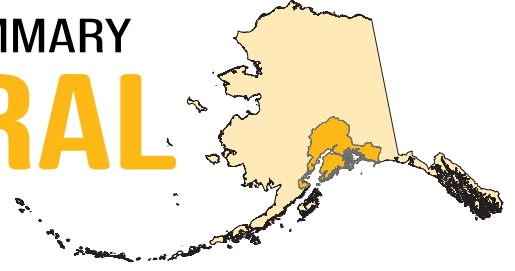


2026

# SPORT FISHING REGULATIONS SUMMARY SOUTHCENTRAL ALASKA



Effective until the 2027 summary is issued



LICENSING & REGIONAL REGULATIONS

WEST COOK INLET

SUSITNA RIVER DRAINAGE

KNIK ARM

ANCHORAGE BOWL

KENAI RIVER DRAINAGE

KENAI PENINSULA FRESH WATERS

COOK INLET SALT WATERS

NORTH GULF COAST

PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND

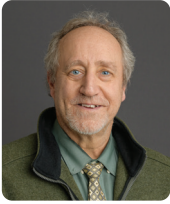
PERSONAL USE FISHERIES

SHELLFISH REGULATIONS



Scan before you fish!  
Check for emergency orders online.





## COMMISSIONER'S NOTE

When you think about Alaska, who doesn't think about fishing? It is part of our culture and lifestyle. Alaskans cannot wait for fishing season to begin, whether through the ice, using a dipnet, a spinning reel, a fly rod, or a tip up. Alaska is a place where sport fishing brings people together - families, friends, and anyone who steps onto the water with a rod in hand. It's more than the pursuit of a catch; it's a connection to the natural world and an experience unique to this great state.

Our sport fisheries thrive because of anglers like you.

When you purchase a sport fishing license, king salmon stamp, or fishing gear, you directly support the conservation, research, and management efforts that keep Alaska's waters healthy and abundant for generations to come.

This season, explore new waters, try new techniques, and embrace the adventure that makes Alaska fishing so special. Savor the scenery, enjoy every catch, and share the stories that make these moments unforgettable.

And take time to ensure there is a next generation of anglers. Take a kid fishing and pass on the traditions. Show them there is more to life than electronics! You will not regret the memories created. If you or someone you know needs gear, many ADF&G offices offer free equipment through the Rod Loaner Program. Check with the office in the area where you plan to fish.

Thank you for being part of Alaska's sport fishing community. Together, we protect our fisheries for future generations, celebrate our natural outdoor heritage, and keep the spirit of Alaska's waters alive.

Here's to a safe, exciting, and rewarding 2026 fishing season. Happy fishing!

### **Doug Vincent-Lang**

*Commissioner, Alaska Department of Fish and Game*



## ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Division of Sport Fish - Headquarters  
1255 West 8th Street/P.O. Box 115526  
Juneau, Alaska 99811-5526

*Mike Dunleavy, Governor*  
*Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner*  
*Israel Payton, Sport Fish Director*

The Alaska 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 ADF&G 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 (DSF) is one of four divisions within ADF&G. By law, the mission of DSF is to protect and improve the state's sport fisheries resources. DSF operations are largely funded by anglers and recreational boaters through contributions to Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration and ADF&G license funds. At least 15% 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, numerous emergency orders may be issued to open or close seasons or areas, modify bag and possession limits, methods and means, and more in any given year. Most, but not all, affect salmon fishing, as opposed to fishing for resident species. All emergency orders are widely announced via news media, recorded on ADF&G hotlines, available at ADF&G offices, online at [www.adfg.alaska.gov](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov), and may also be posted at key access points. Anglers can also subscribe to receive emergency orders, advisory announcements, and press releases through the ADF&G website at [www.adfg.alaska.gov](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov).

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## HOW SPORT FISHING REGULATIONS ARE CREATED

The Alaska Board of Fisheries (Board) sets the state's fishing regulations, including seasons, bag limits, and fishing methods, under authority from the Alaska Legislature. The Board also establishes policies and management plans for the state's fishery resources. It is made up of seven members appointed by the governor, confirmed by the Legislature, and serving three-year terms.

The Board process is designed to be open to public input. It meets four to six times a year to consider proposed changes to fishing regulations. Anyone can submit a proposal to change a regulation. When making decisions, the Board considers biological and socioeconomic data from ADF&G, public comments, input from Advisory Committees, and guidance from the Alaska Department of Public Safety and Department of Law.

The Board meets on a three-year cycle. It most recently addressed Alaska Peninsula, Aleutian Islands, Bering Sea, and Chignik Pacific regulations in October 2025; Arctic, Yukon, and Kuskokwim Finfish regulations in November 2025; Bristol Bay Finfish regulations in December 2025; Alaska Peninsula, Aleutian Islands, and Chignik Finfish regulations in February 2026; and Statewide Finfish and Supplemental regulations in March 2026.

### **Alaska Board of Fisheries Current Members**

Märit Carlson-Van Dort (Chair) - Anchorage, Tom Carpenter (Vice Chair) - Cordova,  
Curtis Chamberlain - Anchorage, Gerad Godfrey - Eagle River, Olivia Henaayee Irwin - Anchorage,  
Greg Svendsen - Anchorage, and Mike Wood - Talkeetna.

- 2 For more information on board members or the board process, please visit [www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fisheriesboard.main](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fisheriesboard.main) or contact the ADF&G Boards Support Section at (907) 465-4110.

## HOW TO START FISHING IN ALASKA

**1. Get a License:** You need a sport fishing license and a king salmon stamp if targeting king salmon (even for catch-and-release). Licenses and king stamps are available at ADF&G offices, online, or through the ADF&G mobile app. See pages 4-5 for licensing details.

**Here's a quick guide to help you navigate the sport fishing regulations:**

**2. Check Emergency Orders:** Emergency orders are temporary changes to fishing regulations. They're available online, through the ADF&G mobile app, or at local ADF&G offices.

**3. Review Statewide and Regional Regulations:** Start by reading the statewide and regional regulations on pages 6-7.

**4. Check the Southcentral Alaska Regulations:** Go to pages 8-9 and find the area you plan to fish. Go to that section and read the general regulations for seasons, methods, bag limits, and size limits.

**5. Read Special Regulations:** Special regulations override general, regional, and statewide regulations. If the waters you want to fish are not listed, follow the general regulations.

**Anglers Please Note:** New or updated regulations and information for 2026 are printed in **GREEN TEXT** and marked with a **NEW** symbol. Regulations affected by an **EMERGENCY ORDER** are marked with a **EO** symbol.

**SAFEGUARD ALASKA FISH & WILDLIFE**  
**TO REPORT VIOLATIONS IN PROGRESS CALL**  
**800-478-3377**

REPORT ALL OTHER  
 VIOLATIONS VIA  
 THIS WEBPAGE



This summary of Alaska sport and personal use fishing and shellfish regulations is provided by the Division of Sport Fish for anglers. It is not a complete list of all regulations. For full details, see the Alaska Administrative Code (AAC), Title 5, online at [www.akleg.gov/basis/aac.asp#5](http://www.akleg.gov/basis/aac.asp#5).

Regulations in this book may be changed at any time by the Alaska Board of Fisheries during regular meetings, through emergency regulations, or by emergency order.

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## COVER PHOTOS

Clockwise from top left:

- Reese Oslund, sockeye salmon, Kenai River
- Andrej, Jay, Makai, Bridget, and Keleah Evatt, sockeye salmon, Kenai River
- Christina Ahlstrom & Katya Karankevich, salmon, Prince William Sound
- Carter Christensen, lake trout, Kenai Lake
- Gabriel Leatigaga, lingcod, Cape Clear

Office Location	ADF&G Division of Sport Fish	Alaska Wildlife Troopers
Anchorage	(907) 267-2218 (Regional)	(907) 352-5401
	(907) 267-2502 Fishing Report	
Anchor Point		(907) 235-8239
Cordova	(907) 424-3212	(907) 424-3184
Homer	(907) 235-8191	(907) 262-4453
	(907) 235-6930 Fishing Report	
Mat-Su West		(907) 373-8305
Palmer	(907) 746-6300 & Fishing Report	(907) 745-4247
Seward	(907) 267-2503 Fishing Report	(907) 224-3935
Soldotna	(907) 262-9368	(907) 262-4573
	(907) 262-2737 Fishing Report	
Valdez	(907) 267-2504 Fishing Report	(907) 835-4307

## SPORT FISHING LICENSES ARE REQUIRED

**AN ALASKA SPORT FISHING LICENSE IS REQUIRED FOR ALL RESIDENT ANGLERS 18 YEARS OLD AND OLDER AND NONRESIDENT ANGLERS 16 YEARS OLD AND OLDER TO FISH IN ALASKA'S FRESH AND SALT WATERS.**

A valid sport fishing license must be in your possession (paper or electronic) while fishing in Alaska's fresh and salt waters. It allows you to fish for finfish or shellfish according to the regulations in this book.

If sport fishing for king salmon, you may need a king salmon stamp and/or harvest record card. See page 5 for more information.

You must present your sport fishing license, PID or DV card, king stamp, and harvest record and catch upon request from ADF&G or law enforcement while fishing or possessing sport-caught fish or shellfish.

Sport fishing licenses cannot be altered, loaned, or transferred. You cannot use another person's sport fishing license.

If your sport fishing, hunting, or trapping license is revoked in any state, you cannot get an Alaska sport fishing license.

**An Alaska resident** is someone who has lived in Alaska for the past 12 consecutive months with the intent to stay, and who is not claiming residency or receiving benefits in another state, territory, or country. Benefits include applying for a resident fishing or hunting license, obtaining a driver's license, or receiving state benefits or paying taxes in another state.

**Active duty military personnel and their dependents** stationed in Alaska for the past 12 months may purchase a resident sport fishing license, regardless of benefits received in another state. Resident fishing regulations apply.

Military personnel stationed in Alaska for less than 12 months may purchase a nonresident military sport fishing license and annual king salmon stamp at reduced rates, but they are considered nonresidents. Nonresident fishing regulations apply.



Purchase your sport fishing license, king salmon stamp, permits, and so much more through the ADF&G online store.

ADF&G complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. This summary is available in alternative formats. For assistance, contact the ADF&G ADA Coordinator at (907) 465-6078; TTY/ Alaska Relay 7-1-1; or 1-800-770-8973

Produced by ADF&G in Anchorage, Alaska, at \$0.39 per copy to provide sport fishing regulations.

## SPORT FISHING HARVEST RECORD

Harvest records are required for ALL anglers when harvesting species with an annual limit. These species are listed in each management areas' general regulations section.

Record harvested species with annual limits on your sport fishing license or harvest record card. See page 92.

A harvest record card is required for resident anglers under 18, nonresident anglers under 16, and PID/DV card holders.

After landing a fish with an annual limit, immediately record the species, date, and location on the harvest record portion of your license or harvest record card.

If you get a duplicate or additional license, or harvest record card, transfer your harvest records to the new one.

### WHERE TO GET LICENSES, KING STAMPS, AND HARVEST RECORD CARDS

Sport fishing licenses, king salmon stamps, and harvest record cards are available at local ADF&G offices, licensed vendors, through the ADF&G mobile app, and online at the ADF&G store at <https://store.adfg.alaska.gov>. PID and DV cards may also be obtained online.



Theo Harmeling, Chinook salmon, Eklutna Tailrace

## ALASKA RESIDENT SPORT FISHING LICENSE FEES

Alaska Sport Fishing License \_\_\_\_\_ \$20

For Alaska residents 18 and older. Valid for the calendar year from the purchase date.

ADF&G Permanent (Senior) ID Card (PID) \_\_\_\_\_ FREE

Free for qualifying Alaska residents. To apply for a PID, you must be 60 or older. The PID is valid for fishing, hunting, and trapping. **FOR ALASKA RESIDENTS ONLY.** If you become a nonresident, your PID card is no longer valid, and you must purchase a nonresident sport fishing license.

ADF&G Disabled Veteran ID Card (DV) \_\_\_\_\_ FREE

Free for qualifying Alaska residents who are disabled veterans with a 50% or greater disability incurred during military service. This card is valid for fishing, hunting, and trapping. **FOR ALASKA RESIDENTS ONLY.** If you become a nonresident, your DV card is no longer valid, and you must purchase a nonresident sport fishing license.

Resident Blind Sport Fishing License \_\_\_\_\_ \$0.50

An affidavit is required. Forms are available from ADF&G or licensed vendors.

Low Income Sport Fishing License \_\_\_\_\_ \$5

For Alaska resident with an annual family or household income at or below the most recent U.S. poverty guidelines. **THIS IS NOT A PROGRAM BASED LICENSE.** For more information, please visit [www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=license.lowincome](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=license.lowincome).

## NONRESIDENT SPORT FISHING LICENSE FEES

Nonresidents under 16 years old: No sport fishing license required.

Residents of the Yukon Territory: May purchase a nonresident sport fishing license at Alaska resident rates.

1-Day Sport Fishing License \_\_\_\_\_ \$15

3-Day Sport Fishing License \_\_\_\_\_ \$30

7-Day Sport Fishing License \_\_\_\_\_ \$45

14-Day Sport Fishing License \_\_\_\_\_ \$75

Annual Sport Fishing License \_\_\_\_\_ \$100

Valid for the calendar year from the purchase date.

Nonresident Military Annual Sport Fishing License \_\_\_\_\_ \$20

Only for active duty military service members permanently stationed in Alaska for less than 12 months, and their dependents.

## EMERGENCY ORDERS

Temporary regulation changes.

Fishing regulations in this book can be changed by emergency order at any time. If a change affects your fishing area or species, follow the updated rules. These changes override the regulations in this book.

For updates, check the ADF&G website or contact the local ADF&G Sport Fish office.

**SIGN UP TO RECEIVE EMERGENCY ORDER NOTIFICATIONS BY EMAIL. LEARN MORE AT [WWW.ADFG.ALASKA.GOV/SF/EONR](http://WWW.ADFG.ALASKA.GOV/SF/EONR).**



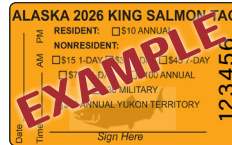
Stay legal, scan before you fish! Check for emergency orders online here.

## KING SALMON STAMP INFORMATION

Anglers sport fishing for king salmon, including catch-and-release (except in stocked landlocked lakes), must purchase a current year king salmon stamp. Stamps can be purchased online and printed immediately.

If you buy a physical stamp, sign it in ink and attach it to the front or back of your sport fishing license, depending on whether it's a handwritten or online license.

Examples of both a physical and an online king salmon stamp are shown below.



Physical king stamp



Online king stamp

## KING SALMON STAMP FEES

Alaska residents 18 and older, and nonresidents 16 and older: Must purchase a king salmon stamp to fish for king salmon in fresh and saltwater.

Annual king salmon stamps are valid for the calendar year from the date of purchase.

Resident Annual King Salmon Stamp \_\_\_\_\_ \$10

Nonresident 1-day King Salmon Stamp \_\_\_\_\_ \$15

Nonresident 3-day King Salmon Stamp \_\_\_\_\_ \$30

Nonresident 7-day King Salmon Stamp \_\_\_\_\_ \$45

Nonresident 14-day King Salmon Stamp \_\_\_\_\_ \$75

Nonresident Annual King Salmon Stamp \_\_\_\_\_ \$100

Nonresident Military King Salmon Stamp \_\_\_\_\_ \$30

Duplicate King Salmon Stamp \_\_\_\_\_ \$5

The following individuals do not need a king salmon stamp:

- Resident anglers under 18 years old and nonresidents under 16 years old.
- Residents with an ADF&G PID or DV card.
- Residents with a Low Income Sport Fishing License.
- Residents with Resident Blind Sport Fishing License.



Esabella Arvelo, Chinook salmon, Nick Dudiak Lagoon

**DATA COLLECTION REQUIREMENTS**

- Anglers must surrender the heads of any tagged salmon or trout with external or internal tags, or an adipose finclip, along with the catch date and location, upon request by ADF&G staff or state peace officer.

**LIABILITY FOR VIOLATIONS**

- Unless specified by regulation or law, anyone who violates these regulations is strictly liable for the offense, regardless of that person's intent.

**PROHIBITED ACTS****CLOSED WATERS/ WATERS CLOSED TO SPORT FISHING:**

- Unless area regulations state otherwise:
  - (a) waters within 300 feet of a fish weir or fish ladder are closed to sport fishing, unless marked differently by ADF&G markers, and
  - (b) it is unlawful to cast, drift, or place any hook, bait, lure, or fly into waters closed to sport fishing.

**FELT-SOLED BOOTS PROHIBITED:**

- The use of footwear with absorbent felt or similar fibrous materials on the soles is prohibited while sport or personal use 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.

**POSSESSION, TRANSPORT, OR MARKING OF LIVE FISH, EGGS, OR AQUATIC ORGANISMS:**

- It is unlawful for a person to collect, transport, possess, propagate, export, mark in any way, or release into the waters or the lands of the state, any live fish, fish eggs, or aquatic organism, except in accordance with the provisions listed on page 7 under "Use of Sport-Caught Fish as Bait," or in compliance with the terms of a permit issued by the Commissioner.
- It is unlawful for a person to possess any part of a Class A banned invasive species, including reproductive or genetic material, at any stage of its life cycle, except as follows: (1) when transporting a specimen to any ADF&G office or another location as directed by ADF&G staff in a sealed container for the purpose of containing, identifying, or reporting the presence of the species; or (2) under the provisions of an aquatic resource permit. A person may not possess any live Class B banned invasive species at any stage of its life cycle. See page 94 for Class A & B definitions.

**SALE OF SPORT-CAUGHT FISH PROHIBITED:**

- It is unlawful for anyone to buy, sell, barter sport-caught fish or their parts.

**SNAGGING IN FRESH WATER PROHIBITED:**

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

**USE OF EXPLOSIVES OR TOXICANTS:**

- The use of any toxicants or explosives to catch any fish in the waters of Alaska is prohibited. However, 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 salt water to dispatch a fish caught with legal gear.

**WASTE OF FISH:**

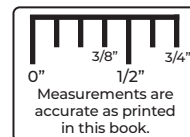
- The intentional waste or destruction of any sport-caught fish species is prohibited.

**METHODS AND MEANS****FRESH WATER SPORT FISHING:**

- Fish **MAY NOT** be taken in freshwater using:
  - Fixed or weighted hooks and lures (except standard manufactured ones);
  - Multiple hooks with a gap larger than ½ inch between the point and shank;
  - A spear or bow and arrow, unless allowed under area regulations.
- **Spearguns are not legal gear in freshwaters.**

**GEAR FOR FLY-FISHING-ONLY WATERS:**

- In waters designated as fly-fishing-only waters, sport fishing is permitted only as follows;
  - With not more than one unweighted, single-hook fly with gap between point and shank of ⅜ inch or less; and
  - Weights may only be used 18 inches or more ahead of the fly.

**ICE FISHING GEAR:**

- Ice fishing is allowed with two closely attended lines, provided only one hook or artificial lure is used on each line. Additional gear may be used for northern pike and burbot as specified in statewide or area regulations.
- The total number of lines/hooks an angler may use is limited to the maximum allowed for any species. For example, in a lake where regulations allow 15 set lines for burbot and 5 lines under the ice 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 used to target northern pike.

**SNAGGING IN SALT WATER:**

- Snagging is allowed in saltwater, unless prohibited under area regulations.
- Snagging is prohibited year-round in all salt water north of a line from Bluff Point. See the map on page 68.

**SPORT FISHING GEAR:**

- Unless area regulations state otherwise, sport fishing may only be done using:
  - A closely attended single line, held in hand or attached to a fishing pole or rod, attached to no more than one plug; one spoon; one spinner or series of spinners; two artificial flies; or two hooks.
  - The line must be closely attended, unless area regulations allow unattended setlines for burbot.

**SPORT FISHING GEAR (SET LINES) FOR BURBOT:**

- Unless area regulations state otherwise, burbot may be taken using more than one line and hook in freshwaters where set lines are allowed for burbot provided:
  - The total number of hooks does not exceed 15 or the daily burbot bag limit for the waters being fished, whichever is less (5 burbot bag limit = 5 hooks fished).
  - Hooks are single hooks with a gap larger than  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch between the point and shank.
  - Each hook is set to rest on the bottom of the lake or stream.
  - Each line is labeled with the angler's name and address.
  - Each line is physically inspected at least once every 24-hour period.
  - Burbot may be taken with general sport fishing gear or ice fishing gear (page 6) in any lake or river open to burbot fishing, these lines must be closely attended.

**SPORT FISHING GEAR FOR HERRING AND SMELT:**

- In saltwater, herring and smelt may be taken using up to 15 or less unbaited, single or multiple hooks attached to a single line.

**SPORT FISHING GEAR FOR NORTHERN PIKE:**

- Northern pike may be taken by spear, unless prohibited under area regulations.

**SPORT FISHING GEAR FOR SQUID:**

- Squid may be taken using no more than two squid jigs attached to a single line. See page 95 for definition of a squid jig. Standard sport fishing gear can also be used to target squid, see page 6.

**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 2 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 are allowed.

**USE OF UNDERWATER SPEAR (SALTWATER):**

- In saltwater, a person may use a spear or speargun (not tipped with an explosive charge) to take fish while completely submerged or swimming on the surface, subject to applicable seasons, bag limits, and possession limits.

**EVIDENCE OF SPECIES AND SIZE****NEW** Statewide retention requirements for rockfish, lingcod, and king salmon in all waters:

- You may fillet your catch, but all skin must remain attached to the fillets.
- For lingcod and king salmon, the carcass must be kept in one piece so the length can be measured.
  - The above applies until the vessel is tied up at a docking location where the fish will be offloaded from a vessel or an angler fishing from shore is done fishing for the day or is departing the fishing site for the day.
- This does not prohibit eating or preserving fish as allowed under regulation. See "Preserved Fish" on page 95.

**USE OF SPORT-CAUGHT FISH AS BAIT**

- Unless area regulations state otherwise, the following apply:
  - Fish caught under sport fishing regulations may not be used as bait, except;
    - Herring and whitefish may be used as bait.
    - Species with no bag or annual limits may be used as bait.
    - The head, tail, fins, closely trimmed skeleton, carcass, and viscera of legally caught sport fish may be used as bait.
  - Live fish may not be used as bait in freshwater.
  - Live herring and other species with no bag or annual limits may be used as live bait in saltwater.
  - Live bait may only be possessed, transported, or released in the regulatory saltwaters area where it was caught.

**POSSESSION OF SPORT-CAUGHT FISH**

- 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 ADF&G staff or 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. See Transfer of Possession Form on page 92.
- The statement is unnecessary if the person possessing the fish is accompanied by the person who caught the fish. No one may possess fish which were not legally caught.
- A person may possess only the limit of fish allowed for the water on which that person is fishing. This means that you may not fish in any waters if you are in possession of fish that exceeds the possession limit for those waters.
- Upon request by an employee of ADF&G 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 ADF&G 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.

**POSSESSION OF SPORT-CAUGHT HALIBUT**

- Pacific halibut fisheries are managed by the federal government under international treaty.
- **Transfer of Possession form is not valid for halibut.**
- Federal halibut regulations are available through NOAA Fisheries Alaska Region at (907) 586-7228. [www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/fisheries/sport-halibut](http://www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/fisheries/sport-halibut)

**SPORT FISH GUIDING**

- An eLogbook is required for all saltwater sport fishing businesses in Alaska.
- For more information on sport fishing guide and business requirements, visit [www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=SFGuidesLicense.main](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=SFGuidesLicense.main).

# SOUTHCENTRAL ALASKA SPECIAL REGULATION GUIDE

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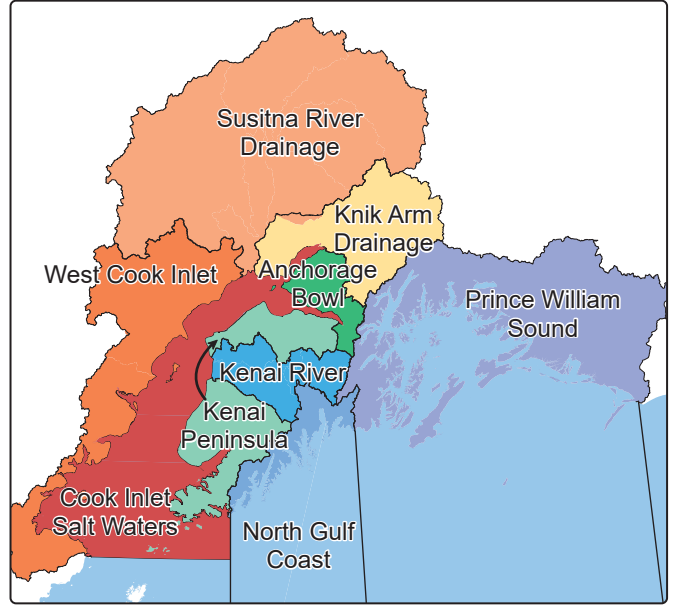
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# SPORT FISH GUIDE REGULATIONS - SOUTHCENTRAL ALASKA

## 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](mailto: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.

### **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.**

### **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.

### **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.

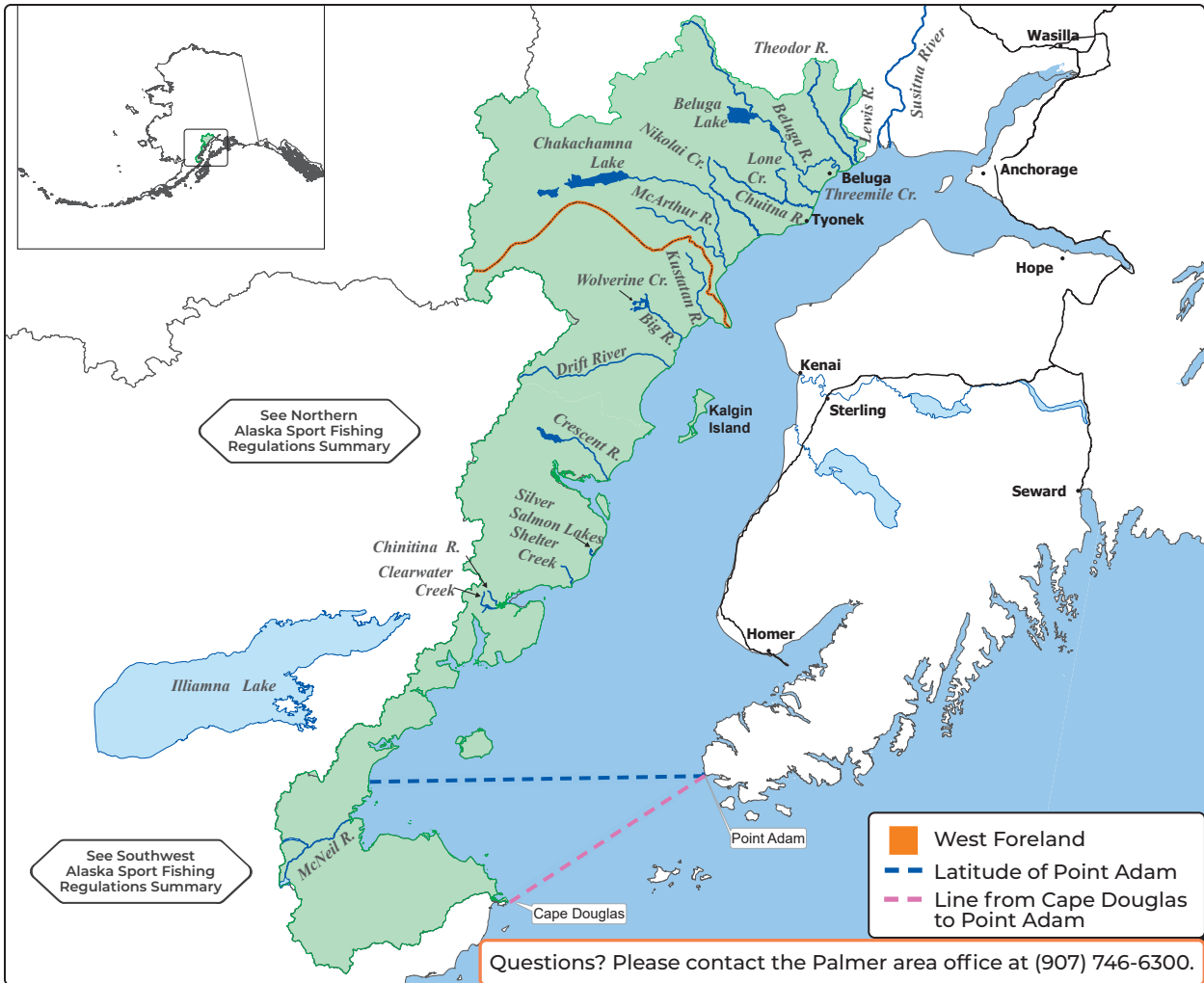


### **SHELLFISH - CRAB, SHRIMP, AND MISC. SHELLFISH**

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.



## GENERAL REGULATIONS - WEST COOK INLET

**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.

Fishing is open year-round for all species unless otherwise noted below or in special regulations.

**October 1-December 31:** All flowing waters of West Cook Inlet are closed to salmon fishing.

### METHODS AND MEANS:

- In drainages between the Susitna River and the West Foreland:
  - In flowing waters:
    - **July 14-August 31:** Bait and multiple hooks are allowed.
    - **September 1-July 13:** Only unbaited, artificial lures or flies are allowed. See map above.
- In the flowing waters of drainages from the West Foreland south to the latitude of the southern tip of Chisik Island:
  - **May 16-August 31:** Bait and multiple hooks are allowed. See the map above
  - **September 1-May 15:** Only unbaited, artificial lures or flies are allowed.
- In the flowing waters of drainages south of the latitude of the southern tip of Chisik Island to the latitude of Cape Douglas:
  - **May 16-July 14:** Bait and multiple hooks are allowed. See the map above.
  - **July 15-May 15:** Only unbaited, artificial lures or flies are allowed.

Stay legal - before you cast, check emergency orders at [www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR).

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY BAG LIMITS
<b>KING SALMON</b>	<b>EO King salmon fishing is closed in 2026 by emergency order.</b>	
<b>CHUM, * COHO, PINK, &amp; SOCKEYE SALMON (COMBO)</b>	<b>January 1- September 30:</b>	<b>16 inches or longer:</b> 3 per day, 6 in possession. <b>Less than 16 inches:</b> 10 per day, 10 in possession.
	<b>October 1- December 31:</b>	<b>Closed to all salmon fishing.</b>
	<p>* A coho (silver) salmon 16 inches or longer that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. You may not remove a coho salmon 16 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.</p> <p>* After taking a daily bag limit of coho salmon 16 inches or longer from a West Cook Inlet drainage, you may not continue to fish in West Cook Inlet waters on the same day.</p>	
<b>RAINBOW/ STEELHEAD TROUT (COMBO)</b>	<b>In flowing waters:</b>	
	<b>April 15-June 14:</b>	Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.
	<b>June 15-April 14:</b>	2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
	<b>In lakes:</b>	
	<b>Open year-round</b>	2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
<p>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.</p> <p>If you retain a rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer, you must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.</p>		
<b>ARCTIC CHAR/ DOLLY VARDEN (COMBO)</b>	<b>Open year-round</b>	5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 of which may be 12 inches or longer.
<b>ARCTIC GRAYLING</b>	<b>Open year-round</b>	2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
<b>LAKE TROUT</b>	<b>Open year-round</b>	2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
<b>OTHER FINFISH</b>	<b>Open year-round</b>	No limit.

...continued



Lucas Renner, pink salmon, Ibeck Creek



Dan Praslowicz, Arctic char, Big Lake

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY BAG LIMITS
<p><b>NORTHERN PIKE</b> <b>INVASIVE SPECIES</b></p>	<p>Open year-round</p>	<p>No limit.</p> <p><b>Live Release Prohibited.</b> You 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.</p> <p>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).</p> <p>When fishing through the ice for northern pike, you may use two hooks on a single line, provided that both hooks are attached to one single piece of bait.</p> <p>The following special regulations apply to ice fishing for northern pike in the waters below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sport fishing through the ice for northern pike is allowed using <b>5 LINES</b> provided that:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standard ice fishing gear is used;</li> <li>• The fishing gear is closely attended, and;</li> <li>• All other species of fish caught are released immediately.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Chuitbuna Lake and Threemile Creek Drainage.</li> </ul>

**SPECIAL REGULATIONS - WEST COOK INLET**

**BELUGA RIVER DRAINAGE** - including Coal Creek and tributaries of Beluga Lake:

- Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
- **Closed year-round to king salmon fishing, including catch-and-release.**

**CHINITNA RIVER DRAINAGE:**

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

**CHUITNA RIVER DRAINAGE:**

- Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
- **Closed year-round to king salmon fishing.** All king salmon caught must be released immediately.

**LEWIS RIVER:**

- Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
- **Closed year-round to king salmon fishing.** All king salmon caught must be released immediately.

**MCNEIL RIVER:**

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

**SHELTER CREEK:**

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

- Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
- **Closed year-round to king salmon fishing.** All king salmon caught must be released immediately.

**THREEMILE CREEK:**

- Upstream from the Beluga-Tyonek Road culvert to Threemile/Tukhallah Lake:
  - Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
  - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**

**THREEMILE/TUKHALLAH LAKE:**

- Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
- **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**

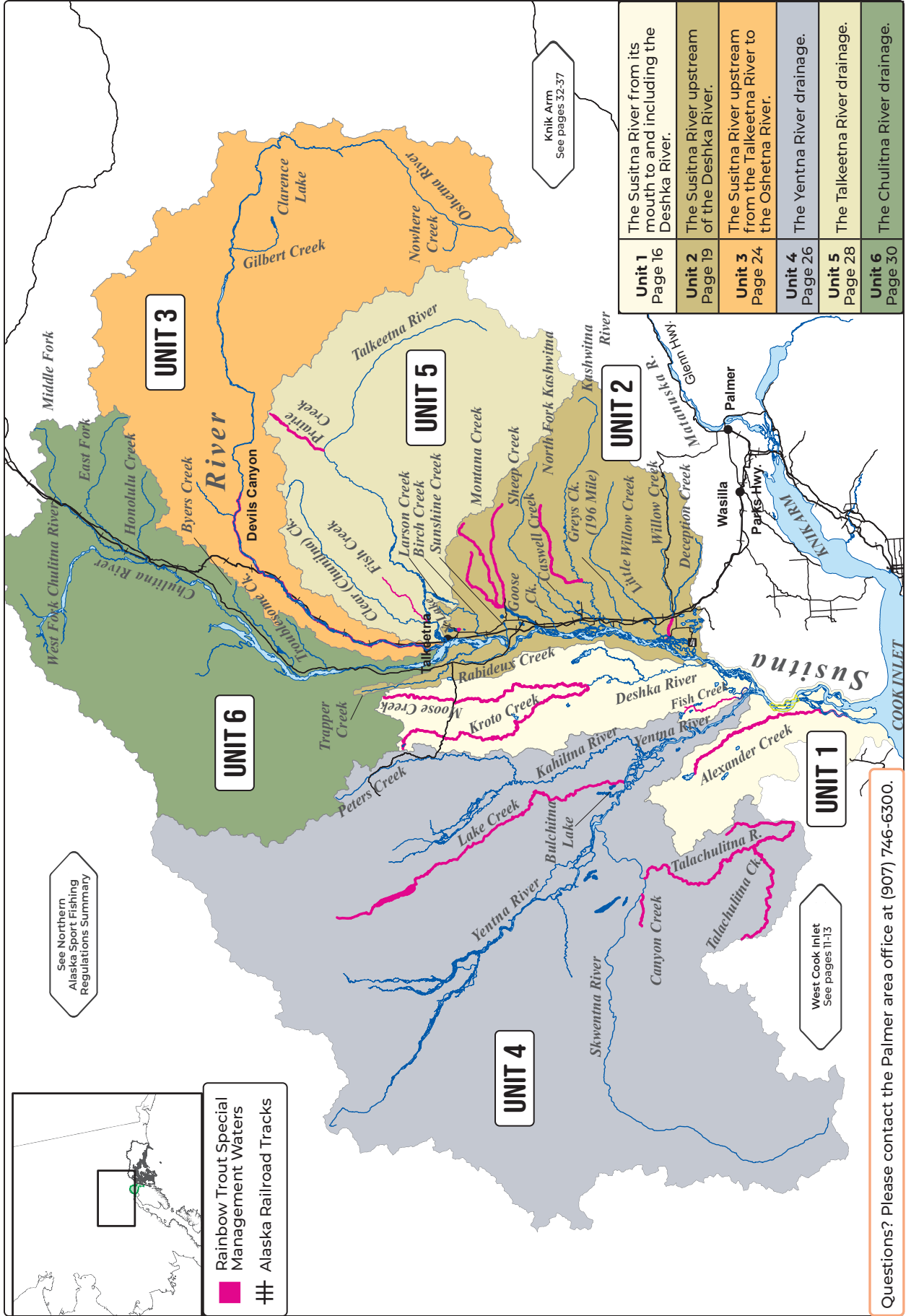
**WOLVERINE CREEK** - including Big River Lake within a 500-yard radius of the mouth of Wolverine Creek:

- **June 1-July 31:** These waters are fly-fishing-only waters. See page 6 for gear allowed in fly-fishing-only waters.
- **Snagging is prohibited.**
- **The South Fork of Big River upstream of an island located about 1.25 miles of the South Fork confluence with Big River Lake:**
  - **Closed to all sport fishing.**



Hewey Kitchen, Salamatof Beach

SUSITNA RIVER DRAINAGE



Questions? Please contact the Palmer area office at (907) 746-6300.

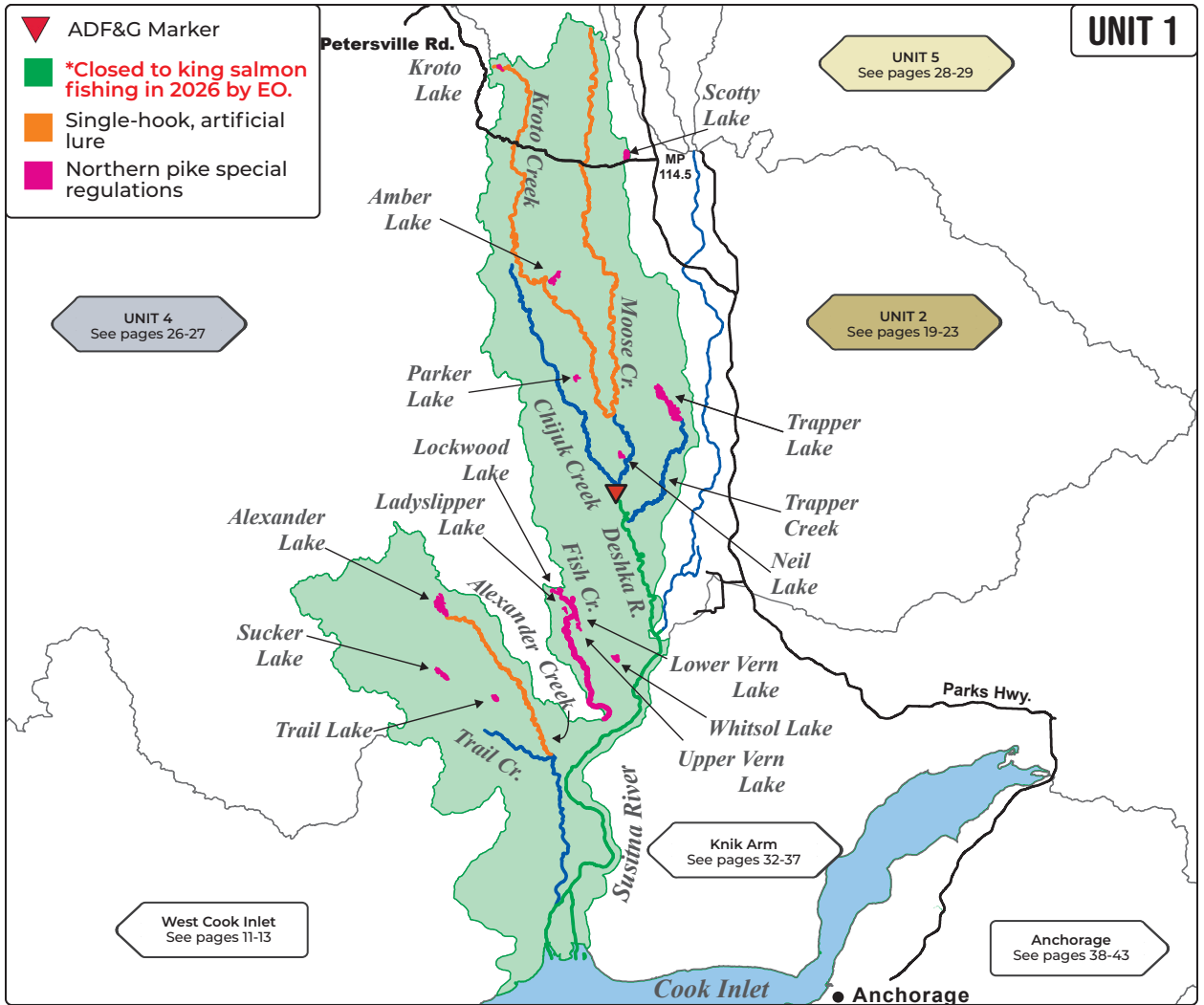
## GENERAL REGULATIONS - APPLY TO ALL UNITS

**Inclusive waters:** All waters of the Susitna River Units 1-6.

**May 15-July 13: Sport fishing is only allowed from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. each day in king salmon waters.**

**Stay legal - before you cast, check current emergency orders at [www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR).**

SPECIES	GENERAL REGULATIONS APPLY TO ALL SUSITNA RIVER UNITS
<b>KING SALMON</b>	<b>EO King salmon fishing is closed in 2026 by emergency order.</b>
	<p>A king salmon 20 inches or longer that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. You must not remove a king salmon 20 inches or longer from the water before releasing.</p> <p>If you retain a king salmon 20 inches or longer, you must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.</p> <p>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.</p>
<b>COHO SALMON</b>	<p>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. You must not remove a coho salmon 16 inches or longer from the water before releasing.</p>
<b>RAINBOW/ STEELHEAD TROUT</b>	<p>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.</p> <p>If you retain a rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer, you must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.</p>
<b>NORTHERN PIKE INVASIVE SPECIES</b>	<p>No limit.</p> <p><b>Live Release Prohibited.</b> You 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.</p> <p>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).</p> <p>When fishing through the ice for northern pike, you may use two hooks on a single line, provided that both hooks are attached to one single piece of bait.</p> <p>The following special regulations apply to ice fishing for northern pike in the waters below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sport fishing through the ice for northern pike is allowed using <b>5 lines</b> provided that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standard ice fishing gear is used;</li> <li>• The fishing gear is closely attended, and;</li> <li>• All other species of fish caught are released immediately.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Unit 1:</b> Alexander Creek and Lake, Amber Lake, Fish creek (Lower Susitna River), Fish Creek (Kroto Slough), Kroto Lakes, Ladyslipper Lake, Lockwood Lake, Lower and Upper Vern Lakes (Ding-Dong Lakes), Neil Lake, Parker Lake, Scotty Lake, Sucker Lake, Trail Lake, Trapper Lake, Whitsol Lake, and Witsoe Creek.</li> <li>• <b>Unit 2:</b> Crystal Lake, Long Lake, Shirley Lake.</li> <li>• <b>Unit 4:</b> Bulchitna Lake, Cabin Lakes, Donkey Lake, Eightmile Lake, Fish Lakes, Hewitt Lake, Indian Creek, Little Bulchitna Lake, Onestone Lake, Shell Lake, Whiskey Lake.</li> </ul>
<b>BURBOT</b>	<p>Bait is allowed while fishing for burbot, and burbot may be taken with more than one line and hook. See page 7 for more info.</p>



### GENERAL REGULATIONS - UNIT 1

**Inclusive waters:** From the mouth of the Susitna River upstream to its confluence with the Deshka River (including the Deshka River drainage, but excluding the Yentna River drainage) - the waters of the Susitna River and its westside tributaries, and all eastside waters within ½ mile of the Susitna River.

