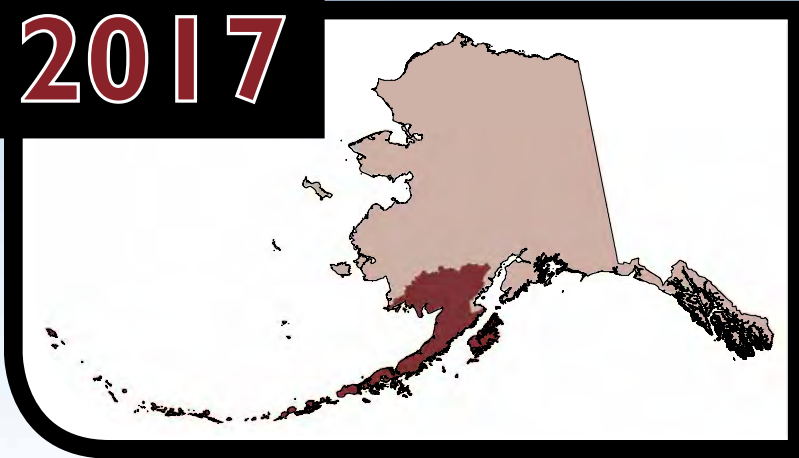


Southwest Alaska *Sport Fishing Regulations Summary*

2017



Effective until the 2018 Summary is issued

Sport Fish at: www.adfg.alaska.gov/

Licensing &
Regional Regulations

Bristol Bay
Salt and Fresh Waters

Alaska Peninsula &
Aleutian Islands Fresh Waters

Alaska Peninsula, Aleutian Islands
& Kodiak Island Salt Waters

Kodiak Island Fresh Waters

Alaska Board of Fisheries

The Alaska Board of Fisheries (board) adopts Alaska’s fishing regulations under statutory authority from the Alaska Legislature. The Board sets fishing seasons, bag limits, and methods and means. It also sets policy and provides direction of the management of the state’s fishery resources through regulatory management plans. The Board consists of seven members that are appointed by the governor, confirmed by the Legislature, and serve 3-year terms.

The board process is one of the more open systems for incorporating public input into state fisheries policy. The Board meets four to six times per year to consider proposed changes to fishing regulations in specific areas of the state. Any individual or organization may submit a proposal to change a fishing regulation. The Board uses biological and socioeconomic information provided by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, public comment, and guidance from the Alaska Department of Public Safety and Alaska Department of Law when creating regulations.

The Board meets on a 3-year cycle. It most recently addressed Kodiak Area fishing regulations in January, 2017. The 2018/2019 board meeting cycle will include Alaska Peninsula/Bering Sea-Aleutian Island/Chignik Areas for finfish and Bristol Bay finfish.

Alaska Board of Fisheries Current Members

- John Jensen (Chair) Petersburg
- Sue Jeffrey Kodiak
- Reed Morisky Fairbanks
- Orville Huntington Huslia
- Alan Cain Anchorage
- Israel Payton Wasilla
- Robert Ruffner Soldotna

For more information on the board process, contact the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Boards Support Section at: (907) 465-4110.

On the cover: Isla Fox, 3 when this photo was taken, shows a Dolly Varden she caught in the Buskin River. Photo by Lisa Fox.

Alaska Department of Fish and Game



DIVISION OF SPORT FISH

1255 W. 8th Street
 P.O. Box 115526
 Juneau, Alaska 99811-5526
 (907) 465-4180

Bill Walker, *Governor*
 Sam Cotten, *Commissioner*
 Tom Brookover, *Director*

The Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) is responsible for managing fish and game under statutory authority from the Alaska Legislature. By law, the mission of the Department of Fish and Game is to protect, maintain, and improve the fish, game, and aquatic plant resources of the state, and manage their use and development in the best interest of the economy and the well-being of the people of the state, consistent with the sustained yield principle.

The Division of Sport Fish is one of five divisions in the department. By law, the mission of the Division of Sport Fish is to protect and improve the state’s recreational fisheries resources. Division of Sport Fish operations are largely funded by anglers and recreational boaters through contributions to Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration and Fish and Game funds. At least 15 percent of the state’s federal aid apportionment must be used for improvement of recreational boating facilities and access.

ADF&G may change fishing regulations at any time by emergency order.

Statewide, over 50 emergency orders may be issued to open or close seasons or areas, modify bag limits and methods and means in any given year. Most, but not all, affect salmon fishing, as opposed to fishing for resident species. Emergency orders may also be posted at key access points. All emergency orders are widely announced via news media, and are accessible on recorded ADF&G hotlines, at ADF&G offices (see a list on the back cover), and online at Sport Fish at: www.adfg.alaska.gov/

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This publication was released by Alaska Department of Fish and Game at a cost of \$0.24 per copy to provide fishing regulations to the public and printed in Anchorage, Alaska.

HOW TO USE THIS BOOKLET

- 1 **Read the licensing requirements:** Read licensing and harvest recording requirements, pages 5 and 6.
- 2 **Know the rules where you fish:**
 - **Read the Regional Regulations.** These outline prohibited acts, allowable sport fishing gear, possession requirements for sport caught fish, and other regulations on pages 6-7 (for finfish) or pages 8-9 (for shellfish).
 - **Know the General Regulations for the area** (Bristol Bay, Alaska Peninsula/Aleutian Islands, or Kodiak Island) **you intend to fish.** Read the general seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and other requirements for the area in which you intend to fish.
 - **Determine if Special Regulations apply to your area.** Check the Southwest Alaska Waters index on pages 10-11. If a special regulation exists for the species when and where you plan to fish, follow the special regulation; special regulations prevail over the general regulations listed for that area. If the waters you plan to fish **DO NOT APPEAR** in the index, follow the general regulations (general seasons, bag, possession, and size limits) for the area.
- 3 **Check for emergency orders:** Regulations in this booklet may be changed by emergency order at any time. If an inseason change has been made by emergency order for the species when and where you plan to fish, follow the inseason regulation; inseason regulatory changes prevail over the regulations listed in this booklet. All such changes can be found anytime at any ADF&G Sport Fish Office or online at the ADF&G website: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/>

Have a smartphone or tablet? Scan the QR code below for a direct link to ADF&G's emergency order webpage:

If clarification is needed, consult an ADF&G representative (in Kodiak 907-486-1880), (in Dillingham 907-842-2427), or an Alaska Wildlife Trooper (907-465-4000).



ABOUT THIS BOOKLET

This summary of Alaska sport and personal use fishing and shellfish regulations is published by the Division of Sport Fish as a service to anglers. It is not intended to be a complete digest of all fishing regulations.

For a complete list of all sport fishing regulations, see the Alaska Administrative Code, Title 5 at: <http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/folioproxy.asp?url=http://www.jnu01.legis.state.ak.us/cgi-bin/folioisa.dll/aac>

Some regulations in this booklet may be changed by the Alaska Board of Fisheries during its regular meetings, by emergency regulation, or by emergency order at any time. See **3** in the left column for ways to find out about these changes before you fish.

SOUTHWEST ALASKA MANAGEMENT AREAS

Licensing & Regional Regulations

Bristol Bay Salt and Fresh Waters

Alaska Peninsula & Aleutian Islands Fresh Waters

Alaska Peninsula, Aleutian Islands & Kodiak Island Salt Waters

Kodiak Island Fresh Waters

To sport fish in Alaska you are required to have a valid Alaska Sport Fishing License if you are a resident 18 or older or a nonresident 16 or older. Please see the "License Types" section below to determine what type of license you need. You may also be required to purchase a king salmon stamp or obtain a harvest record card (available at no cost). Please refer to the "King Salmon Stamp" and "Harvest Record" sections below to see if those requirements apply to you.

ALASKA SPORT FISHING LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

An Alaska sport fishing license is required for all resident anglers 18 and older and nonresident anglers 16 and older to fish in all fresh and salt waters of Alaska.

A sport fishing license is valid for a calendar year.

See License Types and Fees at right for licensing options.

- In accordance with the regulations outlined in this summary booklet, a sport fishing license allows you to take, or attempt to take, finfish or shellfish in the fresh or salt waters of Alaska. Additionally, you may need a King Salmon Stamp or a Harvest Record Card (see page 5).
- Your sport fishing license, PID or DAV must be in your possession while you are sport fishing.
- All persons engaged in sport fishing or in possession of sport caught finfish or shellfish must show their sport fishing license, required harvest record and/or stamp, and their harvest to any representative of ADF&G or any peace officer of the state, upon request.
- No person may alter, loan, or transfer to any other person any sport fishing license; and no person may use any license issued to another person.
- If your sport fishing, hunting, or trapping license is revoked in any state, you may not obtain an Alaska sport fishing license.

A Resident of Alaska is a Person Who...

for the preceding 12 consecutive months, has maintained a home in Alaska with the intent to stay, and who is not claiming residency (or receiving benefits under a claim of residency) in another state, territory or country. Benefits include but are not limited to, applying for a resident fishing or hunting license in another state, obtaining a driver's license in another state, or receiving benefits or paying taxes as a resident of another state.

Active Duty Military Personnel and Their Dependents...

- stationed in Alaska for the preceding 12 months may purchase a resident sport fishing license regardless of benefits received in another state. Resident sport fishing regulations apply.
- permanently stationed in Alaska for less than 12 months may purchase a nonresident military license and nonresident military annual king salmon stamp at reduced rates and are considered nonresidents. Nonresident sport fishing regulations apply.

If you have questions about your residency, call your local Alaska Wildlife Troopers (telephone numbers listed on page 43).

LICENSE TYPES and FEES

Resident Licenses and Fees

Annual sport fishing license.....	\$29
<i>Alaska residents 18 or older. Valid for the calendar year.</i>	
ADF&G Permanent (Senior) ID Card (PID)	<i>Free to qualifying residents</i>
<i>Alaska residents 60 or older may apply for a PID for hunting, fishing, and trapping. For residents only - if you become a nonresident, your PID is no longer valid, requiring you to purchase a nonresident sport fishing license.</i>	
ADF&G Disabled Veteran Card (DAV)	<i>Free to qualifying residents</i>
<i>Alaska residents who are disabled veterans (with disability of 50% or greater that was incurred during military service), may apply for a DAV for hunting and fishing. If you become a nonresident, your DAV is no longer valid, requiring you to purchase a nonresident sport fishing license.</i>	
Sport fishing license for the blind.....	\$0.50
<i>Affidavit required—available from license vendor or ADF&G.</i>	
Income restricted.....	\$5
<i>To be eligible for a low income license, an Alaskan resident must have an annual family or household income equal to or less than the most recent poverty guidelines for the state set by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for the year preceding application. A.S. 16.05.340 (a)(6)</i>	
<i>Visit: http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=license.lowincome</i>	

Nonresident licenses and fees

1-day sport fishing license	\$25
3-day sport fishing license	\$45
7-day sport fishing license	\$70
14-day sport fishing license	\$105
Annual sport fishing license.....	\$145
<i>Residents of Yukon Territory may purchase nonresident licenses at Alaska resident license fees.</i>	


Nonresident military license and fee

Nonresident annual military sport fishing license.....	\$29
<i>Only for active duty members of military service permanently stationed in Alaska for less than 12 months or for dependent(s) of such.</i>	

HARVEST RECORD

Harvest records are required by **ALL** anglers when harvesting any species with an annual limit. Species with an annual limit are listed in the General Regulations section.

- A harvest record form is printed on each sport fishing license.
- A harvest record card is required for resident anglers under 18, nonresident anglers under 16, and PID or DAV licensed anglers.
- Immediately upon landing and retaining a fish that has an annual limit, all anglers must enter the species, date, and location, **IN INK**, on the harvest record form on the back of their sport fishing license or their harvest record card.
- A person obtaining a duplicate or additional license or harvest record card must transfer their harvest records of species with annual limits previously landed during the current year to their new license or harvest record card.



Alaska Department of Fish & Game
Division of Sport Fish
Sport Fishing Harvest Record Card

Fill in the information below. See the back of this card for more instructions, or visit www.adfg.alaska.gov for more information.

Name _____
 Check ONE: Resident Senior Resident Disabled Veteran
 Non-resident under 16 Resident under 18
 Senior or DAV license number: _____
 OR, if youth angler, age & birthday: _____

Check here if this is a replacement for a lost card(s). By law, anglers must transfer **ALL** harvest information from the lost card(s) to this card.

DATE of harvest	NAME OF WATER where the fish was harvested	SPECIES OF fish harvested

Harvest Record Card

WHERE TO OBTAIN LICENSES/STAMPS/HARVEST CARDS

Sport fishing licenses and **King Salmon Stamps** may be purchased online at: www.adfg.alaska.gov/store or from a license vendor (most sporting goods stores).

Harvest Record Cards are available online at: http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/license/sportlicense/pdf/sf_harvest_record_card.pdf, from ADF&G offices, and from fishing license vendors.

PID/DAV licenses—Application forms are available online at: www.licenses.adfg.alaska.gov or by contacting ADF&G Licensing at: adfg.license@alaska.gov or (907) 465-2376.

KING SALMON STAMP

Anglers sport fishing for king salmon (except king salmon stocked in landlocked lakes) must purchase a current year's king salmon stamp. Stamps purchased online will have a valid number printed directly on your fishing license. If you purchase a physical stamp, it must be signed across the face of the stamp, in ink, and stuck to the back of your sport fishing license.



King Salmon Stamp Fees

Resident king salmon stamp	\$10
Nonresident 1-day stamp	\$15
Nonresident 3-day stamp	\$30
Nonresident 7-day stamp	\$45
Nonresident 14-day stamp	\$75
Nonresident annual stamp	\$100
Nonresident military annual stamp	\$30
Duplicate stamp	\$5

The following persons do not need a King Salmon Stamp:

- Resident anglers under 18 and nonresident anglers under 16.
- Residents who possess an ADF&G PID or a DAV card.
- Residents with the \$5 income restricted license.
- Residents with the 50¢ license for the blind.



Use our secure server to buy your licenses, stamps, and tags online!

www.adfg.alaska.gov/store/



HARVEST RECORD REQUIREMENTS

- **Harvest records** are required when angling for any species with an annual limit.
- A harvest record form is printed on the back of each sport fishing license. For anglers under age 16 and others not requiring a license, free harvest reporting cards are available from ADF&G offices and from fishing license vendors.
- Annual limits are listed in the General and Special Regulations for each area.
- Immediately upon landing and retaining a fish that requires harvest recording, anglers must enter the species, date, and location, IN INK, on the back of their sport fishing license or on the harvest record card.

DATA COLLECTION REQUIREMENTS

- Upon request by a department representative or state peace officer, anglers must forfeit the heads of any salmon or trout with external or internal tags and all fish that are adipose finclipped along with the date and location of where caught.

LIABILITY FOR VIOLATIONS

- Unless otherwise provided by regulation or statute, a person who violates a provision of these regulations is strictly liable for the offense, regardless of that person's intent.

PROHIBITED ACTS

Closed Waters/ Waters closed to sport fishing:

- Unless otherwise provided by area regulations: (a) the waters within 300 feet of a fish weir or fish ladder are closed to sport fishing, unless a lesser or greater distance is indicated by department markers; and (b) it is unlawful to cast, drift, or place by any means a hook, bait, lure, or fly into waters closed to sport fishing.

Possession or marking of live fish or live fish eggs:

- It is unlawful to possess, transport, release live fish or live fish eggs, or in any way mark any live fish prior to release;
 - except in accordance with the terms of a permit that may be issued by the Commissioner under 5 AAC 41 or AS 16.05.930(a),
 - or in accordance with sport fishing provisions listed on page 7 under **"Use of sport-caught fish as bait."**

Sale of sport-caught fish prohibited:

- No person may buy, sell, or barter sport-caught fish or their parts.

Felt-soled boots prohibited:

- The use of footwear with absorbent felt or other fibrous material on the soles is prohibited while sport fishing in fresh water.

Gaffs prohibited:

- A gaff may not be used to puncture any fish intended or required to be released.

Molesting of fish:

- Molesting or impeding spawning or the natural movement of fish contrary to lawful methods and means of sport fishing is prohibited.

