

regulations summary (more on page 22) to make sure they know existing bag limits, size restrictions, and bait use restrictions before they fish.

As a general rule, bait cannot be used in fresh water except from mid-September through mid-November, but most remote lakes with cabins in the northern Southeast management area are restricted year-round to artificial lures. The general restriction on the use of bait is aimed at reducing the hook-and-release mortality rates for cutthroat and steelhead trout.

## *Fly Fishing*

Fly rods in the 8 to 10 weight class, usually 8 feet or longer, are used for salt-water salmon fishing. Both floating and sinking lines are used, sometimes with shooting heads. Coho flies, maribous, hair-wing tarpon flies, and imitations of small bait fish work well.

Eight-weight class rods are fine for steelhead, and 5–6-weight gear is a good choice for Dolly Varden and trout. Egg imitation patterns work well for Dolly Varden, whereas a variety of attracting patterns or nymph patterns are normally best for trout.

## *Packaging Your Catch for Shipment*

Fish can be frozen and packed in waxed 40- or 70-pound fish boxes for shipment. Fish packed in this way are good for several hours of air travel. Charter boat operators and guides will usually pack your catch for shipment or deliver them to a processor for packaging.

Anglers can also have their catch frozen and packaged at meat departments in local grocery stores or cold storage facilities. There are local businesses that specialize in smoking, freezing or packaging fish for shipment.

## *Catch-and-release Fishing*

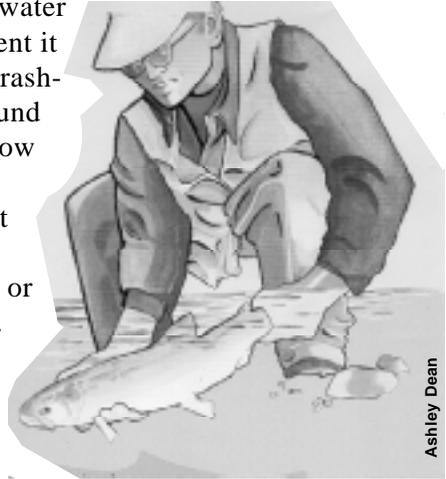
If you've planned your trip well and have put in some time fishing, you are probably catching fish. If you don't intend to keep a fish you catch, or can't keep it because of our regulations, let it go in the manner described below. Because there are minimum size requirements for king salmon and cutthroat, rainbow, and steelhead trout harvested in essentially all Southeast waters,

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catch-and-release fishing is a critical element in our fisheries. Proper techniques must be used, in order to keep mortality rates of released fish to a minimum:

- Do not net fish that you plan to release.
- If the fish is deeply hooked, cut the leader off as close as possible to the fish and leave the hook in.
- If the fish is hooked in the outer parts of its mouth, use needle-nose pliers to dislodge hook. (If you know ahead of time you will be releasing the fish you catch, bend down the barbs on your hooks to facilitate removal.)
- If you plan to release a fish, there is no need to take it from the water. If you're fishing at a shoreline, release your fish in

deeper water to prevent it from thrashing around in shallow water where it may be bruised or injured.



**TIP** ➤ Visiting anglers often practice catch-and-release for the first few days of their fishing trip and will selectively keep fish at the end of the trip to take home. This is also a good way to insure the fish you do take with you are in the best condition when you reach home.

## *Juneau Roadside Sport Fishing Regulations*

Anglers should obtain a current year's ADF&G sport fishing regulations summary booklet and read it before going fishing—this is particularly important in the Juneau area.

Given Juneau's relatively large population, the potential exists for overharvesting local fish resources. Several small roadside streams have been closed to sport fishing altogether, some others closed to salmon fishing, and several areas closed to Dolly Varden fishing.

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More restrictive bag and possession limits are in effect for several species as well. (There is more on page 22 about Southeast Alaska sport fishing regulations and emergency orders.)

Here is a brief rundown of Juneau roadside bag and possession limits and size requirements, which differ from regional regulations.

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| Juneau | <b>In fresh water:</b>   |
|        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Coho salmon 16 inches or longer—2 per day and in possession.</li><li>• Sockeye salmon 16 inches or longer—1 per day and in possession; annual limit of 5 sockeye salmon; a harvest record is required.</li><li>• Dolly Varden—2 per day and in possession.</li><li>• Cutthroat trout—14-inch minimum size.</li></ul> |
|        | <b>In salt water:</b>  |
|        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dolly Varden—2 per day and in possession, in all salt waters adjacent to the Juneau City and Borough road system to a line <math>\frac{1}{4}</math> mile offshore.</li></ul>   |

## Haines Roadside Regulations

The Haines area supports some of the most intensive freshwater recreational fisheries in Southeast Alaska. Bag and possession limits have been reduced for coho salmon and Dolly Varden in certain drainages. It is important that anglers know the regulations—and make sure not to confuse the Chilkat and Chilkoot rivers.

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| Haines | <b>In fresh water:</b>   |
|        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Coho salmon 16 inches or longer:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>—3 per day and 6 in possession in the <i>Chilkat</i> River drainage;</li><li>—2 per day and 2 in possession in the <i>Chilkoot</i> Lake and River (below the lake).</li></ul></li><li>• All other salmon species—in <i>Chilkoot</i> Lake and River (below the lake) the possession limit is equal to the daily bag limit.</li><li>• Dolly Varden—2 per day and 2 in possession in the <i>Chilkoot</i> Lake and River drainage.</li></ul> |
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