

GENERAL REGULATIONS

Inclusive waters: All waters and tributaries of the Copper River upstream from a line between the south bank of Haley Creek and the south bank of Canyon Creek in Wood Canyon, and all waters and tributaries of the upper Susitna River drainage upstream from the confluence of the Oshetna River, but *excluding* the Oshetna River.

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

KING SALMON

- **Season:** January 1–July 19.
- **20 inches or longer, annual limit of 4 fish—1 per day, 1 in possession. Immediately upon landing and retaining a king salmon 20 inches or longer, anglers must fill out a harvest record; see page 5.**
- less than 20 inches—10 per day, 10 in possession.
- Any salmon removed from the water must be retained and becomes a part of the bag limit of the person that originally hooked the fish. **No one may remove from the water a salmon they intend to release.**
- Anyone who is engaged in freshwater sport fish guiding is allowed to sport fish in the Copper River or its tributaries while a client is present or within the guide's control or responsibility, *but that guide may not retain a king salmon while guiding.*

OTHER SALMON

- 16 inches or longer—3 per day, 3 in possession.
- less than 16 inches—10 per day, 10 in possession.
- Any salmon removed from the water must be retained and becomes a part of the bag limit of the person that originally hooked the fish. **No one may remove from the water a salmon they intend to release.**

ARCTIC CHAR & DOLLY VARDEN

- 10 per day, 10 in possession, no size limit.

LAKE TROUT

- 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.

RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

- 2 per day, 2 in possession—only one of which may be 20 inches or longer.

ARCTIC GRAYLING

- 5 per day, 5 in possession, no size limit.

BURBOT

- 5 per day, 5 in possession, no size limit.
- Set lines are prohibited in lakes and flowing waters of the Upper Copper/Upper Susitna river drainages, except those waters of the Copper River drainage as described on page 30.

OTHER FINFISH (including NORTHERN PIKE)

- No limit.

STOCKED WATERS

- 10 in combination of stocked species—only one of which may be 18 inches or longer; see page 39.

METHODS AND MEANS

Bait and gear restrictions in the Upper Copper River drainage:

- Only unbaited, **single-hook**, artificial lures may be used in flowing waters of the Upper Copper River drainage, except as specified by special regulations in the Klutina, Gulkana, Tazlina, Tonsina, and mainstem Copper River drainages.

Ice houses:

- All ice houses not removed from the ice at the end of a day's fishing must be registered and a permit obtained from ADF&G.
- Each registered ice house must have its permit number displayed on one side and on its roof in distinguishable numbers at least 12 inches high.
- Ice houses must be removed from all water bodies by April 30.

Use of spears or bow and arrows for whitefish and suckers:

- Whitefish: Unless otherwise provided, whitefish may be taken with spears or bow and arrow October 1–March 31.
- Suckers: Unless otherwise provided, suckers may be taken with spears or bow and arrow year-round. Arrows must have a barbed tip and be attached by a line to the bow ('bow' means a long bow, recurve bow, compound bow, or crossbow).



Hooked up

SPECIAL REGULATIONS

Chitina River drainage:

- King salmon: Open season July 1–August 10.

Chokosna River (Chitina River drainage):

- **Closed to king salmon fishing.** All king salmon caught must be released immediately.

Copper River drainage:

- **Downstream of the upstream bank of the Klutina River** (see specific regulations for Klutina and Tonsina rivers on pages 32-33):
 - King salmon: Open season July 1–August 10.
- **Mainstem only**—downstream of the confluence of the Slana River:
 - Bait and artificial lures permitted, including treble hooks.
- **Mainstem and flowing waters of east bank Copper River tributaries, and in flowing waters of west bank Copper River tributaries downstream of the Richardson Highway and Glenn Highway (Tok Cutoff), excluding the Gulkana River** (see pages 34-35):
 - Burbot limits: Burbot may be taken in the mainstem Copper River with more than one line and hook, as specified on page 7 under “Sport fishing gear for burbot.”

