

# SOUTHWEST ALASKA

## Sport Fishing Regulations Summary 2018

*Effective until the 2019 Summary is issued.*



[WWW.ADFG.ALASKA.GOV](http://WWW.ADFG.ALASKA.GOV)

LICENSING &  
REGIONAL  
REGULATIONS

BRISTOL BAY  
SALT & FRESH WATERS

ALASKA PENINSULA &  
ALEUTIAN ISLANDS

AK PENINSULA, ALEUTIAN  
ISLANDS & KODIAK ISLAND  
SALT WATERS

KODIAK ISLAND FRESH  
WATERS

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## Alaska Department of Fish and Game



**DIVISION OF SPORT FISH**

1255 W. 8th Street  
 P.O. Box 115526  
 Juneau, Alaska 99811-5526  
 (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 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. Emergency orders may also be posted at key access points. 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: [www.adfg.alaska.gov/](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/)**

## 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. The 2018/2019 board cycle will include Bristol Bay area all finfish.

**Alaska Board of Fisheries Current Members**

John Jensen (Chair) . . . . . Petersburg  
 Fritz Johnson . . . . . Dillingham  
 Reed Morisky. . . . . Fairbanks  
 Orville Huntington. . . . . Huslia  
 Alan Cain . . . . . Anchorage  
 Israel Payton . . . . . Wasilla  
 Robert Ruffner . . . . . Soldotna

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

# How to Use This Book



## **Licensing Requirements -**

Read licensing and harvest recording requirements, pages 4 and 5.

## **Regional Regulations -**

These outline allowable sport fishing gear, possession requirements for sport caught fish, and other general regulations, as well as prohibited acts.

## **General Regulations -**

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

## **Special Regulations -**

Check the Southwest Alaska Waters index on pages 10–11. 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.

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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>.

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**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.**

## **► Emergency Orders: *Inseason changes to regulation***

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.



**You can sign up to receive emergency order notifications via email.**

**Visit: [www.wefishak.alaska.gov](http://www.wefishak.alaska.gov) for more information.**

# Catching Our Emails?



**Sign Up Today!** visit [www.wefishak.alaska.gov](http://www.wefishak.alaska.gov)

# Got Pics?



We are looking for good quality fishing photos. Pack your camera along with your rod and reel, and capture those memorable images of your family and children fishing in Alaska, and please send us your photos. More information at: [www.wefishak.alaska.gov](http://www.wefishak.alaska.gov).

## **Cover Photos**

- **Main Image:** Kierra Shaugin (left) Keisha Kalmakoff (right) fish through the ice at Chignik Lake. Photo by Ted Shaugin.
- **Top Left:** A rainbow trout is readied for release. ADF&G photo.
- **Bottom Left:** A coho salmon. Photo by Shane Hertzog.

**An Alaska sport fishing license is required for all resident anglers 18 and older and nonresident anglers 16 and older to fish in all fresh and salt waters of Alaska.**

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

**A Resident of Alaska 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 or paying taxes as a resident of another state.

**Active Duty Military 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 and nonresident military annual king salmon stamp at reduced rates 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 9).*

**License Fees | Alaska Residents**

**Annual sport fishing license ..... \$29**  
*Alaska residents 18 or older. Valid for the calendar year.*

**ADF&G Permanent (Senior) ID Card (PID)..... Free to qualifying residents**  
**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 purchase a nonresident sport fishing license.*

**ADF&G Disabled Veteran Card (DAV)..... Free to qualifying residents**  
**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. *If you become a nonresident, your DAV is no longer valid, requiring you to purchase a nonresident sport fishing license.*

**Sport fishing license for the blind ..... \$0.50**  
*Affidavit required—available from license vendor or ADF&G.*

**Income restricted..... \$5**  
*To be eligible for a low income license, an Alaskan resident must have an annual family or household income equal to or less than the most recent poverty guidelines for the state set by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for the year preceding application. A.S. 16.05.340 (a)(6)*  
 Visit: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=license.lowincome>

**License Fees | Nonresidents**

1-day sport fishing license ..... \$25  
 3-day sport fishing license ..... \$45  
 7-day sport fishing license ..... \$70  
 14-day sport fishing license..... \$105  
 Annual sport fishing license..... \$145

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

***Nonresident military License and Fee***

**Nonresident annual military sport fishing license ..... \$29**  
*Only for active duty members of military service permanently stationed in Alaska for less than 12 months or for dependent(s) of such.*

## 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.

- Areas to record harvested species with an annual limit are printed on each sport fishing license.
- A harvest record card is required for resident anglers under 18, nonresident anglers under 16, and PID or DAV licensed anglers.
- 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 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 visit [www.adfg.alaska.gov](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov) for more information.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Check ONE:  Resident Senior  Resident Disabled Veteran  
 Non-resident under 16  Resident under 18

Senior or DAV license number: \_\_\_\_\_

OR, if youth angler, 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**

## LICENSES/STAMPS/HARVEST CARDS

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

**Harvest Record Cards** are available online at: [http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/license/sportlicense/pdf/sf\\_harvest\\_record\\_card.pdf](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/license/sportlicense/pdf/sf_harvest_record_card.pdf), from ADF&G offices, and from fishing license vendors.

**PID/DAV licenses** – Apply online at: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=license.proxy>.

## 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 can be printed immediately. 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 sport fishing license.



**This is an example of a king salmon stamp purchased online.**

## King Salmon Stamp Fees

Resident king salmon stamp .....	<b>\$10</b>
Nonresident 1-day stamp .....	\$15
Nonresident 3-day stamp .....	\$30
Nonresident 7-day stamp .....	\$45
Nonresident 14-day stamp.....	\$75
Nonresident annual stamp.....	\$100
Nonresident military annual stamp .....	\$30
Duplicate stamp .....	\$5

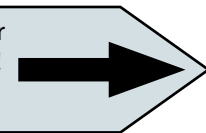
### The following persons do not need a king salmon stamp:

- Resident anglers under 18 and nonresident anglers under 16.
- Residents who possess an ADF&G PID or a DAV card.
- Residents with the \$5 income restricted license.
- Residents with the 50¢ license for the blind.



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

[www.adfg.alaska.gov/store/](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/store/)



## HARVEST RECORD REQUIREMENTS

- **Harvest records** are required when angling for any species with an annual limit.
- A harvest record form is printed on the back of each sport fishing license. For resident anglers under age 18 and nonresident anglers under 16 and others not requiring a license, free harvest reporting cards are available online, from ADF&G offices and from fishing license vendors.
- Annual limits are listed in the General and Special Regulations for each area.
- Immediately upon landing and retaining a fish that requires harvest recording, anglers must enter the species, date, and location, IN INK, on the back of their sport fishing license or on the harvest record card.

## 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.

### **SALE OF SPORT-CAUGHT FISH PROHIBITED:**

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

### **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."

### **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.
- Unless otherwise prohibited under area regulation, snagging is allowed in salt water.

### **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 is prohibited in the taking of any fish in the waters of Alaska. Except that a shaft tipped with an explosive charge (commonly known as a bangstick or powerhead) or a firearm may be used on board a vessel in saltwater to dispatch a fish caught with legal gear.

## METHODS AND MEANS

### **FRESH WATER 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:**

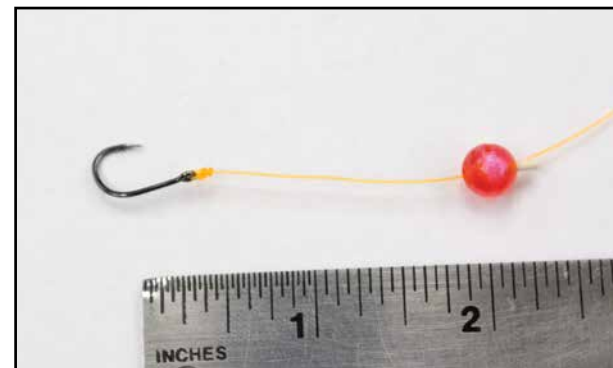
Unless otherwise provided in regulation, sport fishing may be conducted only by use of:

- A closely attended single line attached to not more than one plug; one spoon; one spinner or series of spinners; two artificial flies; or two hooks.
- The line must be closely attended, unless unattended setlines for burbot are allowed per area regulations.

### **USE OF ATTRACTOR (BEAD):**

An attractor, including a bead, when used with an artificial fly, artificial lure, or bare hook, must be:

- Either fixed within two inches of the bare hook, fly, or lure,
- Or be free sliding on the line or leader.
- A bead fished on the line above a bare single hook is legal gear in waters where only flies may be used.



## METHODS AND MEANS (CONTINUED)

### USE OF UNDERWATER SPEAR (SALT WATER):

- In salt water, spears and spearguns may be used to take fish, subject to applicable seasons and limits, by persons who are completely submerged, provided that the spear or speargun is not tipped with an explosive charge.

### 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.

### 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;
- 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 38. 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.
- Federal halibut regulations are available from: NOAA Fisheries Alaska Region, (907) 586-7228  
<https://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/fisheries/sport-halibut>

### 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;
  - 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.

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, or a bare single hook that 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. This includes an artificial fly.

**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 (this includes catch-and-release fishing).

**CLOSED WATERS**—waters designated by the Board of Fisheries 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.

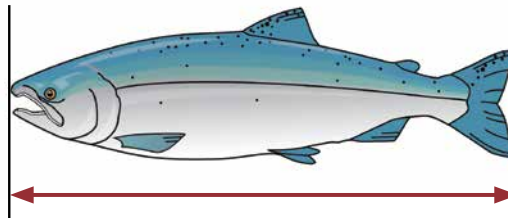
**DRAINAGE**—all of the waters comprising a watershed including tributary rivers, streams, sloughs, ponds, and lakes which contribute to the water supply of the watershed.

**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.

**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.

**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.



## DEFINITIONS (CONTINUED)

**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.

**TROUT**—includes rainbow, steelhead, and cutthroat.

**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

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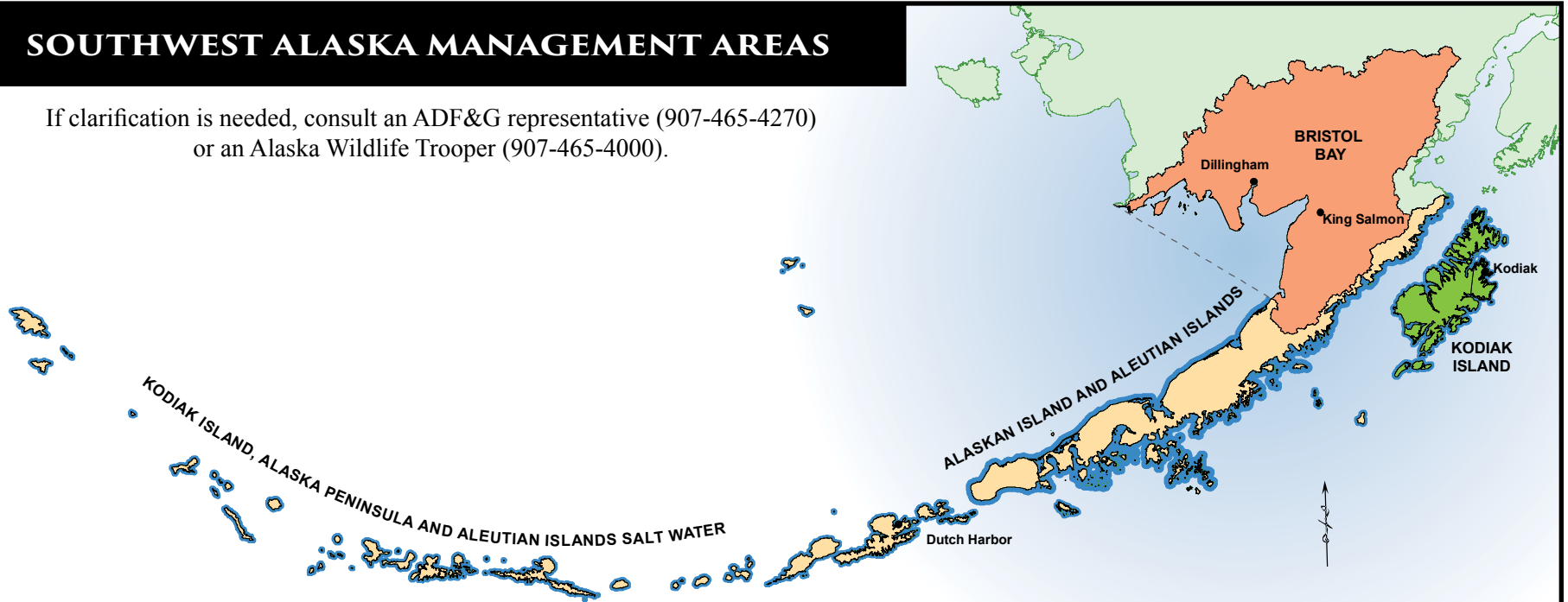
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**If the water you intend to fish is not listed under its area's Special Regulations, then that area's General Regulations apply.**