Snagging in fresh water prohibited:

- It is unlawful to intentionally snag or attempt to snag any fish in fresh water.
- "Snag" means to hook a fish elsewhere than in its mouth. A fish unintentionally hooked elsewhere than its mouth must be released immediately.

Waste of fish:

- The intentional waste or destruction of any species of sport-caught fish is prohibited.

Use of explosives or toxicants:

- The use of any toxicant or explosive is prohibited in the taking of any fish in the waters of Alaska. Except that a shaft tipped with an explosive charge (commonly known as a bangstick or powerhead) or a firearm may be used on board a vessel in saltwater to dispatch a fish caught with legal gear.

METHODS AND MEANS

Freshwater sport fishing:

Fish may **not** be taken in fresh water by means of:

- Fixed or weighted hooks and lures (except those of standard manufacture);
- Multiple hooks with gap between point and shank larger than one-half inch;
- Spear, unless permitted by area regulations; or arrow, unless permitted by area regulations.

Sport fishing gear:

Unless otherwise provided in regulation, sport fishing may be conducted only by use of:

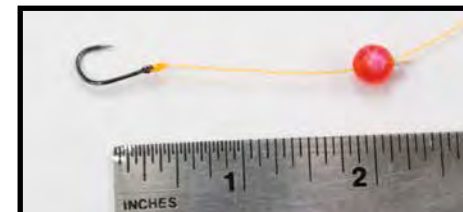
- A single line attached to not more than one plug, spoon, spinner, or series of spinners, or two flies, or two hooks.
- The line must be closely attended, unless unattended setlines for burbot are allowed per area regulation.

Use of underwater spear (saltwater):

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

Use of attractor (bead): An attractor, including a bead, when used with an artificial fly, artificial lure, or bare hook, must be:

- Either fixed within two inches of the bare hook, fly, or lure,
- Or be free sliding on the line or leader.
- A bead fished on the line above a bare single hook is legal gear in waters where only flies may be used.



METHODS AND MEANS (continued)

Ice fishing gear:

- Sport fishing through the ice is permitted using two closely attended lines, provided only one hook or artificial lure is used on each line, except that additional gear may be used for northern pike and burbot as specified in statewide or area regulations.
- The maximum number of lines/hooks that an angler may deploy is not cumulative and is equal to the maximum number of lines/hooks allowed for any species. The number of lines/hooks used to target a species may not exceed the number allowed for that species. For example, in a lake where regulations allow 15 lines for burbot and 5 lines for northern pike, the maximum number of lines you may fish is 15 (not $15 + 5 = 20$); and when setting your 15 lines, only 5 of them may be placed to target pike.

Sport fishing gear for northern pike:

- Unless otherwise provided by the area regulations, northern pike may be taken by spear.

Sport fishing gear for herring and smelt:

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

Sport fishing gear for burbot: Unless otherwise provided by area regulations, burbot may be taken in fresh water with more than one line and hook, provided:

- the total aggregate number of hooks may not exceed 15 or the daily bag limit for burbot in the waters being fished, whichever is less;
- hooks are single hooks with gap between point and shank larger than $\frac{3}{4}$ inch;
- each hook is set to rest on the bottom of the lake or stream;
- each line is identified with angler's name and address;
- each line is physically inspected at least once in each 24-hour period.

POSSESSION OF SPORT-CAUGHT FISH (EXCEPT HALIBUT)

- Sport-caught fish, their parts, and articles manufactured from such fish may be possessed within the state by any person at any time, and may be transported within and exported out of the state by any person at any time, except that no person may possess any unpreserved fish, or part of one, not legally taken by the angler, unless the angler furnishes, upon request of any peace officer of the state, a statement signed by the person taking the fish stating the type of fish, number of fish, location, date taken, and license number. The statement is unnecessary if the person possessing the fish is accompanied by the person who took the fish. No person may possess fish which were not legally taken.
- A person may possess only the limit of fish allowed for the water on which that person is fishing.
- Upon request by an employee of the department, or a peace officer of the state, a person must present for inspection any fish taken or possessed by the person in a sport fishery.
- Upon request by an employee of the department or a peace officer of the state, a person while taking fish must present, for inspection, any apparatus designed to be or capable of being used to take fish in a sport fishery.



Burbot

by Corey Schwanke

POSSESSION OF SPORT-CAUGHT HALIBUT

- Pacific halibut fisheries are managed by the federal government under international treaty.
- Federal possession and landing requirements for sport-caught halibut differ from state regulations. Possession includes unpreserved AND preserved fish for halibut.
- Consult federal regulations for the following: bag, size, and possession limits for guided (charter) anglers; possession and landing requirements, and inseason changes to the regulations.
- **Federal halibut regulations are available from:**
NOAA Fisheries Alaska Region, (907) 586-7228
<https://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/fisheries/sport-halibut>

USE OF SPORT-CAUGHT FISH AS BAIT

- Unless provided for in this section, fish taken under sport fishing regulations may not be used as bait, except:
 - Herring and whitefish may be used as bait, and:
 - Species for which bag limits, seasons, or other regulatory methods and means are not provided in sport fishing regulations, as well as:
 - The head, tail, fins, and viscera of legally taken sport fish, may be used as bait.
- Live herring and other species for which no seasonal or harvest limits are specified in sport fishing regulations may be used as live bait, except that live fish may not be used as bait for sport fishing in fresh water.
 - Live bait may be possessed, transported or released only in the salt waters of the regulatory area in which it was taken.



SHELLFISH - SPORT & PERSONAL USE REGULATIONS

LEGAL GEAR REQUIREMENTS FOR HARVESTING SHELLFISH

- Crab may be taken by hand, or with pots or ring nets; or by diving gear or dip nets; or by hooked or hookless lines, either operated by hand or attached to a pole or rod.
- Shrimp may be taken only with pots or ring nets.
- Clams may be taken by hand, or with rakes, shovels, or manually operated clam guns.
- No more than 5 pots of any size per person and 10 pots per vessel may be used to take shellfish at any time.
- If a keg or buoy is used on shellfish gear, the first initial and last name and home address of the person operating the pot must be legibly inscribed on the keg or buoy. In addition, the name or AK number of the vessel used to set the gear must also be inscribed on the keg or buoy.
- All pots must include an escape mechanism in accordance with shellfish harvest regulations (5 AAC 39.145). See next section for description.

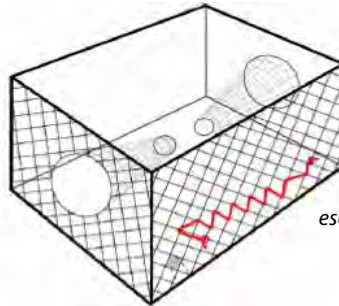


Tanner crab

SHELLFISH POT GEAR ESCAPE MECHANISMS

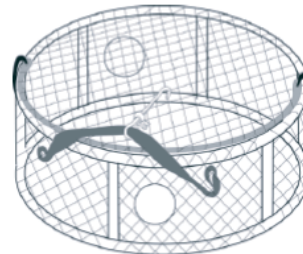
(Summary of 5 AAC 39.145)

- Pot gear must include escape mechanisms in order to avoid waste of the resource in case the pot is lost.
- A sidewall, which may include the tunnel, must contain an opening at least 18 inches long (6 inches long for shrimp pots). The opening must be within 6 inches of the bottom of the pot, and must be parallel to the bottom of the pot.
- The opening must be laced, sewn, or secured together by a single length of untreated, 100 percent cotton twine no larger than 30-thread. The cotton twine may be knotted at each end only. The cotton twine may not be looped around or tied to the web bars.



Placement of escapement mechanism

Exception 1: Dungeness crab pots only may have the pot lid tie-down straps secured to the pot at one end by a single loop of untreated 100 percent cotton twine no larger than 60-thread.



"Dungeness crab pot Exception 1" (see text above)

Exception 2: Tanner crab and shrimp pots may use 36-thread twine (or smaller) and a galvanic timed-release device (GTR) in their 18-inch (or 6 inch for shrimp pots) opening. The GTR must be designed to release in no more than 30 days in salt water, and must be integral to the length of the twine so that when the device releases, the twine will no longer secure or obstruct the opening of the pot. The twine may be knotted only at each end and at the attachment points on the GTR.



Spot shrimp

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Octopus are occasionally caught in crab pots. Octopus are defined as "other shellfish." There are no closed seasons, no bag or possession limits. Octopus may be taken only by pots or hook and line.

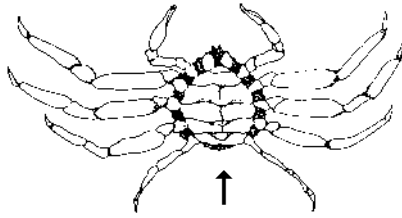
An owner, operator, or employee of a lodge, charter vessel, or other enterprise that furnishes food, lodging, or sport fishing guide services may not furnish to a client or guest of that enterprise, subsistence-, sport-, or personal use-caught shellfish, unless the shellfish:

1. Has been taken with gear deployed and retrieved by the client or guest;
2. Has been taken with gear that has been marked with the client's or guest's name and address; and
3. Is to be consumed by the client or guest or is consumed in the presence of the client or guest. The captain and crew members of a charter vessel may not deploy, set, or retrieve their own gear in a subsistence, sport, or personal use fishery when that vessel is being chartered.

CRAB IDENTIFICATION AND MEASUREMENT

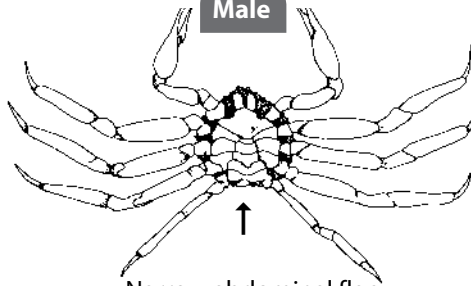
TANNER CRAB (minimum size 5½ inches)

Female - **NO HARVEST ALLOWED**

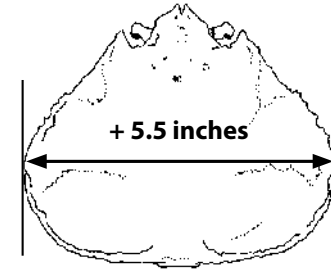


Wide abdominal flap covers most of underside (females usually smaller than 5½")

Male



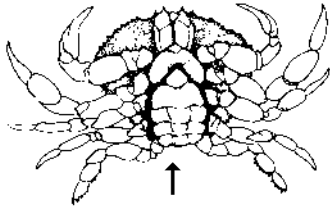
Narrow abdominal flap



Width measurement of Tanner crab is the straight-line distance across the carapace, **including** spines.

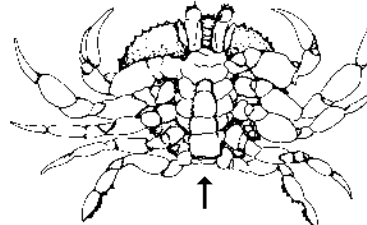
DUNGENESS CRAB (minimum size 6½ inches)

Female - **NO HARVEST ALLOWED**

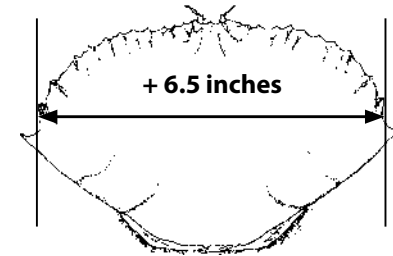


Wide abdominal flap covers most of underside

Male



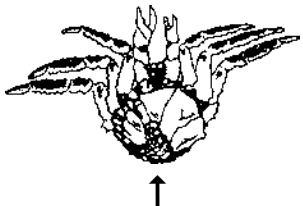
Narrow abdominal flap



Width measurement of Dungeness crab is the straight-line distance across the carapace, **NOT** including spines.

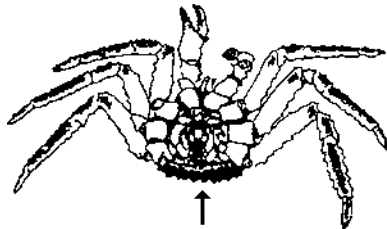
KING CRAB - Bristol Bay only - (minimum size 6½ inches) - Alaska Peninsula, Aleutian Islands and Kodiak Island **CLOSED** season

Female - **NO HARVEST ALLOWED**



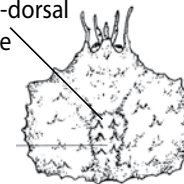
Wide abdominal flap covers most of underside

Male



narrow abdominal flap

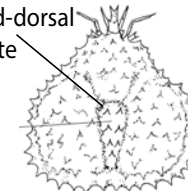
6 prominent spines on mid-dorsal plate



RED KING CRAB

(minimum size 6½ inches)

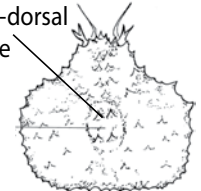
5 to 9 spines on mid-dorsal plate



BROWN KING CRAB

(minimum size 6½ inches)

4 prominent spines on mid-dorsal plate



BLUE KING CRAB

(minimum size 6½ inches)

**Bristol Bay
Fresh and Salt Waters**

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Aidan Brito fishing the lowithla River Photo by Taryn O'Conner-Brito

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If the water you intend to fish is not listed under its area's Special Regulations, then that area's General Regulations apply.

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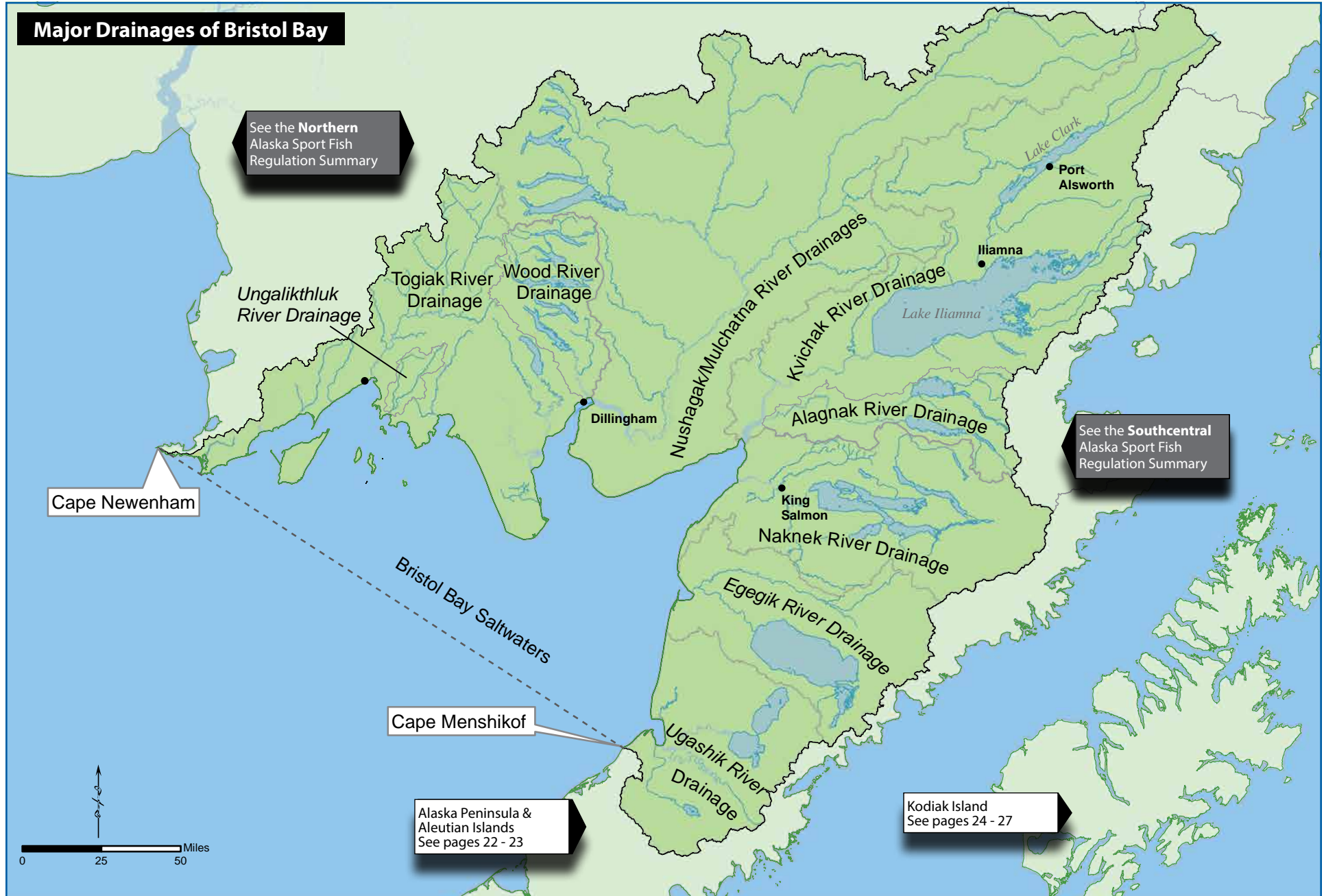
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Sulua Bay, Kodiak Island

Major Drainages of Bristol Bay



GENERAL REGULATIONS

Inclusive waters: All fresh waters draining into Bristol Bay between Cape Menshikof and Cape Newenham, and all salt waters east of a line from Cape Newenham to Cape Menshikof.