Fishing is open year-round for all species unless otherwise noted below or in special regulations.

**METHODS AND MEANS - UNIT 1:**

• In all flowing waters:

**EO May 1-July 13:** Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure with a gap between the point and shank of the hook of one-half inch or less by emergency order.

• Flowing waters of the Susitna River drainage - from its mouth upstream to its confluence with the Deshka River:

• **July 14-August 31:** Bait and multiple hooks are allowed.

**EO September 1-April 30:** Only unbaited, artificial lures or flies are allowed, multiple hooks are allowed during this time.

**Stay legal - before you cast, check emergency orders at [www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR).**

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY BAG LIMITS
KING SALMON	<b>EO King salmon fishing is closed in 2026 by emergency order.</b>	
	In all waters draining into the east side of the Susitna WITHIN 1/2 mile from the Susitna River:	
	Closed to king salmon fishing.	

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY BAG LIMITS
<b>CHUM, COHO, &amp; SOCKEYE SALMON (COMBO)</b>	Open year-round	<b>16 inches or longer:</b> 3 per day, 6 in possession. If you retain a bag limit of salmon from Unit 1, except in Alexander Creek, you may not fish for salmon on the same day in Unit 1.
		<b>Less than 16 inches:</b> 10 per day, 10 in possession.
<b>PINK SALMON</b>	Open year-round	6 per day, 6 in possession, no size limit.
<b>RAINBOW/ STEELHEAD TROUT (COMBO)</b>	<b>In flowing waters:</b>	
	<b>April 15-June 14:</b>	Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.
	<b>June 15-April 14:</b>	2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
	<b>In lakes:</b>	
	<b>Open year-round</b>	2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
<b>ARCTIC CHAR/ DOLLY VARDEN (COMBO)</b>	Open year-round	5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 of which may be 12 inches or longer.
<b>ARCTIC GRAYLING</b>	Open year-round	2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
<b>LAKE TROUT</b>	Open year-round	2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
<b>BURBOT</b>	Open year-round	5 per day, 5 in possession, no size limit. See page 7.
<b>NORTHERN PIKE INVASIVE SPECIES</b>	Open year-round	No limit. <b>Live Release Prohibited.</b> See page 15.
<b>OTHER FINFISH</b>	Open year-round	No limit.

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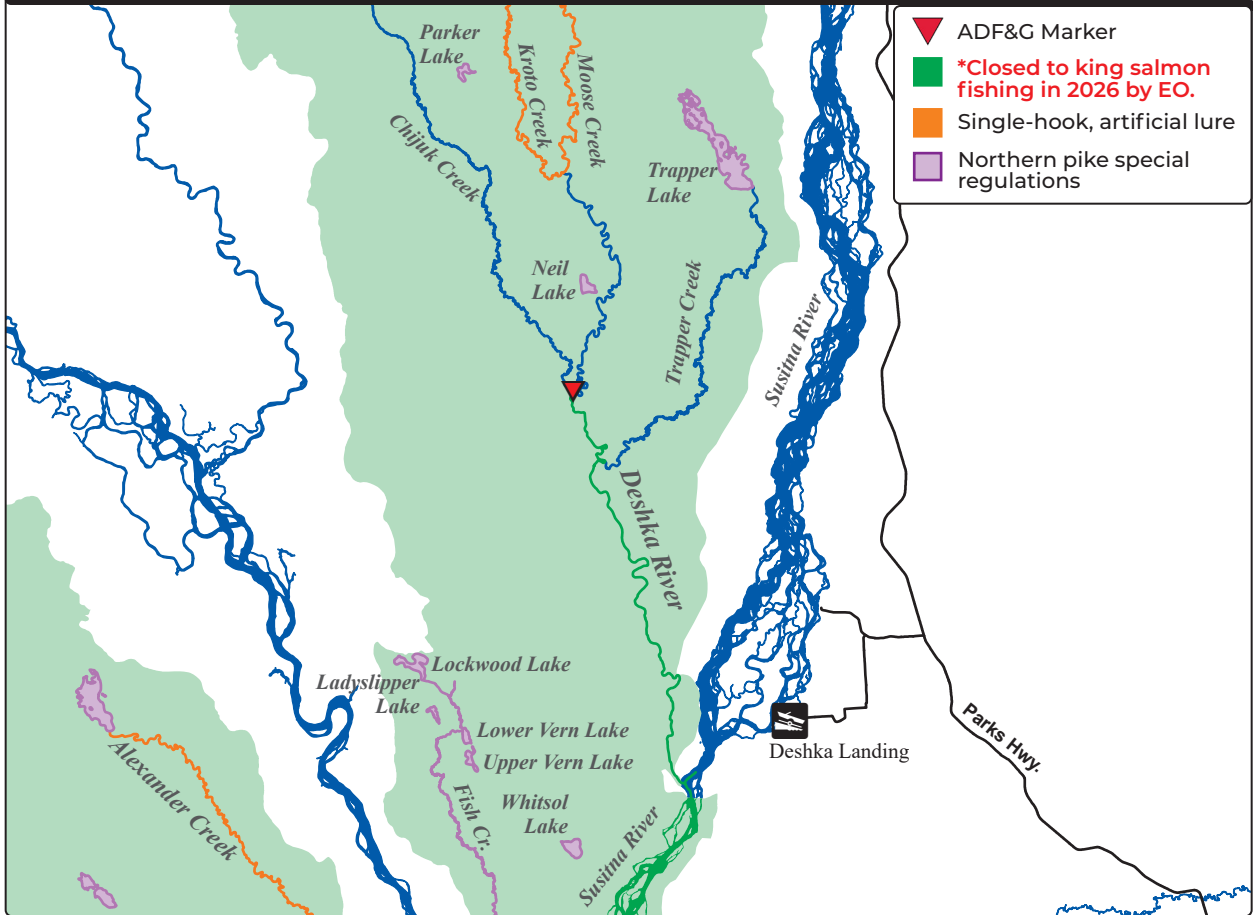


Scott Michael, lake trout, Hidden Lake



Grant, Gratrix, hooligan, 20 Mile River

**DESHKA RIVER DRAINAGE**



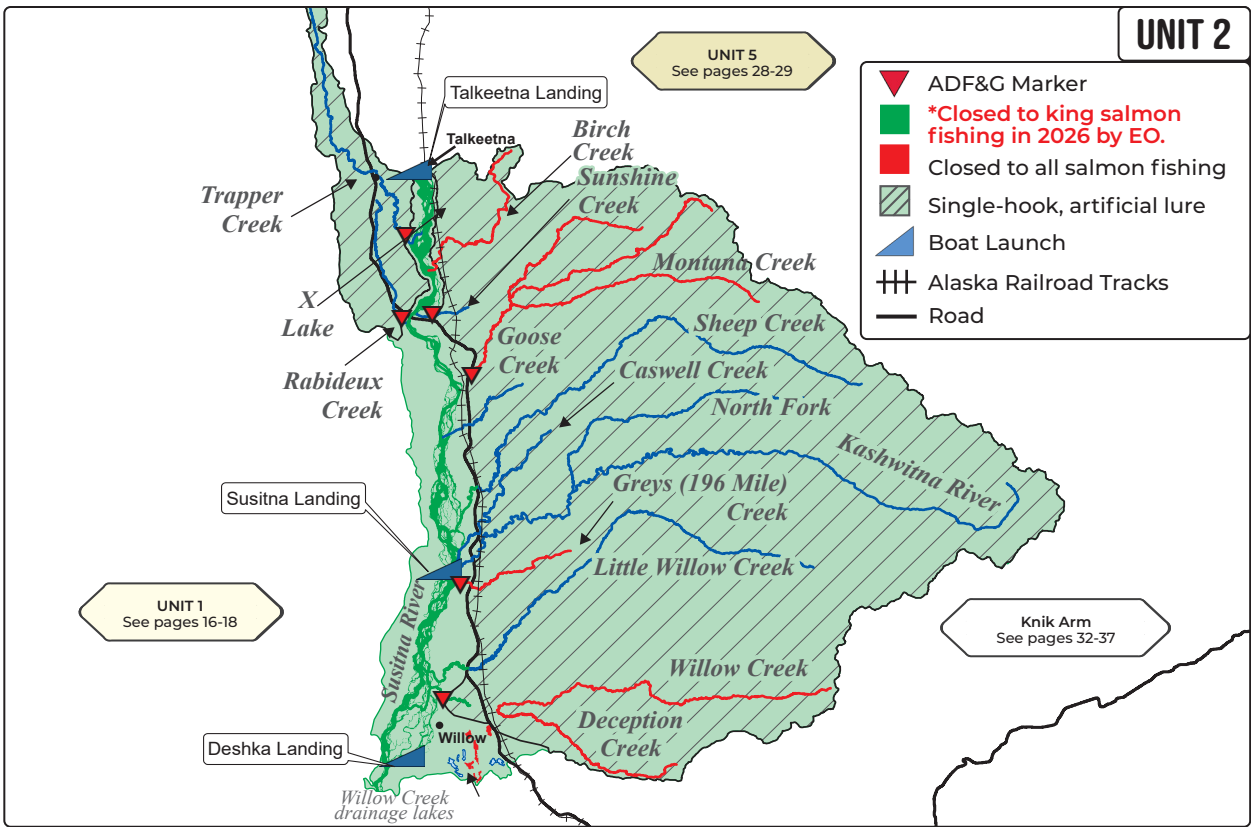
**SPECIAL REGULATIONS - UNIT 1**

**ALEXANDER CREEK DRAINAGE** - includes Alexander Lake:

- **Chum, coho, and sockeye salmon (combo):**
  - **16 inches or longer:** 3 per day, 6 in possession, only 2 per day, 2 in possession may be coho salmon.
- **Pink salmon:** 6 per day, 6 in possession.
- **In all flowing waters:**
  - **Rainbow/steelhead trout, Arctic char/Dolly Varden, and Arctic grayling:** Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow/steelhead trout, Arctic char/Dolly Varden, or Arctic grayling caught must be released immediately.
- **Alexander Creek and all waters within a ½ mile radius of the stream's confluence with the Susitna River:**
  - **Closed year-round to king salmon fishing.**
- **All waters within a ½ mile radius of the stream's confluence with the Susitna River:**
  - **May 1-July 13:** Closed to all sport fishing.
  - **July 14-April 30:** Open to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
- **In all flowing waters upstream of ADF&G markers 400 yards upstream from its confluence with Trail Creek:**
  - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed year-round.

**DESHKA RIVER DRAINAGE:**

- **EO King salmon fishing is closed in 2026 by emergency order.**
- **In flowing waters of the Deshka River drainage upstream of the forks at Moose/Kroto creeks:**
  - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed year-round.
  - **Rainbow/steelhead trout:** Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.
- **In flowing waters of the Deshka River drainage downstream of the forks at Moose/Kroto creeks to ADF&G markers near Chijuk Creek:**
  - **September 1-July 13:** Only unbaited, artificial lures or flies are allowed.
- **The Deshka River drainage, from its mouth upstream approximately 17 miles to ADF&G markers near Chijuk Creek, and all waters within a ½ mile radius of the Deshka's confluence with the Susitna River:**
  - **EO January 1-July 13:** Open to sport fishing for all species **other than king salmon by EO.**
  - **May 15-July 13:** Sport fishing in the Deshka River is only allowed from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. each day.
  - **EO June 1-August 31:** Bait and multiple hooks are allowed. **See EO restriction for May 1-July 13.**
  - **September 1-May 31:** Only unbaited, artificial lures or flies are allowed.



**GENERAL REGULATIONS - UNIT 2**

**Inclusive waters:** The Susitna River drainage, from its confluence with the Deshka River, upstream to its confluence with the Talkeetna River, excluding the Talkeetna River drainage. The lower portions of most streams crossed by the Parks Highway have exceptions to the general regulations, listed in this unit.

**Fishing is open year-round for all species unless otherwise noted below or in special regulations.**

**METHODS AND MEANS - UNIT 2:**

- In all flowing waters:
  - **July 14-August 31:** Bait and multiple hooks are allowed.
  - **September 1-April 30:** Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure with a artificial lure or fly is allowed.
  - **EO May 1-July 13:** Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure with a gap between the point and shank of the hook of one-half inch or less by emergency order.
- In non-flowing waters: Bait and multiple hooks are allowed year-round, unless prohibited under special regulations.

**Stay legal - before you cast, check emergency orders at [www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR).**

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY BAG LIMITS
KING SALMON	<b>EO King salmon fishing is closed in 2026 by emergency order.</b>	
	In stocked lakes:	
	Open year-round	10 per day, 10 in possession, in combination with other salmon. See pages 86-87.
CHUM, COHO, & SOCKEYE SALMON (COMBO)	In unstocked lakes and in all flowing waters:	
	Open year-round	<b>16 inches or longer:</b> 3 per day, 3 in possession, only 2 per day, 2 in possession may be coho salmon.
		<b>Less than 16 inches:</b> 10 per day, 10 in possession.
	In stocked lakes:	
Open year-round	10 per day, 10 in possession, in combination with king salmon. See pages 86-87.	

...continued

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY BAG LIMITS
PINK SALMON	Open year-round	6 per day, 6 in possession, no size limit.
RAINBOW/ STEELHEAD TROUT (COMBO)	In flowing waters:	
	April 15-June 14:	Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.
	June 15-April 14:	2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
	In unstocked lakes:	
	Open year-round	2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
	In stocked lakes:	
Open year-round	5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.	
ARCTIC CHAR/ DOLLY VARDEN (COMBO)	In unstocked lakes and in all flowing waters:	
	Open year-round	5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 of which may be 12 inches or longer.
	In stocked lakes:	
Open year-round	5 per day, 5 in possession. See pages 86-87.	
ARCTIC GRAYLING	Open year-round	2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
LAKE TROUT	Open year-round	2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
BURBOT	Open year-round	5 per day, 5 in possession, no size limit. See page 7.
NORTHERN PIKE INVASIVE SPECIES	Open year-round	No limit. <b>Live Release Prohibited.</b> See page 15.
OTHER FINFISH	Open year-round	No limit.

### SPECIAL REGULATIONS - UNIT 2

**BIRCH CREEK:**

- From its mouth to ADF&G markers ¼ mile upstream:
  - EO King salmon: King salmon fishing is closed in 2026 by emergency order.
  - EO June 1-July 13: Only unbaited, artificial lures or flies are allowed. Multiple hooks are allowed during this time. See EO restriction for May 1-July 13.
- Upstream from ADF&G markers ¼ mile upstream from its mouth:
  - Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.
  - Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
  - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed year-round.

**CASWELL, LITTLE WILLOW, AND SHEEP CREEK DRAINAGES:**

- From its mouth upstream to the Parks Highway Bridge:
  - EO King salmon: King salmon fishing is closed in 2026 by emergency order.
  - EO June 1-July 13: Only unbaited, artificial lures or flies are allowed. Multiple hooks are allowed during this time. See EO restriction for May 1-July 13.

Caswell, Little Willow, and Sheep Creek Drainages continued...

**Upstream of the Parks Highway Bridge:**

- Open year-round to sport fishing for all species other than king salmon.
- Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed year-round.

**GOOSE CREEK:**

**From its mouth upstream to the Parks Highway Bridge:**

- Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
- Closed year-round to king salmon fishing.
  - EO June 1-July 13: Only unbaited, artificial lures or flies are allowed. Multiple hooks are allowed during this time. See EO restriction for May 1-July 13.
- Upstream of the Parks Highway Bridge:
  - Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
  - Only one unbaited, single-hook artificial lure or fly is allowed year-round.

### GREYS (196 MILE) CREEK:

• From its mouth to ADF&G markers ¼ mile upstream:

**EO King salmon: King salmon fishing is closed in 2026 by emergency order.**

**EO June 1-July 13:** Only unbaited, artificial lures or flies are allowed. Multiple hooks are allowed during this time. **See EO restriction for May 1-July 13.**

• **Upstream of the Parks Highway Bridge:**

• Open year-round to sport fishing for all species other than king salmon.

• Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed year-round.

• **Upstream of the ADF&G markers located ¼ mile upstream from its mouth:**

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

• **April 15-June 14: Closed to all sport fishing.**

• **January 1-April 14 and June 15-December 31:** Open to sport fishing for species other than salmon.

### KASHWITNA RIVER DRAINAGE:

• From its mouth upstream to the Alaska Railroad Bridge:

**EO King salmon: King salmon fishing is closed in 2026 by emergency order.**

**EO June 1-July 13:** Only unbaited, artificial lures or flies are allowed. Multiple hooks are allowed during this time. **See EO restriction for May 1-July 13.**

• **Upstream of the Alaska Railroad Bridge:**

• General regulations on pages 15, 19-20 apply except:  
• **North fork of the Kashwitna River, and all waters within a ¼ mile radius of its confluence with the Kashwitna River:**

• Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed year-round.

• **Rainbow/steelhead trout:** Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.

### LITTLE WILLOW CREEK DRAINAGE:

• See *Caswell Creek Drainage* on page 20.



Sonia Praslowicz, burbot, Mat-Su Valley



Matthew Kangas, chum salmon, Montana Creek

### MONTANA CREEK DRAINAGE:

• **Entire drainage including all waters within ½ mile radius of its confluence with the Susitna River:**

• **Rainbow/steelhead trout and Arctic grayling:**

Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow/steelhead trout and Arctic grayling caught must be released immediately.

• **From its mouth upstream to ADF&G markers located ½ mile above the Parks Highway:**

**EO King salmon: King salmon fishing is closed in 2026 by emergency order.**

**EO June 1-July 13:** Only unbaited, artificial lures or flies are allowed. Multiple hooks are allowed during this time, **but only up to the Parks Highway.** **See EO restriction for May 1-July 13.**

• **July 14-August 31:** Bait and multiple hooks are allowed, **but only up to the Parks Highway.**

• **Upstream of the Parks Highway:**

• Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed year-round.

• **Upstream of ADF&G markers located ½ mile above the Parks Highway:**

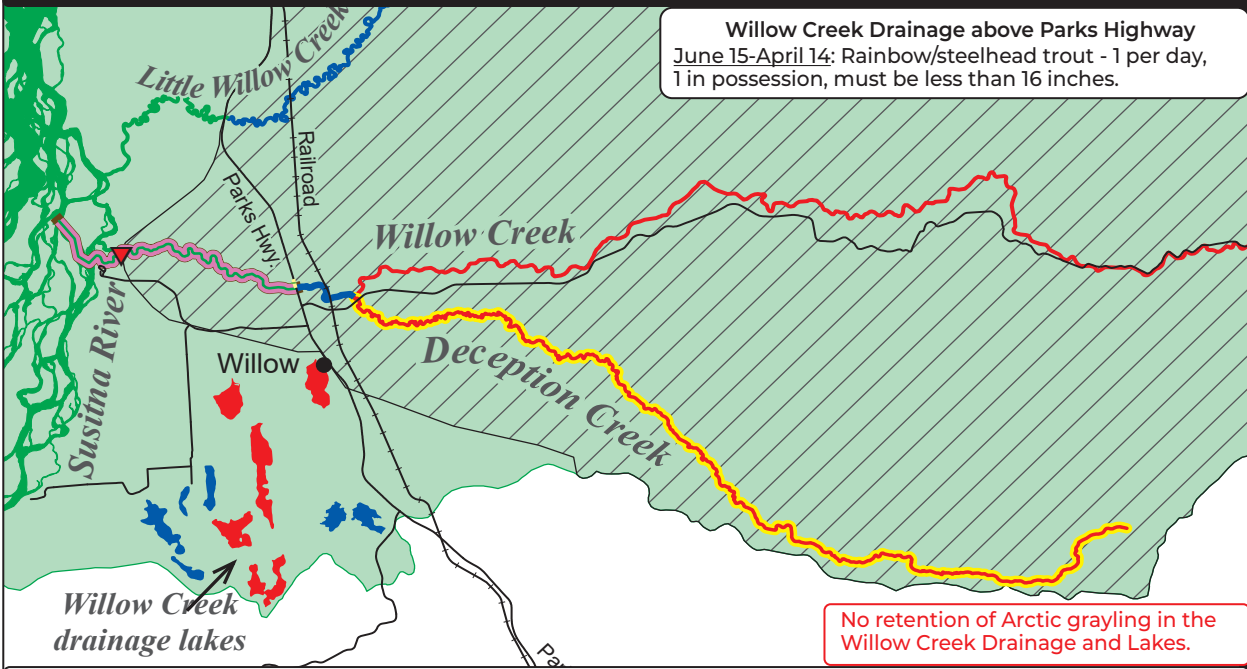
• **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**

• **Rainbow/steelhead trout and Arctic grayling:**

Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow/steelhead trout and Arctic grayling caught must be released immediately.

## WILLOW CREEK DRAINAGE

Willow Creek Drainage above Parks Highway  
 June 15-April 14: Rainbow/steelhead trout - 1 per day,  
 1 in possession, must be less than 16 inches.



No retention of Arctic grayling in the Willow Creek Drainage and Lakes.

- ▼ ADF&G Marker
- Open to all species - dates listed under Willow Creek Drainage
- April 15-June 14: Closed to all sport fishing
- \*Closed to king salmon fishing in 2026 by EO.
- Closed to all salmon fishing
- Single-hook, artificial lure

Willow Creek Drainage continued...

- **Upstream of the Parks Highway to its confluence with Deception Creek:**
  - Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
  - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed year-round.
  - **Rainbow/steelhead trout:**
    - **April 15-June 14:** Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.
    - **June 15-April 14:** 1 per day, 1 in possession, less than 16 inches long.
- **Upstream of Deception Creek:**
  - Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
  - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed year-round.
  - **Rainbow/steelhead trout:**
    - **April 15-June 14:** Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.
    - **June 15-April 14:** 1 per day, 1 in possession, less than 16 inches long.

### DECEPTION CREEK DRAINAGE:

- **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
- **June 15-April 14:** Open to sport fishing.
- **April 15-June 14:** **Closed to all sport fishing.**
- Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed.

### WILLOW CREEK DRAINAGE LAKES - (Crystal, Long, Rainbow, Shirley and Willow):

- **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
- **Arctic grayling:** Catch-and-release fishing only. All Arctic grayling caught must be released immediately.

### X LAKE (near Talkeetna):

- **May 1-October 31:** Open to sport fishing.
- **November 1-April 30:** **Closed to all sport fishing.**
- Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed year-round.
- **Rainbow trout/steelhead:** Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow trout/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.

...continued



Wes Bonnewell & Clarice Grandpre,  
 coho salmon, Valdez

**RABIDEUX, SUNSHINE, AND TRAPPER CREEKS DRAINAGES:**

- From the mouth to ADF&G markers located ¼ mile upstream (on all drainages):
  - EO King salmon: King salmon fishing is closed in 2026 by emergency order.**
  - EO June 1-July 13:** Only unbaited, artificial lures or flies are allowed. Multiple hooks are allowed during this time. **See EO restriction for May 1-July 13.**
- Upstream from ADF&G markers ¼ mile upstream of the creek’s mouth (on all drainages):
  - Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
- **Rabideux Creek:**
  - **All waters upstream of the Parks Highway:**
    - Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
    - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed year-round.
- **Sunshine Creek:**
  - **All waters upstream from ADF&G markers ¼ mile upstream from its mouth:**
    - Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
    - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed year-round.
- **Trapper Creek:**
  - **All waters upstream of the Susitna River Road:**
    - Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
    - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed year-round.



Conor Bacon, rainbow trout, Sheep Creek



Chloe Miller, halibut, Prince William Sound

**SHEEP CREEK DRAINAGE:**

- See *Caswell Creek Drainage* on page 20.

**SUNSHINE CREEK DRAINAGE:**

- See *Rabideux Creek Drainage* on the left.

**SUSITNA RIVER and all flowing waters within a ¼ mile radius of the river, from its confluence with the Deshka River upstream to its confluence with the Talkeetna River:**

- EO King salmon: King salmon fishing is closed in 2026 by emergency order.**
- EO June 1-July 13:** Only unbaited, artificial lures or flies are allowed. Multiple hooks are allowed during this time. **See EO restriction for May 1-July 13.**

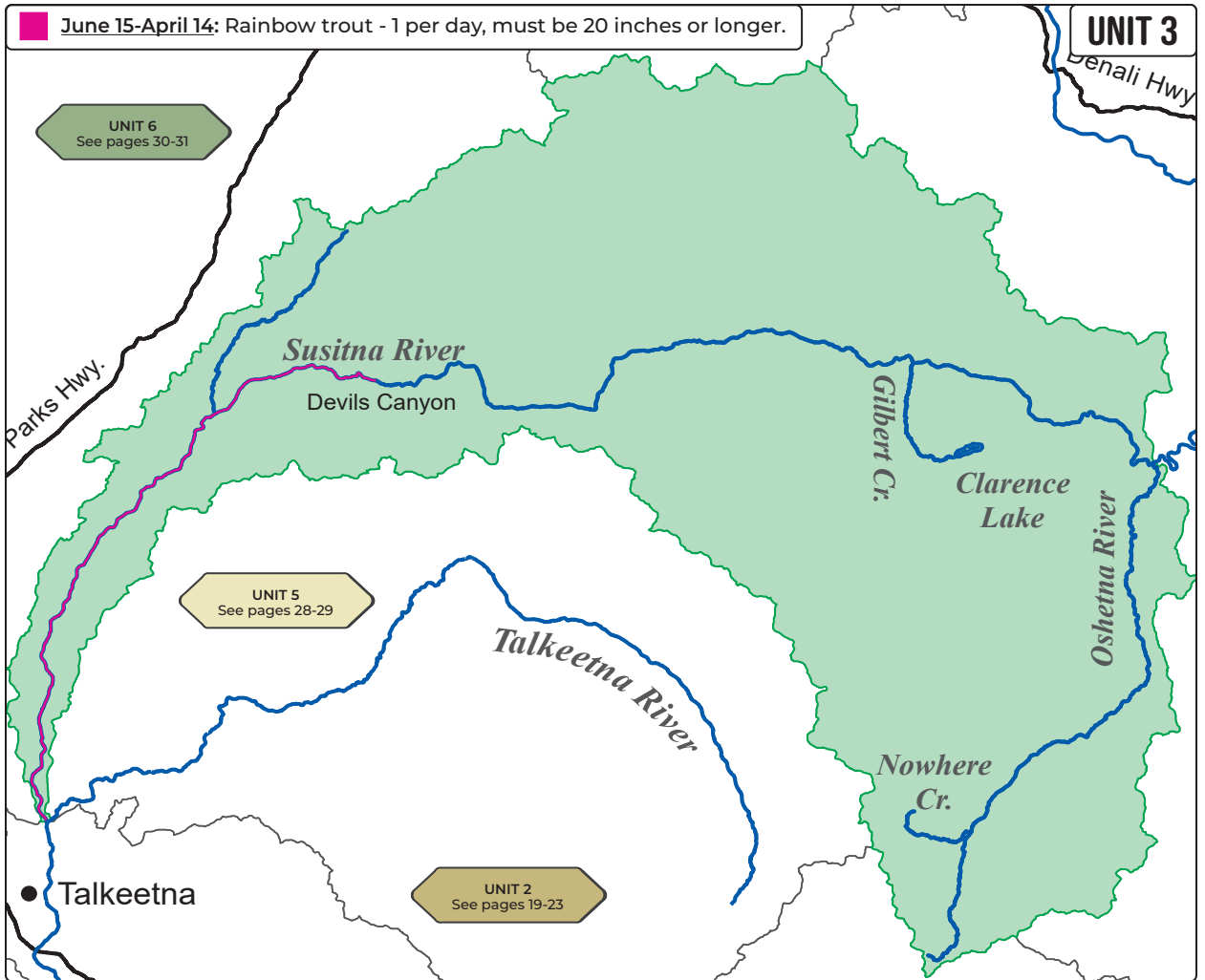
**TRAPPER CREEK DRAINAGE:**

- See *Rabideux Creek Drainage* on the left.

**WILLOW CREEK DRAINAGE: (See map on page 23)**

- Including all waters within a ½ mile radius of its confluence with the Susitna River.
  - Arctic grayling and rainbow/steelhead trout: Catch-and-release fishing only. All Arctic grayling and rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.
- From its mouth upstream to the Parks Highway:
  - EO King salmon: King salmon fishing is closed in 2026 by emergency order.**
  - **May 1-July 13: Sport fishing from a boat for any species is prohibited in a portion of the Susitna River at the furthest downstream mouth of Willow Creek. The area closed to fishing from a boat is from an ADF&G marker located on the upstream bank, downstream approximately 300 yards to another ADF&G marker.**
  - **May 15-July 13: Sport fishing is only allowed from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. each day.**
  - EO June 1-July 13:** Only unbaited, artificial lures or flies are allowed. Multiple hooks are allowed during this time, **but only up to the ADF&G markers located ½ mile upstream from the mouth of Willow Creek. See EO restriction for May 1-July 13.**
  - **July 14-August 31:** Bait and multiple hooks are allowed, **but only up to the ADF&G markers located ½ mile upstream from the mouth of Willow Creek.**
  - **September 1-May 31:** Only one unbaited, single-hook artificial lure or fly is allowed.
- Upstream from ADF&G markers located ½ mile upstream from its mouth:
  - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed year-round.

...continued



**GENERAL REGULATIONS - UNIT 3**

**Inclusive waters:** Susitna River drainages from its confluence with the Talkeetna River upstream to its confluence with the Oshetna River (including the Oshetna River drainage, but excluding the Chulitna River drainage).

Fishing is open year-round for all species unless otherwise noted below or in special regulations.

**METHODS AND MEANS - UNIT 3:**

• In all flowing waters:

• July 14-April 30: Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure with a artificial lure or fly is allowed.

**EO** May 1-July 13: Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure with a gap between the point and shank of the hook of one-half inch or less by emergency order.

Stay legal - before you cast, check emergency orders at [www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR).

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY BAG LIMITS
KING SALMON	<b>EO</b> King salmon fishing is closed in 2026 by emergency order.	
	Upstream of Devils Canyon:	
	Closed to king salmon fishing.	
PINK SALMON	Open year-round	6 per day, 6 in possession, no size limit.
ARCTIC CHAR/ DOLLY VARDEN (COMBO)	Open year-round	5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 of which may be 12 inches or longer.

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY BAG LIMITS
<b>CHUM, COHO, &amp; SOCKEYE SALMON (COMBO)</b>	<b>In unstocked lakes and in all flowing waters:</b>	
	Open year-round	<b>16 inches or longer:</b> 3 per day, 3 in possession.
		<b>Less than 16 inches:</b> 10 per day, 10 in possession.
	<b>In stocked lakes:</b>	
Open year-round	10 per day, 10 in possession, in combination with king salmon. See pages 86-87.	
<b>RAINBOW/ STEELHEAD TROUT (COMBO)</b>	<b>In flowing waters upstream from its confluence with the Talkeetna River to and including Devils Canyon:</b>	
	April 15-June 14:	Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.
	June 15-April 14:	1 per day, 1 in possession, 20 inches or longer.
	<b>In flowing waters upstream of Devils Canyon:</b>	
	April 15-June 14:	Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.
	June 15-April 14:	2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
	<b>In lakes:</b>	
Open year-round	2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.	
<b>ARCTIC GRAYLING</b>	<b>Upstream from its confluence with the Talkeetna River, to and including upstream of Devils Canyon:</b>	
	Open year-round	2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
<b>LAKE TROUT</b>	Open year-round	2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
<b>BURBOT</b>	Open year-round	5 per day, 5 in possession, no size limit. See page 7.
<b>NORTHERN PIKE INVASIVE SPECIES</b>	Open year-round	No limit. <b>Live Release Prohibited.</b> See page 15.
<b>OTHER FINFISH</b>	Open year-round	No limit.

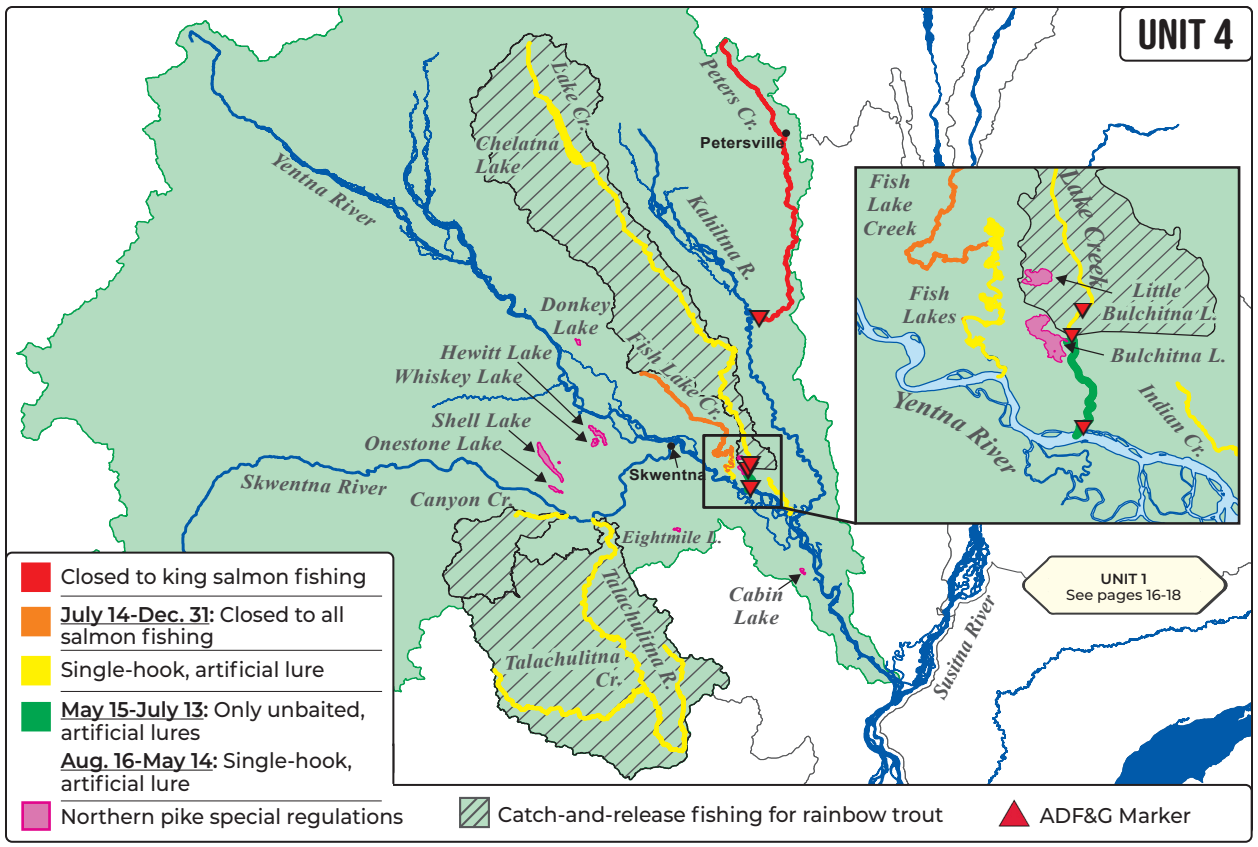
### SPECIAL REGULATIONS - UNIT 3

**CLARENCE LAKE:**

- Rainbow/steelhead trout: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.

**SUSITNA RIVER:**

- Upstream from its confluence with the Talkeetna River, to and including Devils Canyon:
  - **May 15-July 13: Sport fishing is only allowed from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. each day.**
- Upstream of its confluence with the Talkeetna River to Devils Canyon (excluding the Chulitna River drainage) - trophy rainbow trout waters in Unit 3:
  - Rainbow/steelhead trout:
    - **20 inches or longer:** 1 per day, 1 in possession. Annual limit of 2. If you retain a rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer, you must immediately record that harvest. See page 4 for recording instructions.
    - **Less than 20 inches: No retention.**



**GENERAL REGULATIONS - UNIT 4**

**Inclusive waters:** Flowing waters, lakes, and ponds of the Yentna River drainage.

Fishing is open year-round for all species unless otherwise noted below or in special regulations.

**METHODS AND MEANS - UNIT 4:**

- In all flowing waters:
  - July 14-August 31: Bait and multiple hooks are allowed.
  - EO September 1-July 13: Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure with a gap between the point and shank of the hook of one-half inch or less by emergency order.**
- In non-flowing waters: Bait and multiple hooks are allowed year-round, unless prohibited under special regulations.

**Stay legal - before you cast, check emergency orders at [www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR).**

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY BAG LIMITS
<b>KING SALMON</b>	<b>EO King salmon fishing is closed in 2026 by emergency order.</b>	
<b>CHUM, COHO, &amp; SOCKEYE SALMON (COMBO)</b>	Open year-round	16 inches or longer: 3 per day, 6 in possession.
		Less than 16 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.
<b>PINK SALMON</b>	Open year-round	6 per day, 6 in possession, no size limit.
<b>RAINBOW/ STEELHEAD TROUT (COMBO)</b>	In lakes:	
	Open year-round	2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
	In flowing waters:	
	April 15-June 14:	Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.
	June 15-April 14:	2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY BAG LIMITS
<b>ARCTIC CHAR/ DOLLY VARDEN (COMBO)</b>	Open year-round	5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 of which may be 12 inches or longer.
<b>ARCTIC GRAYLING</b>	Open year-round	2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
<b>LAKE TROUT</b>	Open year-round	2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
<b>BURBOT</b>	Open year-round	5 per day, 5 in possession, no size limit. See page 7.
<b>NORTHERN PIKE INVASIVE SPECIES</b>	Open year-round	No limit. <b>Live Release Prohibited.</b> See page 15.
<b>OTHER FINFISH</b>	Open year-round	No limit.

### SPECIAL REGULATIONS - UNIT 4

#### CANYON CREEK:

- Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed year-round.
- **Rainbow/steelhead trout:** Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.

#### FISH LAKE CREEK DRAINAGE:

- **Upstream from the inlet of the first lake:**  
**EO January 1-July 13:** Open to all salmon fishing other than king salmon by EO.

#### LAKE CREEK DRAINAGE:

- **May 15-July 13:** Sport fishing is only allowed from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. each day.
- From ADF&G markers 100 yards upstream of its mouth to ADF&G markers ¼ mile upstream of the creek that drains Bulchitna Lake:
- **EO May 15-July 13:** Only unbaited, artificial lures or flies are allowed. **See EO restriction for May 1-July 13.**
- **July 14-August 15:** Bait and multiple hooks are allowed.
- **EO August 16-May 14:** Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed. **See EO restriction for May 1-July 13.**
- **Rainbow/steelhead trout:**
  - **June 15-August 15:** 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
  - **August 16-June 14:** Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.
- **Upstream from ADF&G markers ¼ mile upstream of the creek that drains Bulchitna Lake (including Chelatna Lake):**
  - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed year-round.
  - **Rainbow/steelhead trout:** Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.

#### PETERS CREEK:

- All waters upstream of ADF&G markers located 1 mile upstream of its confluence with the Kahiltna:
  - Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.

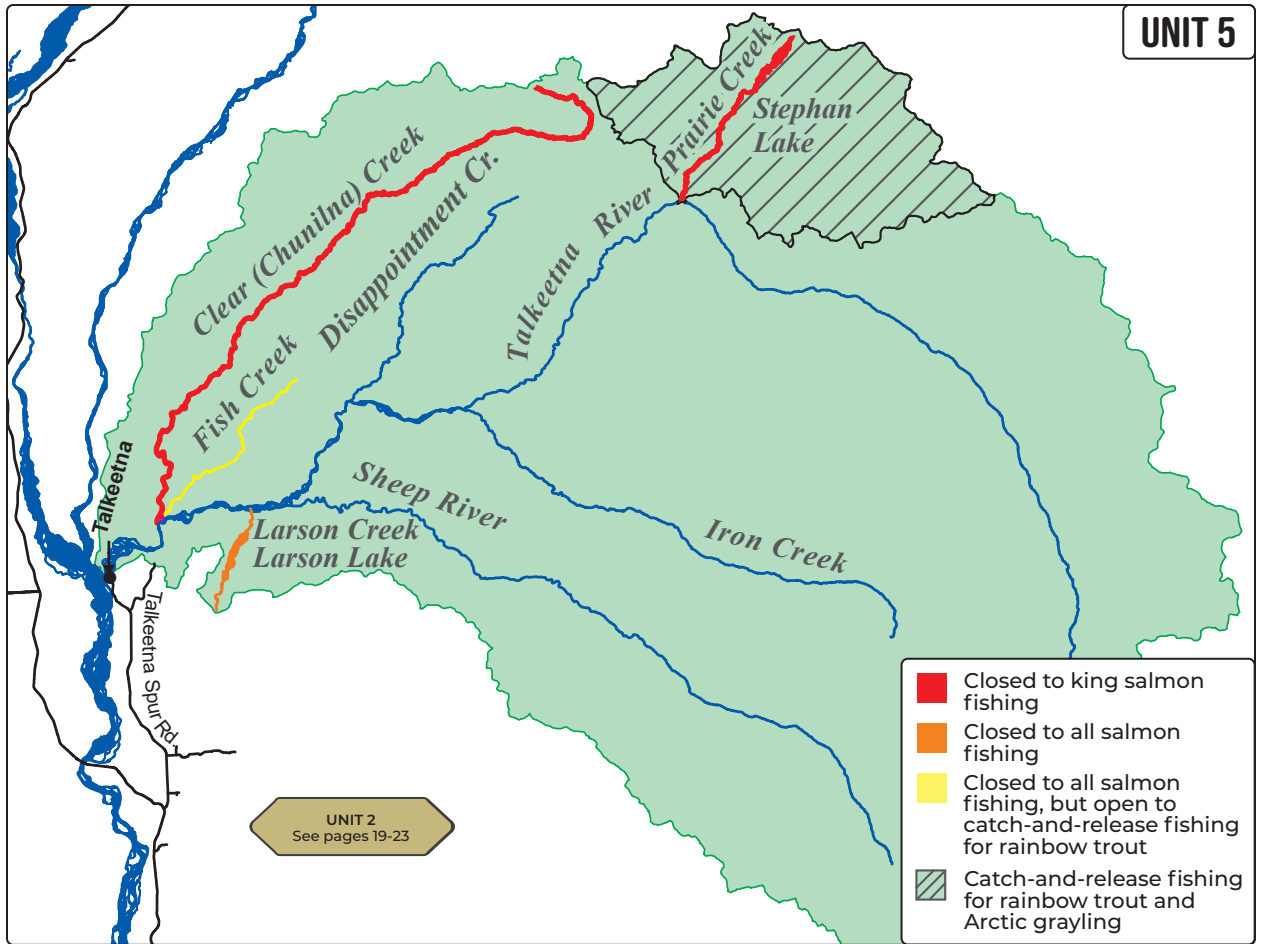
#### TALACHULITNA RIVER DRAINAGE - including all waters within a ¾ mile radius of its confluence with the Skwentna River:

- **May 15-July 13:** Sport fishing is only allowed from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. each day.
- Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed year-round.
- **Rainbow/steelhead trout:** Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.