Fish Creek (tributary to Mentasta Lake)

- **Closed to salmon fishing.** All salmon caught must be released immediately.

Gakona River—clearwater tributaries, including all flowing waters within ¼-mile radius of their confluence with the Gakona River:

- **Closed to king salmon fishing.** All king salmon caught must be released immediately.

Gilahina River (Chitina River drainage)—including all flowing waters within ¼-mile radius of its confluence with the Chitina River:

- **Closed to king salmon fishing.** All king salmon caught must be released immediately.

Gulkana River (see pages 34-35):

Hanagita River drainage:

- Rainbow/steelhead trout: Rainbow trout retention prohibited. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.

Hudson Lake:

- Burbot limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.

Indian Creek (Copper River drainage)—including all flowing waters within ¼-mile radius of the confluence with the Copper River:

- **Closed to king salmon fishing.** All king salmon caught must be released immediately.

Klutina River drainage (see page 32-33):

Lake Louise (Tyone River drainage):

- April 16–October 31: Only unbaited, **single-hook**, artificial lures may be used.
- November 1–April 15: Single hooks only, bait may be used.
- Burbot limits: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.
- Lake trout limits: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.

Lakina River (Chitina River drainage)—including all flowing waters within ¼-mile radius of its confluence with the Chitina River:

- **Closed to king salmon fishing.** All king salmon caught must be released immediately.

Mendeltna Creek drainage:

- **All flowing waters, including all waters within ¼ mile of the Mendeltna Creek confluence with Tazlina Lake:**
 - **Closed to salmon fishing.** All salmon caught must be released immediately.
 - Arctic grayling limits: Open season June 1-March 31. 2 per day, 2 in possession, 12 inch minimum. All Arctic grayling 12 inches or less must be released immediately.
- **All lakes:**
 - **Closed to salmon fishing.** All salmon caught must be released immediately.

Moose Creek (Tazlina River drainage):

- Bait and artificial lures are permitted year-round, including treble hooks (see Methods and Means on pages 6-7).

Moose Lake (Tazlina River drainage)—including Our Creek (a tributary to Moose Lake):

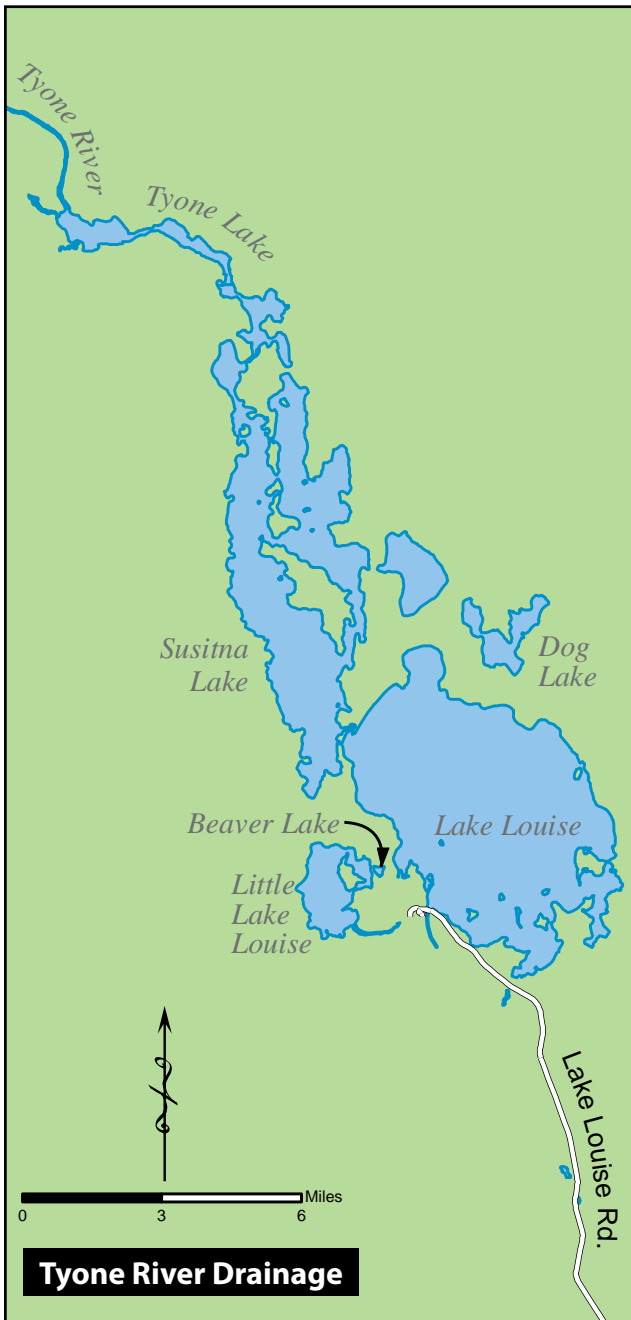
- Burbot limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
- Arctic grayling limits: Open season June 1–March 31. 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.

