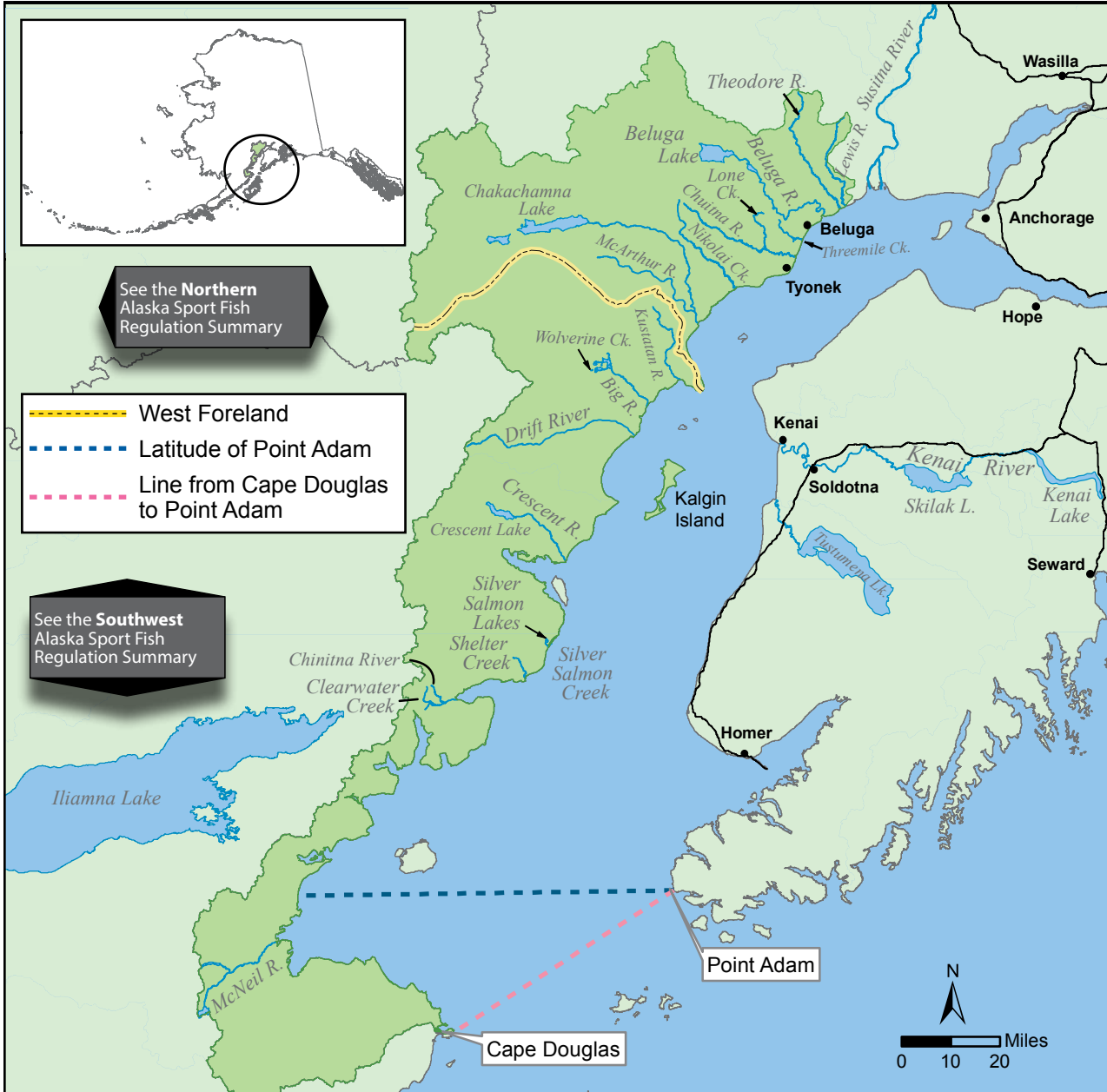


# WEST COOK INLET



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

--- West Foreland  
 --- Latitude of Point Adam  
 --- Line from Cape Douglas to Point Adam

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

## GENERAL REGULATIONS

**Inclusive waters:** All waters draining into the west side of Cook Inlet between the Susitna River and Cape Douglas (excluding the Susitna River). Includes Kalgin Island.

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

### KING SALMON

- **Season:** January 1–June 30.
- 20 inches or longer:
  - 1 per day, 1 in possession.
  - A king salmon 20 inches or longer that is removed from salt or fresh water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a king salmon 20 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
  - There is a combined annual limit of 5 king salmon 20 inches or longer from the waters of the following areas: Cook Inlet Salt Waters, West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai River and Kenai Peninsula.
  - Anglers who keep a king salmon 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.
- Less than 20 inches:
  - 10 per day, 10 in possession.