...continued



Lian Xiang, rainbow trout, Anderson Lake



**GENERAL REGULATIONS - UNIT 5**

**Inclusive waters:** Flowing waters, lakes, and ponds of the Talkeetna River drainage.

Fishing is open year-round for all species unless otherwise noted below or in special regulations.

**METHODS AND MEANS - UNIT 5:**

• In all flowing waters:

• **July 14-August 31:** Bait and multiple hooks are allowed.

**EO September 1-July 13:** Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure with a gap between the point and shank of the hook of one-half inch or less by emergency order.

• In non-flowing waters: Bait and multiple hooks are allowed year-round, unless prohibited under special regulations.

**Stay legal - before you cast, check emergency orders at [www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR).**

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY BAG LIMITS
<b>KING SALMON</b>	<b>EO King salmon fishing is closed in 2026 by emergency order.</b>	
<b>CHUM, COHO, &amp; SOCKEYE SALMON (COMBO)</b>	In unstocked lakes and in all flowing waters:	
	Open year-round	16 inches or longer: 3 per day, 3 in possession.
		Less than 16 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.
	In stocked lakes:	
Open year-round	10 per day, 10 in possession, in combination with king salmon. See pages 86-87.	
<b>PINK SALMON</b>	Open year-round	6 per day, 6 in possession, no size limit.

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY BAG LIMITS
<b>RAINBOW/ STEELHEAD TROUT (COMBO)</b>	<b>In flowing waters:</b>	
	<b>April 15-June 14:</b>	Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.
	<b>June 15-April 14:</b>	2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
	<b>In lakes:</b>	
	<b>Open year-round</b>	2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
<b>ARCTIC GRAYLING</b>	<b>Open year-round</b>	2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
<b>ARCTIC CHAR/ DOLLY VARDEN (COMBO)</b>	<b>Open year-round</b>	5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 of which may be 12 inches or longer.
<b>LAKE TROUT</b>	<b>Open year-round</b>	2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
<b>BURBOT</b>	<b>Open year-round</b>	5 per day, 5 in possession, no size limit. See page 7.
<b>NORTHERN PIKE INVASIVE SPECIES</b>	<b>Open year-round</b>	No limit. <b>Live Release Prohibited.</b> See page 15.
<b>OTHER FINFISH</b>	<b>Open year-round</b>	No limit.

### SPECIAL REGULATIONS - UNIT 5

**CLEAR (CHUNILNA) CREEK DRAINAGE:**

- Upstream of ADF&G markers 2 miles upstream from its mouth:
  - Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.

**FISH CREEK DRAINAGE:**

- Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed.
- **Rainbow/steelhead trout:** Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.
- **Upstream of an ADF&G marker ¼ mile upstream of its confluence with the Talkeetna River:**
  - Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than salmon.

**LARSON CREEK DRAINAGE:**

- Including all waters within a ¼ mile radius of its confluence with the Talkeetna River:
  - **July 1-August 15: Sport fishing is only allowed from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. each day.**
  - Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
- **Upstream of an ADF&G marker ¼ mile upstream of its confluence with the Talkeetna River:**
  - Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than salmon.

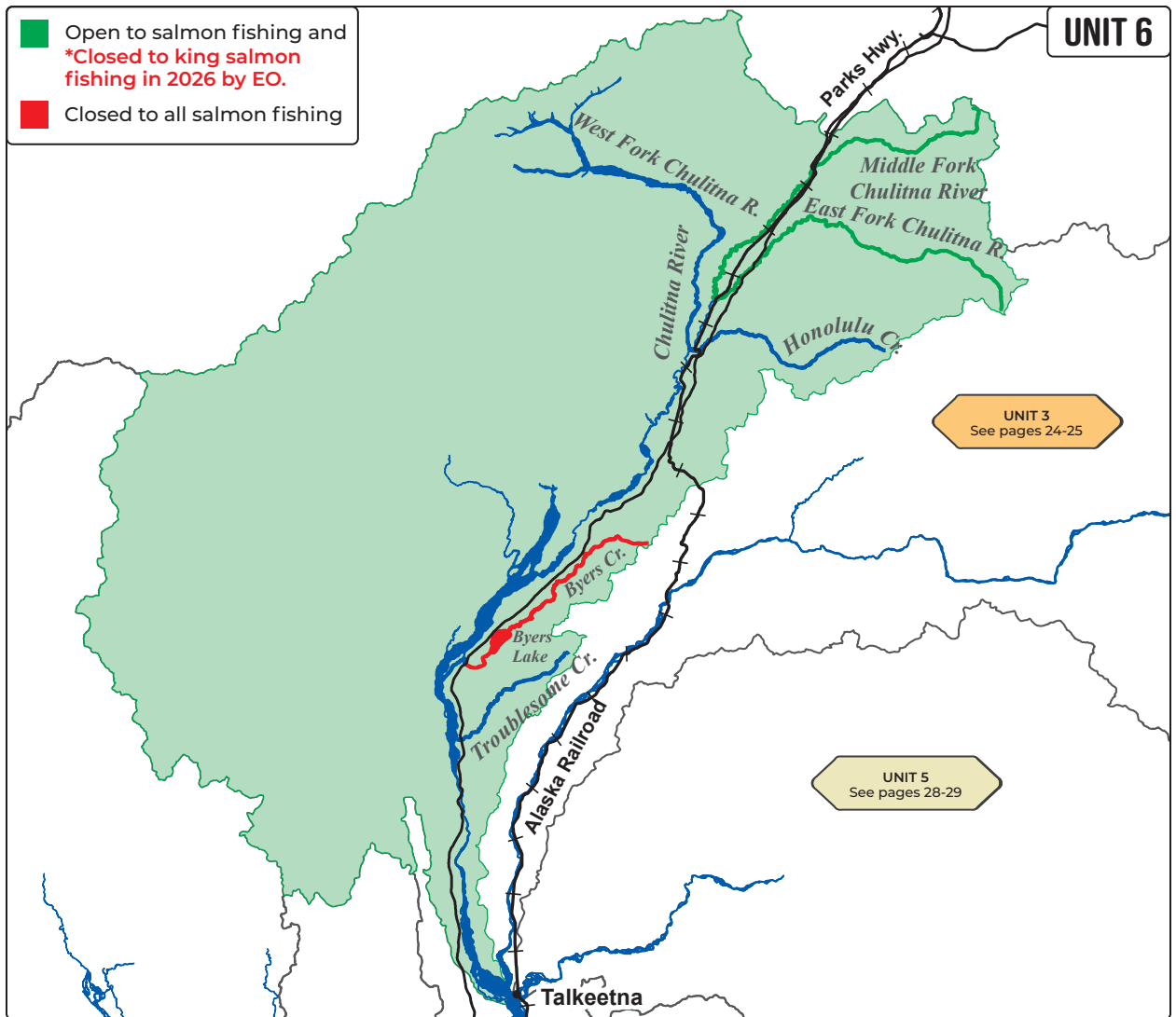
**PRAIRIE CREEK DRAINAGE** - including all waters within a ¼-mile radius of its confluence with the Talkeetna River:

- Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
- Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed.
- **Rainbow/steelhead trout and Arctic grayling:** Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow/steelhead trout and Arctic grayling caught must be released immediately.

...continued



Ryan & Brynn Romero, sockeye salmon, Girdwood



### GENERAL REGULATIONS - UNIT 6

**Inclusive waters:** Flowing waters, lakes, and ponds of the Chulitna River drainage.

Fishing is open year-round for all species unless otherwise noted below or in special regulations.

**METHODS AND MEANS - UNIT 6:**

- In all flowing waters:
  - **July 14-August 31:** Bait and multiple hooks are allowed.
  - **EO September 1-July 13:** Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure with a gap between the point and shank of the hook of one-half inch or less by emergency order.
- In non-flowing waters: Bait and multiple hooks are allowed year-round, unless prohibited under special regulations.

**Stay legal - before you cast, check emergency orders at [www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR).**

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY BAG LIMITS
KING SALMON	<b>EO</b> King salmon fishing is closed in 2026 by emergency order.	
CHUM, COHO, & SOCKEYE SALMON (COMBO)	In unstocked lakes and in all flowing waters:	
	Open year-round	16 inches or longer: 3 per day, 3 in possession.
		Less than 16 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.
	In stocked lakes:	
Open year-round	10 per day, 10 in possession, in combination with king salmon. See pages 86-87.	

...continued

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY BAG LIMITS
<b>PINK SALMON</b>	Open year-round	6 per day, 6 in possession, no size limit.
<b>RAINBOW/ STEELHEAD TROUT (COMBO)</b>	In flowing waters:	
	April 15-June 14:	Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.
	June 15-April 14:	2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
	In lakes:	
	Open year-round	2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
<b>ARCTIC GRAYLING</b>	Open year-round	2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
<b>ARCTIC CHAR/ DOLLY VARDEN (COMBO)</b>	Open year-round	5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 of which may be 12 inches or longer.
<b>LAKE TROUT</b>	Open year-round	2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
<b>BURBOT</b>	Open year-round	5 per day, 5 in possession, no size limit. See page 7.
<b>NORTHERN PIKE INVASIVE SPECIES</b>	Open year-round	No limit. <b>Live Release Prohibited.</b> See page 15.
<b>OTHER FINFISH</b>	Open year-round	No limit.

### SPECIAL REGULATIONS - UNIT 6

**BYERS CREEK DRAINAGE** - including Byers Lake:

- Byers Creek from its mouth upstream to the Parks Highway:
  - Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
  - See bait and hook regulations under “Methods and Means” on pages 6-7.
- Byers Creek from the Parks Highway upstream, including Byers Lake:
  - Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than salmon.

**EO** Bait and multiple hooks are allowed year-round in Byers Lake, except in flowing waters. See EO restriction for May 1-July 13.

**EAST FORK CHULITNA RIVER DRAINAGES** - The East Fork of the Chulitna River and its drainages, including all waters within a ¼ mile radius of the confluence of the East Fork and West Fork of the Chulitna River, and including the Middle Fork of the Chulitna and the first ¼ mile of Honolulu Creek:

- January 1-July 13:
  - EO** Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly may be used. See EO restriction for May 1-July 13.
  - EO** Open to sport fishing for species other than king salmon by EO.
- July 14-December 31:
  - Open to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.

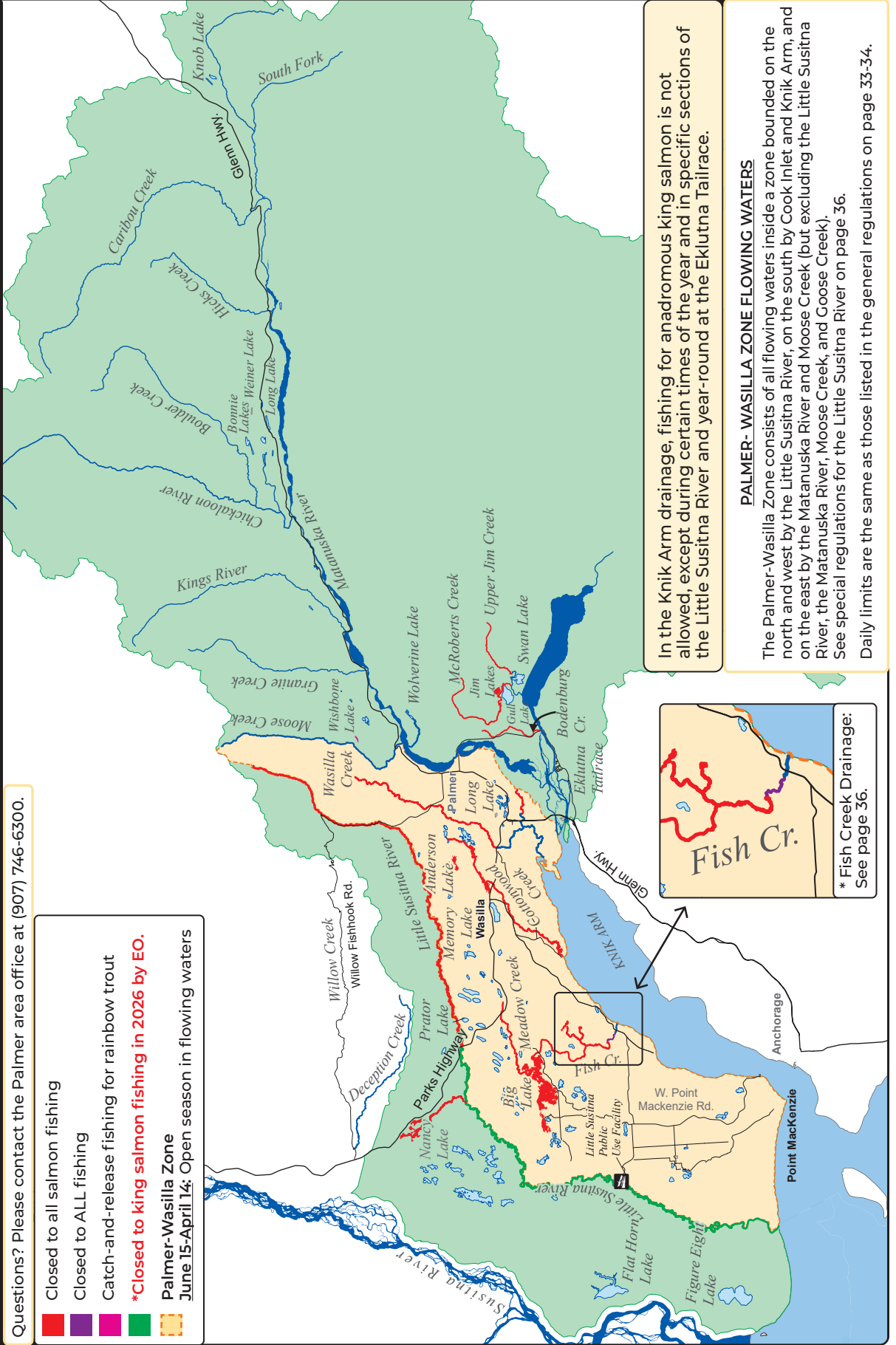


Cameron Berg, Arctic char, Big Lake

**PALMER-WASILLA ZONE FLOWING WATERS**

Questions? Please contact the Palmer area office at (907) 746-6300.

- Closed to all salmon fishing
- Closed to ALL fishing
- Catch-and-release fishing for rainbow trout
- \*Closed to king salmon fishing in 2026 by EO.**
- Palmer-Wasilla Zone**  
**June 15-April 14: Open season in flowing waters**



In the Knik Arm drainage, fishing for anadromous king salmon is not allowed, except during certain times of the year and in specific sections of the Little Susitna River and year-round at the Eklutna Tailrace.

**PALMER- WASILLA ZONE FLOWING WATERS**  
 The Palmer-Wasilla Zone consists of all flowing waters inside a zone bounded on the north and west by the Little Susitna River, on the south by Cook Inlet and Knik Arm, and on the east by the Matanuska River and Moose Creek (but excluding the Little Susitna River, the Matanuska River, Moose Creek, and Goose Creek).  
 See special regulations for the Little Susitna River on page 36.  
 Daily limits are the same as those listed in the general regulations on page 33-34.

**Fish Cr.**  
 \* Fish Creek Drainage:  
 See page 36.

## GENERAL REGULATIONS - KNIK ARM

**Inclusive waters:** Bounded on the north by (but not including) Willow Creek Drainage, on the west by a line ½ mile east of the Susitna River, on the south by Cook Inlet and Knik Arm, and on the east by the Upper Susitna River drainage upstream of its confluence with the Oshetna River and includes all waters within the Matanuska and Knik River drainages.

Fishing is open year-round for all species unless otherwise noted below or in special regulations.

**METHODS AND MEANS:**

- Bait and multiple hooks are allowed unless prohibited in special regulations.
- **In the flowing waters of the Palmer-Wasilla Zone:**
  - **January 1-December 31:** Northern pike and black fish may be taken year-round with a spear or bow and arrow.

Stay legal - before you cast, check emergency orders at [www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR).

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY BAG LIMITS
<b>KING SALMON</b>	<b>EO King salmon fishing is closed in 2026 by emergency order.</b>	
	The fresh waters of the Knik Arm are closed to king salmon fishing, except Eklutna Tailrace, see special regulations.	
	In stocked lakes:	
	Open year-round	10 per day, 10 in possession, in combination with other salmon. See pages 86-87.
<b>CHUM, COHO, PINK, &amp; SOCKEYE SALMON (COMBO)</b>	In stocked lakes:	
	Open year-round	10 per day, 10 in possession, in combination with king salmon. See pages 86-87.
	In unstocked lakes and in all flowing waters:	
	Open year-round	<b>16 inches or longer:</b> 3 per day, 3 in possession, only 2 per day, 2 in possession may be coho salmon. <b>Less than 16 inches:</b> 10 per day, 10 in possession.
	A coho (silver) salmon 16 inches or longer that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. You may not remove a coho salmon 16 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.	
<b>ARCTIC CHAR/ DOLLY VARDEN (COMBO)</b>	In stocked lakes:	
	Open year-round	5 per day, 5 in possession. See pages 86-87.
	In unstocked lakes and in all flowing waters:	
	Open year-round	5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 of which may be 12 inches or longer.
<b>LAKE TROUT</b>	Open year-round	2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
<b>BURBOT</b>	Open year-round	5 per day, 5 in possession, no size limit. See page 7.
<b>OTHER FINFISH</b>	Open year-round	No limit.

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY BAG LIMITS
<b>RAINBOW/ STEELHEAD TROUT (COMBO)</b>	<b>In stocked lakes:</b>	
	<b>Open year-round</b>	5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. See pages 86-87. There is an annual limit of 10 rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer from stocked lakes.
	<b>In unstocked lakes and in all flowing waters:</b>	
	<b>Open year-round</b>	2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 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. If you retain a rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer, you must immediately record that harvest. See page 4 for recording instructions.
	<b>In the flowing waters north and west of the Little Susitna River:</b>	
<b>April 15-June 14:</b>	Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow trout caught must be released immediately.	
<b>ARCTIC GRAYLING</b>	<b>In stocked lakes:</b>	
	<b>Open year-round</b>	5 per day, 5 in possession. See pages 86-87.
	<b>In unstocked lakes and in all flowing waters:</b>	
	<b>Open year-round</b>	2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
<b>NORTHERN PIKE INVASIVE SPECIES</b>	<b>Open year-round</b>	No limit. <b>Live Release Prohibited.</b> You 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. 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, you may use two hooks on a single line, provided that both hooks are attached to one single piece of bait. The following special regulations apply to ice fishing for northern pike in the waters below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sport fishing through the ice for northern pike is allowed using <b>5 LINES</b> provided that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standard ice fishing gear is used;</li> <li>• The fishing gear is closely attended, and;</li> <li>• All other species of fish caught are released immediately.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Anna Lake, Beaverhouse Lake, Cow Lake, East Papoose Lake, Figure Eight Area Lakes, Fish Creek (Lower Susitna River), Flathorn Lake, Gerry Lake, Horseshoe Lake, Hourglass Lake, Loonsong Lake, Lynda Lake, Memory Lake, Nancy Lake Rec Area - see special regulations for Nancy Lake, Prator Lake, Sevenmile Lake, Stephan Lake, West Beaver Lake, West Horseshoe Lake, West Papoose Lake.</li> </ul>

**SPECIAL REGULATIONS - KNIK ARM**

**BIG LAKE:** See *Big, Mirror, & Flat Lakes* page 35.

**BONNIE LAKES CONNECTING STREAM** from the outlet at Upper Bonnie Lake to the inlet of Lower Bonnie Lake:

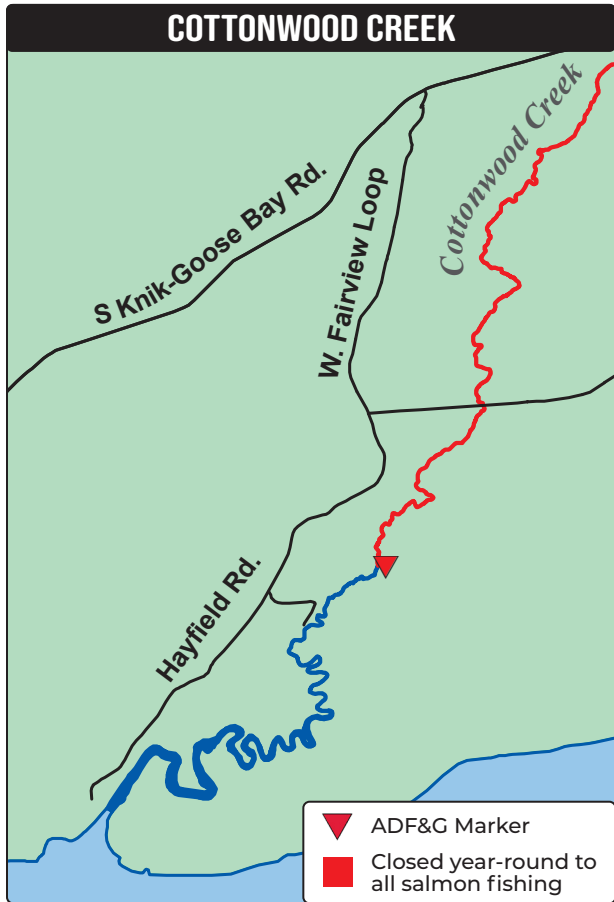
- **July 1-April 14:** Open to sport fishing.

**BODENBURG CREEK** including all waters of Knik River within a 100 yard radius of the mouth of the creek (see map on page 36):

- **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
- **April 15-June 15:** Catch-and-release fishing only for rainbow/steelhead trout. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.

**COTTONWOOD CREEK DRAINAGE:**

- **If you retain a bag limit of salmon from Cottonwood Creek, you may not fish for any species of fish in waters open to salmon fishing on that same day.**
- All lakes of the Cottonwood Creek drainage, including Wasilla Lake:
  - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
- From its mouth upstream to ADF&G markers 1 mile upstream from the Palmer Hayflats State Game Refuge access road:
  - **June 15-April 14:** Open to sport fishing for species other than king salmon. **Sport fishing is only allowed on Saturdays and Sundays and only from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. each day.**
- All flowing waters of Cottonwood Creek above the ADF&G markers 1 mile upstream from Palmer Hayflats State Game Refuge access road:
  - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
  - **June 15-April 14:** Open to sport fishing for species other than salmon.



**EKLUTNA TAILRACE:**

- **Chum, coho, pink, and sockeye salmon (combo):**
  - **16 inches or longer:** 3 per day, 3 in possession, all 3 may be coho salmon.
  - **Less than 16 inches:** 10 per day, 10 in possession.

*Eklutna Tailrace continued...*

- **April 15-June 15:**
  - **Rainbow/steelhead trout:** Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.
- **All waters within a ½ mile radius of its confluence with the Knik River, and to an ADF&G marker located 2 miles downstream of the confluence:**
  - **King salmon:**
    - Open year-round to king salmon fishing.
    - **Once you have retained a king salmon 20 inches or longer, you may no longer fish in any waters open to king salmon fishing on that same day.**
    - **20 inches or longer:** 1 per day, 1 in possession. Annual limit is 5 king salmon.
    - **Less than 20 inches:** 10 per day, 10 in possession.

**EKLUTNA TAILRACE YOUTH-ONLY KING AND COHO FISHERIES:**

- The Youth-Only Fishery area is on both sides of the Eklutna Tailrace from the mouth upstream to the walking bridge.
- The Youth-Only Fishery areas are open to fishing for anglers who are 15 years of age or younger.
- The third Saturday in June and the third Saturday in August, both from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. **In 2026, this will be June 20 and August 15.**

**BIG, MIRROR, AND FLAT LAKES:**

- **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
- **Arctic char/Dolly Varden:** Catch-and-release fishing only. All Arctic char/Dolly Varden caught must be released immediately.
- When fishing through the ice, you may use two lines, but each line may have only one single-hook (a hook with only one point).
- **November 1-April 30:**
  - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed, including fishing for burbot.
  - **Chumming is prohibited**
- **Burbot:**
  - **November 1-March 14:** 2 per day, 2 in possession.
  - **March 15-April 30:** **Closed to the retention of burbot.**
  - **May 1-October 31:** 5 per day, 5 in possession.
- **Northern pike:**
  - **November 1-March 15:** You may fish for northern pike through the ice in using 5 lines from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.
    - **Live release of northern pike is prohibited.** See page 33 for more information.
    - Hook gap must be at least 3/4 inch from point to shank.
    - Two single-hooks (a hook with one point) are allowed per line as long as both hooks are attached to the same piece of bait.
    - A whole legally recognized bait fish such as herring or smelt must be used if fishing with bait.
    - Bait must be suspended above the bottom of the lake.
    - Fishing lines must be closely attended.
    - All other species of fish must be immediately released unharmed.

**FISH CREEK DRAINAGE:**

- If you retain a bag limit of salmon from Fish Creek, you may not fish for any species of fish in waters open to salmon fishing on that same day.
- From ADF&G markers at the mouth of Fish Creek, including all waters within a ¼ mile radius of its confluence with the Knik Arm (61°26'12.13"N lat. and 149°46'14"W long), upstream to ADF&G markers ¼ mile upstream from the Knik-Goose Bay Road:

Jan 1. - June 14	Closed to all sport fishing.
June 15 - July 14	Open to species other than king salmon.
July 15 - July 31	Closed to all sport fishing.
Aug. 1 - Aug 2	Youth-Only Fishery
Aug. 3 - Aug. 7	Closed to all sport fishing.
Aug. 8 - Dec. 31	Open to species other than king salmon.

- Open to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
- Sport fishing is allowed 7 days a week and only from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. each day.
- From the ADF&G markers ¼ mile upstream from the Knik-Goose Bay Road, upstream to ADF&G markers located ¼ mile upstream of the Lewis Road Bridge:
  - Closed year-round to all sport fishing.
- Flowing waters from the ADF&G markers ¼ mile upstream of the Lewis Road Bridge, including Meadow Creek:
  - June 15-April 14: Open to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
  - Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.
- Fish Creek drainage lakes:
  - Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than salmon.

**FISH CREEK YOUTH-ONLY FISHERY:**

- From ADF&G markers at the mouth of Fish Creek upstream to ADF&G markers ¼ mile upstream from the Knik-Goose Bay Road:
  - If you are 15 years of age or younger, you may fish for species other than king salmon.
  - On the first Saturday and Sunday in August each year, sport fishing is allowed from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. both days.
  - In 2026, this will be August 1 and 2. General regulations and limits apply, see pages 33-34.

**JIM CREEK DRAINAGE** - including all waters downstream to the Knik River and continuing downstream on the Knik River to within 100 yards of its confluence with Bodenburg Creek:

- January 1-July 31: Open to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
- April 15-June 15: Catch-and-release fishing only for rainbow/steelhead trout. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.
- August 1-December 31: Sport fishing for all species is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays. Sport fishing is only allowed Wednesdays through Sundays from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. each day.
- See bag and possession limits on pages 33-34.
- If you retain a bag limit of salmon from Jim Creek, you may not sport fish for any species of fish in waters open to salmon fishing on that same day.
- Upper Jim Creek (upstream of Leaf Lake), Jim Lake, Leaf Lake, Mud Lake, and McRoberts Creek:
  - Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than salmon.

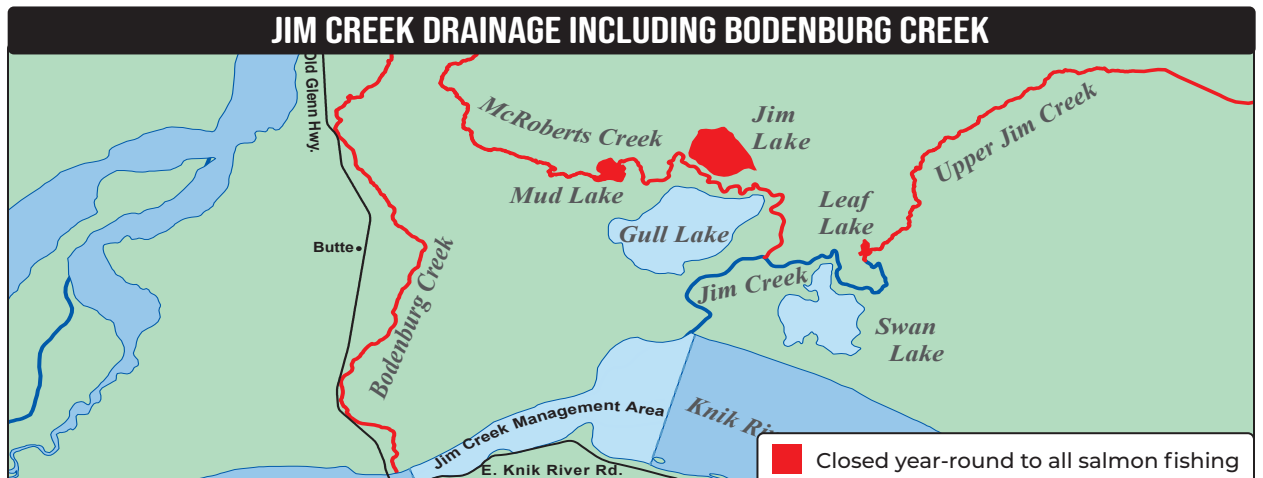
**JOHNSON LAKE** (near Palmer):

- Closed year-round to all sport fishing.

**LITTLE SUSITNA RIVER DRAINAGE:**

- EO King salmon fishing is closed in 2026 by emergency order.
- In the Little Susitna River drainage, you may not sport fish from a boat that is powered by the use of a motor, unless the motor is a four-stroke motor or a direct fuel injection two-stroke motor. You may use a boat powered by a non-direct fuel injected two-stroke to access areas to sport fish from the bank of the river, but may not sport fish from the boat.
- If you retain a bag limit of chum, coho, pink, and sockeye salmon 16 inches or longer from the Little Susitna River, you may not fish for any species of fish in the Little Susitna River on that same day.
- May 15-July 13: Sport fishing is only allowed from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. each day.
- EO May 1-July 13: Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure with a gap between the point and shank of the hook of one-half inch or less by EO.
- A coho salmon removed from the water must be retained. You must not remove a coho salmon from the water if you intend to release it.

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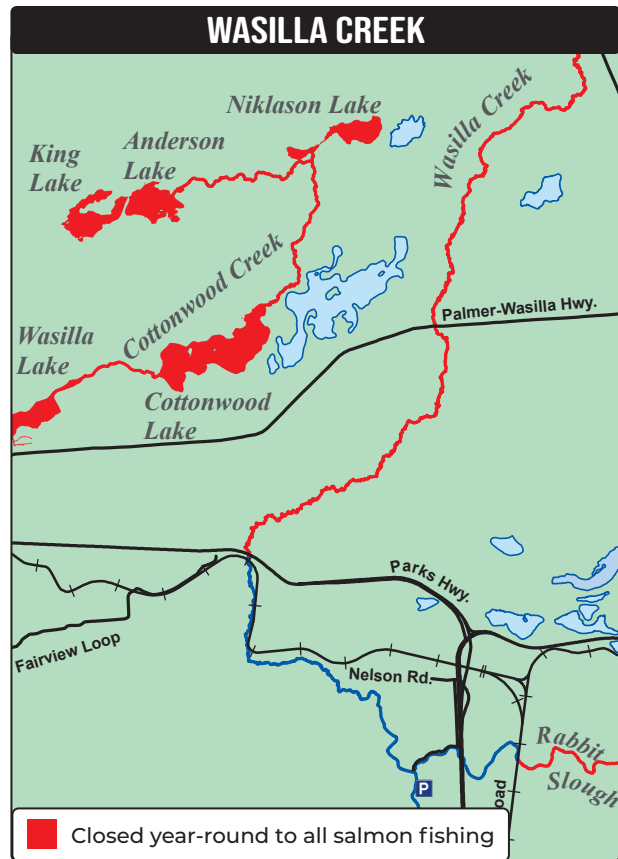
■ Closed year-round to all salmon fishing

Little Susitna River Drainage continued...

- **Little Susitna River flowing waters, from its mouth upstream to the Parks Highway:**
  - Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
  - **August 6-September 30:** Bait and multiple hooks are allowed.
  - **October 1-August 5:** Only unbaited, artificial lures or flies are allowed.
  - **King salmon:**
    - **EO January 1-July 13: Closed to king salmon fishing in 2026 by emergency order.**
  - **Rainbow/steelhead trout:**
    - **April 15-June 14:** Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.
- **Nancy Lake Creek drainage, upstream of an ADF&G marker about ¼ mile upstream of its confluence with the Little Susitna River:**
  - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing, including catch-and-release.**
- **Nancy Lake:**
  - **Closed year-round to burbot fishing.**
  - **Northern pike:**
    - **November 1-March 15:** Ice fishing for northern pike is allowed with up to 5 lines from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The following regulations apply:
      - **Live release of northern pike is prohibited.** See page 33 for more information.
      - Hook gap must be at least 3/4 inch from point to shank.
      - Two single hooks are allowed per line as long as both hooks are attached to the same piece of bait.
      - A whole legally recognized bait fish such as herring or smelt must be used if fishing with bait.
      - Bait must be suspended above the bottom of the lake.
      - Fishing lines must be closely attended.
      - All other species of fish must be immediately released unharmed.
- **Little Susitna River flowing waters upstream of the Parks Highway:**
  - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
  - **June 15-April 14:**
    - Open to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
    - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed.

#### **LONG LAKE (Kepler-Bradley Complex):**

- **May 1-October 31:** Open to sport fishing.
- Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed.
- **Rainbow trout:** Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow trout caught must be released immediately.



#### **WASILLA CREEK DRAINAGE (including Rabbit Slough):**

- **If you retain a bag limit of salmon from the Wasilla Creek drainage (including Rabbit Slough), you may not fish for any species of fish in waters open to salmon fishing on that same day.**
- **July 15-August 15: Motorized watercraft having a total propshaft rating greater than 3 HP may not be used on Wasilla Creek on Saturdays and Sundays.**
- **From its mouth upstream to the Alaska Railroad Bridge, including lakes and ponds:**
  - **June 15-April 14:** Open to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
  - **Sport fishing is only allowed on Saturdays and Sundays and only from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. each day.**
    - Bait and multiple hooks are allowed.
- **Upstream of the Alaska Railroad Bridge:**
  - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
  - **June 15-April 14:** Open to sport fishing for species other than salmon.

#### **WISHBONE LAKE (near Sutton):**

- **May 1-October 31:** Open to sport fishing.
- **November 1-April 30: Closed to all sport fishing.**
- Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed.
- **Rainbow trout:** Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow trout caught must be released immediately.

#### **WOLVERINE LAKE DRAINAGE (near Palmer) - from its confluence with Wolverine Creek upstream to and including Wolverine Lake:**

- **June 15-April 14:** Open to sport fishing.

## GENERAL REGULATIONS - ANCHORAGE

**Inclusive waters:** All waters draining into the east side of Knik Arm south of, and including, the Eklutna River drainage, and all waters draining into the north and west sides of Turnagain Arm, and all waters draining into the south side of Turnagain Arm east of, and including Ingram Creek.

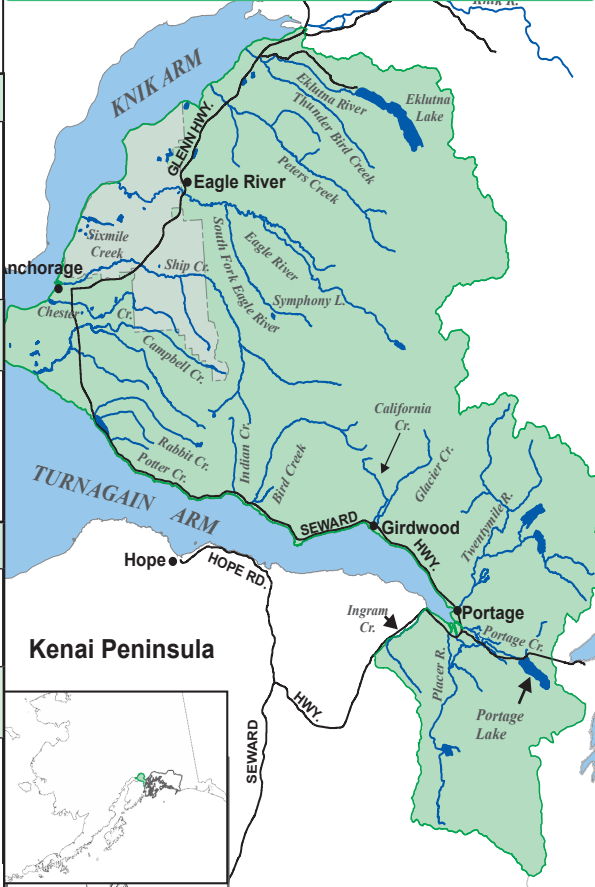
Fishing is open year-round for all species unless otherwise noted below or in special regulations.

**METHODS AND MEANS:** Bait and multiple hooks are allowed unless prohibited in special regulations.

Stay legal - before you cast, check emergency orders at [www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR).

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY BAG LIMITS
<b>KING SALMON</b>	<b>EO King salmon fishing is closed in 2026 by emergency order.</b>	
	See exceptions for Ship Creek on page 43.	
<b>CHUM, COHO, PINK, &amp; SOCKEYE SALMON (COMBO)</b>	A coho (silver) salmon 16 inches or longer that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. You may not remove a coho salmon 16 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.	
	<b>In stocked lakes:</b>	
	Open year-round	5 per day, 5 in possession, in combination with king salmon. See pages 86-87.
	<b>In unstocked lakes and in all flowing waters:</b>	
Open year-round	<b>Closed to all salmon fishing</b> , unless allowed under special regulations.	
<b>RAINBOW/ STEELHEAD TROUT (COMBO)</b>	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. If you retain a rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer, you must immediately record that harvest. Harvest record required. See page 4.	
	<b>In stocked waters:</b>	
	Open year-round	5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. See pages 86-87.
	<b>In unstocked lakes and in all flowing waters:</b>	
Open year-round	2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.	
<b>ARCTIC CHAR/ DOLLY VARDEN (COMBO)</b>	<b>In stocked lakes:</b>	
	Open year-round	5 per day, 5 in possession. See pages 86-87.
	<b>In unstocked lakes and in all flowing waters:</b>	
	Open year-round	5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 of which may be 12 inches or longer. ...continued

Questions? Please contact the Anchorage area office at (907) 267-2218.



SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY BAG LIMITS
ARCTIC GRAYLING	In stocked lakes:	
	Open year-round	5 per day, 5 in possession. See pages 86-87.
	In unstocked lakes and in all flowing waters:	
	Open year-round	2 per day, 2 in possession. *See special regulations for Symphony Lake.
NORTHERN PIKE INVASIVE SPECIES	Open year-round	No limit. <b>Live Release Prohibited.</b> You 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. 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, you may use two hooks on a single line, provided that both hooks are attached to one single piece of bait.
LAKE TROUT	Open year-round	2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
OTHER FINFISH	Open year-round	No limit.

### CAMPBELL CREEK DRAINAGE

**April 15-June 14:** Entire drainage is closed to all fishing.  
**June 15-July 31:** Single-hook, artificial lure only; bait prohibited.

- Closed year-round to all sport fishing.
- July 14-Sept. 30: Open to coho salmon fishing, open to species other than salmon.
- July 14-Sept. 30: Open to coho salmon fishing, open to species other than salmon.
- Oct. 1-July 13: Closed to all sport fishing.
- Catch-and-release fishing for rainbow trout. Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.

## SPECIAL REGULATIONS - ANCHORAGE

### CAMPBELL CREEK DRAINAGE:

- EO Bait and multiple hooks are prohibited until August 1 by emergency order.
- April 15-June 14: Closed to all sport fishing.
- In Campbell Creek waters open to retention, the following limits apply:
  - Rainbow/steelhead trout: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
  - Arctic char/Dolly Varden: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 of which may be 12 inches or longer.
  - Coho salmon: 3 per day, 3 in possession, no size limit.
- From its mouth upstream to ADF&G markers under the Dimond Boulevard Bridge including Campbell Lake:
  - Closed year-round to all sport fishing.

- From ADF&G markers under the Dimond Boulevard Bridge to ADF&G markers near Shelikof Street:

Jan. 1 - April 14	Closed to all salmon fishing. Open to species other than salmon.
April 15 - June 14	Closed to all sport fishing.
June 15 - July 13	Closed to all salmon fishing. Open to species other than salmon. <b>Single-hook, artificial lure only; bait prohibited.</b>
July 14 - Sept. 30	Open to coho salmon fishing. Open to species other than salmon. <b>*July 14-July 31: Single-hook, artificial lure only; bait prohibited by EO.</b>
Oct. 1 - Dec. 31	Closed to all salmon fishing. Open to species other than salmon.

- From ADF&G markers near Shelikof Street upstream to ADF&G markers on the upstream side of the Lake Otis Parkway Bridge:
  - Closed year-round to all sport fishing.

...continued

Campbell Creek Drainage continued...

- From ADF&G markers on the upstream side of the Lake Otis Parkway Bridge to an ADF&G marker located near Piper Street:

Jan. 1 - July 13	Closed to all sport fishing.
July 14 - Sept. 30	Open to coho salmon fishing. Open to species other than salmon. <b>*July 14-July 31: Single-hook, artificial lure only; bait prohibited by EO.</b>
Oct. 1 - Dec. 31	Closed to all sport fishing.

- **Upstream of the forks near Piper Street:**
  - **Rainbow/steelhead trout:** Catch-and-release fishing only. Only Arctic char/Dolly Varden may be kept in this section.
  - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed.