Sinona Creek—including all flowing waters within ¼-mile radius of its confluence with the Copper River:

- **Closed to king salmon fishing.** All king salmon caught must be released immediately.

Slana River drainage—including all flowing waters within ¼-mile radius of the confluence of the Slana and Copper rivers (including Ahtell and Natat creeks):

- **Closed to king salmon fishing.** All king salmon caught must be released immediately.
- Whitefish: whitefish may be taken by spear or bow and arrow year-round.



Stocked lakes (listed in table on page 39):

- Bait and artificial lures are permitted, including treble hooks.
- Rainbow/steelhead trout, Arctic char/Dolly Varden, Arctic grayling, landlocked salmon limits in combination: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only one of which may be 18 inches or longer.

Summit Lake and Bridge Creek (outlet stream of Summit Lake)—Tebay River drainage:

- Rainbow/steelhead trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only one of which may be 18 inches or longer.

Susitna Lake (Tyone River drainage):

- April 16–October 31: Only unbaited, **single-hook**, artificial lures may be used.
- November 1–April 15: Single hooks only, bait may be used.
- Burbot limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
- Lake trout limits: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.
- **Susitna River drainage**—upstream from the Oshetna River:
- **Closed to salmon fishing.** All salmon caught must be released immediately.

Tazlina River drainage—In all flowing waters entering Tazlina Lake—except a ¼-mile radius around the mouth of Kaina Creek:

- **Closed to king salmon fishing.** All king salmon caught must be released immediately.

Tebay River drainage—downstream from its confluence with the Hanagita River:

- King salmon limits: Open season July 1—August 10.
- Rainbow/steelhead trout: Rainbow/steelhead trout retention prohibited. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.

Tolsona Lake:

- Burbot limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.

