

GENERAL REGULATIONS - KENAI PENINSULA

Inclusive waters: All fresh waters of the Kenai Peninsula, including Upper and Lower Summit lakes (excluding the Kenai River drainage and North Gulf Coast fresh water drainages).

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

Check for emergency orders online at www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR prior to fishing waters located within the Kenai Peninsula area.

KING SALMON

- The fresh waters of the Kenai Peninsula are **closed to king salmon fishing**, except for the Anchor River, Deep Creek, Kasilof River, and Ninilchik River. See Special Regulations.
- In Kenai Peninsula fresh waters open to king salmon fishing by Special Regulation:
 - There is a combined annual limit of 5 king salmon 20 inches or longer from the waters of the following areas: Cook Inlet Salt Waters, West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai River, and Kenai Peninsula.
 - A king salmon 20 inches or longer that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. You must not remove a king salmon 20 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
 - If you retain a king salmon 20 inches or longer, you must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.
- **In stocked lakes:** 10 per day, 10 in possession, in combination with other salmon. See pages 88-89 for a list of stocked lakes.

OTHER SALMON

- **In other lakes, ponds, and all flowing waters:**
 - 16 inches or longer: 3 per day, 3 in possession, only 2 per day, 2 in possession may be coho (silver) salmon.
 - A coho salmon 16 inches or longer that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. You must not remove a coho salmon 16 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
 - Less than 16 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession in combination.
- **In stocked lakes** (see pages 88-89 for a list of stocked lakes):
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession in combination with king salmon.

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GENERAL REGULATIONS - KENAI PENINSULA (CONTINUED)

RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

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

ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN

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

ARCTIC GRAYLING

- 5 per day, 5 in possession.

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.

NORTHERN PIKE

- No limit
- The Kenai Peninsula is no longer known to contain any northern pike populations. Northern pike are not native to the Southcentral area.
- **Live Release Prohibited.** You are not allowed to release live pike back into the water. If you catch a northern pike anywhere on the Kenai Peninsula, please keep it and bring it to the nearest ADF&G office.

METHODS AND MEANS - KENAI PENINSULA

Bait Restrictions:

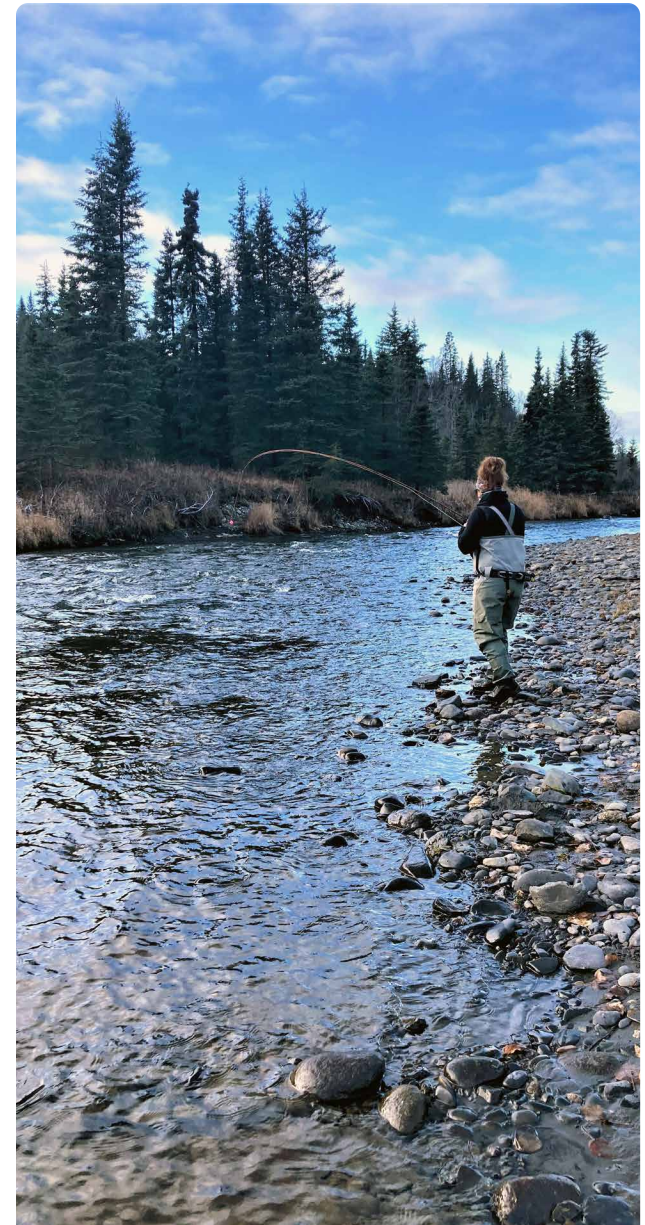
- **September 16-December 31:**
 - Only unbaited, artificial lures or flies are allowed in **flowing waters** of the Kenai Peninsula.
- Bait and multiple hooks are allowed year-round in lakes and ponds and during certain timeframes on select flowing waters. Find more information in the Special Regulations listed below.

