

STATEWIDE REGULATIONS . . .

License requirements and fees: A sport fishing license is required each calendar year and must be in the possession of all persons 16 years of age or older (see following special exemption) while sport fishing, personal use fishing, and/or clam digging. All persons engaged in sport fishing or in possession of fish must show their sport fishing licenses, catch records, special permits or tags, and any fish to any local representative of the department or to any peace officer of the state upon request.

◆ **Licenses may be now be purchased online** with Visa or MasterCard at ADF&G's secure website: **www.admin.adfg.state.ak.us.license.**

Resident license fees:

A resident is a person who for the preceding 12 consecutive months has maintained a permanent place of abode and voting residence in Alaska.

- Resident sport fishing license \$ 15.00
- Resident sport fishing license for the blind 25¢

However, the fee is \$5 for the head of a family or a dependent member of that person's family, or for one solely dependent upon oneself for support, upon proof presented by the applicant that the applicant: (a) is receiving or has received assistance during the preceding six months under any state or federal welfare program to aid the indigent, or (b) has an annual family gross income less than \$8,200 for the year preceding application.

Nonresident license fees:

- Nonresident 1-day sport fishing license \$ 10.00
- Nonresident 3-day sport fishing license \$ 20.00
- Nonresident 7-day sport fishing license \$ 30.00
- Nonresident 14-day sport fishing license \$ 50.00
- Nonresident annual sport fishing license \$100.00

Military license fees (on active duty, permanently stationed in Alaska—includes U.S. Coast Guard):

- Military sport fishing license† \$15.00
- A qualified resident disabled veteran may receive a sport fishing and hunting permanent ID card upon completing an application available from the ADF&G Licensing Section.

- Licenses can also be purchased from any ADF&G license agent (most sporting goods stores) throughout the state, or by mail from the ADF&G Licensing Section, P.O. Box 25525, Juneau, AK 99802-5525, (907) 465-2376. **A lost license may be replaced for \$5 through local license vendors.** No person may alter, loan, or transfer to any other person any license issued to him; and no person may use any license issued to another person.
- A resident (**resident means 12 consecutive months residency**) 60 years of age or more who has been a resident for one year or more, as long as he or she remains a resident, does not need a sport fishing license, but must obtain a special permanent identification card from the ADF&G Licensing Section.

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King salmon tag requirements and fees: Anglers sport fishing for king salmon (except stocked king salmon in landlocked lakes) must purchase a current year's king salmon tag. (See exceptions below.) Anglers must sign their name across the face of the king salmon tag in order to be valid, attach it to their current year's sport fishing license, and have it in their possession.

Resident king salmon tag \$ 10.00

- The following resident anglers DO NOT need a king salmon tag:
- Residents who qualify for the 25¢ license for the blind
 - Residents under the age of 16
 - Residents 60 years of age or older who qualify for a permanent ID card
 - Residents who qualify for a disabled veteran's license
 - Residents who qualify for a \$5 license under the criteria listed above.

Nonresident king salmon tag*

- Nonresident 1-day tag \$ 10.00
- Nonresident 3-day tag \$ 20.00
- Nonresident 7-day tag \$ 30.00
- Nonresident 14-day tag \$ 50.00
- Nonresident annual tag \$100.00
- Military† \$ 20.00

* Nonresident anglers under the age of 16 **do not** need a king salmon tag.

† In order to qualify for a military sport fishing license or a military king salmon tag, the person must be a member of the military service or U.S. Coast Guard on active duty and permanently stationed in the state, or be their dependent.

This is an informative summary of the sport fishing regulations contained in 5 AAC 64, 65, 67, and 75, simplified for your convenience. If clarification is needed, consult an ADF&G representative in Anchorage (267-2218), Dillingham (842-2427), King Salmon (246-3341), or Bethel (543-2433). Regulations summarized in this booklet are effective from mid-April 2000 through mid-April 2001. Some regulations in this booklet may be changed by the Alaska Board of Fisheries during its regular meetings, by emergency regulation, or by emergency order at any time. Any changes to the regulations in this booklet are available at ADF&G offices. Copies are available at any ADF&G office. □

CLOSED WATERS AND PROHIBITED ACTS

Waters closed to sport fishing: Unless otherwise provided by area regulations: (a) the waters within 300 feet of a fish weir or fish ladder are closed to sport fishing, unless a lesser distance is indicated by department markers; and (b) it is unlawful to cast, drift, or place by any means a hook, bait, lure, or fly into waters closed to sport fishing.