The fishing season for all species is open year-round unless otherwise noted below.

KING SALMON

- **Season:** May 1–July 31.
- 20 inches or longer— Annual limit of 5 king salmon 20 inches or longer in Bristol Bay salt and fresh waters. Of these 5 total king salmon, no more than 4 may be harvested from the Nushagak/Mulchatna river drainage, and no more than 2 may be harvested from the Wood River drainage. Harvest record required. See page 5 for recording instructions.
- **Fresh waters:**
 - **King salmon removed from the water must be retained:** Any king salmon removed from freshwater drainages of Bristol Bay from Cape Menshikof to Cape Newenham **MUST BE RETAINED** and becomes part of the bag limit of the person originally hooking it. A person who intends to release a king salmon may not remove it from the water before releasing it.
 - 20 inches or longer: 3 per day, 3 in possession, only 1 of which may be 28 inches or longer.
 - Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.
- **Salt waters:**
 - 3 per day, 3 in possession, only 2 of which may be 28 inches or longer.

OTHER SALMON

- 5 per day, 5 in possession.

ARCTIC CHAR AND DOLLY VARDEN

- **Season:** June 8–October 31.
 - 3 per day, 3 in possession.
- **Season:** November 1–June 7.
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession.

RAINBOW TROUT

- **Season:** June 8–October 31.
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
- **Season:** November 1–June 7.
 - 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.

ARCTIC GRAYLING

- 2 per day, 2 in possession.

LAKE TROUT

- 4 per day, 4 in possession.

NORTHERN PIKE

- 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 of which may be 30 inches or longer.

BURBOT

- 15 per day, 15 in possession.

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:**
 - 1) Bag, size, and possession limits for guided (charter) anglers.
 - 2) Possession and landing requirements.
 - 3) Inseason changes to the regulations.

LINGCOD

- No limit.

ROCKFISH

- No limit.

KING CRAB

- **Season:** June 1–January 31.
 - Males only:
 - 6½ inches or more: 6 per day, 6 in possession.

DUNGENESS CRAB

- Males only:
 - 6½ inches or more: 12 per day, 12 in possession.

TANNER CRAB

- Males only:
 - 5½ inches or more: 12 per day, 12 in possession.

SHARKS (EXCEPT SPINY DOGFISH)

- 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size restrictions.
- Annual limit of 2 sharks. Harvest record required. See page 5 for recording instructions.

SPINY DOGFISH

- 5 per day, 5 in possession—no size restrictions. Harvest record **not** required.

OTHER FINFISH

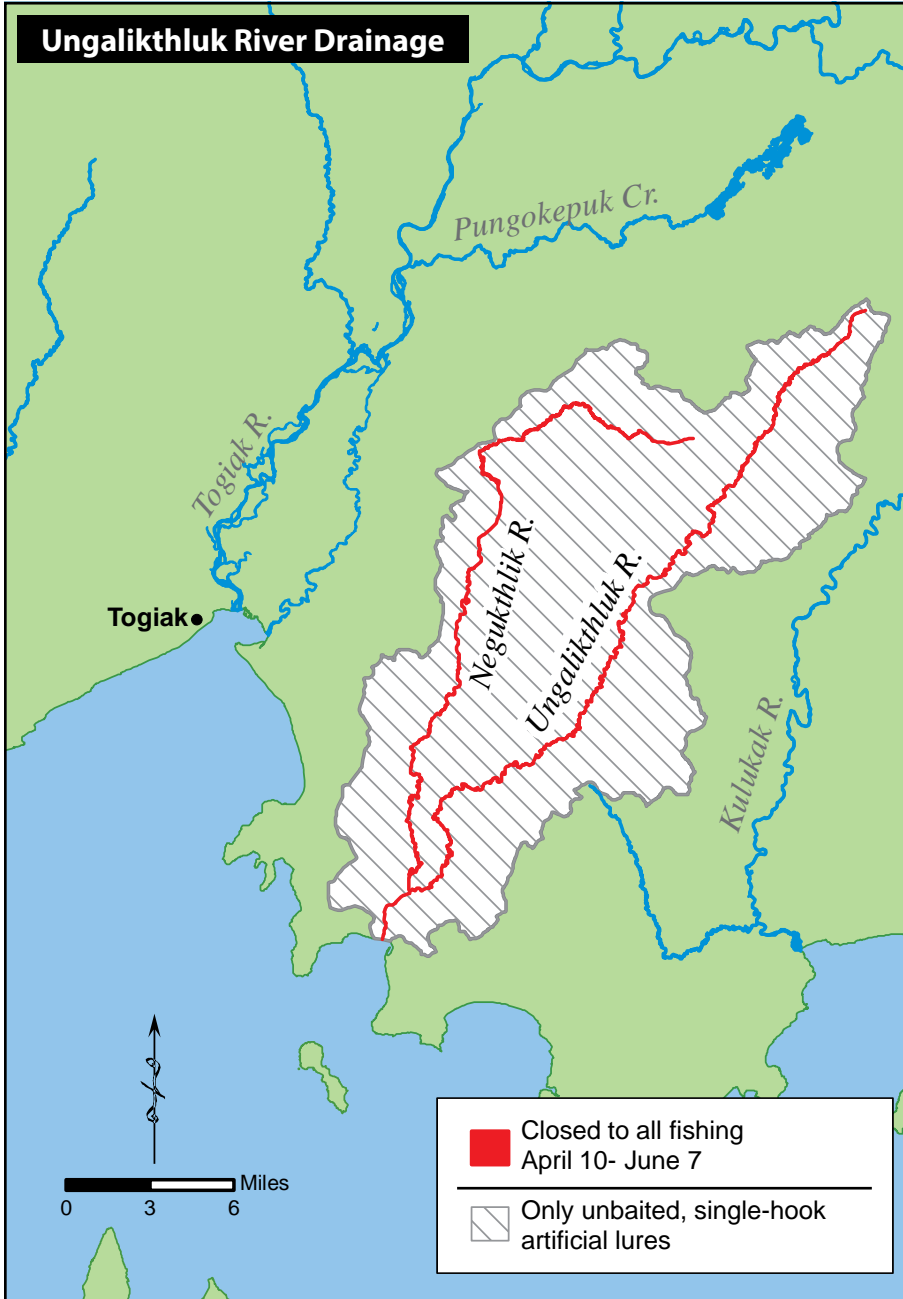
- No limit

METHODS AND MEANS

Chumming:

- In waters closed to the use of bait, sport fishing guides and guided anglers are prohibited from placing in the water any substance (bait) for the purpose of attracting fish by scent.





King salmon from the Nushagak

Photo by Doug Mulliner

UNGALIKTHLUK RIVER DRAINAGE, INCLUDING THE NEGUKTHLIK RIVER

- **Closed to all fishing, April 10-June 7.**
- Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures may be used.
- Rainbow trout limits:
 - June 8–Oct. 31: No retention of rainbow trout. All rainbow trout caught must be released immediately.
 - Nov. 1–April 9: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 may be over 20 inches.

WOOD RIVER DRAINAGE

Wood River drainage:

- The fishing season for king salmon is May 1–July 31.
- King salmon limits:
 - Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.
 - 20 inches or longer: 1 per day, 1 in possession, only 1 over 28 inches.
 - There is an annual limit of 2 king salmon over 20 inches taken from the Wood River drainage. All harvested king salmon 20 inches or longer must be recorded; see page 5.
- **Agulowak River** (from an ADF&G regulatory marker at the outlet of Lake Nerka, downstream to Lake Aleknagik, including waters of Lake Aleknagik within ½ mile of the Agulowak River outlet):
 - Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures may be used.
 - Rainbow trout limits: 1 per day, 1 in possession.
 - Arctic char/ Dolly Varden limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession.

- **Agulupak River** (From the outlet of Lake Beverly to the island located 1.2 miles downstream):
 - Sept. 1–June 7: Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial **LURES** may be used.
 - June 8–Aug. 31: Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial **FLIES** may be used.
 - Rainbow trout limits:
 - June 8–Oct. 31: No retention of rainbow trout. All rainbow trout caught must be released immediately.
 - Nov. 1–June 7: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 may be over 20 inches.
- **Kulik Lake:**
 - Northern pike: No retention of northern pike 30 inches or longer.



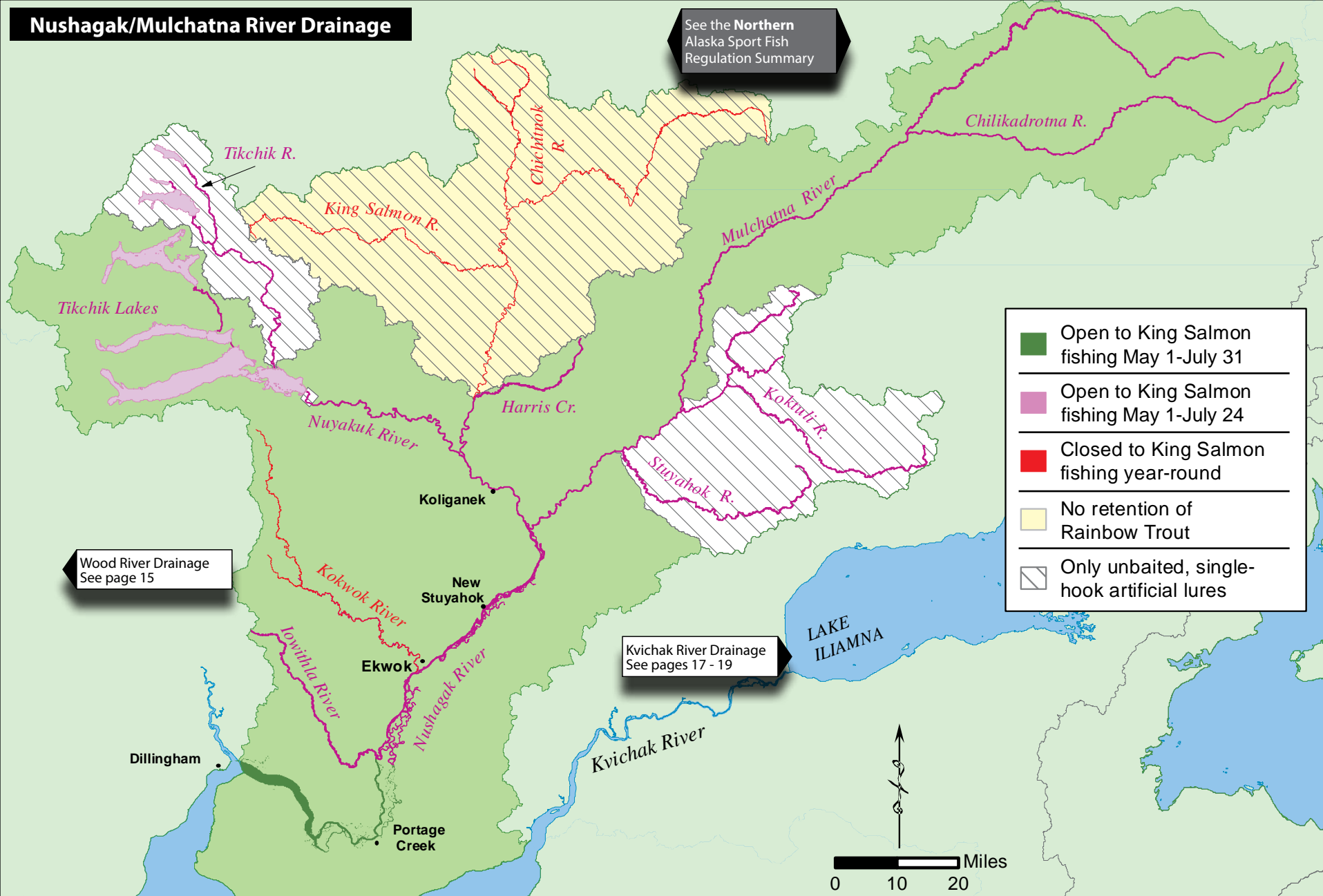
Wood River sunset

by Emily Tyson



Nushagak/Mulchatna River Drainage

See the Northern Alaska Sport Fish Regulation Summary



- Open to King Salmon fishing May 1-July 31

- Open to King Salmon fishing May 1-July 24

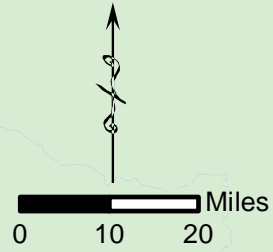
- Closed to King Salmon fishing year-round

- No retention of Rainbow Trout

- Only unbaited, single-hook artificial lures

Wood River Drainage
See page 15

Kvichak River Drainage
See pages 17 - 19



NUSHAGAK/MULCHATNA RIVER DRAINAGE

The Nushagak/Mulchatna Chinook and Coho Salmon Management Plans may require inseason adjustments to the regulations (emergency orders) for seasons, bag limits, gear, and open waters, depending on escapement levels of king or coho salmon. See page 3 for instructions on how to check for emergency orders in the area you are fishing.

- Only one single-hook lure or one single-hook may be used May 1–July 31.
- **In waters of the Nushagak/Mulchatna River drainage open to fishing for king salmon:**
 - King salmon limits:
 - 20 inches or longer:
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 over 28 inches.
 - After taking a bag limit of king salmon 20 inches or longer from the Nushagak/Mulchatna River drainage, a person may only use unbaited artificial lures with *one single-hook*, in the Nushagak/Mulchatna River drainage for the remainder of the day.
 - There is a annual limit of 4 king salmon over 20 inches taken from the entire Nushagak/Mulchatna drainage.
 - All harvested king salmon 20 inches or longer must be recorded. See page 5 for recording instructions..
 - less than 20 inches: 5 per day 5 in possession
- **From its confluence with the Iowithla River, upstream to Harris Creek, including the Iowithla River:**
 - The fishing season for king salmon is May 1–July 24.
- **Upstream of its confluence with Harris Creek:**
 - **Closed to king salmon fishing year-round.**
 - Bait prohibited, only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures may be used year-round.
 - Rainbow trout: Rainbow trout retention prohibited year-round. All rainbow trout caught must be released immediately.

Kokwok River (including waters of the Nushagak River within ¼ mile of its confluence with the Kokwok River):

- **Closed to king salmon fishing year-round.**

Koktuli River drainage:

- Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures may be used year-round.

Mulchatna River drainage—from ADF&G markers about 1½ miles downstream from the Stuyahok River outlet, upstream to markers about 1½ miles upstream from the Koktuli River outlet:

- Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures may be used year-round.

Nuyakuk River—from the outlet of Tikchik Lake to an island located about 2 miles downstream from Nuyakuk Falls:

- Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures may be used year-round.

Stuyahok River Drainage:

- Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures may be used year-round.

Tikchik River Drainage:

- Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures may be used year-round.



Naknek River sunset

© Mark Emery

KVICHAK RIVER DRAINAGE (see map on page 18)

The Kvichak Inriver Sockeye Management Plan may require inseason changes to sockeye salmon bag limits and waters open to fishing, depending on escapement levels. See page 3 for instructions on how to check for emergency orders in the area you are fishing.

