - Boat Launch
Z	COOPER LANDING BOAT LAUNCH	South bank near river mile 82.0, from the bridge downstream about 1,000 ft to an ADF&G marker (just past the Sterling Highway bridge at the outlet of Kenai Lake)
31	Quartz Creek Campground	U.S. Forest Service - Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area, Boat Launch
32	Crescent Creek Campground	U.S. Forest Service-Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area
33	Trail River Campground	U.S. Forest Service - Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area
34	Ptarmigan Creek Campground	U.S. Forest Service - Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area
35	Primrose Campground	U.S. Forest Service - Campground, Boat Launch



ALASKA STATE PARKS BOATING REGULATIONS ON THE MAINSTEM KENAI RIVER

The Alaska State Legislature created the Kenai River Special Management Area in 1984 and charged Alaska State Parks with its management. Here are their boating regulations for the Kenai River, summarized for your convenience. For more information, call the Donald E. Gilman River Center at (907) 714-2470.

PASSENGER LIMITS—no more than 6 persons are allowed on board, including operator (*except for guided vessels in July, below the outlet of Skilak Lake*, which may have no more than 5 persons on board).

TYING UP—no one may tie up a boat to state land, easement, or rights-of-way more than 24 consecutive hours.

ANCHORING—no one may anchor a boat on the Kenai River that obstructs a primary traffic channel or drift fishing channel.

HORSEPOWER RESTRICTIONS—no one may operate a boat on the Kenai River upstream of a DNR marker located at approximately river mile 4.2 (downstream of the Warren Ames Bridge) with outboard or combination of outboards having a total propshaft rating greater than 50 HP. Propshaft horsepower rating means the boat motor's original manufacturer rated and labeled horsepower. Adding a jet drive unit to a motor does not change the propshaft horsepower rating of the motor powerhead and driveshaft configuration. These horsepower limitations do not apply to the operation of a boat on Kenai Lake, on Skilak Lake, and on the Kenai River between the Kenai Lake Bridge and river mile 80.7 (see map on page 65).

FOUR-STROKE/DIRECT FUEL INJECTION MOTOR REQUIREMENTS—

regardless of time of year or motor horsepower, no one may operate a motorized boat on the Kenai River upstream of a DNR marker located at approximately river mile 4.2 (downstream of the Warren Ames Bridge) unless the motor is a four-stroke motor or a direct fuel injection motor. This includes boats operated on Kenai and Skilak Lakes.

BOAT LENGTH REQUIREMENTS—

except on Kenai and Skilak lakes, no one may operate a motorized boat on the Kenai River upstream of a DNR marker located (at approximately river mile 4.0) downstream of the Warren Ames bridge that exceeds overall boat size to no more than 21 feet long and 106 inches wide.

DRIFT AREAS, MOTOR USE PROHIBITED—

- Operating a boat by use of a motor is prohibited year-round on the Kenai River, from Skilak Lake inlet upstream to river mile 80.7 (see map on page 65).
- From March 15 to June 14, operating a boat by use of a motor on the Kenai River is also prohibited from river mile 47 upstream to the outlet of Skilak Lake (see map on page 71).

For more Kenai River boating information, see pages 65–74.

TIPS – IF YOU PLAN TO RELEASE YOUR FISH

Tackle

- Use strong line to bring your catch in quickly.
- Fish caught with flies or lures survive more often than fish caught with bait.
- Overly large hooks can damage mouth parts or eyes. Small hooks may be taken deeply by fish.
- Use steel hooks that will quickly rust out; avoid using stainless steel hooks. Use pliers to pinch barbs down.

Landing your catch

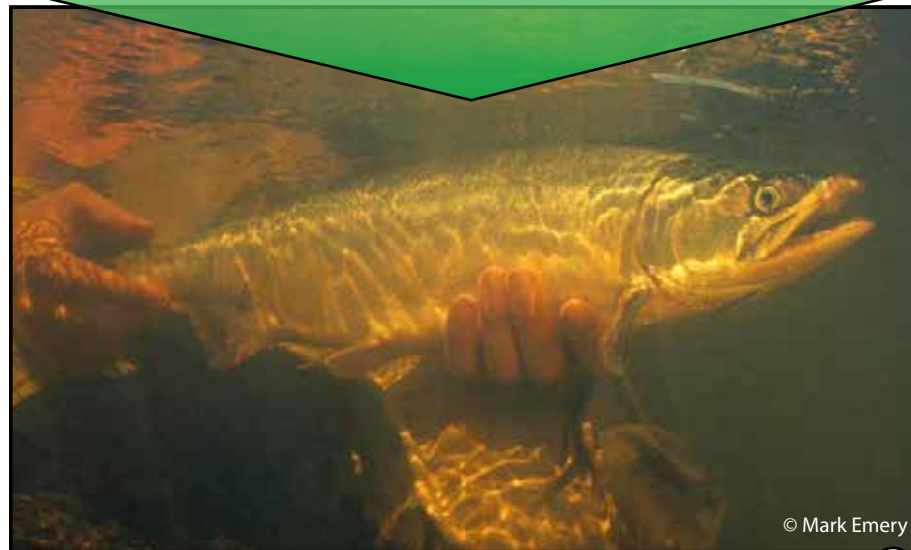
- Land your fish as carefully and quickly as possible. Avoid removing the fish from the water.
- If you are ice-fishing, don't lay your fish on the ice.

Removing the hook

- Remove the hook quickly and gently, keeping the fish underwater.
- Use long-nosed pliers or a hemostat to back the hook out.
- When a fish is hooked deeply, cut the line near the hook. It is better to cut your line rather than injure an active fish.

Reviving your catch

- Point your fish into a slow current or gently move it back and forth until its gills are working and it maintains its balance.
- When the fish recovers and attempts to swim out of your hands, let it go.
- Large fish may take some time to revive.



© Mark Emery

GENERAL REGULATIONS

Inclusive waters: Salt waters within 200 miles of shore from the longitude of Gore Point to the longitude of Cape Fairfield. All fresh waters between Gore Point and Cape Fairfield.

The Fishing Season for all species is open year-round unless otherwise noted below.

KING SALMON

- Fresh waters:
 - **Closed to king salmon fishing.**
- Salt waters (except Resurrection Bay, see special regulation on page 79):
 - 1 per day, 1 in possession.

OTHER SALMON

- Fresh waters (except Resurrection Bay, see special regulation on page 78):
 - 16 inches or longer:
 - 3 per day, 3 in possession, only 2 per day, 2 in possession maybe coho (silver) salmon.
 - A coho salmon 16 inches or longer that is removed from fresh water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a coho salmon 16 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
 - Less than 16 inches:
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession.
- Salt waters (except Resurrection Bay, see special regulation on page 79):
 - Pink salmon taken in a sport fishery maybe used as bait, but are part of your bag limit.
 - 6 per day, 6 in possession, only 3 per day, 3 in possession maybe coho (silver) salmon.



RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

- Fresh waters:
 - In flowing waters:
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 fish may be 20 inches or longer.
 - There is a total annual limit of 2 rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer.
 - Anglers who keep a rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.
 - In lakes and ponds:
 - 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 fish may be 20 inches or longer.
 - There is a total annual limit of 2 rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer.
 - Anglers who keep a rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.
- Salt waters:
 - No open season. No retention. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.

ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN

- Fresh waters:
 - In flowing waters:
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession.
 - In lakes and ponds:
 - 5 per day, 5 in possession.
- Salt waters (Dolly Varden only):
 - 5 per day, 5 in possession.

LAKE TROUT

- 20 inches or longer:
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession.
- Less than 20 inches:
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession.

ARCTIC GRAYLING

- 5 per day, 5 in possession.

LINGCOD

- **Season:** July 1–December 31:
 - 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be at least 35 inches long with head attached or 28 inches from tip of tail to front of dorsal fin with head removed.
- Lingcod which are gaffed must be retained. **A gaff may not be used to puncture any fish intended or required to be released.**
- Resurrection Bay **closed to lingcod fishing.** See special regulation on page 79.

ROCKFISH

- 4 per day, 8 in possession, only 1 per day, 2 in possession may be non-pelagic (see chart on page 90).

HALIBUT

Pacific halibut fisheries are managed by the federal government under international treaty. See page 7 for federal contact information.

- **Season:** February 1–December 31.
- **Unguided anglers:** 2 per day, 4 in possession.
- **Consult federal regulations for the following:**
 - 1) Bag, size, and possession limits for guided (charter) anglers.
 - 2) Possession and landing requirements.
 - 3) Inseason changes to the regulations.

SPINY DOGFISH

- 5 per day, 5 in possession.

SHARKS (EXCEPT SPINY DOGFISH)

- 1 per day, 1 in possession.
- There is an annual limit of 2 sharks. These harvested fish must be recorded. See page 5 for recording instructions.

OTHER FINFISH

- No limit.

SHELLFISH

- See pages 8–10.

FRESH WATER METHODS AND MEANS

Bait and gear restrictions in flowing waters:

- September 1–December 31: Only unbaited, artificial lures are allowed.

