

Sport fishing regulations, licenses, and fisheries management



Sport fishing license fees and requirements are explained in the *Alaska Sport Fishing Regulations Summary*, and sport fishing licenses can be obtained by mail from:

- **ADF&G Licensing**
P. O. Box 25525
Juneau, AK 99802-55225
(907) 465-2376

In general, fishing regulations for the northern Southeast management area are open to review and possible change by the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF) every three years. New regulations from BOF action are effective in spring, following the previous winter's meeting. It is the BOF who actually determines when and how the various fisheries operate and how many fish each user group may harvest. ADF&G then manages the fisheries under BOF direction, to provide maximum harvest levels while insuring sufficient numbers of fish escape to perpetuate the run. Fish & Wildlife Protection Div. (Dept. of Public Safety) enforces BOF directives.

Questions on submitting changes or new fishing regulations to the BOF should be directed to:

- **Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game
Boards Support Section**
P. O. Box 25526
Juneau, AK 99802-5526
(907) 465-4110

Also inquire at the regional Sport Fish office (465-4270) before angling, to see if inseason emergency orders (EO's) have been issued for the area you intend to fish—EO's do not appear in the regulations summary booklet. They are issued either because emergency situations require immediate restrictive measures, or, conversely, because it has become possible to liberalize some fishing opportunities—oriented mainly at increasing harvests of hatchery fish. Checking for inseason EO's has become especially important with regard to king salmon, since inseason bag limits and other regulations very often differ from "baseline" regulations in the summary booklet.

Sometimes, sport and commercial fishers find themselves fishing the same waters, and questions arise as to methods or numbers of fish taken by one group or the other. In areas where sport and commercial fishers share the same waters, it is to the benefit of each party to exercise consideration for one another.

There is plenty of room for both to co-exist, if a few courtesies are extended by all parties. ■