Southcentral Region
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division of Sport Fish

Northern Cook Inlet Region

Recreational Fishing Series

Stocked Lakes on the Kenai Peninsula

Overview

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game's Division of Sport Fish has stocked lakes on the Kenai Peninsula since the early 1960s. Today, lakes are stocked to broaden fishing opportunities, and to improve popular existing fisheries. Most of the lakes are relatively small, and lack natural spawning areas. State of Alaska policy dictates that the fish stocked into area lakes are sterile so they are not able to successfully spawn and reproduce, therefore these lakes are scheduled for annual or alternate year stocking.

The lakes are stocked in mid- to late summer. To find out which lakes have been stocked, go online to the Division of Sport Fish Southc e n t r a l-area Web pages at www.sf.adfg.state.ak.us and click on "Hatcheries and Stocking", then select the "Fish Stocking Update" tab and follow the instructions.

Maps to all stocked lakes can also be found online by clicking on "Fishing Information" and then "Lake Fishing Info." Or visit your local Division of Sport Fish office, or the Anchorage Sport Fish Information Center at 333 Raspberry Road, (907) 267-2218.



Kenai Peninsula lakes offer good trout fishing.

The Lake Stocking Program

Although there are hundreds of lakes on the Kenai Peninsula, only a few qualify for the stocking program. Many lakes are too shallow to support fish during the winter months. Others may not have public access or may have natural fish populations supporting a fishery.

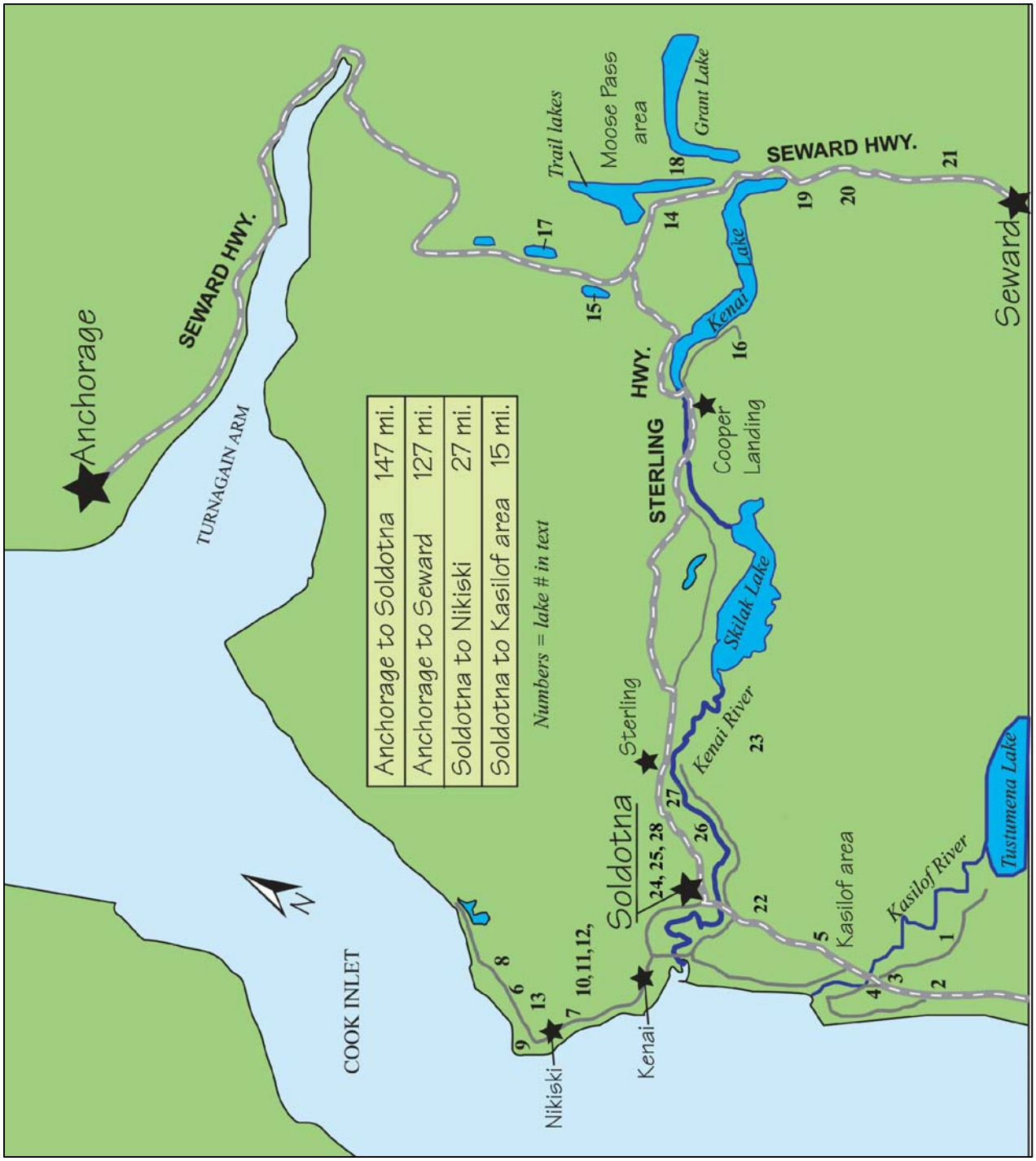
To qualify for the stocking program, a lake must meet several criteria, including being capable of supporting a salmon or trout population, having guaranteed public access, being landlocked so that stocked fish do not escape, and being in an area that the angling public wants to fish.