- Salmon limits (except king salmon) excluding the Alagnak River drainage: 5 per day, 5 in possession; only 2 per day, 2 in possession may be coho salmon.
- Use of helicopters for transporting anglers and sport-caught fish is prohibited in the Kvichak River drainage.
- **Chulitna River Drainage, including waters of Lake Clark within 1 mile of the Chulitna River:**
 - Northern pike: No retention of northern pike 30 inches or longer is allowed. All northern pike 30 inches or longer must be immediately released.
- **Kvichak River upstream from its outlet in Kvichak Bay to Iliamna Lake:**
 - **Closed to all sport fishing April 10–June 7.**
 - Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures may be used year-round, except in lake waters more than a ½-mile radius from inlet or outlet streams.
- **Kvichak River from Kvichak Bay upstream to an ADF&G marker at the confluence of Yellow Creek:**
 - Rainbow trout limits:
 - June 8–Oct. 31: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.
 - Nov. 1–April 9: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 over 20 inches.

- No retention of Rainbow Trout
June 8-October 31

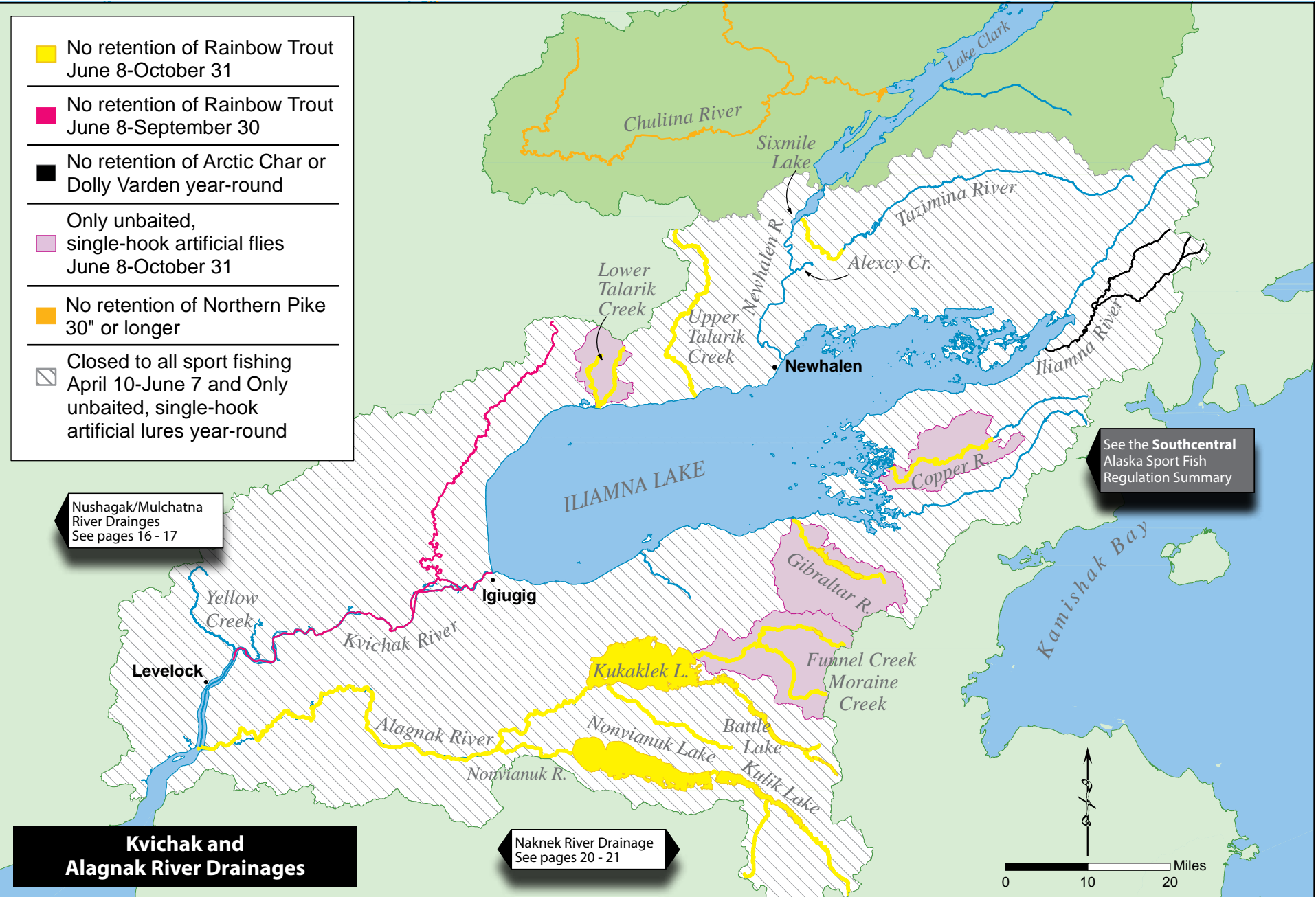
- No retention of Rainbow Trout
June 8-September 30

- No retention of Arctic Char or
Dolly Varden year-round

- Only unbaited,
single-hook artificial flies
June 8-October 31

- No retention of Northern Pike
30" or longer

- Closed to all sport fishing
April 10-June 7 and Only
unbaited, single-hook
artificial lures year-round

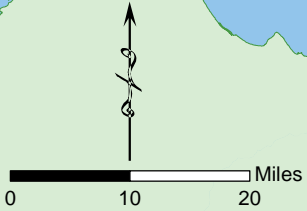


See the **Southcentral** Alaska Sport Fish Regulation Summary

Nushagak/Mulchatna River Drainages
See pages 16 - 17

Kvichak and Alagnak River Drainages

Naknek River Drainage
See pages 20 - 21



KVICHAK RIVER DRAINAGE (continued)

- **From an ADF&G regulatory marker at the confluence of Yellow Creek upstream to the waters of Iliamna Lake within a ½-mile radius of its outlet at Igiugig:**
 - Rainbow trout limits:
 - June 8–Sept. 30: No retention of rainbow trout is allowed. All rainbow trout must be immediately released.
 - Oct. 1–Oct. 31: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.
 - Nov. 1–April 9: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 over 20 inches.
- **Iliamna Lake and all its tributaries, including the Newhalen River and tributaries, upstream to the outlet of Lake Clark:**
 - Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures may be used year-round, except in waters of lakes more than a ½-mile radius from inlet or outlet streams.
 - **All flowing waters, and lake waters within a ½-mile radius of inlet or outlet streams:**
 - **Closed to all sport fishing April 10–June 7.** In lake waters more than ½ mile distant from inlet or outlet streams, general seasons and limits at left apply.
 - **In all waters except those of lakes more than a ½-mile radius from inlet or outlet streams:**
 - Rainbow trout limits:
 - June 8–Oct. 31: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.
 - Nov. 1–April 9: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 over 20 inches.



- **Lower Talarik Creek and waters of Lake Iliamna**—within ½ mile of the Lower Talarik Creek mouth:
 - June 8–October 31: Bait prohibited, only unbaited artificial flies may be used.
 - Rainbow trout: June 8–Oct. 31: No retention of rainbow trout is allowed. All rainbow trout must be immediately released.
- **Upper Talarik Creek and waters of Lake Iliamna**—within ½ mile of the Upper Talarik Creek mouth:
 - Rainbow trout limits: June 8–Oct. 31: No retention of rainbow trout is allowed. All rainbow trout must be immediately released.
- **Gibraltar River drainage**—all flowing waters and the waters of Lake Iliamna within ½ mile of the Gibraltar River mouth:
 - June 8–October 31: Bait prohibited, only unbaited artificial flies may be used.
 - Rainbow trout limits: June 8–Oct. 31: No retention of rainbow trout is allowed. All rainbow trout must be immediately released.
- **Copper River drainage**—all flowing waters downstream from Lower Copper Lake and the waters of Lake Iliamna within ½ mile of the Copper River mouth:
 - June 8–October 31: Bait prohibited, only unbaited artificial flies may be used.
 - Rainbow trout limits: June 8–Oct. 31: No retention of rainbow trout is allowed. All rainbow trout must be immediately released.
- **Tazimina River**—from the falls, downstream to 1 mile upstream of its outlet into Sixmile Lake:
 - Rainbow trout limits: June 8–Oct. 31: No retention of rainbow trout is allowed. All rainbow trout must be immediately released.
- **Iliamna River drainage:**
 - Arctic char and Dolly Varden limits: No retention of Arctic char or Dolly Varden is allowed. All Arctic char or Dolly Varden must be released.

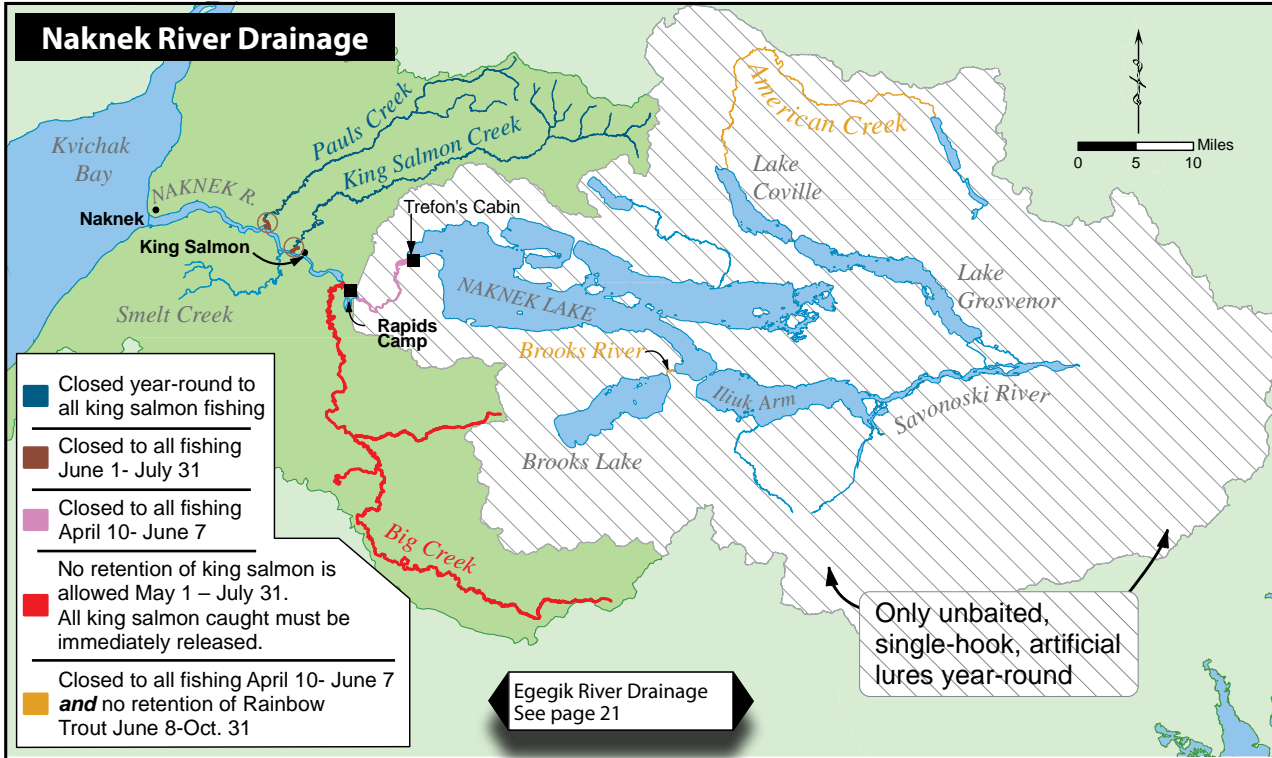
Kvichak River drainage upstream of Sixmile Lake, including Lake Clark:

- In all tributaries upstream of Sixmile Lake, including Lake Clark:
 - Rainbow trout limits:
 - June 8–Oct. 31: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.
 - Nov. 1–June 7: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 over 20 inches.

ALAGNAK RIVER DRAINAGE

Alagnak River drainage; unless further restricted below (see map on page 18):

- The use of helicopters for transporting anglers and sport-caught fish is prohibited.
- Salmon limits (all species except king): 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 3 per day, 3 in possession may be coho salmon. Limits for king salmon are the same as shown under General Seasons and Limits on page 16.
- Rainbow trout limits:
 - June 8–Oct. 31: No retention of rainbow trout is allowed. All rainbow trout must be immediately released.
 - Nov. 1–June 7, the daily limit is 5 per day, 5 in possession, must be less than 18 inches.
- **Alagnak River drainage**—all flowing waters of the Alagnak River drainage, including lake waters within ½ mile of all inlet and outlet streams:
 - **Closed to all sport fishing April 10–June 7.**
 - Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures may be used year-round.
- **Moraine Creek drainage**—all flowing waters:
 - June 8–October 31: Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial flies may be used.



NAKNEK RIVER DRAINAGE

Naknek River drainage:

- Rainbow trout limits:
 - June 8–Oct. 31: Unless further restricted below, in the Naknek River drainage, 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 18 inches.
 - Nov. 1–June 7: 5 per day, 5 in possession, must be less than 18 inches.
- **In all flowing waters:**
 - March 1–November 14: Only unbaited, artificial lures may be used.



- **In all flowing waters upstream from an ADF&G regulatory marker located 1/2 mile upstream of Rapids Camp, including all waters within 1/4 mile of all lake inlet and outlet streams:**
 - Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures may be used year-round.
- **Upstream from ADF&G markers located 1/2 mile above Rapids Camp to ADF&G markers at Trefon's cabin at the outlet of Naknek Lake:**
 - **Closed to all sport fishing April 10–June 7.**
 - Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures with a gap between the point and shank of 1/2 inch or less are allowed March 1–April 9 and from June 8–July 31. For the remainder of the year, only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures may be used.

- **Within a 1/4 mile radius of Big Creek:**
 - King salmon: May 1–July 31: king salmon may be retained. Bag limits and gear restrictions same as the remainder of the Naknek River.

Big Creek—upstream of its confluence with the Naknek River:

- King salmon: May 1–July 31: No retention of king salmon is allowed. All king salmon caught must be immediately released.

Brooks River drainage:

Brooks River and Brooks Camp are within Katmai National Park. Additional National Park regulations may apply to access and conduct of the fishery. Call (907) 246-3305 for information.

- Rainbow trout limits:
 - June 8–Oct. 31: Unless further restricted below, all rainbow trout caught must be immediately released.
 - November 1–June 7: The bag and possession limit for rainbow trout is 5 fish less than 18 inches in length. Any rainbow trout caught that are 18 inches or greater in length must be immediately released.
- **In all flowing waters of the Brooks River drainage, including lake waters within 1/4 mile of all inlet and outlet streams and waters of Naknek Lake within 1/4 mile of the outlet of the Brooks River:**
 - **Closed to all sport fishing April 10–June 7.**
 - Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial flies may be used.
 - Rainbow trout limits: November 1–April 9: 5 per day, 5 in possession, must be less than 18 inches.
- **The outlet of Brooks Lake downstream to the bridge at Brooks Camp:**
 - No retention; all fish caught must be released immediately.



NAKNEK RIVER DRAINAGE (continued)

King Salmon Creek:

- Rainbow trout limits: 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 18 inches.
- **Upstream from ADF&G markers at confluence with the Naknek River to the upstream side of the Alaska Peninsula Highway bridge:**
 - **Closed to all sport fishing June 1–July 31.**
- **Upstream of the Alaska Peninsula Highway bridge:**
 - **Closed year-round to all king salmon fishing.**

Paul's Creek:

- Rainbow trout limits: 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 18 inches.
- **Upstream from ADF&G markers at confluence with the Naknek River to the upstream side of the Alaska Peninsula Highway bridge:**
 - **Closed to all sport fishing June 1–July 31.**
- **Upstream of the Alaska Peninsula Highway bridge:**
 - **Closed year-round to all king salmon fishing.**

Savonoski River drainage (including the waters of Naknek Lake within ¼ mile of the mouth of the Savonoski River, and including Lake Coville and Lake Grosvenor (but excluding American Creek):

- Rainbow trout limits:
 - June 8–Oct. 31: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.
 - November 1–June 7: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 over 20 inches.
- **American Creek:**
 - **Closed to all sport fishing April 10–June 7.**
- Rainbow trout limits:
 - June 8–Oct. 31: No retention of rainbow trout is allowed. All rainbow trout must be released immediately.
 - Nov. 1–April 9: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 over 20 inches.