Jan. 1 - April 14	Closed to all salmon fishing. Open to species other than salmon.
April 15 - June 14	Closed to all sport fishing.
June 15 - Dec. 31	Closed to all salmon fishing. Open to species other than salmon.

**CAMPBELL CREEK YOUTH-ONLY FISHERY:**

From ADF&G markers under the Dimond Boulevard Bridge to the Old Seward Highway:

**EO In 2026, the Youth-Only king salmon fishery is catch-and-release only. Bait and multiple hooks are prohibited by emergency order.**

- If you are 15 years of age or younger, you may fish from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. on the last Saturday and Sunday of June each year. **In 2026, this will be Saturday, June 27 and Sunday, June 28.**
- Anglers 16 years of age and older may NOT sport fish in Campbell Creek from ADF&G markers under the Dimond Boulevard Bridge to the Old Seward Highway during this time.

**CHESTER CREEK DRAINAGE** - includes east and west Chester Lagoon and University Lake:

- **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
- **June 15-April 14:** Open to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
- **Rainbow/steelhead trout:** 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. Harvest record required, see page 38.

**SPECIAL REGULATIONS - EAGLE RIVER & CHUGIAK AREA**

**EAGLE RIVER DRAINAGE:**

**EO King salmon fishing is closed in 2026 by emergency order.**

- Unless specified below, the Eagle River drainage is open to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
- **In Eagle River waters open to salmon fishing:**
  - **Chum, coho, pink, and sockeye salmon (combo):**
    - **16 inches or longer:** 3 per day, 3 in possession, only 2 per day, 2 in possession may be coho salmon.
    - **Less than 16 inches:** 10 per day, 10 in possession.
- **From its mouth upstream to the Route Bravo Bridge on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson:**
  - **Closed year-round to all sport fishing.**
- **From the Route Bravo Bridge upstream to ADF&G markers at Mile 7.4 of the Eagle River Road, including waters within 100 yards of its confluence with the South Fork (but not including South Fork):**
  - Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
- **EO May 1-July 13: Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure with a gap between the point and shank of the hook is ½ inch or less in 2026 by emergency order.**
- **From the ADF&G markers at Mile 7.4 of the Eagle River Road upstream, and the North Fork and its tributaries:**
  - **September 16-May 31:** Open to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.

**SOUTH FORK EAGLE RIVER:**

- **From its confluence with Eagle River upstream to the falls:**
  - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
  - Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
- **From the falls upstream:**
  - Open to sport fishing. See general regulations on pages 38-39.

...continued

**EAGLE RIVER - UPSTREAM OF ROUTE BRAVO BRIDGE**



**JBER Fishing Access:** Register and obtain a recreation permit at [www.jber.recaccess.com](http://www.jber.recaccess.com). A DoD ID (or accompaniment by someone with one) is required for Elmendorf and training areas north of the Glenn Highway. Areas south of the Glenn Highway are open to the public with a recreation permit only.

**EKLUTNA RIVER DRAINAGE** - including Eklutna Lake: (The Eklutna Tailrace is part of a different drainage. See page 35 for more info.):

- **Chum and pink salmon (combo):**
  - **16 inches or longer:** 3 per day, 3 in possession.
  - **Less than 16 inches:** 10 per day, 10 in possession.
- **From its mouth upstream to the Glenn Highway Bridge:**
  - Open to sport fishing for species other than king, sockeye, and coho salmon.
- **Upstream of the Glenn Highway Bridge:**
  - **January 1-September 30:** Open to sport fishing for salmon other than king, sockeye, and coho salmon.

**PETERS CREEK DRAINAGE:**

- **From its mouth upstream to the Glenn Highway:**
  - Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
  - **Chum, coho, pink, and sockeye salmon (combo):**
    - **16 inches or longer:** 3 per day, 3 in possession, only 2 per day, 2 in possession may be coho salmon.
    - **Less than 16 inches:** 10 per day, 10 in possession.
- **Upstream of the Glenn Highway:**
  - Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
  - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**

**SIXMILE CREEK DRAINAGE - JBER:**

- **Downstream of ADF&G markers located near the mouth:**
  - See general regulations on page 67 for the *Cook Inlet salt waters*.
- **From ADF&G markers located near its mouth upstream to Lower Sixmile Lake:**
  - **Closed year-round to all sport fishing.**

**SYMPHONY LAKE:**

- **July 1-May 1:** Open to sport fishing.
- **Arctic grayling:** 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 of which may be 12 inches or longer.
- **Rainbow trout:** 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. If you retain a rainbow trout 20 inches or longer, you must immediately record that harvest. See page 38.

**POTTER CREEK/POTTER MARSH DRAINAGE:**

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

**RABBIT CREEK DRAINAGE:**

- **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
- **From its mouth upstream to the Old Seward Highway:**
  - **Closed year-round to all sport fishing.**
- **Upstream of the Old Seward Highway:**
  - Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than salmon.

**SPECIAL REGULATIONS - TURNAGAIN ARM STREAMS AREA**

Excluding Bird Creek special regulations, the following bag and possession limits apply to all Turnagain Arm streams on page 42 that are open to salmon fishing:

- **Chum, coho, pink, and sockeye salmon (combo):**
  - **16 inches or longer:** 3 per day, 3 in possession, only 2 per day, 2 in possession may be coho salmon.
  - **Less than 16 inches:** 10 per day, 10 in possession.

**BIRD CREEK DRAINAGE:**

- **January 1-July 13:** Closed to all sport fishing.
- **July 14-December 31:** Open to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
- **From its mouth upstream approximately 500 yards to an ADF&G marker:**
  - **July 14-December 31:** Open to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
  - **Chum, coho, pink, and sockeye salmon (combo):**
    - **16 inches or longer:** 3 per day, 3 in possession.
    - **Less than 16 inches:** 10 per day, 10 in possession.
- **Upstream from an ADF&G marker approximately 500 yards upstream of its mouth:**
  - **July 14-December 31:** Open to sport fishing for species other than salmon.

**Access note:** Private land begins approximately 100 yards downstream of the ADF&G markers near the Seward Highway Bridge. Upstream of this point, all adjacent land is privately owned; legal public access is limited to the streambed only.

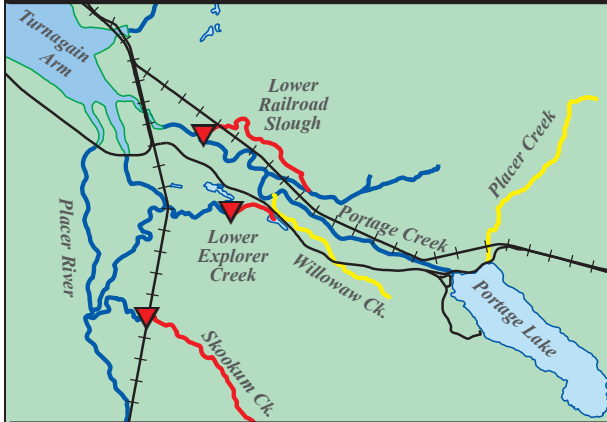
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Colton Eckert, coho salmon, Bird Creek

- See bag and possession limits for species other than salmon on pages 38-39.
- See salmon bag and possession limits for Turnagain Arm Streams open to salmon fishing on page 41.

### PLACER RIVER AND PORTAGE CREEK DRAINAGES



- July 14-Dec. 31: Closed to all sport fishing
- Closed year-round to all salmon fishing

#### GLACIER CREEK DRAINAGE - including California Creek:

- Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
- From its mouth upstream to ADF&G markers 25 yards above the confluence of California Creek:
  - Open to sport fishing for salmon other than king salmon.
- Upstream of ADF&G markers 25 yards above the confluence of California Creek:
  - **January 1-September 30:** Open to sport fishing for salmon other than king salmon.

#### CALIFORNIA CREEK DRAINAGE:

- Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
- From its confluence with Glacier Creek upstream 25 yards to ADF&G markers above the confluence:
  - Open to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
- Upstream of ADF&G markers 25 yards above the confluence with Glacier Creek:
  - **January 1-September 30:** Open to sport fishing for salmon other than king salmon.

#### INDIAN CREEK DRAINAGE:

- **Downstream of the Seward Highway:**
  - Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
- **Upstream of the Seward Highway:**
  - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
  - **January 1-June 30:** Open to sport fishing for species other than salmon.

#### INGRAM CREEK DRAINAGE:

- Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
- **From its mouth upstream to ADF&G markers about 50 yards upstream of the Seward Highway:**
  - Open to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
- **Upstream of ADF&G markers about 50 yards upstream of the Seward Highway:**
  - **January 1-September 30:** Open to sport fishing for salmon other than king salmon.

#### PLACER RIVER DRAINAGE - includes Lower Explorer Creek and Skookum Creek:

- Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
- **Lower Explorer Creek, upstream of ADF&G markers near its confluence with Lower Explorer Pond:**
  - **January 1-July 13:** Open to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
- **In Skookum Creek upstream of the Alaska Railroad Bridge:**
  - **January 1-July 13:** Open to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.

#### PORTAGE CREEK DRAINAGE - includes Williwaw Creek and Placer Creek:

- **Excluding Lower Railroad Slough, Williwaw Creek, and Placer Creek:**
  - Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
- **In all waters of Lower Railroad Slough that enter Portage Creek from the north about 2 miles upstream of the Seward Highway, upstream of ADF&G markers at its confluence with Portage Creek:**
  - **January 1-July 13:** Open to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.

#### WILLIWAW CREEK:

- **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
- **September 16-June 30:** Open to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
- **July 1-September 15:** **Closed to all sport fishing.**

#### PLACER CREEK DRAINAGE (all Bear Valley streams):

- **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
- Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than salmon.

#### TWENTYMILE RIVER DRAINAGE - includes the Upper Carmen River and Glacier River:

- **From its mouth upstream to ADF&G markers about 10 miles upstream of the Seward Highway:**
  - Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
- **Upstream of ADF&G markers about 10 miles upstream of the Seward Highway.**
  - **January 1-July 13:** Open to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
  - **July 14-December 31:** **Closed to all sport fishing.**

#### UPPER CARMEN & GLACIER RIVER DRAINAGES:

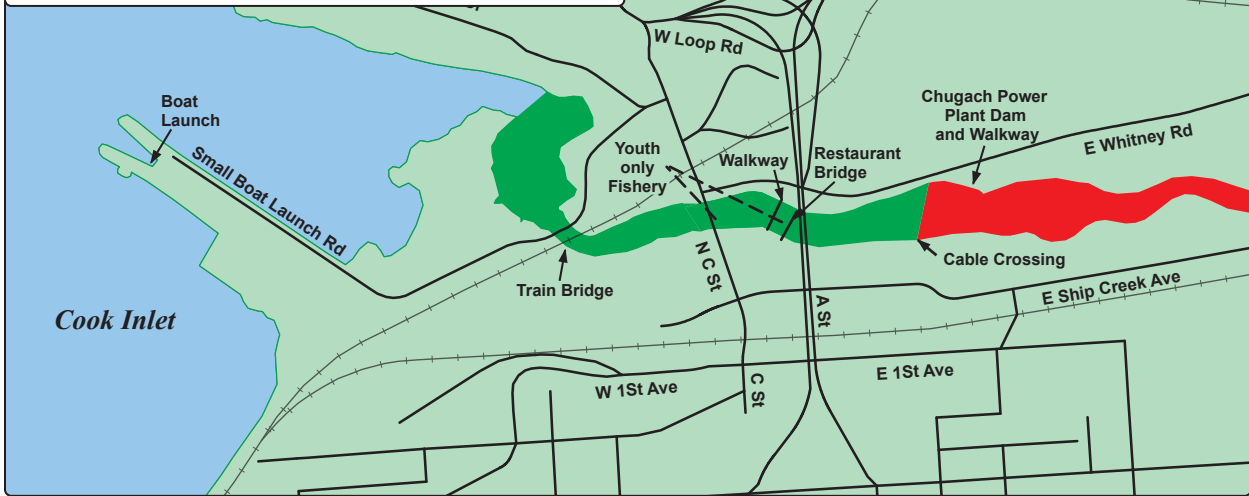
- **Upstream of ADF&G markers at their confluence:**
  - **January 1-July 13:** Open to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
  - **July 14-December 31:** **Closed to all sport fishing.**

...continued

## SHIP CREEK

- Closed year-round to ALL sport fishing
  - Open year-round to sport fishing for all species.
- May 15-July 13:** Only open to sport fishing from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. each day.

All fishing is closed above the cable crossing near the Chugach Power Plant dam.



### SPECIAL REGULATIONS - SHIP CREEK

#### SHIP CREEK:

- 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.
- You must not remove a king salmon from the water before releasing it.
- A king salmon 20 inches or longer that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish.
- **From the mouth of Ship Creek upstream to a point 100 feet downstream of the Chugach power plant dam (marked by a cable stretched across the creek):**
  - Open year-round to sport fishing for all species.
  - **January 1-July 13:** If you retain a king salmon 20 inches or longer, you may **NOT** fish for any species of fish that same day in waters open to king salmon sport fishing.
  - **May 15-July 13: Sport fishing is only allowed from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. each day.**
  - **July 14-December 31:** If you retain a king salmon 20 inches or longer, you may continue to fish.
- **King salmon:**
  - **20 inches or longer:** 1 per day, 1 in possession.
    - If you retain a king salmon 20 inches or longer, you must immediately record that harvest. See page 4 for recording instructions.
  - **Less than 20 inches:** 10 per day, 10 in possession.

Ship Creek continued...

- **Chum, coho, pink, and sockeye salmon (combo):**
  - **16 inches or longer:** 3 per day, 3 in possession, all 3 may be coho salmon.
  - **Less than 16 inches:** 10 per day, 10 in possession.
- **From a point 100 feet downstream of the Chugach power plant dam (marked by a cable stretched across the creek) upstream to the Elmendorf power plant dam:**
  - **Closed year-round to all sport fishing.**

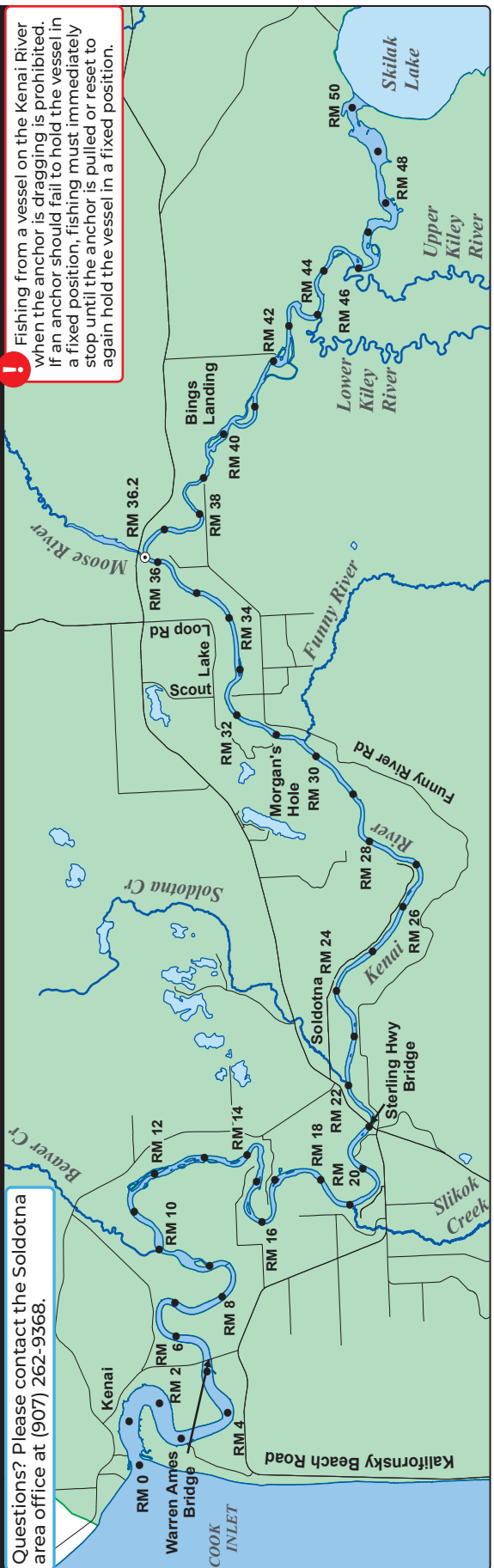
#### SHIP CREEK YOUTH-ONLY FISHERY:

- **From the upstream side of the C Street Bridge upstream to the downstream side of the restaurant bridge:**
  - **Saturday, June 20, 2026:** If you are 15 years of age or younger, you may fish for king salmon in this section from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. on the third Saturday in June.
  - Anglers 16 years of age and older may **NOT** sport fish in the Youth-Only section on the day and time listed above.
- **Youth-Only Fishery king salmon:**
  - **20 inches or longer:** 1 per day, 1 in possession.
    - If you retain a king salmon 20 inches or longer, you must immediately record that harvest. See page 4 for recording instructions.
    - If you retain a king salmon 20 inches or longer, you may not fish for any species of fish that same day in waters open to king salmon sport fishing.
  - **Less than 20 inches:** 10 per day, 10 in possession.

LOWER KENAI RIVER MAINSTEM

Questions? Please contact the Soldotna area office at (907) 262-9368.

**!** Fishing from a vessel on the Kenai River when the anchor is dragging is prohibited. If an anchor should fail to hold the vessel in a fixed position, fishing must immediately stop until the anchor is pulled or reset to again hold the vessel in a fixed position.



**GENERAL REGULATIONS - LOWER KENAI RIVER**

**Inclusive waters:** The mainstem Kenai River from its mouth, denoted by a line from the green light tower on the north shore and an ADF&G marker on the south shore, upstream to and including Skilak Lake, except within a ½ mile radius of the upper Kenai River inlet. See page 53 for Middle Kenai River regulations.

Fishing is open year-round for all species unless otherwise noted below or in special regulations.

**Stay legal - before you cast, check emergency orders at [www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR).**

**KING SALMON**

**EO** King salmon fishing is closed in 2026 by emergency order.

...continued



Miriam Sperry, sockeye salmon, Kenai River

**In combination means you can keep a mix of chum, coho, pink, and sockeye salmon within the daily limit. For example, you may have 1 sockeye and 2 coho or 1 sockeye, 1 chum, and 1 coho, but not 3 sockeye and 2 coho salmon.**

### **SOCKEYE SALMON**

- Open year-round to sockeye salmon fishing unless otherwise noted below.
- **August 16-June 19:**
  - **16 inches or longer:** 3 per day, 6 in possession, in combination with chum and coho salmon.
  - **Less than 16 inches:** 10 per day, 10 in possession, in combination with chum and coho salmon.
- **June 20-August 15:** In accordance with the Kenai River late-run king salmon stock of concern management plan:
  - **16 inches or longer:** 6 per day, 12 in possession, sockeye salmon only.
  - **Less than 16 inches:** 10 per day, 10 in possession, in combination with chum and coho salmon.

### **COHO SALMON**

- **December 1-June 30: No retention of coho salmon.**
- **If you retain a bag limit of coho salmon from the Kenai River, you may not fish in the Kenai River downstream from the Soldotna Bridge on that same day.**
- **16 inches or longer:**
  - A coho salmon 16 inches or longer that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. You must not remove a coho salmon 16 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
- **July 1-August 31:**
  - 2 per day, 2 in possession, in combination with chum and sockeye salmon.
- **September 1-November 30:**
  - 3 per day, 3 in possession, in combination with chum and sockeye salmon, all 3 may be coho salmon.
- **November 1-June 30:**
  - **Closed to coho salmon fishing upstream of Bings Landing.**
- **Less than 16 inches:**
  - **July 1-November 30:**
    - 10 per day, 10 in possession, in combination with chum and sockeye salmon.
  - **November 1-June 30:**
    - **Closed to coho salmon fishing upstream of Bings Landing.**

### **CHUM SALMON**

- Open year-round to chum salmon fishing.
- **16 inches or longer:** 3 per day, 6 in possession, in combination with coho and sockeye salmon.
- **Less than 16 inches:** 10 per day, 10 in possession, in combination with coho and sockeye salmon.

### **PINK SALMON**

- Open year-round to pink salmon fishing.
- **16 inches or longer:** 6 per day, 6 in possession.
- **Less than 16 inches:** 10 per day, 10 in possession.

### **RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT (COMBO)**

- 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 16 inches long.

### **ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN (COMBO)**

- 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 16 inches long.

### **ARCTIC GRAYLING**

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

### **LAKE TROUT**

- **20 inches or longer:** 2 per day, 2 in possession.
- **Less than 20 inches:** 10 per day, 10 in possession.

### **BURBOT**

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

### **OTHER FINFISH**

- No limit.

### **NORTHERN PIKE - INVASIVE SPECIES**

- No limit
- The Kenai Peninsula is no longer known to contain any northern pike populations. Northern pike are not native to the Southcentral area.
- **Live Release Prohibited.** You are not allowed to release live pike back into the water. If you catch a northern pike anywhere on the Kenai Peninsula, please keep it and bring it to the nearest ADF&G office.

## **METHODS AND MEANS - LOWER KENAI RIVER**

### **LANDING A SALMON:**

- Salmon may be landed only with the aid of a landing net or by hand. No gaffs are allowed.

### **FISHING FROM AN ANCHORED VESSEL:**

- **Fishing from a vessel on the Kenai River when the anchor is dragging is prohibited.** If an anchor should fail to hold the vessel in a fixed position, fishing must immediately stop until the anchor is pulled or reset to hold the vessel in a fixed position.

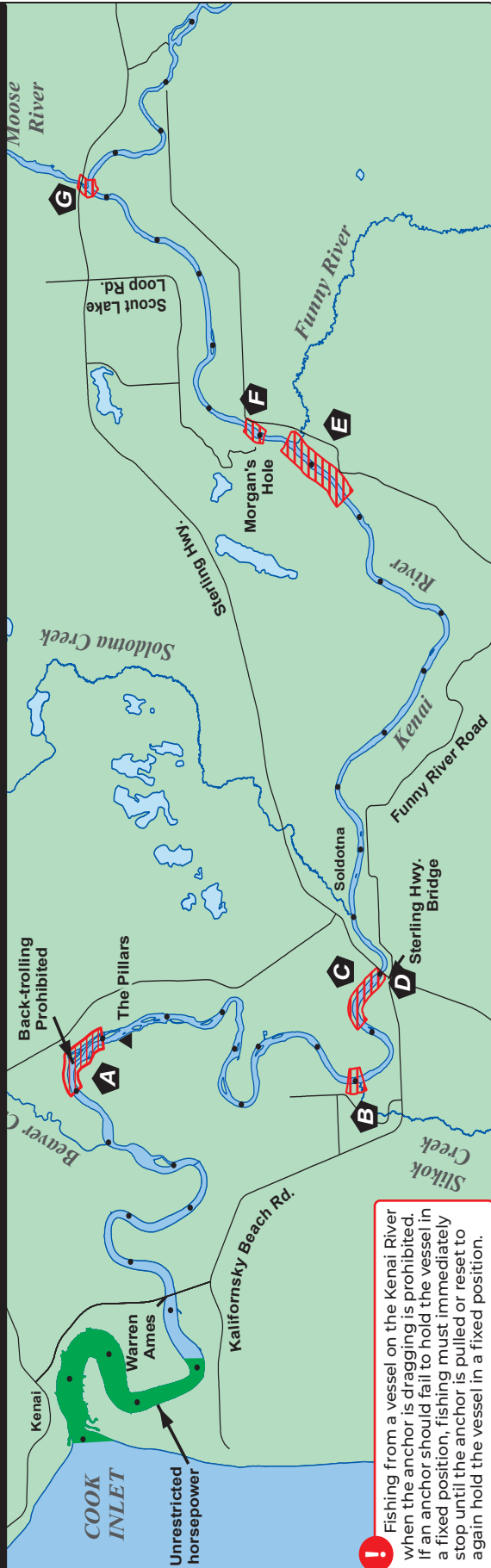
### **DRIFT-ONLY MONDAYS - downstream of Skilak Lake:**

- **Downstream from the outlet of Skilak Lake:**
  - **Mondays, May 1-July 31 (except Memorial Day):**
    - **Between the outlet of Skilak Lake and the Sterling Highway Bridge in Soldotna:**
      - **Closed to sport fishing from any motorized vessel** (a motorized vessel is one that has a motor on board). Motors may be used to transport anglers to shore fishing locations, but anglers may not fish from any vessel that has a motor on board.
    - **Between the Sterling Highway Bridge and the mouth of the Kenai River:**
      - **Closed to sport fishing from any motorized vessel that has on board more than one single motor greater than 10 hp.**  
A motor 10 hp or less may be used only downstream of an ADF&G marker at Cunningham Park, and only after fishing from the vessel has stopped for the day.

### **GEAR RESTRICTIONS:**

- **In flowing waters:** Beads fished ahead of flies, lures, or bare hooks must be fixed within 2 inches of the hook or be free sliding on the line or leader.

LOWER KENAI RIVER MAINSTEM - FROM THE MOUTH TO FUNNY RIVER



**!** Fishing from a vessel on the Kenai River when the anchor is dragging is prohibited. If an anchor should fail to hold the vessel in a fixed position, fishing must immediately stop until the anchor is pulled or reset to again hold the vessel in a fixed position.

**SPECIAL REGULATIONS - LOWER KENAI RIVER**

- A** That portion of the Kenai River between ADF&G regulatory markers located at river mile 11 and river mile 12:
  - **July 1-July 31:**
  - **Back-trotting prohibited.** You may not sport fish for any species of fish from a vessel that is making upstream progress relative to the water with the aid of a motor.

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- B** The Kenai River from ADF&G markers about 300 yards downstream of the mouth of Slikok Creek upstream to ADF&G markers about 300 yards upstream from the mouth of Slikok Creek:
  - **May 1-July 31:**
  - **Closed to king salmon fishing.**
  - **Closed to sport fishing from boats.**
  - Fishing is allowed using only artificial flies (see page 94 for definition of "artificial fly").

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- C** That portion of the Kenai River between ADF&G regulatory markers 250 yards downstream from the upper breakwater at the Centennial Campground boat launch upstream to the Sterling Highway Bridge in Soldotna:
  - **May 1-July 31:**
  - **Closed to sport fishing from boats.**

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- D** **SOLDOTNA CENTENNIAL CAMPGROUND BOAT LAUNCH LAGOON:**
  - **July 1-August 30:**
  - **Closed to all sport fishing.**

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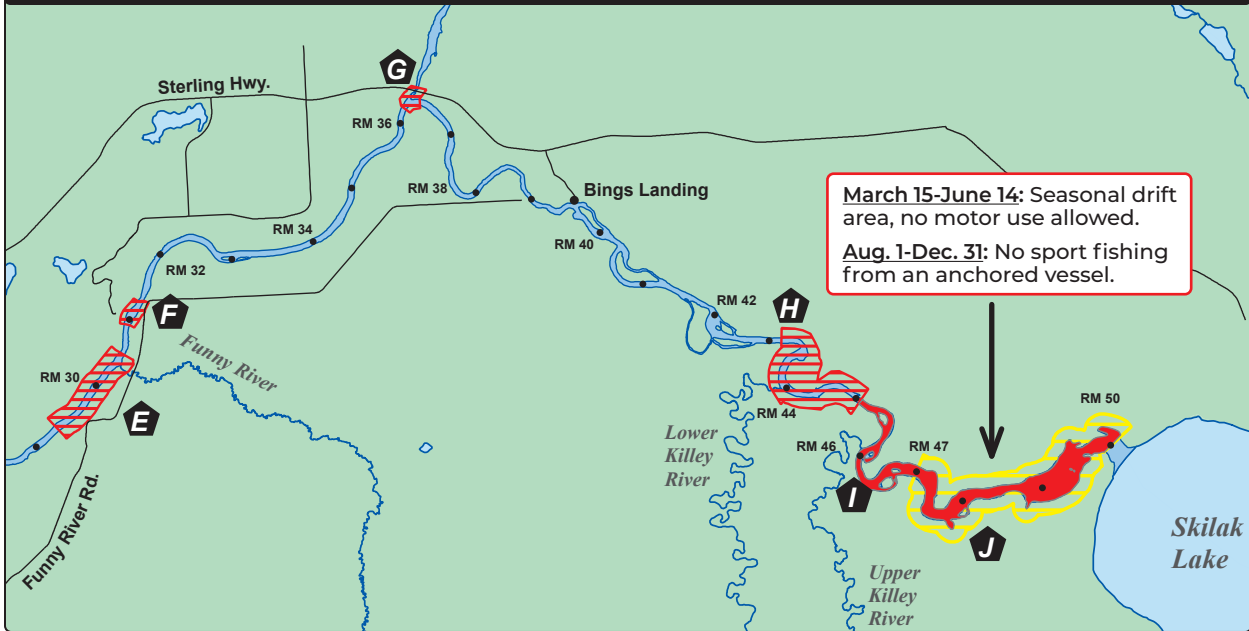
- E** **FUNNY RIVER CONFLUENCE AREA:**
  - The Kenai River from ADF&G markers about 1 mile downstream of the mouth of Funny River upstream to ADF&G markers about 200 yards upstream from the mouth of the Funny River:
    - **May 1-July 31:**
    - **Closed to king salmon fishing.**
    - **Closed to sport fishing from boats.**
    - Fishing is allowed using only artificial flies (see page 94 for definition of "artificial fly").

...continued



Lillianna Snow, sockeye salmon, Kenai River

## LOWER KENAI RIVER MAINSTEM FROM FUNNY RIVER TO SKILAK LAKE



### **F** MORGAN'S HOLE:

- The Kenai River from an ADF&G marker about 100 yards downstream from the landing at Morgan's Hole (river mile 31) upstream to an ADF&G marker:
  - **May 1-July 31:**
    - Closed to sport fishing from boats.

### **G** MOOSE RIVER CONFLUENCE AREA:

- The Kenai River from ADF&G markers located approximately 100 yards downstream of the mouth of the Moose River, upstream to ADF&G markers located approximately 100 yards upstream of the mouth of the Moose River:
  - **May 1-July 31:**
    - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial fly or lure is allowed.
    - Closed to sport fishing from boats.

### **H** LOWER KILLEY RIVER CONFLUENCE AREA:

- The Kenai River from an ADF&G marker about ¾ mile downstream of the mouth of the Lower Killey River upstream to an ADF&G marker about 1 mile upstream from the mouth of the Lower Killey River:
  - **May 1-July 31:**
    - Closed to king salmon fishing.
    - Closed to sport fishing from boats.
    - Fishing is allowed using only artificial flies (see page 94 for definition of "artificial fly").

- **I THE KENAI RIVER** from an ADF&G marker about 1 mile upstream from the mouth of the Lower Killey River upstream to Skilak Lake:
  - **May 1-June 10:** Closed to all sport fishing.

### **J** SKILAK LAKE OUTLET:

- The Kenai River from the swan sanctuary sign at the outlet of Skilak Lake downstream approximately 3 miles to the corresponding swan sanctuary sign near river mile 47:
  - **August 1-December 31:**
    - Closed to sport fishing from an anchored vessel. "Anchored vessel" means using an anchor or any device other than oars, paddles, or outboard motor to slow or stop a boat's downstream drift.

### SKILAK LAKE:

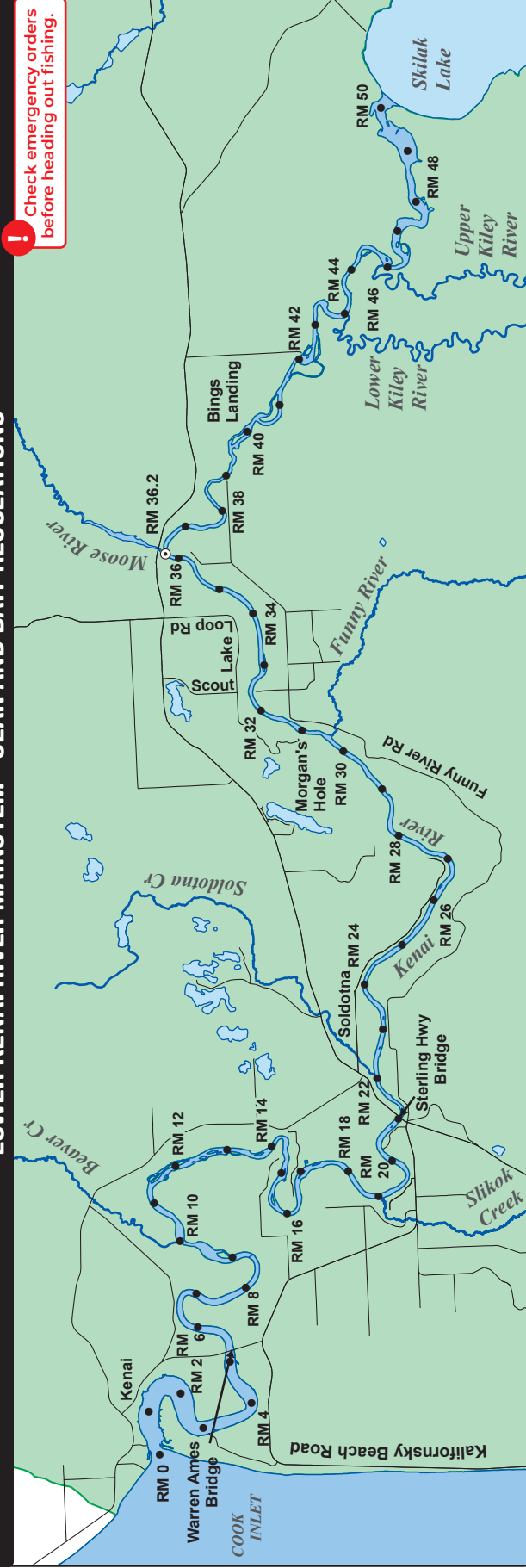
- Closed to king salmon fishing.
- Except that part of the lake within ½ mile of the upper Kenai River inlet:
  - Bait and multiple hooks allowed year-round.
  - See general regulations on pages 44-45 for seasons and limits.

...continued



Travis Roadifer, rainbow trout, Kenai River

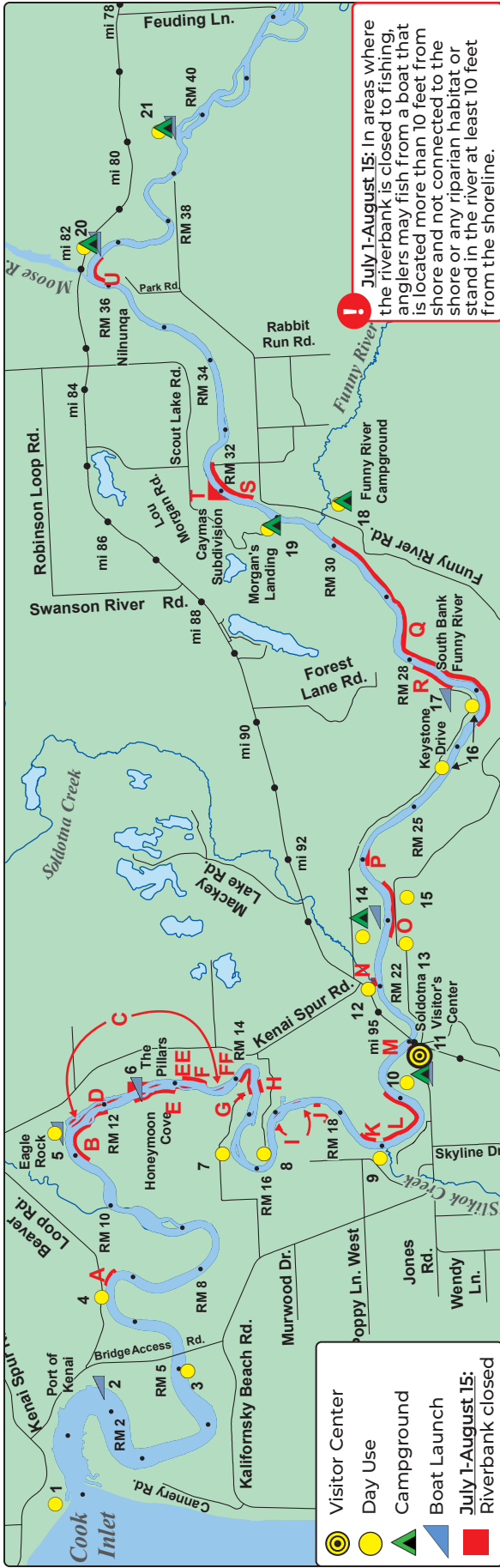
**LOWER KENAI RIVER MAINSTEM - GEAR AND BAIT REGULATIONS**



Hannah Kim, sockeye salmon, Kenai River

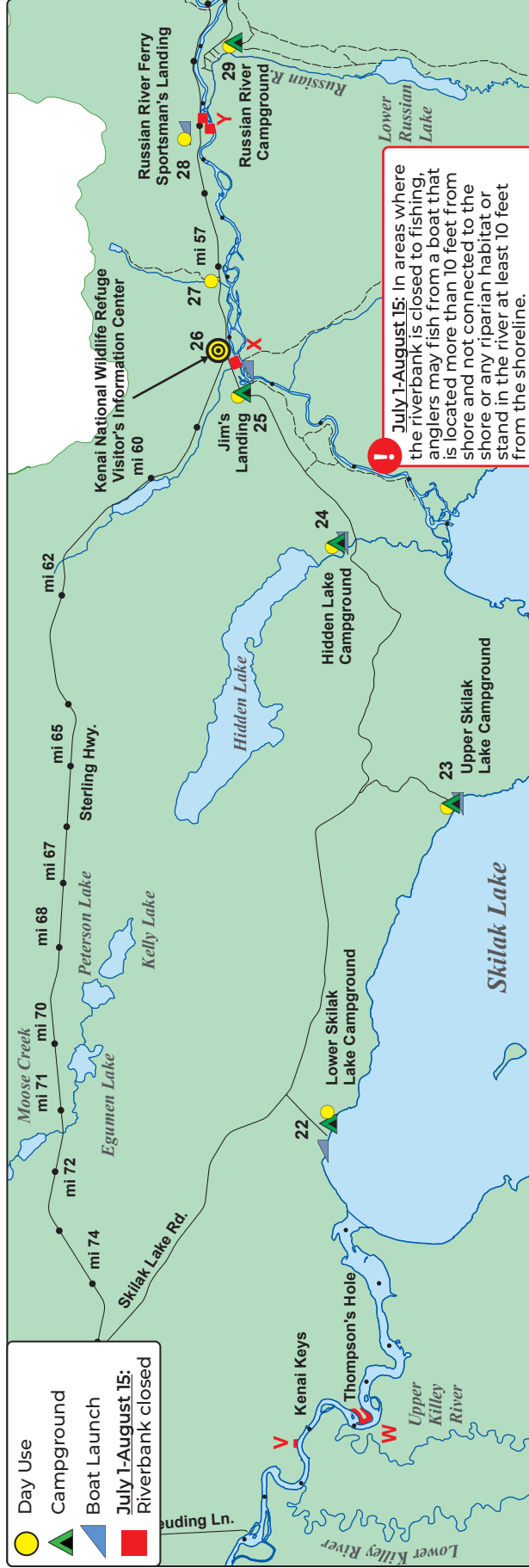
<p><b>From approximately river mile 0 to river mile 50</b> (The mouth of the Kenai River upstream to ADF&amp;G markers at the outlet of Skilak Lake):</p>	
January 1-August 15:	Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed.
<p><b>From approximately river mile 0 to river mile 36.2</b> (The mouth of the Kenai River upstream to ADF&amp;G markers at the Moose River confluence):</p>	
August 16-November 30:	Bait and multiples hooks are allowed.
<p><b>From approximately river mile 36.2 to river mile 50</b> (From ADF&amp;G markers at the Moose River confluence upstream to ADF&amp;G markers at the outlet of Skilak Lake):</p>	
January 1-December 31:	Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed.
<p><b>From approximately river mile 0 to river mile 36.2</b> (The mouth of the Kenai River upstream to ADF&amp;G markers at the Moose River confluence):</p>	
December 1-December 31:	Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed.

\*Selected areas near tributary streams have special tackle and king salmon regulations that override the gear restrictions in these tables. See special regulations.