For season dates, bag limits, regulations and tackle requirements, consult the Southcentral Alaska sport fishing regulations booklet.

About the Fish

Most of the Peninsula lakes are stocked with fingerlings, about 2 inches in length. If catchables are stocked, they usually average 8 inches in length. Fingerlings can reach 10 inches by the following summer. Fish in the Kenai's landlocked lakes can grow to weigh 5 pounds, but few grow larger than 2 pounds.

Kenai Peninsula Stocked Lakes



These opportunities funded in part by Federal Aid in Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration.

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If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility, or if you desire further information please write to ADF&G, P.O. Box 115526, Juneau, AK 99811-5526; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4040 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 300 Webb, Arlington, VA 22203; or O.E.O., U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington DC 20240.

For information on alternative formats for this and other department publications, please contact the department ADA Coordinator at (voice) 907-465-6077, (TDD) 907-465-3646, or (FAX) 907-465-6078.

Rainbow Trout

Most lakes on the Kenai Peninsula are stocked with rainbow trout. These fish are hatchery-reared from the eggs of fish from the Swanson River, and they have good survival rates in local lakes.

Rainbow trout are usually silvery-gray with a reddish band, numerous small black speckles, and white bellies. Color can vary, though, depending upon habitat, diet, stage of growth, and season For example, during spring, rainbow trout 12-16 inches in length or larger, may exhibit spawning characteristics such as intense coloration. Large female trout harvested in the spring often have fully developed loose eggs in their body cavity and/or skeins containing small eggs, while male trout may run milt. Flesh color can vary from white to pink. Most trout stocked as catchables are harvested by the end of their third year, although they occasionally live 5-6 years and may grow to weigh 5 pounds.



Float tubes allow anglers to work the Kenai Peninsula's smaller stocked lakes.

Rainbows are active in shoreline waters as the ice recedes, and are taken on dry or wet flies, small spoons spinners, or bait. During summer large rainbows are taken by trolling, or by casting spoons or spinners in 10-plus feet of water. Smaller rainbows stay near brushy shorelines or weed beds and are also taken by using dry or wet flies, small spoons, spinners, or bait.

Rainbows feed heavily in the fall in near-shore waters and bite well at this time on lures or bait. During early winter rainbows will take lures and bait through the ice at depths of 2- to 15-plus feet.

Landlocked Salmon

Landlocked silvers are generally bright silver with black spots only on the back, upper sides, and upper portion of the tail fin. Landlocked kings have small black spots on both the upper and lower lobes of the tail fin. In winter, landlocked salmon are often mistaken for rainbow trout. Rainbows are generally darker and greener than salmon and have at least a hint of a red band.

By their third winter, landlocked salmon stocked as catchables have grown to about 12 inches before maturing, then dying. Landlocked salmon don't reproduce in landlocked lakes. Some fish may weigh more than 2 pounds.