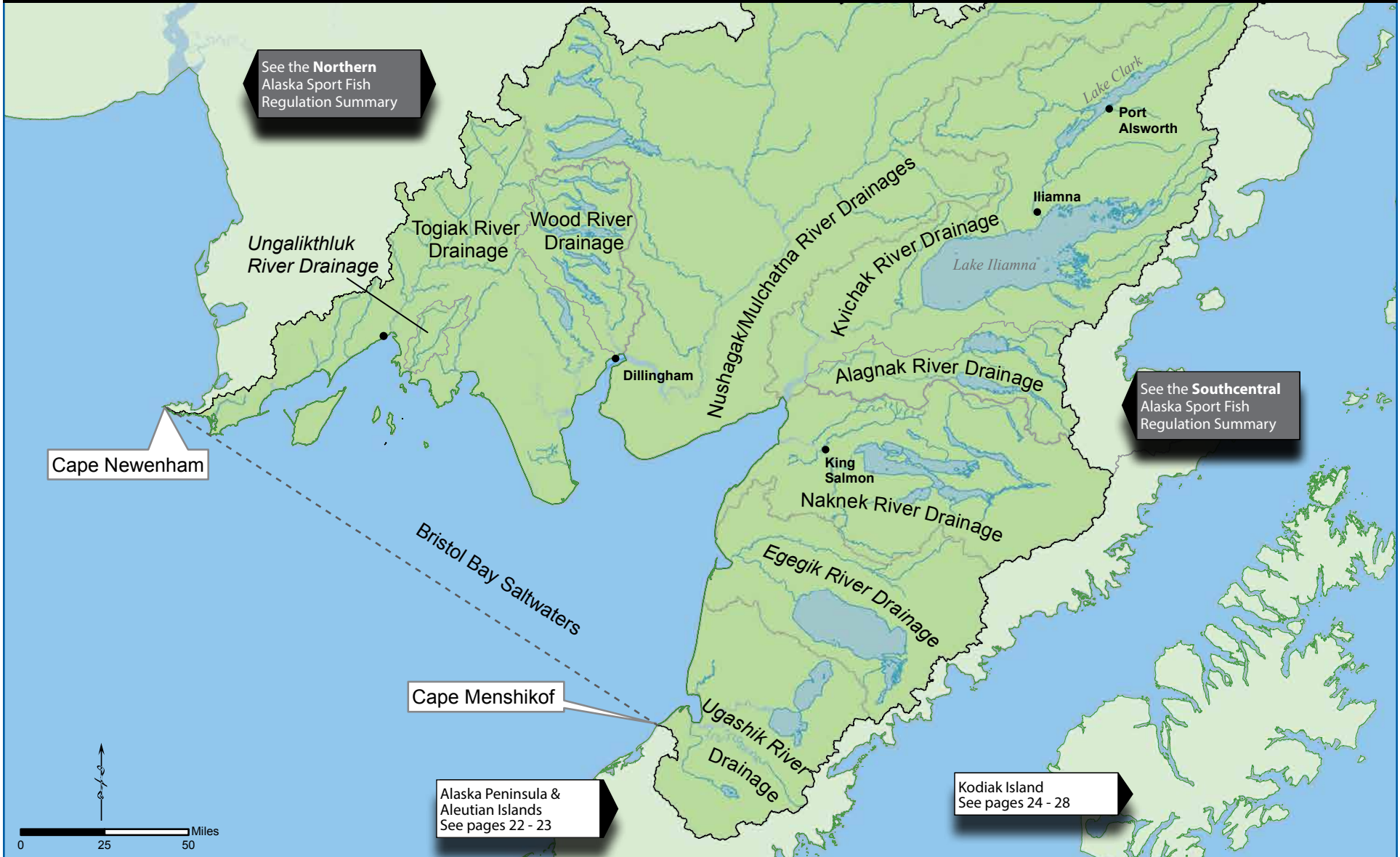
## SOUTHWEST ALASKA MANAGEMENT AREAS

If clarification is needed, consult an ADF&G representative (907-465-4270) or an Alaska Wildlife Trooper (907-465-4000).



LICENSING & REGIONAL REGULATIONS	BRISTOL BAY SALT & FRESH WATERS	ALASKA PENINSULA & ALEUTIAN ISLANDS	AK PENINSULA, ALEUTIAN ISLANDS & KODIAK ISLAND SALT WATERS	KODIAK ISLAND FRESH WATERS
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# Major Drainages of Bristol Bay



## General Regulations - Bristol Bay

**Inclusive waters:** All fresh waters draining into Bristol Bay between Cape Menshikof and Cape Newenham, and all salt waters east of a line from Cape Newenham to Cape Menshikof.

**The fishing season for all species is open year-round unless otherwise noted below.**

### **KING SALMON**

- **Season:** May 1–July 31.
- 20 inches or longer—Annual limit of 5 king salmon 20 inches or longer in Bristol Bay salt and fresh waters. Of these 5 total king salmon, no more than 4 may be harvested from the Nushagak/Mulchatna river drainage, and no more than 2 may be harvested from the Wood River drainage. Harvest record required. See page 5 for recording instructions.
- **Fresh waters:**
  - **King salmon removed from the water must be retained:** Any king salmon removed from freshwater drainages of Bristol Bay from Cape Menshikof to Cape Newenham **MUST BE RETAINED** and becomes part of the bag limit of the person originally hooking it. A person who intends to release a king salmon may not remove it from the water before releasing it.
  - 20 inches or longer: 3 per day, 3 in possession, only 1 of which may be 28 inches or longer.
  - Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.
- **Salt waters:**
  - 3 per day, 3 in possession, only 2 of which may be 28 inches or longer.

### **OTHER SALMON**

- 5 per day, 5 in possession.

### **ARCTIC CHAR AND DOLLY VARDEN**

- **Season:** June 8–October 31.
  - 3 per day, 3 in possession.
- **Season:** November 1–June 7.
  - 10 per day, 10 in possession.

### **RAINBOW TROUT**

- **Season:** June 8–October 31.
  - 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
- **Season:** November 1–June 7.
  - 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.

### **ARCTIC GRAYLING**

- 2 per day, 2 in possession.

### **LAKE TROUT**

- 4 per day, 4 in possession.

### **NORTHERN PIKE**

- 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 of which may be 30 inches or longer.

### **BURBOT**

- 15 per day, 15 in possession.

### **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.

### **LINGCOD**

- No limit.

### **ROCKFISH**

- No limit.

### **KING CRAB**

- **Season:** June 1–January 31.
  - Males only:
    - 6½ inches or more: 6 per day, 6 in possession.

### **DUNGENESS CRAB**

- Males only:
  - 6½ inches or more: 12 per day, 12 in possession.

### **TANNER CRAB**

- Males only:
  - 5½ inches or more: 12 per day, 12 in possession.

### **SHARKS (EXCEPT SPINY DOGFISH)**

- 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size restrictions.
- Annual limit of 2 sharks. Harvest record required. See page 5 for recording instructions.

### **SPINY DOGFISH**

- 5 per day, 5 in possession—no size restrictions. Harvest record **not** required.

### **OTHER FINFISH**

- No limit

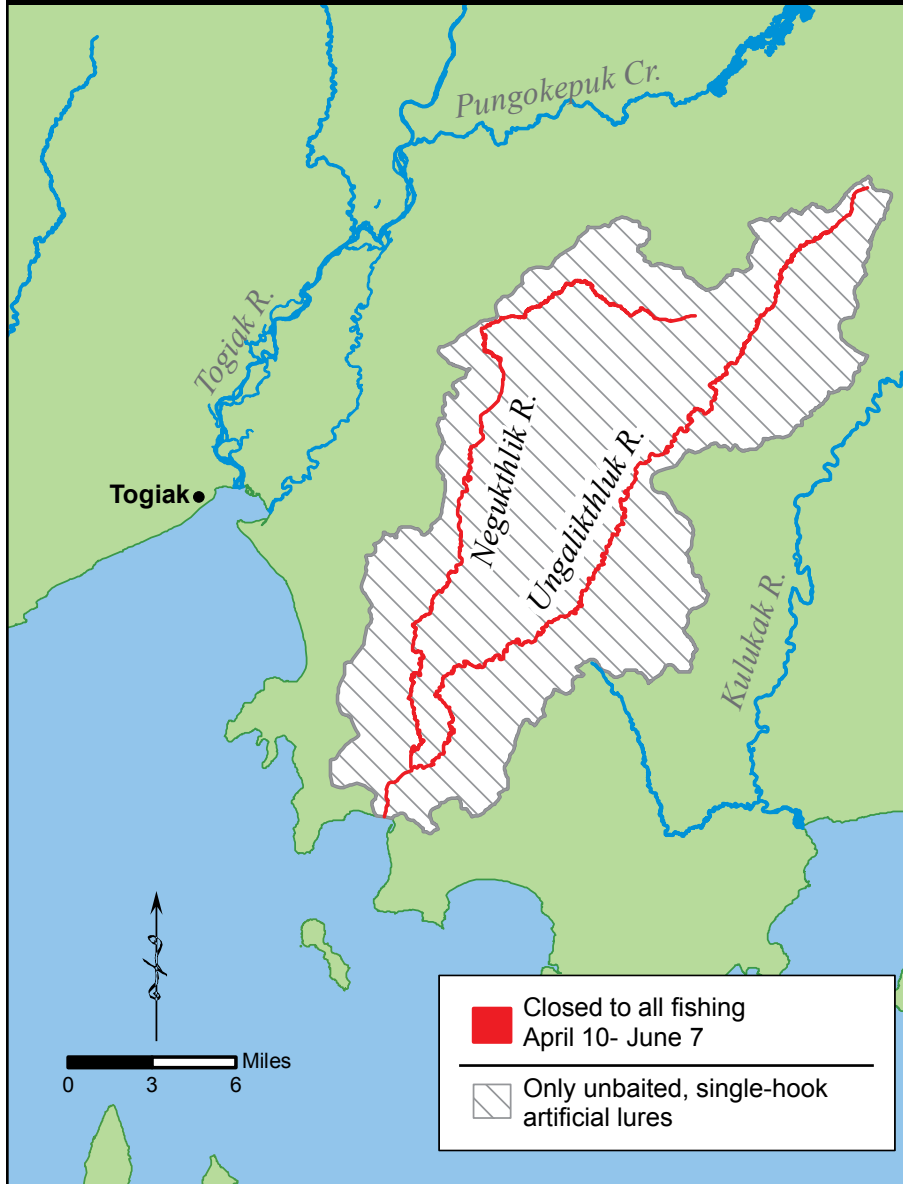
## Methods and Means - Bristol Bay

### **Chumming:**

- In waters closed to the use of bait, sport fishing guides and guided anglers are prohibited from placing in the water any substance (bait) for the purpose of attracting fish by scent.