	Public Access Points	Riverbank Closures	Public Shore Access	ADA Access
1	Mouth of the Kenai River			
2	Port of Kenai		City of Kenai - Boat Launch	
3	Kenai Flats State Recreation Site		Alaska State Parks - Day-Use Picnic Area	
4	Cunningham Park	★	City of Kenai - Day-Use Picnic Area	
5	Eagle Rock	★	Alaska State Parks - Boat Launch	
6	The Pillars		Alaska State Parks - Boat Launch	
A	NEAR CUNNINGHAM PARK		North bank between river miles 6.6 and 6.8	
B	EAGLE ROCK		South bank between river miles 10.7 and 12.0	
C	STATE-OWNED ISLANDS		Between river miles 11 and 15 (see lines D-H below)	
D	THE PILLARS AREA		North bank between river miles 12.4 and 12.6	
E	HONEYMOON COVE AREA		South bank between river miles 12.5 and 13.0	
EE	HONEYMOON COVE		North bank between river miles 13.0 and 13.2	
F	NEAR FALLING-IN-HOLE		East bank between river miles 13.2 and 13.5	
FF	NEAR STEWART'S LANDING		North bank between river miles 13.6 and 14.0	
G	WEST BANK		Between river miles 14.0 and 14.4	
H	NEAR BIG EDDY ROAD		South bank between river miles 14.4 and 14.6	
7	Ciechanski	★	Alaska State Parks - Day-Use Picnic Area	
8	Big Eddy	★	Alaska State Parks - Day-Use Picnic Area	
I	STATE-OWNED ISLANDS		Between river miles 17.0 and 17.3	
J	NEAR POACHERS COVE		West bank between river miles 17.5 and 17.6	
K	NORTH BANK		Between river miles 18.6 and 18.8	
9	Silikok Creek	★	Alaska State Parks - Day-Use Picnic Area	
L	NORTH BANK		Between river miles 18.9 and 20.2	
10	Centennial Park Campground	★	City of Soldotna - Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area, and Boat Launch	
M	NEAR SOLDOTNA VISITOR'S CENTER		South bank between river miles 20.9 and 21.0	
11	Soldotna Visitor's Center	★	Boardwalk	
12	Soldotna Creek Park	★	City of Soldotna - Day-Use Picnic Area, Boardwalk Access	
13	Donald E. Gilman River Center	★	Alaska State Parks - Day-Use	
14	Swiftwater Campground	★	City of Soldotna - Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area, Boat Launch, and Boardwalk Access	
N	SOLDOTNA CREEK		North bank from the mouth of Soldotna Creek upstream between river miles 22.0 to 22.1	
15	Rotary Park	★	City of Soldotna - Day-Use	
O	NEAR SOLDOTNA AIRPORT		South bank between river miles 22.7 and 23.5	
16	Moose Range Meadows	★	Kenai National Wildlife Refuge - Day-Use	
P	SOUTH BANK		Between river miles 23.8 and 24.2	
17	Keystone Drive Boat Launch (end of road)		Kenai National Wildlife Refuge - Boat Launch	
Q	SOUTH BANK/FUNNY RIVER		Between river miles 26.4 and 30.0	

LOWER & MIDDLE KENAI RIVERBANK CLOSURE & ACCESS

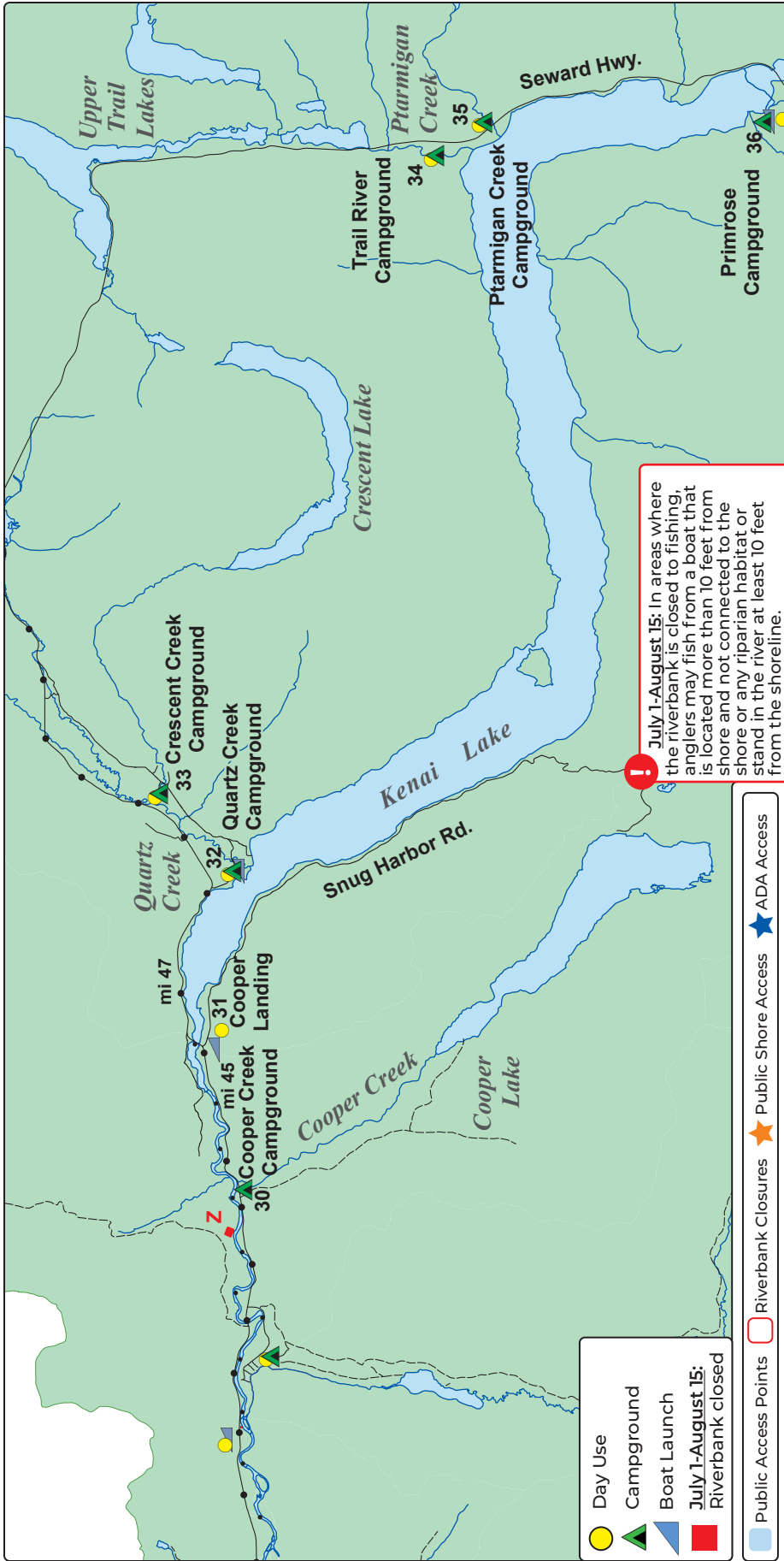


● Day Use  
▲ Campground  
▲ Boat Launch  
■ July 1-August 15: Riverbank closed

**July 1-August 15:** In areas where the riverbank is closed to fishing, anglers may fish from a boat that is located more than 10 feet from shore and not connected to the shore or any riparian habitat or stand in the river at least 10 feet from the shoreline.

23	Upper Skilak Lake Campground	Kenai National Wildlife Refuge - Picnic Area, and Boat Launch
24	Hidden Lake Campground	Kenai National Wildlife Refuge - Picnic Area, and Boat Launch
25	Jim's Landing	Kenai National Wildlife Refuge - Day-Use Picnic Area, and Boat Launch
X	Near JIM'S LANDING	North bank from river mile 69.7 to an ADF&G marker just downstream of the boat launch
26	Kenai National Wildlife Refuge Visitor's Information Center.	
27	Sterling Highway Milepost 57 Pullout	
28	Russian River Ferry / Sportsman's Landing	U.S. Forest Service - Foot Traffic and Ferry, Boat Launch, and Day-Use Picnic Area
Y	RUSSIAN RIVER FERRY/SPORTSMAN'S LANDING	North bank, upstream of the ferry crossing, between river miles 73.5 and 73.6
29	Russian River Campground	U.S. Forest Service - Campground and Day-Use Picnic Area

	Public Access Points	Riverbank Closures	Public Shore Access	ADA Access
18	Funny River Campground	★	★	
19	Morgan's Landing	★		
R	NEAR KEYSTONE DRIVE			North bank from river mile 27.3 (upstream edge of boat ramp at the end of Keystone Drive) to the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge boundary at river mile 28 (near the powerline)
S	HANSEN RIVER RANCH			South bank between river miles 31.5 and 32.5
T	CAYMAS SUBDIVISION			North bank between river miles 31.8 and 32.3
U	NILNUNQUA			South bank between river miles 36.0 and 36.6
20	Izaak Walton State Recreation Site	★	★	Alaska State Parks - Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area, and Boat Launch
21	Bing's Landing	★		Alaska State Parks - Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area, and Boat Launch
V	NEAR KENAI KEYS			North bank between ADF&G markers at river mile 44.6
W	THOMPSON'S HOLE			North bank between river miles 45.8 and 46.3
22	Lower Skilak Lake Campground			Kenai National Wildlife Refuge - Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area, and Boat Launch



● Day Use  
 ▲ Campground  
 ▽ Boat Launch  
 ■ July 1-August 15: Riverbank closed  
 □ Public Access Points  
 ◻ Riverbank Closures  
 ★ Public Shore Access  
 ★ ADA Access

**!** July 1-August 15: In areas where the riverbank is closed to fishing, anglers may fish from a boat that is located more than 10 feet from shore and not connected to the shore or any riparian habitat or stand in the river at least 10 feet from the shoreline.

30	Cooper Creek Camp (North & South)	U.S. Forest Service - Campground
31	Cooper Landing	Alaska State Parks - Boat Launch
Z	COOPER LANDING BOAT LAUNCH	South bank near river mile 82.0, from the bridge downstream about 1,000 feet to an ADF&G marker
32	Quartz Creek Campground	U.S. Forest Service - Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area, and Boat Launch
33	Crescent Creek Campground	U.S. Forest Service - Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area

34	Trail River Campground	U.S. Forest Service - Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area
35	Ptarmigan Creek Campground	U.S. Forest Service - Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area
36	Primrose Campground	U.S. Forest Service - Campground, Boat Launch

UPPER KENAI RIVERBANK CLOSURE & ACCESS

# KENAI RIVER BOAT AND MOTOR REGULATIONS: ALASKA STATE PARKS

The Alaska State Legislature created the Kenai River Special Management Area in 1984 and charged Alaska State Parks with its management. Here are their boating regulations for the Kenai River, summarized for your convenience.

For more information on boat motor regulations on the Kenai River, please call the Alaska State Parks office at (907) 262-5581.

## HORSEPOWER RESTRICTIONS

No one may operate a boat on the Kenai River upstream of a DNR marker located at approximately river mile 4.2 (downstream of the Warren Ames Bridge) with outboard or combination of outboards having a total propshaft rating greater than 50 HP. Propshaft horsepower rating means the boat motor's original manufacturer rated and labeled horsepower. Adding a jet drive unit to a motor does not change the propshaft horsepower rating of the motor powerhead and driveshaft configuration. These horsepower limitations do not apply to the operation of a boat on Kenai Lake, on Skilak Lake, and on the Kenai River between the Kenai Lake Bridge and river mile 80.7. See maps on pages 44 and 53.

## FOUR STROKE OR DIRECT FUEL INJECTION REQUIREMENTS

Regardless of the time of year or motor horsepower, no one may operate a motorized boat on the Kenai River upstream of a DNR marker located at approximately river mile 4.2 (downstream of the Warren Ames Bridge) unless the motor is a four-stroke motor or a direct fuel injection motor. This includes boats operating on Kenai and Skilak lakes.

## BOAT LENGTH REQUIREMENTS

Except on Kenai and Skilak lakes, no one may operate a motorized boat on the Kenai River upstream of a DNR marker located (at approximately river mile 4.2) downstream of the Warren Ames Bridge that exceeds overall boat size to no more than 21 feet long and 106 inches wide.

## DRIFT AREAS, MOTOR USE PROHIBITED

- Operating a boat by use of a motor is prohibited year-round on the Kenai River, from Skilak Lake inlet upstream to river mile 80.7. See map on page 53.
- March 15 to June 14: Operating a boat by use of a motor on the Kenai River is also prohibited from river mile 47 upstream to the outlet of Skilak Lake. See map on page 47.

## PASSENGER LIMITS

No more than 6 people are allowed on board, including operator. Except for guided vessels in July, below the outlet of Skilak Lake, which may have no more than 5 people on board.

## TYING UP

No one may tie up a boat to state land, easement, or rights-of-way for more than 24 consecutive hours.

## ANCHORING

No one may anchor a boat on the Kenai River that obstructs a primary traffic channel or drift fishing channel.

## ALASKA'S BOATING SAFETY LAW



**REGISTRATION:** In January 2011, the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) assumed boat registration from the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG).

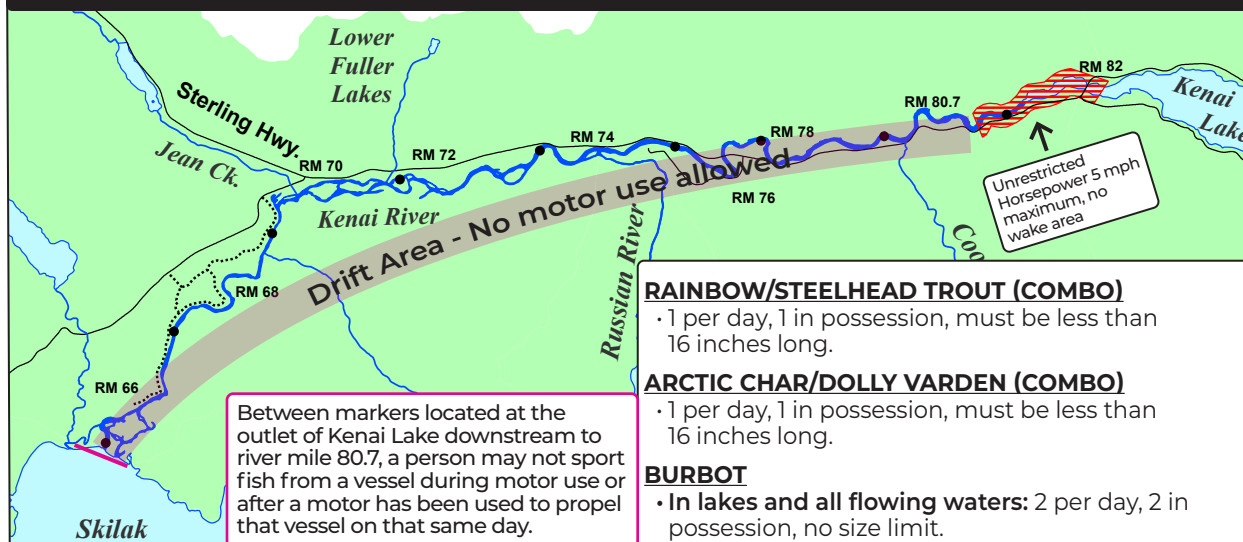
All motorized boats must be registered, either with the DMV or as a vessel meeting documentation requirements of the USCG.

Registration card must be carried on board the boat.

**SAFETY EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS:** State safety and equipment requirements are identical to USCG federal requirements, with the addition of the following: "All persons under 13 years of age must wear a USCG approved life jacket while on the deck of a boat or in an open boat."

Obtain a complete list of safety and equipment requirements and other vital boating safety information from the State Office of Boating Safety at (907) 269-8705, or visit their website at [www.alaskaboatingsafety.org](http://www.alaskaboatingsafety.org).

## MIDDLE KENAI RIVER



### GENERAL REGULATIONS - MIDDLE KENAI RIVER

**Inclusive waters:** The mainstem Kenai River, from waters of Skilak Lake within a ½ mile radius of the river inlet upstream to the Sterling Highway Bridge at the outlet of Kenai Lake, including the Russian River drainage.

**June 11-April 30:** Fishing is open for all species unless otherwise noted below or in special regulations.

**May 1-June 10:** Closed to all sport fishing.

**Stay legal - before you cast, check emergency orders at [www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR).**

#### KING SALMON

- Closed to king salmon fishing.

#### CHUM, COHO, PINK, & SOCKEYE SALMON (COMBO)

- **Coho salmon:** See below for bag and possession limits.
  - **July 1-Oct. 31:** Open to coho salmon fishing.
  - A coho salmon 16 inches or longer that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. You must not remove a coho salmon 16 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
  - **July 1-Aug. 31:** 2 per day, 2 in possession in combination with chum and sockeye limits below.
  - **Sept. 1-Oct. 31:** 3 per day, 3 in possession in combination with chum and sockeye limits below.
- **Chum, pink, & sockeye salmon:**
  - **June 11-April 30:** Open to chum, pink, and sockeye salmon fishing.
  - **16 inches or longer:**
    - **Pink salmon:** 6 per day, 6 in possession.
    - **Chum and sockeye salmon (combo):**
      - **June 11-Aug. 31:** 3 per day, 6 in possession, only 2 per day, 2 in possession may be coho salmon.
      - **Sept. 1-Oct. 31:** 3 per day, 6 in possession, all 3 may be coho salmon.
  - **Less than 16 inches (combo):** 10 per day, 10 in possession.

#### RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT (COMBO)

- 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 16 inches long.

#### ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN (COMBO)

- 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 16 inches long.

#### BURBOT

- **In lakes and all flowing waters:** 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.

#### LAKE TROUT

- **20 inches or longer:** 2 per day, 2 in possession.
- **Less than 20 inches:** 10 per day, 10 in possession.

#### NORTHERN PIKE - INVASIVE SPECIES

- No limit
- **Live Release Prohibited.** If you catch a northern pike anywhere on the Kenai Peninsula, please keep it and bring it to the nearest ADF&G office.

#### ARCTIC GRAYLING

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

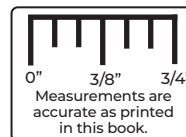
#### OTHER FINFISH

- No limit.

### METHODS & MEANS - MIDDLE KENAI RIVER

#### TACKLE RESTRICTIONS:

- Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed year-round. The gap between point and shank must be ⅜ inch or less.
- **In flowing waters:** Beads fished ahead of flies, lures, or bare hooks must be fixed within 2 inches of the hook or be free sliding on the line or leader.



#### RIVERBANK CLOSURES:

- **July 1-August 15:** Special bank access regulations on the Kenai River apply. See pages 49-51 for public access points and riverbank closures on the Kenai River.

#### GEAR RESTRICTIONS:

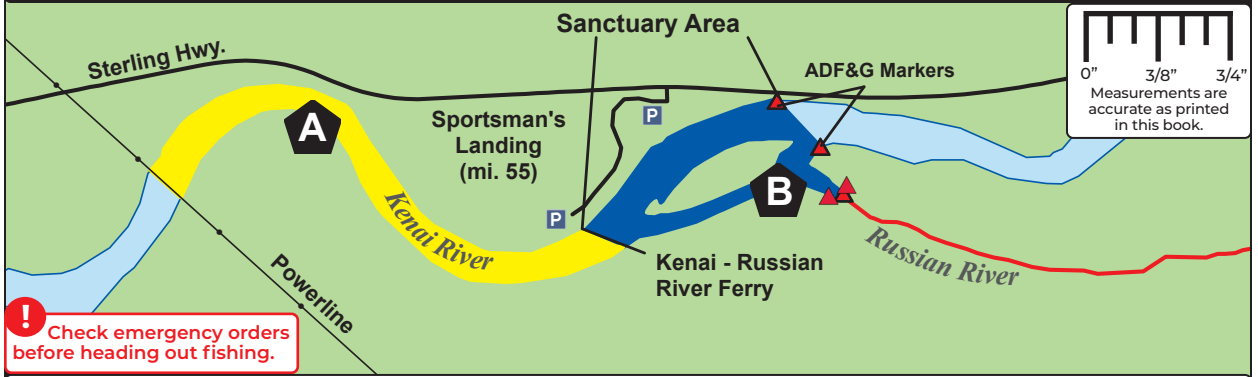
- Salmon may only be landed with the aid of a landing net or by hand. No gaffs are allowed.
- See page 52 for boat and motor restrictions.

#### FISHING FROM AN ANCHORED VESSEL:

- **Fishing from a vessel on the Kenai River when the anchor is dragging is prohibited.** If an anchor should fail to hold the vessel in a fixed position, fishing must immediately stop until the anchor is pulled or reset to hold the vessel in a fixed position.

...continued

## MIDDLE KENAI RIVER AND RUSSIAN RIVER CONFLUENCE



**!** Check emergency orders before heading out fishing.

### Gear in Fly-Fishing-Only Waters

- One unweighted, single-hook, unbaited fly with gap between point and shank of  $\frac{3}{8}$ " or less is allowed. The fly must weigh less than  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz. Artificial flies are defined on page 94.
- If weights are used, they must be at least 18 inches ahead of the fly.

### AREA A

The Kenai River upstream of the Powerline to ADF&G markers placed just downstream of the ferry crossing:

- **June 11-August 20:** Only artificial flies are allowed in these waters. See description in map above.
- **May 1-June 10:** Closed to all sport fishing.

#### SOCKEYE SALMON

- **June 11-August 20:** Open to sockeye salmon fishing.
  - **16 inches or longer:** 3 per day, 6 in possession.
  - **Less than 16 inches:** 10 per day, 10 in possession.
- **August 21-June 10:** Closed to sockeye salmon fishing.

#### COHO SALMON

- **July 1-October 31:** Open to coho salmon fishing.
  - **16 inches or longer:** 1 per day, 1 in possession.
  - **July 1-August 20:** When sockeye and coho salmon can be retained, the coho limit is **not** in addition to the sockeye salmon limit.
  - For example, an angler may keep 2 sockeye salmon and 1 coho salmon per day.
- **Less than 16 inches:** 10 per day, 10 in possession, in combination.

### AREA B

A section of the Kenai River upstream from ADF&G markers located downstream of the Kenai-Russian Ferry crossing, to ADF&G markers about 300 yards upstream of the public boat launch at Sportsman's Landing. This section includes the waters around the upstream end of the island in front of the Russian River mouth. The section also includes the Russian River, from its mouth upstream about 100 yards to ADF&G markers:

- **May 1-July 14:** Closed to all sport fishing.
- **July 15-August 20:** Only artificial flies are allowed in these waters. See description in map above.

#### SOCKEYE OR COHO SALMON

- **July 15-August 20:** Open to sockeye and coho salmon fishing.
  - **16 inches or longer:** 3 per day, 6 in possession, only 1 per day, 1 in possession may be a coho salmon.
  - **Less than 16 inches:** 10 per day, 10 in possession.
- **August 21-July 14:** Closed to sockeye salmon fishing.

#### COHO SALMON

- **August 21-October 31:** Open to coho salmon fishing.
  - **16 inches or longer:** 1 per day, 1 in possession.
  - **Less than 16 inches:** 10 per day, 10 in possession.
- **November 1-July 14:** Closed to coho salmon fishing.

### KENAI MAINSTEM OUTSIDE OF AREAS A AND B

The mainstem Kenai River, from the Powerline (downstream boundary of Area A) downstream to the waters of Skilak Lake within a  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile radius of the river inlet:

- See general regulations on page 53 for this area.

Kenai River upstream from ADF&G markers about 300 yards upstream of the public boat launch at Sportsman's Landing to the Sterling Highway Bridge at the outlet of Kenai Lake:

- See general regulations on page 53 for this area.

Between markers located at the outlet of Kenai Lake downstream to river mile 80.7:

- **A person may not sport fish from a vessel during motor use or after a motor has been used to propel that vessel on that same day.** See map on page 53.

## RUSSIAN RIVER:

Stay legal - before you cast, check emergency orders [www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR).

- The Russian River from an ADF&G marker located 100 yards upstream of its mouth to an ADF&G marker located 600 yards downstream of the falls:

- **May 1-June 10: Closed to all sport fishing.**
- **June 11-August 20:** Only artificial flies are allowed. See the map on page 54 for details about the allowable gear in fly-fishing-only waters.
- **Sockeye salmon:**
  - **June 11-August 20:** Open to sockeye salmon fishing.
  - 3 per day, 6 in possession, no size limit.
- **Coho salmon:**
  - **July 1-September 30:** Open to coho salmon fishing.
  - 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.
  - A coho salmon 16 inches or longer that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. You must not remove a coho salmon 16 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
- **Other species:** See page 53.
- The Russian River upstream from an ADF&G marker about 600 yards downstream of the falls:
  - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
  - **May 1-June 10: Closed to all sport fishing.**
  - **June 11-April 30:** Open to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
  - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed year-round. The gap between point and shank must be  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch or less.
  - Other species: See page 53.

## LOWER AND UPPER RUSSIAN LAKES:

- **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
- Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
- Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed year-round. The gap between point and shank must be  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch or less.
- **Rainbow/steelhead trout:** 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
- **Dolly Varden:** 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.

## UPPER RUSSIAN/GOAT CREEK - upstream from ADF&G markers about 300 yards upstream from its confluence with Upper Russian Lake:

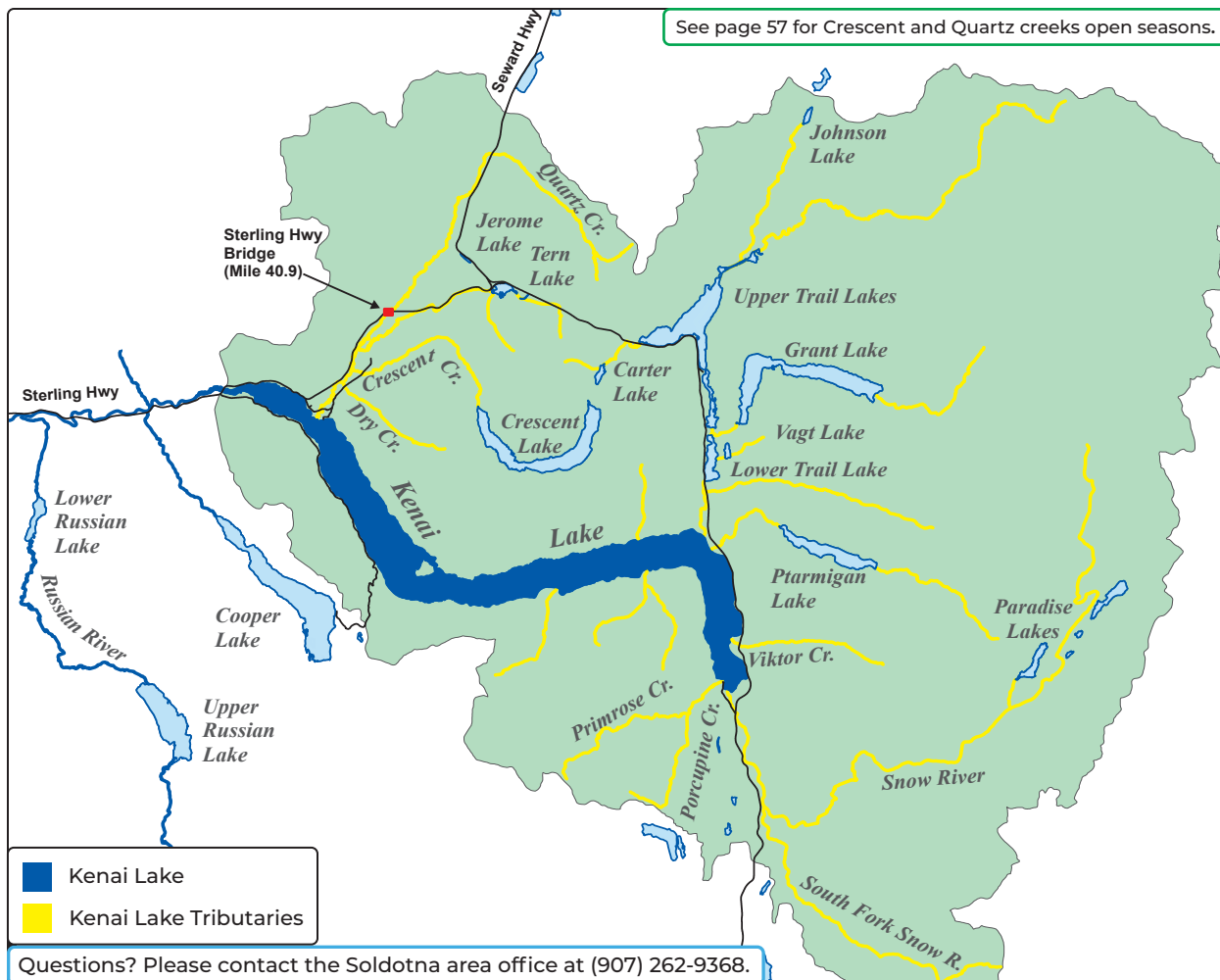
- **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
- **May 1-June 10 and August 1-August 31:**
  - **Closed to all sport fishing.**
- Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed year-round. The gap between point and shank must be  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch or less.
- **Other species:** See page 53.



Boyd Patrick, sockeye salmon, Russian River

...continued

See page 57 for Crescent and Quartz creeks open seasons.



Questions? Please contact the Soldotna area office at (907) 262-9368.

### GENERAL REGULATIONS - KENAI LAKE & TRIBUTARIES

**Inclusive waters:** Kenai Lake and all other lakes of the Kenai Lake drainage, and all flowing waters tributary to Kenai Lake.

Fishing is open year-round for all species in lakes and ponds unless otherwise noted below or in special regulations.

**May 1-June 10:** Closed to sport fishing for all species in all flowing waters unless otherwise noted in special regulations.

**Stay legal - before you cast, check emergency orders at [www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR).**

#### **KING SALMON**

- Closed year-round to king salmon fishing.

#### **CHUM, COHO, PINK, & SOCKEYE SALMON (COMBO)**

- Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.

#### **ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN (COMBO)**

- **In flowing waters:** 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 16 inches long.
- **In lakes:** 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.

#### **ARCTIC GRAYLING**

- **In lakes and all flowing waters:** 5 per day, 5 in possession, no size limit.

#### **RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT (COMBO)**

- **In flowing waters:** 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 16 inches long.
- **In unstocked lakes:** 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
- **In stocked lakes:** 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. See pages 86-87.
- **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.
  - If you retain a rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer must immediately record that harvest. See page 4 for recording instructions.

#### **NORTHERN PIKE - INVASIVE SPECIES**

- No limit
- The Kenai Peninsula is no longer known to contain any northern pike populations. Northern pike are not native to the Southcentral area.
- **Live Release Prohibited.** You are not allowed to release live pike back into the water. If you catch a northern pike anywhere on the Kenai Peninsula, please keep it and bring it to the nearest ADF&G office.

**LAKE TROUT**

- In lakes and all flowing waters:
  - **20 inches or longer:** 2 per day, 2 in possession.
  - **Less than 20 inches:** 10 per day, 10 in possession.

**BURBOT**

- In lakes and all flowing waters:
  - 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.

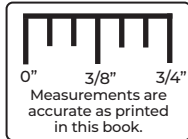
**OTHER FINFISH**

- In lakes and all flowing waters:
  - No limit.

**METHODS AND MEANS - KENAI LAKE & TRIBUTARIES**

**BAIT RESTRICTIONS:**

- In Kenai Lake except within ¼ mile of all inlet streams:
  - Bait and multiple hooks are allowed year-round.
- Within ¼ mile of all inlet streams of Kenai Lake and on the Kenai River from the Sterling Highway Bridge upstream approximately ¼ mile to ADF&G markers located at the outlet of Kenai Lake:
  - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly with a gap between point and shank of 3/8 inch or less is allowed year-round.
- In all flowing waters of the Kenai Lake drainages:
  - Bait and multiple hooks are allowed year-round.
  - Beads fished ahead of flies, lures, or bare hooks must be fixed within 2 inches of the hook, or be free sliding on the line or leader.
  - Only one unbaited, single-hook artificial lure or fly with a gap between point and shank of 3/8 inch or less is allowed year-round.
- In non-flowing waters:
  - Bait and multiple hooks are allowed year-round.



**SPECIAL REGULATIONS - KENAI LAKE & TRIBUTARIES**

**KENAI LAKE** (except within ¼ mile of all inlet streams):

- Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
- Bait and multiple hooks are allowed year-round.

**KENAI LAKE** within ¼ mile of all inlet streams:

- **June 11-April 30:** Open to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
- **May 1-June 10:** Closed to all sport fishing.

**KENAI LAKE OUTLET:**

- Kenai Lake within ¼ mile above the Sterling Highway Bridge at the outlet of the lake:
  - **June 11-April 30:** Open to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
  - **May 1-June 10:** Closed to all sport fishing.

**CRESCENT CREEK DRAINAGE** - including Crescent Lake:

- **June 11-April 30:** Open to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
- **May 1-June 10:** Closed to all sport fishing.

**QUARTZ CREEK:**

- Upstream of the Sterling Highway Bridge (Mile 40.9):
  - **June 11-September 14:** Open to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
  - **November 1-April 30:** Open to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
  - **May 1-June 10 and September 15-October 31:** Closed to all sport fishing.
- Downstream of the Sterling Highway Bridge:
  - **June 11-April 30:** Open to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
  - **May 1-June 10:** Closed to all sport fishing.

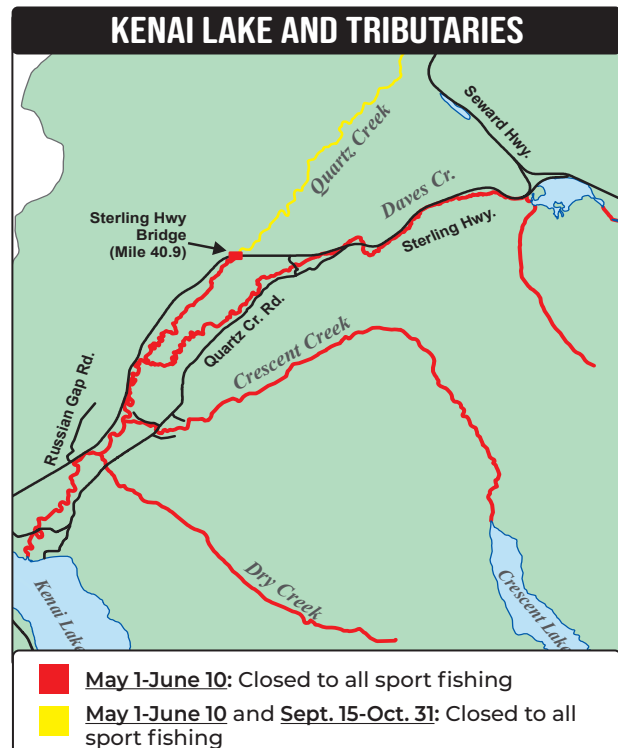
**SNOW RIVER DRAINAGE:**

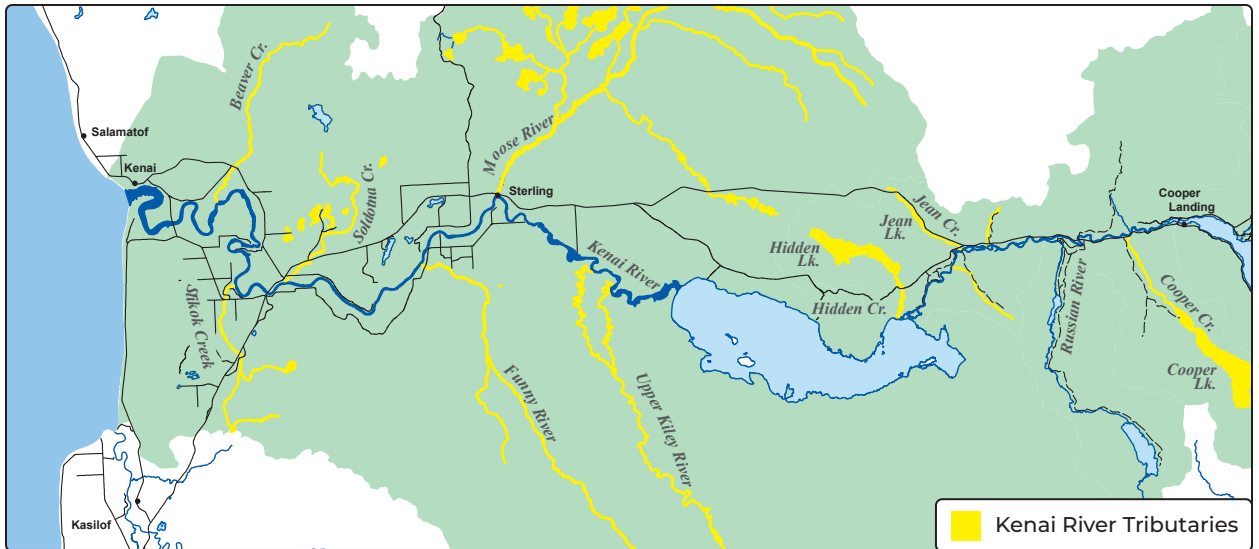
- South Fork:
  - **June 11-September 14:** Open to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
  - **November 1-April 30:** Open to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
  - **May 1-June 10 and September 15-October 31:** Closed to all sport fishing.
- Remainder of drainage:
  - **June 11-April 30:** Open to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
  - **May 1-June 10:** Closed to all sport fishing.

**TRAIL LAKE:**

- Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
- Bait and multiple hooks are allowed year-round.

...continued





## GENERAL REGULATIONS - KENAI RIVER TRIBUTARIES

**Inclusive waters:** Tributaries of the Kenai River between the outlet of Kenai Lake and the mouth of the Kenai River (except those noted below):

**Fishing is open year-round for all species in lakes and ponds unless otherwise noted below or in special regulations.**

**May 1-June 10: Closed to sport fishing for all species in all flowing waters** unless otherwise noted in special regulations.

**Upper Kenai River tributaries** are those that join the Kenai River between Kenai Lake and Skilak Lake, and **DOES NOT** include the Russian River, the mainstem Kenai River, or Skilak Lake.

**Lower Kenai River tributaries** are those that join Skilak Lake and the Kenai River between Skilak Lake and Cook Inlet, and **DOES NOT** include the mainstem Kenai River or Skilak Lake.

**Stay legal - before you cast, check emergency orders [www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR).**

### **KING SALMON**

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

### **CHUM, COHO, PINK, & SOCKEYE SALMON (COMBO)**

- **In flowing waters:**
  - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
- **In lakes:**
  - 10 per day, 10 in possession, must be less than 16 inches long.

### **ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN (COMBO)**

- **In flowing waters:** 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 16 inches long.
- **In lakes:** 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.

### **ARCTIC GRAYLING**

- **In lakes and flowing waters:** 5 per day, 5 in possession, no size limit.

### **OTHER FINFISH**

- **In lakes and flowing waters:** No limit.

### **RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT (COMBO)**

- **In flowing waters:** 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 16 inches long.
- **In lakes:** 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which 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.
    - If you retain a rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer, you must immediately record that harvest. See page 4 for instructions.

### **BURBOT**

- **In lakes and flowing waters:**
  - 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.

### **LAKE TROUT**

- **In flowing waters:**
  - **20 inches or longer:** 2 per day, 2 in possession.
  - **Less than 20 inches:** 10 per day, 10 in possession.
- **In lakes and flowing waters:**
  - 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.

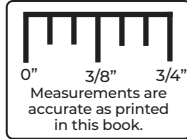
### **NORTHERN PIKE - INVASIVE SPECIES**

- No limit
- The Kenai Peninsula is no longer known to contain any northern pike populations. Northern pike are not native to the Southcentral area.
- **Live Release Prohibited.** You are not allowed to release live pike back into the water. If you catch a northern pike anywhere on the Kenai Peninsula, please keep it and bring it to the nearest ADF&G office.

## METHODS AND MEANS - KENAI RIVER TRIBUTARIES

### TACKLE RESTRICTIONS:

- In all flowing waters of the Kenai River tributaries:
  - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly with a gap between point and shank of 3/8 inch or less is allowed year-round.
  - Beads fished ahead of flies, lures, or bare hooks must be fixed within 2 inches of the hook, or be free sliding on the line or leader.



## SPECIAL REGULATIONS - LOWER KENAI RIVER TRIBUTARIES

**LOWER KENAI RIVER TRIBUTARIES** are those that join Skilak Lake and the Kenai River between Skilak Lake and Cook Inlet, and **DOES NOT** include the mainstem Kenai River or Skilak Lake.

### FUNNY RIVER:

- **May 1-July 31: Closed to all sport fishing.**
- **August 1-April 30:** Open to sport fishing for species other than salmon.

### KILLEY RIVER:

- **May 1-July 31: Closed to all sport fishing.**
- **August 1-April 30:** Open to sport fishing for species other than salmon.

### MOOSE RIVER DRAINAGE:

- From its confluence with the Kenai River upstream to the upstream edge of the Sterling Highway Bridge:
  - **Closed year-round to king salmon fishing.**
  - Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
  - **May 1-July 31:** Only artificial flies are allowed in these waters. See page 94 for a description of allowable gear.
- Remainder of drainage:
  - **May 1-June 10: Closed to sport fishing in flowing waters.**
  - **June 11-April 30:** Open to sport fishing for species other than salmon.

### SLIKOK CREEK:

- **May 1-July 31: Closed to all sport fishing.**
- **August 1-April 30:** Open to sport fishing for species other than salmon.

### SOLDOTNA CREEK:

- **May 1-June 10: Closed to all sport fishing.**
- **June 11-April 30:** Open to sport fishing for species other than salmon.

## SPECIAL REGULATIONS - UPPER KENAI RIVER TRIBUTARIES

**UPPER KENAI RIVER TRIBUTARIES** are those that join the Kenai River between Skilak Lake and Kenai Lake, and **DOES NOT** include the Russian River, the mainstem Kenai River, or Skilak Lake.

### COOPER CREEK:

- **June 11-September 14 and November 1-April 30:** Open to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
- **May 1-June 10 and September 15-October 31:**
  - **Closed to all sport fishing.**

### COOPER LAKE:

- **Arctic char/Dolly Varden:** 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.

### HIDDEN CREEK:

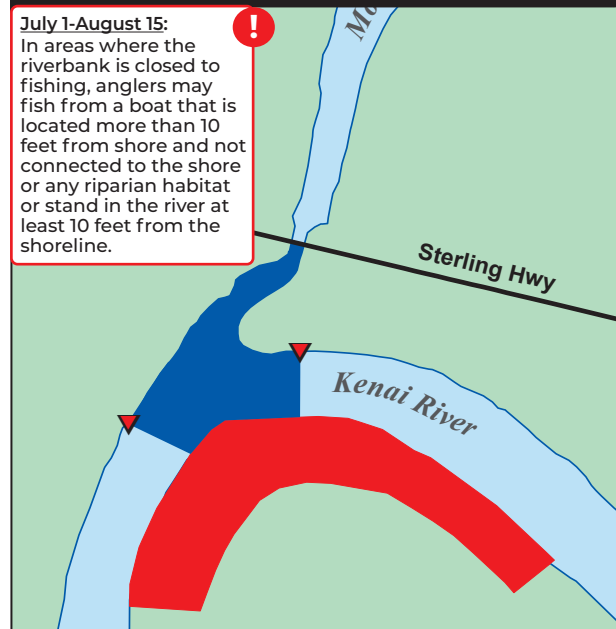
- **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
- **May 1-June 10: Closed to all sport fishing.**

### HIDDEN LAKE:

- **Closed year-round to king salmon and burbot fishing.**
- **September 15-November 30: Closed to all sport fishing.**
- **December 1-September 14:** Open to sport fishing for species other than burbot and king salmon. See general regulations on page 58 for other salmon in lakes and ponds.
- Bait and multiple hooks are allowed year-round.
- **Lake trout:** 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 16 inches long.

## MOOSE RIVER & CONFLUENCE AREA

**July 1-August 15:** In areas where the riverbank is closed to fishing, anglers may fish from a boat that is located more than 10 feet from shore and not connected to the shore or any riparian habitat or stand in the river at least 10 feet from the shoreline.