Landlocked salmon are often active in shoreline waters in spring and fall and are taken on dry or wet flies, as well as spoons and spinners or by bait. During summer they are found in 15-plus feet of water, biting on small lures, single eggs, shrimp or other baits. Salmon are active all winter and can be taken through the ice on lures, single eggs, shrimp, or other baits at 2- to 15-plus feet.

Arctic Char /Dolly Varden

Arctic char are usually off-white to silvery-brown on the back and sides, with pink to reddish-orange spots, and white belly. Mature fish may have bright orange-red spots on lower sides, belly, and gill plates. Char generally reach 12-18 inches before maturing in the late fall to midwinter. These fish may spawn in landlocked lakes if they can find an area with the right combination of oxygenated springs and gravel. Most char stocked as catchables are probably harvested by the end of their fourth year, although they may occasionally live longer than 10 years and exceed 4 pounds.

Arctic char are found in 15- to 40-plus feet of water year round. Large char are taken by trolling off lake bottoms in waters deeper than 20 feet, using spinner/flasher setups with a lure or bait trailing 12-18 inches behind. Ice fishers take small char with bait while large char are taken by jigging lures just off the lake bottom in waters 15- to 40-plus feet.

Access

Generally, the access is day-use only, and many times the only public land is at the access point, with

the remaining shoreline privately-owned. Camping is not allowed at public access sites except in designated camp grounds. It is important to respect private property, observe quiet time after 10 pm, help keep the public access areas clean by packing out everything packed in, and remember fires are prohibited on access lands. During winter, if building a fire on the ice to stay warm, please do not burn trash in the fire. In spring when lake ice melts, these burn piles melt into and pollute the lake with litter. Please use a different source of heat while ice fishing.

Kenai Peninsula Stocked Lakes

To find the lake, note the lake number, and then find that number on the map on Page 2.

Kasilof Area

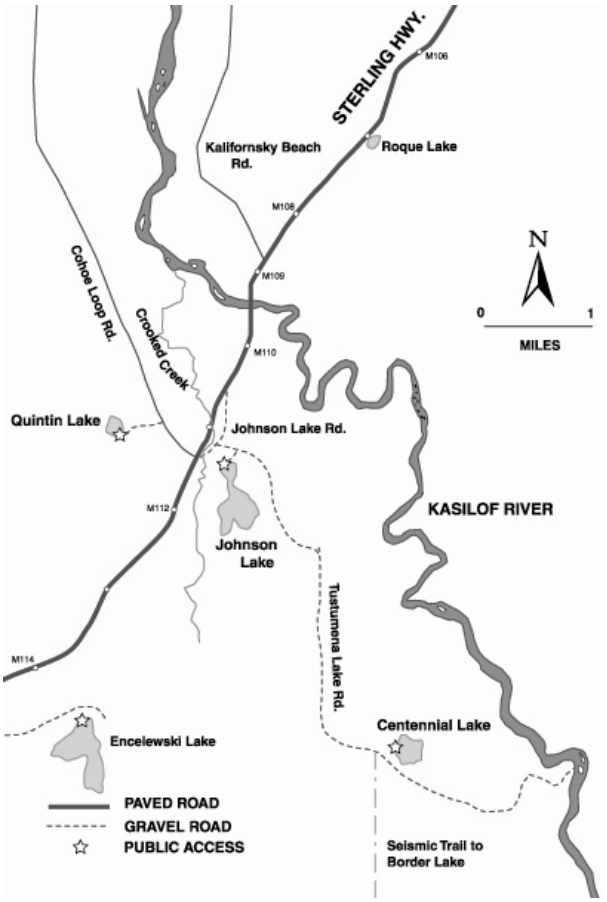
#1 Centennial Lake Mile 110.5 Sterling Highway to Johnson Lake Rd. East on Johnson Lake Road 0.4 mile, then left onto Tustumena Lake Road. Go 3.9 miles to lake access on left, with picnic area, unimproved boat launch, and sandy beach. Rainbow trout and silver salmon fingerling stocked yearly with additional silver salmon fingerling stocked by schools in the salmon incubation program.