## Ugalikthluk River Drainage



### Special Regulations - Bristol Bay

#### **Ugalikthluk drainage** - including the Negukthlik River:

- **Closed to all sport fishing April 10-June 7.**
- Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures or flies may be used.
- Rainbow trout limits:
  - June 8–Oct. 31: No retention of rainbow trout. All rainbow trout caught must be released immediately.
  - Nov. 1–April 9: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 may be over 20 inches.

## Special Regulations - Bristol Bay

### Wood River drainage:

- The fishing season for king salmon is May 1–July 31.
- King salmon limits:
  - Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.
  - 20 inches or longer: 1 per day, 1 in possession, only 1 over 28 inches.
  - There is an annual limit of 2 king salmon over 20 inches taken from the Wood River drainage. All harvested king salmon 20 inches or longer must be recorded; see page 5.
- **Agulowak River** (from an ADF&G regulatory marker at the outlet of Lake Nerka, downstream to Lake Aleknagik, including waters of Lake Aleknagik within ½ mile of the Agulowak River outlet):
  - Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures or flies may be used.
  - Rainbow trout limits: 1 per day, 1 in possession.
  - Arctic char/ Dolly Varden limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession.

- **Agulukpak River** (From the outlet of Lake Beverly to the island located 1.2 miles downstream):
  - Sept. 1–June 7: Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures or flies may be used.
  - June 8–Aug. 31: Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial flies may be used.
  - Rainbow trout limits:
    - June 8–Oct. 31: No retention of rainbow trout. All rainbow trout caught must be released immediately.
    - Nov. 1–June 7: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 may be over 20 inches.

- **Kulik Lake:**

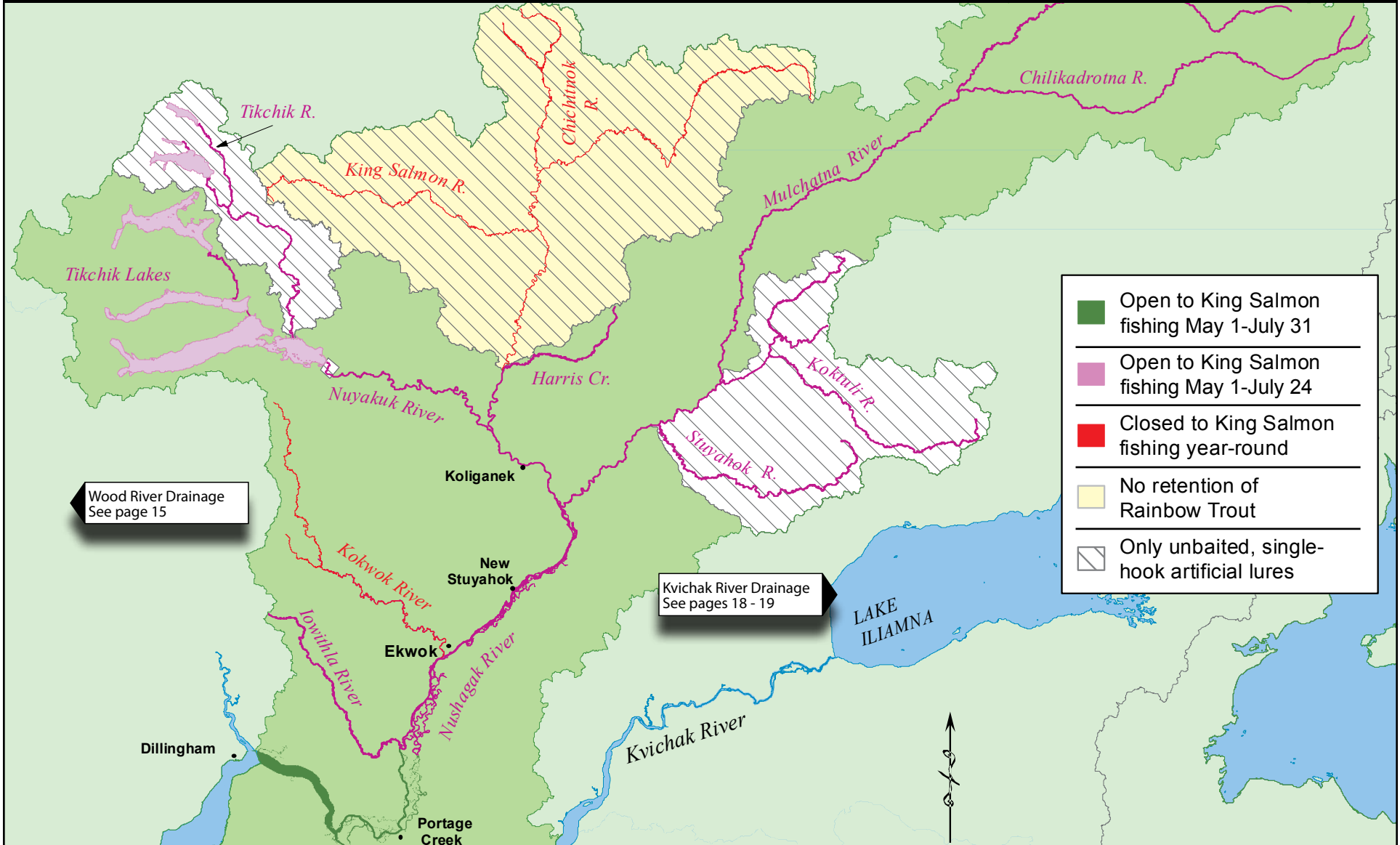
- Northern pike: No retention of northern pike 30 inches or longer.



Wood River



# Nushagak/Mulchatna River Drainage





**The Nushagak/Mulchatna Chinook and Coho Salmon Management Plans** may require inseason adjustments to the regulations (emergency orders) for seasons, bag limits, gear, and open waters, depending on escapement levels of king or coho salmon. See page 3 for instructions on how to check for emergency orders in the area you are fishing.

### **Nushagak/Mulchatna drainage:**

- Only one single-hook artificial lure or fly, or one single-hook may be used May 1–July 31.
- **In waters of the Nushagak/Mulchatna River drainage open to fishing for king salmon:**
  - King salmon limits:
    - 20 inches or longer:
      - 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 over 28 inches.
      - After taking a bag limit of king salmon 20 inches or longer from the Nushagak/Mulchatna River drainage, a person may only use unbaited artificial lures or flies with *one single-hook*, in the Nushagak/Mulchatna River drainage for the remainder of the day.
      - There is an annual limit of 4 king salmon over 20 inches taken from the entire Nushagak/Mulchatna drainage.
      - All harvested king salmon 20 inches or longer must be recorded. See page 5 for recording instructions.
    - Less than 20 inches: 5 per day 5 in possession
  - **From its confluence with the Iowithla River, upstream to Harris Creek, including the Iowithla River:**
    - The fishing season for king salmon is May 1–July 24.
  - **Upstream of its confluence with Harris Creek:**
    - **Closed to king salmon fishing year-round.**
    - Bait prohibited, only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures may be used year-round.
    - Rainbow trout: Rainbow trout retention prohibited year-round. All rainbow trout caught must be released immediately.

**Kokwok River** (including waters of the Nushagak River within ¼ mile of its confluence with the Kokwok River):

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

### **Koktuli River drainage:**

- Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures or flies may be used year-round.

**Mulchatna River drainage**—from ADF&G markers about 1½ miles downstream from the Stuyahok River outlet, upstream to markers about 1½ miles upstream from the Koktuli River outlet:

- Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures or flies may be used year-round.

**Nuyakuk River**—from the outlet of Tikchik Lake to an island located about 2 miles downstream from Nuyakuk Falls:

- Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures or flies may be used year-round.

### **Stuyahok River drainage:**

- Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures or flies may be used year-round.

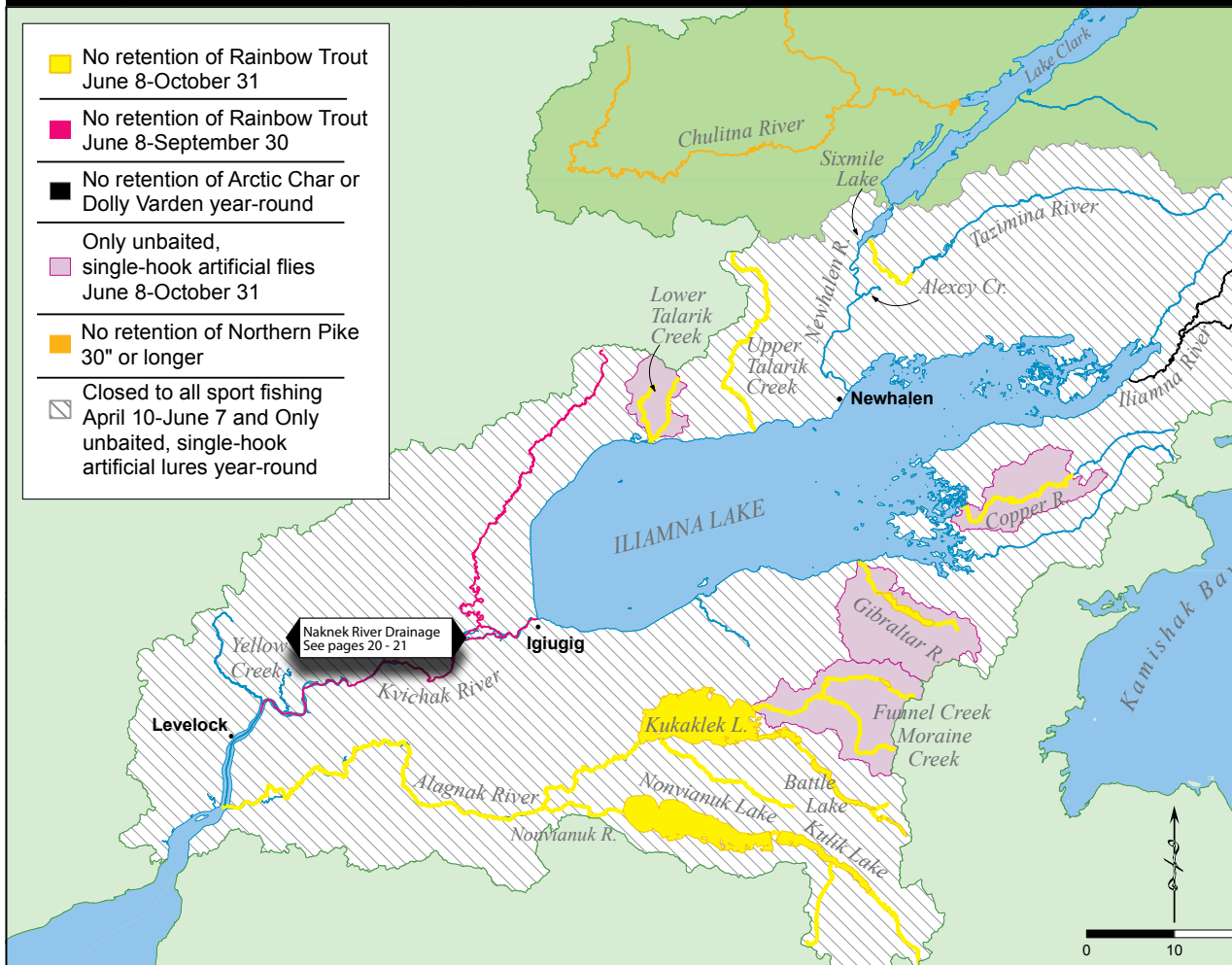
### **Tikchik River drainage:**

- Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures or flies may be used year-round.



Grayling from Nanuktuk Creek

## Kvichak and Alagnak River Drainages



**The Kvichak Inriver Sockeye Management Plan** may require inseason changes to sockeye salmon bag limits and waters open to fishing, depending on escapement levels. See page 3 for instructions on how to check for emergency orders in the area you are fishing.