FRESH WATER SPECIAL REGULATIONS

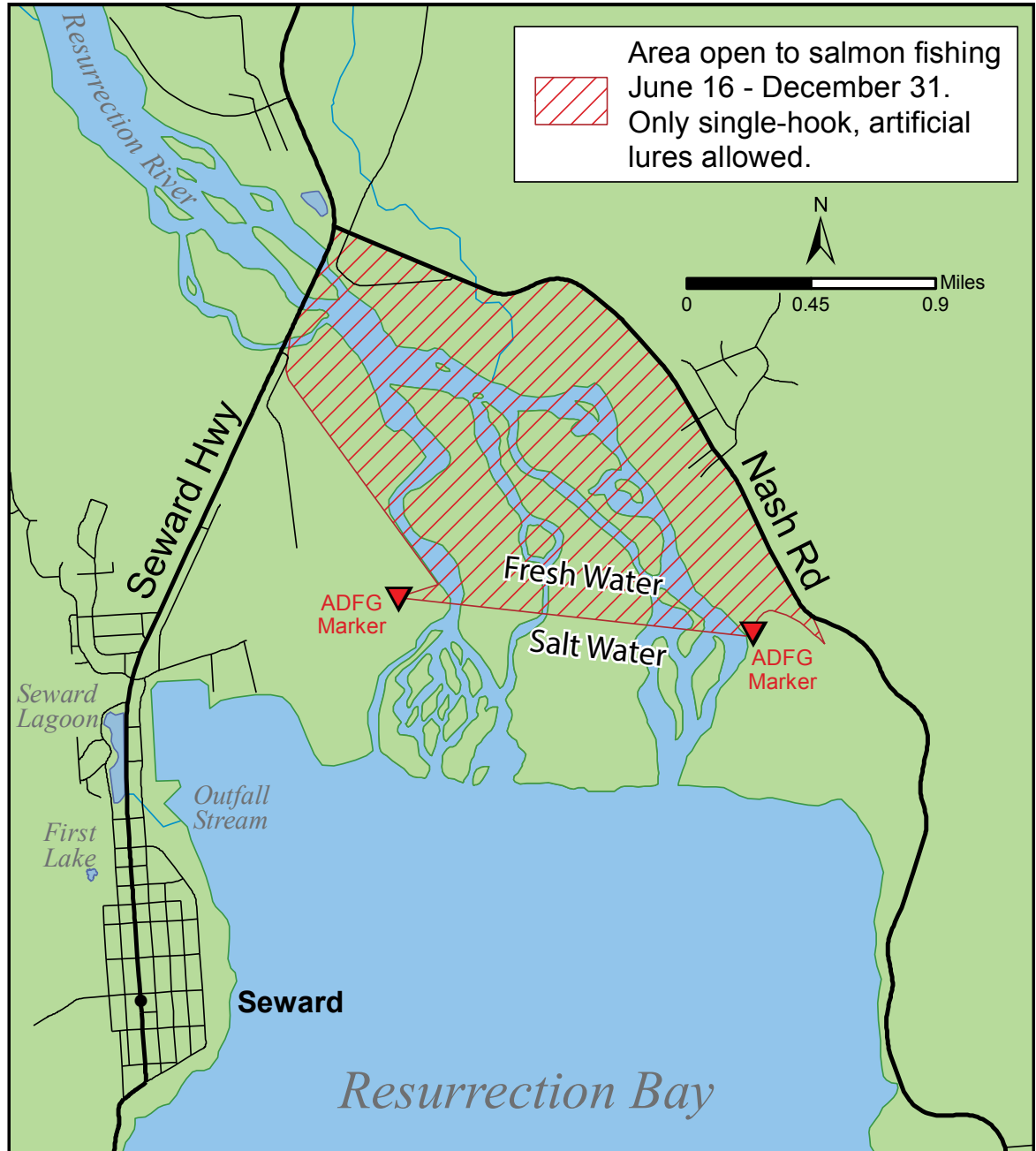
If an individual water body or species is not listed below, then the general regulations shown on page 77 apply.

First Lake:

- “Youth-Only” Fishery:
 - Only open to anglers 15 years of age or younger.
 - Four consecutive days beginning the third Thursday in May (May 19–22, 2016).

Resurrection Bay fresh waters—(All flowing waters and all lakes and ponds north of a line between Cape Resurrection and Aialik Cape, and south of Mile 12, Seward Highway):

- Closed year-round to all salmon fishing** (except see below).
 - Resurrection River, downstream of the Seward Highway and Nash Road:**
 - Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures are allowed.
 - Salmon limits (except king salmon):
 - Open to salmon (except king salmon) fishing June 16–December 31.
 - 3 per day, 3 in possession, of which only 2 may be coho salmon.



Seward Lagoon—including outfall stream:

- “Youth-Only” Fishery:
 - Only open to anglers 15 years of age or younger.
 - Single-hook, artificial lures and bait are legal.
- King salmon limits for “Youth-Only” Fishery:
 - Open to king salmon fishing the third weekend of June (June 17–19, 2016) and the second weekend in July (July 8–10, 2016).
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession.
- Coho salmon limits “Youth-Only” Fishery:
 - Open to coho salmon fishing the last weekend of August (August 26–28, 2016) and the first weekend in September (September 2–4, 2016).
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession.
- **Closed to fishing for other species during these youth-only fisheries.**
- **Closed to all fishing the remainder of the year.**



Yelloweye rockfish and coho

by Ken Marsh

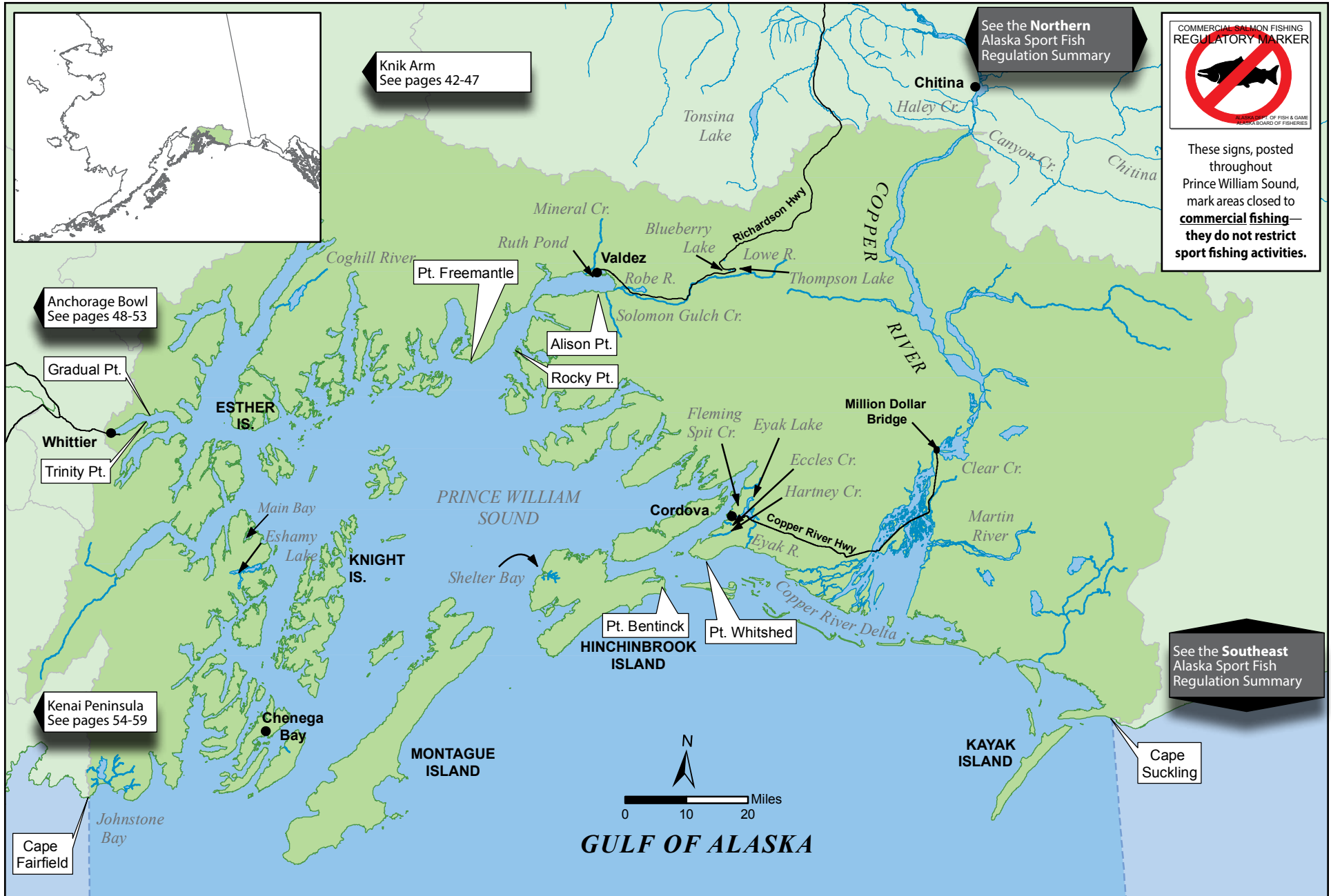
SALT WATER SPECIAL REGULATIONS

If an individual water body or species is not listed below, then the general regulations shown on page 77 apply.

Resurrection Bay— North of a line from Aialik Cape to Cape Resurrection:

- A person may possess only the limit of fish allowed for the water on which that person is fishing (see page 7). For example, possession of more than 3 coho salmon outside Resurrection Bay (south of a line from Aialik Cape to Cape Resurrection) exceeds the North Gulf Coast salt waters possession limit for this species. It is illegal to fish for any species in these waters with more than 3 coho salmon in your possession.
- King salmon limits:
 - May 1–August 31, 2 per day, 2 in possession.
 - There is no annual or seasonal king salmon limit in effect, and there is no king salmon harvest recording requirement.
- Salmon (except king salmon) limits:
 - 6 per day, 6 in possession.
 - All 6 may be coho (silver) salmon.
- Lingcod limits:
 - **Closed year-round to lingcod fishing.** Lingcod caught accidentally must be released immediately. You cannot legally fish for any species of fish inside Resurrection Bay if you possess a lingcod taken elsewhere.