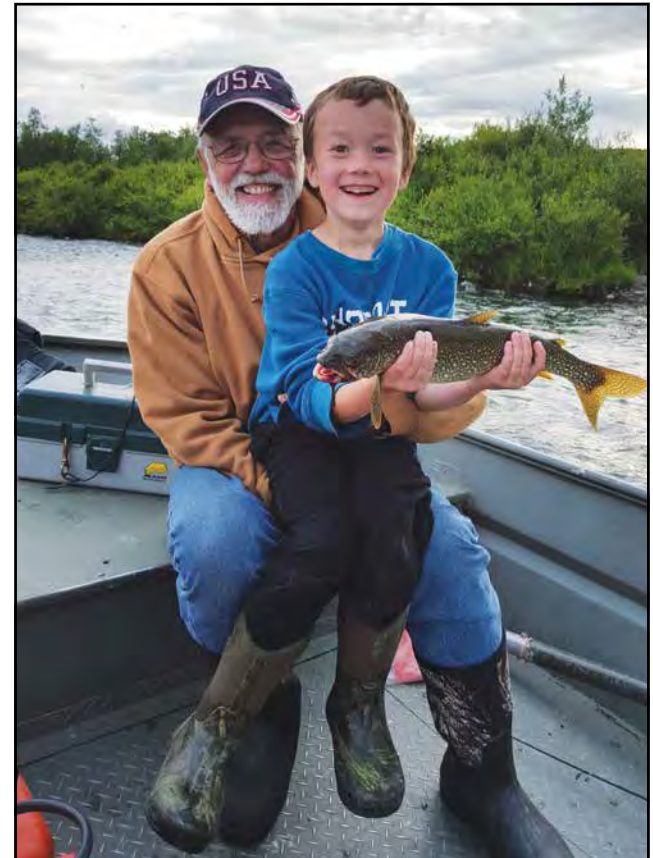
Tonsina River drainage (see pages 32-33):

Tyone Lake:

- April 16–October 31: Only unbaited, **single-hook**, artificial lures may be used.
- November 1–April 15: Single hooks only, bait may be used.
- Burbot limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
- Lake trout limits: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.

Tyone River drainage (see map at left):

- **All flowing waters:**
 - Burbot limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
- **All lakes (except Lake Louise, Susitna and Tyone lakes):**
 - Burbot limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.



A young angler's first lake trout

by Rance M. Lentz

KLUTINA AND TONSINA RIVER DRAINAGES SPECIAL REGULATIONS

Klutina River drainage:

- Entire year: Bait and artificial lures are permitted, including treble hooks (see Methods and Means on page 6).
- **All flowing waters upstream of ADF&G marker at Mile 19.2 Klutina Lake Road, to Klutina Lake:**
 - King salmon: Open season July 1–July 19.
 - Other salmon: Open season January 1–July 19.
- **All flowing waters downstream of the ADF&G marker at Mile 19.2 Klutina Lake Road, to the ADF&G marker at Mile 13.0 Klutina Lake Road:**
 - King salmon: Open season July 1–July 31.
- **All flowing waters downstream of ADF&G marker at Mile 13.0 Klutina Lake Road:**
 - King salmon: Open season July 1–August 10.

- **Klutina Lake**—including all flowing waters entering Klutina Lake:
 - **Closed to king salmon fishing.** All king salmon caught must be released immediately.
 - Other salmon: Open season January 1–July 19.
- **Manker Creek**—including all flowing waters within ¼-mile radius of its confluence with the Klutina River:
 - **Closed to king salmon fishing.** All king salmon caught must be released immediately.
 - Other salmon: Open season January 1–July 19.
- **All other lakes in the Klutina River drainage:**
 - Other salmon: Open season January 1–July 19.



Fishing the Klutina River

Tonsina River drainage:

- In the flowing waters of the Tonsina River drainage upstream of Tonsina Lake, only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures may be used. In all flowing waters of the Tonsina River drainage downstream from the outlet of Tonsina Lake, bait and artificial lures are permitted, including treble hooks.
- **All flowing waters downstream of Tonsina Lake to the downstream edge of the Alyeska Pipeline access bridge:**
 - King salmon: Open season July 1–July 19.
- **All flowing waters downstream of the downstream edge of the Alyeska Pipeline access bridge:**
 - King salmon: Open season July 1–August 10.
- **All tributaries of the Tonsina River, including the Little Tonsina River and Bernard Creek, and all flowing waters within a ¼-mile radius of their confluence with the Tonsina River:**
 - **Closed to king salmon fishing.** All king salmon caught must be released immediately.
- **Tonsina Lake:**—including all flowing waters entering Tonsina Lake:
 - **Closed to king salmon fishing.** All king salmon caught must be released immediately.