Use of Beads:

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



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Fish on!!!

SPECIAL REGULATIONS - KENAI PENINSULA

Anchor River Drainage
Check for emergency orders online at www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR prior to fishing the Anchor River.

Anchor River from its mouth upstream approximately 2 miles to ADF&G markers approximately 200 yards upstream of the Old Sterling Highway Bridge:		
January 1-May 19	Closed to all fishing.	
May 20, 21, 22, 24, 27, 28, 29, & 31	Open to all species; please check for emergency orders before fishing for king salmon.	Bait and multiple hooks are allowed
May 23, 25, 26, 30, & June 1, 2	Closed to all fishing.	
June 3, 4, 5, 7, 10, 11, 12, 14, 17, 18, 19, & 21	Open to all species; please check for emergency orders before fishing for king salmon.	Bait and multiple hooks are allowed
June 6, 8, 9, 13, 15, 16, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30	Closed to all fishing.	
July 1-July 15	Open to all species, except king salmon.	Only one unbaited, single-hook artificial fly or lure is allowed.
July 16-August 31	Open to all species, except king salmon.	Bait and multiple hooks are allowed.
September 1-October 31	Open to all species, except king salmon.	Only one unbaited, single-hook artificial fly or lure is allowed.
November 1, 2023, through open date in May 2024	Closed to all fishing.	



ANCHOR RIVER

A map of the Anchor River area. It shows the river flowing from the top left towards the bottom right. Key locations marked include Cook Inlet, Augusta Ln., Sterling Hwy, Old Sterling Hwy, and Anchor Point Rd. A red line indicates the closed area for all salmon fishing, starting from the mouth of the river and extending upstream. A blue line indicates the open area for seasonal fishing. A red triangle marks the ADF&G markers. A legend at the bottom right explains the symbols: ADF&G Markers (red triangle), Closed year-round to all salmon fishing (red line), and Open seasonally (blue line).

- **Closed to all fishing January 1-May 19** (except Bridge Creek reservoir is open year-round to fishing).
- King salmon:
 - See table on the left for open dates and gear allowed.
 - 20 inches or longer:
 - 1 per day, 1 in possession.
 - There is a combined annual limit of 5 king salmon 20 inches or longer from the waters of the following areas: Cook Inlet Salt Waters, West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai River, and Kenai Peninsula. **Of those 5 total king salmon no more than 2 may be taken from the Anchor River or Deep Creek combined.**
 - If you retain a king salmon 20 inches or longer, you must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions. You also may not fish for any species in the Anchor River, Deep Creek, or Ninilchik River for the rest of the day.
- Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.
- Rainbow/steelhead trout:
 - No retention. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
- All other species:
 - General Regulations on pages 66 and 67 apply.
- **From its mouth upstream approximately 2 miles to ADF&G markers:**
 - See table on the left for open dates and gear allowed in this area.
- **Upstream from the ADF&G markers approximately 200 yards upstream of the Old Sterling Highway Bridge:**
 - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
 - **November 1-July 31: Closed to all fishing in flowing waters.**
 - **August 1-October 31:** Open to fishing for all species except salmon.
 - Only one, unbaited, single-hook artificial lure or fly is allowed.
- **Bridge Creek Reservoir:**
 - Open to fishing year-round following General Regulations on pages 66 and 67.