**Chulitna River drainage** (including waters of Lake Clark within 1 mile of the Chulitna River):

- Northern pike: No retention of northern pike 30 inches or longer is allowed. All northern pike 30 inches or longer must be immediately released.

### **Kvichak River drainage:**

**Use of helicopters for transporting anglers and sport-caught fish is prohibited in the Kvichak River drainage.**

- Salmon limits (except king salmon) excluding the Alagnak River drainage: 5 per day, 5 in possession; only 2 per day, 2 in possession may be coho salmon.
- **Kvichak River upstream from its outlet in Kvichak Bay to Iliamna Lake:**
  - **Closed to all sport fishing April 10–June 7.**
  - Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures or flies may be used year-round, except in lake waters more than a ½-mile radius from inlet or outlet streams.
- **Kvichak River from Kvichak Bay upstream to an ADF&G marker at the confluence of Yellow Creek:**
  - Rainbow trout limits:
    - June 8–Oct. 31: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.
    - Nov. 1–April 9: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 over 20 inches.
- **From an ADF&G regulatory marker at the confluence of Yellow Creek upstream to the waters of Iliamna Lake within a ½-mile radius of its outlet at Igiugig:**
  - Rainbow trout:
    - June 8–Sept. 30: No retention of rainbow trout is allowed. All rainbow trout must be immediately released.
    - Oct. 1–Oct. 31: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.
    - Nov. 1–April 9: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 over 20 inches.

...continued next page

### **Kvichak River drainage** (continued):

- **Iliamna Lake** and all its tributaries, including the Newhalen River and tributaries, upstream to the outlet of Lake Clark:
  - Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures or flies may be used year-round, except in waters of lakes more than a ½-mile radius from inlet or outlet streams.
  - **All flowing waters, and lake waters within a ½-mile radius of inlet or outlet streams:**
    - **Closed to all sport fishing April 10–June 7.** In lake waters more than ½ mile distant from inlet or outlet streams, general seasons and limits at left apply.
  - **In all waters except those of lakes more than a ½-mile radius from inlet or outlet streams:**
    - Rainbow trout:
      - June 8–Oct. 31: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.
      - Nov. 1–April 9: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 over 20 inches.
- **Lower Talarik Creek** including waters of Lake Iliamna within ½ mile of the Lower Talarik Creek mouth:
  - June 8–October 31: Bait prohibited, only unbaited artificial flies may be used.
  - Rainbow trout season: June 8–Oct. 31
    - No retention of rainbow trout is allowed. All rainbow trout must be immediately released.
- **Upper Talarik Creek** including waters of Lake Iliamna within ½ mile of the Upper Talarik Creek mouth:
  - Rainbow trout season: June 8–Oct. 31
    - No retention of rainbow trout is allowed. All rainbow trout must be immediately released.

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### **Gibraltar River drainage** including all flowing waters and the waters of Lake Iliamna within ½ mile of the Gibraltar River mouth:

- June 8–October 31: Bait prohibited, only unbaited artificial flies may be used.
- Rainbow trout season: June 8–Oct. 31
  - No retention of rainbow trout is allowed. All rainbow trout must be immediately released.

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### **Copper River drainage** including all flowing waters downstream from Lower Copper Lake and the waters of Lake Iliamna within ½ mile of the Copper River mouth:

- June 8–October 31: Bait prohibited, only unbaited artificial flies may be used.
- Rainbow trout season: June 8–Oct. 31
  - No retention of rainbow trout is allowed. All rainbow trout must be immediately released.

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### **Tazimina River**—from the falls, downstream to 1 mile upstream of its outlet into Sixmile Lake:

- Rainbow trout season: June 8–Oct. 31
  - No retention of rainbow trout is allowed. All rainbow trout must be immediately released.

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### **Sixmile Lake and Lake Clark:**

- In all tributaries upstream of Sixmile Lake, including Lake Clark:
  - Rainbow trout limits:
    - June 8–Oct. 31: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.
    - Nov. 1–June 7: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 over 20 inches.

---

### **Iliamna River drainage:**

- Arctic char and Dolly Varden limits: No retention of Arctic char or Dolly Varden is allowed. All Arctic char or Dolly Varden must be released.

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### **Alagnak River drainage:** Unless further restricted below (see map on page 18):

#### **The use of helicopters for transporting anglers and sport-caught fish is prohibited.**

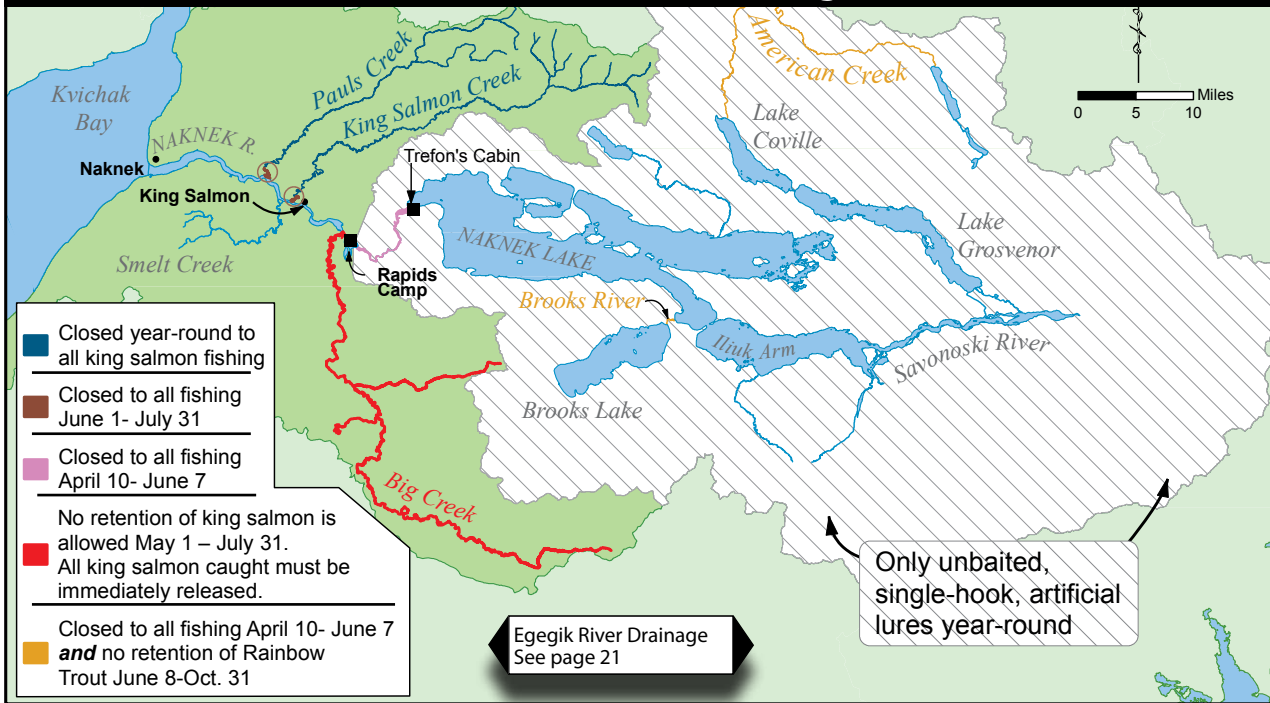
- Salmon limits (all species except king): 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 3 per day, 3 in possession may be coho salmon. Limits for king salmon are the same as shown under General Seasons and Limits on page 13.
- Rainbow trout limits:
  - June 8–Oct. 31: No retention of rainbow trout is allowed. All rainbow trout must be immediately released.
  - Nov. 1–June 7, the daily limit is 5 per day, 5 in possession, must be less than 18 inches.
- **Alagnak River Drainage** (all flowing waters of the Alagnak River drainage, including lake waters within ½ mile of all inlet and outlet streams):
  - **Closed to all sport fishing April 10–June 7.**
  - Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures or flies may be used year-round.

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### **Moraine Creek drainage** (all flowing waters):

- June 8–October 31: Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial flies may be used.

## Naknek River Drainage



### Special Regulations (continued)

#### Naknek River drainage:

- Rainbow trout limits:
  - June 8–Oct. 31: Unless further restricted below, in the Naknek River drainage, 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 18 inches.
  - Nov. 1–June 7: 5 per day, 5 in possession, must be less than 18 inches.
- **In all flowing waters:**
  - March 1–November 14: Only unbaited, artificial lures or flies may be used.

- **In all flowing waters upstream from an ADF&G regulatory marker located ½ mile upstream of Rapids Camp, including all waters within ¼ mile of all lake inlet and outlet streams:**
  - Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures or flies may be used year-round.
- **Upstream from ADF&G markers located ½ mile above Rapids Camp to ADF&G markers at Trefon's cabin at the outlet of Naknek Lake:**
  - **Closed to all sport fishing April 10–June 7.**
  - Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures or flies with a gap between the point and shank of ½ inch or less are allowed March 1–April 9 and from June 8–July 31. For the remainder of the year, only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures or flies may be used.

*Naknek River drainage continued...*

- **Within a 1/4 mile radius of Big Creek:**
  - King salmon: May 1–July 31: king salmon may be retained. Bag limits and gear restrictions same as the remainder of the Naknek River.

#### King Salmon Creek:

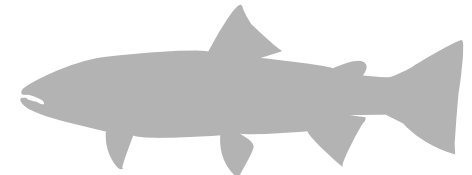
- Rainbow trout limits: 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 18 inches.
- **Upstream from ADF&G markers at confluence with the Naknek River to the upstream side of the Alaska Peninsula Highway bridge:**
  - **Closed to all sport fishing June 1–July 31.**
- **Upstream of the Alaska Peninsula Highway bridge:**
  - **Closed year-round to all king salmon fishing.**

#### Paul's Creek:

- Rainbow trout limits: 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 18 inches.
- **Upstream from ADF&G markers at confluence with the Naknek River to the upstream side of the Alaska Peninsula Highway bridge:**
  - **Closed to all sport fishing June 1–July 31.**
- **Upstream of the Alaska Peninsula Highway bridge:**
  - **Closed year-round to all king salmon fishing.**

#### Big Creek—upstream of its confluence with the Naknek River:

- King salmon: May 1–July 31: No retention of king salmon is allowed. All king salmon caught must be immediately released.



### **Brooks River drainage:**

- Rainbow trout limits:
  - June 8–Oct. 31: Unless further restricted below, all rainbow trout caught must be immediately released.
  - November 1–June 7: The bag and possession limit for rainbow trout is 5 fish less than 18 inches in length. Any rainbow trout caught that are 18 inches or greater in length must be immediately released.
- **In all flowing waters of the Brooks River drainage, including lake waters within ¼ mile of all inlet and outlet streams and waters of Naknek Lake within ¼ mile of the outlet of the Brooks River:**
  - **Closed to all sport fishing April 10–June 7.**
  - Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial flies may be used.
  - Rainbow trout limits: November 1–April 9: 5 per day, 5 in possession, must be less than 18 inches.
- **The outlet of Brooks Lake downstream to the bridge at Brooks Camp:**
  - No retention; all fish caught must be released immediately.

**Brooks River and Brooks Camp are within Katmai National Park. Additional National Park regulations may apply to access and conduct of the fishery. Call (907) 246-3305 for information.**

**Savonoski River drainage** (including the waters of Naknek Lake within ¼ mile of the mouth of the Savonoski River, and including Lake Coville and Lake Grosvenor (but excluding American Creek):

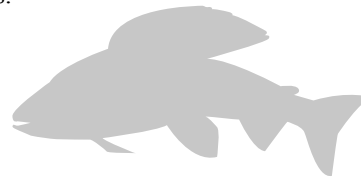
- Rainbow trout limits:
  - June 8–Oct. 31: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.
  - November 1–June 7: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 over 20 inches.