A Copper River area lake trout

by Joe Simkins


Klutina and Tonsina River drainages

 King salmon: Open July 1-July 19

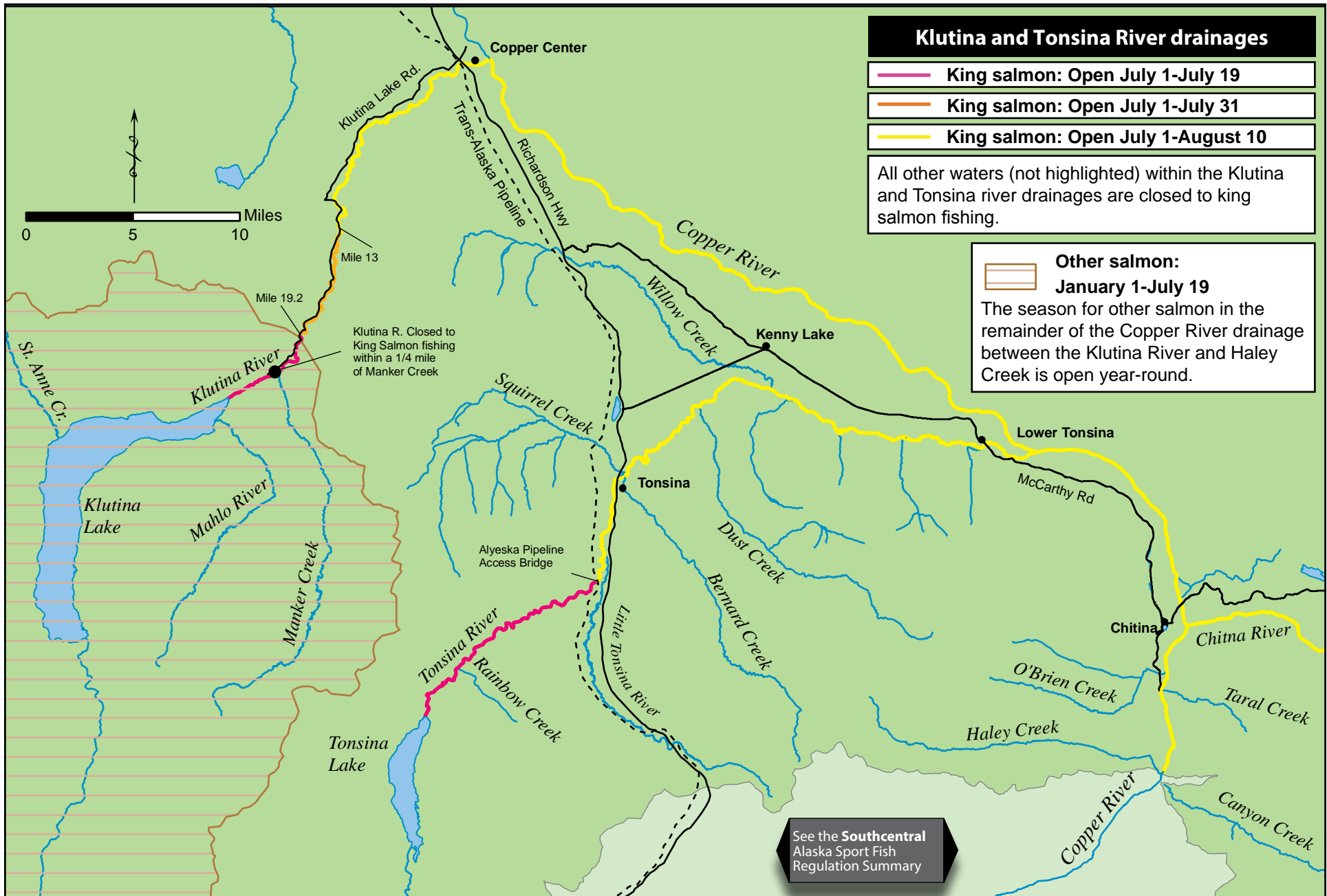
 King salmon: Open July 1-July 31

 King salmon: Open July 1-August 10

All other waters (not highlighted) within the Klutina and Tonsina river drainages are closed to king salmon fishing.