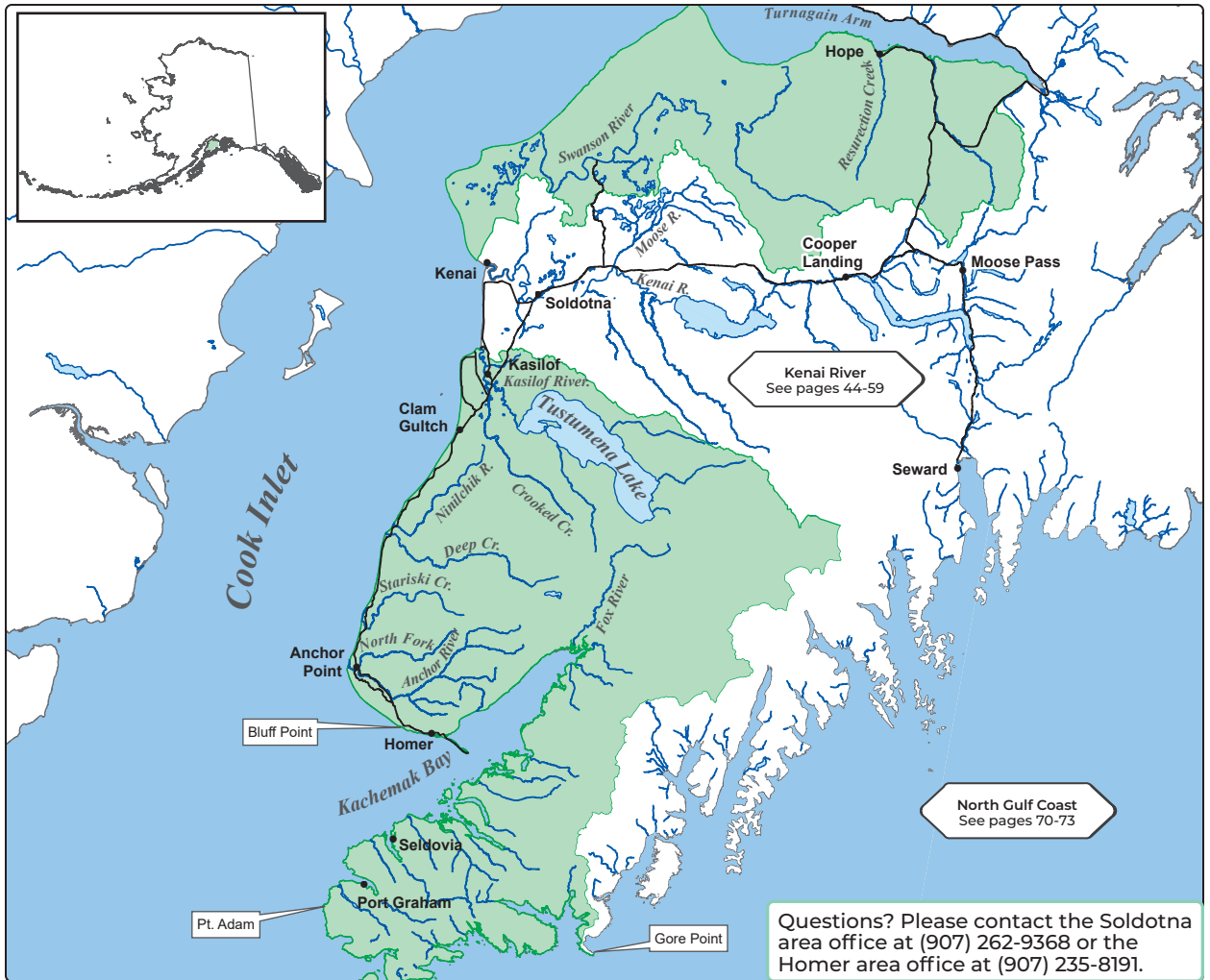


▼ ADF&G Marker

■ **July 1-Aug. 15:** Closed riverbank

■ **May 1-July 31:** No sport fishing from boats

**May 1-July 31:** Fishing is allowed using only artificial flies. See page 94 for "artificial fly" definition.



Questions? Please contact the Soldotna area office at (907) 262-9368 or the Homer area office at (907) 235-8191.

## GENERAL REGULATIONS - KENAI PENINSULA

**Inclusive waters:** All fresh waters of the Kenai Peninsula, including Upper and Lower Summit lakes (excluding the Kenai River drainage and North Gulf Coast fresh water drainages).

Fishing is open year-round for all species unless otherwise noted below or in special regulations.

**Stay legal - before you cast, check emergency orders at [www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR).**

### KING SALMON

- EO King salmon fishing is closed in 2026 by emergency order.
- The fresh waters of the Kenai Peninsula are closed to king salmon fishing, except for the Kasilof River and Niniilchik River. See king salmon emergency orders.
- In Kenai Peninsula fresh waters open to king salmon fishing:
  - 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.

*King salmon continued...*

- A king salmon 20 inches or longer that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. You must not remove a king salmon 20 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
- If you retain a king salmon 20 inches or longer, you must immediately record that harvest. See page 4 for recording instructions.
- **In stocked lakes:** 10 per day, 10 in possession, in combination with other salmon. See pages 86-87.

### **CHUM, COHO, PINK, & SOCKEYE SALMON (COMBO)**

- **In unstocked lakes and all flowing waters:**
  - **16 inches or longer:** 3 per day, 3 in possession, only 2 per day, 2 in possession may be coho (silver) salmon.
    - A coho salmon 16 inches or longer that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. You must not remove a coho salmon 16 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
  - **Less than 16 inches:** 10 per day, 10 in possession.
- **In stocked lakes:**
  - 10 per day, 10 in possession, in combination with king salmon. See pages 86-87.

**RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT (COMBO)**

- In flowing waters: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
- In lakes: 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 of which 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.
  - If you retain a rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer, you must immediately record that harvest. See page 4 for recording instructions.

**ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN (COMBO)**

- In flowing waters: 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
- In lakes: 5 per day, 5 in possession, no size limit.

**ARCTIC GRAYLING**

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

**LAKE TROUT**

- In lakes and all flowing waters:
  - 20 inches or longer: 2 per day, 2 in possession.
  - Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.

**BURBOT**

- In lakes and all flowing waters: 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.

**OTHER FINFISH**

- In lakes and all flowing waters: No limit.

**NORTHERN PIKE - INVASIVE SPECIES**

- No limit
- The Kenai Peninsula is no longer known to contain any northern pike populations. Northern pike are not native to the Southcentral area.
- **Live Release Prohibited.** You are not allowed to release live pike back into the water. If you catch a northern pike anywhere on the Kenai Peninsula, please keep it and bring it to the nearest ADF&G office.



Weston Williams, rainbow trout, Russian River

**METHODS AND MEANS - KENAI PENINSULA**

**BAIT RESTRICTIONS:**

- In flowing waters of the Kenai Peninsula:
  - **September 16-December 31:** Only unbaited, artificial lures or flies are allowed.
- In lakes and during certain times on select flowing waters:
  - Bait and multiple hooks are allowed year-round. See special regulations for more info.

**USE OF BEADS:**

- In all flowing waters:
  - Beads fished ahead of flies, lures, or bare hooks must be fixed within 2 inches of the hook, or be free sliding on the line or leader.

**SPECIAL REGULATIONS - KENAI PENINSULA**

**ANCHOR RIVER DRAINAGE:**

Anchor River from its mouth upstream approximately 2 miles to ADF&G markers approximately 200 yards upstream of the Old Sterling Highway Bridge:		
January 1-July 15	Closed to all sport fishing. <b>EO</b> King salmon fishing is closed in 2026 by emergency order.	
July 16-July 31	Closed to the retention of king salmon. Open to all other species.	Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial fly or lure is allowed.
Aug. 1-Aug. 31	Closed to the retention of king salmon. Open to all other species.	Bait and multiple hooks are allowed.
Sept. 1-Oct. 31	Closed to the retention of king salmon. Open to all other species.	Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial fly or lure is allowed.
Nov. 1, 2026, through open date in May 2027	Closed to all sport fishing.	

**EO** January 1-July 15: Closed to all sport fishing, except Bridge Creek reservoir which is open year-round to sport fishing.

**EO** King salmon: King salmon fishing is closed in 2026 by emergency order.

- **Rainbow/steelhead trout:**
  - Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
- **Other species:**
  - See general regulations on pages 60-61.

Anchor River continued...

- From its mouth upstream approximately 2 miles to ADF&G markers:
  - See table on page 61 for open dates and gear allowed in this area.
- Upstream from the ADF&G markers approximately 200 yards upstream of the Old Sterling Highway Bridge:
  - Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.
  - **November 1-July 31:** Closed to all sport fishing in all flowing waters.
  - **August 1-October 31:** Open to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
  - Only one unbaited, single-hook artificial lure or fly is allowed.

**BRIDGE CREEK RESERVOIR:**

- Open year-round to sport fishing. See general regulations on pages 60-61.

**BENCH CREEK DRAINAGE - including Bench Lake:**

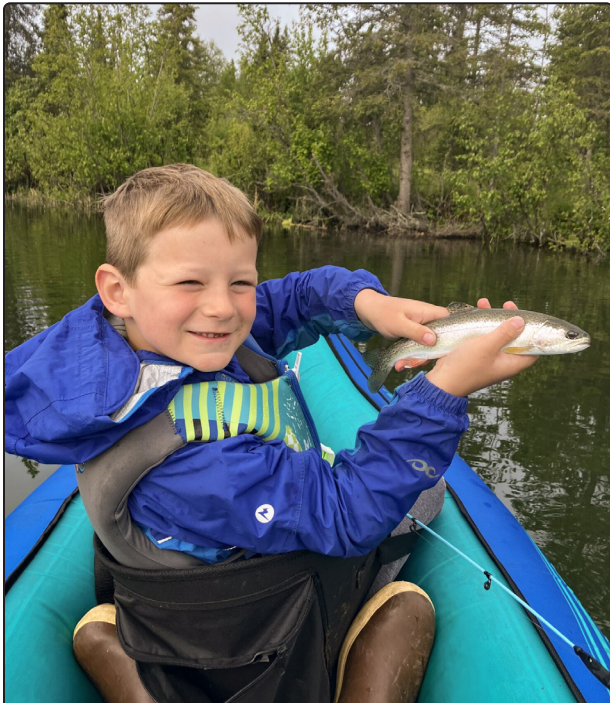
- **June 11-April 30:** Open to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
- **May 1-June 10:** Closed to all sport fishing.

**BISHOP CREEK DRAINAGE - including Daniels Creek:**

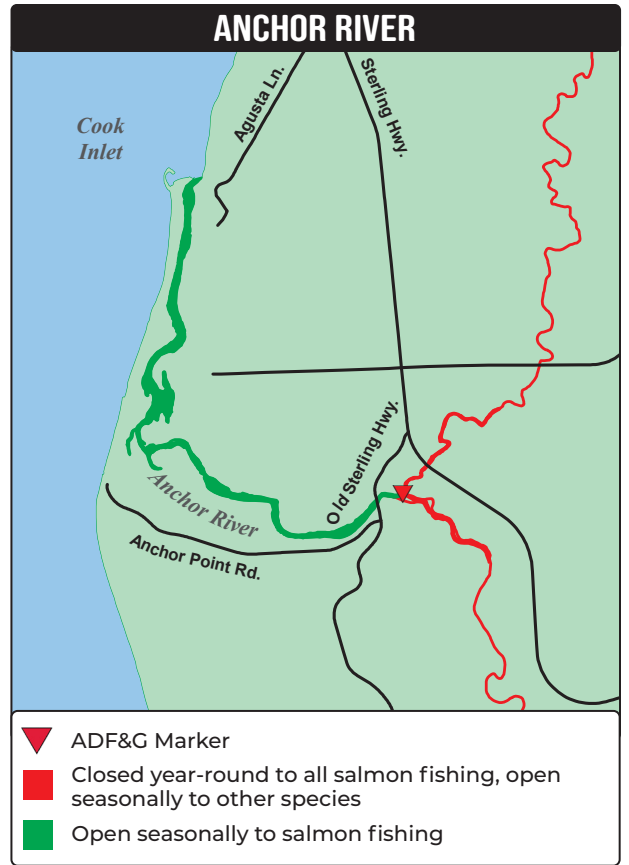
- **June 11-April 30:** Open to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
- **May 1-June 10:** Closed to all sport fishing.

**CROOKED CREEK AND COAL CREEK:**

- **January 1-July 31:** Closed to all sport fishing.
- **August 1-December 31:** Open to sport fishing for species other than king salmon.
- **September 1-December 31:** Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed.
- **Rainbow/steelhead trout:** Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.



Henry Earhart, rainbow trout, Johnson Lake



...continued



Cameron & Bridget Montantes, sockeye salmon, Seward

## DEEP CREEK



### DEEP CREEK DRAINAGE:

**EO January 1-July 15: Closed to all sport fishing.**

**EO King salmon: King salmon fishing is closed in 2026 by emergency order.**

- **Rainbow/steelhead trout:** Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
- **Other species:** See general regulations on pages 60-61.
- **From its mouth upstream approximately 2 miles to ADF&G markers:**
  - See the table on the right for open dates and gear allowed in this area.
- **Upstream from ADF&G markers:**
  - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
  - **November 1-July 31: Closed to all sport fishing in flowing waters.**
  - **August 1-October 31:** Open to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
  - Only one unbaited, single-hook artificial lure or fly is allowed.

### ENGLISH BAY RIVER DRAINAGE:

- **From its mouth (including the lagoon) upstream to the outlet of Lower English Bay Lake:**
  - **June 1-July 31:** Fly-fishing-only waters. See page 6 for a description of acceptable gear.
- **English Bay River and all lakes and ponds of English Bay River drainage upstream from the outlet of Lower English Bay Lake:**
  - Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
  - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**

Deep Creek from its mouth upstream approximately 2 miles to ADF&G markers:	
January 1-July 15	<b>Closed to all sport fishing.</b> <b>EO King salmon fishing is closed in 2026 by emergency order.</b>
July 16-July 31	<b>Closed to the retention of king salmon.</b> Open to all other species. Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial fly or lure is allowed.
Aug. 1-Aug. 31	<b>Closed to the retention of king salmon.</b> Open to all other species. Bait and multiple hooks are allowed.
Sept. 1-Oct. 31	<b>Closed to the retention of king salmon.</b> Open to all other species. Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial fly or lure is allowed.
Nov. 1, 2026, through open date in May 2027	<b>Closed to all sport fishing.</b>

...continued



Paul Gaines, lingcod, Prince William Sound

**KASILOF RIVER** - excluding Crooked Creek, Coal Creek, and Tustumena Lake and its tributaries:

**EO** King salmon: In 2026, from **May 1-June 30**, only 1 hatchery-produced king salmon, 20 inches or longer. King salmon fishing is closed outside of these dates by EO. See the EO for more info.

• **Rainbow/steelhead trout:** Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.

• **From its mouth upstream to the Sterling Highway Bridge:**

• **January 1-July 31:** Sport fishing from a motorized boat is prohibited. Motors 10 hp or less may be used only downstream of ADF&G markers located at approximately river mile 4, and only after fishing from the boat has stopped for the day.

• **May 16-September 15:** Bait and multiple hooks are allowed.

• **September 16-May 15:** Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed.

• **King salmon:**

• **20 inches or longer:**

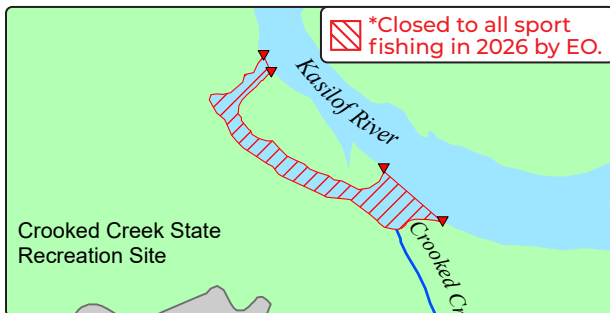
• You may not fillet, mutilate, or otherwise disfigure a king salmon in such a manner that prevents determination of whether the fish is a wild or hatchery fish until you have stopped fishing in the Kasilof River drainage for the day and have moved more than 100 yards away from the Kasilof River.

**EO** **May 1-June 30:** 1 per day, 1 in possession. Only hatchery produced king salmon (recognized by a healed adipose fin clip) may be retained. Once an angler retains a hatchery produced fish over 20 inches, they are not allowed to fish on the Kasilof River for any species, downstream of the Sterling Highway bridge. King salmon fishing is closed outside of these dates.

**EO** **Less than 20 inches:** 10 per day, 10 in possession, hatchery produced only.

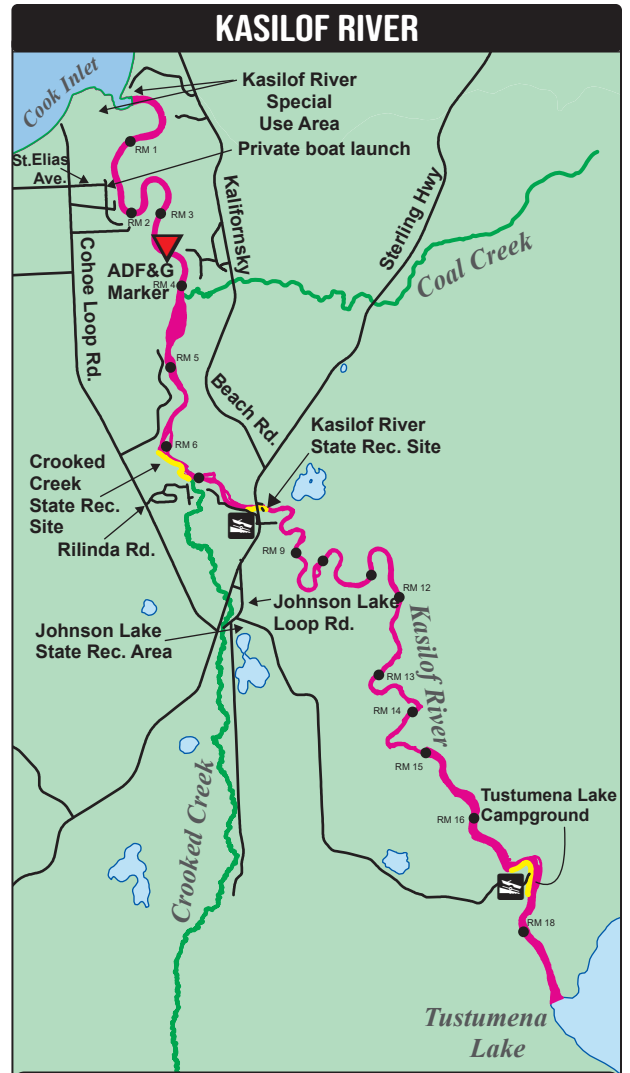
**EO** The portion of Kasilof River directly downstream of the confluence of Crooked Creek, behind the midchannel island (see map below):

• **May 1-July 31:** Closed to all sport fishing in 2026 by EO.



• **From ADF&G markers at the mouth of Crooked Creek downstream to ADF&G markers near the cutbank:**

• **January 1-June 30:** Sport fishing from an anchored boat is prohibited. "Anchored" means using an anchor or any device other than oars or paddles to slow or stop a boat's downstream drift.



	Boat Launch
	• Shore fishing access with parking
	• <b>Aug. 1-Dec. 31:</b> Open to sport fishing. • Closed year-round to king salmon fishing. • Catch-and-release fishing for rainbow/steelhead trout. All rainbow/steelhead trout may not be removed from the water.
	• Catch-and-release fishing for rainbow/steelhead trout. All rainbow/steelhead trout may not be removed from the water.

• **From the Sterling Highway Bridge upstream to ADF&G markers located at the outlet of Tustumena Lake:**

• **August 1-August 15:** Sport fishing from a boat is prohibited.

• **January 1-August 15:** Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed.

• **September 16-December 31:** Only unbaited, artificial lures or flies allowed.

**EO** King salmon: King salmon fishing is closed in 2026 by emergency order.

**MOTOR USE ON THE KASILOF RIVER:**

- From the mouth of the Kasilof River to the outlet of Tustumena Lake:
  - If you are **NOT** engaged in sport fishing activities on the same day, there are no motor use restrictions upstream.
  - If you are engaged in sport fishing activities on the same day, see page 64.

**NINILCHIK RIVER DRAINAGE:**

- **January 1-May 22: Closed to all sport fishing.**
- **Wild king salmon: Closed to retention.**
- **Hatchery king salmon:**
  - See the table on the right for open dates and gear allowed in this area.
  - **20 inches or longer:**
    - **EO 1 per day, 1 in possession.**
      - You may not fillet, mutilate, or otherwise disfigure a king salmon in such a manner that prevents determination of whether the fish is a wild or hatchery fish until you have stopped fishing in the Ninilchik River drainage for the day and have moved more than 100 yards away from the Ninilchik River.
      - 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.
      - If you retain a king salmon 20 inches or longer, you must immediately record that harvest. See page 4 for recording instructions.
      - **After harvesting a hatchery king salmon 20 inches or longer, you may not sport fish for any species in the Ninilchik River for the rest of the day.**
    - **Less than 20 inches:** 10 per day, 10 in possession.
- **Wild king salmon:**
  - **Closed to retention.** All wild king salmon caught must not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
- **Rainbow/steelhead trout:**
  - Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
- **Other species:**
  - See general regulations on pages 60-61.
- **Upstream from the ADF&G markers:**
  - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
  - **November 1-July 31: Closed to sport fishing in all flowing waters.**
  - **August 1-October 31:** Open to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
  - Only one unbaited, single-hook artificial lure or fly is allowed.
  - **Other species:** See general regulations on pages 60-61.

Ninilchik River from its mouth upstream approximately 2 miles to ADF&G markers:		
January 1-May 22 May 26, 27, 28, 29 June 2 June 4, 5 June 9-19 June 23-26	Closed to all sport fishing.	
May 23, 24, 25 May 30, 31 June 1 June 3 (YO Fishery) June 6, 7, 8 June 20-June 22 June 27-June 29	Closed to the retention of wild king salmon. Open to all species including hatchery king salmon.	Only one unbaited, single-hook or single-hook lure is allowed. <b>Multiple hooks and treble hooks are not allowed.</b>
June 30-July 15	Closed to all sport fishing.	
July 16-July 31	Closed to the retention of wild and hatchery king salmon. Open to all other species.	Only one unbaited, single-hook or single-hook lure is allowed. <b>Multiple hooks and treble hooks are not allowed.</b>
August 1-August 31	Closed to the retention of wild and hatchery king salmon. Open to all other species.	Bait and multiple hooks are allowed.
September 1-October 31	Closed to the retention of wild and hatchery king salmon. Open to all other species.	Only one, unbaited, single-hook, artificial fly or lure is allowed.
Nov. 1, 2026, through open date in May 2027	Closed to all sport fishing.	



Jayden Skieens, coho salmon, Placer River

**Wild/Naturally-produced**

Adipose fin



**Hatchery-produced**

Healed fin clip scar





Marina Pinkus, Dolly Varden, Kenai River

**NINILCHIK RIVER YOUTH-ONLY FISHERY:**

- From the mouth of the Ninilchik River upstream approximately 2 miles to ADF&G marker:
- If you are 15 years of age or younger, you may fish for hatchery king salmon from 6 a.m. to 9:59 p.m. on the second Wednesday after Memorial Day which is **June 3, 2026**.

- EO Hatchery king salmon: 1 per day, 1 in possession,** no size limit. Annual limits apply. See page 60.
- **After taking a king salmon of any size from the Ninilchik River, you may not fish for any species in the Ninilchik River for the rest of the day.**
- If you retain a king salmon 20 inches or longer, you must immediately record that harvest. See page 4 for recording instructions.

**Wild/Naturally-produced**

Adipose fin



**Hatchery-produced**

Healed fin clip scar



**STARISKI CREEK DRAINAGE:**

- **November 1-June 30:** Closed to all sport fishing.
- **Closed year-round to king salmon fishing.**
- **Rainbow/steelhead trout:** Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
- **Other species:** See general regulations on pages 60-61.
- **From its mouth upstream to the Sterling Highway Bridge:**

**EO July 1-July 31 and September 1-October 31:**

- Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed.

Stariski Creek drainage continued...

**EO August 1-August 31:** Bait and multiple hooks are allowed.

- **Upstream of the Sterling Highway Bridge:**
  - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
  - **November 1-July 31:** Closed to sport fishing in all flowing waters.
  - **August 1-October 31:** Open to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
  - Only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed.
  - **Other species:** See general regulations on pages 60-61.

**SWANSON RIVER DRAINAGE:**

- **In all flowing waters:**
  - **May 1-June 10:** Closed to all sport fishing.
  - **June 11-April 30:** Open to sport fishing for species other than king salmon. See general regulations on pages 60-61.
  - Bait and multiple hooks are allowed during the open fishing season.
  - **Rainbow/steelhead trout:** 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.

**SUCKER CREEK:**

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

**TUSTUMENA LAKE:**

- **Closed year-round to sockeye salmon fishing.**
- Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than sockeye salmon. See general regulations on pages 60-61.

**TUSTUMENA LAKE TRIBUTARIES:**

- **May 1-June 10:** Closed to all sport fishing.
- **June 11-April 30:** Open to sport fishing for species other than king salmon. See general regulations on pages 60-61.



Noah Yao, Chinook salmon, Ninilchik River

## GENERAL REGULATIONS - COOK INLET & KACHEMAK BAY

**Inclusive waters:** Salt waters of Cook Inlet west of Gore Point and north of Cape Douglas, including Kachemak Bay and the Barren Islands.

Fishing is open year-round for all species unless otherwise noted below or in special regulations.

Stay legal - before you cast, check emergency orders at [www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR).

### KING SALMON

**EO** In 2026, king salmon were restricted in the Cook Inlet salt waters. See the emergency order for more info.

#### • Summer Fisheries - April 1-August 31:

##### • 20 inches or longer:

- 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, and Kenai Peninsula.
- If you retain a king salmon 20 inches or longer, you must immediately record that harvest. See page 4 for recording instructions.
- A king salmon 20 inches or longer that is removed from salt water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. You must not remove a king salmon 20 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.

##### • North of the latitude of Bluff Point (59°40'N):

- See Special King Salmon Management regulations on page 69.

#### **EO** April 1-April 30 and August 16-August 31:

- Open to king salmon fishing.
- 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.

#### **EO** May 1-August 15: Closed to king salmon fishing.

##### • South of the latitude of Bluff Point (59°40'N)

#### **EO** April 1-August 31: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.

#### • Winter Fishery - September 1-March 31:

- All Cook Inlet and Kachemak Bay salt waters:

#### **EO** September 1-September 15: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.

- September 16-March 31: 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
- No annual limit in effect; recording of king salmon harvest is not required during this time, but a king stamp is required.

### CHUM, COHO, PINK, & SOCKEYE SALMON (COMBO)

- 6 per day, 6 in possession, only 3 per day, 3 in possession may be coho salmon.
- Pink salmon taken in a sport fishery may be used as bait, but are part of your bag limit.

### RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

- Catch-and-release fishing only. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.

### DOLLY VARDEN

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

### SPINY DOGFISH

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

### LINGCOD

- July 1-December 31: 1 per day, 2 in possession, must be at least 35 inches long with head attached or 28 inches from tip of tail to front of dorsal fin with head removed.

### ROCKFISH

**EO** In 2026, by emergency order the following apply:

- Pelagic: 2 per day, 4 in possession.
- Nonpelagic:
  - 1 per day, 2 in possession.
  - April 1-June 30: No retention of yelloweye rockfish. See the chart on page 90.

Anglers must carry a deepwater release device onboard their vessel. For information on deepwater release devices, see page 91.

### Examples of Rockfish Release Devices



### PACIFIC HALIBUT

Pacific halibut fisheries are managed by the federal government under international treaty. See page 7.

- February 1-December 31: Open to halibut fishing.
- Unguided anglers: 2 per day, 4 in possession.
- Consult federal regulations for the following:
  - Bag, possession and size limits, and other regulations for guided (charter) anglers.
- Filletting requirements for fish cleaned at sea:
  - No person shall possess on board a vessel, including charter vessels and pleasure crafts used for fishing, Pacific halibut that have been filleted, mutilated, or otherwise disfigured in any manner, except that each Pacific halibut may be cut into no more than 2 ventral pieces, 2 dorsal pieces, and 2 cheek pieces, with a patch of skin on each piece, naturally attached.

### SHARKS (EXCEPT SPINY DOGFISH)

- 1 per day, 1 in possession. There is an annual limit of 2 sharks. See page 4 for harvest recording instructions.

### OTHER FINFISH

- No limit.

### SHELLFISH

- See pages 81-84.

## METHODS AND MEANS - COOK INLET & KACHEMAK BAY

### UNDERWATER SPEAR:

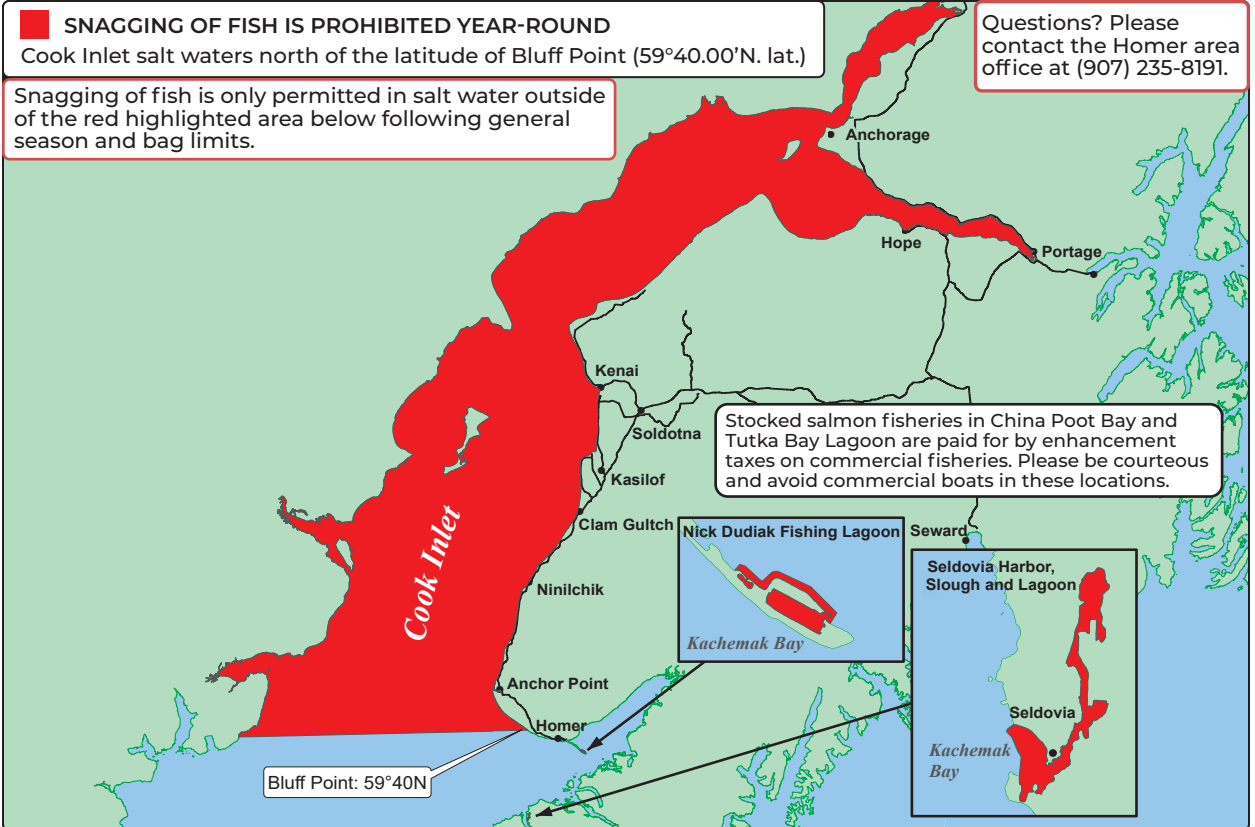
- In saltwater, a person may use a spear or speargun (not tipped with an explosive charge) to take fish while completely submerged or swimming on the surface, subject to applicable seasons, bag limits, and possession limits.

### SPORT FISHING GEAR FOR HERRING & HOOLIGAN:

- In saltwater, herring and smelt may be taken using up to 15 or less unbaited, single or multiple hooks attached to a single line.

### GAFFS:

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



Methods and Means continued...

**SNAGGING:**

- **Snagging is prohibited.** You may not intentionally snag or attempt to snag any species of fish:
  - Year-round in Cook Inlet north of the latitude of Bluff Point.
  - Year-round in the Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon (see special regulations below).
  - **January 1-June 23:** In the Seldovia Harbor, Slough, and Lagoon.
- **Snagging is Allowed:**
  - Year-round in Cook Inlet south of the latitude of Bluff Point, except for the Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon.
  - **June 24-December 31:** In the Seldovia Harbor, Slough, and Lagoon.

**SPECIAL REGULATIONS - COOK INLET & KACHEMAK BAY**

**FISH CREEK:**

- See *Fish Creek Drainage* page 36.

**NICK DUDIAK FISHING LAGOON AREA (THE FISHING HOLE)** - Along the east side of the Homer Spit, from the Homer City Dock near the entrance of the Homer Boat Harbor to ADF&G markers about 200 yards northwest of the entrance to the Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon area (including the Homer Boat Harbor and the fishing lagoon) to a distance of 300 feet from shore:

- **King salmon:**
  - 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
  - **April 1-August 31:** King salmon 20 inches or longer must be recorded. See page 4.

Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon continued...

- **Chum, coho, pink, and sockeye salmon (combo):**
  - 6 per day, 6 in possession.
- **Snagging is only allowed by emergency order.**
- Weights, bobbers, or any flotation device (including pieces of foam or marshmallows) following a hook or hooks may not be used when these waters are closed to snagging.



**NICK DUDIAK LAGOON YOUTH-ONLY KING AND COHO SALMON FISHERIES:**

- Youth-Only Fishery area is only for anglers 15 years of age or younger and is marked with signs.
- The Youth-Only Fishery is on the first Saturday in June and August. **In 2026, this will be June 6 and August 1.**

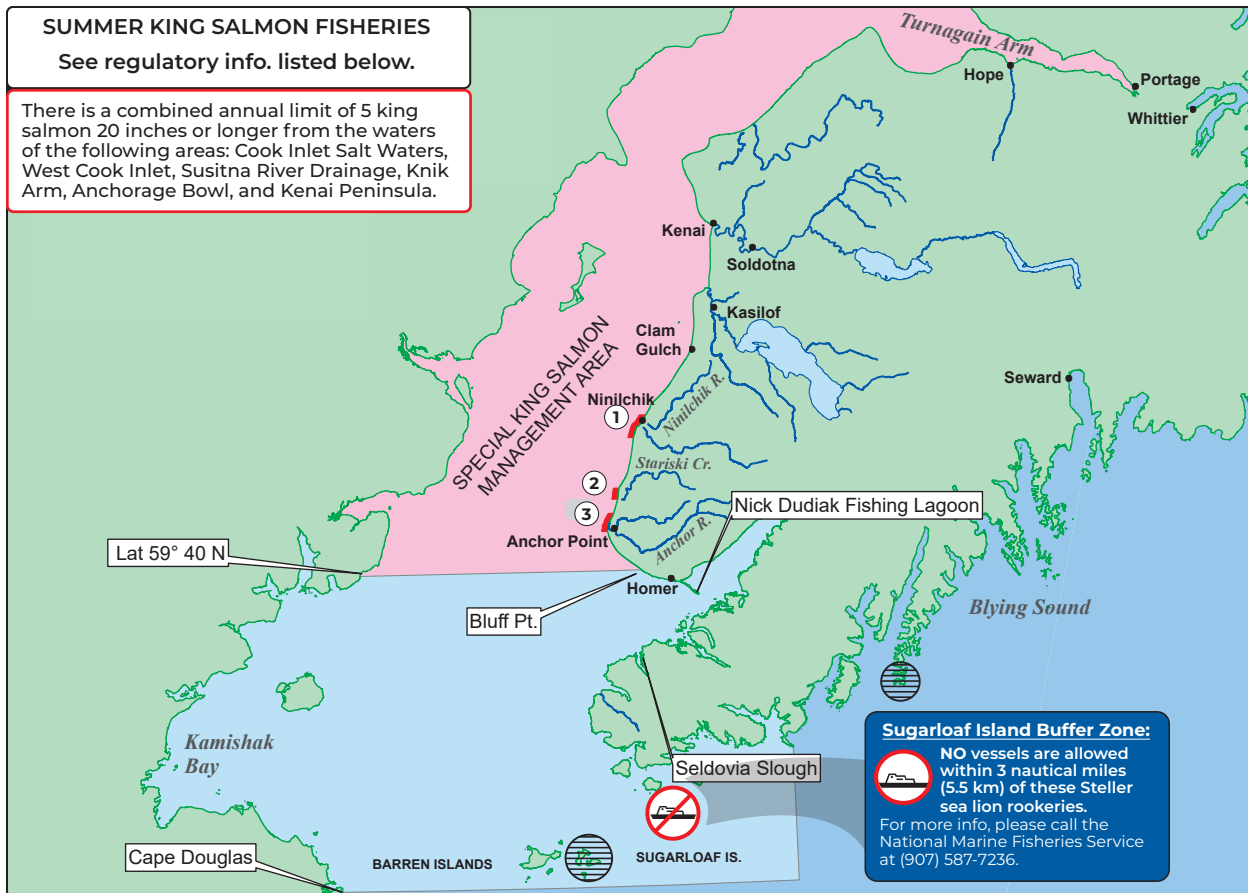
**HOMER BARGE BASIN** - located on the Homer Spit: **Closed year-round to all sport fishing.**

**SELDOVIA HARBOR, SLOUGH, AND LAGOON:**

- **January 1-June 23:** Closed to snagging and spear fishing.
- **King salmon:** 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
- **April 1-August 31:** King salmon 20 inches or longer must be recorded. See page 4.
- **Other species:** See page 67.

**TUTKA BAY LAGOON:**

- The marine waters of Tutka Bay Lagoon within 100 yards of the Tutka Bay Lagoon hatchery net pens: **Closed year-round to all sport fishing.**



### REGULATIONS FOR SPECIAL KING SALMON MANAGEMENT AREA (APRIL 1-AUGUST 31)

**Inclusive waters:** All salt waters north of the latitude of Bluff Point.

• **April 1-August 31:** The following regulations apply:

- **Anglers may not continue fishing for king salmon within the Special King Salmon Management Area after harvesting a king salmon 20 inches or longer.**
- **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.
- **April 1-July 15:** The following saltwater areas ①, ②, and ③ surrounding stream mouths are Conservation Zones and are **closed to all sport fishing from a boat.** Sport fishing for species other than king salmon is allowed from shore except within 200 yards of stream mouths.
  - ① About 1 mile north of the Ninilchik River (60°03.99'N) to ADF&G markers 2 miles south of Deep Creek (60°00.68'N), and within 1 mile of shore.
  - ② From the latitude of an ADF&G marker located 1 mile north of Stariski Creek (59°54.37'N) to the latitude of an ADF&G marker located 1 mile south of Stariski Creek (59°52.98'N), and within 1 mile of shore; and
  - ③ From the latitude of ADF&G markers 2 miles north of the Anchor River (59°48.92'N) to the latitude of the Anchor Point Light (59°46.14'N) about 1 3/4 miles south of the Anchor River, and within 1 mile of shore.

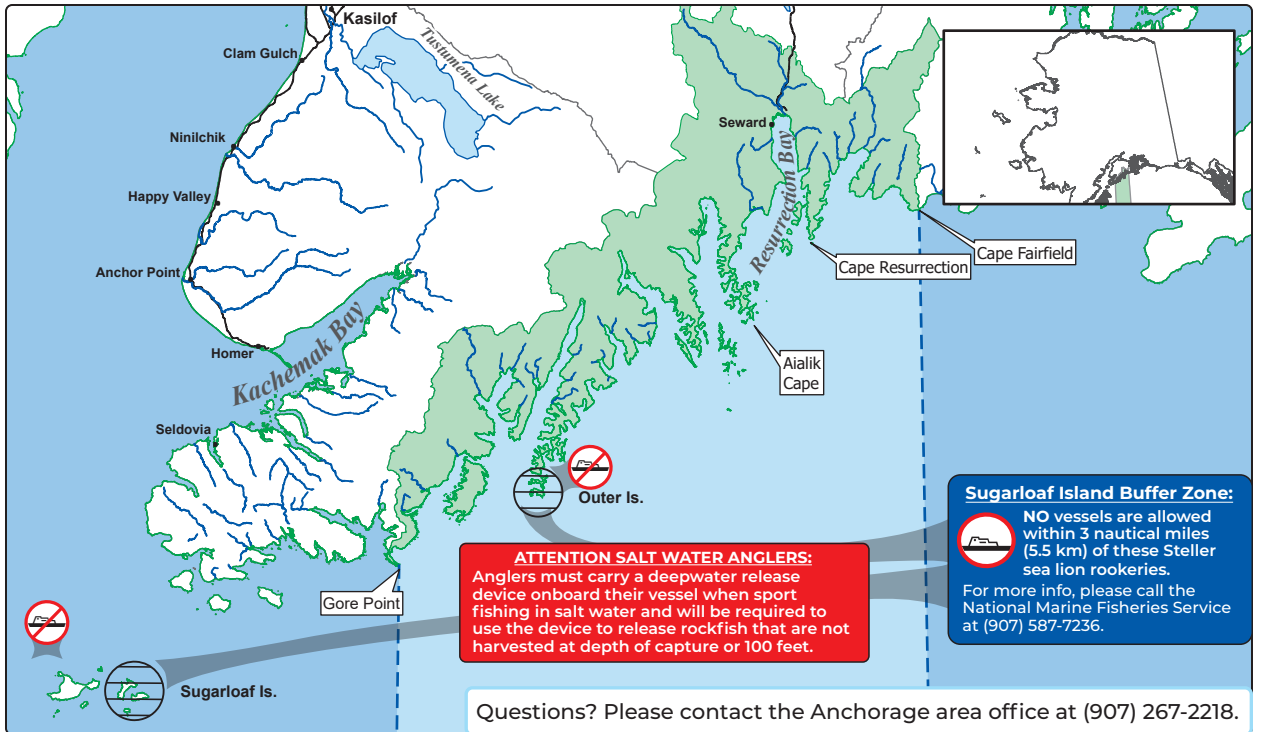
#### SUMMER KING SALMON FISHERY - April 1-August 31:

- EO King salmon: **In 2026, an emergency order was issued for king salmon in Cook Inlet salt waters.**
  - North of Bluff Point 59°40'N to 60°03.99'N (Special King Salmon Management Area):
    - See page 67 for bag limits. Note: See special regulations above.
  - South of Bluff Point 59°40'N to 60°03.99'N:
    - See page 67 for bag limits.

#### WINTER KING SALMON FISHERY - September 1-March 31:

- **Inclusive waters:** ALL of Cook Inlet and Kachemak Bay salt waters.
- **King salmon:**
  - EO **September 1-September 15: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.**
  - **September 16-March 31:** 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
  - No annual limit in effect; recording of king salmon harvest is not required during this time, but a king stamp is required.

...continued



**SALTWATER GENERAL & SPECIAL REGULATIONS - NORTH GULF COAST**

**Inclusive waters:**

**Resurrection Bay saltwaters:** North of a line from Cape Resurrection and Aialik Cape Point.

**North Gulf Coast saltwaters:** Within 200 miles of shore from the longitude of Gore Point to the longitude of Cape Fairfield.

Fishing is open year-round for all species unless otherwise noted below or in special regulations.