GENERAL REGULATIONS

Inclusive waters: All fresh waters draining into Prince William Sound from Cape Fairfield to Cape Suckling, excluding the Copper River drainage upstream of a line crossing the Copper River between the south bank of the confluence of Haley Creek and the south bank of the confluence of Canyon Creek in Wood's Canyon. Salt waters within 200 miles of shore from Cape Suckling to Cape Fairfield.

The Fishing Season for all species is open year-round unless otherwise noted below.

KING SALMON

- Fresh waters:
 - 20 inches or longer: 2 per day, 4 in possession.
 - Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.
- Salt waters:
 - 2 per day, 4 in possession, no size limit.

OTHER SALMON

- Fresh waters:
 - 6 per day, 12 in possession, only 3 per day, 3 in possession maybe coho (silver) salmon.
- Salt waters:
 - Pink and chum salmon taken in a sport fishery maybe used as bait, but are part of your bag limit.
 - 6 per day, 12 in possession, only 3 per day, 3 in possession maybe coho (silver) salmon.

RAINBOW/STEELHEAD AND CUTTHROAT TROUT

- In unstocked lakes and ponds, all flowing waters and in salt waters:
 - **Season:** June 15–April 14:
 - 11 inch minimum and 16 inch maximum:
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession.
- In stocked lakes (see pages 84–85 for a list of stocked lakes):
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession.

ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN

- 10 per day, 10 in possession.

ARCTIC GRAYLING

- 10 per day, 10 in possession.

LINGCOD

- **Season:** July 1–December 31:
 - 2 per day, 4 in possession, minimum 35 inches long with head attached, or 28 inches or greater in length with head removed.
- Lingcod which are gaffed must be retained. **A gaff may not be used to puncture any fish intended or required to be released.**

ROCKFISH

- The first two non-pelagic rockfish caught must be retained.
- May 1–September 15:
 - 4 per day, 8 in possession, only 2 per day, 2 in possession may be non-pelagic.
- September 16–April 30:
 - 8 per day, 8 in possession, only 2 per day, 2 in possession may be non-pelagic.
- See the rockfish identification chart on page 90)

HALIBUT

Pacific halibut fisheries are managed by the federal government under international treaty. See page 7 for federal contact information.

- **Season:** February 1–December 31.
- **Unguided anglers:** 2 per day, 4 in possession.
- **Consult federal regulations for the following:**
 - 1) Bag, size, and possession limits for guided (charter) anglers.
 - 2) Possession and landing requirements.
 - 3) Inseason changes to the regulations.

SPINY DOGFISH

- 5 per day, 5 in possession.

SHARKS (EXCEPT SPINY DOGFISH)

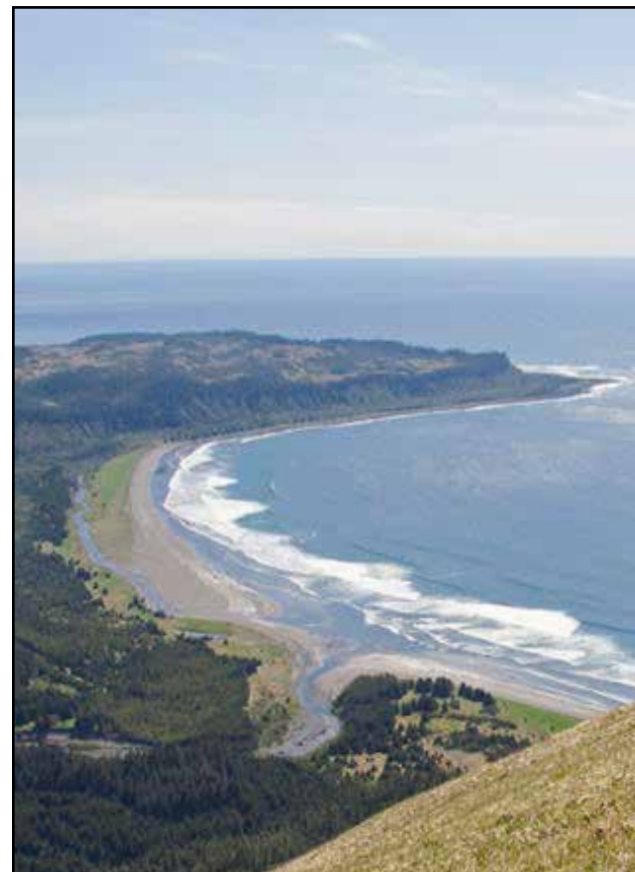
- 1 per day, 1 in possession.
- There is an annual limit of 2 sharks. These harvested fish must be recorded. See page 5 for recording instructions.

OTHER FINFISH

- No limit.

SHELLFISH

- See page 8–10.



San Juan Bay, Montague Island

by Ken Marsh

FRESH WATER METHODS AND MEANS

Bait and gear restriction:

- Only unbaited, artificial lures are allowed April 15–June 14.

FRESH WATER SPECIAL REGULATIONS

Copper River Highway streams— All freshwater drainages crossed by the Copper River Highway from and including Eyak River to the Million Dollar Bridge, including Clear Creek (Mile 42):

- Salmon (except king salmon) limits: 3 per day, 3 in possession.
- Coho salmon: No closed season.
 - August 15–September 15: After harvesting a bag limit of coho salmon, a person may not sport fish with bait for the rest of that day in these waters.
 - A coho salmon that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the daily bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a coho salmon from the water before releasing it.



Yelloweye rockfish

Clear Creek— Mile 42, Copper River Highway:

- Upstream of the Carbon Mountain Road bridge:**
 - Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
- Downstream of the Carbon Mountain Road bridge:**
 - Salmon (except king salmon) limits: 3 per day, 3 in possession.

Eccles Creek (Whitshed Road):

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

Eshamy Lake and Creek:

- Sockeye salmon limits: 3 per day, 6 in possession.

Eyak Lake—including tributaries:

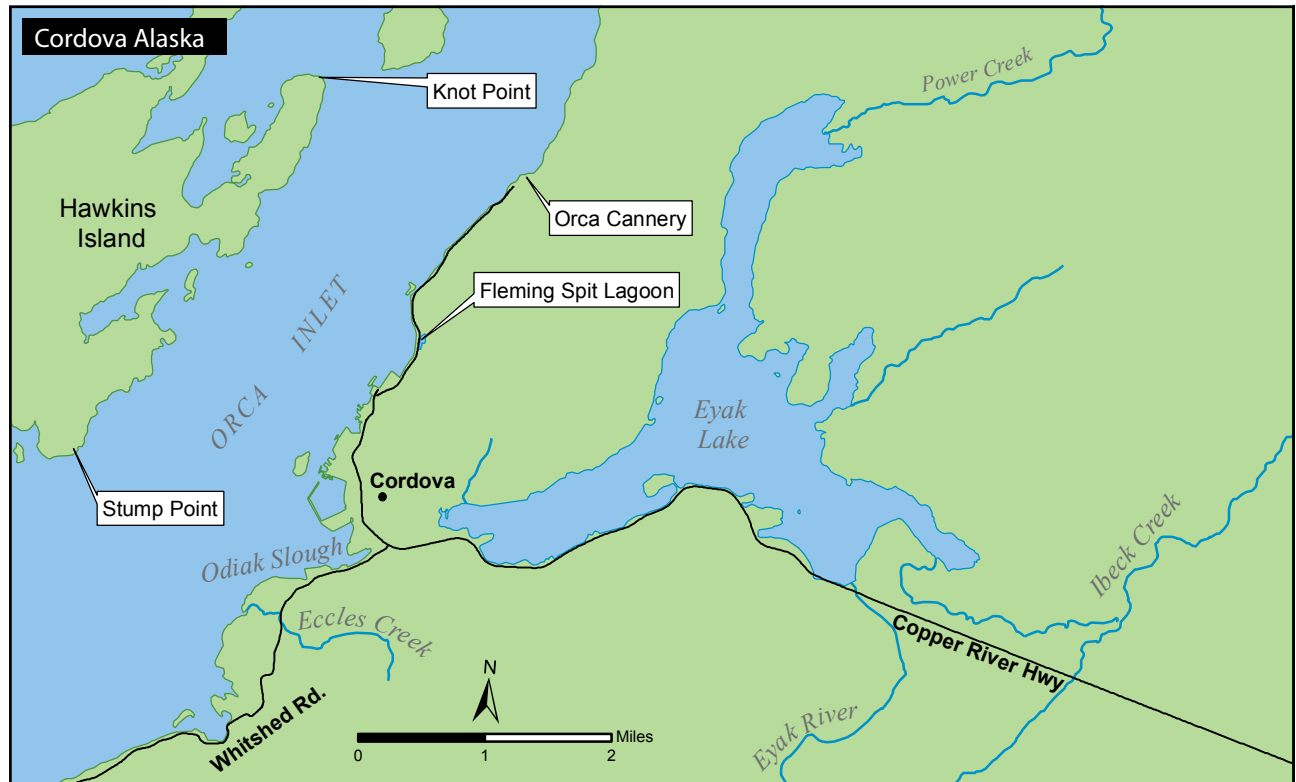
- Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**

Eyak River—from a point 200 yd upstream from Eyak Lake dam to a point 200 yd downstream from the bridge at the outlet of Eyak Lake:

- June 1–September 30, only single-hook, artificial flies with a hook gap of $\frac{3}{8}$ inch or less between point and shank are allowed. No additional weight may be attached to the line.
- Salmon (except king salmon) limits: 3 per day, 3 in possession.