Egegik and Ugashik River Drainages

EGEGIK RIVER DRAINAGE

- **All waters, including Becharof Lake:**
 - Rainbow trout limits:
 - June 8–October 31: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.
 - Nov. 1–June 7: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only one fish over 20 inches.
- **At Becharof Lake outlet, including the waters of Becharof Lake within ¼ mile of the outlet and the waters of the Egegik River within ¼ mile of the outlet:**
 - Arctic grayling limits: No retention of Arctic grayling is allowed. All Arctic grayling must be released immediately.

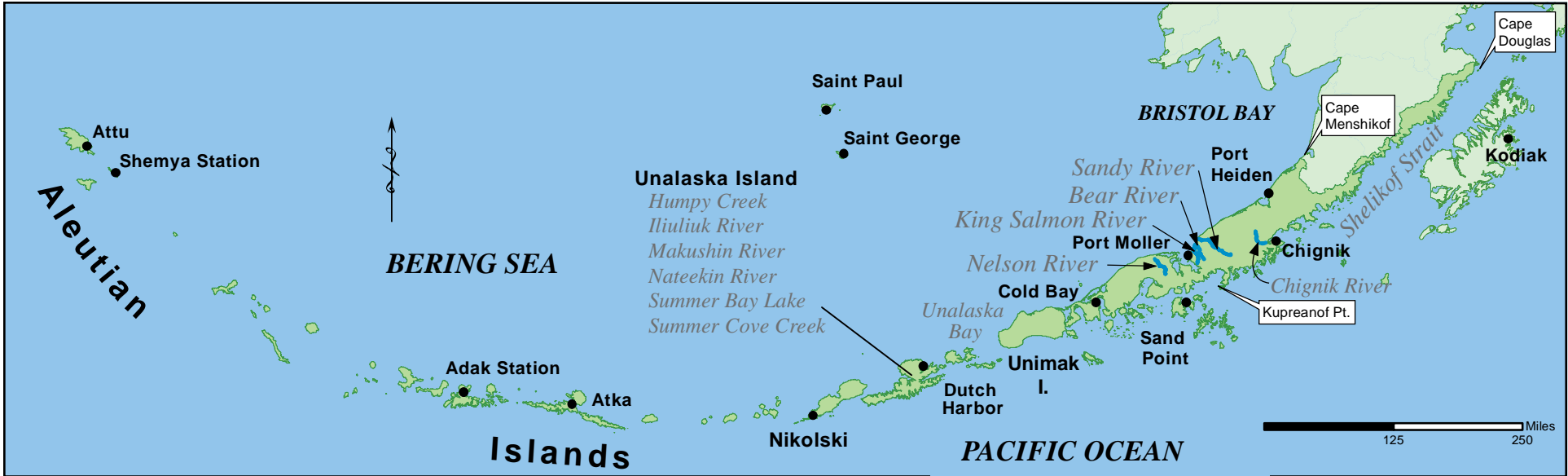
UGASHIK RIVER DRAINAGE

Ugashik River drainage:

- **All waters, including Ugashik Lakes:**
 - Rainbow trout limits:
 - June 8–October 31: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.
 - Nov. 1–June 7: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only one fish over 20 inches.
- **In Ugashik Narrows (the waters from the outlet of Upper Ugashik Lake downstream to the inlet of Lower Ugashik Lake, including those waters of Upper and Lower Ugashik Lakes within ¼ mile of the Ugashik Narrows):**
 - Arctic grayling limits: No retention of Arctic grayling is allowed. All Arctic grayling must be released immediately.
- **The Ugashik River:**
 - **Closed year-round to fishing for Arctic grayling.**
- **In the remainder of the Ugashik drainage, including Ugashik Lakes and all Ugashik tributaries:**
 - Arctic grayling limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession.



Rainbow trout



GENERAL REGULATIONS

Inclusive waters: All fresh waters of the Aleutian Islands and the Alaska Peninsula (Pacific Ocean drainages west of the longitude of Cape Douglas and Bering Sea drainages south of the latitude of Cape Menshikof).

The fresh water fishing season for all species is open year-round unless otherwise noted below.

KING SALMON

- **Season:** January 1–July 25.
 - 20 inches or longer: 2 per day, 2 in possession. Annual limit of 5 fish. Harvest record required. See page 5 for recording instructions.
 - Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.

OTHER SALMON

- Alaska Peninsula/Aleutian Islands Remote Zone:
 - 20 inches or longer (total combination of all species except king salmon):
 - 5 per day, 10 in possession.
 - Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.
- Unalaska Bay Drainages (Unalaska/Dutch Harbor Road Zone):
 - 20 inches or longer (total combination of all species except king salmon):
 - 5 per day, 5 in possession, of which 2 may be coho and 2 may be sockeye salmon.
 - Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.

RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

- 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
 - 20 inches or longer: Annual limit of 2 fish. Harvest record required. See page 5 for recording instructions.

DOLLY VARDEN

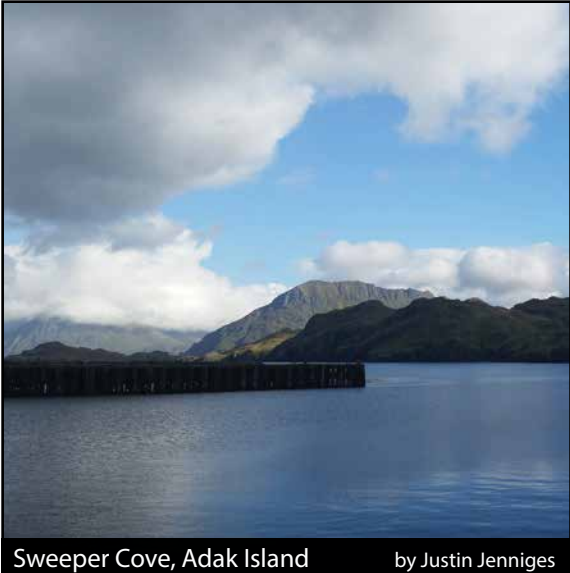
- 10 per day, 10 in possession.

ARCTIC GRAYLING

- 5 per day, 5 in possession.

OTHER FINFISH

- No limit



Sweeper Cove, Adak Island

by Justin Jenniges

SPECIAL REGULATIONS

ALASKA PENINSULA

Chignik River:

- Open to king salmon fishing January 1–August 9.

King Salmon River:

- King salmon may not be removed from the water if it is to be released.
- **That section of river from its mouth to an ADF&G regulatory marker located 1,000 yards upstream:**
 - Only unbaited, artificial lures may be used year-round.
 - King salmon limits: **Closed to the harvest of king salmon.** King salmon must be released immediately and may not be removed from the water before release.

Runway Lake (near Anchorage Bay in Chignik):

- Rainbow/steelhead trout limits: Annual limit of 2 fish over 20 inches or longer does not apply. General limits still apply.

Sandy River:

- Rainbow/steelhead trout limits: **No possession or retention of rainbow/steelhead trout.** Rainbow/steelhead trout must be released immediately.
- King salmon limits: 20 inches or longer: 1 per day, 1 in possession, 2 fish annual limit.
- Only 1 unbaited, single hook, artificial lure may be used.

Nelson (Sapsuk) River drainage:

- **Upstream from its confluence with the Caribou River:**
 - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used.
 - King salmon limits: **No possession or retention of king salmon.**

Swanson Lagoon:

- Closed to sport fishing January 1–July 31.
- Closed to sockeye salmon fishing year-round.

ALEUTIAN ISLANDS

Humpy Creek:

- **Closed to sport fishing.**

Makushin River - upstream from an ADF&G marker located about 2 miles upstream:

- **Closed to sport fishing.**

Nateekin River - upstream from an ADF&G marker located about 2 miles upstream:

- **Closed to sport fishing.**

Iliuliuk drainage - including the Iliuliuk Creek (also known as Town or Unalaska Creek), Iliuliuk Lake and all waters flowing into Iliuliuk Lake:

- **Upstream from ADF&G regulatory markers located at the Church Hole:**
 - **Closed to salmon fishing year-round.**
- **Downstream from ADF&G regulatory markers located at the Church Hole:**
 - **Closed to sockeye salmon fishing year-round.**

Summer Bay Creek (see map page 29):

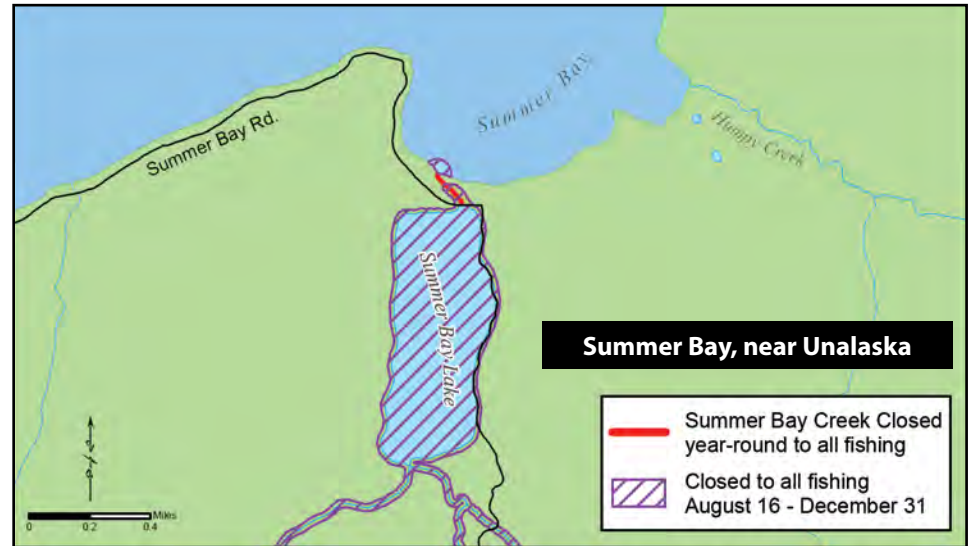
- **Closed to sport fishing.**

Summer Bay Lake drainage—including salt waters within a 250-yard radius of the Summer Bay Creek outlet (see map page 29):

- **Closed to sport fishing August 16—December 31.**
- January 1—August 15:
 - Coho, chum, sockeye and pink salmon limits: Total combination of all species—5 per day, 5 in possession, only 2 of which may be coho and only 2 may be sockeye salmon.

Unalaska Bay drainages:

- Coho, chum, sockeye and pink salmon limits: Total combination of all species—5 per day, 5 in possession, only 2 of which may be coho salmon and only 2 may be sockeye salmon.





GENERAL REGULATIONS

Inclusive waters: All salt waters circumjacent to Kodiak Island, the Aleutian Islands and the Alaska Peninsula (coastline west of the longitude of Cape Douglas and Bering Sea coastline south of the latitude of Cape Menchikof).

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

KING SALMON

- 2 per day, 2 in possession. **No annual limit.**

OTHER SALMON

- Kodiak and Alaska Peninsula/Aleutian Islands remote zones: 5 per day, 10 in possession.
- Kodiak Road Zone (all saltwater within 1 mile of the Road Zone and Spruce Island): 5 per day, 5 in possession.
 - Only 2 of which may be sockeye salmon
 - Only 2 of which may be coho salmon prior to Sept 16, and only 1 of which may be a coho salmon from Sept 16-Dec 31 (*see special regulations for stocked areas*).
- Unalaska Bay: 5 per day, 5 in possession, of which 2 may be coho and 2 may be sockeye.

RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

- 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 may be 20 inches or longer.
 - 20 inches or longer: Annual limit of 2 fish. Harvest record required. See page 5 for recording instructions.

DOLLY VARDEN

- 10 per day, 10 in possession.

LINGCOD

- **Season:** July 1 - December 31.
 - 2 per day, 4 in possession.

SHARKS (EXCEPT SPINY DOGFISH)

- 1 daily, 1 in possession: No size restrictions. Annual limit of 2 sharks. Harvest record required. See page 5 for recording instructions.

SPINY DOGFISH

- 5 daily, 5 in possession. No size restrictions.

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:**
 - 1) Bag, size, and possession limits for guided (charter) anglers.
 - 2) Possession and landing requirements.
 - 3) Inseason changes to the regulations.

ROCKFISH

- **Chiniak and Marmot Bay Limits:** 3 per day, 6 in possession; only 2 per day, 4 in possession may be non-pelagic, only 1 per day, 2 in possession may be a Yelloweye.
- Captain and crew of charter vessels may not retain rockfish while clients are on board in this area (*see page 29 for map*).
- **Remainder of Kodiak Island:** 5 per day, 10 in possession; only 2 per day, 4 in possession may be non-pelagic, only 1 per day, 2 in possession may be a Yelloweye.
- **Alaska Peninsula & Aleutian Islands limits:** 10 per day, 20 in possession.

OTHER FINFISH

- No limit

KING CRAB

- **Fishery is closed.**

DUNGENESS CRAB

- Males only:
 - 6½ inches or more (straight-line distance across carapace, **not** including spines)—12 per day, 12 in possession.

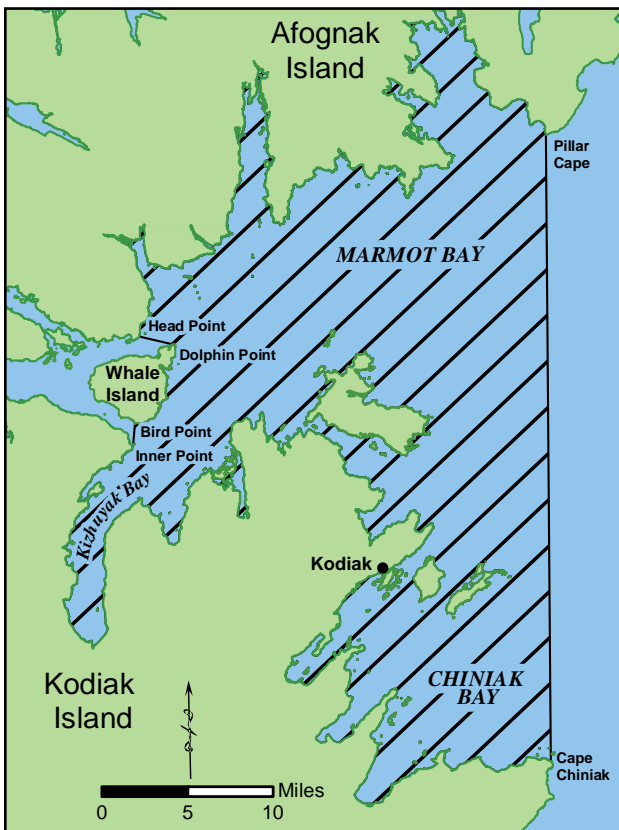
TANNER CRAB

- Males only:
 - 5½ inches or more (straight-line distance across carapace, **including** spines)—6 per day, 6 in possession.
- In waters 25 fathoms or deeper, between July 15 and February 10, no one may take Tanner crab 14 days before and after a commercial red king crab or tanner crab fishing season.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS

Chiniak and Marmot Bays:

- In the waters of Chiniak Bay and Marmot Bay, west of a line from Cape Chiniak to Pillar Cape and east of a line from Head Point on Afognak Island (57° 59.67' N. lat, 152° 46.75' W. long) to Dolphin Point (57° 59.15' N. lat, 152° 43.40' W. long) on Whale Island, east of a line from Bird Point (57° 55.30' N. lat, 152° 47.50' W. long) on Whale Island to Inner Point (57° 54.05' N. lat, 152° 47.75' W. long) on Kodiak Island and all waters of Kizhuyak Bay:
 - Rockfish limits are 3 per day, 6 in possession; only 2 per day, 4 in possession may be non-pelagic, and only 1 per day, 2 in possession may be a Yelloweye. Captain and crew of charter vessels may not retain rockfish while clients are on board in this area.



Kodiak Road Zone—In all salt water bordering the Road Zone within 1 mile of Spruce Island and Kodiak Island:

- Salmon limits: Of daily other salmon limit, only 2 may be sockeye salmon. Prior to Sept 16, only 2 may be coho salmon. From Sept 16-Dec 31, only 1 may be a coho salmon.
- Steelhead trout: No retention of steelhead trout is allowed. All steelhead trout must be released immediately.

