Kenai River Drainage

Kenai Lake drainages
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Upper Kenai River mainstem and the Russian River
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Lower Kenai River mainstem and Skilak Lake
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Kenai River Tributaries (pages 64-65)
General Regulations - Lower Kenai River

Inclusive waters: The mainstem Kenai River from its mouth, denoted by a line from the green light tower on the north shore and an ADF&G marker on the south shore, upstream to and including Skilak Lake, except within a ½-mile radius of the upper Kenai River inlet (see page 61 for Upper Kenai River regulations).

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

KING SALMON
- Kenai River—from its mouth upstream to 300 yards below Slikok Creek:
  - January 1–June 30: 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 36 inches in length.
  - July 1–July 31: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.
- 300 yards below Slikok Creek upstream to the outlet of Skilak Lake:
  - January 1–July 31: 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 36 inches in length.
  - January 1–July 31: No person may possess a king salmon that is filleted or disfigured to prevent measurement until the fish has been permanently off loaded from a boat or removed from the riverbank fishing site where the fish was hooked and taken from the water.
- There is a combined annual limit of 5 king salmon 20 inches or longer from the waters of the following areas: Cook Inlet Salt Waters, West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai River and Kenai Peninsula. Of these 5 total king salmon no more than 2 may be taken from the Kenai River.
  - January 1–June 30: King salmon 20 inches or longer but less than 28 inches in length are not included in this annual limit.
- A king salmon 20 inches or longer that is removed from salt or fresh water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a king salmon 20 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
- No person, after taking a king salmon 20 inches or longer from the Kenai River, may, on that same day, fish from a boat for any species of fish in the Kenai River downstream from Skilak Lake.
- Anglers who keep a king salmon 20 inches or longer (except for kings measuring 20-28 inches in length - mentioned in bold above) must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.
- King salmon less than 20 inches:
  - 10 per day, 10 in possession, in combination with coho (in season), sockeye, chum, or pink salmon less than 16 inches in length (see table below).

SOCKEYE AND CHUM SALMON
- Fishing for sockeye and chum salmon is open the entire year unless otherwise noted below.
- 16 inches or longer: 3 per day, 6 in possession in combination.
- Less than 16 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession in combination.
COHO SALMON

• No retention of coho January 1–June 30 and November 30–December 31.
• 16 inches or longer:
  • From July 1–August 31:
    • 2 per day, 2 in possession. The limits for coho are in combination with sockeye or chum salmon. For example, an angler may have 1 sockeye or chum and 2 coho per day (or 2 sockeye or chum and 1 coho) - not 3 sockeye or chum and 2 coho per day.
  • From September 1–November 30:
    • 3 per day, 6 in possession in combination (all 3 may be coho).
    • Fishing for coho salmon is closed November 1–June 30 upstream of Bings Landing.
• A coho salmon 16 inches or longer that is removed from fresh water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a coho salmon 16 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
• After taking a bag limit of coho (silver) salmon from the Kenai River, a person may not fish in the Kenai River downstream from the Soldotna Bridge on that same day.
• Less than 16 inches:
  • From July 1–November 30:
    • 10 per day, 10 in possession in combination.
    • Fishing for coho salmon is closed November 1–June 30 upstream of Bings Landing.

PINK SALMON

• Fishing for pink salmon is open the entire year unless otherwise noted below.
• 16 inches or longer: 6 per day, 6 in possession.
• Less than 16 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.

RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

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

ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN

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

ARCTIC GRAYLING

• 5 per day, 5 in possession.

LAKE TROUT

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

BURBOT

• 2 per day, 2 in possession.

OTHER FINFISH

• No limit.
The following gear restrictions are listed in upstream progression from the mouth of the Kenai River to Skilak Lake. Selected areas near tributary streams have special tackle and king salmon regulations that override the gear restrictions below. See Special Regulations.

From the mouth of the Kenai River to ADF&G regulatory marker at Skilak Lake:
- January 1–June 30:
  - Only one unbaited, single hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed.