Fleming Spit Lagoon:

- See salt water special regulations below for **Cordova Terminal harvest area.**



Hartney Creek (upstream from Whitshed Road):

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

Ibeck Creek:

- **Upstream from ADF&G markers located approximately 3 miles upstream of the Copper River Highway bridge:**
 - **Closed year-round to all sport fishing.**

Johnstone Bay fresh waters:

- Salmon (except king salmon) limits: 3 per day, 3 in possession, of which only 2 per day/2 in possession may be coho (silver) salmon.

Robe River:

- **Downstream from Richardson Highway to ADF&G markers 300 feet downstream of its confluence with the Lowe River:**
 - Fly-fishing-only waters. See page 7 for legal gear description.
 - Salmon (except king salmon) limits: 3 per day, 3 in possession, of which only 1 per day, 1 in possession may be a sockeye salmon and only 1 per day, 1 in possession may be a coho (silver) salmon.

Shelter Bay fresh waters— all fresh waters draining into Shelter Bay:

- Salmon (except king salmon) limits: 6 per day, 12 in possession, of which only 1 per day, 1 in possession may be coho (silver) salmon.

Solomon Gulch Creek:

- **Downstream from an ADF&G marker 300 feet downstream of the VFDA weir:**
 - Open to salmon fishing under the same regulations as General Regulations for Prince William Sound on page 81.

Valdez area fresh waters—including all fresh waters draining into Port Valdez inside of a line from Allison Point to Mineral Creek, including Mineral Creek (except the Robe River and Solomon Gulch Creek):

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

SALT WATER SPECIAL REGULATIONS

Chenega terminal harvest area—all marine waters inside the entrance of Sawmill and Crab bays (Evans Island):

- Salmon (except king salmon) limits: 6 per day, 12 in possession, regardless of species.

Cordova terminal harvest area—all marine waters north of a line from Odiak Slough to Stump Point, and south of a line from Orca Cannery to Knot Point, including the waters of Fleming Spit Lagoon:

- **Closed to snagging June 1 to September 30.**
- Salmon (except king salmon) limits: 6 per day, 12 in possession, regardless of species.

Esther Island (Lake Bay):

- **Salt waters inside ADF&G markers 100 ft seaward of the Esther Island brood stock holding facility:**
 - **Closed to all sport fishing year-round.**

Main Bay:

- Sport fishing from a vessel that is within 60 feet of the Prince William Sound Aquaculture hatchery barrier seine, or from a vessel that is anywhere inside the barrier seine is prohibited.

Shelter Bay (Hinchinbrook Island):

- Salmon (except king salmon) limits: 6 per day, 12 in possession, of which only 1 may be a coho (silver) salmon.

Valdez terminal harvest area— all marine waters north of a line from Point Freemantle to Rocky Point, excluding Jack, Galena, and Sawmill bays:

- Salmon (except king salmon) limits: 6 per day, 12 in possession, regardless of species.

Whittier terminal harvest area— all marine waters west of a line from Trinity Point to Gradual Point:

- Salmon (except king salmon) limits: 6 per day, 12 in possession, regardless of species.
- **Whittier small boat harbor:**
 - **Closed to snagging.**



Cordova, Alaska

SOUTHCENTRAL ALASKA STOCKED WATERS AND SPECIES STOCKED

84

Palmer-Wasilla area	RT	LS	AG	AC
Barley Lake	★	★		
Bear Paw Lake	★	★		
Bench Lake	★			
Beverly Lake	★			
Big Beaver Lake	★			
Brockner Lake	★			
Bruce Lake	★			
Buck (Spider) Lake	★			
Canoe Lake	★		★	
Carpenter Lake	★	★		★
Caswell Lake #3	★			
Coyote Lake	★			
Dawn Lake	★			
Diamond Lake	★	★		
Echo Lake (Kepler-Bradley)	★	★		★
Farmer Lake	★			
Finger Lake ★	★	★	★	★
Florence Lake	★		★	
Golden Lake	★			
Goober Lake	★		★	
Homestead Lake	★			
Honeybee Lake	★			
Ida Lake	★		★	
Irene Lake	★			★
Kalmbach Lake	★	★		
Kashwitna Lake	★			
Kepler-Bradley Lks.	★		★	
Klaire Lake		★		
Knik Lake ★	★	★	★	
Knob Lake	★			
Lalen Lake	★			
Little Beaver Lake	★			
Little Lonely Lake	★			
Loberg (Junction) Lake	★	★		
Long Lake (Kepler-Bradley) ◆	★			
Long Lake (Mi 86 Glenn)	★			★



William Jack Hernandez Sport Fish Hatchery

AC = Arctic char LS = landlocked salmon
 AG = Arctic grayling RT = rainbow trout

◆ = No retention of rainbow trout allowed.

★ = Indicates that lake has an illegally introduced population of northern pike.

Palmer-Wasilla area (continued)	RT	LS	AG	AC
Loon Lake	★			
Lorraine Lake	★		★	
Lucille Lake	★	★		
Lynne Lake	★			★
Marion Lake	★			★
Matanuska Lake	★	★	★	★
Meirs Lake	★		★	
Memory Lake ★	★	★		★
Morvro Lake	★			
North Knob Lake	★			
North Rolly Lake	★			
Prator Lake ★				★
Ravine Lake	★			
Reed Lake	★		★	
Reflections Lake	★			
Rhein Lake	★			
Rocky Lake	★			
Ruby Lake	★			
Rush Lake				★
Seventeenmile Lake				★
Seymour Lake	★			
South Rolly Lake ★	★			
Slipper (Eska) Lake	★			
Tanaina Lake ★	★			
Twin Island Lake	★			
Vera Lake	★			
Victor Lake		★		
Visnaw Lake	★			
Walby Lake	★			
Weiner Lake	★			
West Beaver Lake	★			
West Sunshine Lake	★			
Willow Lake	★	★		
Wishbone Lake ◆	★			
Wolf Lake	★			

Anchorage Bowl	RT	LS	AG	AC
Alder Pond	★			
Beach Lake	★	★	★	
Campbell Creek ★	★			
Campbell Point Lake	★	★		★
Cheney Lake	★	★		
Chester Crk./ University Lake	★			
Clunie Lake	★	★		
DeLong Lake	★	★		
Edmunds Lake	★			
Fish Lake	★			
Green Lake	★	★		
Gwen Lake ★	★			
Hillberg Lake	★	★		
Jewel Lake	★	★		★
Lake Otis	★			
Lower Fire Lake ★	★			
Mirror Lake	★	★		
Otter Lake ★	★			
Rabbit Lake	★			
Sand Lake	★	★	★	★
Spring Lake	★			
Taku-Campbell Lake	★	★		
Tangle Pond	★			
Triangle Lake	★			
Upper Sixmile Lake	★			
Waldon Lake	★			
Willow Pond	★			

Kenai Peninsula	RT	LS	AG	AC
Arc Lake		★	★	
Aurora Lake	★			
Barbara Lake	★			
Cabin Lake	★			
Carter Lake	★			
Cecille Lake	★			
Centennial Lake	★	★		
Chugach Estates Lake	★			
Douglas Lake	★			
Elephant Lake	★	★		
Encelewski Lake	★			
Island Lake	★			★
Jerome Lake	★			
Johnson Lake	★			
Long Lake	★			
Longmere Lake	★	★		
Loon Lake	★			
Meridian Lake	★			
Quintin Lake	★			
Rainbow Lake	★			
Roque Lake	★			
Scout Lake			★	★
Sport Lake	★	★		
Thetis Lake	★			
Tirmore Lake	★			
Troop Lake	★			
Upper Summit Lake	★			
Vagt Lake	★			

Susitna River drainage	RT	LS	AG	AC
Benka Lake	★			★
Christiansen Lake	★	★		
Crystal Lake ★	★			
Gate Lake	★			
Kashwitna Lake	★			
Mile 180 Lake (Broad Pass)	★			
North Friend (Montana) Lake	★			
Peggy Lake	★			
South Friend Lake	★			
Tigger Lake	★			
West Sunshine Lake	★			
Willow Lake	★	★		
X Lake ◆	★			
Y Lake	★			

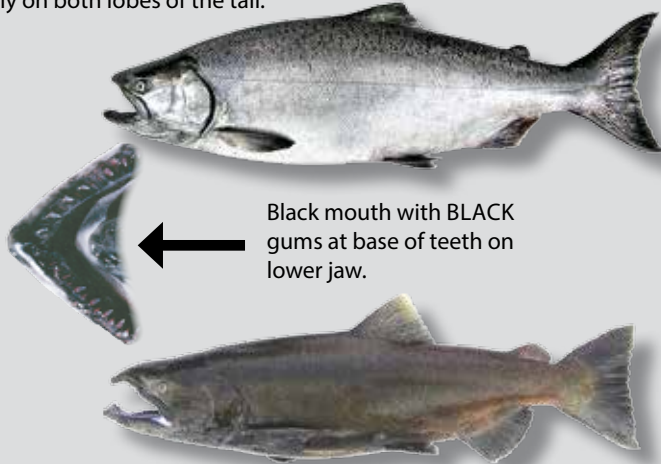
Prince William Sound	RT	LS	AG	AC
Blueberry Lake	★			
Ruth Lake	★			



For more info, click on "Sport Fish" at www.adfg.alaska.gov/ and then click on "Hatcheries and Stocking"

KING (CHINOOK, TYEE, 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.