### **Egegik and Ugashik River Drainages**



### **American Creek:**

- **Closed to all sport fishing April 10–June 7.**
- Rainbow trout limits:
  - June 8–Oct. 31: No retention of rainbow trout is allowed. All rainbow trout must be released immediately.
  - Nov. 1–April 9: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 over 20 inches.

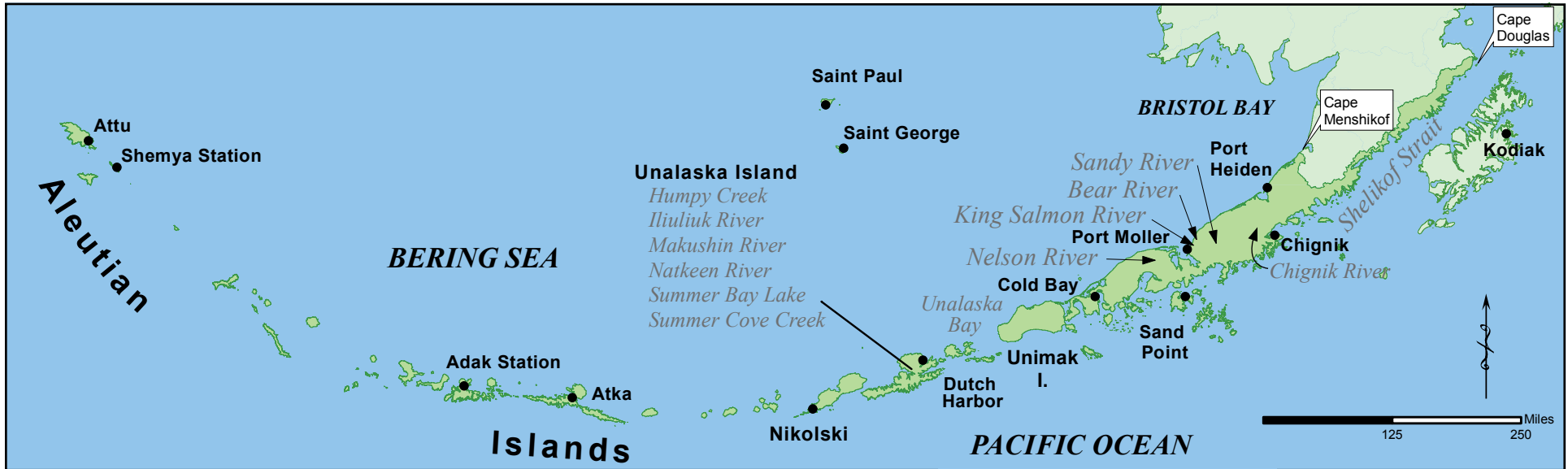


### **Egegik River drainage:**

- **All waters, including Becharof Lake:**
  - Rainbow trout limits:
    - June 8–October 31: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.
    - Nov. 1–June 7: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only one fish over 20 inches.
- **At Becharof Lake outlet, including the waters of Becharof Lake within ¼ mile of the outlet and the waters of the Egegik River within ¼ mile of the outlet:**
  - Arctic grayling limits: No retention of Arctic grayling is allowed. All Arctic grayling must be released immediately.

### **Ugashik River drainage - including Ugashik Lakes:**

- Rainbow trout limits:
  - June 8–October 31: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.
  - Nov. 1–June 7: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only one fish over 20 inches.
- **In Ugashik Narrows (the waters from the outlet of Upper Ugashik Lake downstream to the inlet of Lower Ugashik Lake, including those waters of Upper and Lower Ugashik Lakes within ¼ mile of the Ugashik Narrows):**
  - Arctic grayling: No retention of Arctic grayling is allowed. All Arctic grayling must be released immediately.
- **The Ugashik River:**
  - **Closed year-round to fishing for Arctic grayling.**
- **In the remainder of the Ugashik drainage, including Ugashik Lakes and all Ugashik tributaries:**
  - Arctic grayling: 2 per day, 2 in possession.



**General Regulations - Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Islands**

**Inclusive waters:** All fresh waters of the Aleutian Islands and the Alaska Peninsula (Pacific Ocean drainages west of the longitude of Cape Douglas and Bering Sea drainages south of the latitude of Cape Menshikof).

**The fresh water fishing season for all species is open year-round unless otherwise noted below.**

**KING SALMON**

- **Season:** January 1–July 25.
  - 20 inches or longer: 2 per day, 2 in possession. Annual limit of 5 fish. Harvest record required. See page 5 for recording instructions.
  - Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.

**OTHER SALMON**

- Alaska Peninsula/Aleutian Islands Remote Zone:
  - 20 inches or longer (total combination of all species except king salmon): 5 per day, 10 in possession.
  - Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.
- Unalaska Bay Drainages (Unalaska/Dutch Harbor Road Zone):
  - 20 inches or longer (total combination of all species except king salmon): 5 per day, 5 in possession, of which 2 may be coho and 2 may be sockeye salmon.
  - Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.

**RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT**

- 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. Annual limit of 2 fish 20 inches or longer. Harvest record required. See page 5 for recording instructions.

**DOLLY VARDEN**

- 10 per day, 10 in possession.

**ARCTIC GRAYLING**

- 5 per day, 5 in possession.

**OTHER FINFISH**

- No limit



## Special Regulations - Alaska Peninsula

### Chignik River:

- Open to king salmon fishing January 1–August 9.

### King Salmon River:

- King salmon may not be removed from the water if it is to be released.
- That section of river from its mouth to an ADF&G regulatory marker located 1,000 yards upstream:
  - Only unbaited, artificial lures or flies may be used year-round.
  - King salmon limits: **Closed to the harvest of king salmon.** King salmon must be released immediately and may not be removed from the water before release.

### Runway Lake (near Anchorage Bay in Chignik):

- Rainbow/steelhead trout limits: Annual limit of 2 fish over 20 inches or longer does not apply. General limits still apply.

### Sandy River:

- Rainbow/steelhead trout limits: **No possession or retention of rainbow/steelhead trout.** Rainbow/steelhead trout must be released immediately.
- King salmon limits: 20 inches or longer: 1 per day, 1 in possession, 2 fish annual limit.
- Only 1 unbaited, single hook, artificial lure or fly may be used.

### Nelson (Sapsuk) River drainage:

- Upstream from its confluence with the Caribou River:
  - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly may be used.
  - King salmon limits: **No possession or retention of king salmon.**

### Swanson Lagoon:

- Closed to sport fishing January 1–July 31.
- Closed to sockeye salmon fishing year-round.

## Special Regulations - Aleutian Islands

### Humpy Creek:

- **Closed to sport fishing.**

### Makushin River - upstream from an ADF&G marker located about 2 miles upstream:

- **Closed to sport fishing.**

### Nateekin River - upstream from an ADF&G marker located about 2 miles upstream:

- **Closed to sport fishing.**

**Iliuliuk drainage** - including the Iliuliuk Creek (also known as Town or Unalaska Creek), Iliuliuk Lake and all waters flowing into Iliuliuk Lake:

- Upstream from ADF&G regulatory markers located at the Church Hole:
  - **Closed to salmon fishing year-round.**
- Downstream from ADF&G regulatory markers located at the Church Hole:
  - **Closed to sockeye salmon fishing year-round.**

### Summer Bay Creek (see map below):

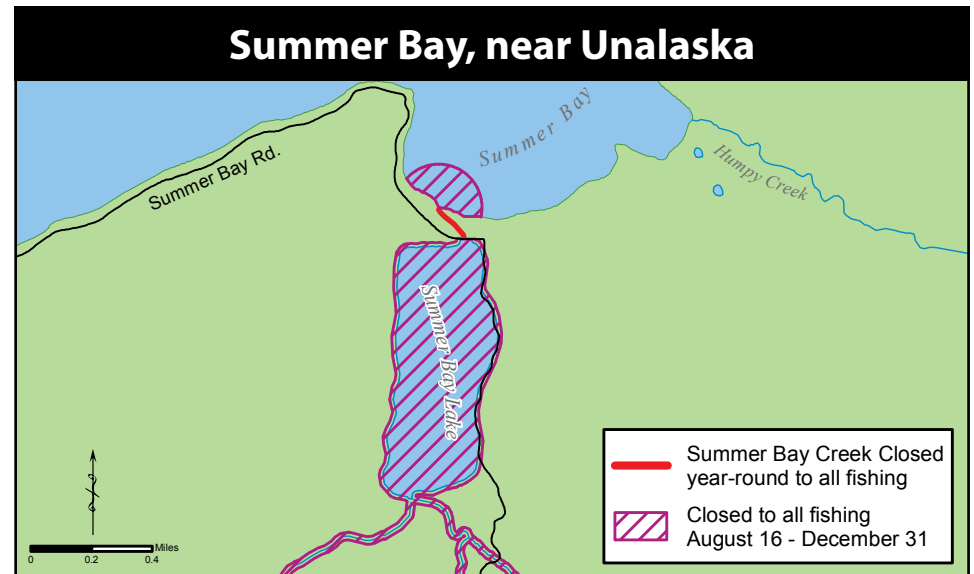
- **Closed to sport fishing.**

**Summer Bay Lake drainage**—including salt waters within a 250-yard radius of the Summer Bay Creek outlet (see map below):

- **Closed to sport fishing August 16—December 31.**
- January 1—August 15:
  - Coho, chum, sockeye and pink salmon limits: Total combination of all species—5 per day, 5 in possession, only 2 of which may be coho and only 2 may be sockeye salmon.

### Unalaska Bay drainages:

- Coho, chum, sockeye and pink salmon limits: Total combination of all species—5 per day, 5 in possession, only 2 of which may be coho salmon and only 2 may be sockeye salmon.



## General Regulations - Salt Water

**Inclusive waters:** All salt waters circumjacent to Kodiak Island, the Aleutian Islands and the Alaska Peninsula (coastline west of the longitude of Cape Douglas and Bering Sea coastline south of the latitude of Cape Menchikof).

**The salt water fishing season for all species is open year-round unless otherwise noted below.**

### **KING SALMON**

- 2 per day, 2 in possession. **No annual limit.**

### **OTHER SALMON**

- Kodiak and Alaska Peninsula/Aleutian Islands remote zones: 5 per day, 10 in possession.
- Kodiak Road Zone (all salt water within 1 mile of the Road Zone and Spruce Island): 5 per day, 5 in possession -
  - Only 2 of which may be sockeye salmon.
  - Only 2 of which may be coho salmon prior to Sept 16, and only 1 of which may be a coho salmon from Sept. 16-Dec. 31 (*see special regulations for stocked areas*).
- Unalaska Bay: 5 per day, 5 in possession, of which 2 may be coho and 2 may be sockeye.

### **RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT**

- 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 may be 20 inches or longer.
  - 20 inches or longer: Annual limit of 2 fish. Harvest record required. See page 5 for recording instructions.

### **DOLLY VARDEN**

- 10 per day, 10 in possession.

