



Regulation Summary & Access for the Chitina Subdistrict Personal Use Salmon Fishery

PERMITS & LICENSES ARE REQUIRED

The Chitina dip net fishery is open to Alaska Residents only. A personal use permit AND a valid resident sport fishing license, PID, or DAV license is required to participate in the fishery. Residents under 18 years of age are not required to purchase a sport fishing license in addition to the permit. Only one permit may be issued to a household per year. Alaskans may participate in either the Chitina Subdistrict personal use fishery, the Glennallen Subdistrict subsistence fishery, or the Copper River District subsistence fishery in a given year, but not in two or more of these fisheries.

There is a \$15 fee for the Chitina dip net permit.

Non-residents MAY NOT participate in personal use fisheries and may not take any action that assists in capturing or taking of fish, including but not limited to, handling the gear, or handling the fish (including processing fish at the fishing site) or operating a boat that is being used for personal use fishing.

ONLINE REPORTING IS REQUIRED

Permit reports must be submitted online to ADF&G by October 15, even if you did not fish or if fished but caught nothing. Report online at www.adfg.alaska.gov/Harvest. Online reporting is open all season and you may report online multiple times, such as after each day of fishing. Permits returned by mail or hand-delivery will not be accepted and will be considered a failure to report. Failure to report is in violation of 5 AAC 77.015(c), and **failure to report online by the October 15 reporting deadline will result in being ineligible to receive a Chitina Personal Use Salmon Fishery Permit for the following year.**

RECORDING & MARKING CATCH IS REQUIRED

Both tips of the tail must be removed, and all salmon taken must be recorded on the permit immediately with the date fished and the catch by species, prior to leaving the fishing site and before fish are concealed from plain view (5AAC 77.591(d)). For the purposes of this fishery, "immediately" means before concealing fish from plain view or transporting the salmon from the fishing site. "Fishing site" means the location where the fish is removed from the water and becomes part of the permit holder's bag limit.

Personal use harvested fish (including eggs) cannot be bought, sold, traded, or bartered.

24-Hour Fishery Opening Recorded Hotline:

(907) 822-5224

ADF&G Chitina Dip Net Information Webpage:

<http://alaska.gov/go/AGTC>

Online Harvest Reporting Webpage:

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

WHERE IS THE CHITINA SUBDISTRICT?

The fishery is restricted to the waters of the mainstem Copper River between the downstream edge of the Chitina-McCarthy Bridge and ADF&G regulatory markers located about 200 yards upstream of Haley Creek. All tributaries of the Copper River in this area, including the Chitina River, are closed to personal use fishing (see map).

WHEN MAY FISH BE TAKEN? - **NEW CHANGES IN 2025**

The Chitina Subdistrict personal use fishery opens no earlier than June 10 and goes through September 30 **only during periods established by emergency order. King salmon may not be taken until after June 30.** Emergency orders (EOs) are issued by ADF&G based on escapement estimates at the Miles Lake sonar. Information on fishery openings is updated on the recorded hotlines. **Verify opening dates and times before traveling to Chitina.**

HOW MAY FISH BE TAKEN?

A dip net is the only legal gear in the Chitina Subdistrict personal use fishery. A dip net is defined as a bag-shaped net supported on all sides by a rigid frame. A legal dip net is no larger than 5 feet across at its widest point. Bag depth must be at least half the widest measurement of the net opening. Legal mesh may be no larger than 4 1/2 inches stretched. The frame must be attached to a single rigid handle and be operated by hand (5 AAC 39.105).

HOW MANY FISH MAY BE TAKEN?

The annual limit is 25 salmon for the head of household and 10 salmon for each additional household member. As a portion of this limit, **the annual limit for king salmon is one per household**. King salmon may not be kept until after June 30 and retention may be closed at any time. Check EOs for updates.

LAND STATUS & LEGAL ACCESS

All uplands within the boundaries of the Chitina dip net fishery are privately owned. The 300' wide Copper River Highway easement is public right-of-way. Lands below the ordinary high water mark of the Copper River are public lands. Public access to the Copper River is only available in those areas where the eastern boundary of this easement reaches the ordinary high water mark of the west bank of the Copper River (see map). There is **no public access** above the ordinary high water mark on the east bank of the Copper River from Chitina to Haley Creek. There is **no public access** to the Copper River across privately-owned lands between the right-of-way and the ordinary high water line on the west bank (the bank with the road). Not all private land is posted. **Please respect the rights of private landowners.**