#2 Encelewski Lake Mile 115 Sterling Highway East on Tolum Road., then 0.4 mile to Stol Road. Left on Stol Road go 0.9 mile to Panda Ct. Right on Panda Ct. 0.1 mile to cul-de-sac and public parking. Foot trail 15 yards to lake, no boat launch. Rainbow trout fingerling stocked yearly.

#3 Johnson Lake Mile 110.5 Sterling Highway to Johnson Lake Road. East on Johnson Lake, go 0.5 mile to Tustumena Lake Road. Left on Tustumena Lake, go 0.1 mile to Johnson Lake State Recreation Area with camping, toilet facilities, water, picnic shelters, boat launch. Non-motorized or electric motors only. Rainbow trout catchables stocked yearly.

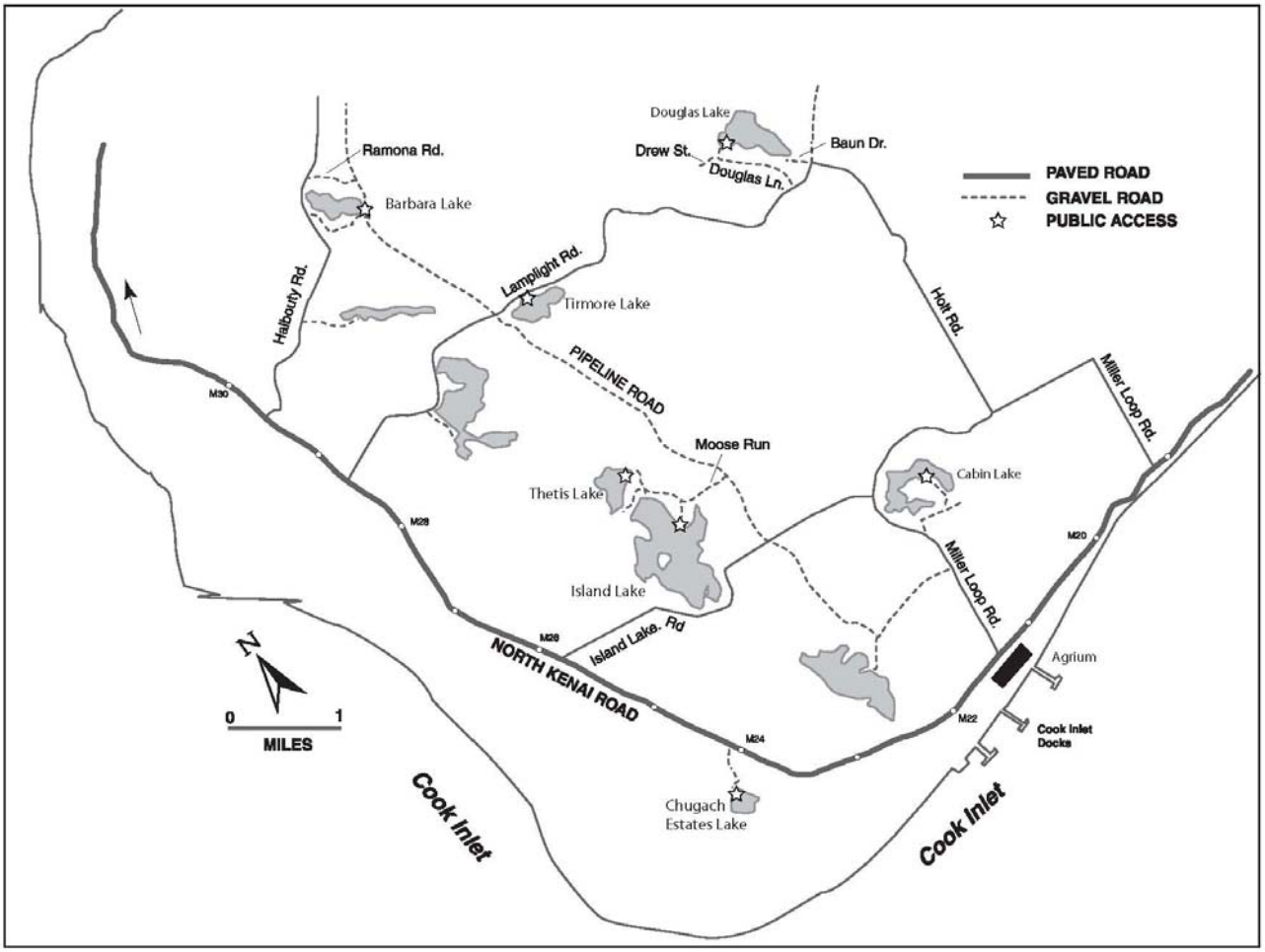
#4 Quintin Lake Walk-in lake at Mile 111.4 Sterling Highway North on Cohoe Loop, go 0.5 mile to Thalia Road. Left on Thalia, go 0.3 mile then left on Naiad 0.3 mile to limited parking at end of improved road. Follow trail 200 yards. turning right to reach the access at closest point to lake. Rainbow trout fingerling stocked on odd years.