### **LINGCOD**

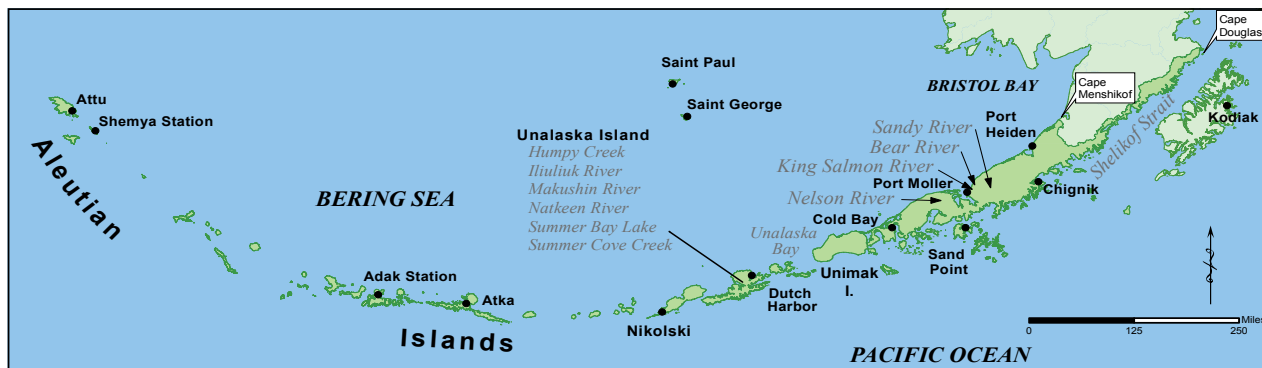
- **Season:** July 1 - December 31.
  - 2 per day, 4 in possession.

### **SHARKS (EXCEPT SPINY DOGFISH)**

- 1 daily, 1 in possession: No size restrictions. Annual limit of 2 sharks. Harvest record required. See page 5 for recording instructions.

### **SPINY DOGFISH**

- 5 daily, 5 in possession. No size restrictions.



### **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:**
  - Bag, size, and possession limits for guided (charter) anglers.
  - Possession and landing requirements.
  - Inseason changes to the regulations.

### **ROCKFISH**

- **Chiniak and Marmot Bay Limits:** 3 per day, 6 in possession; only 2 per day, 4 in possession may be non-pelagic, only 1 per day, 2 in possession may be a Yelloweye.
- Captain and crew of charter vessels may not retain rockfish while clients are on board in this area (*see page 25 for map*).
- **Remainder of Kodiak Island:** 5 per day, 10 in possession; only 2 per day, 4 in possession may be non-pelagic, only 1 per day, 2 in possession may be a Yelloweye.
- **Alaska Peninsula & Aleutian Islands limits:** 10 per day, 20 in possession.

### **OTHER FINFISH**

- No limit

### **KING CRAB**

- **Fishery is closed.**

### **DUNGENESS CRAB**

- Males only: 6½ inches or more (straight-line distance across carapace, **not** including spines)—12 per day, 12 in possession.

### **TANNER CRAB**

- Males only: 5½ inches or more (straight-line distance across carapace, **including** spines)—6 per day, 6 in possession.
- In a commercial Tanner crab section of the Kodiak District that will be open to a commercial Tanner crab fishery, the taking of Tanner crab is prohibited in waters 25 fathoms or more in depth during the 14 days immediately before the scheduled opening of a commercial Tanner crab fishing season in that section.

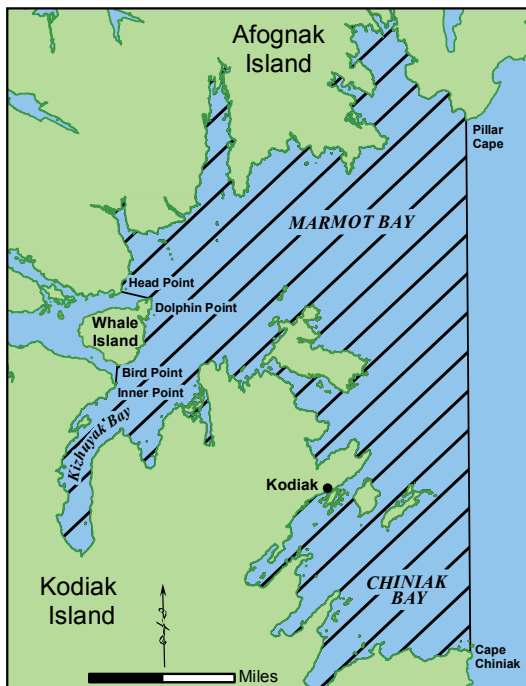




## Special Regulations - Salt Water

### Chiniak and Marmot Bays:

- In the waters of Chiniak Bay and Marmot Bay, west of a line from Cape Chiniak (57° 37.22' N. lat, 152° 9.34' W. long) to Pillar Cape (58° 8.89' N. lat, 152° 6.78' W. long) and east of a line from Head Point on Afognak Island (57° 59.67' N. lat, 152° 46.75' W. long) to Dolphin Point (57° 59.15' N. lat, 152° 43.40' W. long) on Whale Island, east of a line from Bird Point (57° 55.30' N. lat, 152° 47.50' W. long) on Whale Island to Inner Point (57° 54.05' N. lat, 152° 47.75' W. long) on Kodiak Island and all waters of Kizhuyak Bay:
- Rockfish limits** are 3 per day, 6 in possession; only 2 per day, 4 in possession may be non-pelagic, and only 1 per day, 2 in possession may be a Yelloweye. Captain and crew of charter vessels may not retain rockfish while clients are on board in this area.



**Kodiak Road Zone**—In all salt water bordering the Road Zone within 1 mile of Spruce Island and Kodiak Island:

- Salmon limits: Of daily other salmon limit, only 2 may be sockeye salmon. Prior to Sept 16, only 2 may be coho salmon. From Sept 16-Dec 31, only 1 may be a coho salmon.
- Steelhead trout: No retention of steelhead trout is allowed. All steelhead trout must be released immediately.

### Kodiak Remote Zone:

- Salmon limits (other than king salmon): 5 per day, 10 in possession.

### Mill Bay:

- Snagging is prohibited August 1–September 15.

### Mission Beach:

- Snagging is prohibited August 1–September 15.

### Monashka Bay:

- Snagging is prohibited May 1–July 5.

### Unalaska Bay:

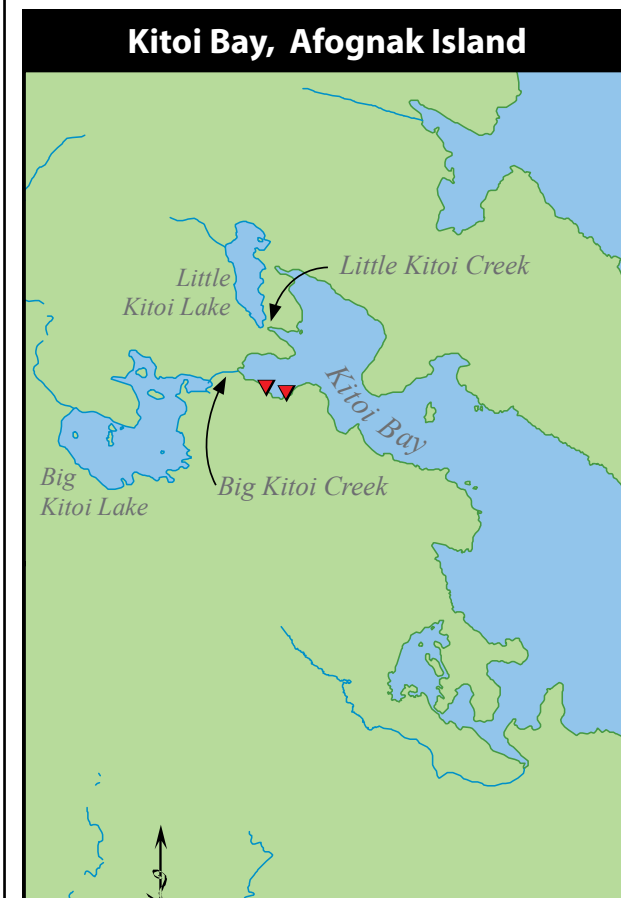
- Salmon (except king salmon) limits: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 2 may be coho salmon and only 2 may be sockeye salmon.

**Summer Bay Creek outlet**—All salt waters within a 250 yard radius:

- Closed to sport fishing August 16–December 31.**
- January 1—August 15:
  - Coho, chum, sockeye and pink salmon limits: Total combination of all species —5 per day, 5 in possession, of which only 2 may be coho and 2 may be sockeye salmon.

### Kitoi Bay:

- Within 500 yards of Little Kitoi Creek:
  - Closed to salmon fishing August 15–September 30.**
- From the mouth of Big Kitoi Creek to ADF&G markers located at approx. 152° 22' W. long.:
  - Closed to sport fishing year-round.**
- Seaward from ADF&G markers located at approx. 152° 22' W. long. to ADF&G markers located at approx. 152° 21.75' W. long.:
  - Closed to sport fishing August 15–September 30.**



## General Regulations - Kodiak Island Fresh Water

**Inclusive waters:** All drainages of the Kodiak and Afognak Island groups.

- **Kodiak Island Road Zone:** All fresh waters of Kodiak Island east of a line from Crag Pt. south to the westernmost point of Sallery Cove, including waters of Woody, Long, and Spruce Islands, and all salt waters bordering the Road Zone within 1 mile of Spruce Island and Kodiak Island.
- **Kodiak Island Remote Zone:** All drainages outside of the Kodiak Island Road Zone.

**The fresh water fishing season for all species is open year-round unless otherwise noted below.**

### KING SALMON

- 20 inches or longer: 2 per day, 2 in possession. Annual limit of 5 fish. Harvest record required. See page 5 for recording instructions.
- Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.

### OTHER SALMON

- **Kodiak Remote Zone:**
  - 20 inches or longer (total combination of all species): 5 per day, 10 in possession.
  - Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.
- **Kodiak Road Zone:**
  - 20 inches or longer (total combination of all species): 5 per day, 5 in possession.
    - Only 2 of which may be sockeye salmon
    - Only 2 of which may be coho salmon prior to Sept. 16, and only 1 of which may be a coho salmon from Sept 16-Dec 31 (*see special regulations for stocked areas*).
  - Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.

### RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

- **Kodiak Remote Zone:**
  - 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
    - 20 inches or longer: Annual limit of 2 fish. Harvest record required. See page 5 for recording instructions.
- **Kodiak Road Zone:**
  - No retention, all rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately (there are exceptions for stocked lakes, see special regulations that follow and the list of stocked lakes on page 29). Bait restrictions apply, see the special regulations.

### DOLLY VARDEN AND ARCTIC GRAYLING

- 10 per day, 10 in possession.

### OTHER SPECIES

- No limit.



**Road Zone**  
See Map Page 27

**Kodiak Island Remote Zone and Road Zone**

## Methods and Means - Kodiak Island Road Zone

### Bait Restriction:

- In all fresh waters of the Kodiak Road Zone:
  - November 1–April 30: Only unbaited, artificial lures may be used (this does not apply to Road Zone stocked lakes and Chiniak and Barry Lagoons).

## Special Regulations - Kodiak Island Road Zone

### Abercrombie (Gertrude) Lake:

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.

### Aurel Lake:

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.

### Big Lake (Lilly/Kings Diner):

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.

### Bull Lake:

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.

### Caroline Lake:

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.

### Cicely Lake:

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.

### Dark Lake:

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.

### Dragonfly Lake:

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.

## Kodiak Island Road Zone



## **East Twin Lake:**

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.

## **Heitman Lake:**

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.

## **Horseshoe Lake:**

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.

## **Island Lake:**

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.

## **Island Lake Creek/Mill Bay:**

- **Island Lake Creek is closed year-round to salmon fishing.**
- Mill Bay coho salmon bag limit is 2 per day, year-round.
- Mill Bay is closed to snagging August 1–September 15.

**Kalsin Pond Outlet Stream**—*from the Chiniak Highway culvert downstream approximately 150 feet to an ADF&G marker:*

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

## **Lee Lake:**

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.

## **Lily Pond (Peninsula Lake):**

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.

## **Long Lake:**

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.

## **Mission Beach:**

- Coho salmon bag limit is 2 per day, year-round.
- Closed to snagging August 1–September 15.

## **Monashka Creek:**

- Closed year-round to sport fishing above the highway, and the east bank from the highway bridge to an ADF&G sign about 50 yards downstream.
- Coho salmon bag limit is 2 per day, year-round in all other waters of Monashka Creek.

## **Pillar Creek:**

- Closed year-round to all fishing above the highway.
- Coho salmon bag limit is 2 per day year-round below the highway.