From the mouth of the Kenai River to ADF&G regulatory markers located about 300 yd downstream of the mouth of Slikok Creek:
- July 1–July 31:
  - Bait is allowed, but anglers must still use only one, single hook lure or fly.

The Kenai River from ADF&G markers about 300 yd downstream of the mouth of Slikok Creek upstream to an ADF&G marker at the outlet of Skilak Lake:
- July 1–July 31:
  - Only one unbaited, single hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed.

From the mouth of the Kenai River to an ADF&G regulatory marker at Skilak Lake:
- August 1–August 31:
  - Bait and multiple hooks allowed.

From the mouth of the Kenai River to the Upper Killey River:
- September 1–October 31:
  - Bait and multiple hooks allowed.

From the mouth of the Kenai River to Bings Landing:
- November 1–November 30:
  - Bait and multiple hooks allowed.

From Bings Landing to an ADF&G regulatory marker at Skilak Lake:
- November 1–December 31:
  - Only one unbaited, single hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed.

The Kenai River from the Upper Killey River upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker at Skilak Lake:
- September 1–December 31:
  - Only one unbaited, single hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed.

Special Regulations are listed in upstream progression from the mouth of the Kenai River to, and including, Skilak Lake. Refer to the map on the next page for locations related to these special regulations.

That portion of the Kenai River between ADF&G regulatory markers located at river mile 11 and river mile 12:
- July 1–July 31:
  - Back-trolling prohibited. A person may not sport fish for any species of fish from a vessel that is making upstream progress relative to the water with the aid of a motor.

The Kenai River from ADF&G markers about 300 yd downstream of the mouth of Slikok Creek upstream to ADF&G markers about 300 yd upstream from the mouth of Slikok Creek:
- May 1–July 31:
  - Closed to fishing for king salmon.
  - Closed to fishing from boats.
  - Fishing is allowed using only artificial flies (see page 8 for definition of “artificial fly”).

That portion of the Kenai River between ADF&G regulatory markers 250 yd downstream from the upper breakwater at the Centennial Campground boat launch upstream to the Sterling Highway bridge in Soldotna:
- May 1–July 31:
  - Closed to fishing from boats.

Soldotna Centennial Campground boat launch lagoon:
- July 1–August 30:
  - Closed to all fishing.

Funny River confluence area:
- The Kenai River from ADF&G markers about 1 mile downstream of the mouth of Funny River upstream to ADF&G markers about 200 yd upstream from the mouth of the Funny River:
  - May 1–July 31:
    - Closed to fishing for king salmon.
    - Closed to fishing from boats.
    - Fishing is allowed using only artificial flies (see page 8 for the definition of “artificial fly”).
Morgan's Hole:
- The Kenai River from an ADF&G marker about 100 yd downstream from the landing at Morgan’s Hole (river mile 31) upstream to an ADF&G marker at the north section line of Section 28, T5N, R9W, Seward Meridian:
  - May 1–July 31:
    - Closed to fishing from boats.

Moose River confluence area:
- The Kenai River from ADF&G markers located approximately 100 yd downstream of the mouth of the Moose River, upstream to ADF&G markers located approximately 100 yd upstream of the mouth of the Moose River:
  - May 1–July 31:
    - Closed to fishing from boats.

Lower Killey River confluence area:
- The Kenai River from an ADF&G marker about ⅞ mile downstream of the mouth of the Lower Killey River upstream to an ADF&G marker about 1 mile upstream from the mouth of the Lower Killey River:
  - May 1–July 31:
    - Closed to fishing for king salmon.
    - Closed to fishing from boats.
    - Fishing is allowed using only artificial flies (see page 8 for definition of “artificial fly”).

The Kenai River from an ADF&G marker about 1 mile upstream from the mouth of the Lower Killey River upstream to Skilak Lake:
- May 1–June 10:
  - Closed to all fishing.

Skilak Lake:
- Closed to king salmon fishing.
- Except that part of the lake within ½ mile of the upper Kenai River inlet:
  - Bait and multiple hooks allowed year-round.
  - Refer to general regulations on pages 51 and 52 for seasons and limits.