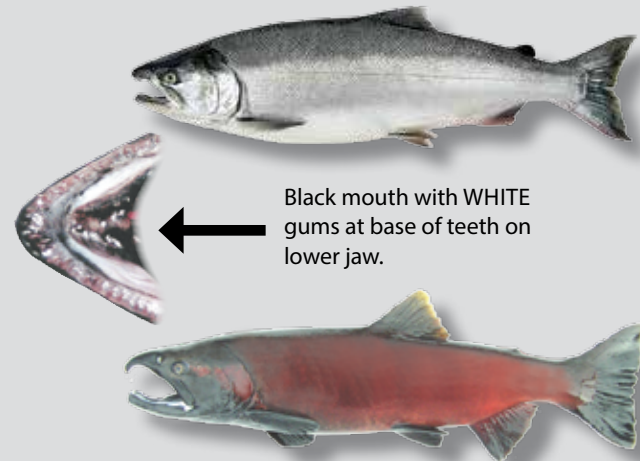


Black mouth with **BLACK** gums at base of teeth on lower jaw.

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

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.

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.

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.

TROUT



RAINBOW TROUT

Green to bluish back with silvery to yellowish-green sides. Broad pinkish band along side and black spots on back, sides, and tail. Upper jaw usually does not extend past eye on adult.



STEELHEAD



White mouth with white gums at base of teeth on lower jaw.

California Department of Fish and Game

Sea-run rainbow trout with bluish gray back and bright silvery sides. Small black spots on back, sides, and tail. Pink/red coloration develops after returning to fresh water to spawn.



CUTTHROAT TROUT

Yellowish-green body with no pinkish band along sides. Many black spots on back, sides, and tail. Upper jaw extends well past eye on adults. Red to orange slash on underside of lower jaw.

ARCTIC GRAYLING



Light brown to dark purple back, fading to bluish gray with black spots on sides. Very large dorsal fin with red and violet spots.



SHEEFISH (INCONNU)

The largest member of the whitefish family. Large jaws with the lower jaw extending beyond the upper. Silvery sides (no spots) and large, prominent, silvery scales. Tail is deeply forked.



NORTHERN PIKE

Back and sides usually greenish with yellow-white spots. Head depressed forward with duck-like jaws containing many large, sharp teeth.



BURBOT

The only freshwater cod in North America. Slim brownish-black body with smooth skin. Flattened head with wide mouth and one barbel hanging from lower jaw.

CHAR



DOLLY VARDEN CHAR

Bluish gray or silver background with light spots (usually smaller than its pupil). No spots on head or tail. Easily confused with Arctic char, but Dolly Varden occur mainly in rivers, have a more squared-off tail, a more elongated head (especially spawning males), and a wider tail base than Arctic char. Pelvic and anal fins often have a white leading edge.



ARCTIC CHAR

Very difficult to distinguish from Dolly Varden. Arctic char are generally found in the Bristol Bay area and throughout western Alaska, and Dolly Varden are found on Kodiak Island, throughout the waters of southcentral and southeastern Alaska, and on the North Slope. Brown to olive background with light spots (usually larger than its pupil); sides fade to a pale belly.



LAKE TROUT

Dark green to grayish back and light silvery sides with oval or irregular white to yellowish spots. No other Alaskan char species has spots on face and tail. Lake trout also have deeply forked tails, unlike other char, and, although normally lake dwellers, they are sometimes found in northern Alaska rivers.

ATTENTION, ANGLERS:

Know the difference between King Salmon, Steelhead Trout and Coho Salmon

King Salmon

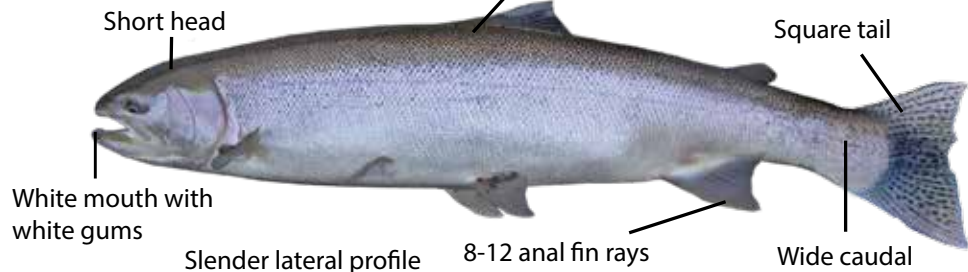
Irregular-shaped spots on back, dorsal fin, and tail
Spots on both lobes of tail



Photograph courtesy of Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Steelhead Trout

Small black spots on back and both lobes of tail



Coho Salmon

Spots on upper lobe
Silver color adjacent to caudal



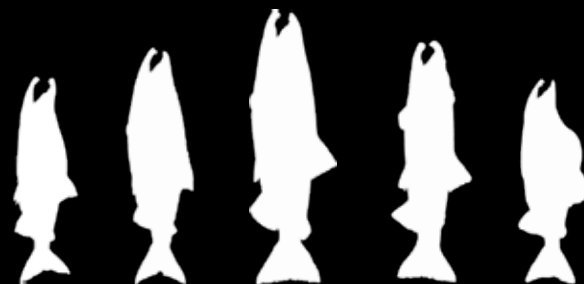
— Take the — Five Salmon Family Challenge

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game Five Salmon Family certificate program provides recognition to angling families who catch and document the five species of Pacific salmon commonly found in Alaska.

Certification in the program requires all salmon must be legally caught in Alaskan waters (fresh or salt water) open to the public and in compliance with current ADF&G sport fishing regulations.



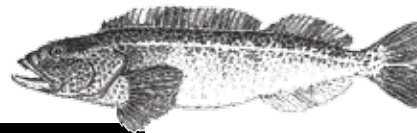
Learn more at: www.adfg.alaska.gov



LINGCOD • SABLEFISH • PACIFIC COD

Lingcod, which are in the greenling family, can be identified by their elongated body shape, large head and mouth, and jaws containing large canine teeth interspersed with smaller teeth.

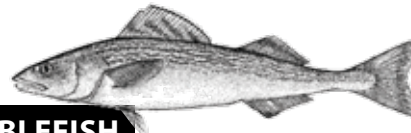
They have a long single dorsal fin that is notched past the middle of its length. The forward portion of the dorsal fin bears rigid spines. Lingcod have dark mottling on their back and sides that can be brown, gray, green or orange—depending on their environment, and they can grow to lengths of 5 feet.



LINGCOD



Sablefish (Black cod) are elongate in shape and are dark gray to black on their upper body with a lighter gray underside. They have two dorsal fins that are well separated which easily distinguish them from lingcod. Sablefish have been recorded to reach sizes of 44 inches but are typically less than 34 inches in length.



SABLEFISH



Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

Pacific cod (pictured), tomcod, and pollock all have three distinct dorsal fins and two anal fins, no rigid spines on their fins, and small teeth. Pacific cod and tomcod have a prominent “barbel” beneath their chin; on pollock, however, it is very small or absent. Pacific cod are typically under 32 inches; Pacific tomcod are typically under 20 inches, and pollock are typically under 30 inches.



PACIFIC COD



Accurate identification of all sport-caught fish species is important for sound management. This is especially true for anglers who may be surveyed for their recreational fishing activity through ADF&G’s Statewide Harvest Survey (SWHS).

Best Practices

- ❖ Don’t pollute—please haul trash out of the field and dispose of it properly. Remember that discarded fishing line can be lethal to birds and other wildlife.
- ❖ Obey fishing regulations.
- ❖ Respect private property. Native allotments and other private land holdings are common along Alaska’s waterways; seek permission before using private land.
- ❖ Think about your needs and take only the fish you require. Preserve your fish appropriately.
- ❖ If you plan to kill fish, do so quickly and humanely. If you plan to release fish, handle them gently and do not remove them from the water.
- ❖ Minimize stream bank erosion.



Cutthroat trout

Health Guidelines for Eating Alaska Fish

Alaska fish are 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.epl.hss.state.ak.us/eh/fish>

or call (907) 269-8000.

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

ROCKFISH IDENTIFICATION- PELAGIC and NON-PELAGIC

90

For the purposes of sport fishery management, rockfish are divided into two groups, **pelagic** and **non-pelagic**. Bag and possession limits differ for the two groups in many areas, so it is important to be able to distinguish them. This chart shows the most common species in each group.

Pelagic Rockfish:

Six open-water (pelagic) species often found mid-water in schools, close to rocky structures. Moderately long-lived (most fish are 7-30 years old).

BLACK ROCKFISH



(black bass); Dark gray to black with white belly. Usually uniform in color, but may have lighter patches along back. No pores on lower jaw. Size: up to 25 inches.

DUSKY ROCKFISH



Brownish body color with whitish belly, tinged with pink or orange; fins tinged with pink or orange; more common in deep water. Three pores on each side of lower jaw, and two dark bars on each cheek. Size: up to 20 inches.