## **Saltery Cove streams:**

- Only 2 fish of the 5 salmon bag limit (for salmon other than king salmon) may be coho salmon prior to September 15, and only 1 may be a coho salmon from September 16–December 31; all 5 may be sockeye salmon.

## **Tanignak Lake:**

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.



## **Kodiak Island Remote Zone - Special Regulations**

### **Ayakulik River:**

- **Closed to king salmon fishing July 26–December 31.**

### **Dog Salmon drainage:**

- **Closed to king salmon fishing.**
- **Dog Salmon River** - from the Frazer Fish Pass Weir to an ADF&G marker 200 yards downstream:
  - **Closed to sport fishing June 1 - August 31.**

### **Karluk River:**

- **Closed to king salmon fishing July 26–December 31.**

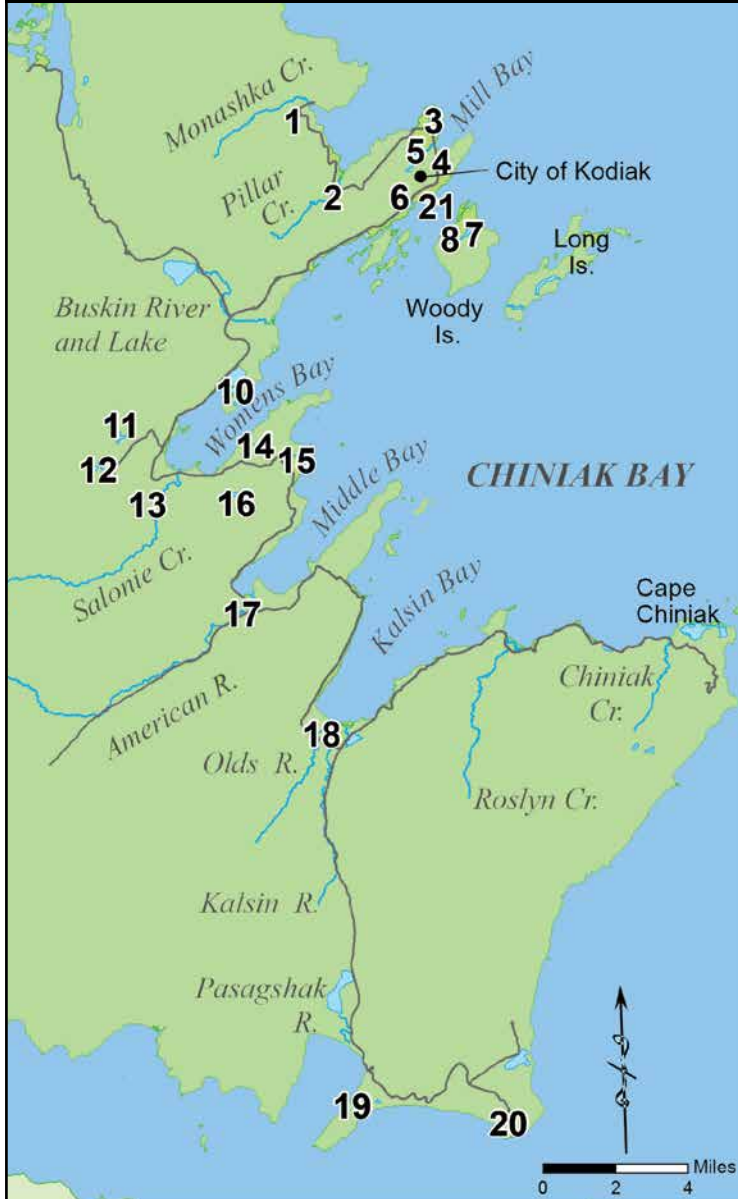
### **Little Kitoi Lake and Creek:**

- **Closed to salmon fishing August 15–September 30.**



Dolly Varden from Monashka Creek

# Stocking Areas Kodiak Road Zone



## Kodiak Road Zone Sport Fishing Enhancement Projects

The Department of Fish and Game annually funds numerous fisheries enhancement projects throughout Alaska in order to increase the abundance and diversity of fish species available to anglers. On Kodiak Island, several enhanced sport fisheries are maintained in Road Zone waters and include populations of anadromous king salmon, plus anadromous coho salmon and resident rainbow trout. Hatchery raised king salmon can be caught from mid-June through early August at the American and Olds river drainages, Salonie Creek and at Monashka Creek near Termination Point. Anadromous coho salmon return to Monashka and Pillar creeks, Mill Bay and Mission Beach from early August through the end of September. Rainbow trout annually stocked in 16 Road Zone lakes are available to anglers year-round and can be fished through the ice when safe conditions exist.

- Stocked location maps are available from the Kodiak ADF&G office and also online:  
<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fishingSport.region&StockingAreaID=8>
- Additional information on Kodiak and other sport fisheries enhancement activities can be found at the Division of Sport Fish website: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fishingSport.main>



Success at Island Lake in Kodiak

### Stocked Lakes and Beaches on the Kodiak Road System

Location	SS	RT	KS
1) Monashka Creek	●		●
2) Pillar Creek	●		
3) Abercrombie Lake		●	
4) Mill Bay	●		
5) Island and Dark Lakes		●	
6) Big/Lilly Lake		●	
7) Long Lake		●	
8) Tanignak		●	
10) Lilly Pond		●	
11) Lee Lake		●	
12) Caroline, Aurel & Cicely Lake		●	
13) Salonie Creek			●
14) Dragonfly Lake		●	
15) Horseshoe Lake		●	
16) Heitman Lake		●	
17) American River			●
18) Olds River			●
19) Bull Lake		●	
20) East Twin Lake		●	
21) Mission Beach	●		

SS = Silver (coho) Salmon RT = Rainbow Trout KS = King Salmon

## LEGAL GEAR REQUIREMENTS FOR HARVESTING SHELLFISH

- Crab may be taken by hand, or with pots or ring nets; or by diving gear or dip nets; or by hooked or hookless lines, either operated by hand or attached to a pole or rod.
- Shrimp may be taken only with pots or ring nets.
- Clams may be taken by hand, or with rakes, shovels, or manually operated clam guns.
- No more than 5 pots of any size per person and 10 pots per vessel may be used to take shellfish at any time.
- If a keg or buoy is used on shellfish gear, the first initial and last name and home address of the person operating the pot must be legibly inscribed on the keg or buoy. In addition, the name or AK number of the vessel used to set the gear must also be inscribed on the keg or buoy.
- All pots must include an escape mechanism in accordance with shellfish harvest regulations (5 AAC 39.145). See next section for description.

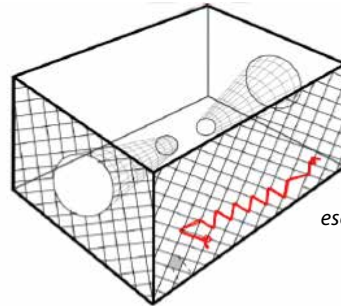


Tanner crab

## SHELLFISH POT GEAR ESCAPE MECHANISMS

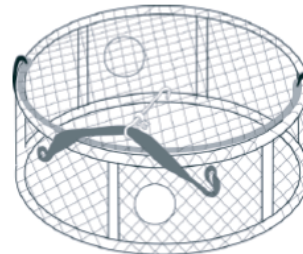
(Summary of 5 AAC 39.145)

- Pot gear must include escape mechanisms in order to avoid waste of the resource in case the pot is lost.
- A sidewall, which may include the tunnel, must contain an opening at least 18 inches long (6 inches long for shrimp pots). The opening must be within 6 inches of the bottom of the pot, and must be parallel to the bottom of the pot.
- The opening must be laced, sewn, or secured together by a single length of untreated, 100 percent cotton twine no larger than 30-thread. The cotton twine may be knotted at each end only. The cotton twine may not be looped around or tied to the web bars.



Placement of escapement mechanism

**Exception 1:** Dungeness crab pots only may have the pot lid tie-down straps secured to the pot at one end by a single loop of untreated 100 percent cotton twine no larger than 60-thread.



"Dungeness crab pot Exception 1" (see text above)

**Exception 2:** Tanner crab and shrimp pots may use 36-thread twine (or smaller) and a galvanic timed-release device (GTR) in their 18-inch (or 6 inch for shrimp pots) opening. The GTR must be designed to release in no more than 30 days in salt water, and must be integral to the length of the twine so that when the device releases, the twine will no longer secure or obstruct the opening of the pot. The twine may be knotted only at each end and at the attachment points on the GTR.



Spot shrimp

## OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Octopus are occasionally caught in crab pots. Octopus are defined as "other shellfish." There are no closed seasons, no bag or possession limits. Octopus may be taken only by pots or hook and line.

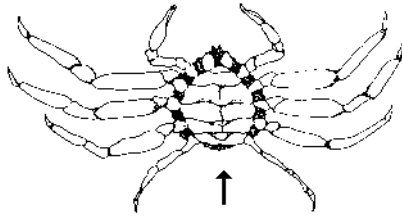
An owner, operator, or employee of a lodge, charter vessel, or other enterprise that furnishes food, lodging, or sport fishing guide services may not furnish to a client or guest of that enterprise, subsistence-, sport-, or personal use-caught shellfish, unless the shellfish:

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.

# CRAB IDENTIFICATION AND MEASUREMENT

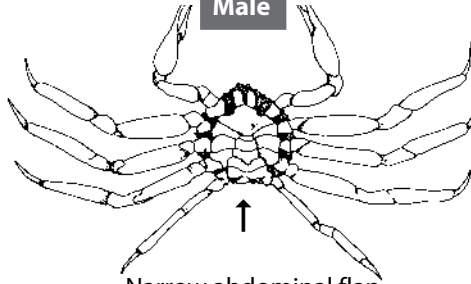
## TANNER CRAB (minimum size 5½ inches)

Female - **NO HARVEST ALLOWED**

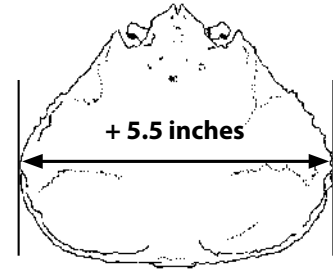


Wide abdominal flap covers most of underside (females usually smaller than 5½")

Male



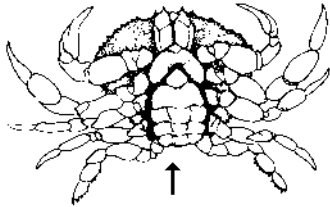
Narrow abdominal flap



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

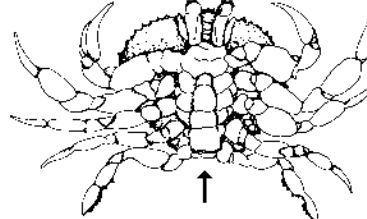
## DUNGENESS CRAB (minimum size 6½ inches)

Female - **NO HARVEST ALLOWED**

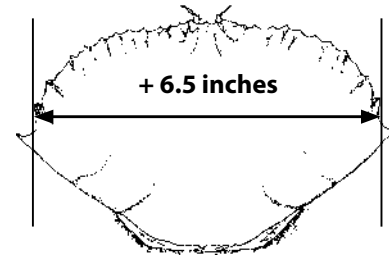


Wide abdominal flap covers most of underside

Male



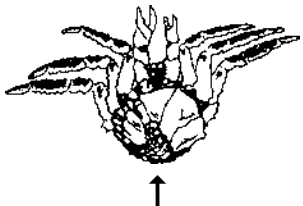
Narrow abdominal flap



Width measurement of Dungeness crab is the straight-line distance across the carapace, **NOT** including spines.