Skilak Lake outlet:
- The Kenai River from the swan sanctuary sign at the outlet of Skilak Lake downstream approximately 3 miles to the corresponding swan sanctuary sign near river mile 47:
  - August 1–December 31:
    - Closed to fishing from an anchored vessel. “Anchored vessel” means using an anchor or any device other than oars, paddles or outboard motor to slow or stop a boat’s downstream drift.
Public Access Points = Riverbank Closure =

1. Mouth of the Kenai River
2. Port of Kenai City of Kenai - Boat Launch
4. Cunningham Park City of Kenai - Day-Use Picnic Area
5. The Pillars Alaska State Parks - Boat Launch
6. Near CUNNINGHAM PARK North bank between river miles 6.6 and 6.8
7. EAGLE ROCK South bank between river miles 10.7 and 12.0
8. STATE-OWNED ISLANDS Between river miles 11 and 15 (see lines D-H below)
9. THE PILLARS area North bank between river miles 12.4 and 12.6
10. HONEYMOON COVE area South bank between river miles 12.5 and 13.0
11. HONEYMOON COVE North bank between river miles 13.0 and 13.2
12. near FALLING-IN-HOLE East bank between river miles 13.2 and 13.5
13. near STEWARTS LANDING North bank between river miles 13.6 and 14.0
14. WEST BANK Between river miles 14.0 and 14.4
15. near BIG EDDY ROAD South bank between river miles 14.4 and 14.6
16. Ciechanski Alaska State Parks - Day-Use Picnic Area
17. Big Eddy Alaska State Parks - Day-Use Picnic Area
18. STATE-OWNED ISLANDS Between river miles 17.0 and 17.3
19. Near POACHER'S COVE West bank between river miles 17.5 and 17.6
20. NORTH BANK Between river miles 18.6 and 18.8
21. Slikok Creek Alaska State Parks - Day-Use Picnic Area
22. NORTH BANK Between river miles 18.9 and 20.2
23. Centennial Park Campground City of Soldotna - Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area, Boat Launch
24. Near SOLDOTNA VISITOR'S CENTER South bank between river miles 20.9 and 21.0
25. Soldotna Visitor's Center Boardwalk
26. Soldotna Creek Park City of Soldotna - Day-Use Picnic Area, Boardwalk Access
27. Gilman river center Alaska State Parks - Day-Use
28. Swiftwater Campground City of Soldotna - Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area, Boat Launch, Boardwalk Access
29. SOLDOTNA CREEK North bank from the mouth of Soldotna Creek upstream between river miles 22.0 to 22.1
30. Rotary Park City of Soldotna - Day-Use
31. Near SOLDOTNA AIRPORT South bank between river miles 22.7 and 23.5
32. Moose Range Meadows Kenai National Wildlife Refuge - Day-Use
33. SOUTH BANK Between river miles 23.8 and 24.2
34. Keystone Dr. (end of road) boat launch Kenai National Wildlife Refuge - Boat Launch
35. SOUTH BANK/FUNNY RIVER River mile 26.4 to 30.0

In areas where the river bank is closed to fishing, anglers may fish while standing in the river at least 10 feet from the shoreline.
<table>
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<th>Public Access Points</th>
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<td>Riverbank Closure</td>
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In areas where the river bank is closed to fishing, anglers may fish while standing in the river at least 10 feet from the shoreline.
In areas where the river bank is closed to fishing, anglers may fish while standing in the river at least 10 feet from the shoreline.
No one may anchor a boat on the Kenai River that obstructs a primary traffic channel or drift fishing channel.

The Alaska State Legislature created the Kenai River Special Management Area in 1984 and charged Alaska State Parks with its management. Here are their boating regulations for the Kenai River, summarized for your convenience.

For more information on boat motor regulations on the Kenai River, call the Donald E. Gilman River Center at (907) 714-2470.