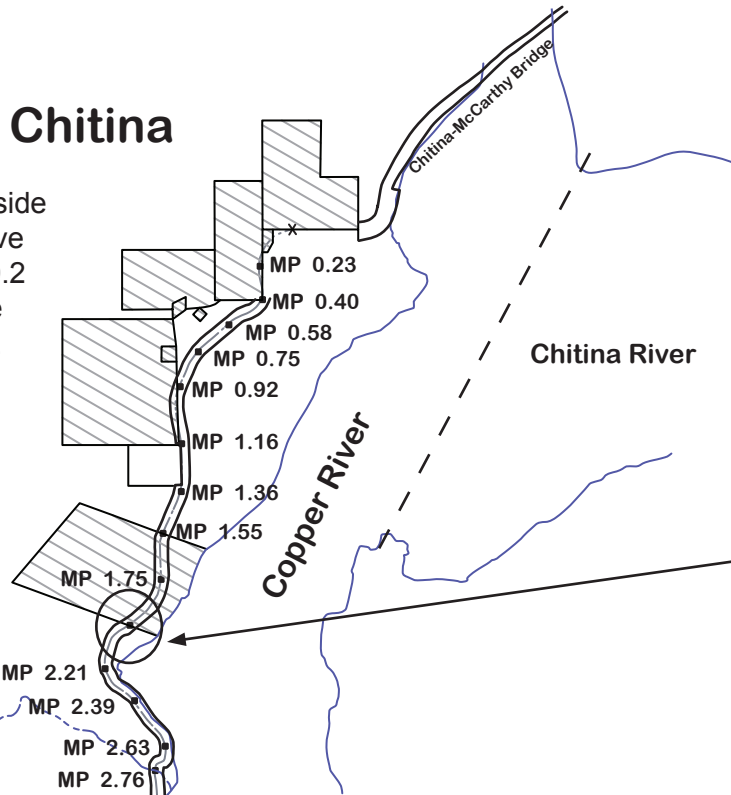
Firewood cutting is prohibited on private lands and within the Copper River Highway easement.

Copper River Access Map

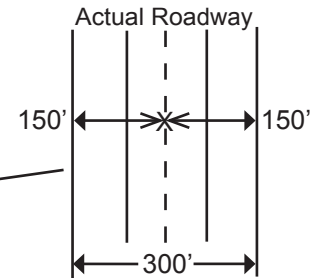
MP 0.0 at Chitina Wayside Pavillion. Mileposts have been placed at about 0.2 mile intervals along the Copper River Highway.



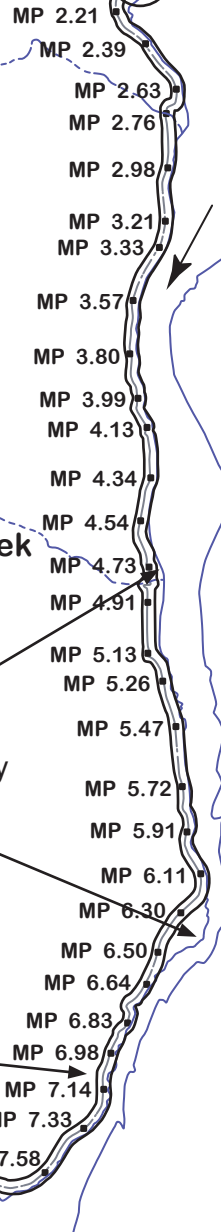
Chitina



Copper River Highway, 300' public right-of-way easement (150' each side of centerline)



O'Brien Creek



All uplands on both banks are privately owned. The highway right-of-way and lands below ordinary high water (OHW) are the only public access available. Public access to the Copper River near O'Brien Creek is limited to pedestrian access only. A public boat launch is located on the east bank below the Chitina-McCarthy Bridge.

Eskilida Creek

No Legal Access:
Copper River Highway does not reach OHW

TUNNEL

Haley Creek

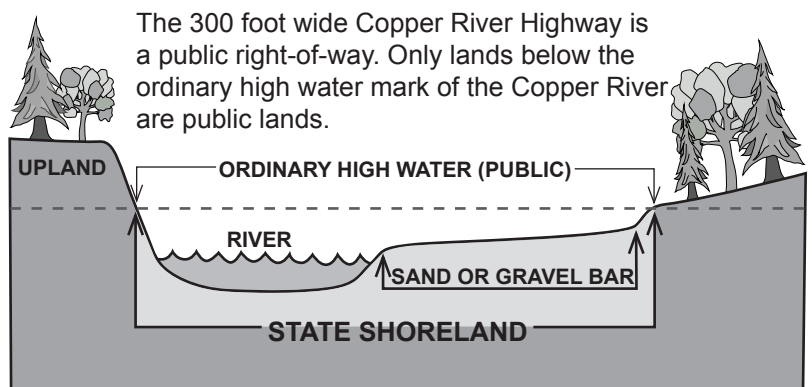


Diagram of ordinary high water mark designation.

Woodcutting is prohibited. Please make sure campfires are out prior to leaving. Please be prepared to pack your garbage home.