YELLOWTAIL ROCKFISH



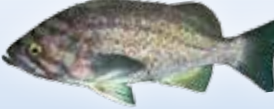
Olive green to greenish brown with lighter underside; fins distinctly yellowish green. Size: up to 26 inches.

WIDOW ROCKFISH



This is a relatively slim species in various shades of brown or brass that lighten towards the belly. Size: up to 23 inches

BLUE ROCKFISH



Rarely caught in Alaskan waters. Blue or black color with vague striping on forehead. Lighter towards the belly. Very deep bodied with large pectoral fins. Size: up to 21 inches.

DARK ROCKFISH



Uniform black to dark blue on back and sides with slight gradual lightening on the belly, more common in shallow water. Size: up to 20 inches.

Non-Pelagic Rockfish:

Bottom-dwelling species found on or near the ocean floor, usually in rocky or boulder-strewn habitat. Extremely long-lived (most fish are 15-75 years old). If the rockfish is not one of the pelagic species pictured above, then it is a non-pelagic rockfish.

QUILLBACK ROCKFISH



Brown body mottled with orange and yellow. Long, prominent spines on a high dorsal fin. Size: up to 24 inches.

SILVERGRAY ROCKFISH



Greenish to silver-gray body, belly white, tinged with soft orange or pink. Slender body fish with a long lower jaw protruding well beyond upper jaw. Size: up to 28 inches.

COPPER ROCKFISH



Olive brown to copper with pink or yellow blotches, white on sides and belly. Dorsal fins dark copper brown to black with some white. Rear two-thirds of lateral line is light. Size: up to 22 inches.

TIGER ROCKFISH



Light pink with five dark red stripes along the side. Two dark bars extend from each eye. Size: up to 24 inches.

YELLOW EYE ROCKFISH



(red snapper); Orange red and orange yellow, bright golden yellow eye, fins may be black at tips. Juveniles have two light bands along the side, one on the lateral line and a smaller one below the lateral line. Size: up to 36 inches.

CHINA ROCKFISH



Mostly black, with bright yellow and white blotches and a yellow stripe along most of the lateral line. Size: up to 17 inches.

Rockfish Conservation · Change the Way You Fish

Rockfish caught in deep water often sustain injuries — referred to as barotrauma — caused by rapid decompression and expansion of gases in the swim bladder. Fish that are released with inflated swim bladders cannot resubmerge and will die. Because of high release mortality, intentional catch-and-release fishing is greatly discouraged, particularly in depths of 60 feet or greater. Alaska anglers can best prevent wasteful rockfish mortality by avoiding waters where unwanted catches are likely. When rockfish are caught incidentally despite avoidance efforts, proper deepwater release techniques can reduce mortality. A recent ADF&G study found that survival of yelloweye released at depth was far higher (98 percent) than survival of fish released at the surface (22 percent).

Do your part for rockfish conservation by following these guidelines to avoid catching rockfish or to minimize your harvest:

1. Avoid fishing in rocky areas with boulders, ridges, and pinnacles. Avoid fishing the steep sides of reefs and rock piles. Lingcod are typically found on top of the reefs while halibut are usually on flat bottoms adjacent to the reefs.
2. Move to a different area if you are catching rockfish unintentionally.
3. When targeting halibut or lingcod, keep your jig or bait well off the bottom.
4. Target other species first. This will allow you to retain your incidental rockfish catch as part of your limit and minimize the number of rockfish released.
5. If targeting rockfish, focus your harvest on pelagic species such as black rockfish. These species are more abundant and can sustain slightly higher levels of harvest.
6. When fishing with bait, use a single circle hook.

Deepwater Release — How to Let Go

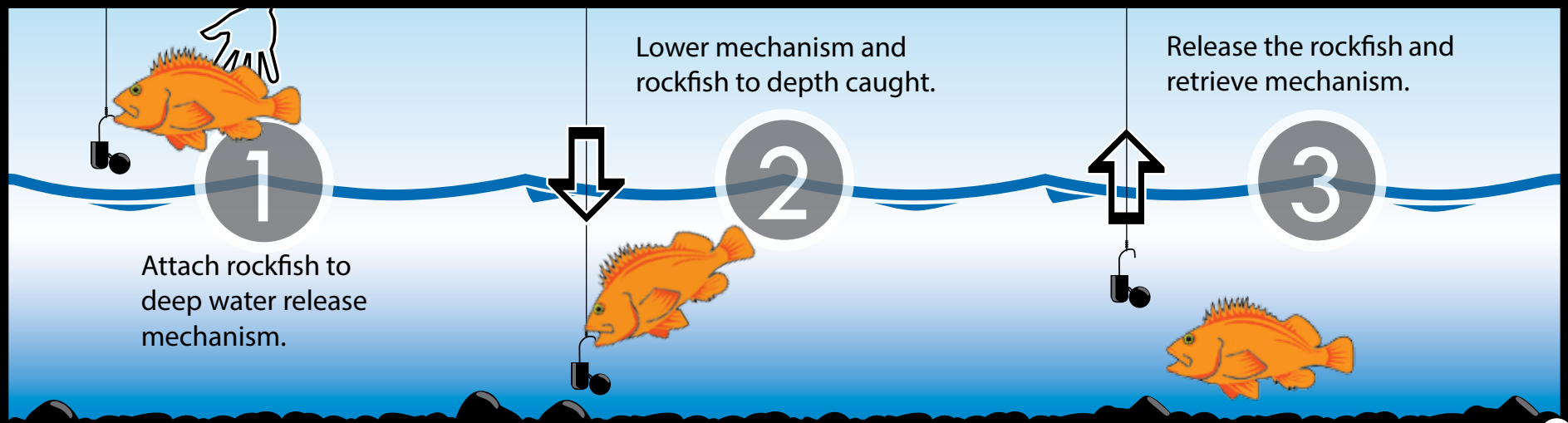
A variety of deepwater release devices, or recompression tools, are available commercially or you can make your own using a simple lead head jig. The device should weigh at least 3 pounds to submerge a large rockfish.

- **Make sure the device is assembled and ready to use before you start fishing.** The fish is much more likely to survive if you minimize time at the surface. Dedicate a rod and reel or downrigger for the release device so it can be used immediately.

- **Reel the fish up quickly.** Reeling slowly does not prevent inflation of the swim bladder.
- **Send the fish back down as quickly as possible.** Return it to the bottom or depth of capture to ensure complete recompression.
- **Do not vent or “fizz” rockfish.** Venting or “fizzing” involves puncturing the stomach protruding from the fish’s mouth, or puncturing the fish’s body to let air out of the swim bladder. This can lead to infection in the body cavity and eventual death.

- **Rockfish caught in less than 60 feet of water are usually able to submerge on their own.** If the fish appears to be inflated or otherwise unable to swim, use a deepwater release device to return the fish to the depth of capture.

For more information on rockfish and deepwater release devices, look under **Fishing Information** on the **Sport Fishing** page at: adfg.alaska.gov/



The following are some of the definitions set forth in AS 16.05.940, 5 AAC 75.020, and 75.995

area—means a regulatory management area as described in 5 AAC 47-5 AAC 74.

artificial fly—a fly which is constructed by common methods known as fly tying, including a dry fly, wet fly, and nymph, which is free of bait as defined in 5 AAC 75.995. Materials and chemicals designed and produced primarily to cause flies to float or sink may be used on artificial flies.

artificial fly (unweighted)—a fly which weighs less than one-fourth ounce in its entirety.

artificial lure—any lure which is man-made, free of bait as defined in 5 AAC 75.995, and is used to attract fish.

bag limit—the maximum legal take of fish per person per day, in the area in which the person is fishing, even if part or all of the fish are immediately preserved; a fish when landed and not immediately released becomes a part of the bag limit of the person originally hooking it.

bait—any substance applied to fishing gear for the purpose of attracting fish by scent, including fish eggs in any form, natural or preserved animal, fish, fish oil, shellfish, or insect parts, natural or processed vegetable matter, and natural or synthetic chemicals.

char—all char, including Dolly Varden, Arctic char, lake trout (Mackinaw), and eastern brook trout.

charter vessel—a vessel licensed under AS 16.05.490, used for hire in the sport, personal use, or subsistence taking of fish or shellfish, and not used on the same day for any other commercial fishing purpose; a charter vessel does not include a vessel or skiff without a charter vessel operator.

charter vessel operator—a person engaged in carrying passengers on a charter vessel for any valuable consideration that passes directly or indirectly to the vessel's owner, operator, or a person with a financial interest in the vessel, in consideration of the carriage of any person on board.

closed season—the time during which fish may not be taken. Includes no catch-and-release fishing.

closed waters—waters designated by the board wherein it is illegal to take fish.