**Kenai River Boat and Motor Regulations: Alaska State Parks**

**Horsepower Restrictions**
No one may operate a boat on the Kenai River upstream of a DNR marker located at approximately river mile 4.2 (downstream of the Warren Ames Bridge) with outboard or combination of outboards having a total propshaft rating greater than 50 HP. Propshaft horsepower rating means the boat motor’s original manufacturer rated and labeled horsepower. Adding a jet drive unit to a motor does not change the propshaft horsepower rating of the motor powerhead and driveshaft configuration. These horsepower limitations do not apply to the operation of a boat on Kenai Lake, on Skilak Lake, and on the Kenai River between the Kenai Lake Bridge and river mile 80.7 (see maps on pgs. 50 and 59).

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

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

**Drift Areas, Motor Use Prohibited**
- Operating a boat by use of a motor is prohibited year-round on the Kenai River, from Skilak Lake inlet upstream to river mile 80.7 (see maps on pages 50 and 59).
- From March 15 to June 14, operating a boat by use of a motor on the Kenai River is also prohibited from river mile 47 upstream to the outlet of Skilak Lake (see map on page 71).

**Alaska’s Boating Safety Law**

**REGISTRATION:** In January 2011, the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) assumed boat registration from the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG).
- All motorized boats must be registered, either with the DMV or as a vessel meeting documentation requirements of the USCG.
- Registration card must be carried on board the boat.

**SAFETY EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS:** State safety and equipment requirements are identical to USCG federal requirements, with the addition of the following: “All persons under 13 years of age must wear a USCG approved life jacket while on the deck of a boat or in an open boat.”

Obtain a complete list of safety and equipment requirements and other vital boating safety information from the State Office of Boating Safety at (907) 269-8705, or visit their website: www.alaskaboatingsafety.org.

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

**Tying Up**
No one may tie up a boat to state land, easement, or rights-of-way for more than 24 consecutive hours.

**Anchoring**
No one may anchor a boat on the Kenai River that obstructs a primary traffic channel or drift fishing channel.
General Regulations - Upper Kenai

Inclusive waters: The mainstem Kenai River, from waters of Skilak Lake within a ½-mile radius of the river inlet upstream to the Sterling Highway bridge at the outlet of Kenai Lake, including the Russian River drainage.

The Fishing Season is open June 11 - April 31 unless otherwise noted below. Closed to all fishing May 1 - June 10.

KING SALMON
• Closed to king salmon fishing.

OTHER SALMON
• Coho salmon: See info below for bag and possession limits.
  • Season: July 1–October 31.
    • A coho salmon 16 inches or longer that is removed from fresh water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a coho salmon 16 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
  • Pink, chum and sockeye (red) salmon:
    • Season: June 11–April 30.
    • 16 inches or longer:
      • Pink salmon: 6 per day, 6 in possession.
      • Coho, Sockeye (red) and chum salmon:
        • 3 per day, 6 in possession, only 2 per day, 2 in possession may be coho salmon through August 31. (From October 1 through October 31, all 3 per day and 6 in possession may be coho).
      • Less than 16 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession in combination.

RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT
• 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 16 inches long.

Methods and Means - Upper Kenai

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

River Bank Closures:
• There are special bank access regulations on the Kenai River. See pages 55–57 for public access points on the Kenai River.

Gear Restrictions:
• Salmon may be landed only with the aid of a landing net or by hand. No gaffs are allowed.
• See page 58 for motorboat restrictions.
The Kenai River upstream of the Powerline to ADF&G markers placed just downstream of the ferry crossing:
- From June 11–August 20, these waters are fly-fishing-only waters. See description in map above.
- Closed to all fishing from May 1–June 10.

Sockeye salmon:
- **Season:** June 11–August 20.
  - 16 inches or longer: 3 per day, 6 in possession.
  - Less than 16 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.
  - There is no retention of sockeye in this section after August 20.

Coho salmon:
- **Season:** July 1–October 31.
  - 16 inches or longer: 1 per day, 1 in possession.
  - From July 1–August 20 when sockeye and coho can be retained, the coho limit is **not** in addition to the sockeye limit. For example, an angler may retain 2 sockeye and 1 coho per day.
  - Less than 16 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession in combination.