 Other salmon:
January 1-July 19

The season for other salmon in the remainder of the Copper River drainage between the Klutina River and Haley Creek is open year-round.



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

GULKANA RIVER SPECIAL REGULATIONS

The following regulations apply to all waters of the Gulkana River drainage, unless specified otherwise below.

- Entire year: Only unbaited, **single-hook**, artificial lures may be used.
- Rainbow/steelhead trout: Rainbow/steelhead trout retention prohibited. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.
- Arctic grayling limits: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only one of which may be 14 inches or longer. See special regulations for waters upstream of Paxson Lake (waters of Paxson Lake within a 100 yd radius of the mouth of the East Fork, waters of the East Fork Gulkana River, Summit Lake, and Gunn Creek drainage).

Gunn Creek drainage—and waters within a 100-yd radius of its mouth at Summit Lake:

- **Closed to king salmon fishing.***
- Other salmon: Open season August 1–December 31.
- Burbot limits: 2 per day 2 in possession, no size limit.
- Arctic grayling limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only one of which may be 14 inches or longer.
- Lake trout limits: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.

Summit Lake—from its outlet to a 100-yd radius of the mouth of Gunn Creek:

- **Closed to king salmon fishing.***
- April 16–October 31: Only unbaited, **single-hook**, artificial lures may be used.
- November 1–April 15: Single hooks only, bait may be used.
- Other salmon: Open season July 20–December 31.
- Burbot limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
- Arctic grayling limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only one of which may be 14 inches or longer.
- Lake trout limits: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.

East Fork—from the north end of Paxson Lake upstream to Summit Lake, including Fish Creek and Fish Lakes:

- **Closed to salmon fishing.***
- Arctic grayling limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only one of which may be 14 inches or longer.

Mouth of East Fork—waters of Paxson Lake within a 100-yd radius of the mouth of the East Fork:

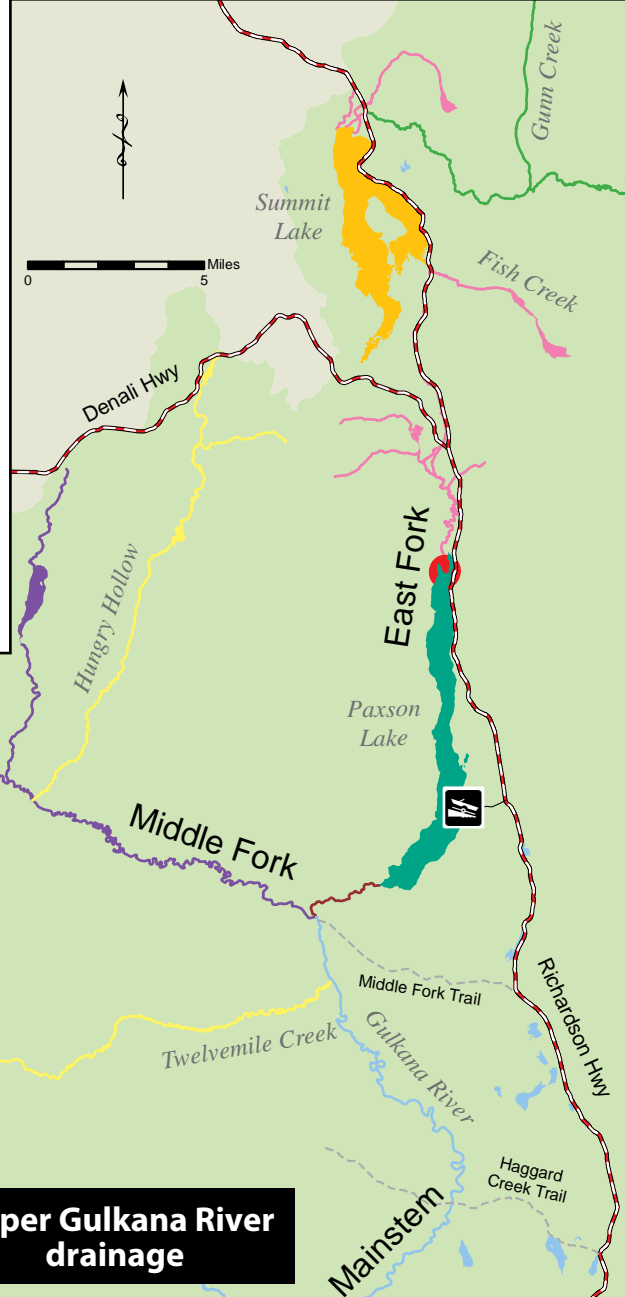
- **Closed to salmon fishing.***
- April 16–October 31: Only unbaited, **single-hook**, artificial lures may be used.
- November 1–April 15: Single hooks only, bait may be used.
- Arctic grayling limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only one of which may be 14 inches or longer.
- Lake trout limits: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.

