

## GENERAL SEASONS, BAG LIMITS, AND SIZE LIMITS - SALT WATERS

The Salt Water Fishing Season for all species is open year-round, except for halibut, lingcod, geoduck clams, Tanner crab, and resident king crab fisheries. For Shellfish Regulations see pages 38-41.

### KING SALMON

- 28 inches or longer—Bag, possession, annual and size limits are established by emergency order, as specified in the Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan.
- Less than 28 inches—Retention prohibited.
- Nonresident anglers—A harvest record is required (*see page 5*). Anglers should check with the nearest ADF&G office for current bag, possession, annual and size limit regulations.
- Operators and crew members working on a charter vessel may not retain king salmon while clients are on board the vessel.

### COHO, CHUM, PINK, AND SOCKEYE SALMON

- 16 inches or longer—6 of each species daily, 12 of each species in possession.

### COHO, CHUM, PINK, AND SOCKEYE SALMON (IN COMBINATION)

- Less than 16 inches—10 daily, 10 in possession.

### STEELHEAD

- 36 inches or longer—1 daily, 2 in possession, 2-fish annual limit, harvest record required (*see page 5*).

### CUTTHROAT AND RAINBOW TROUT (IN COMBINATION)

- 11 inch minimum and 22 inch maximum—2 daily, 2 in possession.

### DOLLY VARDEN

- No size restrictions—10 daily, 10 in possession.

### SABLEFISH (BLACK COD)

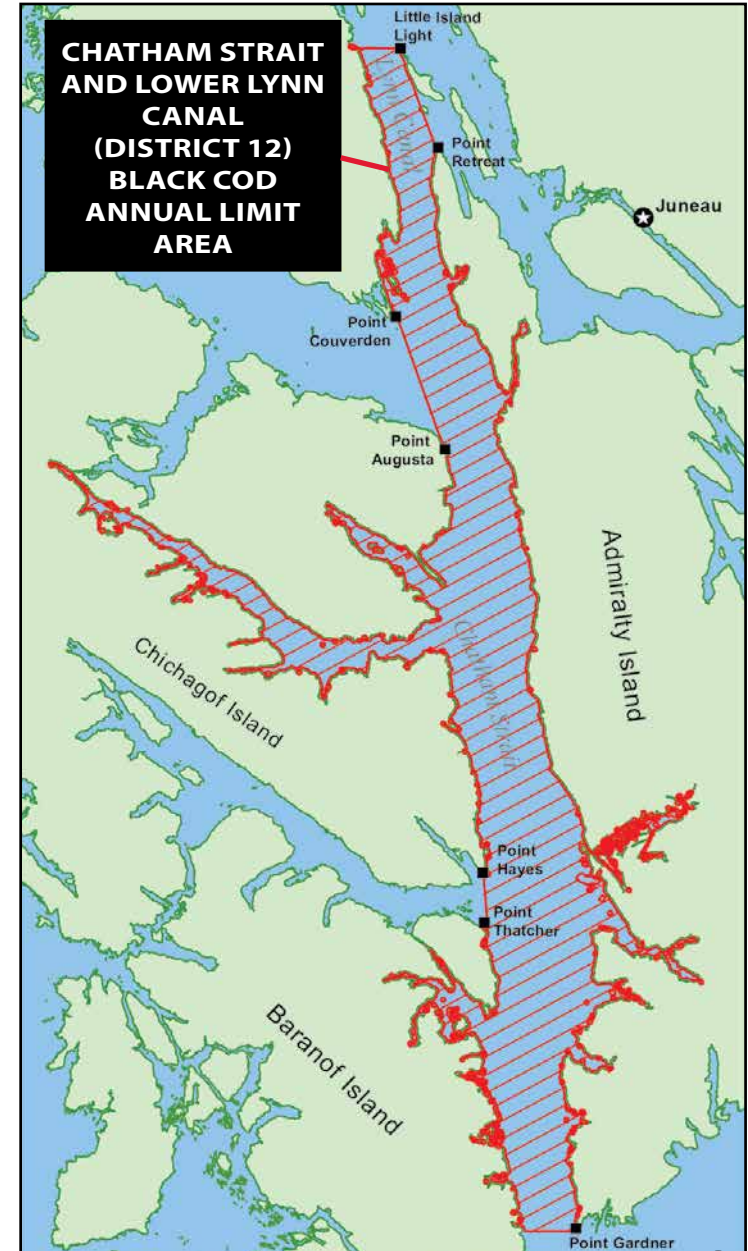
- No size restrictions—4 daily, 4 in possession.