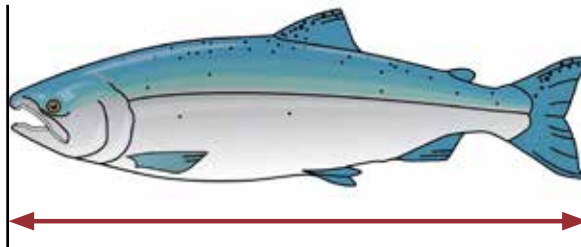
closely attended line—that the line or strike indicator is within the view of and is accessible to the angler at all times.

drainage—all of the waters comprising a watershed including tributary rivers, streams, sloughs, ponds, and lakes which contribute to the water supply of the watershed.

fishing rod—a tapered, flexible rod typically used for sport fishing, equipped with a hand grip and a line guide system that guides the line from the reel to the tip of the rod, and upon which is mounted a fishing reel used to deploy and retrieve the sport fishing line.

flowing waters—means all fresh waters, excluding lakes and ponds, that have detectable current, including creeks, streams, and rivers draining into, between, and out of all lakes and ponds, and all intertidal waters upstream of the stream mouth.

fresh water—all inland waters; inland waters are separated from salt water at the mouths of creeks, streams, and rivers at a line between extremities of the latter's banks at a mean low tide or at a point to be determined and adequately marked by the Department.



length of fish—the length from the tip of the snout to the tip of the tail (total length).

local representative of the Department—(a) the nearest most accessible professional employee of the Department, (b) a person designated by the Commissioner or by a professional employee of the Department to perform specific functions for the Department, or (c) a law enforcement officer of the Department of Public Safety.

mark or marking—all forms of skin alteration, fin clipping, or other mutilation, or insertion of foreign materials in live fish that permit later identification.

mesh size (stretch mesh size, stretch measure)—the average length of any series of 10 consecutive meshes measured from inside the first knot and including the last knot when wet; the 10 meshes, when being measured, shall be an integral part of the net, as hung, and measured perpendicular to the selvages; measurement shall be made by means of a metal tape measure while the 10 meshes being measured are suspended vertically from a single peg or nail, under five pound weight, except as otherwise provided in this title.

molesting—the harassing, disturbing, or interfering with fish by any means, including the use of any missile or object not established as legal gear; molesting includes dragging, kicking, throwing, striking, or otherwise abusing a fish which is intended to be released.

multiple hook—a fish hook with two or more points with or without barbs.

open season—the time during which fish may lawfully be taken; each period of time prescribed as an open season shall be construed to begin at 12:01 a.m. on the first day and end at midnight of the last day thereof.

peace officer of the state—(a) an employee of ADF&G authorized by the Commissioner; (b) a police officer in the state; or (c) any other person authorized by the Commissioner.

person with physical disabilities—a person who presents to ADF&G either written proof that he or she receives at least 70% disability compensation from a government agency for a physical disability or an affidavit signed by a physician licensed to practice medicine in Alaska stating that the person is at least 70% physically disabled.

possession limit—the maximum number of unpreserved fish a person may have in possession.

power assisted fishing reel—a reel used to deploy and retrieve the sport fishing line that is operated or assisted by any electronic hydraulic, or other mechanical power source other than by hand-cranking a handle attached to the reel.

DEFINITIONS (continued)

preserved fish—fish prepared in such a manner, and in an existing state of preservation, as to be fit for human consumption after a 15-day period, and does not include unfrozen fish temporarily stored in coolers that contain ice, dry ice, or fish that are lightly salted.

reel seat—an attachment mechanism that holds the fishing reel to the rod using locking, threading rings, sliding bands, or other attachment devices and is designed to allow the reel to be readily detached from the fishing rod.

rockfish—includes all fish of the genus *Sebastes*, and does not include Irish lords, other sculpins, greenlings or lingcod.

salmon—all salmon, including the five species of Pacific salmon: coho, chum, king, pink, and sockeye.

salt water—all marine waters; marine waters are separated from fresh water at the mouths of streams, rivers, and creeks.

set line—an unattended line or lines that have been set, staked, anchored or otherwise fixed.

single hook—a fish hook with only one point with or without a barb.

snag—to hook a fish elsewhere than in its mouth.

sport fishing—the taking of or attempting to take for personal use, and not for sale or barter, any freshwater, marine, or anadromous fish by hook and line held in the hand, or by hook and line attached to a pole or rod which is held in the hand or closely attended, or by other means defined by the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

sport fishing guide—a person who is licensed to provide sport fishing guide services to persons who are engaged in sport fishing.

sport fishing guide services—assistance, for compensation or with the intent to receive compensation, to a sport fisherman to take or attempt to take fish by accompanying or physically directing the sport fisherman in sport fishing activities during any part of a sport fishing trip; however, the term does not include sport fishing services or services provided by an assistant, deckhand, or similar person who works directly under the supervision of and on the same vessel as a sport fishing guide.

sport fishing services—the indirect provision of assistance, for compensation or with the intent to receive compensation, to a person engaged in sport fishing in taking or attempting to take fish or shellfish by a business that employs a sport fishing guide to provide sport fishing guide services to the person during any portion of a sport fishing trip; sport fishing services does not include an activity for which a sport fishing guide license is required, or booking and other ancillary services provided by a tour broker or agent to a sport fishing services operator.

stream mouth—the downstream point defined as a straight line running from the most downstream extremity on one stream bank to the most downstream extremity on the other stream bank, or a point defined and marked by the Department.

take—taking, pursuing, fishing, or in any manner disturbing, capturing, or killing or attempting to take, pursue, fish, or in any manner capture or kill fish or shellfish.

toxicant—any material or chemical that upon introduction to the waters of Alaska by direct or indirect means will kill, stun, or drive fish from their natural repose.

transport—ship, transport, carry, import, export, or receive or deliver for shipment, transportation, carriage, or export.



First sockeye

waters of Alaska—has the same meaning as set out in 5 AAC 39.975(13).

year—the calendar year from January 1 through December 31.

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:

Anchorage.....	269-5954
Anchor Point.....	235-8239
Cantwell.....	768-4050
Cordova.....	424-3184
Glennallen.....	822-3263
Mat-Su West.....	373-8305
Palmer.....	745-4247
Seward.....	224-3935
Soldotna.....	262-4573
Valdez.....	835-4307

ADF&G's Trophy Fish Program

Alaska State Trophy Fish Recordholders

Species	Min. wt.	Lbs/oz	Year	Location	Angler
Arctic char/ Dolly Varden	10 lb	27/6	2002	Wulik River	Mike Curtiss
Brook trout	3 lb	3/4	2012	Green Lake	Kyle Kitka
Burbot	8 lb	24/12	1976	Lake Louise	George R. Howard
King salmon	(see below)	97/4	1985	Kenai River	Lester Anderson
Chum salmon	15 lb	32/0	1985	Caamano Point	Fredrick Thynes
Coho salmon	20 lb	26/0	1976	Icy Strait	Andrew Robbins
Cutthroat trout	3 lb	8/6	1977	Wilson Lake	Robert Denison
Grayling	3 lb	5/1	2008	Fish River	Peter Cockwill
Halibut	250 lb	459/0	1996	Unalaska Bay	Jack Tragis
Lake trout	20 lb	47/0	1970	Clarence Lake	Daniel Thorsness
Lingcod	55 lb	81/6	2002	Monty Island	Charles Curny
Northern pike	15 lb	38/8	1991	Innoko River	Jack Wagner
Pink salmon	8 lb	12/9	1974	Moose River	Steven A. Lee
Rainbow/ steelhead trout	15 lb	42/3	1970	Bell Island	David White
Rockfish	18 lb	39/1	2013	Sitka	Henry Liebman
Sheefish	30 lb	53/0	1986	Pah River	Lawrence E. Hudnall
Sockeye salmon	12 lb	16/0	1974	Kenai River	Chuck Leach
Whitefish	4 lb	9/0	1989	Tozitna River	Al Mathews

☛ King salmon minimum weight for the Kenai River is 75 lb. For the rest of the state, it is 50 lb.

Anglers have been participating since the 1960s in the ADF&G Trophy Fish Program, which gives special recognition to anglers taking fish that meet minimum weight (trophy certificates) or length standards (catch-and-release certificates) within a species. Trophy fish for both certificates must be legally caught from waters open to the public, in compliance with current ADF&G sport fishing regulations.

Minimum weights for trophy fish certificates are listed on the table above (second column). Entries must be weighed in the presence of witnesses and a Trophy Fish Official, on a scale currently certified by the Division of Weights and Measures.

At least one witness is mandatory, as is a photograph.

For catch-and-release honorary certificates, do not remove your fish from the water. Hold it just at the water's surface while a photograph is quickly taken, then release it into the current.

Minimum lengths for catch-and-release honorary certificates: *Arctic char/Dolly Varden*, 30 inches; *Arctic grayling*, 18 inches; *brook trout*, 20 inches; *cutthroat trout*, 20 inches; *lake trout*, 36 inches; *lingcod*, 53 inches; *northern pike*, 40 inches; *rainbow/steelhead*, 32 inches; *sheefish*, 45 inches.

Affidavit forms and complete program rules are available at most ADF&G offices, and you can also download them from our website:

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fishingSport.trophyfishprogram>

TROPHY FISH AFFIDAVIT

Alaska Department of
Fish & Game

Mail this form and a photo of your fish to:

Alaska Department of Fish & Game
Sport Fish Information Center
333 Raspberry Road
Anchorage, AK 99518-1599

I am applying for the following certificate
(check only one):

☐ Honorary Catch-and-Release Certificate - or - ☐ Trophy Certificate

Please type or print clearly

Species: _____ Certified weight: _____ lb. _____ oz. (Trophy use only)

Length (inches): _____ Caught in: ☐ Marine or ☐ Freshwater

Date caught: _____ Location caught: _____

Sport Fishing License No.: _____ Age (if entrant under 16 years of age): _____

Entrant's name (please print): _____

Mailing address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip code: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

The undersigned Trophy Official does hereby verify the identity of the described fish:

Official's name (please print): _____

Scales certification date: _____

Official's mailing address: _____

We, the undersigned, witnessed the weighing and measuring of the fish described above, and verify the weight and measurements recorded (one witness is mandatory):

Witness 1 (signature/address): _____

Witness 2 (signature/address): _____

I hereby swear that in taking this fish I complied with all rules and regulations in the location the fish was caught, and that the witnesses actually witnessed the weighing and measuring of this fish. I further declare that all the above information is true and correct.