Paxson Lake—100 yards upstream from the narrows at the lake outlet to within a 100-yd radius of the mouth of the East Fork of the Gulkana River at the north end of Paxson Lake:

- **Closed to king salmon fishing.***
- April 16–October 31: Only unbaited, **single-hook**, artificial lures may be used.
- November 1–April 15: Single hooks only, bait may be used.
- Other salmon: Open season July 20–December 31.
- Lake trout limits: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.

Paxson Lake outlet—all flowing waters from 100 yds upstream from the narrows at the outlet of Paxson Lake, downstream to the confluence of the Middle Fork:

- **Closed to king salmon fishing.***
- Other salmon: Open season September 10–December 31.



Upper Gulkana River drainage

Middle Fork—Waters of the Middle Fork Gulkana River:

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

Middle Fork/Hungry Hollow Creek, and Twelvemile Creek—

All waters of Twelvemile Creek, Hungry Hollow, including Tenmile Lake, and the Middle Fork Gulkana River—from the outlet of Dickey Lake to an ADF&G marker three miles downstream:

- **Closed to king salmon fishing.***
- **Closed to sport fishing for all species April 15–June 14.***

West Fork Gulkana River—flowing waters upstream from an ADF&G marker ½ mile upstream of the confluence of the West Fork and mainstem Gulkana:

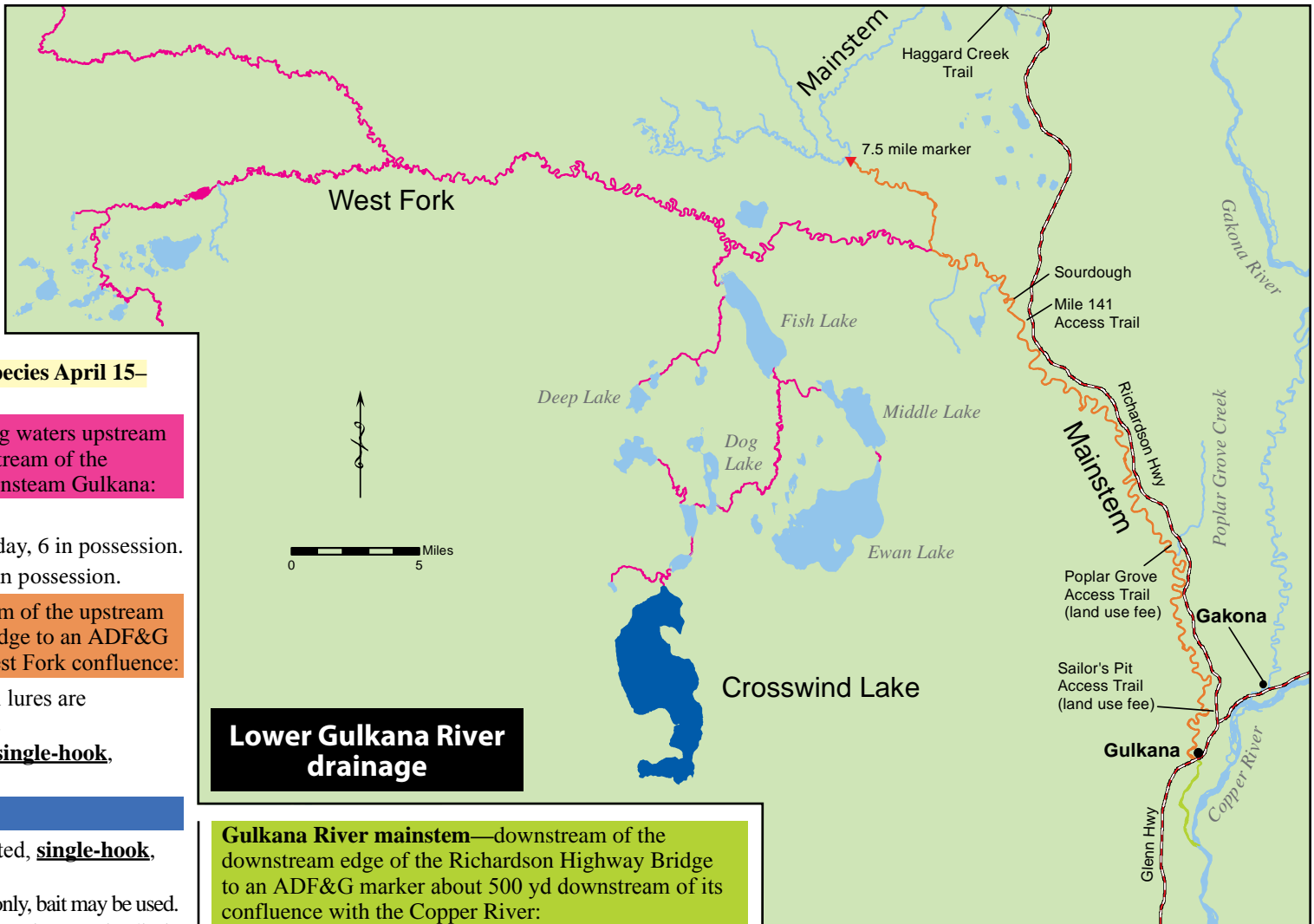
- Sockeye salmon limits:
 - August 1–December 31: 6 per day, 6 in possession.
 - January 1–July 31: 3 per day, 3 in possession.

Gulkana River mainstem—upstream of the upstream edge of the Richardson Highway Bridge to an ADF&G marker 7½ miles upstream of the West Fork confluence:

- June 1–July 19: Bait and artificial lures are permitted, including treble hooks.
- July 20–May 31: Only unbaited, **single-hook**, artificial lures may be used.

Crosswind Lake:

- April 16–October 31: Only unbaited, **single-hook**, artificial lures may be used.
- November 1–April 15: Single hooks only, bait may be used.
- Lake trout limits: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.



Lower Gulkana River drainage

Gulkana River mainstem—downstream of the downstream edge of the Richardson Highway Bridge to an ADF&G marker about 500 yd downstream of its confluence with the Copper River:

- June 1–July 31: Only unbaited, **single-hook**, artificial flies allowed, with gap between point and shank ¾ inch or less. Additional weight may only be used 18 inches or more ahead of fly. A bead fished on the line above a bare hook or a single bare hook is not an artificial fly.
- August 1–May 31: Only unbaited, **single-hook**, artificial lures may be used.

* = All fish of the species designated **may not be targeted or retained** and must be released immediately.