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**Kenai mainstem outside of areas A and B**

The mainstem Kenai River, from the Powerline (downstream boundary of Area A) downstream to the waters of Skilak Lake within a ½-mile radius of the river inlet:
- General sport fishing regulations listed on page 59 apply in this section.

Kenai River upstream from ADF&G markers about 300 yards upstream of the public boat launch at Sportsman’s Landing to the Sterling Highway Bridge at the outlet of Kenai Lake:
- General sport fishing regulations listed on page 59 apply in this section.
- Between markers located at the outlet of Kenai Lake downstream to river mile 80.7, a person may not sport fish from a vessel during motor use or after a motor has been used to propel that vessel on that same day. See map on page 59.
**Russian River:**

- The Russian River from an ADF&G marker located 100 yards upstream of its mouth to an ADF&G marker located 600 yards downstream of the falls:
  - Closed to all fishing from May 1–June 10.
  - From June 11–August 20, these waters are fly-fishing-only waters. See inset description on map on previous page for a description of allowable gear in fly-fishing-only waters.

- Coho salmon:
  - **Season:** July 1–September 30:
    - 1 per day, 1 in possession.
    - A coho salmon 16 inches or longer that is removed from fresh water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a coho salmon 16 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
  - Sockeye salmon:
    - **Season:** June 11–August 20:
      - 3 per day, 6 in possession.
    - Daily limits for other species are shown on page 59.

- The Russian River Upstream from an ADF&G marker about 600 yards downstream of the falls:
  - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed year-round. The gap between point and shank must be ⅜ inch or less.
  - **Closed to all salmon fishing.**
  - Closed to all fishing from May 1–June 10.
  - Daily limits for other species are shown on page 59.

- **Lower and Upper Russian Lakes:**
  - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed year-round. The gap between point and shank must be ⅜ inch or less.
  - Lower and Upper Russian Lakes are closed year-round to all salmon fishing.
  - Open season for all other species in Lower and Upper Russian Lakes is year-round.
  - Rainbow/steelhead trout limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 may be 20 inches or longer.
  - Dolly Varden limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 may be 20 inches or longer.

- **Upper Russian/Goat Creek** — upstream from ADF&G markers about 300 yards upstream from its confluence with Upper Russian Lake:
  - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed year-round. The gap between point and shank must be ⅜ inch or less.
  - Fishing for all species is closed from May 1–June 10 and from August 1–August 31.
  - Closed to all salmon fishing.
  - Daily limits for other species are shown on page 59.
**General Regulations - Kenai Lake and Tributaries**

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

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

The Fishing Season for all species is closed from May 1 - June 10 in all flowing waters unless otherwise noted below.

**KING SALMON**
- Closed to king salmon fishing.

**OTHER SALMON**
- Closed to all salmon fishing.

**RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT**
- In flowing waters: 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 16 inches long.
- In unstocked lakes: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 fish may be 20 inches or longer.
- In stocked lakes (see pages 86–87 for a list of stocked lakes): 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 fish may be 20 inches or longer.
- 20 inches or longer:
  - There is a total annual limit of 2 rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer taken north of the latitude of Point Adam, from the waters of the following areas: West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai Lake drainages, Kenai River tributaries, and Kenai Peninsula.
  - Anglers who keep a rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.

**ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN**
- In flowing waters: 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 16 inches long.
- In lakes and ponds: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 fish may be 20 inches or longer.

**ARCTIC GRAYLING**
- In lakes, ponds and all flowing waters: 5 per day, 5 in possession.

...continued
LAKE TROUT
• In lakes, ponds and all flowing waters:
  • 20 inches or longer: 2 per day, 2 in possession.
  • Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.

BURBOT
• In lakes, ponds and all flowing waters: 2 per day, 2 in possession.

OTHER FINFISH
• In lakes, ponds and all flowing waters: No limit.