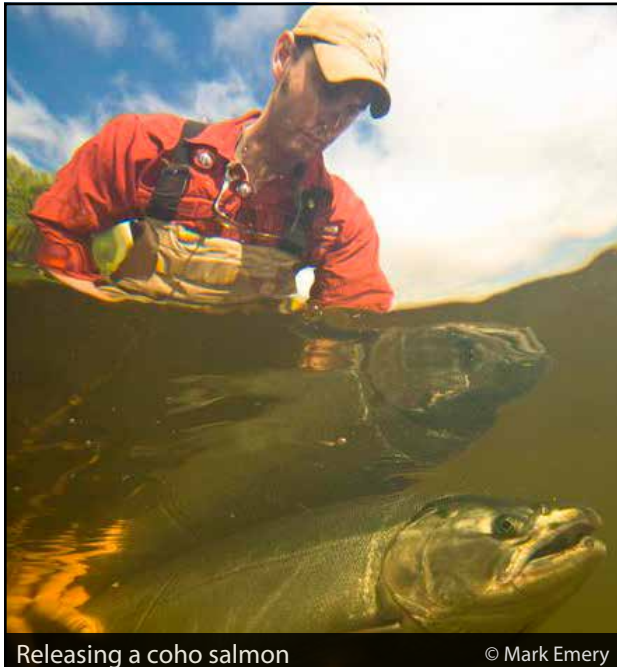


...continued

## GENERAL REGULATIONS (continued)

### OTHER SALMON

- **Season:** January 1–September 30.
- 16 inches or longer:
  - 3 per day, 6 in possession.
  - A coho salmon 16 inches or longer that is removed from fresh water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. A person may not remove a coho salmon 16 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
  - A person, after taking a daily bag limit of coho salmon 16 inches or longer from a West Cook Inlet drainage, may not continue to fish in the West Cook Inlet waters on the same day.
- Less than 16 inches:
  - 10 per day, 10 in possession.



Releasing a coho salmon

© Mark Emery

### RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

- In flowing waters:
  - **Season:** June 15–April 14:
    - 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 fish may be 20 inches or longer.
    - 20 inches or longer:
      - There is a total annual limit of 2 rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer taken north of the latitude of Point Adam, from the waters of the following areas: West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai Lake drainages, Kenai River tributaries, and Kenai Peninsula.
      - Anglers who keep a rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.
  - April 15–June 14: No retention. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.
- In lakes and ponds:
  - 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 fish may be 20 inches or longer.
  - 20 inches or longer:
    - There is a total annual limit of 2 rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer taken north of the latitude of Point Adam, from the waters of the following areas: West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai Lake drainages, Kenai River tributaries, and Kenai Peninsula.
    - Anglers who keep a rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.

### ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN

- 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 fish may be 12 inches or longer.

### ARCTIC GRAYLING

- 2 per day, 2 in possession.

### LAKE TROUT

- 2 per day, 2 in possession.

### NORTHERN PIKE

- No limit.
- Northern pike may be taken by spear, sport fishing gear, ice fishing gear, or by bow and arrow (the arrow must be attached to the bow with a line and the arrow must have a barbed tip).
- When fishing through the ice for northern pike, anglers may use two hooks on a single line, provided that both hooks are attached to one single piece of bait.
- Anglers are not allowed to release live pike back into the water. Pike not retained for personal use may be disposed of through lawful and safe methods, including returning dead pike to the water.

### OTHER FINFISH

- No limit.

## METHODS AND MEANS

### **In drainages between the Susitna River and the West Foreland:**

- **In flowing waters:** Only unbaited, artificial lures are allowed during September 1–July 13.
- **In waters open to fishing for king salmon:** From May 15–June 30 fishing is not allowed between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m..
- Northern pike: General regulations (above) apply.

### **In the flowing waters of drainages from the West Foreland south to the latitude of the southern tip of Chisik Island:**

- Only unbaited, artificial lures are allowed September 1–May 15.

### **In the flowing waters of drainages south of the latitude of the southern tip of Chisik Island to the latitude of Cape Douglas:**

- Only unbaited, artificial lures are allowed July 15–May 15.

## SPECIAL REGULATIONS

### West Cook Inlet, all flowing waters:

- **Closed to salmon fishing October 1–December 31.**

### Beluga River drainage—including Coal Creek and tributaries of Beluga Lake:

- **Closed to king salmon fishing.**

### Chinitna River drainage—including Clearwater Creek:

- **Clearwater Creek drainage**—including Roscoe Creek, upstream approximately ½ mile upstream of the confluence with the Chinitna River:
  - **Closed year-round to all fishing.**

### Chuitbuna Lake (near Beluga):

- Northern pike: Sport fishing through the ice for northern pike is allowed using 5 lines, provided;
  - standard ice-fishing gear is used,
  - the fishing gear is closely attended,
  - and all other fish caught are released immediately.
- Anglers may use two hooks on a single line, provided that both hooks are attached to one single piece of bait.

### Chuitna River drainage:

- **Closed to king salmon fishing.**

### Lewis River:

- **Closed to king salmon fishing.**

### McNeil River:

- **Within ½ mile of McNeil River Falls (about 1 mile upstream from McNeil Lagoon):**
  - **Closed year-round to all fishing.**

### Shelter Creek:

- **Upstream from an ADF&G marker approximately 1 mile upstream from its mouth:**
  - **Closed year-round to all fishing.**

### Silver Salmon Creek:

- **Within ½ mile of its outlet at Silver Salmon Lake:**
  - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**

### Silver Salmon Lake:

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

### Theodore River drainage:

- **Closed to king salmon fishing.**

### Threemile Creek:

- **Upstream from the Beluga-Tyonek Road culvert to Threemile/Tukhallah Lake:**
  - **Closed year-round to all sport fishing.**

### Threemile/Tukhallah Lake:

- **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
- Northern pike: Sport fishing through the ice for northern pike is allowed using 5 lines, provided;
  - standard ice-fishing gear is used,
  - the fishing gear is closely attended,
  - and all other fish caught are released immediately.
- Anglers may use two hooks on a single line, provided that both hooks are attached to one single piece of bait.
- **Within a 300 foot radius of the lake outlet:**
  - **Closed year-round to sport fishing.**

### Wolverine Creek—including Big River Lake within a 500-yd radius of the mouth of Wolverine Creek:

- Fly-fishing-only water June 1–July 31. See page 7 for gear in fly-fishing-only waters.



Only bears fish at McNeil River falls

by Doug Hill