#### **Chatham Strait and Lower Lynn Canal—District 12 (see map to right)**

- No size restrictions.
- Nonresident—4 daily, 4 in possession, 8 fish annual limit, harvest record required (*see page 5*).

### SHARKS (EXCEPT SPINY DOGFISH)

- No size restrictions—1 daily, 1 in possession, 2 shark annual limit, harvest record required (*see page 5*).



## GENERAL SEASONS, BAG LIMITS, AND SIZE LIMITS - SALT WATERS (continued)

### SPINY DOGFISH

- No size restrictions—5 daily, 5 in possession, harvest record not required

### LINGCOD

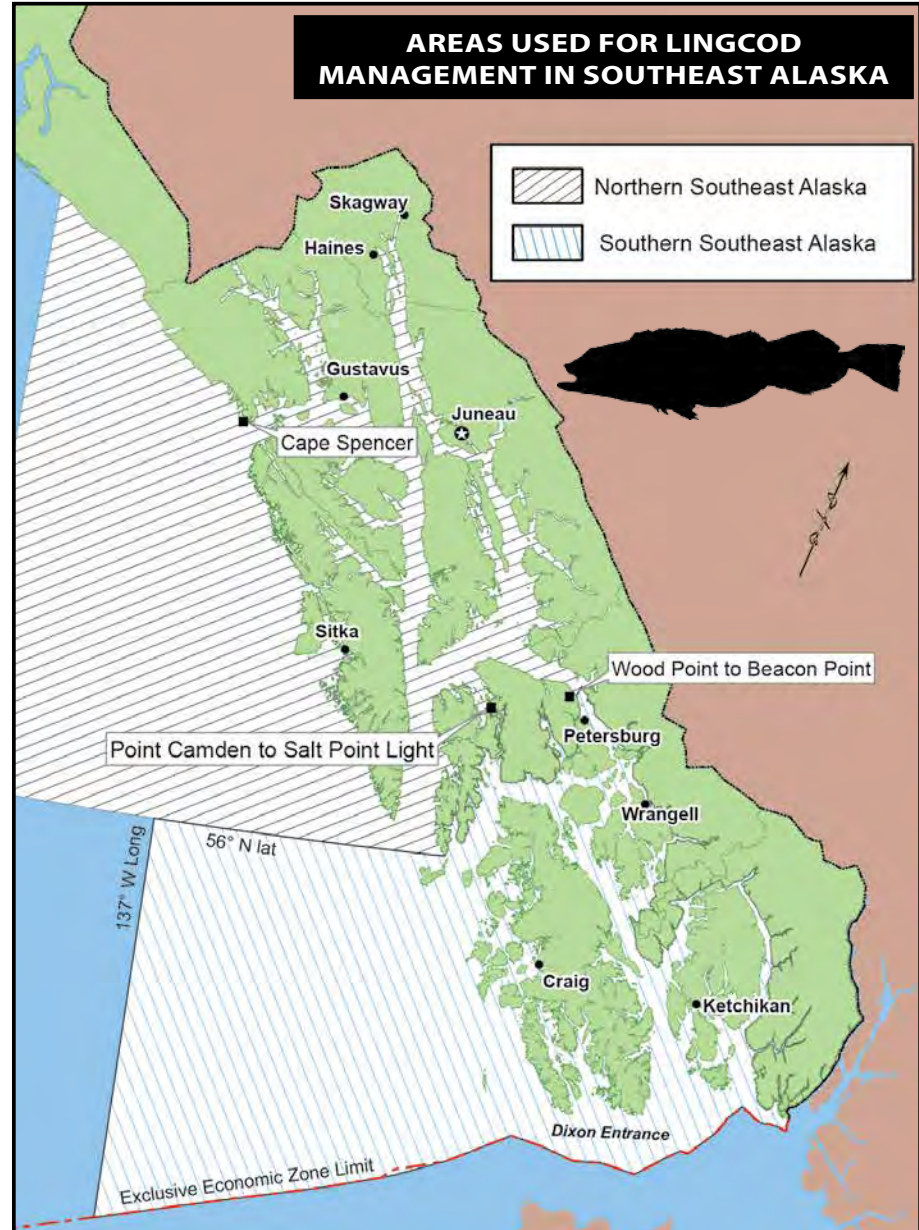
- Season:** May 16–November 30. All anglers should consult with the nearest ADF&G office or the department website for current regulations. **Charter operators and crew members may not retain lingcod while clients are on board the vessel.**
  - Northern Southeast Lingcod Area**
    - Alaska Residents*—no size limit, 1 daily, 2 in possession.
    - Nonresidents*— 1 daily, 1 in possession, 30–35 inches or 55 inches and longer, annual limit of 2 fish, one of which is 30–35 inches in length, and one that is 55 inches or greater in length, harvest record required (*see page 5*).
  - Southern Southeast Lingcod Area**
    - Alaska Residents*—no size limit, 1 daily, 2 in possession.
    - Nonresidents*— 1 daily, 1 in possession, 30–45 inches or 55 inches and longer, annual limit of 2 fish, one of which is 30–45 inches in length, and one that is 55 inches or greater in length, harvest record required (*see page 5*).