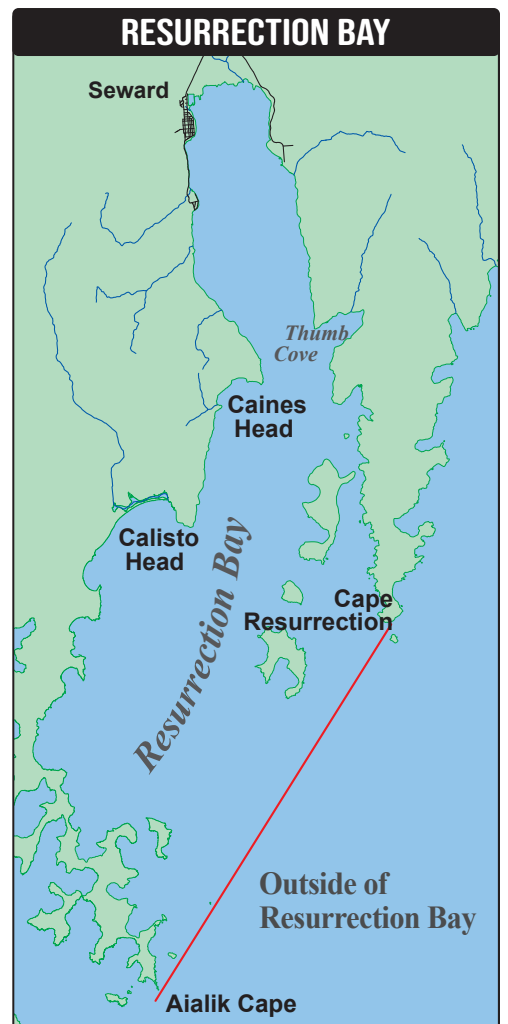
**METHODS AND MEANS:**

- **Snagging** is legal year-round in all North Gulf Coast saltwaters.
- **Gaffs** may not be used to puncture any fish intended or required to be released.

**Stay legal - before you cast, check emergency orders at [www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR).**

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY BAG LIMITS
PACIFIC HALIBUT	Feb. 1-Dec. 31	<p><b>Unguided anglers:</b> 2 per day, 4 in possession. Consult federal regulations for bag, possession and size limits and other regulations for guided (charter) anglers.</p> <p><b>Filleting requirements for fish cleaned at sea:</b> No person shall possess on board a vessel, including charter vessels and pleasure crafts used for fishing, Pacific halibut that have been filleted, mutilated, or otherwise disfigured in any manner, except that each Pacific halibut may be cut into no more than 2 ventral pieces, 2 dorsal pieces, and 2 cheek pieces, with a patch of skin on each piece, naturally attached.</p>

...continued



SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY BAG LIMITS
<b>KING SALMON</b>	There is no annual or seasonal king salmon limit in effect, and there is no king salmon harvest recording requirement for the entire year, but a king salmon stamp is required.	
	<b>Saltwaters: Resurrection Bay (North of line between Cape Resurrection to Aialik Cape)</b>	
	May 1-Aug. 31	2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
	Sept. 1-Apr. 30	1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.
	<b>Saltwaters: Outside of Resurrection Bay</b>	
	Open year-round	1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.
<b>CHUM, COHO, PINK, &amp; SOCKEYE SALMON (COMBO)</b>	Pink salmon taken in the sport fishery may be used as bait, but are part of your bag limit. Pink salmon used as bait must not be alive.	
	<b>Saltwaters: Resurrection Bay (North of line between Cape Resurrection to Aialik Cape)</b>	
	Open year-round	6 per day, 6 in possession, no size limit. All 6 may be coho salmon.
	<b>Saltwaters: Outside of Resurrection Bay</b>	
	Open year-round	6 per day, 6 in possession, no size limit. Only 3 per day, 3 in possession may be coho salmon. It is illegal to fish for species in these waters with more than 3 coho salmon in your possession.
<b>RAINBOW/ STEELHEAD TROUT (COMBO)</b>	<b>Saltwaters: Closed year-round to all rainbow/steelhead trout fishing.</b> All rainbow/steelhead trout caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.	
<b>ARCTIC CHAR/ DOLLY VARDEN (COMBO)</b>	<b>Saltwaters: Entire North Gulf Coast</b>	
	Open year-round	5 per day, 5 in possession, no size limit.
<b>LINGCOD</b>	<b>Saltwaters: Resurrection Bay (North of line between Cape Resurrection to Aialik Cape)</b>	
	<b>Closed year-round to all lingcod fishing.</b> Lingcod caught incidentally must be released immediately. You cannot legally fish for any species of fish inside Resurrection Bay if you possess a lingcod taken elsewhere.	
	<b>Saltwaters: Outside of Resurrection Bay</b>	
	July 1-Dec. 31	1 per day, 2 in possession, must be at least 35 inches long with head attached or 28 inches from tip of tail to front of dorsal fin with head removed.
<b>ROCKFISH</b>	Open year-round	<p><b>EO</b> In 2026, by emergency order the following apply:</p> <p><b>Pelagic:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 per day, 4 in possession.</li> </ul> <p><b>Nonpelagic:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 per day, 2 in possession.</li> <li>• <b>April 1-June 30: No retention of yelloweye rockfish.</b></li> </ul> <p>* Anglers must carry a deepwater release device onboard their vessel and have it readily available when sport fishing in salt water and will be required to use the device to release rockfish that are not harvested at depth of capture or 100 feet. For more information on deepwater release devices, see page 91.</p>
<b>SHARKS EXCEPT SPINY DOGFISH</b>	Open year-round	1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit. There is an annual limit of 2 sharks. Harvest record required. See page 4.
<b>SPINY DOGFISH</b>	Open year-round	5 per day, 5 in possession, no size limit.
<b>OTHER FINFISH</b>	Open year-round	No limit.

## FRESHWATER GENERAL & SPECIAL REGULATIONS - NORTH GULF COAST

**Inclusive waters:**

**Resurrection Bay freshwaters:** All flowing waters, lakes, and ponds north of a line between Cape Resurrection and Aialik Cape Point, and south of mile 12 of the Seward Highway.

**North Gulf Coast freshwaters:** All freshwaters between Gore Point and Cape Fairfield.

Fishing is open year-round for all species unless otherwise noted below or in special regulations.

**METHODS AND MEANS:**

**Resurrection Bay freshwaters:**

- **Sept. 1- Dec. 31:** Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures or flies are allowed.

- **In all freshwaters downstream of the Seward Highway and Nash Road to ADF&G markers** (see map below): Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures or flies are allowed year-round.

**North Gulf Coast freshwaters excluding Resurrection Bay:**

- **Sept. 16-Dec. 31:** Only unbaited, artificial lures or flies are allowed.



Stay legal - before you cast, check emergency orders at [www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR).

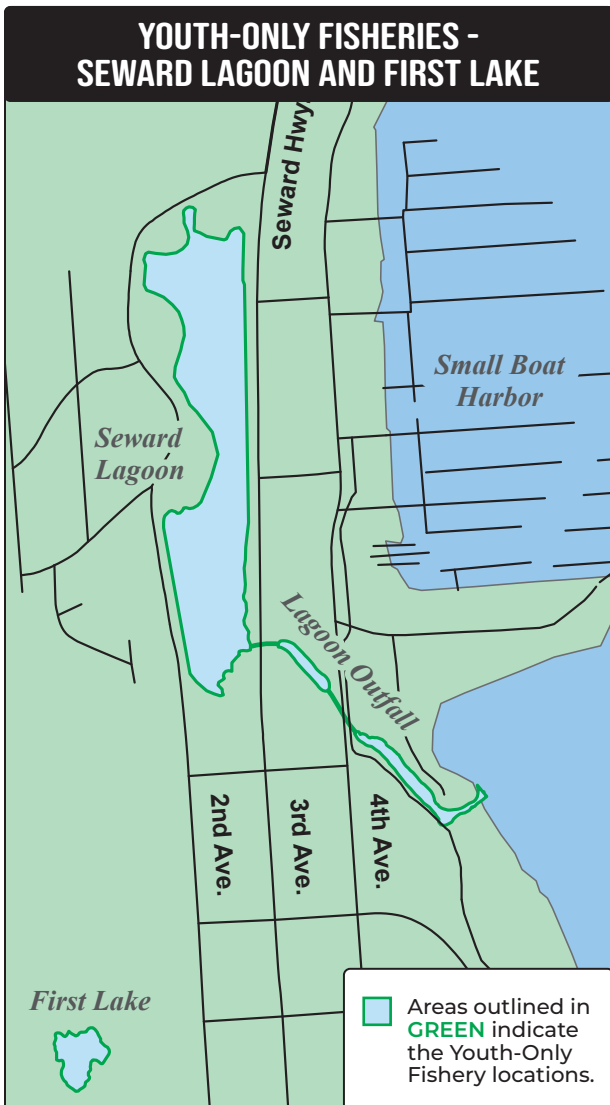
SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY BAG LIMITS
<b>KING SALMON</b>	<b>Closed year-round to king salmon fishing.</b> * See Youth-only fisheries for exception. See page 73.	
<b>CHUM, COHO, PINK, &amp; SOCKEYE SALMON (COMBO)</b>	<b>Freshwater Drainages: Resurrection Bay</b>	
	Jan. 1-June 15	<b>Closed to salmon fishing in all freshwaters.</b>
	June 16-Dec. 31	<b>In all freshwaters downstream of the Seward Highway and Nash Road to ADF&amp;G markers:</b> 3 per day, 3 in possession, in combination, only 2 of which may be coho salmon. See legal gear and map below.
	<b>Freshwater Drainages: Outside Resurrection Bay (Cape Resurrection to Aialik Cape)</b>	
Open year-round	<b>16 inches or longer:</b> 3 per day, 3 in possession, only 2 of which may be coho salmon. <b>Less than 16 inches:</b> 10 per day, 10 in possession.	
<b>RAINBOW/ STEELHEAD TROUT (COMBO)</b>	<b>In flowing waters:</b>	
	Open year-round	2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer.
	<b>In lakes:</b>	
Open year-round	5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 of which may be 20 inches or longer. There is a total annual limit of 2 rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer. If you retain a rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer, you must immediately record that harvest. Harvest record required. See page 4.	

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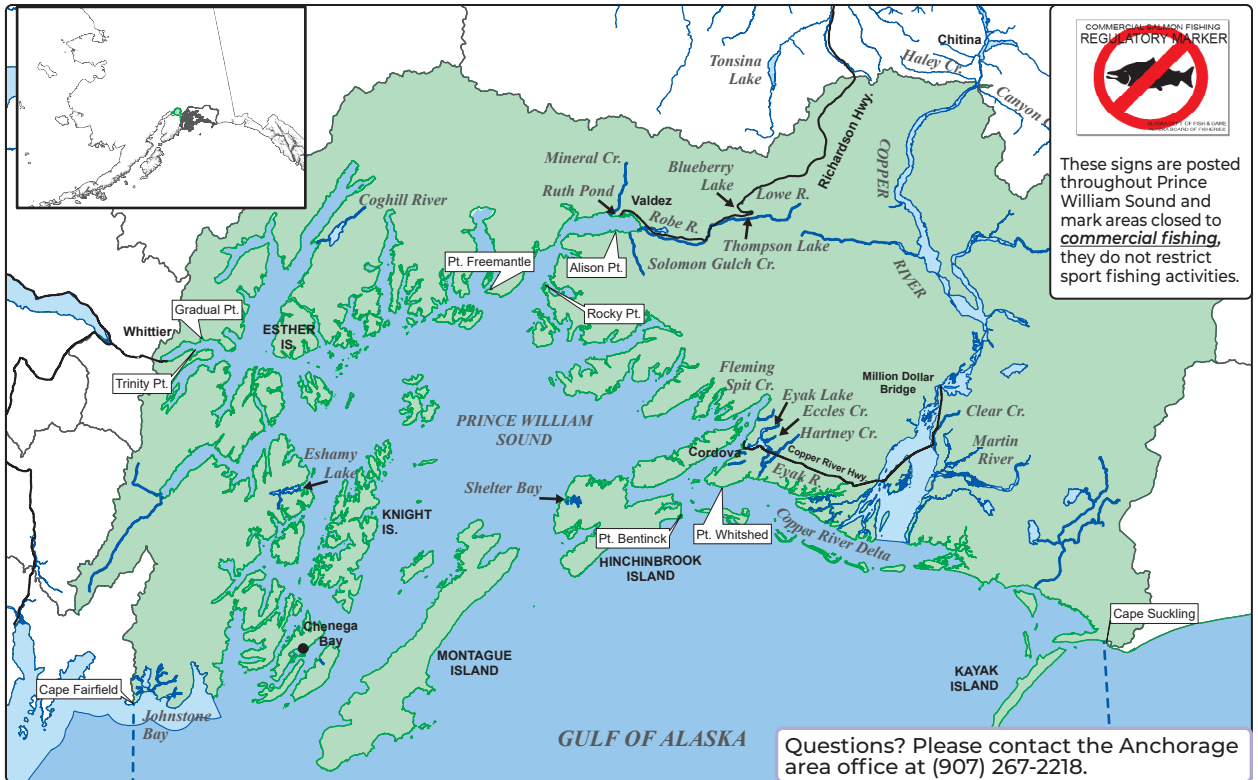
<b>ARCTIC CHAR/ DOLLY VARDEN (COMBO)</b>	<b>In flowing waters:</b>		
	Open year-round	2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.	
<b>In lakes:</b>			
Open year-round	5 per day, 5 in possession, no size limit.		
<b>ARCTIC GRAYLING</b>	Open year-round	5 per day, 5 in possession, no size limit.	
<b>LAKE TROUT</b>	Open year-round	2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.	
<b>OTHER FINFISH</b>	Open year-round	No limit.	
<p>▼ ADF&amp;G Marker</p> <p>▨ • <b>June 16-Dec. 31:</b> Area open to salmon fishing. Only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures or flies are allowed.</p> <p>• <b>Snagging is not allowed in fresh water.</b></p>			

## YOUTH-ONLY FISHERIES - NORTH GULF COAST

 <p><b>FIRST LAKE YOUTH-ONLY FISHERY:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four consecutive days beginning from the Thursday before the third Saturday in May. <b>In 2026, this will be May 14-17.</b></li> <li>• Only open to anglers 15 years of age or younger. See map below.</li> <li>• Lake bag and possession limits apply. See map below.</li> </ul>	
 <p><b>SEWARD LAGOON AND OUTFALL STREAM YOUTH-ONLY FISHERY:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only open to anglers 15 years of age or younger.</li> <li>• Only one hook (single or treble) per line may be used; artificial lures or flies and bait are legal.</li> <li>• You may not attempt to snag fish or retain a fish not hooked inside the mouth.</li> <li>• Once you have retained a bag limit of king or coho salmon, you may not fish for any species in the Seward Lagoon or the Lagoon Outfall stream on that same day.</li> <li>• <b>Closed to sport fishing for other species during the Youth-Only fisheries dates above.</b></li> <li>• <b>Closed to all sport fishing the remainder of the year.</b></li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>King salmon:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>June 17-June 30:</b> Open to king salmon fishing.</li> <li>• 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Coho salmon:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>August 25-September 7:</b> Open to coho (silver) salmon fishing.</li> <li>• 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



Natalie Stohr, coho salmon, Seward Lagoon Youth-Only Fishery



## GENERAL REGULATIONS - PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND

**Inclusive waters:** All fresh waters draining into Prince William Sound from Cape Fairfield to Cape Suckling, excluding the Copper River drainage upstream of a line crossing the Copper River between the south bank of the confluence of Haley Creek and the south bank of the confluence of Canyon Creek in Wood's Canyon. **All salt waters** within 200 miles of shore from Cape Suckling to Cape Fairfield.

**Fishing is open year-round for all species unless otherwise noted below or in special regulations.**

**April 15-June 14:** Only unbaited artificial lures or flies are allowed in the fresh waters of Prince William Sound.

**Stay legal - before you cast, check emergency orders at [www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR).**

**Snagging** is legal year-round in Prince William Sound salt waters, except for the Whittier Small Boat Harbor and the Cordova Terminal Harvest Area.

**Gaffs** may not be used to puncture any fish intended or required to be released.

### KING SALMON

- No annual limit or recording requirement, but a king stamp is required.
- **Charter operators and their crew are prohibited from keeping king salmon while clients are on board.**
- **Fresh waters:**
  - **20 inches or longer:** 2 per day, 4 in possession.
  - **Less than 20 inches:** 10 per day, 10 in possession.
- **Salt waters:**
  - **EO April 1-Sept. 15:**
    - **1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit in 2026 by emergency order.**

### KING SALMON continued...

- **Sept. 16-March 31:**
  - 2 per day, 4 in possession, no size limit.
- **Jan. 1-Dec. 31:**
  - **Whittier, Cordova, Valdez, and Chenega Terminal Harvest Areas** (see map on page 75):
    - 2 per day, 4 in possession, no size limit.

### CHUM, COHO, PINK, & SOCKEYE SALMON (COMBO)

- **Fresh waters:**
  - 6 per day, 12 in possession, only 3 per day, 3 in possession may be coho salmon, no size limit.
- **Salt waters:**
  - 6 per day, 12 in possession, only 3 per day, 3 in possession may be coho salmon, no size limit.
  - Pink and chum salmon taken in a sport fishery may be used as bait, but are part of your bag limit. Pink or chum salmon used as bait must not be alive.

### LAKE TROUT

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

### RAINBOW/STEELHEAD & CUTTHROAT TROUT (COMBO)

- **In unstocked lakes, all flowing waters, and in salt waters:**
  - **June 15-April 14:** 2 per day, 2 in possession, 11 inch minimum and 16 inch maximum.
- **In stocked lakes** (see pages 86-87):
  - 10 per day, 10 in possession, no size limit.

### ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN (COMBO)

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

### ARCTIC GRAYLING

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

### SPINY DOGFISH

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

### SHARKS (EXCEPT SPINY DOGFISH)

- 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.
- There is an annual limit of 2 sharks. See page 4 for harvest recording instructions.

...continued

## LINGCOD

- **July 1-December 31:** 1 per day, 1 in possession, minimum 35 inches long with head attached, or 28 inches or greater from tip of tail to front of dorsal fin with head removed.

Anglers must carry a deepwater release device onboard their vessel and have it readily available when sport fishing in salt water and will be required to use the device to release rockfish that are not harvested at depth of capture or 100 feet. For more info on deepwater release devices, see page 91.

## Examples of Rockfish Release Devices



## ROCKFISH

- 3 per day, 6 in possession, only 1 per day, 1 in possession may be a nonpelagic rockfish.
- **January 1-June 30: No retention of Yelloweye rockfish.**
- See the rockfish identification chart on page 90.
- **Charter operators and their crew are prohibited from keeping rockfish while clients are on board.**

## PACIFIC HALIBUT

Pacific halibut fisheries are managed by the federal government under international treaty. See page 7.

- **February 1-December 31:** Open to halibut fishing.
- **Unguided anglers:** 2 per day, 4 in possession.
- Consult federal regulations for bag, possession and size limits and other regulations for guided (charter) anglers.
- **Filleting requirements for fish cleaned at sea:** No person shall possess on board a vessel, including charter vessels and pleasure crafts used for fishing, Pacific halibut that have been filleted, mutilated, or otherwise disfigured in any manner, except that each Pacific halibut may be cut into no more than 2 ventral pieces, 2 dorsal pieces, and 2 cheek pieces, with a patch of skin on each piece, naturally attached.

## OTHER FINFISH

- No limit.

## SHELLFISH

- See pages 81-84.

## FRESH WATER SPECIAL REGULATIONS - PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND

**COPPER RIVER HIGHWAY STREAMS - All fresh water drainages crossed by the Copper River Highway from and including Eyak River to the Million Dollar Bridge, including Clear Creek (Mile 42):**

- **Chum, coho, pink, and sockeye salmon (combo):** 3 per day, 3 in possession, no size limit.
- **Coho (silver) salmon:** Open year-round to coho salmon fishing.
- **August 15-September 15:** If you harvest a bag limit of coho salmon, you may not sport fish with bait for the rest of that day in these waters.
- A coho salmon that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the daily bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. You must not remove a coho salmon from the water before releasing it.

## ECCLES CREEK (Whitshed Road):

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

## EYAK LAKE - including tributaries:

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

**EYAK RIVER - from a point 200 yards upstream from Eyak Lake dam to a point 200 yards downstream from the Bridge at the outlet of Eyak Lake:**

- **June 1-September 30:** Only single-hook, artificial flies with a hook gap of  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch or less between point and shank are allowed. No additional weight may be attached to the line.
- **Chum, coho, pink, and sockeye salmon (combo):** 3 per day, 3 in possession, no size limit.

## FLEMING SPIT LAGOON:

- See salt water special regulations on the next page for the *Cordova Terminal Harvest Area*.

## HARTNEY CREEK (upstream from Whitshed Road):

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

## IBECK CREEK:

- Upstream from ADF&G markers located approximately 3 miles upstream of the Copper River Highway Bridge:
- **Closed year-round to all sport fishing.**

## JOHNSTONE BAY FRESH WATERS:

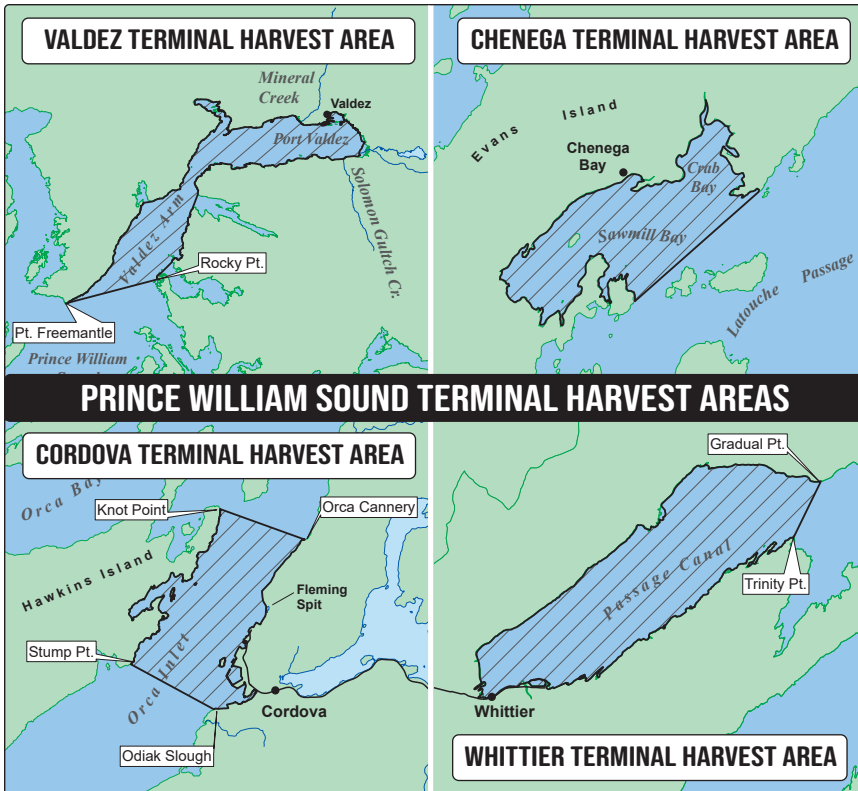
- **Chum, coho, pink, and sockeye salmon (combo):** 3 per day, 3 in possession, only 2 per day, 2 in possession may be coho salmon.

## ROBE RIVER AND ROBE LAKE:

- Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than salmon.
- **Upstream of the Richardson Highway (including Robe Lake):**
  - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
- **Downstream from Richardson Highway to ADF&G markers approximately 300 feet downstream of its confluence with the Lowe River:**
  - Only single-hook, artificial flies with a hook gap of  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch or less between point and shank are allowed.
  - **Chum, coho, pink, and sockeye salmon (combo):**
    - 3 per day, 3 in possession, only 1 per day, 1 in possession may be a sockeye salmon and only 1 per day, 1 in possession may be a coho salmon.
- **Downstream from the ADF&G markers on the Lowe River (located approximately 300 feet downstream of its confluence with the Robe River):**
  - Open year-round to sport fishing for species other than salmon.



Olivia England, coho salmon, Valdez



Neal Haase, Valdez Arm

**PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND TERMINAL HARVEST AREAS**

**SHELTER BAY FRESH WATERS** - all fresh waters draining into Shelter Bay:

- Chum, coho, pink, and sockeye salmon (combo): 6 per day, 12 in possession, only 1 per day, 1 in possession may be coho salmon.

**SOLOMON GULCH CREEK:**

- Downstream from an ADF&G marker 300 feet downstream of the VFDA weir:
- Open to salmon fishing. See *Prince William Sound* general regulations on pages 74.

**VALDEZ AREA FRESH WATERS** - including all fresh waters draining into Port Valdez inside of a line from Allison Point to Mineral Creek, including Mineral Creek (except the Robe River and Solomon Gulch Creek):

- Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.

**SALT WATER SPECIAL REGULATIONS - PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND**

**CHENEAGE TERMINAL HARVEST AREA** - all marine waters inside the entrance of Sawmill and Crab bays (Evans Island):

- Chum, coho, pink, and sockeye salmon (combo): 6 per day, 12 in possession, no size limit.

**CORDOVA TERMINAL HARVEST AREA** - all marine waters north of a line from Odiak Slough to Stump Point, and south of a line from Orca Cannery to Knot Point, including the waters of Fleming Spit Lagoon:

- June 1-September 30: Closed to snagging.
- Chum, coho, pink, and sockeye salmon (combo): 6 per day, 12 in possession, no size limit.

**ESTHER ISLAND (LAKE BAY):**

- Salt waters inside ADF&G markers 100 feet seaward of the Esther Island brood stock holding facility:
- Closed year-round to all sport fishing.

**MAIN BAY:**

- Sport fishing within 200 feet of the Prince William Sound Aquaculture hatchery barrier seine, or anywhere inside the barrier seine is prohibited. When the barrier seine is not present, anglers may fish to within 300 feet of the Prince William Sound Aquaculture fish ladder.

**SHELTER BAY (Hinchinbrook Island):**

- Chum, coho, pink, and sockeye salmon (combo): 6 per day, 12 in possession, only 1 of which may be a coho salmon.

**VALDEZ TERMINAL HARVEST AREA** - all salt waters north of a line from Point Freemantle to Rocky Point, excluding Jack, Galena, and Sawmill bays:

- Chum, coho, pink, and sockeye salmon (combo): 6 per day, 12 in possession, no size limit.

**WHITTIER TERMINAL HARVEST AREA** - all marine waters west of a line from Trinity Point to Gradual Point:

- Chum, coho, pink, and sockeye salmon (combo): 6 per day, 12 in possession, no size limit.
- Whittier Small Boat Harbor: Closed to snagging.

## GENERAL REGULATIONS - PERSONAL USE FINISH FISHERIES

### ONLY ALASKA RESIDENTS CAN PARTICIPATE IN PERSONAL USE FISHERIES, AS DEFINED ON PAGE 4.

**Nonresidents are not allowed to participate in personal use fisheries.** Nonresidents may not handle, or clean fish harvested from personal use fisheries, nor handle any of the gear or operate a boat that is being used for personal use fishing.

'Personal use' refers to taking, fishing for, or possessing finfish, shellfish, or other fishery resources, by Alaska residents for personal use and not for sale or barter. This may be done with gill or dip nets, seines, fish wheels, long lines, or other means defined by the Board.



- **A resident sport fishing license is required for all personal use fisheries and must be on you, unless the angler is under 18:**
  - Residents aged 18-59: Must have an Alaska resident sport fishing license.
  - Residents 60 or older or resident disabled veterans: Must have an ADF&G PID or DV card.
- In some personal use fisheries, a permit is required, in addition to a resident sport fishing license.
- Permits are available through the ADF&G online store <https://store.adfg.alaska.gov> or through the ADF&G mobile app.
- Salmon sport fishing bag and possession limits are in addition to personal use fishing limits.

### Permits are required for personal use fisheries on the Kenai, Kasilof, and Susitna rivers, and Fish Creek; and for the Kachemak Bay coho salmon gillnet fishery.

- A current Alaska resident sport fishing license or a ADF&G PID or DV card is required to obtain a permit.
- **Only one permit per household, not one permit per person.** 'Household' means a group of people living under the same roof in the same residence.
- For fisheries that require a permit, it must be in your possession while fishing or transporting fish. Record all salmon on the permit **before leaving** the fishing site.
- A permit is not required for the China Poot Creek personal use fishery.
- Kachemak Bay coho salmon gillnet fishery permits are only available through the ADF&G online store at <https://store.adfg.alaska.gov> from August 1 until the fishery closes. Contact the Homer office at (907) 235-8191 for more info.
- The Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use permit, which applies to personal use fisheries on the Kenai, Kasilof, and Susitna rivers, and Fish Creek are only available online at <https://store.adfg.alaska.gov> or through the ADF&G mobile app.
  - **Yearly harvest limits for Upper Cook Inlet personal use permit:**
    - **Annual limit (no king salmon):** 25 salmon for the permit holder and 10 salmon for each additional household member.
    - See Kasilof gillnet and Kenai personal use fisheries for exception to king salmon retention.
  - **Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon harvest and participation must be reported ONLINE no later than August 31**, whether you went dipnetting or not, and even if you did not catch any fish, through the ADF&G online harvest reporting webpage at <https://harvest.adfg.alaska.gov> or through the ADF&G mobile app.
  - Failure to report as required by 5 AAC 77.015(c), anglers will be denied an Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon permit the following year and may be subject to a \$200 fine.



**A person may not possess salmon taken under a personal use salmon fishing permit unless both tips of the tail fin have been immediately removed, and all salmon are recorded on the permit.**

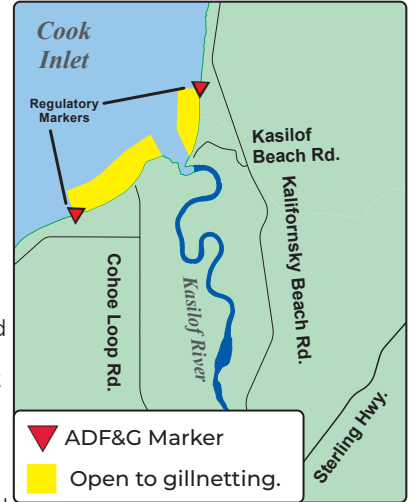
- Both tips of the tail fin must be clipped immediately after harvesting the fish.
- All harvested fish must be recorded on the permit immediately after harvesting the fish.
- Immediately applies only to personal use fisheries and does not apply to sport fishing license or harvest record requirements for king salmon or other fish.
  - **When fishing from shore:** Immediately means before the salmon is concealed from view or transported from the shoreline or streambank where it was caught.
  - **When fishing from a boat:** Immediately means before the salmon is concealed from view or transported from the waters where it was caught.

## KASILOF RIVER GILLNET FISHERY

- An Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use permit is required, in addition to a resident sport fishing license. **Check for emergency orders.**
- **EO June 20-June 24:** Open to gillnet fishing. Fishing is only allowed from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. each day.

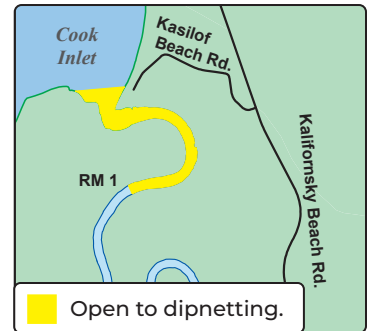
- **Open Area:** Salt waters about 1 mile north and south of the Kasilof River mouth, as defined by ADF&G markers. **Gillnetting is prohibited beyond 1 mile from the mean high water mark, and is also prohibited within the flowing waters or over the stream bed or channel of the Kasilof River at any stage of the tide.**

- Any king salmon caught may be retained.
- Only one set gillnet per household may be fished. A set gillnet is a gillnet that has been intentionally set, staked, anchored, or otherwise fixed. Set gillnets may not exceed 10 fathoms (60 feet) in length, 4¾ inches in stretched mesh size, and 29 inches in depth. A minimum distance of 100 feet must be maintained between nets. Each personal use fisherman must write their first initial, last name, and home address on any keg or buoy attached to a gillnet. A keg or buoy attached to a gillnet must also be inscribed with the name or the AK number of the vessel used to operate the gillnet.
- The permit holder (or a household member named on the permit) must be physically present at the fishing site at all times when the gear is being fished.
- Net sites are strictly on a “first come, first served” basis. The placement of signs, running lines, buoys, or dry nets on the beach in anticipation of incoming tides does not constitute any prior right to a net location. Sites are established only when the net actually enters the water.



## KASILOF RIVER DIPNET FISHERY

- An Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use permit is required, in addition to a resident sport fishing license. **Check for emergency orders.**
- **June 25-August 7:** Open to personal use fishing. Fishing is allowed 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.
- **No retention of king salmon is allowed.** All king salmon caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
- **Open Area:** From a straight line across the river mouth between ADF&G markers posted on Cook Inlet outside of the mouth of the Kasilof River, to about 1 mile upstream to ADF&G markers.
- Fishing may be taken from the bank or from a boat.
- There are no motor restrictions in the Kasilof River personal use area during the Kasilof personal use dates.

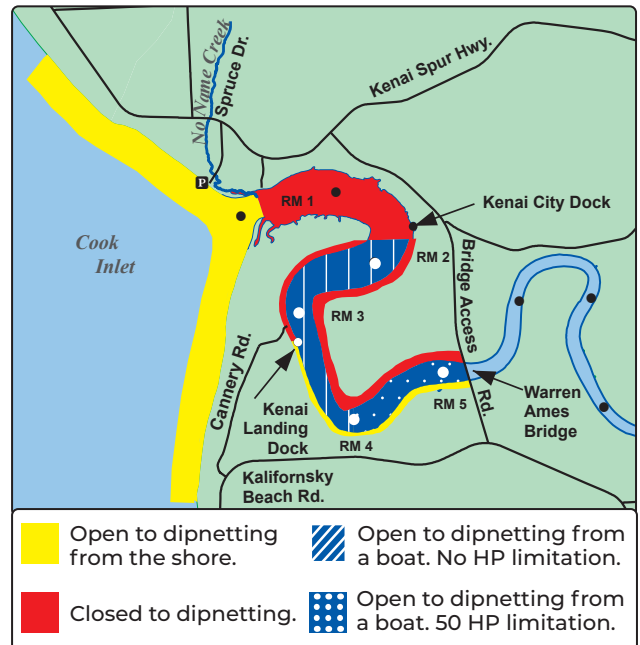


## KENAI RIVER DIPNET FISHERY

- An Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use permit is required, in addition to a resident sport fishing license. **Check for emergency orders.**
- **July 10-July 31:** Open to personal use fishing. Fishing is only allowed from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. each day.
- **No retention of king salmon is allowed.** All king salmon caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
- **Open Area from Shore:** From the commercial fishing markers located in Cook Inlet north and south of the river mouth, upstream to a line from No Name Creek to regulatory markers located on the south bank of the Kenai River and a section on the south bank from the Kenai Landing dock upstream to the downstream edge of the Warren Ames Bridge.
- **Open Area for Boats:** From ADF&G markers near the Kenai City Dock upstream to the downstream edge of the Warren Ames Bridge. **Fish MAY NOT be taken from a boat powered by a two-stroke motor, other than direct fuel injection (DFI).**

### Dip net specifications for personal use fisheries:

A dip net is defined as a bag-shaped net supported by a rigid frame on all sides. The maximum straight-line distance between any two points on the frame, measured through the net opening, cannot exceed 5 feet. The depth of the bag must be at least 1/2 the greatest straight-line distance through the net opening. The bag's webbing must not exceed a stretched measurement of 4½ inches. The frame must be attached to a single rigid handle and operated by hand.



## CHINA POOT DIPNET FISHERY

- No permit is required, but a resident sport fishing license is required. See pages 4-5 for more info.
- **June 15-August 15:** Sockeye salmon may be taken in China Poot Creek (on the south shore of Kachemak Bay) upstream of ADF&G markers.
- **Sockeye salmon:** 6 per day, 6 in possession, per person, per day. Only sockeye salmon may be kept.
- Both tips of the tail fin must be clipped before you leave the waters open to personal use fishing or before concealing the fish from plain view.

## KACHEMAK BAY COHO SALMON GILLNET FISHERY

- **Permit:**
  - A permit is required, in addition to a sport fishing license. Permits are available through the ADF&G online store at <https://store.adfg.alaska.gov> from **August 1** until the fishery closes.
  - A household may have either **ONE Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use** or **ONE Kachemak Bay Coho Salmon Gillnet** permit each year. Not both permits in the same year.
  - The permit holder (or a household member named on the permit) must be physically present at the fishing site at all times when the gear is being fished.
- **Annual limit:**
  - 25 salmon for the permit holder and 10 salmon for each additional household member.
  - Both tips of the tail fin must be removed before you leave the waters open to personal use fishing or before concealing the fish from plain view.
- **Gear:**
  - Gear is a 35 fathom gillnet. Mesh size may not exceed 6 inches. Depth of the net may not exceed 45 meshes.
  - No part of a set gillnet may be operated within 600 feet of another set gillnet. No person may operate more than one set gillnet. No part of a set gillnet may be set or operated more than 500 feet from the mean high water mark. No set gillnet may be set seaward of another set gillnet.
- **Fishing Period:**
  - The first period of the fishery will open at 6 a.m. on **Monday, August 17, 2026.**
  - The fishery will continue to operate in 48 hours periods, open from 6 a.m. Monday through 6 a.m. Wednesday, and 6 a.m. Thursday through 6 a.m. Saturday, until the fishery is closed by emergency order or closes by the regulation date which is **September 14.**
  - The fishery will close by an emergency order when a final harvest of 1,000 to 2,000 coho salmon is anticipated.
- **Reporting:**
  - Permit holders are encouraged to call (907) 235-1738 and report their catches daily.
  - Permit holders are required to report online at <https://harvest.adfg.alaska.gov> when the fishery closes or by turning in their physical harvest report to the ADF&G Homer office.
  - If you have questions, contact the Homer ADF&G office at (907) 235-8191.

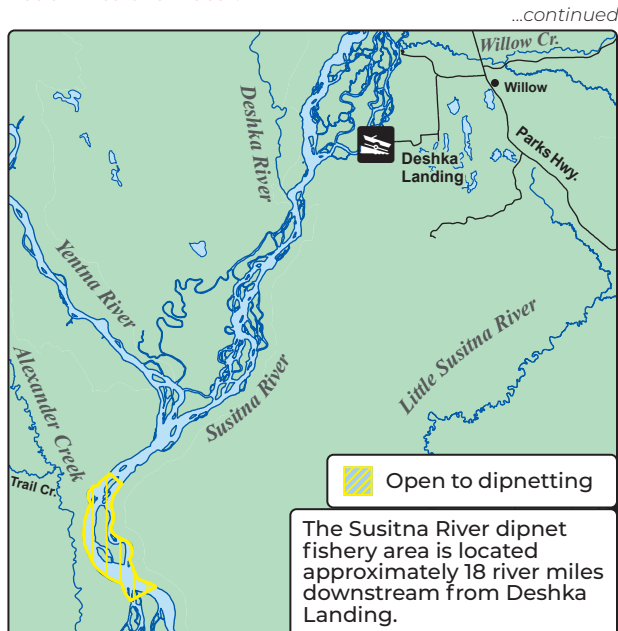
## FISH CREEK DIPNET FISHERY

- **Opened ONLY by Emergency Order.**
- An Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use permit is required in addition to a resident sport fishing license.
- **No retention of king salmon is allowed.**
- **Open Area:** Upstream from ADF&G markers posted on both sides of the terminus of Fish Creek to markers posted about ¼ mile upstream from Knik-Goose Bay Road. Dipnetting may occur from a boat or the shore.
- Personal use fishing is only allowed from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. on days when this fishery is open.



## SUSITNA RIVER DIPNET FISHERY

- An Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use permit is required in addition to a resident sport fishing license.
- This fishery is only accessible by boat or airplane.
- **July 10-July 31:** Only open to personal use fishing on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. each day.
- **No retention of king salmon is allowed.**
- **Open Area:** Between the ADF&G regulatory markers located approximately 1 mile downstream from Susitna Station, downstream to ADF&G regulatory markers located near the northern tip of Bell Island/Alexander Creek cut off.
- Dipnetting from a boat is permitted in the area open to dipnetting.
- **Dipnetting in and around the mouth of Anderson Creek is prohibited.**
- **Any northern pike caught must not be released live back into the water.**



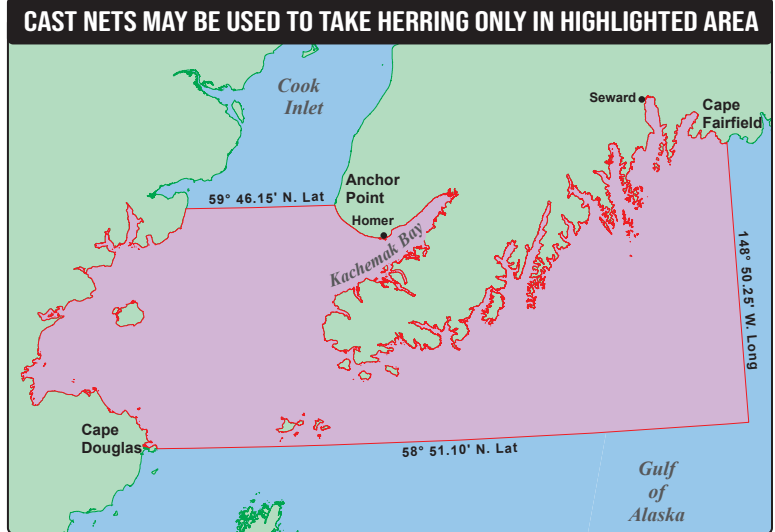
## HERRING FISHERY

- **No permit is required, but a resident sport fishing license is required. See pages 4-5 for more info.**
- There is no bag or possession limit for personal use herring.
- Herring may be taken for personal use and in some areas with dipnets, cast nets, or gillnets. See below for more info.



### COOK INLET AND NORTH GULF COAST:

- **In Turnagain Arm salt waters east of a line from Point Possession to Point Campbell:**
  - **Gillnets may not be used to harvest herring.**
- **In Cook Inlet north of Anchor Point and in the North Gulf Coast including Resurrection Bay:**
  - Herring gillnets may not exceed 20 feet in length, 2 inch stretch mesh.
- **South of Anchor Point:**
  - Gillnets may not exceed 50 feet in length, 2 inch stretch mesh. A gillnet must be attended at all times when being used to take fish.
- **In Cook Inlet south of Anchor Point to the North Gulf Coast salt waters west of Cape Fairfield:**
  - Cast nets may only be used. See map on the right. See cast net definition on page 94.
- **Saltwaters north of Anchor Point:**
  - **April 1-May 31:** Open to personal use fishing for herring.
  - Herring may be taken for personal use with gillnets or dipnets.
- **Resurrection Bay and Cook Inlet salt waters south of Anchor Point:**
  - Open year-round to personal use fishing for herring.



### PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND:

- Herring may only be harvested with standard sport fishing gear.
- See "Sport Fishing Gear for Herring and Smelt" on page 7 for more info.

## HOOLIGAN (SMELT) FISHERY

### COOK INLET AND NORTH GULF COAST:

- **No permit is required, but a resident sport fishing license is required. See pages 4-5 for more info.**
- Hooligan may be taken by dipnet in any fresh or saltwater.
- **April 1-May 31 (saltwater):** Open to personal use fishing.
- **April 1-June 15 (freshwater):** Open to personal use fishing.
- There is no bag or possession limits for personal use hooligan.
- See "Sport Fishing Gear for Herring and Smelt" on page 7.