Methods and Means - Kenai Lake and Tributaries

Bait Restrictions:
• In Kenai Lake (except within ¼ mile of all inlet streams):
  • Bait and multiple hooks are allowed year-round.
• Within ¼ mile of all inlet streams of Kenai Lake and on the Kenai River from the Sterling Highway bridge upstream approximately ¼ mile to ADF&G markers located at the outlet of Kenai Lake:
  • Only one unbaited, single-hook artificial lure or fly with a gap between point and shank of 3/8 inch or less is allowed year-round.
• In all flowing waters of the Kenai Lake drainages:
  • Beads fished ahead of flies, lures, or bare hooks must be fixed within 2 inches of the hook, or be free to slide on the entire length of the line or leader.
  • Only one unbaited, single-hook artificial lure or fly with a gap between point and shank of 3/8 inch or less is allowed year-round.

Special Regulations - Kenai Lake and Tributaries

Crescent Creek drainage—including Crescent Lake:
• Closed to all fishing May 1-June 10.
• Closed to all salmon fishing.
• Arctic grayling limits: 2 per day/2 in possession.

Kenai Lake within ¼ mile of all inlet streams:
• Closed to all fishing May 1-June 10.

Quartz Creek:
• Upstream of the Sterling Highway bridge (Mile 40.9):
  • Closed to all fishing May 1-June 10 and September 15-October 31.
  • Closed to all salmon fishing.
• Downstream of the Sterling Highway bridge:
  • Closed to all fishing May 1-June 10.
  • Closed to all salmon fishing.

Snow River drainage:
• South Fork:
  • Closed to all fishing May 1-June 10 and September 15-October 31.
  • Closed to all salmon fishing.
• Remainder of drainage:
  • Closed to all fishing May 1-June 10.
  • Closed to all salmon fishing.
General Regulations - Tributaries

Inclusive waters: Tributaries of the Kenai River between the outlet of Kenai Lake and the mouth of the Kenai River (except those noted below):

The Fishing Season for all species is open year-round in lakes and ponds unless otherwise noted below. The fishing season for all species is closed from May 1 - June 10 in all flowing waters unless otherwise noted below.

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

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

KING SALMON
- Closed to king salmon fishing.

OTHER SALMON
- In flowing waters:
  - Closed to all salmon fishing.
- In lakes and ponds:
  - 10 per day, 10 in possession—must be less than 16 inches in length.

ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN
- In flowing waters:
  - 1 per day, 1 in possession—must be less than 16 inches long.
- In lakes and ponds:
  - 2 per day, 2 in possession—only 1 fish may be 20 inches or longer.

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

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

LAKE TROUT
- In flowing waters:
  - 20 inches or longer: 2 per day, 2 in possession.
  - Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.

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

OTHER FINFISH
- In flowing waters, lakes and ponds: No limit.

Methods and Means - Tributaries

Tackle Restrictions:
- In all flowing waters of the Kenai River tributaries:
  - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly with a gap between point and shank of 3/8 inch or less is allowed year-round.
  - Beads fished ahead of flies, lures, or bare hooks must be fixed within 2 inches of the hook, or be free to slide on the entire length of the line or leader.
**Special Regulations - Lower Kenai River Tributaries**

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

**Funny River**
- Closed to all fishing May 1-July 31.
- Closed to all salmon fishing.

**Killey River:**
- Closed to all fishing May 1-July 31.
- Closed to all salmon fishing.

**Moose River drainage:**
- From its confluence with the Kenai River upstream to the upstream edge of the Sterling Highway bridge:
  - Anglers must use artificial flies in these waters May 1-July 31. See page 7 for a description of allowed gear.
  - Closed year-round to fishing for king salmon.
  - Open to fishing for all other species following the Lower Kenai River Mainstem General Seasons and Limits.
- Remainder of drainage:
  - Closed to all fishing May 1-June 10.
  - Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.

**Slikok Creek:**
- Closed to all fishing May 1-July 31.
- Closed to all salmon fishing.

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**Special Regulations - Upper Kenai River Tributaries**

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

**Cooper Creek:**
- Closed to all fishing May 1-June 10 and September 15-October 31.
- Closed to all salmon fishing.

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

**Hidden Lake drainage:**
- Closed to all salmon fishing.
- Closed year-round to burbot fishing.
- Lake trout limits: 1 per day, 1 in possession—must be less than 16 inches in length.