#5 Roque Lake Mile 107 Sterling Highway, between Highway and Decanter Inn. Parking available on the highway right-of-way and at the inn. Rainbow trout fingerling stocked yearly; silver salmon fingerling stocked prior years.



Nikiski Area

#6 Barbara Lake Mile 94.2 Sterling Highway to Kenai Spur Road. North on Kenai Spur 29.8 miles to Halbouty Road. Right on Halbouty then 2.3 miles to Ramona Road. Right on Ramona, go 0.4 mile to Pipeline Road. Right on Pipeline, go 0.4 mi to public access on right, on the southwest lakeshore. Rainbow trout fingerling stocked yearly.



#7 Cabin Lake Mile 94.3 Sterling Highway to Kenai Spur Road. North on Kenai Spur 21.3 miles to Miller Loop Road. Right on Miller Loop then go 1.2 miles to Cabin Lake Dr. Right on Cabin Lake for 0.4 mile, then left on Inter Lake Dr. Go 0.2 mi to public access on the right. Rainbow trout fingerling stocked yearly.

#8 Cecille Lake Mile 94.3 Sterling Highway to Kenai Spur Road. North on Kenai Spur 33.2 miles to Bohlin Road in Peninsula Park Estates Subdivision. Left on Bohlin Road., go 0.1 mile to Seascape. Right on Seascape 0.1 mi to public access where lake is closest to road. Park on right shoulder. Limited parking, no boat launch. Rainbow trout fingerling stocked on odd years.

#9 Chugach Estates Lk Mile 94.3 Sterling Highway to Kenai Spur Road. North on Kenai Spur 24.1 miles to Tustumena St. Turn left on Tustumena St. 0.2 mi to McKinley St. Left on McKinley St. 0.2 mi to Shemya St. Right on Shemya St., then left on Tyonek Cir. to steep trail with no boat launch. Neighborhood sign says Bailey Lake. Rainbow trout fingerling stocked yearly.

#10 Douglas Lake Mile 94.3 Sterling Highway to Kenai Spur Road. North on Kenai Spur 19.3 miles to Miller Loop Road. right on Miller Loop 2.1 miles to Holt Road. Right on Holt Road. 2.9 miles to Douglas Lane. Right on Douglas 0.7 mile to Drew St. Right on Drew approximately 100 yards to lake with small parking area and unimproved boat ramp on northwest shore. Rainbow trout fingerling stocked yearly.

#11 Island Lake Mile 94.3 Sterling Highway to Kenai Spur Road. North on Kenai Spur 25.8 miles to Island Lake Road. Right on Island Lake 2.3 miles to Pipeline Road. Left on Pipeline Road. 0.7 mile to Moose Run Road. Left on Moose Run 0.8 mile to Estes Road. Left on Estes to limited parking in cul-de-sac, sandy boat launch area. Rainbow trout fingerling stocked yearly; Arctic char catchables stocked yearly.

#12 Thetis Lake Mile 94.3 Sterling Highway to Kenai Spur Road. North on Kenai Spur 25.8 miles to Island Lake Road. Right on Island Lake Road. 2.3 miles to Pipeline Road. Left on Pipeline Road. 0.7 mile to Moose Run Road.