### KENAI RIVER:

- **No permit is required, but a resident sport fishing license is required. See pages 4-5 for more info.**
- **April 1-June 15:** Dipnets may be used to harvest hooligan throughout the Kenai River.
- **April 1-June 15 (freshwater):**
  - **From the Kenai River mouth upstream to an ADF&G marker located at Cunningham Park Small:**
    - Drift gillnets may be used to take hooligan.
    - No drift gillnet may exceed 20 feet in length, 4 feet in depth, and 1½ inches mesh size. The drift gillnet must be attended while it is in the water.
- There is no bag or possession limit for personal use hooligan.
- See "Sport Fishing Gear for Herring and Smelt" on page 7.

## HOOLIGAN HOTLINE

**FOR THE LATEST IN-SEASON HOOLIGAN FISHING REPORT CALL THE HOOLIGAN HOTLINE AT (907) 267-2505.**

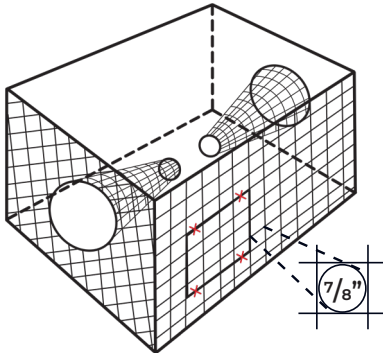
This fishing report hotline includes hooligan fishing reports for the Anchorage, Palmer, and Soldotna areas.

# SHELLFISH REGULATIONS

## POT REQUIREMENTS SOUTHCENTRAL ALASKA

### RIGID MESH POTS:

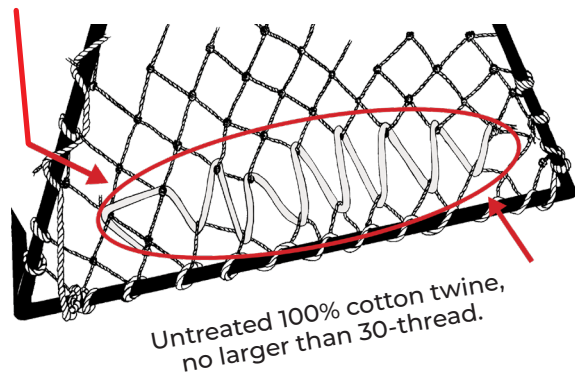
- See permit for specific pot requirements for each shellfish fishery.
- Pots must have at least one opening in a sidewall, which may include the tunnel.
- The opening of a king crab or Tanner crab pot must be equal to or exceed a 12 inch by 8 inch rectangle, and the opening of a shrimp pot must be at least the size of a 4 inch square.
- The opening may be covered with a single panel secured to pot with no more than four single loops of 100% untreated cotton twine no larger than 30-thread.
- Each loop may only contain one knot and cannot be tied or looped around the web bars.
- The panel must be attached so that when the twine degrades, the panel will drop away from the opening.
- The opening must be within 6 inches of the bottom of the pot and parallel to it.



### NET MESH POTS:

- Pots must have a sidewall, which may include a tunnel, with an opening equal to or exceeding 18 inches in length for crab pots and 6 inches or greater in length for shrimp pots.
- The opening must be laced, sewn, or secured together by a single length of untreated 100% cotton twine no larger than 30-thread.
- The cotton twine may be knotted at each end only.
- The opening must be within 6 inches of the bottom of the pot and parallel to it. The cotton twine cannot be tied or looped around the web bars.

Opening at least 18" long (6" for shrimp pots) - no more than 6" from bottom of pot and parallel to it.



**BUOY REQUIREMENTS:** A keg or buoy attached to a pot must be plainly and legibly inscribed with the fisher's first initial, last name, home address, and the name or AK boat registration number of the vessel used to operate the pot. Adding your phone number is also recommended. In Cook Inlet (including North Gulf Coast) waters, no portion of the line attaching the buoy to the crab pot may float on the surface. The line connecting the main buoy to auxiliary buoys may float.

**ESCAPEMENT MECHANISMS REQUIRED:** All pots must have a biodegradable escape mechanism. In addition, crab pots must contain two escape rings no less than 4 $\frac{3}{8}$  inches in diameter.

**LEGAL GEAR:** Clams may be taken only with rakes, shovels, manually operated clam guns, or by hand. Crab may be taken only with pots, ring nets, diving gear, dip nets, hooked or hookless hand lines. Shrimp may be taken only with pots.

**LICENSE:** A valid sport fishing license, PID or DV card is required and must be in your possession when harvesting and/or transporting shellfish for sport or personal use.

**LIMITS:** Sport fishing bag and possession limits given here for shellfish are not in addition to those allowed under subsistence or personal use fishing regulations. Once a bag limit is removed from a pot, that pot may not be returned to the water containing any live crab.

**MINIMUM SIZE:** No person may take or possess shellfish smaller than the legal size.

**MUTILATION OR DISFIGUREMENT PROHIBITED:** No one may mutilate or otherwise disfigure a crab in any manner that prevents determination of its sex and/or minimum size restrictions until it has been processed or prepared for consumption. Only whole crab, cooked or uncooked, may be taken off a vessel.

**NEW PERMITS REQUIRED:** A shellfish harvest permit is required and must be in your possession when taking **shrimp** in Prince William Sound and the North Gulf Coast areas, **crab** in Cook Inlet, North Gulf Coast, and Prince William Sound areas, and **razor clams in Cook Inlet and North Gulf Coast areas**.

**SHELLFISH POT TAMPERING PROHIBITED:** It is illegal to disturb, tamper with, or pull another angler's pots without prior permission of the pot's owner.

...continued

# SHELLFISH REGULATIONS SOUTHCENTRAL ALASKA

SPECIES	COOK INLET & KACHEMAK BAY	NORTH GULF COAST	PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND
TANNER CRAB	Season: Oct. 1-Feb. 28		Season: Oct. 1-Mar. 31
	Permit & harvest report required. Reporting required by March 15		Permit & harvest report required. Reporting required.
	See permit for open areas, season, gear, and limits. Only whole crab may be taken off a vessel.		
DUNGENESS CRAB	CLOSED TO SPORT & PERSONAL USE	CLOSED	CLOSED TO SPORT
GOLDEN KING CRAB	CLOSED		
SHRIMP	CLOSED	Personal Use Only	Sport or Subsistence
		Permit & harvest report required. See permit for open areas, season, gear, and limits.	
BUTTER OR LITTLENECK CLAMS	CLOSED		Open year-round. No permit required. No bag or possession limits.
RAZOR CLAMS	Permit & harvest report required. Reporting required by Dec. 31, 2026.		
	<b>NEW</b> For 2026 Permit Alert: *A household permit is required for razor clam fisheries; one permit is issued per household. See permit for open areas, season, gear, and limits.		Open year-round. No bag or possession limits.
	East side Cook Inlet beaches from the mouth of the Kenai River south to the tip of the Homer Spit: • Closed to all clamming unless opened by emergency order.  West Cook Inlet beaches: • 10 gallons per day, 10 gallons in possession. • All razor clams dug must be retained.	10 gallons per day, 10 gallons in possession. All razor clams dug must be retained.	*Exception: In waters east of 146 W. longitude and south of a line from the southernmost tip of Point Bentinck (Hinchinbrook Island) to the southernmost tip of Point Whittshed: • Razor clam size limits apply and permit available at the Cordova ADF&G office.
OTHER SHELLFISH INCLUDING OCTOPUS & SQUID	Open year-round. No bag or possession limits. Squid: May be taken using no more than two squid jigs attached to a single line. A squid jig is an artificial lure that may not exceed 24 inches in total length, consists of barbless hook clusters and may not contain any barbed hooks.		

Stay legal - check emergency orders at [www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR).

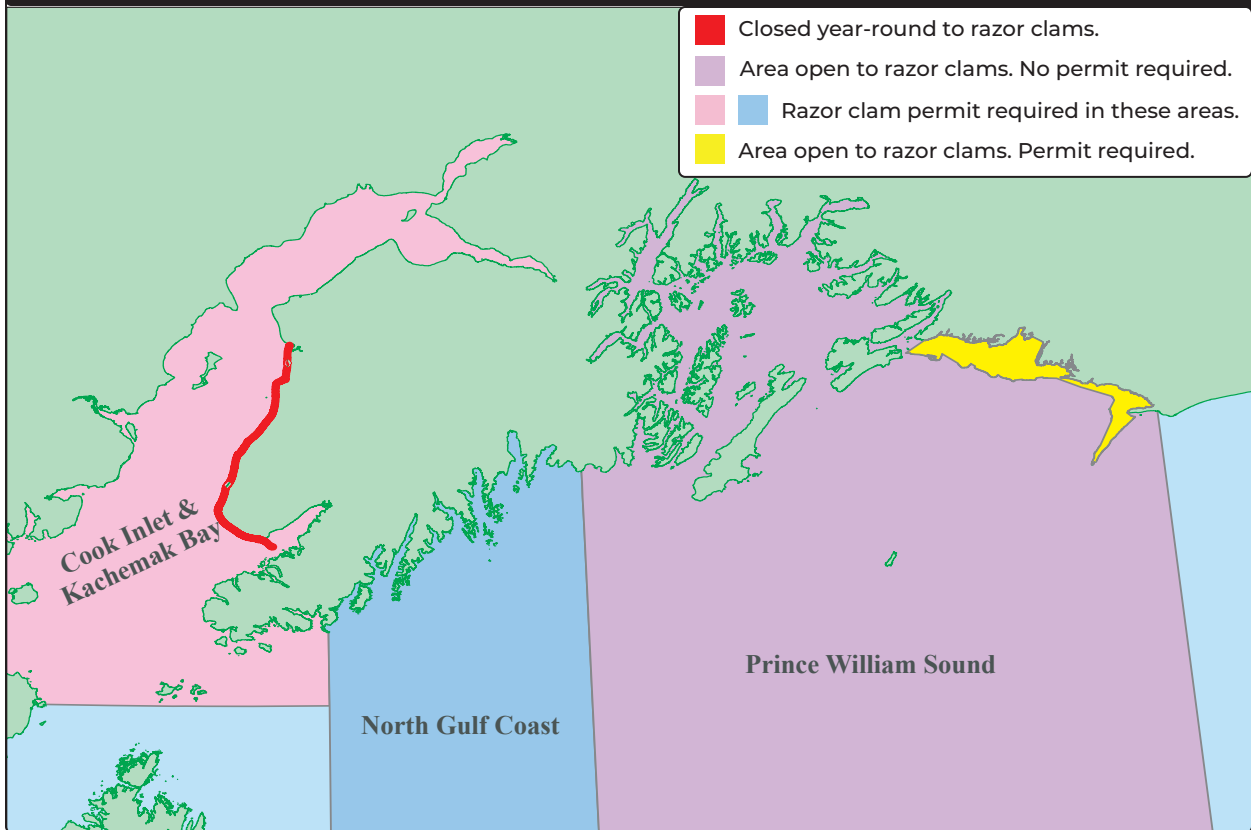
Permits are available online at <http://store.adfg.alaska.gov>.

Fishery information is provided on each permit.

See page 10 for sport and personal use shellfish guide regulations.

See page 81 for shellfish pot regulations.

# SHELLFISH MANAGEMENT AREAS



## CHINA POOT & PETERSON BAY (KACHEMAK BAY):

- Intertidal beaches between ADF&G markers along Shipwreck Cove and around Otter Rock:
- **Closed to the harvest of all shellfish.**



Charles Cox & Loren Tisdell, razor clams, West Cook Inlet

SHELLFISH REGULATIONS

Please report lost pots or gear to the Alaska Wildlife Troopers.

Cordova AWT (907) 424-3184 | Valdez AWT (907) 835-4307 | Whittier AWT (907) 352-5401  
 Homer (Soldotna Dispatch) AWT (907) 262-4453 | Seward AWT (907) 224-3935

# SHELLFISH REGULATIONS

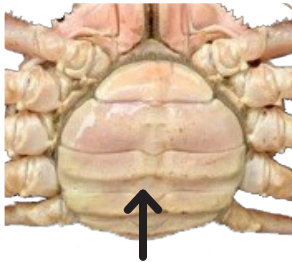
## CRAB ID AND MEASUREMENTS

### TANNER CRAB

Minimum size 4½ inches, Prince William Sound - minimum 5 inches

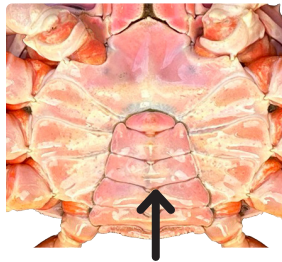
#### FEMALE

**NO HARVEST ALLOWED**

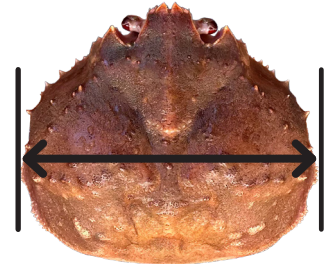


A wide uneven abdominal flap covers most of the underside, with females typically smaller than 5½ inches

#### MALE



A narrow triangular abdominal flap covers the underside



**+4.5 inches**

The width of a Tanner crab is measured as the straight-line distance across the carapace, **including** the spines

### DUNGENESS CRAB

All of Southcentral Alaska is closed to sport crabbing for Dungeness crab.

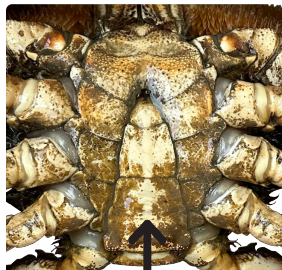
#### FEMALE

**NO HARVEST ALLOWED**



A wide uneven abdominal flap covers most of the underside

#### MALE



A narrow triangular abdominal flap covers the underside



The width of a Dungeness crab is measured as the straight-line distance across the carapace, **excluding** the spines

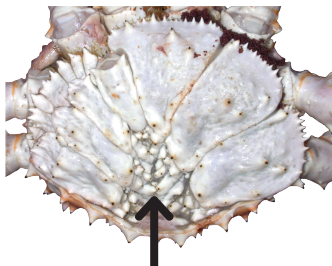
### GOLDEN KING CRAB

Prince William Sound is only open to golden king crab (subsistence) - minimum size 7 inches

The rest of Southcentral Alaska is closed to crabbing for all species of king crab.

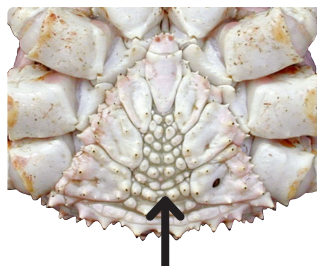
#### FEMALE

**NO HARVEST ALLOWED**



A wide uneven abdominal flap covers most of the underside

#### MALE



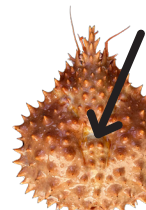
A narrow triangular abdominal flap covers the underside

6 prominent spines on mid-dorsal plate



**RED KING CRAB**

5 to 9 spines on mid-dorsal plate



**GOLDEN KING CRAB**

4 prominent spines on mid-dorsal plate



**BLUE KING CRAB**

# HOW TO IDENTIFY TROUT AND OTHER SPECIES FOUND IN ALASKA

## 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 TROUT

Sea-run rainbow trout with bluish-gray back and bright silvery sides. Slender body profile; 8-10 anal fin rays. Small black spots on back, sides, and tail. Pink/red coloration develops after returning to fresh water to spawn.



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

California Department of Fish and Game

### 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.

### NORTHERN PIKE



Greenish back and sides with yellowish white irregular-shaped spots. Flattened head with alligator-like jaws containing many large, sharp teeth. Fins are tinged with orange.

### ARCTIC GRAYLING



Light copper brown to dark purple back, fading to bluish gray, with black spots from just behind the gill plate to mid-body. Orange stripes on pelvic fins. Large, sail-like dorsal fin with red and aqua to violet spots - iridescent on large fish. Dorsal fin of mature male extends to or past the adipose fin; female dorsal fin is considerably shorter.

### BURBOT



The only fresh water cod in North America. Slim mottled brownish-black body with smooth skin. Elongated dorsal and anal fins run from mid-body to tail. Flattened head with wide mouth and one barbel (whisker-like extension) hanging from its lower jaw.

### HUMPBACK WHITEFISH



Silver-gray with greenish yellow back and fleshy, darker fins. Large scales, small inferior mouth, no teeth. Pronounced dorsal hump just behind gills.

## CHAR

### DOLLY VARDEN



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 south-eastern Alaska, and on the North Slope. Brown to olive background with light spots (usually larger than its pupil); sides fade to 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.

# SOUTHCENTRAL ALASKA STOCKED LAKES AND SPECIES STOCKED

PALMER-WASILLA AREA	RT	LS	AG	AC	LT
Anderson Lake	★				
Barley Lake	★	★			
Bear Paw Lake	★	★			
Bench Lake	★				
Beverly Lake	★				
Big Beaver Lake ★	★				
Brockler Lake	★				
Bruce Lake	★				
Buck (Spider) Lake	★				
Canoe Lake	★		★		
Carpenter Lake	★	★		★	
Caswell Lake #3	★				
Coyote Lake	★				
Dawn Lake	★				
Diamond Lake	★	★			
Echo Lake (Kepler-Bradley)	★	★		★	
Farmer Lake	★				
Finger Lake ★	★	★	★	★	
Florence Lake	★		★		
Golden Lake	★				
Goober Lake	★		★		
Homestead Lake	★				
Honeybee Lake	★				
Ida Lake	★		★		
Irene Lake	★			★	
Kalmbach Lake	★	★			
Kepler-Bradley Lakes	★		★	★	
Kings Lake	★				
Klaire Lake		★			
Knik Lake	★	★	★		
Knob Lake	★				
Lalen Lake ★	★				
Leech Lake	★				
Little Beaver Lake	★				
Little Lonely Lake	★				
Loberg (Junction) Lake	★	★			
Long Lake (Mile 87 Glenn)	★		★	★	★
Long Lake (Kepler-Bradley) ◆	★				
Loon Lake	★				
Lorraine Lake	★		★		
Lucille Lake	★	★			
Lynne Lake	★			★	
Marion Lake	★			★	
Matanuska Lake	★	★	★	★	★
Meirs Lake	★		★		
Memory Lake	★	★		★	
Morvro Lake	★				
North Knob Lake	★				
North Rolly Lake	★				
Prator Lake ★				★	

PALMER-WASILLA AREA	RT	LS	AG	AC	LT
Ravine Lake	★				
Reed Lake	★		★		
Reflections Lake	★				
Rhein Lake	★				
Rocky Lake	★				
Ruby Lake	★				
Rush Lake				★	
Seventeenmile Lake	★			★	
Seymour Lake	★				
South Rolly Lake ★	★				
Slipper (Eska) Lake	★				
Summit Lake	★		★		
Tanaina Lake ★	★				
Twin Island Lake	★				
Vera Lake	★				
Victor Lake		★			
Visnaw Lake ★	★				
Walby Lake	★				
Weiner Lake	★				
West Beaver Lake ★	★				
West Sunshine Lake	★				
Wishbone Lake ◆	★				
Wolf Lake	★	★			
Zero Lake	★				

SUSITNA RIVER DRAINAGE	RT	LS	AG	AC
Benka Lake	★			★
Christiansen Lake	★	★		
Crystal Lake ★	★			
Gate Lake	★			
Kashwitna Lake	★			
Mile 180 Lake (Broad Pass)	★			
North Friend (Montana) Lake	★			
Peggy Lake	★			
South Friend Lake	★			
Tigger Lake	★			
West Sunshine Lake	★			
Willow Lake	★	★		
X Lake ◆	★			
Y Lake	★			

◆ = No retention of rainbow trout allowed.

★ = Indicates that lake has an illegally introduced population of northern pike.

AC = Arctic char                      RT = Rainbow trout  
 \*AG = Arctic grayling              LT = Lake trout  
 LS = Landlocked salmon

\*The grayling program has been suspended due to lack of funding. Some lakes previously stocked with grayling may have small populations of the species present.

# SOUTHCENTRAL ALASKA STOCKED LAKES AND SPECIES STOCKED

ANCHORAGE BOWL	RT	LS	AG	AC	LT
Airstrip/Willow Pond	★				
Alder Pond	★		★		
Beach Lake	★	★	★		
Campbell Creek	★				
Campbell Point Lake	★	★		★	
Cheney Lake	★	★			
Chester Creek/ University Lake	★				
Clunie Lake (JBER)	★	★		★	★
Delong Lake	★	★	★		
Edmunds Lake	★				
Fish Lake (JBER)	★			★	
Green Lake (JBER)	★	★		★	
Gwen Lake (JBER)	★				
Hillberg Lake (JBER)	★	★			
Jewel Lake	★	★			
Lake Otis	★				
Lower Fire Lake	★				
Mirror Lake	★	★			
Otter Lake (JBER)	★				
Rabbit Lake	★				
Sand Lake	★	★	★	★	★
Sixmile Lake (Upper & Lower) (JBER)	★				
Spring Lake (JBER)	★				
Taku-Campbell Lake	★	★	★		
Tangle Pond	★				
Thompson Lake	★			★	
Triangle Lake (JBER)	★				
Waldon Lake (JBER)	★				

PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND	RT	LS	AG	AC	LT
Blueberry Lake	★				★
Ruth Lake	★				
Thompson Lake	★		★		

NORTH GULF COAST	RT	LS	AG	AC	LT
First Lake	★				

KENAI PENINSULA	RT	LS	AG	AC	LT
Arc Lake		★	★		
Aurora Lake	★				
Barbara Lake	★				
Cabin Lake	★				
Carter Lake	★			★	
Centennial Lake	★	★			
Chugach Estates Lake	★				
Douglas Lake	★				
Elephant (Spirit) Lake	★	★		★	
Encelewski Lake	★				
First Lake	★				
Island Lake	★			★	
John Hedberg Lake	★				
Johnson Lake	★				
Long Lake	★				
Longmere Lake	★	★			
Loon Lake	★				
Lost Lake					★
Meridian Lake	★				
Rainbow Lake	★				
Roque Lake	★				
Scout Lake	★		★		
Sport Lake	★	★			
Thetis Lake	★				
Tirmore Lake	★		★		
Troop Lake	★			★	
Upper Summit Lake	★			★	★
Vagt Lake	★			★	

## ARCTIC CHAR

Light spots on the side

*\* Color can change to deep orange during spawning periods.*



White along tips of fins

## RAINBOW TROUT

Black spots along body and tail

Pink or red band along side



White mouth and white gums

## LAKE TROUT

Heavily spotted sides, head, and tail



White along tips of fins

## COHO SALMON (LANDLOCKED SALMON)

Dark mouth, white gumline

Black spots along back and upper lobe of the tail



## CHINOOK SALMON (LANDLOCKED SALMON)

Dark mouth

Black spots along back and both lobes of the tail



# HOW TO IDENTIFY THE FIVE PACIFIC SALMON SPECIES FOUND IN ALASKA

## CHINOOK (KING, 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.

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



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

## SOCKEYE (RED) SALMON

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

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



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

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



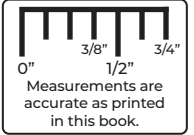
Spawning adults develop olive-green coloration on the back with maroon sides covered with irregular dull red bars. Males exhibit many large canine-like teeth.

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

# WHAT HOOKS AND HOW MANY MAY I USE IN SOUTHCENTRAL ALASKA WATERS?

## GENERAL SPORT FISHING GEAR

Unless otherwise provided in the regulations, sport fishing may only be conducted by the use of a single line having attached to it not more than one plug, spoon, spinner, or a series of spinners or two flies or two hooks. The line must be closely attended.



## TYPES OF HOOKS

### HOOK

Unless otherwise specified, a hook can be either a single hook or a multiple hook.



### SINGLE HOOK

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



### MULTIPLE HOOK

A multiple hook is a fish hook with two or more points with or without barbs (i.e. plugs, spoons, spinners).



## GENERAL FRESHWATER SPORT FISHING GEAR



Anglers may not use fixed or weighted hooks or lures, except for those of standard manufacture. For treble hooks, the distance between the hook shank and point must be less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch.



## GENERAL ICE FISHING GEAR

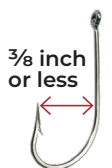
Sport fishing through the ice is permitted with the use of two closely attended lines, provided only one hook or artificial lure is used on each line. Except that additional gear may be used for northern pike and burbot, as specified by statewide or area regulations. Examples of possible combinations below.



## FLY-FISHING GEAR



In waters designated as fly-fishing-only, anglers may use one single-hook, artificial fly that weighs less than  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz (including the hook) and gap between the shank and point of the hook must be  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch or less. An attractor (like a bead) may also be used.



\* This page provides examples of legal gear allowed in some Alaska waterbodies, please check each area for specific regulations for the waterbody you are fishing to determine which of these are legal in that waterbody.



# Rockfish Identification



FOR THE PURPOSES OF SPORT FISHERY MANAGEMENT, ROCKFISH ARE DIVIDED INTO TWO GROUPS, **PELAGIC** AND **NONPELAGIC**. 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 pelagic species of rockfish (five are shown below) are often found mid-water in schools, close to rocky structures. These fish are moderately long-lived (most fish are 7-30 years old).*

### Black Rockfish



Dark gray to black with white belly. Usually uniform in color, but may have lighter patches along back.  
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.

*Photo by Vicky Okimura (WDFW)*

### 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.

### 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.

There are over 30 species of rockfish in Alaska. If the rockfish is not featured in the pelagic category, then for the purposes of regulation it is a nonpelagic rockfish.

## Nonpelagic 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).*

### 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.

### Yelloweye Rockfish



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 caught in deep water often sustain injuries - referred to as barotrauma - caused by rapid decompression and expansion of gases in the swim bladder.

.....



*If released at the surface, these fish are often not able to swim back down and become targets for birds, other fish, and marine mammals.*

### WHAT IS BAROTRAUMA?

The protruding stomach and bulging eyes seen on this yelloweye rockfish are signs of barotrauma. If released at the surface, this fish would have a difficult time resubmerging and would likely die. Using deepwater release methods can greatly increase the chance of survival of fish exhibiting signs of barotrauma. Both pelagic and nonpelagic rockfish are susceptible to barotrauma.

LEARN MORE AT [WWW.ADFG.ALASKA.GOV/ROCKFISH](http://WWW.ADFG.ALASKA.GOV/ROCKFISH)

# Help Conserve Alaska's Rockfish

## Deepwater Release is Mandatory

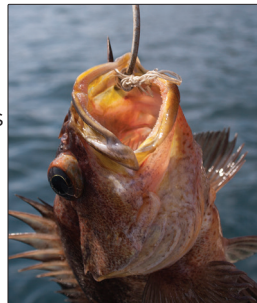


### Deepwater Release Methods

*Rockfish are most likely to survive when released quickly at depth of capture (or 100 feet) using the following steps:*

#### Step 1:

Make sure your release device is ready - rockfish are most likely to survive when time at the surface is minimized. With practice, rockfish can be released within two minutes of reaching the surface.



Reel the fish up as quickly as possible. After unhooking it, hook the release device through soft tissue on the jaw. Make sure the hook does not have a barb. Release the anti-reverse on the reel so line can spool out freely.

#### Step 2:

Swing the fish slightly to one side and let go of the jig. Let line out as the weight pulls the fish back to the bottom (or 100 feet in depth), lock the reel and give a hard tug to release the fish.



### Conservation Tips

#### ▪ Avoid catching unwanted rockfish.

*When targeting other species, such as halibut or lingcod, avoid rockfish by keeping jigs and bait 10-15 feet off the bottom. This has little or no affect on halibut and lingcod catch rates. Move to a different area if you are catching rockfish unintentionally.*

#### ▪ Avoid excessive rockfish harvests.

*Rockfish have a freezer life of about four months, so harvest only what you are likely to eat in the near future.*

#### ▪ Use release-friendly tackle.

*When fishing with bait, use a single circle hook. Circle hooks are less likely to cause injury by being deeply swallowed, increasing the chances of survival for released fish.*



# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

## DIVISION OF SPORT FISH

### Sport Fishing Annual Harvest Record Card

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**CHECK ONE BOX**

- Resident Senior       Resident Disabled Veteran  
 Resident Under 18       Nonresident Under 16

Senior PID/DV License Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Youth Angler (Age & Birthday): \_\_\_\_\_

Harvest Date	Water Where Fish was Harvested	Fish Species

Record sport-caught fish **ONLY** on this card.  
**DO NOT** record personal use or subsistence fish.

Harvest records are required by **ALL** anglers when harvesting any species of sport-caught fish with an annual limit.

**When to record?** Immediately after landing a fish with an annual limit, enter the date, location, and species on the harvest record form - found on your fishing license or a harvest record card.

**Which fish to record?** Species with an annual limit are listed in the general regulations of each region-specific Sport Fishing Regulations Summary book.

**Who needs a card?** Required for resident anglers under 18, nonresident anglers under 16, and PID/DV licensed anglers.

**Can I record someone else's fish?** No. Each angler must record their own catch, on their own harvest record card.

**What happens if I don't record or have a card?** You could receive a citation, and your fish and gear may be seized.

**Do I turn in the card?** No. Keep the card with you while fishing and show it if asked by an officer or ADF&G representative.

**Lost card?** Get a new one and transfer all harvest details as required by law.

**ADF&G Division of Sport Fish Regional Offices**  
 Southeast Alaska - Juneau/Douglas - (907) 465-4270  
 Southcentral Alaska - Anchorage - (907) 267-2218  
 Northern Alaska - Fairbanks - (907) 459-7207

### SPORT FISHING BY PROXY

**PROXY FISHING FOR HALIBUT IS NOT ALLOWED.**

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

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

**You cannot give or accept money to serve as someone's beneficiary or proxy.**

**Before you proxy fish in Alaska you need:**

- Your Alaska resident sport fishing license.
- The beneficiary's sport fishing license or PID card, plus any required permits or harvest cards.
- A Proxy Fishing Form filled out and signed by the beneficiary and the proxy.
- All the above must be brought to a local ADF&G office and must be validated and signed by ADF&G staff.

If you plan to keep fish for yourself, you must have your own Alaska resident sport fishing license and any required permits for that fishery.

**While proxy fishing, you must:**


- Carry the validated and signed Proxy Fishing Form.
- Carry the beneficiary's physical sport fishing license or PID, king salmon stamp (if required), and any required permits or harvest cards
- Record any fish caught on the back of the Proxy Fishing Form and on any required king salmon stamp, permit, or harvest card.

**Afterwards, you must return to the beneficiary:**

- The validated Proxy Fishing Form.
- The beneficiary's sport fishing license or PID.
- All fish or shellfish harvested for the beneficiary.

To obtain a Proxy Information Form, please stop by any ADF&G office or visit the ADF&G website at [www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.fm?adfg=personaluseproxyfishing.main](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.fm?adfg=personaluseproxyfishing.main).

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: \_\_\_\_\_

Species Taken	Number Taken	Date Taken	Location

**RECIPIENT INFORMATION**  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City State Zip

**ANGLER INFORMATION**  
 Angler's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# ANGLER RECOGNITION PROGRAMS



Benjamin Octuk with an 18-inch Arctic grayling from Crescent Lake.

## TROPHY FISH PROGRAM

The Trophy Fish Program celebrates Alaska's biggest and most impressive catches! Youth and adult anglers who land fish meeting minimum weight (trophy) or length (catch-and-release) standards can earn official recognition.

All fish must be legally caught in waters open to the public and follow current ADF&G sport fishing regulations.

This is your chance to show off that memorable catch and join Alaska's brag wall of angling achievements!



## FIVE SALMON SLAM CHALLENGE

The Five Salmon Slam Challenge recognizes anglers, families or individuals, who catch and document all five Pacific salmon species in Alaska: Chinook, chum, coho, pink, and sockeye.

This program promotes properly identifying each salmon, fishing responsibly, and celebrating every catch. All salmon must be legally caught in waters open to the public and follow current ADF&G sport fishing regulations.

Can you or your family reel them all in?

Learn more about the Trophy Fish Program and Five Salmon Slam Challenge at [www.wefishak.alaska.gov](http://www.wefishak.alaska.gov).

### Trophy Fish Certificates

Minimum weights are shown in the second column of the table to the right. Fish must be weighed in front of witnesses and a Trophy Fish Official using a scale certified by the Division of Weights and Measures.

### Catch-And-Release Certificates

Keep the fish in the water. Hold it at the water's surface for a quick photo, then release it back into the current.

### Minimum Lengths for Catch-and-Release Certificates

- Arctic char: 27 inches
- Arctic grayling: 18 inches
- Brook trout: 18 inches
- Burbot: 30 inches
- Chinook salmon: 45 inches
- Chum salmon: 32 inches
- Coho salmon: 32 inches
- Cutthroat trout: 20 inches
- Dolly Varden: 27 inches
- Lake trout: 36 inches
- Lingcod: 53 inches
- Nonpelagic rockfish: 30 inches
- Northern pike: 40 inches
- Pelagic Rockfish: 25 inches
- Pink salmon: 25 inches
- Rainbow trout: 28 inches
- Sheefish: 36 inches
- Sockeye salmon: 30 inches
- Steelhead trout: 28 inches

If you have questions about the Trophy Fish Program, email: [dfg.dsf.trophyfish@alaska.gov](mailto:dfg.dsf.trophyfish@alaska.gov)

## ALASKA TROPHY FISH RECORD HOLDERS

Species	Min. Wt.	Lbs. oz.	Year	Location	Angler
Arctic char/ Dolly Varden	10 lbs.	27 lbs. 6 oz.	2022	Wulik River	Mike Curtiss
Arctic grayling	3 lbs.	5 lbs. 1 oz.	2008	Fish River	Peter Cockwill
Brook trout	3 lbs.	3 lbs. 4 oz.	2012	Green Lake	Kyle Kitka
Burbot	8 lbs.	24 lbs. 12 oz.	1976	Lake Louise	George R. Howard
Chinook salmon	★ See below	97 lbs. 4 oz.	1985	Kenai River	Lester Anderson
Chum salmon	10 lbs.	32 lbs. 0 oz.	1985	Caamano Point	Fredrick Thynes
Coho salmon	15 lbs.	26 lbs. 0 oz.	1976	Icy Strait	Andrew Robbins
Cutthroat trout	3 lbs.	8 lbs. 6 oz.	1977	Wilson Lake	Robert Denison
Halibut	200 lbs.	459 lbs. 0 oz.	1996	Unalaska Bay	Jack Tragis
Lake trout	20 lbs.	47 lbs. 0 oz.	1970	Clarence Lake	Daniel Thorsness
Lingcod	50 lbs.	82 lbs. 9 oz.	2007	Gulf of Alaska	Robert Hammond
Northern pike	15 lbs.	38 lbs. 8 oz.	1991	Innoko River	Jack Wagner
Pink salmon	6 lbs.	13 lbs. 7 oz.	2016	Kenai River	Robert Dubar
Rainbow/ steelhead trout	15 lbs.	42 lbs. 3 oz.	1970	Bell Island	David White
Rockfish - Pelagic	10 lbs.	-	-	-	-
Rockfish - Nonpelagic	18 lbs.	42 lbs. 6 oz.	2023	Prince William Sound	Keith DeGraff
Sablefish (blackcod)	10 lbs.	-	-	-	-
Sheefish	30 lbs.	53 lbs. 0 oz.	1987	Pah River	Lawrence E. Hudnall
Sockeye salmon	12 lbs.	16 lbs. 0 oz.	1974	Kenai River	Chuck Leach
Whitefish	4 lbs.	9 lbs. 0 oz.	1989	Tozitna River	Al Mathews

★ Chinook (king) salmon minimum weight from waters other than the Kenai River is 40 lbs.

The following are some of the definitions set forth in Alaska Statutes (AS) 16.05.940, 5 AAC 75.020, and 5 AAC 75.995.

**AREA:** Means a regulatory management area as described in 5 AAC 47-5 AAC 74.

**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 ¼ 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. This includes an artificial fly.

**BAG LIMIT:** The maximum legal take of fish per person per day, in the area in which the person is fishing, even if part or all of the fish are immediately preserved; a fish when landed and not immediately released becomes a part of the bag limit of the person originally hooking it.

- The per person, per day bag limit applies across fisheries. You cannot take a bag limit of fish from one area then move to another area and take another limit there. However, if the bag limit of a specific species is higher in a particular area (for example, 6 fish per day in one area and 3 per day of the same species in another) you can take 3 fish from one area and move to the area with the higher bag limit and take 3 from there. If you have any questions, please call the local ADF&G office listed on the back.

**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.

**BANNED INVASIVE SPECIES:** A nonnative species that can become established in Alaska; compete with native species for resources; degrade habitat; threaten the health or population of native species; or cause economic and environmental harm. These species include:

- Class A invasive species include Pacific chorus frog, Red-legged frog, Rusty crayfish, European green crab, Virile crayfish/Northern crayfish, Cyprinid fishes (includes invasive carps, redbreast shiners, golden shiners, and fathead minnows), American shad, Eastern Mosquitofish, Round goby, New Zealand mudsnail, Dreissenid mussels, Quagga mussels, Zebra mussel, Conrad's or dark mussel, Asian clam.
- Class B invasive species include American bull frog, Signal crayfish, Red swamp crayfish, Yellow perch, Muskellunge, Walleye, Bluegill, Largemouth bass, Smallmouth bass, Black crappie, White crappie, Ictalurid fishes (catfish), Brook trout, Brown trout, White perch, Pumpkinseed.

**CAST NET:** A cast net is a circular net with a mesh size of no more than 1½ inches and weights attached to the perimeter which, when thrown surrounds the fish and closes at the bottom when retrieved.

**CHAR:** All char, including Dolly Varden, Arctic char, lake trout (Mackinaw), and eastern brook trout.

**CHARTER VESSEL:** Means a vessel 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

*Charter Vessel continued...*

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; including no catch-and-release fishing.

**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 comprising 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.

**FLOWING WATERS:** Means all fresh waters, excluding lakes and ponds, that have detectable current, including creeks, streams, and rivers draining into, between, and out of all lakes and ponds, and all intertidal waters upstream of the stream mouth.

**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 ADF&G.

**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 ADF&G, (b) a person designated by the Commissioner or by a professional employee of ADF&G to perform specific functions for ADF&G, 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.

**MESH SIZE (Stretch Mesh Size, Stretch Measure):** The average length of any series of 10 consecutive meshes measured from inside the first knot and including the last knot when wet; the 10 meshes, when being measured, shall be integral part of the net, as hung, and measured perpendicular to the selvages; measurement shall be made by means of a metal tape measure while the 10 meshes being measured are suspended vertically from a single peg or nail, under five pound weight, except as otherwise provided in this title.

*...continued*

**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) An employee of ADF&G authorized by the Commissioner; (b) a police officer in the state; or (c) any other person authorized by the Commissioner.

**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.

**ROCKFISH:** Includes all fish of the genus *Sebastes* and does not include Irish lords, other sculpins, greenlings, or lingcod.

**SALMON:** All salmon, including the five species of Pacific salmon: Chinook (king), chum (dog), coho (silver), pink (humpy), and sockeye (red).

**SALT WATER:** All marine waters; marine waters are separated from fresh water at the mouths of streams, rivers, and creeks.

**SET LINE:** An unattended line or lines that have been set, staked, anchored, or otherwise fixed. Only burbot may be taken when using setlines.

**SINGLE HOOK:** A fish hook with only one point with or without a barb.

**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 fresh water, 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 Board.

**SPORT FISHING GUIDE:** A person who provides sport fishing guide services to persons who are engaged in sport fishing.

**SPORT FISHING GUIDE SERVICES:** Assistance, for compensation or with the intent to receive compensation, to a sport angler to take or attempt to take fish by accompanying or physically directing the sport angler in sport fishing activities during any part of a sport fishing trip; however, the term does not include sport fishing services or services provided by an assistant, deckhand, or similar person who works directly under the supervision of and on the same vessel as a sport fishing guide.

**SPORT FISHING SERVICES:** The indirect provision of assistance, for compensation or with the intent to receive compensation, to a person engaged in sport fishing in taking or attempting to take fish or shellfish by a business that employs a sport fishing guide to provide sport fishing guide services to the person during any portion of a sport fishing trip; sport fishing services does not include an activity for which a sport fishing guide license is required, or booking and other ancillary services provided by a tour broker or agent to a sport fishing services operator.

**SQUID JIG:** An artificial lure that may not exceed 24 inches in total length, used to target squid, that consists of barbless hook clusters and may not contain any barbed hooks.

**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 ADF&G markers.

**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).

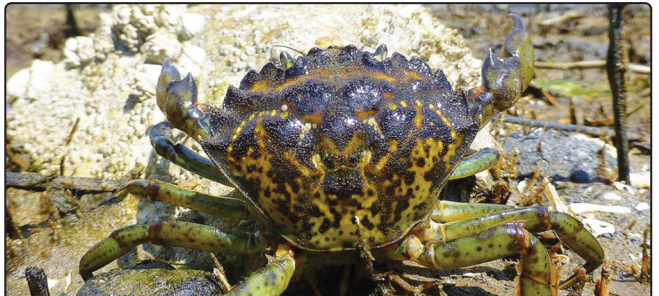
**YEAR:** The calendar year from January 1 through December 31.



# PROTECT ALASKA WATERS HELP STOP THE SPREAD OF INVASIVE SPECIES!



Northern pike are only invasive in Southcentral Alaska. They are native fish species in Northern and Southwest Alaska.



European Green Crab are established in Southeast Alaska, the extent of their distribution is currently unknown.



Elodea is currently found in Northern and Southcentral Alaska.



These small mussels are no larger than 2 inches long. Photo courtesy of USGS

Zebra (left) and quagga (right) mussels have not been found in Alaska. However, they could accidentally be transported on boats coming from infested waters.



Signal crayfish are currently in the Buskin Watershed on Kodiak Island.

## AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES DAMAGE FISHERIES, HABITAT, AND FISHING OPPORTUNITIES IN ALASKA.



Scan the QR code or call the invasive species hotlines at 1 (877) INVASIV to report sightings of any invasive, nonnative, or unusual animals or plants. To learn more about these and other aquatic invasive species and how to prevent the spread of them, visit the invasive species webpage at <https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=invasive.main>.

## ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH & GAME SOUTHCENTRAL ALASKA SPORT FISH OFFICES



Palmer  
(907) 746-6300  
Inseason Fishing Hotline  
(907) 746-6300

Anchorage  
(907) 267-2218  
Inseason Fishing Hotline  
(907) 267-2502

Soldotna  
(907) 262-9368  
Inseason Fishing Hotline  
(907) 262-2737

Cordova  
(907) 424-3212

Homer  
(907) 235-8191  
Inseason Fishing Hotline  
(907) 235-6930