Bench Creek Drainage - including Bench Lake:

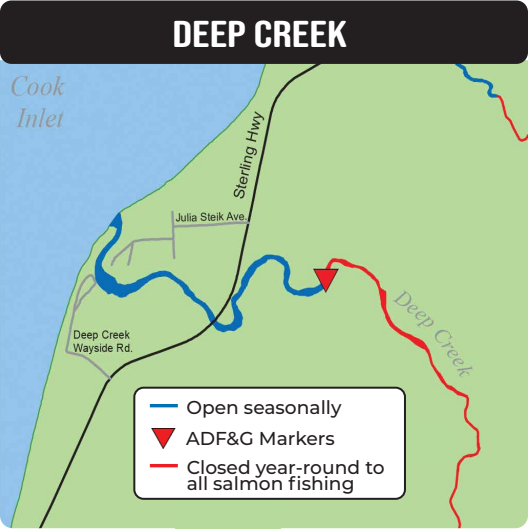
- **June 11-April 30:** Open to fishing for all species except king salmon.
- **May 1-June 10:** Closed to all fishing.

Bishop Creek Drainage - including Daniels Creek:

- **June 11-April 30:** Open to fishing for all species except salmon.
- **May 1-June 10:** Closed to all fishing.

Crooked Creek and Coal Creek:

- **January 1-July 31:** Closed to all fishing.
- **August 1-December 31:** Open to fishing for all species except king salmon.
- Rainbow/steelhead trout:
 - No retention is allowed. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
- **In all flowing waters:**
 - **January 1-August 31:**
 - Closed to all fishing.
 - **September 1-December 31:**
 - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed.



Deep Creek Drainage:

Check for emergency orders online at www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR prior to fishing at Deep Creek.

- **Closed to all fishing January 1-May 26.**
- King salmon:
 - See table on the right for open dates and gear allowed.
 - 20 inches or longer:
 - 1 per day, 1 in possession.
 - There is a combined annual limit of 5 king salmon 20 inches or longer from the waters of the following areas: Cook Inlet Salt Waters, West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai River, and Kenai Peninsula.
 - **Of those 5 total king salmon no more than 2 may be taken from Deep Creek or the Anchor River combined.**
 - If you retain a king salmon 20 inches or longer, you must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions. You also may not fish for any species in the Anchor River, Deep Creek, or Ninilchik River for the rest of the day.
 - Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.
- Rainbow/steelhead trout:
 - No retention is allowed. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
- All other species:
 - General Regulations on pages 66-67 apply.
- **From its mouth upstream approximately 2 miles to ADF&G markers:**
 - See table on the right for open dates and gear allowed in this area.
- **Upstream from ADF&G markers:**
 - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
 - **November 1-July 31:** Closed to all fishing in flowing waters.
 - **August 1-October 31:** Open to fishing for all species except salmon.
 - Only one, unbaited, single-hook artificial lure or fly is allowed.

Deep Creek from its mouth upstream approximately 2 miles to ADF&G markers:		
January 1-May 26	Closed to all fishing	
May 27, 28, 29	Open to all species; please check for emergency orders before fishing for king salmon.	Bait and multiple hooks are allowed
May 30, 31, June 1, 2	Closed to all fishing	
June 3, 4, 5	Open to all species; please check for emergency orders before fishing for king salmon.	Bait and multiple hooks are allowed
June 6, 7, 8, 9	Closed to all fishing.	
June 10, 11, 12	Open to all species; please check for emergency orders before fishing for king salmon.	Bait and multiple hooks are allowed
June 13-June 30	Closed to all fishing.	
July 1-July 15	Open to all species; except king salmon.	Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial fly or lure is allowed.
July 16-August 31	Open to all species; except king salmon.	Bait and multiple hooks are allowed.
September 1-October 31	Open to all species; except king salmon.	Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial fly or lure is allowed.
November 1, 2023, through open date in May 2024	Closed to all fishing.	