Left on Moose Run Road. 0.8 mile to Wapiti Road. Right on Wapiti Road. 0.1 mile to access road on left. Recommended 4-wheel-drive to launch boat. Rainbow trout fingerling stocked yearly.

#13 Tirmore Lake Mile 94.3 Sterling Highway to Kenai Spur Road. North on Kenai Spur 28.6 miles to Lamplight Road. Right on Lamplight Road. 2.4 miles to public access and parking area on the right . No boat ramp. Rainbow trout fingerling stocked on even years.

Moose Pass and Cooper Landing Areas

#14 Carter Lake Walk-in lake at Mile 33 Seward Hwy, at Chugach National Forest trailhead with parking and toilet facilities. Well-developed but steep trail climbs 986 feet in 2.0 miles. Rainbow trout fingerling stocked on even years.

#15 Jerome Lake Mile 38.6 Seward Highway, 0.5 mile north of the Seward Hwy/Sterling Hwy junction, within the Chugach National Forest. Paved parking area west of Highway, steep bank to lake. Natural population of Dolly Varden, stocked yearly with Rainbow trout fingerling.

#16 Rainbow Lake Walk in lake at Mile 47.9 Sterling Highway off Snug Harbor Road., in the Chugach National Forest. South on Snug Harbor Road. 10 miles to access on left. Hike 0.5 mile on well-maintained trail to lake. Rainbow trout fingerling stocked on even years.

#17 Summit Lake, Upper Mile 45.5 Seward Highway East side of highway paved turnout. **Or** Mile 46 Seward Hwy, turn east 0.6 mi to Chugach National Forest Tenderfoot Campground with camping, toilet facilities, water, and boat launch. Contains natural population of Dolly Varden and lake trout, stocked yearly with Rainbow trout fingerling.

#18 Vagt Lake Mile 25.1 Seward Highway in the Chugach National Forest. Trailhead parking on east side of highway and south end of Lower Trail Lake. Hike 1.5 mile to lake. Rainbow trout fingerling stocked yearly.