Possession or marking of live fish or live fish eggs: It is unlawful to possess, transport, and release live fish or live fish eggs or in any way mark any live fish prior to release, except in accordance with the terms of a permit that may be issued by the Commissioner under 5 AAC 41 or AS 16.05.930(a).

Sale of sport-caught fish unlawful: No person may buy, sell, or barter sport-caught fish or their parts.

Possession of sport-caught fish: (a) 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 himself, unless he furnishes, upon request of any 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. The statement is unnecessary if the person possessing the fish is accompanied by the person who took the fish. No person may possess fish which were not legally taken.
- **Possession of sport-caught halibut:** (a) No person may possess sport-caught halibut aboard a vessel when other fish or shellfish aboard the vessel are destined for sale, trade, or barter; and (b) until brought to shore and offloaded, no person may fillet, mutilate, or otherwise disfigure a

- halibut in any manner that prevents determination of the number of fish caught or possessed.
- **Molesting of fish:** Molesting or impeding spawning or the natural movement of fish contrary to lawful methods and means of sport fishing is prohibited.
- **Wasting of fish:** The intentional waste or destruction of any species of sport-caught fish is prohibited. However, whitefish, herring, and other species for which bag limits, seasons, or other regulatory methods and means are not provided in 5 AAC 47–5 AAC 75, as well as the head, tail, fins, and viscera of legally taken sport fish, may be used for bait or other purposes.
- **Liability for violations:** Unless otherwise provided by regulation or statute, a person who violates a provision of these regulations is strictly liable for the offense, regardless of that person's intent. □

METHODS AND MEANS

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

Special management waters: In waters designated as special management waters, sport fishing is restricted to catch-and-release or fishing with specified gear.

Freshwater sport fishing: (a) Fish may not be taken in fresh water by means of (1) fixed or weighted hooks and lures (except those of standard manufacture), (2) multiple hooks with gap between point and shank larger than $\frac{1}{2}$ inch, except as permitted in the Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim area, (3) spear, unless permitted by area regulations, or (4) arrow, unless permitted by area regulations; (b) live fish may not be used as bait when sportfishing in fresh water; and (c) it is unlawful to intentionally snag or attempt to snag any fish in fresh water.

- “Snag” means to hook a fish elsewhere than in its mouth. A fish unintentionally hooked elsewhere than its mouth must be released immediately.
- **Snagging in salt water:** Snagging is legal in salt water unless otherwise prohibited by area regulations.
- **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.
- The maximum number of hooks and type of lines that may be deployed by an angler targeting all species of fish, including burbot and northern pike, is not cumulative and is equal to the maximum number of hooks allowed for burbot, northern pike or other species, whichever is greater, provided that the maximum number of lines and hooks used to target a species may not exceed the number allowed for that species.

- **Sport fishing gear for burbot:** Unless otherwise provided by area regulations, burbot may be taken in fresh water with more than one line and hook, provided that: (1) total aggregate number of hooks may not exceed 15 or the daily bag limit for burbot in the waters being fished, whichever is less; (2) hooks are single hooks with gap between point and shank larger than $\frac{3}{4}$ inch; (3) each hook is set to rest on the bottom of the lake or stream; (4) each line is identified with angler's name and address; (5) each line is physically inspected at least once in each 24-hour period.
- **Sport fishing gear for northern pike:** Unless otherwise provided by area regulations, northern pike may be taken by spear.
- **Sport fishing gear for herring and smelt:** In salt water, herring and smelt may be taken with the use of 15 or less unbaited single or multiple hooks attached to a single line.

- **Use of explosives or toxicants:** The use of any explosive or toxicant for taking fish in the waters of Alaska is prohibited.
- **Use of underwater spear:** In salt water, spears may be used to take fish, subject to applicable seasons and bag limits, by persons who are completely submerged. □