Kodiak Remote Zone:

- Salmon limits (other than king salmon): 5 per day, 10 in possession.

Mill Bay:

- Snagging is prohibited August 1–September 15.

Mission Beach:

- Snagging is prohibited August 1–September 15.

Monashka Bay:

- Snagging is prohibited May 1–July 5.

Unalaska Bay:

- Salmon (except king salmon) limits: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 2 may be coho salmon and only 2 may be sockeye salmon.

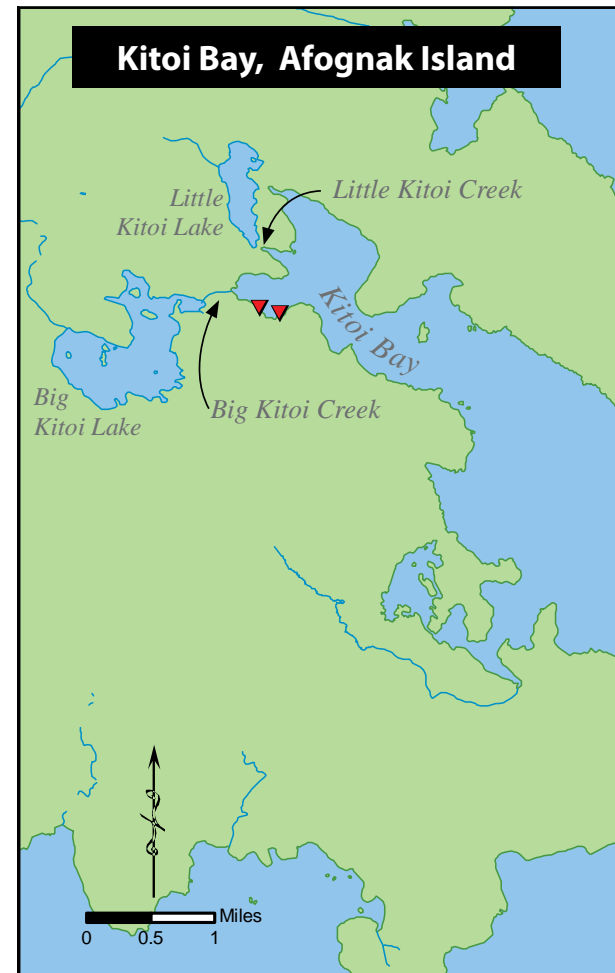
Summer Bay Creek outlet—All salt waters within a 250 yard radius:

- Closed to sport fishing August 16–December 31.**
- January 1—August 15:
 - Coho, chum, sockeye and pink salmon limits: Total combination of all species — 5 per day, 5 in possession, of which only 2 may be coho and 2 may be sockeye salmon.



Kitoi Bay:

- Within 500 yards of Little Kitoi Creek:
 - Closed to salmon fishing August 15–September 30.**
- From the mouth of Big Kitoi Creek to ADF&G markers located at approx. 152° 22' W. long.:
 - Closed to sport fishing year-round.**
- Seaward from ADF&G markers located at approx. 152° 22' W. long. to ADF&G markers located at approx. 152° 21.75' W. long.:
 - Closed to sport fishing August 15–September 30.**



GENERAL REGULATIONS

Inclusive waters: All drainages of the Kodiak and Afognak Island groups.

- **Kodiak Island Road Zone:** All fresh waters of Kodiak Island east of a line from Crag Pt. south to the westernmost point of Saltery Cove, including waters of Woody, Long, and Spruce Islands, and all salt waters bordering the Road Zone within 1 mile of Spruce Island and Kodiak Island.
- **Kodiak Island Remote Zone:** All drainages outside of the Kodiak Island Road Zone.

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

KING SALMON

- 20 inches or longer: 2 per day, 2 in possession. Annual limit of 5 fish. Harvest record required. See page 5 for recording instructions.
- Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.

OTHER SALMON

- **Kodiak Remote Zone:**
 - 20 inches or longer (total combination of all species): 5 per day, 10 in possession.
 - Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.
- **Kodiak Road Zone:**
 - 20 inches or longer (total combination of all species): 5 per day, 5 in possession.
 - Only 2 of which may be sockeye salmon
 - Only 2 of which may be coho salmon prior to Sept 16, and only 1 of which may be a coho salmon from Sept 16-Dec 31 (*see special regulations for stocked areas*).
 - Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.

RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

- **Kodiak Remote Zone:**
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
 - 20 inches or longer: Annual limit of 2 fish. Harvest record required. See page 5 for recording instructions.
- **Kodiak Road Zone:**
 - No retention, all rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately (there are exceptions for stocked lakes, see special regulations that follow and the list of stocked lakes on page 27). Bait restrictions apply, see the special regulations.

DOLLY VARDEN AND ARCTIC GRAYLING

- 10 per day, 10 in possession.

OTHER SPECIES

- No limit.



KODIAK ISLAND REMOTE ZONE

SPECIAL REGULATIONS

Ayakulik River:

- Closed to king salmon fishing July 26–December 31.

Dog Salmon drainage:

- Closed to king salmon fishing.
- Dog Salmon River - from the Frazer Fish Pass Weir to an ADF&G marker 200 yards downstream:
 - Closed to sport fishing June 1 - August 31.

Karluk River:

- Closed to king salmon fishing July 26–December 31.

Little Kitoi Lake and Creek:

- Closed to salmon fishing August 15–September 30.

KODIAK ISLAND ROAD ZONE

METHODS AND MEANS

Bait restriction:

- In all fresh waters of the Kodiak Road Zone:
 - November 1–April 30: Only unbaited, artificial lures may be used (this does not apply to Road Zone stocked lakes and Chiniak and Barry Lagoons).



Dolly Varden from the American River

by Jason Fox

KODIAK ISLAND ROAD ZONE

SPECIAL REGULATIONS

Abercrombie (Gertrude) Lake:

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.

Aurel Lake:

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.

Big Lake (Lilly/Kings Diner):

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.

Bull Lake:

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.

Caroline Lake:

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.

Cicely Lake:

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.



Dark Lake:

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.

Dragonfly Lake:

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.

East Twin Lake:

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.

Heitman Lake:

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.

Horseshoe Lake:

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.

Island Lake:

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.

Island Lake Creek/Mill Bay:

- **Island Lake Creek is closed year-round to salmon fishing.**
- Mill Bay coho salmon bag limit is 2 per day, year-round.

Kalsin Pond Outlet Stream—from the Chiniak Highway culvert downstream approximately 150 feet to an ADF&G marker:

- **Closed year-round to sport fishing.**

Lee Lake:

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.



Lily Pond (Peninsula Lake):

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.

Long Lake:

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.

Mission Beach:

- Coho salmon bag limit is 2 per day, year-round.

Monashka Creek

- Closed year-round to sport fishing above the highway, and the east bank from the highway bridge to an ADF&G sign about 50 yards downstream.
- Coho salmon bag limit is 2 per day, year-round in all other waters of Monashka Creek.

Mosquito Lake:

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.

Pillar Creek:

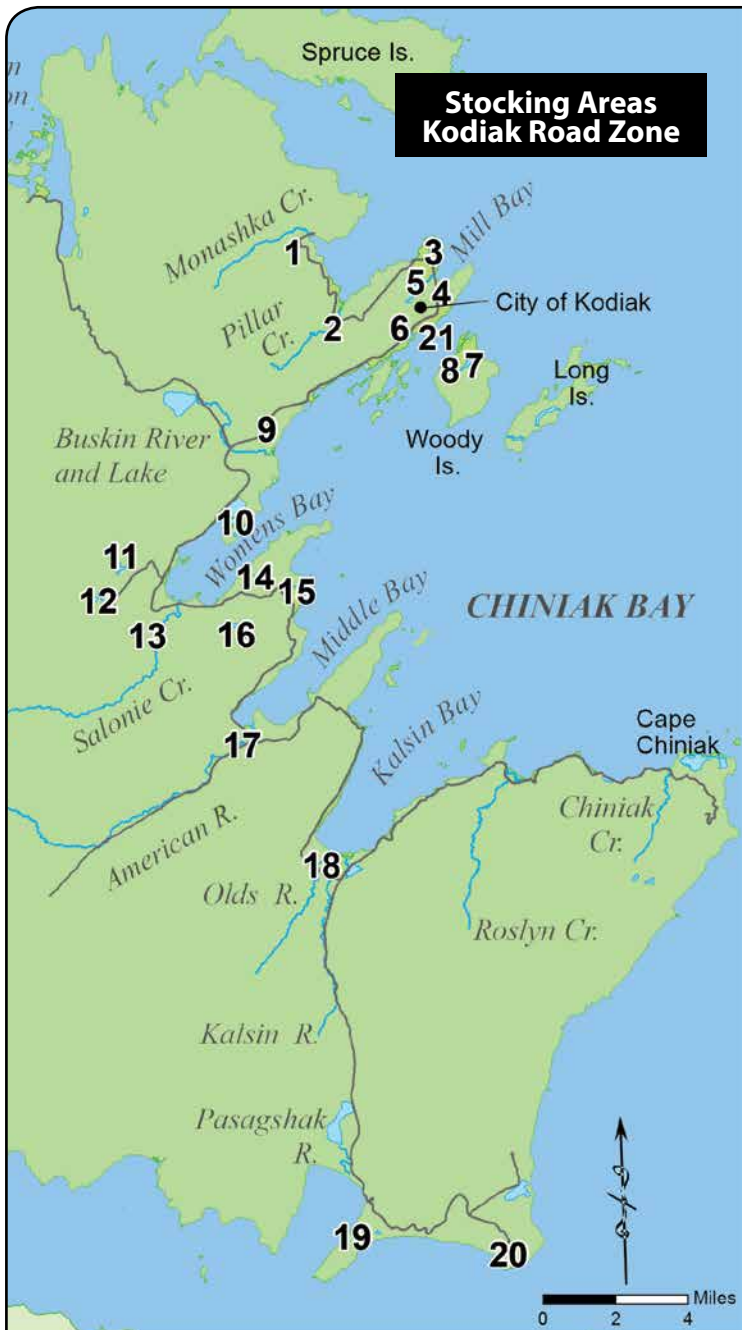
- Closed year-round to all fishing above the highway.
- Coho salmon bag limit is 2 per day year-round below the highway.

Saltery Cove streams:

- Only 2 fish of the 5 salmon bag limit (for salmon other than king salmon) may be coho salmon; all 5 may be sockeye salmon.

Tanignak Lake:

- Rainbow trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. No annual limit.



**Stocking Areas
Kodiak Road Zone**

Kodiak Road Zone Sport Fishing Enhancement Projects

The Department of Fish and Game annually funds numerous fisheries enhancement projects throughout Alaska in order to increase the abundance and diversity of fish species available to anglers. On Kodiak Island, several enhanced sport fisheries are maintained in Road Zone waters and include populations of anadromous king salmon, plus anadromous coho salmon and resident rainbow trout. Hatchery raised king salmon can be caught from mid-June through early August at the American and Olds river drainages, Salonie Creek and at Monashka Creek near Termination Point. Anadromous coho salmon return to Monashka and Pillar creeks, Mill Bay and Mission Beach from early August through the end of September. The coho salmon bag limit in stocked areas are 2 per day, year-round and are not included in the seasonal bag limit reduction from September 16th through December 31st. Rainbow trout annually stocked in 17 Road Zone lakes are available to anglers year-round and can be fished through the ice when safe conditions exist.

- Stocked location maps are available from the Kodiak ADF&G office and also online: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fishingSport.region&StockingAreaID=8>
- Additional information on Kodiak and other sport fisheries enhancement activities can be found at the Division of Sport Fish website: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fishingSport.main>

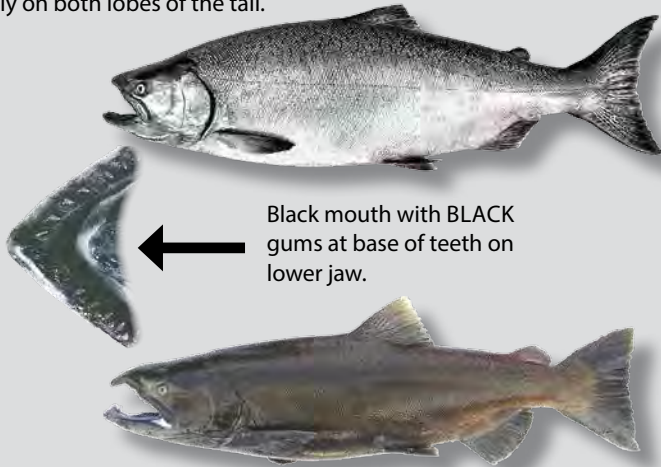


Stocked Lakes and Beaches on the Kodiak Road System			
Location	SS	RT	KS
1) Monashka Creek	●		●
2) Pillar Creek	●		
3) Abercrombie Lake		●	
4) Mill Bay	●		
5) Island and Dark Lakes		●	
6) Big/Lilly Lake		●	
7) Long Lake		●	
8) Tanignak		●	
9) Mosquito Lake		●	
10) Lilly Pond		●	
11) Lee Lake		●	
12) Caroline, Aurel & Cicely Lake		●	
13) Salonie Creek			●
14) Dragonfly Lake		●	
15) Horseshoe Lake		●	
16) Heitman Lake		●	
17) American River			●
18) Olds River			●
19) Bull Lake		●	
20) East Twin Lake		●	
21) Mission Beach	●		

SS = Silver (coho) Salmon RT = Rainbow Trout KS = King Salmon

KING (CHINOOK, TYEE, BLACKMOUTH) SALMON

Blue-gray back with silvery sides. Small, irregular-shaped black spots on back, dorsal fin, and usually on both lobes of the tail.

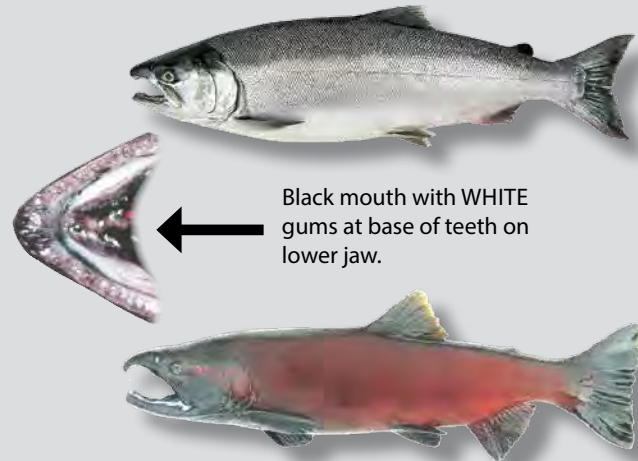


Black mouth with **BLACK** gums at base of teeth on lower jaw.

Spawning king salmon adults lose their silvery bright color and turn maroon to olive brown.

COHO (SILVER) SALMON

Greenish-blue back with silvery sides. Small black spots on the back, dorsal fin, and usually on upper lobe of tail only.



Black mouth with **WHITE** gums at base of teeth on lower jaw.

Spawning coho salmon adults develop greenish-black heads and dark brown to maroon bodies.

SOCKEYE (RED) SALMON

Dark blue-black back with silvery sides. No distinct spots on back, dorsal fin, or tail.



Spawning sockeye salmon adults develop dull-green heads and brick-red to scarlet bodies.

CHUM (DOG, KETA, CALICO) SALMON

Dull gray back with yellowish-silver sides. No distinct spots on back or tail. Large eye pupil—covers nearly the entire eye.



Spawning adults develop olive-green coloration on the back with maroon sides covered with irregular dull red bars. Males exhibit many large canine-like teeth.

PINK (HUMPY) SALMON

Large spots on the back and large black oval blotches on both tail lobes. Very small scales.



Spawning adults turn dull gray on their backs and upper sides and creamy white below. Males develop a pronounced hump.