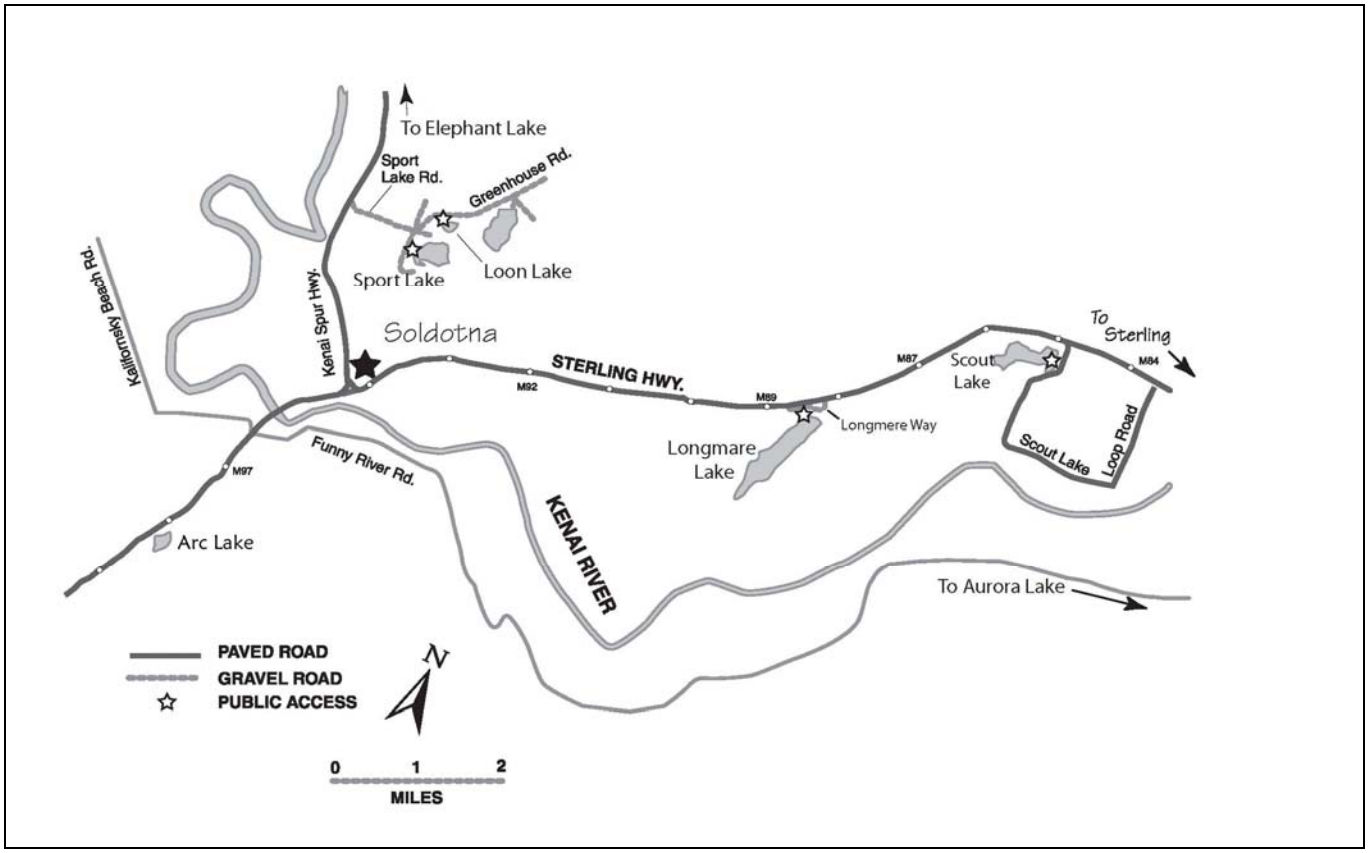


Seward Area

#19 Long Lake New trail (4.5 mi) flagged and brushed in 2006 from Grayling/Meridian/Long trailhead located at Mile 13.2 west side of Seward Highway Follow trail to Meridian Lake; Long Lake trailhead takes off to the left . Alternate access at mile 15.9 Seward Highway Turnout on east side of road. User-established trail begins on west side of highway; 3/4 mi on steep, poorly defined trail. Rainbow trout fingerlings stocked on odd years.

#20 Meridian Lake Walk-in lake at Mile 13.5 Seward Highway Park at Chugach National Forest Grayling/Meridian/Long trailhead. 1.5 mile on well maintained trail to lake, taking the right fork on trail to Meridian Lake. Rainbow trout fingerling stocked on odd years.

#21 Troop Lake Walk-in lake at Mile 12.1 Seward Highway Turnout on east side of highway Trail begins on the Iditarod Historic Trail. Follow trail approximately 1.0 mile, turn right at the signed Troop Lake cut-off. Follow trail 0.5 mile to lake. Rainbow trout fingerlings stocked on odd years.



Soldotna and Sterling Areas

#22 Arc Lake Mile 98.2 Sterling Highway Access on south side of highway with picnic area and sandy beach. Northern Pike were successfully eradicated in 2008 and stocking of silver salmon resumed in 2009. In 2010 silver salmon fingerling and Arctic grayling were stocked, and both are scheduled to be stocked yearly.

#23 Aurora Lake Mile 96.2 Sterling Highway to Funny River Road. East on Funny River Road., then approx 14 miles to Rabbit Run Road. Turn right on Rabbit Run 0.9 mile to Browns Lake Road. Left on Browns Lake Road. 2 miles to Lake Road. Right on Lake Road. 1.0 mile to Aurora Ave. Right on Aurora Ave. 0.7 mile to unimproved access where lake is next to road. Rainbow trout fingerling stocked yearly.

#24 Elephant Lake Also called Spirit Lake. Mile 94.3 Sterling Highway to Kenai Spur Road. North on Kenai Spur 4.7 miles to Strawberry Road. Right on Strawberry Road. (veer left and stay on pavement at 0.1mi). When pavement ends at mi 1.3, stay on main gravel road. Road name changes to Carver Drive at 90 degree corner. At mi 2.1 road turns left and becomes Frogberry Street. Drive through gate at mi 3.2. When road T's at mile 5.6, turn left and proceed 0.9 mi to lake. Vehicle access closed temporarily in spring to protect road, foot access only. Winter snowmachine access to lake. Rainbow trout fingerling stocked yearly; silver salmon fingerling stocked yearly.

