



DEPARTMENT OF FISH & GAME

Division of Sport Fish

FRESH AND SALTWATER LOGBOOKS



Why are guide and charter operator logbooks so important to the Division of Sport Fish?

- Effective fishery management relies on accurate and timely data collection which logbooks provide. Near real-time logbook data is important to the division for fisheries management actions, in particular for salmon and groundfish fisheries.
- Guides and charter operators provide extremely important data on sport fishing effort and harvest information. When gathering information on more remote fisheries, logbook data may be our only source of information about these fisheries.
- Logbook data provides the only comprehensive accounting of guides and businesses operating in our fresh- and saltwater fisheries.
- Logbook data can help clarify incomplete Statewide Harvest Survey responses and validate accuracy of the division's Statewide Harvest Survey and creel survey estimates.



How do Alaska sport anglers benefit from an effective logbook program?

- **Guides and Charter Operators:** Without appropriate and timely fishery data provided by the guides and charter operators, regulatory and inseason management decisions may be too conservative or too liberal, leading to negative economic or sustainability issues.
- **Board of Fisheries:** Logbook catch, harvest and angler effort is used in preparation of Board meetings. The board uses the information at their discretion when deliberating and acting on sport fishing and allocative proposals.
- **International Pacific Halibut Commission and North Pacific Fishery Management Council:** Logbook data from saltwater anglers is used by these entities for analyzing regulatory options and to inform decisions on Pacific halibut. The saltwater logbook is now the preferred data source for estimating charter harvest and discard mortality for charter sector management under the annual catch limits. Management of the halibut fishery now depends on logbook data collected by the state.



Due in part to the Division of Sport Fish saltwater logbook, NOAA does not require guides and charter operators in Alaska to register with the National Marine Fisheries Service and pay a fee to the federal government.