In addition, I give the Alaska Department of Fish & Game permission to use photographs and recordings of me in print, online, or in broadcast media for news and informational or educational purposes without incurring any debts or liabilities of any kind.

Entrant signature: _____

Official's signature: _____

Certified by me this (enter date): _____

A PICTURE OF YOUR FISH MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THIS AFFIDAVIT.

Digital photos may be sent to dfg.dsf.trophyfish@alaska.gov.

Please reference the entrants name in the subject line.

5 AAC 75.010(a) states that no person may possess any unpreserved fish not legally taken by himself or herself, unless he or she has a statement signed by the person taking the fish stating the type of fish, number of fish, the location and date taken, and the sport fishing license number. See page 7, "Possession of sport-caught fish."



Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division of Sport Fish

TRANSFER OF POSSESSION FORM

**Anglers must fill out this form and give to recipient, along with fish or shellfish.
Recipient must carry this form until fish or shellfish are preserved.**

ANGLER INFORMATION

Name: _____ Sport fishing
license no. _____

Address: _____

City

State

Zip

SPECIES TAKEN

NUMBER TAKEN

DATE TAKEN

LOCATION

Angler's
signature: _____ Date: _____

RECIPIENT INFORMATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City

State

Zip

Recipient's
signature: _____ Date: _____

Sport Fishing by Proxy...

Alaska residents may proxy sport fish, proxy personal use fish, and/or proxy subsistence fish for another Alaska resident who is (1) 70% or greater physically disabled (physician's affidavit required); (2) 65 years or older; or (3) legally blind (physician's affidavit required). **No person may give or receive payment to be a beneficiary or a proxy.**

Get a "Proxy Information Form" (Proxy) from any ADF&G office, or download it from:

http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static-sf/statewide/pdfs/PU_proxy.pdf

Bring it to an ADF&G office for certification. You must provide (1) your sport fishing license number, age (if under 16), or ADF&G PID card number, (2) original signatures of both parties, (3) beneficiary's proof of fishing license or ADF&G PID card; and, if the reason for the proxy is "physically disabled," proof of 70% or greater physical disability. The Proxy is valid from date of ADF&G certification for the time period shown through the end of the current calendar year.

The proxy fishing program allows you to take your own bag limit and one beneficiary's bag limit in the same day. You may not take more than 2 bag and possession limits during any fishing trip, and you may not fish with more than one legal limit of gear. The beneficiary may **not** take or attempt to take fish or shellfish at the same time as his/her proxy.

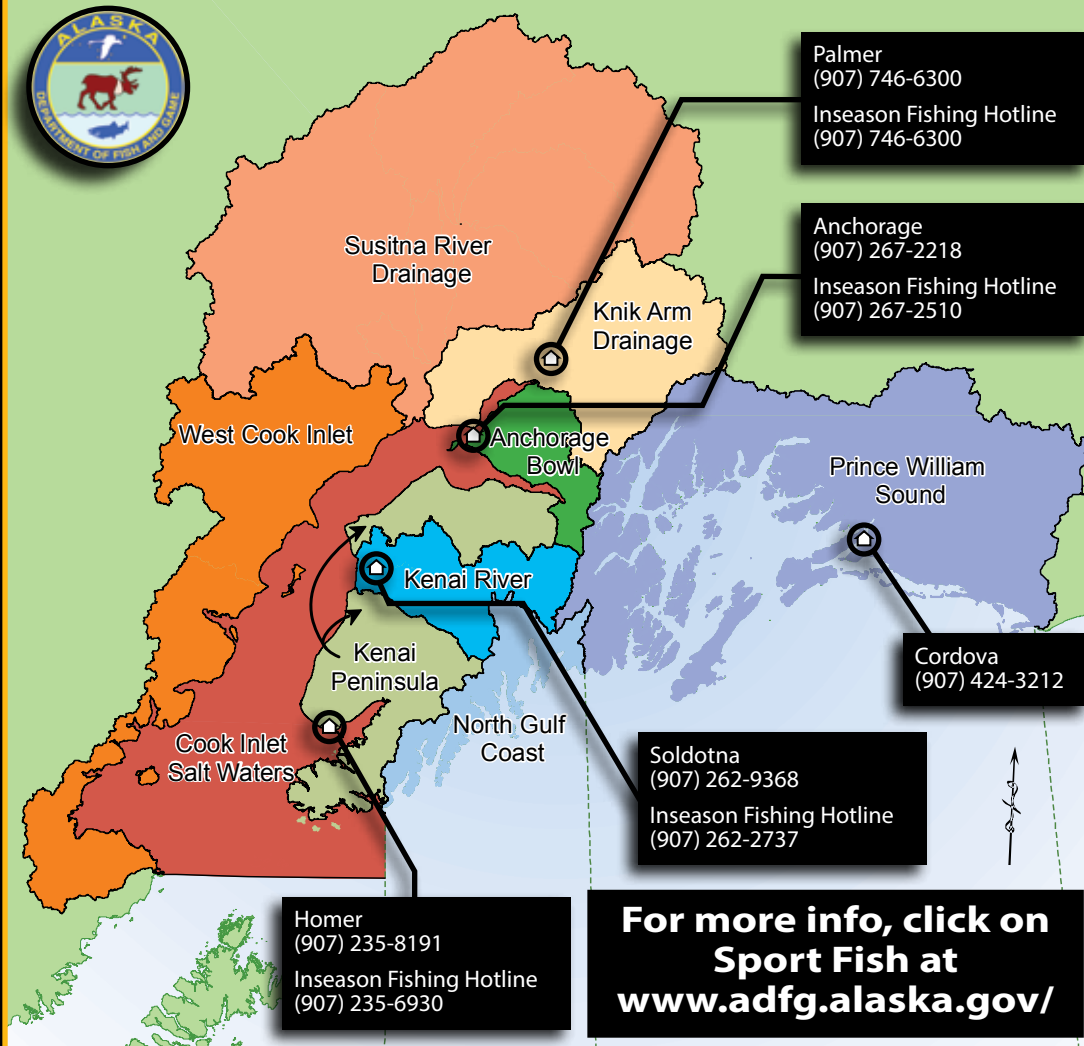
When proxy fishing, you must carry the ADF&G-certified Proxy form, your fishing license or ADF&G PID card, the original fishing license or ADF&G PID card of your beneficiary, and any original permits and harvest record cards (if necessary) for yourself and for your beneficiary. You may not have more than one Proxy in your possession while fishing, and you must deliver the fish and return all licenses, permits, and records to that beneficiary before you proxy fish for another beneficiary. Proxy fishing for halibut is not allowed.

Fishing in Bear Country:

**NEVER let bears associate
people with food**

- "Stop, Chop & Throw"—To prevent fish carcasses from collecting along the river banks and attracting bears, take a few extra seconds to chop the fish carcass into small pieces and throw them into deep, fast-moving water. Do not place fish waste into the dumpsters.
- To prevent bears from learning that stringers, coolers, and backpacks are easy food sources, keep all your belongings closely attended at all times, wear your backpack while fishing, and keep your stringers and coolers close by, within reach.
- If a bear approaches you, be willing to give up your fishing spot. Splashing fish may attract bears. If your splashing fish attracts a bear, give your fish a lot of slack, or cut your line. Always be prepared to throw your stringer into the water as a last resort.

Alaska Department of Fish & Game Southcentral Alaska Sport Fish Offices



A MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR



Dear Fellow Anglers,

Sport fishing is a fundamental part of the Alaskan lifestyle. As you read through this booklet and plan your fishing adventure, you join over 400,000 other anglers that share in this experience each year. I hope you enjoy sharing the wonders of this amazing state, fishing rod in hand, with your family and friends.

Every dollar you spend on an Alaska sport fishing license or king salmon stamp is spent on programs that directly benefit and conserve our diverse sport fishing opportunities. Your license fees help to ensure that our fisheries resources are sustained so that future generations of Alaskans can enjoy the same opportunities we do today. In addition, I am pleased to say that sport fishing contributes \$1.4 billion to Alaska's economy and supports over 12,000 jobs each year.

I urge you to take the time to read and understand the laws and regulations that apply to the species and location where you intend to fish. If you have any questions, please contact the helpful staff at your local Alaska Department of Fish and Game office. I wish you a safe, enjoyable, and successful fishing experience.

Sincerely,

Bill Walker

Bill Walker
Governor

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) administers all programs and activities free from discrimination based on race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, marital status, pregnancy, parenthood, or disability. The department administers all programs and activities in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility, please write: ADF&G ADA Coordinator, P.O. Box 115526, Juneau, AK 99811-5526; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, MS 2042, Arlington, VA 22203; Office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street NW, MS 5230, Washington, DC 20240. The department's ADA Coordinator can be reached via phone at the following numbers: (VOICE) 907-465-6077, (Statewide Telecommunication Device for the Deaf) 1-800-478-3648, (Juneau TDD) 907-465-3646, or (FAX) 907-465-6078. For information on alternative formats and questions on this publication, please contact the following: ADF&G, Sport Fish Division, Research and Technical Services, Anchorage, AK 99518, 907-267-2382.