#25 Loon Lake Mile 94.3 Sterling Highway to Kenai Spur Road. North on Kenai Spur 2.5 miles to Sport Lake Road. Right on Sport Lake Road. 1.0 mile to Conner Road. Left on Conner Road. 0.3 mile to public access where lake is closest to road, with limited parking and no boat launch. Rainbow trout fingerling stocked yearly.

#26 Longmare Lake Mile 88.9 Sterling Highway to Longmere Way. Road curves left, go 0.1 mile to access on right with paved parking, seasonal toilet facilities, and boat ramp. Rainbow trout and silver salmon stocked yearly.

#27 Scout Lake Mile 84.9 Sterling Highway, to Scout Lake Loop Road. 0.1 mile to Scout Lake State Recreation Site with day-use picnic area, toilet facilities, water, no boat ramp. Northern Pike were successfully eradicated in 2009 and stocking resumed in 2010. Scout Lake was stocked with rainbow trout and Arctic grayling in 2010, and is scheduled for annual stocking of Arctic grayling, rainbow trout fingerling, and silver salmon fingerling.

#28 Sport Lake Mile 94.3 Sterling Highway to Kenai Spur Road. North on Kenai Spur 2.5 miles to Sport Lake Road. Right on Sport Lake Road. 1.0 mile to Moser Road. Right on Moser Road. 0.2 mi to public access on left with small parking area and sandy boat launch. Stocked with Rainbow trout and silver salmon fingerling.

General Regulations for Lakes in this Handout

These regulations are not a complete summary. Please refer to a current year's *Southcentral Alaska Sport Fishing Regulation Summary* booklet, available free wherever licenses are sold.

License requirements

With three exceptions, a sport fishing license is required each calendar year and must be in the possession of ALL persons 16 years of age or older while sport fishing, personal use fishing, and/or digging clams. The exceptions are
1. Youth under 16, either resident or nonresident; OR
2. Alaska residents (12 months residency) who are 60 years of age or older; OR
3. Alaska residents (12 months resident) who are certified by the U.S. Veteran's Administration as having a 50% or greater service-related physical disability.

Youth are not required to purchase a fishing license, but are required to carry a free Harvest Record Card (see below). Residents 60 or older and resident disabled veterans also are not required to purchase a license, but must carry a free ADF&G Permanent Identification Card (PID) as well as a free Harvest Record Card (see below). The PID is distributed from the ADF&G Licensing Section in Juneau, (907) 465-2376. Application forms are available at ADF&G offices, or on-line at www.admin.adfg.state.ak.us/admin/license/form.html. If a license, stamp or tag is lost or stolen, a duplicate can be purchased wherever licenses are sold. If a PID is lost or stolen, contact the Licensing Section, or your local ADF&G office.

Annual limits and harvest recording requirements

For certain species and sizes of fish, there's a limit to the number that anglers may keep, and if one of those fish is caught and kept, that harvest must be immediately recorded, in ink. Anglers who purchase licenses will find their harvest record on the back of the fishing license. Anglers who are NOT required to purchase a license are required to carry a free Harvest Record Card, available wherever fishing licenses are sold. The Harvest Record Card is for sport fishing (rod and reel), NOT for personal use or subsistence fishing.

Tackle and bait

In the stocked lakes listed in this brochure, anglers may use one single hook, or two single hooks, or one treble hook. No live fish may be used as bait. Ice fishers may have two lines, provided there is only one lure on each line. Otherwise, each angler may have only one single line. Fishing gear must be closely attended.

SPECIES	DAILY BAG/POSSESSION LIMIT	SPECIAL REGULATIONS
Rainbow trout	5/5, only one 20" or greater	Rainbows 20" or larger must be recorded on the back of the fishing license or on the Harvest Record Card. Only 2 rainbows 20" or longer may be kept per year.
Arctic Char	5/5	no size limit none
Landlocked Salmon	10/10	none

For information about camping, accommodations, fishing guides, and other visitor services, contact the agencies listed in this publication, or the Alaska Travel Industry Association at 2600 Cordova Street, Suite 201, Anchorage, Alaska 99503; or visit www.travelalaska.com

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