### HALIBUT

- Pacific halibut fisheries are managed by the federal government under international treaty.
- Federal possession and landing requirements for sport-caught halibut differ from state regulations. Possession includes unpreserved AND preserved fish for halibut.
- Proxy fishing for halibut is not allowed.
- Season:** February 1–December 31.
- Unguided anglers**—limit is 2 per day (no size limit), 4 in possession.
- Consult federal regulations for the following: bag, size, and possession limits for guided (charter) anglers; possession and landing requirements, and inseason changes to the regulations.
- Federal halibut regulations are available from:

NOAA Fisheries Alaska Region, (907) 586-7228,

<http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/sustainablefisheries/halibut/sport.htm>



**PELAGIC ROCKFISH**

- Pelagic rockfish include black, blue, dark, dusky, widow, and yellowtail. These six species are uniformly gray, green, brown, or black (see page 36). All rockfish not listed as pelagic are considered non-pelagic.
- No size restrictions—5 daily, 10 in possession.

**NON-PELAGIC ROCKFISH (All Southeast Waters)**

- All non-pelagic rockfish caught must be retained until the bag limit is reached. All anglers should consult with the nearest ADF&G office or the department website for current regulations. **Charter operators and crew members may not retain non-pelagic rockfish while clients are on board the vessel.**
- As of January 1, 2013 anglers sport fishing from a charter vessel when releasing non-pelagic rockfish are required to have in possession, and utilize, a deep water release mechanism to return and release these rockfish to the depth it was hooked, or to at least 100 feet in depth, whichever is shallower.
- A charter vessel must have at least one functional deep water release mechanism on board and readily available for use when sport fishing activities are taking place.
- Upon request, a deep water release mechanism must be presented to a local representative of the department or a peace officer of the state.
- **Southeast Waters**
  - *Alaska Residents*—no size limit, 1 daily, 1 in possession.
  - *Nonresidents*—no size limit, 1 daily; 1 in possession; annual limit of 1 yelloweye, which must be recorded, in ink, on the back of the angler’s sport fishing license or on a harvest record card immediately at the time of harvest (see page 5).

**OTHER SPECIES AND OTHER SPECIES GROUPS NOT LISTED ABOVE**

- No size restrictions—no bag or possession limit.

**Deep water release is effective**

A recent ADF&G study found that survival of yelloweye rockfish released at depth was far higher than survival of fish released at the surface.

# Rockfish Conservation

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



Avoid fishing in rocky areas with boulders, ridges, and pinnacles. Avoid fishing the steep sides of reefs and rock piles. Lingcod are typically found on top of the reefs while halibut are usually on flat bottoms adjacent to the reefs.



Move to a different area if you are catching rockfish unintentionally.



When targeting halibut or lingcod, keep your jig or bait well off the bottom.



Target other species first. This will allow you to retain your incidental rockfish catch as part of your limit and minimize the number of rockfish released.



If targeting rockfish, focus your harvest on pelagic species such as black rockfish. These species are more abundant and can sustain slightly higher levels of harvest.



When fishing with bait, use a single circle hook.

**More information on page 37.**