

## Harvesting seaweeds in Southcentral Alaska



*Kelp and other seaweeds are very important in the marine ecosystem. Among many things, kelp provides shelter and food for invertebrates, finfish, and shellfish in all their life stages.*

The Alaska Board of Fisheries met in March 2007 and approved non-commercial (subsistence) harvesting of aquatic plants in selected areas of Alaska.

In the areas of the Southcentral Region that are open for harvest, there is no closed season and no permit is required. Except in Cook Inlet, there are no limits to the amount of kelp and other seaweeds that may be taken. In the small, remote areas of Cook Inlet that are open to harvest (see "The Anchorage / Matanuska - Susitna / Kenai Peninsula non-subsistence area," below) the limit is 10 pounds wet weight per day or in possession.

The areas open to harvest of seaweed, including kelp are the areas that the Joint Board of Fisheries and Game has designated "subsistence use" areas. The areas that the Joint Board has designated as "non-subsistence use" are closed to the taking of aquatic plants, including kelp and other seaweeds, year-round.

These non-subsistence areas are specifically listed in the Alaska Administrative Code, at 5 AAC 99.015. Go to <http://www.legis.state.ak.us/cgi-bin/folioisa.dll/aac?>, then navigate to 5 AAC 99.015.



In an area closed to the taking of kelp and other aquatic plants, a person may not harvest kelp that is alive and growing, no matter if the live kelp or seaweed is attached, free-floating, or washed up on the beach.

In summary, these areas in Southcentral Alaska are CLOSED to the taking of aquatic plants, including kelp and other seaweeds:

### The Anchorage / Matanuska-Susitna / Kenai Peninsula non-subsistence area

**The entire Kenai Peninsula, including Turnagain Arm, Knik Arm, Cook Inlet, Kachemak Bay, and Seward, is CLOSED to the taking of aquatic plants, except in three remote locations:**

- The shorelines of the Kenai Fjords National Park (Bulldog Cove east to Yalik Point) are open to the taking of aquatic plants.
- The shorelines of the lower Kenai Peninsula and the North Gulf Coast west from the longitude of Jakolof Bay are open to the taking of aquatic plants.
- The shorelines of West Cook Inlet between the Chuitna River to Granite Point are open to the taking of aquatic plants.

### The Valdez non-subsistence area

The entire Valdez Arm area north of a line from Potato Point to Tongue Point is CLOSED to the taking of aquatic plants.

All other areas of Prince William Sound are open to the taking of aquatic plants, including Whittier.

### The Kodiak and Alaska Peninsula Area

All areas are open to the harvest of aquatic plants.

### The Bristol Bay Area

All areas are open to the harvest of aquatic plants.

## Harvesting seaweed and kelp in the Southeast and Northern Alaska areas

Please check with the Southeast Region office in Douglas, Alaska at (907) 465-4270; or the Interior Region office in Fairbanks, Alaska, at (907) 459-7207.

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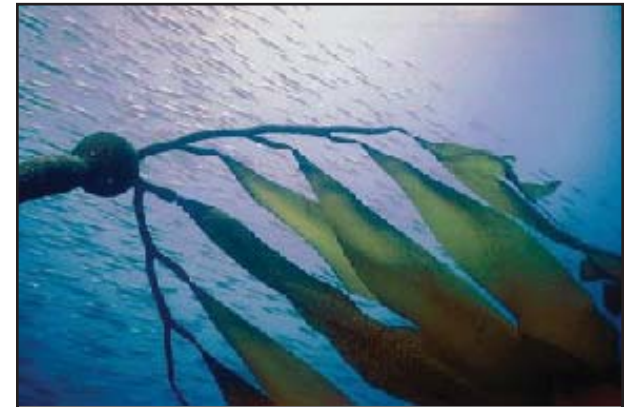


Southcentral Alaska  
Recreational Fishing Series

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

# Harvesting Kelp


## and other aquatic plants in Southcentral Alaska

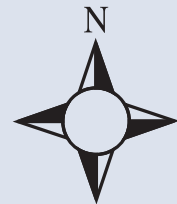


For more information, contact the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish:  
[www.sf.adfg.state.ak.us](http://www.sf.adfg.state.ak.us)



# Southcentral Alaska closed areas for harvest of kelp, seaweed, and other aquatic plants.

 = CLOSED to harvest of kelp, seaweed and other aquatic plants.



Map is for informational purposes only. Not to scale  
October 2007