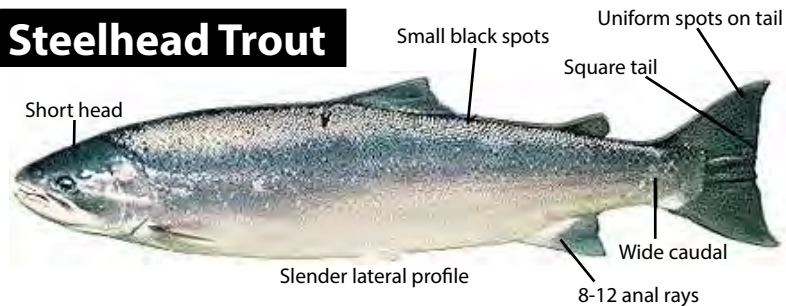
ATTENTION, ANGLERS:

Beware of Catching Steelhead While Fishing for Coho (Silver) Salmon

Remember:

All steelhead caught from Kodiak Road Zone drainages (including Buskin, Saltery, and Miam) must be released. Please be very careful when landing and releasing steelhead as these fish are very sensitive to excessive handling.

Steelhead Trout



Steelhead Identification Characteristics:

- Head blunt, jaw short—may not extend past the eye
- Gums and tongue completely white
- Distinct dark spots on dorsal fin
- Square-shaped tail with distinct spots—no silver pigment on tail
- May have reddish stripe along sides; gill cover may be pinkish
- Length up to 34 inches

Coho Salmon



Graphics courtesy of Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Coho Salmon Identification Characteristics:

- Jaw longer—always extends past the eye
- Outer gums white; edge of gums and tongue black
- Few (if any) spots on dorsal fin
- Angular tail with silver pigment in tail (may have spots on the upper portion)

TROUT

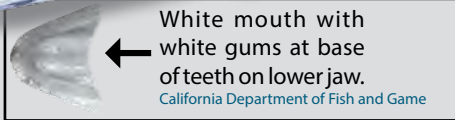


RAINBOW TROUT

Green to bluish back with silvery to yellowish-green sides. Broad pinkish band along side and black spots on back, sides, and tail. Upper jaw usually does not extend past eye on adult.



STEELHEAD



White mouth with white gums at base of teeth on lower jaw.

California Department of Fish and Game

Sea-run rainbow trout with bluish gray back and bright silvery sides. Small black spots on back, sides, and tail. Pink/red coloration develops after returning to fresh water to spawn.



CUTTHROAT TROUT

Yellowish-green body with no pinkish band along sides. Many black spots on back, sides, and tail. Upper jaw extends well past eye on adults. Red to orange slash on underside of lower jaw.

ARCTIC GRAYLING



Light brown to dark purple back, fading to bluish gray with black spots on sides. Very large dorsal fin with red and violet spots.

NORTHERN PIKE



Back and sides usually greenish with yellow-white spots. Head depressed forward with duck-like jaws containing many large, sharp teeth.

BURBOT



The only freshwater cod in North America. Slim brownish-black body with smooth skin. Flattened head with wide mouth and one barbel hanging from lower jaw.

CHAR



DOLLY VARDEN CHAR

Bluish gray or silver background with light spots (usually smaller than its pupil). No spots on head or tail. Easily confused with Arctic char, but Dolly Varden occur mainly in rivers, have a more squared-off tail, a more elongated head (especially spawning males), and a wider tail base than Arctic char. Pelvic and anal fins often have a white leading edge.

ARCTIC CHAR



Very difficult to distinguish from Dolly Varden. Arctic char are generally found in the Bristol Bay area and throughout western Alaska, and Dolly Varden are found on Kodiak Island, throughout the waters of southcentral and southeastern Alaska, and on the North Slope. Brown to olive background with light spots (usually larger than its pupil); sides fade to a pale belly.

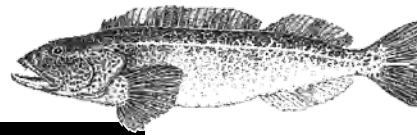


LAKE TROUT

Dark green to grayish back and light silvery sides with oval or irregular white to yellowish spots. No other Alaskan char species has spots on face and tail. Lake trout also have deeply forked tails, unlike other char, and, although normally lake dwellers, they are sometimes found in northern Alaska rivers.

LINGCOD • SABLEFISH • PACIFIC COD

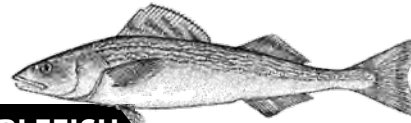
Lingcod, which are in the greenling family, can be identified by their elongated body shape, large head and mouth, and jaws containing large canine teeth interspersed with smaller teeth. They have a long single dorsal fin that is notched past the middle of its length. The forward portion of the dorsal fin bears rigid spines. Lingcod have dark mottling on their back and sides that can be brown, gray, green or orange—depending on their environment, and they can grow to lengths of 5 feet.



LINGCOD



Sablefish (Black cod) are elongate in shape and are dark gray to black on their upper body with a lighter gray underside. They have two dorsal fins that are well separated which easily distinguish them from lingcod. Sablefish have been recorded to reach sizes of 44 inches but are typically less than 34 inches in length.



SABLEFISH



Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

Pacific cod (pictured), tomcod, and pollock all have three distinct dorsal fins and two anal fins, no rigid spines on their fins, and small teeth. Pacific cod and tomcod have a prominent “barbel” beneath their chin; on pollock, however, it is very small or absent. Pacific cod are typically under 32 inches; Pacific tomcod are typically under 20 inches, and pollock are typically under 30 inches.



PACIFIC COD



➤ *Accurate identification of all sport-caught fish species is important for sound management. This is especially true for anglers who may be surveyed for their recreational fishing activity through ADF&G's Statewide Harvest Survey (SWHS).*

Best Practices

- ❖ Don't pollute—please haul trash out of the field and dispose of it properly. Remember that discarded fishing line can be lethal to birds and other wildlife.
- ❖ Obey fishing regulations.
- ❖ Respect private property. Native allotments and other private land holdings are common along Alaska's waterways; seek permission before using private land.
- ❖ Think about your needs and take only the fish you require. Preserve your fish appropriately.
- ❖ If you plan to kill fish, do so quickly and humanely. If you plan to release fish, handle them gently and do not remove them from the water.
- ❖ Minimize stream bank erosion.



Pink salmon jumps

© Mark Emery

Health Guidelines for Eating Alaska Fish

Alaska fish are an excellent source of low-fat protein and important nutrients. Some fish contain elevated levels of mercury, which can harm unborn babies and young children. The Department of Health and Social Services Web site offers specific fish consumption advice for women who are or can become pregnant, nursing mothers, and children 12 and under.

Go to:

<http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/epi/eph/pages/fish/default.aspx>
or call (907) 269-8000.

Remember to include fish at least twice a week as part of a balanced diet!

© Mark Emery

ROCKFISH IDENTIFICATION- PELAGIC and NON-PELAGIC

For the purposes of sport fishery management, rockfish are divided into two groups, **pelagic** and **non-pelagic**. Bag and possession limits differ for the two groups in many areas, so it is important to be able to distinguish them. This chart shows the most common species in each group.

Pelagic Rockfish:

Six open-water (pelagic) species often found mid-water in schools, close to rocky structures. Moderately long-lived (most fish are 7-30 years old).

BLACK ROCKFISH



(black bass); Dark gray to black with white belly. Usually uniform in color, but may have lighter patches along back. No pores on lower jaw. Size: up to 25 inches.

DUSKY ROCKFISH



Brownish body color with whitish belly, tinged with pink or orange; fins tinged with pink or orange; more common in deep water. Three pores on each side of lower jaw, and two dark bars on each cheek. Size: up to 20 inches.

YELLOWTAIL ROCKFISH



Olive green to greenish brown with lighter underside; fins distinctly yellowish green. Size: up to 26 inches.

WIDOW ROCKFISH



This is a relatively slim species in various shades of brown or brass that lighten towards the belly. Size: up to 23 inches.

BLUE ROCKFISH



Rarely caught in Alaskan waters. Blue or black color with vague striping on forehead. Lighter towards the belly. Very deep bodied with large pectoral fins. Size: up to 21 inches.

DARK ROCKFISH



Uniform black to dark blue on back and sides with slight gradual lightening on the belly, more common in shallow water. Size: up to 20 inches.

Non-Pelagic Rockfish:

Bottom-dwelling species found on or near the ocean floor, usually in rocky or boulder-strewn habitat. Extremely long-lived (most fish are 15-75 years old). If the rockfish is not one of the pelagic species pictured above, then it is a non-pelagic rockfish.

QUILLBACK ROCKFISH



Brown body mottled with orange and yellow. Long, prominent spines on a high dorsal fin. Size: up to 24 inches.

SILVERGRAY ROCKFISH



Greenish to silver-gray body, belly white, tinged with soft orange or pink. Slender body fish with a long lower jaw protruding well beyond upper jaw. Size: up to 28 inches.

COPPER ROCKFISH



Olive brown to copper with pink or yellow blotches, white on sides and belly. Dorsal fins dark copper brown to black with some white. Rear two-thirds of lateral line is light. Size: up to 22 inches.

TIGER ROCKFISH



Light pink with five dark red stripes along the side. Two dark bars extend from each eye. Size: up to 24 inches.

YELLOW EYE ROCKFISH



(red snapper); Orange red and orange yellow, bright golden yellow eye, fins may be black at tips. Juveniles have two light bands along the side, one on the lateral line and a smaller one below the lateral line. Size: up to 36 inches.

CHINA ROCKFISH



Mostly black, with bright yellow and white blotches and a yellow stripe along most of the lateral line. Size: up to 17 inches.

Rockfish Conservation · Change the Way You Fish

Rockfish caught in deep water often sustain injuries — referred to as barotrauma — caused by rapid decompression and expansion of gases in the swim bladder. Fish that are released with inflated swim bladders cannot resubmerge and will die. Because of high release mortality, intentional catch-and-release fishing is greatly discouraged, particularly in depths of 60 feet or greater. Alaska anglers can best prevent wasteful rockfish mortality by avoiding waters where unwanted catches are likely. When rockfish are caught incidentally despite avoidance efforts, proper deepwater release techniques can reduce mortality. A recent ADF&G study found that survival of yelloweye released at depth was far higher than survival of fish released at the surface.

Do your part for rockfish conservation by following these guidelines to avoid catching rockfish or to minimize your harvest:

1. Avoid fishing in rocky areas with boulders, ridges, and pinnacles. Avoid fishing the steep sides of reefs and rock piles. Lingcod are typically found on top of the reefs while halibut are usually on flat bottoms adjacent to the reefs.
2. Move to a different area if you are catching rockfish unintentionally.
3. When targeting halibut or lingcod, keep your jig or bait well off the bottom.
4. Target other species first. This will allow you to retain your incidental rockfish catch as part of your limit and minimize the number of rockfish released.
5. If targeting rockfish, focus your harvest on pelagic species such as black rockfish. These species are more abundant and can sustain slightly higher levels of harvest.
6. When fishing with bait, use a single circle hook.

Deepwater Release — How to Let Go

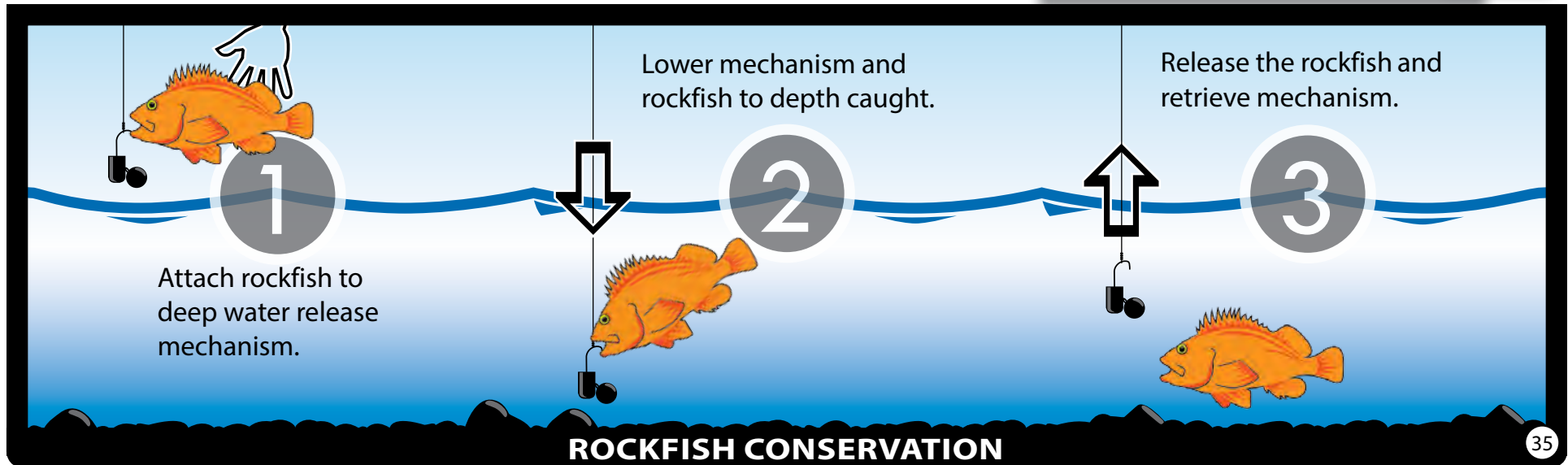
A variety of deepwater release devices, or recompression tools, are available commercially or you can make your own using a simple lead head jig. The device should weigh at least 3 pounds to submerge a large rockfish.

- **Make sure the device is assembled and ready to use before you start fishing.** The fish is much more likely to survive if you minimize time at the surface. Dedicate a rod and reel or downrigger for the release device so it can be used immediately.

- **Reel the fish up quickly.** Reeling slowly does not prevent inflation of the swim bladder.
- **Send the fish back down as quickly as possible.** Return it to the bottom or depth of capture to ensure complete recompression.
- **Do not vent or “fizz” rockfish.** Venting or “fizzing” involves puncturing the stomach protruding from the fish’s mouth, or puncturing the fish’s body to let air out of the swim bladder. This can lead to infection in the body cavity and eventual death.

- **Rockfish caught in less than 60 feet of water are usually able to submerge on their own.** If the fish appears to be inflated or otherwise unable to swim, use a deepwater release device to return the fish to the depth of capture.

For more information on rockfish and deepwater release devices, look under **Fishing Information** on the **Sport Fishing** page at:
www.adfg.alaska.gov/



The following are some of the definitions set forth in AS 16.05.940, 5 AAC 75.020, and 75.995

area—means a regulatory management area as described in 5 AAC 47–5 AAC 70.

artificial fly—a fly which is constructed by common methods known as fly tying, including a dry fly, wet fly, and nymph, or a bare single hook that is free of bait as defined in 5 AAC 75.995. Materials and chemicals designed and produced primarily to cause flies to float or sink may be used on artificial flies.

artificial fly (unweighted)—a fly which weighs less than one-fourth ounce in its entirety.

artificial lure—any lure which is man-made, free of bait as defined in 5 AAC 75.995, and is used to attract fish.

bag limit—the maximum legal take per person per day, in the area in which the person is fishing, even though part or all of the fish are immediately preserved; a fish when landed and killed becomes a part of the bag limit of the person originally hooking it.

bait—any substance applied to fishing gear for the purpose of attracting fish by scent, including fish eggs in any form, natural or preserved animal, fish, fish oil, shellfish, or insect parts, natural or processed vegetable matter, and natural or synthetic chemicals.

charter vessel—a vessel licensed under AS 16.05.490, used for hire in the sport, personal use, or subsistence taking of fish or shellfish, and not used on the same day for any other commercial fishing purpose; a charter vessel does not include a vessel or skiff without a charter vessel operator.

charter vessel operator—a person engaged in carrying passengers on a charter vessel for any valuable consideration that passes directly or indirectly to the vessel's owner, operator, or a person with a financial interest in the vessel, in consideration of the carriage of any person on board.

closed season—the time during which fish may not be taken.