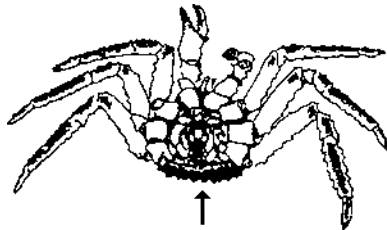
## KING CRAB - Bristol Bay only - (minimum size 6½ inches) - Alaska Peninsula, Aleutian Islands and Kodiak Island **CLOSED** season

Female - **NO HARVEST ALLOWED**



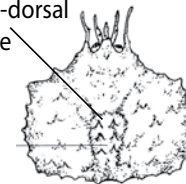
Wide abdominal flap covers most of underside

Male



narrow abdominal flap

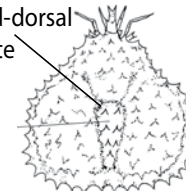
6 prominent spines on mid-dorsal plate



RED KING CRAB

(minimum size 6½ inches)

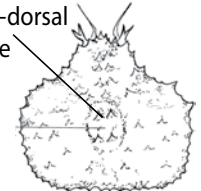
5 to 9 spines on mid-dorsal plate



BROWN KING CRAB

(minimum size 6½ inches)

4 prominent spines on mid-dorsal plate



BLUE KING CRAB

(minimum size 6½ inches)

# PACIFIC SALMON MARINE PHASE IDENTIFICATION

Please note, when salmon enter fresh water they undergo significant physical changes including changes in coloration. This chart is intended to help anglers identify salmon by species. However, it is the angler's responsibility to be able to positively identify the species at any point in its life cycle.

## Chinook (king) Salmon



- Spots on back and both lobes of the tail
- Black mouth with a black gumline

## Coho (silver) Salmon



- Spots on back and upper lobe of the tail
- Black mouth with a white gumline

## Sockeye (red) Salmon



- No distinct spots on back or tail
- White mouth with a white gumline
- Large, bright gold eye

## Pink (humpy) Salmon



- Large, oval spots on back and both lobes of tail
- White mouth with a black gumline

## Chum (dog) Salmon



- No spots; calico bands on body (often faint in saltwater)
- White mouth with a white gumline



### Chinook (king) Salmon



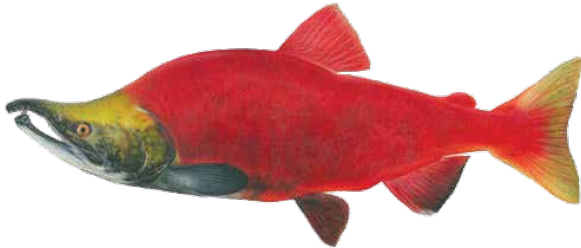
- Spawning adults turn maroon or olive brown
- Spots on body and both lobes of the tail remain

### Coho (silver) Salmon



- Males develop pronounced "kype" (hooked-nose)
- Spots on back and upper lobe of the tail remain
- Male and female turn dark maroon and have dark backs

### Sockeye (red) Salmon



- Spawning adults develop dull-green heads
- Males develop hump on back
- Both female and male turn red

### Pink (humpy) Salmon



- Spawners turn dull gray on their backs and upper sides
- Lower sides appear cream color or white
- Large, oval spots on back and both lobes of tail remain

### Chum (dog) Salmon



- Spawners develop pronounced, vertical calico bands on sides
- Males exhibit large, canine-like teeth

Illustrations courtesy of US Fish and Wildlife Service.

## ATTENTION, ANGLERS:

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

### King Salmon

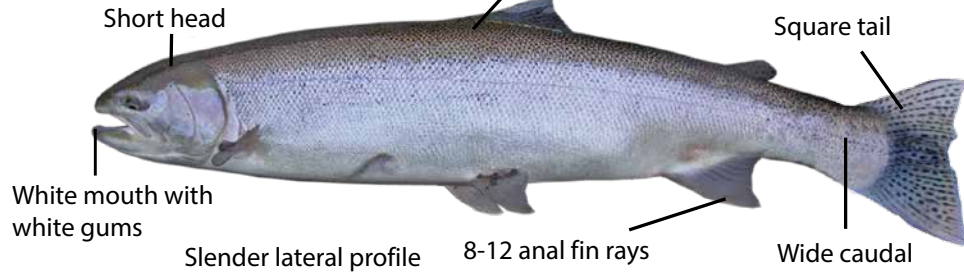
Irregular-shaped spots on back, dorsal fin, and tail  
Spots on both lobes of tail



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



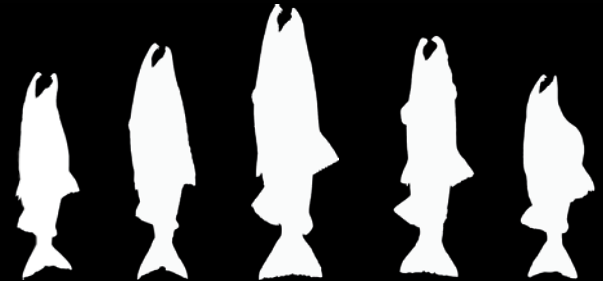
# — Take the — Five Salmon Family Challenge

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](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov)



## TROUT

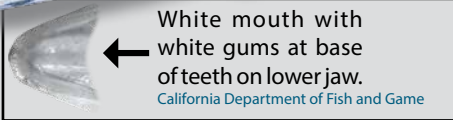


### RAINBOW TROUT

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.

### 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.



# Rockfish Identification



For the purposes of sport fishery management, rockfish are divided into two groups, **PELAGIC** and **NONPELAGIC**. 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 pelagic species of rockfish are often found mid-water in schools, close to rocky structures. These fish are 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.

*Photo by Vicky Okimura (WDFW)*

### **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.

### **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.

***There are over 30 species of rockfish in Alaska. If the rockfish is not featured in the pelagic category, then for the purposes of regulation it is a nonpelagic rockfish.***

## Nonpelagic 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).*

### **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.

### **Yelloweye Rockfish**



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 caught in deep water often sustain injuries — referred to as barotrauma — caused by rapid decompression and expansion of gases in the swim bladder.

*If released at the surface, these fish are often not able to swim back down and become targets for birds, other fish and marine mammals.*

## WHAT IS BAROTRAUMA?

The protruding stomach and bulging eyes seen on this Silvergray rockfish are signs of barotrauma. Both pelagic and non-pelagic rockfish can suffer barotrauma. If released at the surface, this fish would likely die. However, using deepwater release methods can greatly increase the chance of survival.

# Help Conserve Alaska's Rockfish

## Practice Deepwater Release

### Deepwater Release Methods

#### Step 1:

Make sure your release device is ready — rockfish are most likely to survive when time at the surface is minimized. With practice, rockfish can be released within two minutes of reaching the surface.



Reel the fish up as quickly as possible. After unhooking it, hook the release device through soft tissue on the jaw. Make sure the hook does not have a barb. Release the anti-reverse on the reel so line can spool out freely.

**Rockfish are most likely to survive when released quickly at depth by anglers using the following steps:**

#### Step 2:

Swing the fish slightly to one side and let go of the jig. Let line out as the weight pulls the fish back to the bottom. When the jig hits bottom (or 100 feet in depth), lock the reel and give a hard tug to release the fish.



Learn more at: [www.adfg.alaska.gov](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov)



## Conservation Tips

### ▪ Avoid catching unwanted rockfish.

*When targeting other species, such as halibut or lingcod, rockfish by-catch can be greatly reduced by keeping jigs and bait 10-15 feet off the bottom. This has little or no effect on halibut and lingcod catch rates. Move to a different area if you are catching rockfish unintentionally.*

### ▪ Avoid excessive rockfish harvests.

*Rockfish have a freezer life of about four months, so harvest only what you are likely to eat in the near future.*

### ▪ Use release-friendly tackle.

*When fishing with bait, use a single circle hook. Circle hooks are less likely to cause injury by being deeply swallowed, increasing the chances of survival for released fish.*

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;
- (3) Legally blind (physician's affidavit required); or
- (4) Developmentally disabled (physician's affidavit required).

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

#### To obtain a "Proxy Information Form":

Go to any Alaska Department of Fish and Game office, or visit:  
<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=personaluseproxyfishing.main>

#### Once the form has been completed by both parties:

Bring it to an ADF&G office for certification. You must provide: (1) your sport fishing license number, or ADF&G PID/DAV card number, (2) original signatures of both parties, (3) beneficiary's proof of fishing license or ADF&G PID/DAV card; and, if the reason for the proxy is "legally blind" or "developmentally disabled", a physician's affidavit, or if "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.**

# ADF&G's Trophy Fish Program

## Alaska State Trophy Fish Record Holders

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	26/11	2011	Icy Strait	Steve Atkinson
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	82/9	2007	Gulf of Alaska	Robert Hammond
Northern pike	15 lb	38/8	1991	Innoko River	Jack Wagner
Pink salmon	8 lb	13/7	2016	Kenai River	Robert Dubar
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.

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.

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.



<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fishingSport.trophyfishprogram>  
(More information online)

## 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: \_\_\_\_\_

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](mailto:dfg.dsf.trophyfish@alaska.gov).  
Please reference the entrants name in the subject line.



## A Message From the Governor

Dear Anglers,

Sport fishing is something many people associate with fond memories of time spent with family and friends. Alaska's world-class sport fisheries provide ample opportunities to be together on the water, make and share memories, and then share a meal of the daily catch. We are fortunate to call this great state home and excited to share the adventures with our guest anglers as well.

The authors of our state's constitution had the conservation foresight to require that our fisheries be sustainably managed. This mandate ensures Alaska will continue to have the legacy of well-managed and abundant fisheries for generations to come. Our staff at the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) work tirelessly throughout the year to conduct management, research, and enhancement activities so Alaskans and visitors from around the world have the opportunity to get out on the water in pursuit of our favorite species. Please remember that the purchase of your fishing license enables ADF&G staff to conduct these critical conservation activities.

As you plan your next fishing adventure, be sure you read through this regulation summary book and understand the rules where you want to fish. If you have questions, please contact your ADF&G office, where you will find friendly and knowledgeable staff to help. Check out the resources on our website at [www.wefishAK.alaska.gov](http://www.wefishAK.alaska.gov) and consider participating in one of our family challenges. When you are ready, load up your family and friends and enjoy a day on the water making new memories.

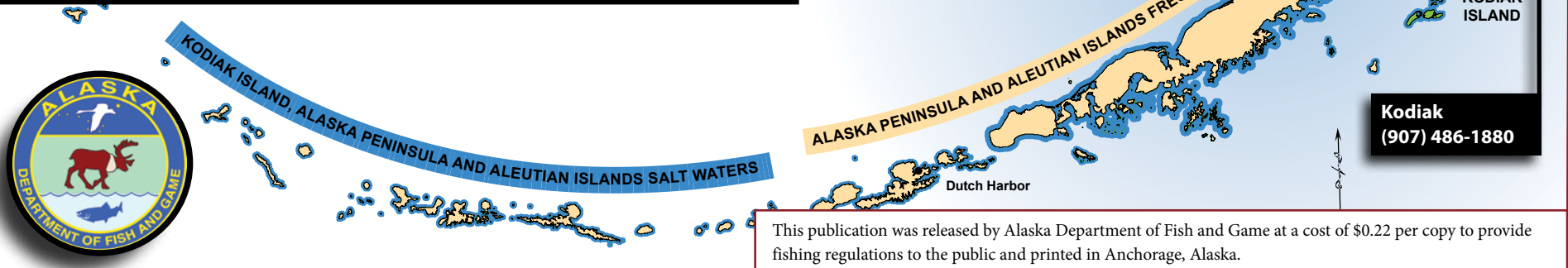
May you have many safe and memorable fishing experiences this year!

Bill Walker  
Governor



## Alaska Department of Fish & Game Southwestern Alaska Sport Fish Offices

For more info, click on Sport Fish at: [www.adfg.alaska.gov](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov)



This publication was released by Alaska Department of Fish and Game at a cost of \$0.22 per copy to provide fishing regulations to the public and printed in Anchorage, Alaska.



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