COOK INLET AND KACHEMAK BAY SALT WATERS

GENERAL REGULATIONS

Inclusive waters: Salt waters of Cook Inlet west of Gore Point and north of Cape Douglas, including Kachemak Bay and the Barren Islands.

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

KING SALMON

- Summer Fisheries (April 1–August 31):
 - North of the latitude of Bluff Point (59° 40' N):
 - 1 per day, 1 in possession (of any size).
 - See regulations for Special King Salmon Management Area on page 71.
 - South of the latitude of Bluff Point (59°40'N):
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession (of any size).
- 20 inches or longer:
- 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, and Kenai Peninsula.
- Anglers who keep a king salmon 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.
- A king salmon 20 inches or longer that is removed from salt water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a king salmon 20 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
- Winter Fishery (September 1–March 31):
 - All Cook Inlet and Kachemak Bay saltwaters:
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession (of any size).
 - No annual limit in effect; recording of king salmon harvest is not required during this timeframe.

OTHER SALMON

- 6 per day, 6 in possession, only 3 per day, 3 in possession may be coho (silver) salmon.
- Pink salmon taken in a sport fishery maybe used as bait, but **are** part of your bag limit.

RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

• No retention. All rainbow/steelhead trout must be released immediately.

DOLLY VARDEN

• 5 per day, 5 in possession.

LINGCOD

- Season: July 1–December 31: 2 per day, 2 in possession, must be at least 35 inches long with head attached or 28 inches from tip of tail to front of dorsal fin with head removed.
- Lincod which are gaffed must be retained. A gaff may not be used to puncture any fish intended or required to be released.

ROCKFISH

• 5 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 per day, 2 in possession may be non-pelagic (see chart on page 90).

HALIBUT

Pacific halibut fisheries are managed by the federal government under international treaty. See page 7 for federal contact information.

- Season: February 1–December 31.
- **Unguided anglers:** 2 per day, 4 in possession.
- Consult federal regulations for the following:

 Bag, possession and size limits and other regulations for guided (charter) anglers.
 Filleting requirements for fish cleaned at sea.

SPINY DOGFISH

• 5 per day, 5 in possession.

SHARKS (EXCEPT SPINY DOGFISH)

- 1 per day, 1 in possession.
- There is an annual limit of 2 sharks. These harvested fish must be recorded. See page 5 for recording instructions.

OTHER FINFISH

• No limit.

SHELLFISH

• See pages 81–83.

METHODS AND MEANS

Snagging:

- Snagging is prohibited (no person may intentionally snag or attempt to snag any species of fish):
 - Year-round in Cook Inlet north of a line extending west from Anchor Point.
 - January 1–June 23 in Kachemak Bay east of a line from Anchor Point to Point Pogibshi.
 - Year-round in the Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon (see special regulations).
- Snagging is allowed:
 - Year-round in Cook Inlet south of a line extending west from Anchor Point and west of a line from Anchor Point to Point Pogibshi.
 - June 24–December 31 in Kachemak Bay east of a line from Anchor Point to Point Pogibshi, except in the Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon (see special regulations).

Underwater spear:

• In salt water, spears and spearguns may be used to take fish, subject to applicable seasons and bag limits, by persons who are completely submerged, provided the spear or speargun is not tiped with an explosive charge.

Sport fishing gear for herring and smelt (hooligan):

• In salt water, herring and smelt may be taken with the use of 15 or fewer unbaited single or multiple hooks attached to a single line.