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English Bay River Drainage:

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

Kasilof River - excluding Crooked Creek, Coal Creek, and Tustumena Lake and its tributaries:

Check for emergency orders online at www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR prior to fishing the Kasilof River.

- King salmon:

- **January 1-June 30:** You may not fillet, mutilate, or otherwise disfigure a king salmon in such a manner that prevents determination whether the fish is a wild or hatchery fish until you have stopped fishing in the Kasilof River drainage for the day and have moved more than 100 yards away from the Kasilof River.

- Rainbow/steelhead trout:

- Open to fishing year-round. No retention is allowed. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.

- **From its mouth upstream to the Sterling Highway Bridge:**

- **January 1-July 31:** Sport fishing from a motorized boat is not allowed. Motors 10 hp or less may be used only downstream of ADF&G markers located at approximately river mile 3, and only after fishing from the boat has stopped for the day.

- **May 16-September 15:** Bait and multiple hooks are allowed.

- **September 16-May 15:** Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed.

- King salmon:

- 20 inches or longer:

- **January 1-June 30:** 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 may be a naturally-produced king salmon recognized by the presence of the adipose fin. Fish with an adipose fin may be kept only on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays.

- **July 1-July 31:** 1 per day, 1 in possession (naturally-produced or hatchery-produced).

- See harvest recording requirements and annual harvest limit information on page 66.

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

- **From ADF&G markers at the mouth of Crooked Creek downstream to ADF&G markers near the cutbank:**

- **January 1-June 30:** Fishing from an anchored boat is prohibited. "Anchoring" means using an anchor or any device other than oars or paddles to slow or stop a boat's downstream drift.

Motor Use on the Kasilof River:

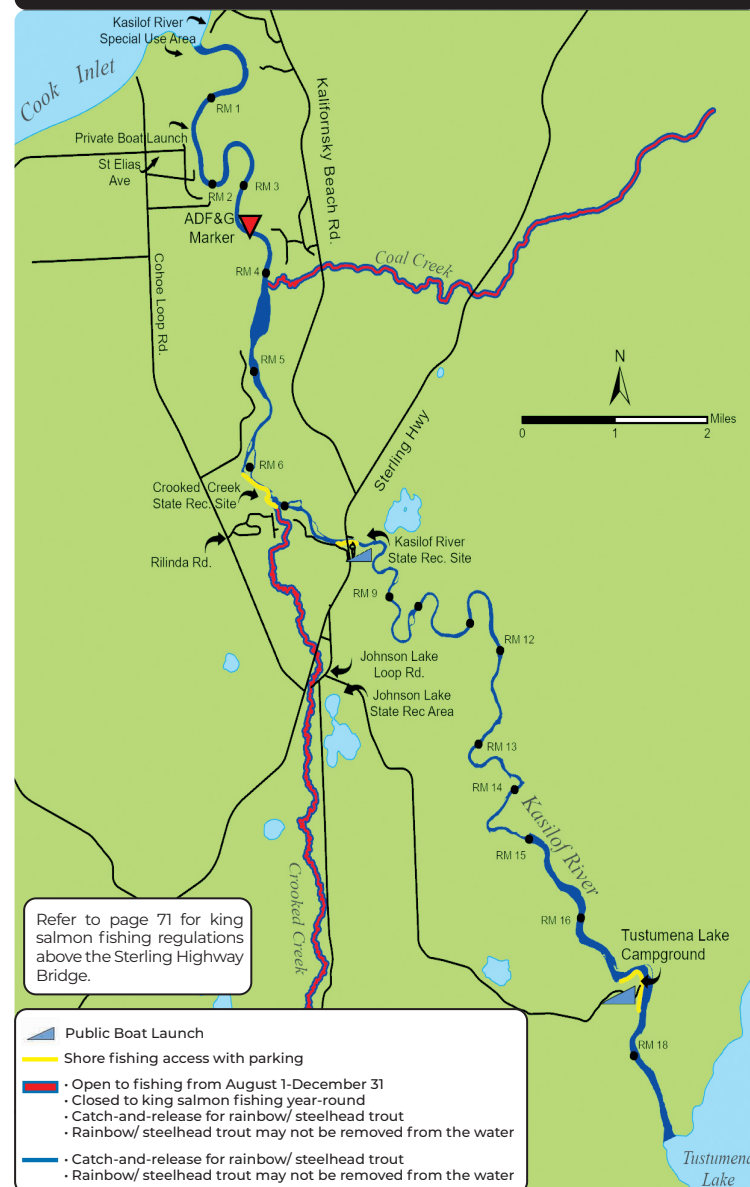
- If you are **NOT** engaged in sport fishing activities on the same day, there are no motor use restrictions upstream from the mouth of the Kasilof River to the outlet of Tustumena Lake.
- If you are engaged in sport fishing activities on the same day, please refer to Special Regulations on pages 70 and 71.

