



General Regulations - Northwest

Inclusive waters: The Northwestern Area consists of all waters draining into and including the Bering Sea, the Chukchi Sea, Kotzebue Sound, and Norton Sound south of Point Hope and north of Point Romanof.

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

KING SALMON

- 20 inches or longer—1 per day, 1 in possession.
- Less than 20 inches—10 per day, 10 in possession.

OTHER SALMON

- 10 per day, 10 in possession, no size limit.

ARCTIC GRAYLING

- 5 per day, 5 in possession, no size limit.

SHEEFISH

- 10 per day, 10 in possession, no size limit.

ARCTIC CHAR, DOLLY VARDEN & LAKE TROUT

- All lakes:
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession—in combination.
- Flowing and salt waters:
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession—only two of which may be 20 inches or longer and only 2 may be lake trout.

NORTHERN PIKE

- 10 per day, 10 in possession, no size limit.

BURBOT

- 15 per day, 15 in possession, no size limit.

SHELLFISH

- See pages 38-39.

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.

OTHER FINFISH

- No limit.

Methods and Means - Northwest

Hook Size:

- Multiple hooks with a gap between point and shank larger than ½ inch may be used for taking fish other than salmon, except where noted.

Use of spears or bow and arrows:

- Suckers and burbot may be taken with spear or bow and arrow the entire year. Northern pike or whitefish (excluding sheefish) may be taken by spear or bow and arrow during any open season for northern pike or whitefish September 1–April 30, or may be speared by persons completely submerged during any open season for northern pike or whitefish.

Special Regulations - Northwest

Cripple River:

- **Closed to chum salmon fishing.** All chum salmon caught must be released immediately.

Kobuk River drainage—*upstream of the mouth of the Mauneluk River:*

- Sheefish limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.

Nome River:

- **Closed to Arctic grayling fishing.** All Arctic grayling caught must be released immediately.

Northern Norton Sound—*all waters draining into Norton Sound from Cape Darby to Cape Prince of Wales (see map above):*

- Chum salmon limits: 3 per day, 3 in possession.
- Coho salmon limits: 3 per day, 3 in possession.
- Sockeye salmon limits: 3 per day, 3 in possession.
- Pink salmon limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession.
- Arctic grayling limits: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only one of which may be 15 inches or longer.

Penny River:

- **Closed to chum salmon fishing.** All chum salmon caught must be released immediately.

Pilgrim River drainage:

- Arctic grayling limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only one of which may be 15 inches or longer.

Salmon Lake—*including its tributaries, and the outlet stream (Pilgrim River) 300 ft downstream from the lake outlet:*

- **Closed to salmon fishing.** All salmon caught must be released immediately.

Selawik River drainage—*upstream of the mouth of the Tagagawik River:*

- Sheefish limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.

Snake River drainage:

- Arctic grayling limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only one of which may be 15 inches or longer.

Solomon River:

- **Closed to Arctic grayling fishing.** All Arctic grayling caught must be released immediately.

Unalakleet River drainage:

- Any salmon completely removed from the water shall be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person originally hooking it. A person who intends to release a salmon may not remove it from the water before releasing it.
- King salmon limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, **only one of which may be 20 inches or longer.**
 - **There is an annual limit of 2 king salmon 20 inches or longer. Immediately upon landing and retaining a king salmon 20 inches or longer, anglers must fill out a harvest record; see page 5.**
- Other salmon limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, of which only 4 in combination may be chum, coho, or sockeye salmon. No size limit.
- Arctic grayling limits: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only one of which may be 15 inches or longer.