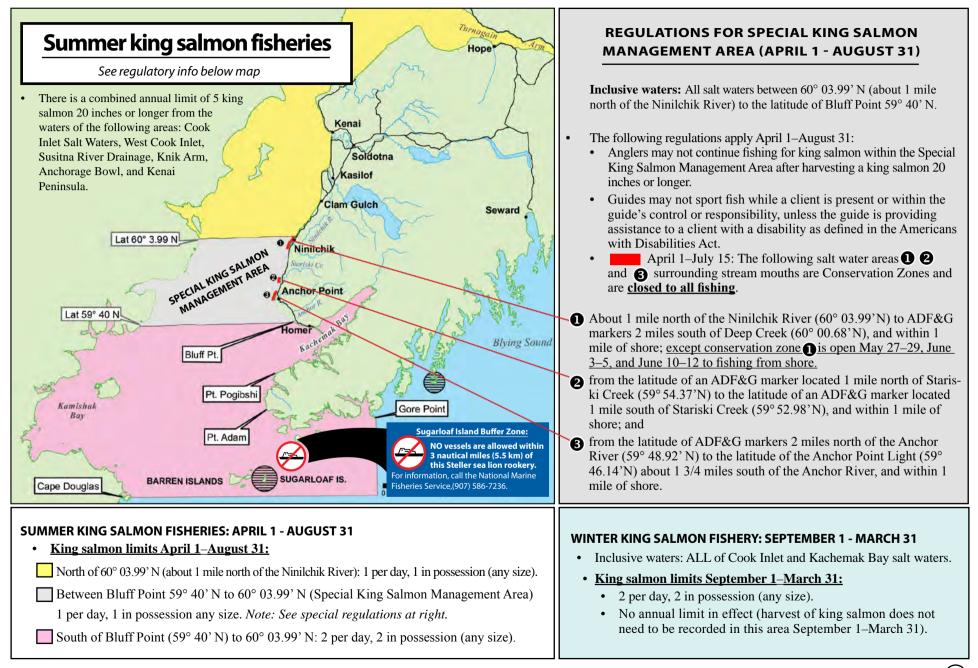
Be alert for commercial salmon drift gillnet boats fishing north of Anchor Point from about June 19 until August 10-20. They cannot easily move out of your way.



A fishing net can engulf and sink a smaller boat!

For their safety, anglers should not fish from or within 50 yards of the docks near the Homer Boat Harbor entrance.

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COOK INLET AND KACHEMAK BAY SALT WATERS - KING SALMON

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COOK INLET AND KACHEMAK BAY SALT WATERS

SPECIAL REGULATIONS

Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon Area (The Fishing Hole)—Along the east side of the Homer Spit, from the Homer City Dock near the entrance of the Homer Boat Harbor to ADF&G markers about 200 yd northwest of the entrance to the Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon Area (including the Homer Boat Harbor and the fishing lagoon) to a distance of 300 ft from shore:

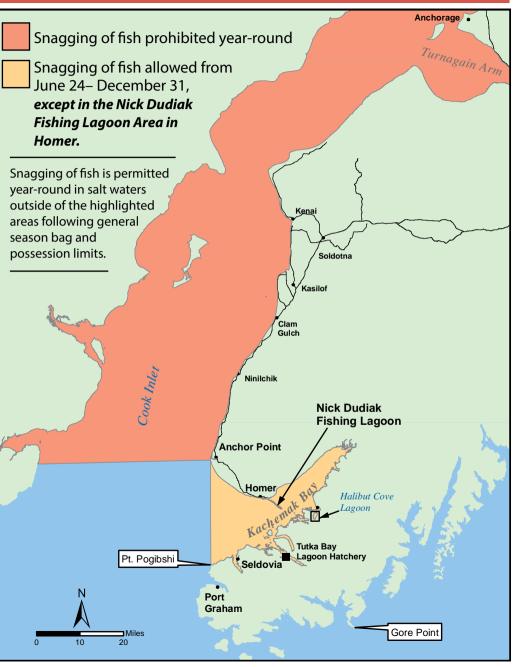
- King salmon limits:
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
 - April 1–August 31, king salmon 20 inches or longer must be recorded (see page 5).
- Other salmon (including coho salmon) in combination limits: 6 per day, 6 in possession.
- Snagging is not permitted except by emergency order.
- Weights, bobbers or any flotation device (including pieces of foam or marshmallows) following a hook or hooks may not be used when these waters are closed to snagging.



- Youth-Only King and Coho Salmon Fisheries:
 - Youth Fishery Zones established for persons 15 years of age or younger. The first Saturday in June (June 3) and August (August 5).

Tutka Bay Lagoon:

The marine waters of Tutka Bay Lagoon within 100 yards of the Tutka Bay Lagoon hatchery net pens are closed year-round to sport fishing for any species.





Stocked salmon fisheries in China Poot Bay and Tutka Bay Lagoon are paid for by enhancement taxes on commercial fisheries. Please be courteous—avoid commercial boats in these locations.