Wild/ Naturally-produced

Adipose fin

**Hatchery-produced**

Healed fin clip scar

**KASILOF RIVER**

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SPECIAL REGULATIONS - KENAI PENINSULA (CONTINUED)

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

• From the Sterling Highway Bridge upstream to ADF&G markers located at the outlet of Tustumena Lake:

• **August 1-August 15:** Sport fishing from a boat is not allowed.

• **January 1-September 15:** Bait and multiple hooks are allowed.

• **September 16-December 31:** Only unbaited, artificial lures or flies allowed.

• King salmon:

• **Season:** January 1-June 30.

• 20 inches or longer:

- 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 may be a naturally-produced king salmon, recognized by the presence of the adipose fin. Fish with an adipose fin may be kept only on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays.
- There is a combined annual limit of 5 king salmon 20 inches or longer from the waters of the following areas: Cook Inlet Salt Waters, West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai River, and Kenai Peninsula.

• Less than 20 inches:

- 10 per day, 10 in possession.



Ninilchik River Drainage:

Check for emergency orders online at www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR prior to fishing the Ninilchik River.

• **Closed to all fishing January 1-May 26.**

• King salmon:

• See table on the right for open dates and gear allowed.

• 20 inches or longer:

• 1 per day, 1 in possession of either wild or hatchery king salmon.

• 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.

• You may not fillet, mutilate, otherwise disfigure a king salmon in such a manner that prevents determination of whether the fish is a wild or hatchery fish until you have stopped fishing in the Ninilchik River drainage for the day and have moved more than 100 yards away from the Ninilchik River.

• If you retain a king salmon 20 inches or longer, during the three 3-day weekend fisheries you must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions. You also may not fish for any species in the Anchor River, Deep Creek, or Ninilchik River for the rest of the day. Starting June 16, you may not fish in the Ninilchik River after retaining a king salmon 20 inches or longer.

• Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession of either wild or hatchery king salmon.

• Rainbow/steelhead trout:

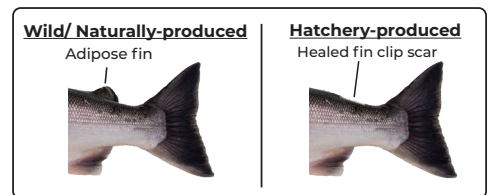
• No retention. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.

• All other species: General Regulations on pages 66 and 67 apply.

• **From its mouth upstream approximately 2 miles to ADF&G markers:**

• See table on the right for open dates and gear allowed in this area.

