

SPORT FISH GUIDE REGULATIONS - SOUTHCENTRAL ALASKA

REGULATIONS WITHIN MANAGEMENT AREAS

Guides **MAY NOT sport fish in waters open to king salmon fishing** in West Cook Inlet, the Susitna River Drainage, the Knik Arm, and the Anchorage Bowl while a client is present or within the guide's control or responsibility, unless the guide is providing assistance to a client with a disability as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act. This does not apply to fishing for king salmon in stocked lakes. See Kenai River, Kasilof River, and Cook Inlet Salt Water below for additional information.

KENAI RIVER - FISHING FROM A GUIDE VESSEL ON THE KENAI RIVER

- Guides may not sport fish while a client is present or within the guide's control or responsibility, unless the guide is providing assistance to a client with a disability as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act. This applies year-round.
- The maximum number of fishing rods operated may not exceed the number of clients on board the vessel.
- **Downstream from the outlet of Skilak Lake:**
 - **May 1-July 31: Closed to sport fishing on Sundays and Mondays (except Memorial Day).**
 - Sport fishing is only allowed Tuesday through Saturday from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day.
 - **July 1-July 31:** Guide boats may not have more than 5 persons, including the guide, clients, and other passengers while fishing from a vessel. Guides are allowed to transport up to 5 people in a boat (6 including the guide), but only to fish from shore.
- **Upstream from the confluence of the Moose and Kenai rivers to the outlet at Kenai Lake:**
 - **August 1-November 30: Closed to sport fishing for coho salmon from a guide vessel on Mondays (except Labor Day).** Any coho salmon caught must be released immediately.
- **Downstream from the confluence of the Moose and Kenai rivers:**
 - **August 1-November 30: Closed to all sport fishing from a guide vessel on Mondays (except Labor Day).**

ALASKA STATE PARKS AND ADF&G DUAL REGISTRATION REQUIRED:

- Before guiding sport anglers on the Kenai River, each guide and vessel must register annually with ADF&G and the Alaska State Parks Soldotna office.
- In addition to the ADF&G sport fishing guide vessel decal, each guide vessel shall be identified by displaying the issued Department of Natural Resources Kenai River guide stickers, and the assigned three-digit guide vessel number on both sides of the vessel just aft of the midpoint and above the water line. For more information on Department of Natural Resources guide registration and decal requirements, please email parkpermitting@alaska.gov.
- No person or business may provide guides, boat operators, or boats for rent to anglers unless the guides, boat operators, and boats are registered as described above.
- It is unlawful for a sport angler or a third party to contract with an individual for the purpose of operating a boat and/or guiding unless the individual employed is registered as described above.

COOK INLET SALT WATER - SPECIAL KING SALMON MANAGEMENT AREA (SEE PAGE 69)

- **April 1-August 31: Guides may not sport fish while a client is present or within the guide's control or responsibility,** unless the guide is providing assistance to a client with a disability as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act.

KASILOF RIVER

- **Downstream of the Sterling Highway Bridge:**
 - **A person may not sport fish from a registered guide vessel on any Sunday in July.**
 - Guides are allowed to sport fish with clients from shore **except within an area between an ADF&G marker at the confluence of Crooked Creek, downstream 1/2 mile to a marker at the cut bank.**



PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND

- **Charter operators and their crew are prohibited from keeping rockfish or king salmon while clients are on board.**

STATEWIDE REGULATIONS

GUIDE VESSEL DECAL & REGISTRATION NUMBER

All sport charter vessels used in guided recreational taking of fish or shellfish in fresh water or salt water or shellfish must have its current Division of Motor Vehicles boat registration number, or USGS vessel documentation number, and its ADF&G sport fishing guide vessel decal with a current year renewal sticker displayed in plain view on each side of the vessel at all times the vessel is engaged in sport fish guide services.

Example of a guide vessel decal with a current year sticker.



SHELLFISH - CRAB, SHRIMP, AND MISC. SHELLFISH

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 while the vessel is being chartered.

An owner, operator, or employee of a lodge, charter vessel, or similar business that provides food, lodging, or sport fishing guide services may not provide clients or guests with subsistence, sport, or personal use-caught shellfish, unless the shellfish:

1. Was caught by the client or guest using gear they deployed and retrieved;
2. Was taken with gear marked with the client's or guest's name and address; and
3. Is for the personal consumption by the client or guest, or consumed in their presence.