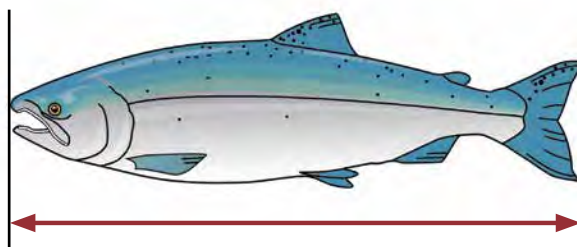
closed waters—waters designated by the board wherein it is illegal to take fish.

closely attended line—that the line or strike indicator is within the view of and is accessible to the angler at all times.

drainage—all of the waters composing a watershed including tributary rivers, streams, sloughs, ponds, and lakes which contribute to the water supply of the watershed.

fishing rod—a tapered, flexible rod typically used for sport fishing, equipped with a hand grip and a line guide system that guides the line from the reel to the tip of the rod, and upon which is mounted a fishing reel used to deploy and retrieve the sport fishing line.

fresh water—all inland waters; inland waters are separated from salt water at the mouths of creeks, streams, and rivers at a line between extremities of the latter's banks at a mean low tide or at a point to be determined and adequately marked by the department.



length of fish—the length from the tip of the snout to the tip of the tail (total length).

local representative of the department—(a) the nearest most accessible professional employee of the department, (b) a person designated by the Commissioner or by a professional employee of the department to perform specific functions for the department, or (c) a law enforcement officer of the Department of Public Safety.

mark or marking—all forms of skin alteration, fin clipping, or other mutilation, or insertion of foreign materials in live fish that permit later identification.

molesting—the harassing, disturbing, or interfering with fish by any means, including the use of any missile or object not established as legal gear; molesting includes dragging, kicking, throwing, striking, or otherwise abusing a fish which is intended to be released.

multiple hook—a fish hook with two or more points with or without barbs.

open season—the time during which fish may lawfully be taken; each period of time prescribed as an open season shall be construed to begin at 12:01 a.m. on the first day and end at midnight of the last day thereof.

peace officer of the state—a person defined in AS 16.05.150.

possession limit—the maximum number of unpreserved fish a person may have in possession.

power assisted fishing reel—a reel used to deploy and retrieve the sport fishing line that is operated or assisted by any electronic hydraulic, or other mechanical power source other than by hand-cranking a handle attached to the reel.

preserved fish—fish prepared in such a manner, and in an existing state of preservation, as to be fit for human consumption after a 15-day period, and does not include unfrozen fish temporarily stored in coolers that contain ice, dry ice, or fish that are lightly salted.

reel seat—an attachment mechanism that holds the fishing reel to the rod using locking, threading rings, sliding bands, or other attachment devices and is designed to allow the reel to be readily detached from the fishing rod.

salmon—all salmon, including the five species of Pacific salmon: coho, chum, king, pink, and sockeye.

salt water—all marine waters; marine waters are separated from fresh water at the mouths of streams, rivers, and creeks.

single hook—a fish hook with only one point with or without a barb.

DEFINITIONS (continued)

snag—to hook a fish elsewhere than in its mouth.

spear—a hand-operated shaft with a sharp point or fork-like implement attached to one end, used to thrust through the water to impale or retrieve fish; includes a Hawaiian sling or pole spear which is a shaft propelled by a single loop of elastic material that is not equipped with a mechanical release or trigger.

speargun—a device designed to propel a spear through the water by means of elastic bands, compressed gas, or other mechanical propulsion to take fish that is equipped with a mechanical release or trigger.

sport fishing—the taking of or attempting to take for personal use, and not for sale or barter, any freshwater, marine, or anadromous fish by hook and line held in the hand, or by hook and line attached to a pole or rod which is held in the hand or closely attended, or by other means defined by the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

stream mouth—the downstream point defined as a straight line running from the most downstream extremity on one stream bank to the most downstream extremity on the other stream bank, or a point defined and marked by the department.

take—taking, pursuing, fishing, or in any manner disturbing, capturing, or killing or attempting to take, pursue, fish, or in any manner capture or kill fish or shellfish.

toxicant—any material or chemical that upon introduction to the waters of Alaska by direct or indirect means will kill, stun, or drive fish from their natural repose.

transport—ship, transport, carry, import, export, or receive or deliver for shipment, transportation, carriage, or export.

trout—includes rainbow, steelhead, and cutthroat.

waters of Alaska—has the same meaning as set out in 5 AAC 39.975(13).

year—the calendar year from January 1 through December 31.

Sport Fishing by Proxy...

Alaska residents may proxy sport fish, proxy personal use fish, and/or proxy subsistence fish for another Alaska resident who is;

- (1) 70% or greater physically disabled (physician's affidavit required);
- (2) 65 years or older; or
- (3) Legally blind (physician's affidavit required).
- (4) Developmentally disabled (physician's affidavit required).

No person may give or receive payment to be a beneficiary or a proxy.

Get a "Proxy Information Form" (Proxy) from any ADF&G office, or download it from:

http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static-sf/statewide/pdfs/PU_proxy.pdf

Bring it to an ADF&G office for certification. You must provide:

- (1) your sport fishing license number, age (if under 16), or ADF&G PID card number,
- (2) original signatures of both parties,
- (3) beneficiary's proof of fishing license or ADF&G PID/DAV card; and, if the reason for the proxy is "legally blind" or "developmentally disabled", a physician's affidavit, or if "physically disabled," proof of 70% or greater physical disability.

The Proxy is valid from date of ADF&G certification for the time period shown through the end of the current calendar year.

The proxy fishing program allows you to take your own bag limit and one beneficiary's bag limit in the same day. You may not take more than 2 bag and possession limits during any fishing trip, and you may not fish with more than one legal limit of gear. The beneficiary may **not** take or attempt to take fish or shellfish at the same time as his/her proxy.

When proxy fishing, you must carry the ADF&G-certified Proxy form, your fishing license or ADF&G PID/DAV card, the original fishing license or ADF&G PID/DAV card of your beneficiary, and any original permits and harvest record cards (if necessary) for yourself and for your beneficiary. You may not have more than one Proxy in your possession while fishing, and you must deliver the fish and return all licenses, permits, and records to that beneficiary before you proxy fish for another beneficiary. Proxy fishing for halibut is not allowed.

THE FISH & WILDLIFE SAFEGUARD PROGRAM



Report Violations

1-800-478-3377

If you witness or suspect that a fish or wildlife violation has occurred, please call our toll-free number. You will not have to reveal your name, testify in court, or sign a deposition. You will remain anonymous, and you may receive a reward.

Local Alaska Wildlife Troopers' office phone numbers are as follows:

Dillingham	(907) 842-5351
Dutch Harbor	(907) 581-1432
King Salmon	(907) 246-3307
Kodiak	(907) 486-4762
Port Alsworth	(907) 781-2126

5 AAC 75.010(a) states that no person may possess any unpreserved fish not legally taken by himself or herself, unless he or she has a statement signed by the person taking the fish stating the type of fish, number of fish, the location and date taken, and the sport fishing license number. See page 7, "Possession of sport-caught fish."



Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division of Sport Fish

TRANSFER OF POSSESSION FORM

Anglers must fill out this form and give to recipient, along with fish or shellfish. Recipient must carry this form until fish or shellfish are preserved.

ANGLER INFORMATION

Name: _____ Sport fishing license no. _____
Address: _____

City State Zip

SPECIES TAKEN	NUMBER TAKEN	DATE TAKEN	LOCATION

Angler's signature: _____ Date: _____

RECIPIENT INFORMATION

Name: _____
Address: _____

City State Zip

Recipient's signature: _____ Date: _____



Boating Tips:

Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation

KNOW YOUR VESSEL— Before departure, know that your vessel is in good working condition and properly equipped for emergencies. Avoid potential danger by keeping your boat well maintained; take a few minutes before each trip to inspect your boat. Use the checklist below.

ALWAYS WEAR A LIFE JACKET!— Drowning is the second leading cause of death in Alaska. Most Alaskans who die in boating accidents capsize or fall overboard and are not wearing life jackets. Life jackets should **always** be worn. Your life may depend on it!

OBTAIN LOCAL KNOWLEDGE— Study local maps, charts, weather reports, and tide tables. Contact the local harbormaster, village public safety officer, health officials, or talk to other local boaters before boating in a new area.

ALCOHOL AND BOATING DON'T MIX— Drinking while operating a boat is dangerous! Alcohol impairs your sense of balance, your peripheral and night vision, your judgment, and your reaction time. It also increases heat loss and risk of hypothermia.

DON'T OVERLOAD— Follow the recommendations of the capacity plate and owner's manual. Distribute weight for best handling, and secure loads against shifting. Remember, safe vessel capacity is greatly affected by weather and water conditions.

ALWAYS COMPLETE A FLOAT PLAN— Does someone know your plans in case you don't return on schedule? Leave word on where you are going and when you expect to return, who is onboard, and who to notify if you are overdue. Leave a detailed description of your boat and registration numbers. Then remember to let the same people know when you return. It's that simple!

EDUCATE YOURSELF— Boating education is a lifelong process. Take a boating safety course. Learn how to do basic troubleshooting and field repairs. Do your passengers know where the safety equipment is and how to use it? Do they know how to start, stop, and steer the boat? For information, contact the State Office of Boating Safety at (907) 269-8705, or visit our website:

www.alaskaboatingsafety.org

- Life jackets for each person (properly sized and worn)
- Current weather forecast and tides checked
- Boat plug installed/sea cock closed
- VHF marine radio (tested prior to departure)
- Fire extinguishers (fully charged)
- Throwable flotation device with floating line attached
- Sound-producing device (air horn, whistle, bell)
- Visual distress signals (flares, orange flag, signal light)
- Fuel and oil sufficient for trip (1/3 out, 1/3 return, 1/3 reserve)

- Battery fully charged, terminals covered & battery secured
- Bilge pump and manual pump or bailing device
- Tools and spare parts (battery, fuses, spark plugs, belts)
- Navigation lights functioning properly
- Registration certificate onboard, numbers and decals affixed
- Anchor
- Paddle/oar or other alternate propulsion
- Food/emergency shelter/drinking water
- First Aid Kit

ADF&G's Trophy Fish Program

Alaska State Trophy Fish Recordholders

Species	Min. wt.	Lbs/oz	Year	Location	Angler
Arctic char/ Dolly Varden	10 lb	27/6	2002	Wulik River	Mike Curtiss
Brook trout	3 lb	3/4	2012	Green Lake	Kyle Kitka
Burbot	8 lb	24/12	1976	Lake Louise	George R. Howard
King salmon	<i>(see below)</i>	97/4	1985	Kenai River	Lester Anderson
Chum salmon	15 lb	32/0	1985	Caamano Point	Fredrick Thynes
Coho salmon	20 lb	26/0	1976	Icy Strait	Andrew Robbins
Cutthroat trout	3 lb	8/6	1977	Wilson Lake	Robert Denison
Grayling	3 lb	5/1	2008	Fish River	Peter Cockwill
Halibut	250 lb	459/0	1996	Unalaska Bay	Jack Tragis
Lake trout	20 lb	47/0	1970	Clarence Lake	Daniel Thorsness
Lingcod	55 lb	81/6	2002	Monty Island	Charles Curny
Northern pike	15 lb	38/8	1991	Innoko River	Jack Wagner
Pink salmon	8 lb	13/7	2016	Kenai River	Robert Dubar
Rainbow/ steelhead trout	15 lb	42/3	1970	Bell Island	David White
Rockfish	18 lb	39/1	2013	Sitka	Henry Liebman
Sheefish	30 lb	53/0	1986	Pah River	Lawrence E. Hudnall
Sockeye salmon	12 lb	16/0	1974	Kenai River	Chuck Leach
Whitefish	4 lb	9/0	1989	Tozitna River	Al Mathews

☛ King salmon minimum weight for the Kenai River is 75 lb. For the rest of the state, it is 50 lb.

Anglers have been participating since the 1960s in the ADF&G Trophy Fish Program, which gives special recognition to anglers taking fish that meet minimum weight (trophy certificates) or length standards (catch-and-release certificates) within a species. Trophy fish for both certificates must be legally caught from waters open to the public, in compliance with current ADF&G sport fishing regulations.

Minimum weights for trophy fish certificates are listed on the table above (second column). Entries must be weighed in the presence of witnesses and a Trophy Fish Official, on a scale currently certified by the Division of Weights and Measures.

At least one witness is mandatory, as is a photograph.

For catch-and-release honorary certificates, do not remove your fish from the water. Hold it just at the water's surface while a photograph is quickly taken, then release it into the current.

Minimum lengths for catch-and-release honorary certificates: *Arctic char/Dolly Varden*, 30 inches; *Arctic grayling*, 18 inches; *brook trout*, 20 inches; *cutthroat trout*, 20 inches; *lake trout*, 36 inches; *lingcod*, 53 inches; *northern pike*, 40 inches; *rainbow/steelhead*, 32 inches; *sheefish*, 45 inches.

Affidavit forms and complete program rules are available at most ADF&G offices, and you can also download them from our website:

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fishingSport.trophyfishprogram>

TROPHY FISH AFFIDAVIT

Alaska Department of Fish & Game

Mail this form and a photo of your fish to:

Alaska Department of Fish & Game
Sport Fish Information Center
333 Raspberry Road
Anchorage, AK 99518-1599

I am applying for the following certificate (check only one):

Honorary Catch-and-Release Certificate - or - Trophy Certificate

Please type or print clearly

Species: _____ Certified weight: ____ lb. ____ oz. (Trophy use only)

Length (inches): _____ Caught in: Marine or Freshwater

Date caught: _____ Location caught: _____

Sport Fishing License No.: _____ Age: _____

Entrant's name (please print): _____

Mailing address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip code: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

The undersigned Trophy Official does hereby verify the identity of the described fish:

Official's name (please print): _____

Scales certification date: _____

Official's mailing address: _____

We, the undersigned, witnessed the weighing and measuring of the fish described above, and verify the weight and measurements recorded (one witness is mandatory):

Witness 1 (signature/address): _____

Witness 2 (signature/address): _____

I hereby swear that in taking this fish I complied with all rules and regulations in the location the fish was caught, and that the witnesses actually witnessed the weighing and measuring of this fish. I further declare that all the above information is true and correct.

In addition, I give the Alaska Department of Fish & Game permission to use photographs and recordings of me in print, online, or in broadcast media for news and informational or educational purposes without incurring any debts or liabilities of any kind.

Entrant signature: _____

Official's signature: _____

Certified by me this (enter date): _____

A PICTURE OF YOUR FISH MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THIS AFFIDAVIT.

Digital photos may be sent to dfg.dsf.trophyfish@alaska.gov.

Please reference the entrants name in the subject line.

A MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR



Dear Anglers,

You have come to the ultimate place to sport fish – Alaska! Whether you fish primarily to fill your freezer or pantry or for sport, our state is tailor-made for sport fishing in both fresh and marine waters. With over three million lakes, 12,000 rivers, and over 6,640 miles of coastline, the only thing that might be missing is enough time to explore The Great Land.

Anglers like you ensure our legacy of fishery conservation continues to progress. Your purchase of a sport fishing license is a statement of your commitment to support our fisheries management, research, and enhancement activities across the state. The purchase of your license helps directly fund these critical conservation activities.

I am proud of the work that the Department of Fish and Game does to ensure that our fishery resources remain sustainable, so we know that our grandkids and

all future generations will be able to benefit from plentiful fisheries. Before you venture out with rod and reel, please be sure to read and understand the contents of these regulations. If you have any questions, I know that staff at our Department of Fish and Game offices across the state are ready and willing to provide assistance and help you have an enjoyable day on the water.

May you have a safe and successful fishing experience!

Bill Walker
Governor



Alaska Department of Fish & Game Southwestern Alaska Sport Fish Offices



The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) administers all programs and activities free from discrimination based on race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, marital status, pregnancy, parenthood, or disability. The department administers all programs and activities in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility, please write: ADF&G ADA Coordinator, P.O. Box 115526, Juneau, AK 99811-5526; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, MS 2042, Arlington, VA 22203; Office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street NW, MS 5230, Washington, DC 20240. The department's ADA Coordinator can be reached via phone at the following numbers: (VOICE) 907-465-6077, (Statewide Telecommunication Device for the Deaf) 1-800-478-3648, (Juneau TDD) 907-465-3646, or (FAX) 907-465-6078. For information on alternative formats and questions on this publication, please contact the following: ADF&G, Sport Fish Division, Research and Technical Services, Anchorage, AK 99518, 907-267-2382.