Ninilchik River from its mouth upstream approximately 2 miles to ADF&G markers:		
January 1-May 26	Closed to all fishing	
May 27, 28, 29	Open to all species; please check for emergency orders before fishing for king salmon.	Bait and multiple hooks are allowed
May 30, 31, June 1, 2	Closed to all fishing.	
June 3, 4, 5	Open to all species; please check for emergency orders before fishing for king salmon.	Bait and multiple hooks are allowed
June 6	Closed to all fishing.	
June 7	Youth-only Fishery, see page 72.	Bait and multiple hooks are allowed
June 8, 9	Closed to all fishing.	
June 10, 11, 12	Open to all species; please check for emergency orders before fishing for king salmon.	Bait and multiple hooks are allowed
June 13, 14, 15	Closed to all fishing.	
June 16-August 31	Open to all species; closed to the retention of wild king salmon.	Bait and multiple hooks are allowed.
September 1-October 31	Open to all species; closed to the retention of wild king salmon.	Only one, unbaited, *single-hook artificial fly or lure is allowed.
November 1, 2023, through open date in May 2024	Closed to all fishing.	



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Ninilchik River drainage continued...

• **Upstream from the ADF&G markers:**

- **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
- **November 1-July 31: Closed to all fishing in flowing waters.**
- **August 1-October 31:** Open to fishing for all species except salmon.
- Only one, unbaited, single-hook artificial lure or fly is allowed.
- All other species (except salmon): Follow the General Regulations on pages 66 and 67.

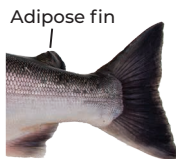


Ninilchik River Youth-Only Fishery:

From the mouth of the Ninilchik River upstream to the Sterling Highway Bridge marker:

- If you are 15 years of age or younger, you may fish for king salmon in this section between 6 a.m. and 9:59 p.m. on the second Wednesday after Memorial Day which is June 7, 2023.
- Youth-Only king salmon limits: 1 per day, 1 in possession (of any size) of either a wild or hatchery king salmon. Annual limit applies. See page 66.
 - After taking a king salmon of any size from the Ninilchik River, you may not fish for any species in the Ninilchik River for the rest of the day.
 - If you retain a king salmon 20 inches or longer, you must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.

Wild/ Naturally-produced



Hatchery-produced



A beautiful king salmon caught during the Ninilchik River Youth-Only Fishery.

Stariski Creek Drainage:

- **Closed to all fishing November 1-June 30.**
- **Closed year-round to fishing for king salmon.**
- Rainbow/steelhead trout:
 - **No retention is allowed.** All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
- All other species (except salmon): Follow the General Regulations on pages 66 and 67.
- **From its mouth upstream to the Sterling Highway Bridge:**
 - **July 1-July 15 and September 1-October 31:** Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed.
 - **July 16-August 31:** Bait and multiple hooks are allowed.
- **Upstream of the Sterling Highway Bridge:**
 - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
 - **November 1-July 31: Closed to all fishing in flowing waters.**
 - **August 1-October 31:** Open to fishing for all species except salmon.
 - Only one, unbaited, single-hook artificial lure or fly is allowed.
 - All other species (except salmon): Follow the General Regulations on pages 66 and 67.

Swanson River Drainage:

- In all flowing waters:
 - **May 1-June 10: Closed to fishing.**
 - **June 11-April 30:** Open to fishing for all species except king salmon. See General Regulations on pages 66 and 67.
 - Bait and multiple hooks are allowed during open fishing season.
 - Rainbow/steelhead trout: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 may be 20 inches or longer.
- **Sucker Creek:**
 - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**

Tustumena Lake:

- **Closed year-round to fishing for sockeye salmon.**
- Open to fishing year-round following General Regulations on pages 66 and 67.

Tustumena Lake Tributaries:

- **May 1-June 10: Closed to fishing.**
- **June 11-April 30:** Open to fishing for all species except king salmon. See General Regulations on pages 66 and 67.

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