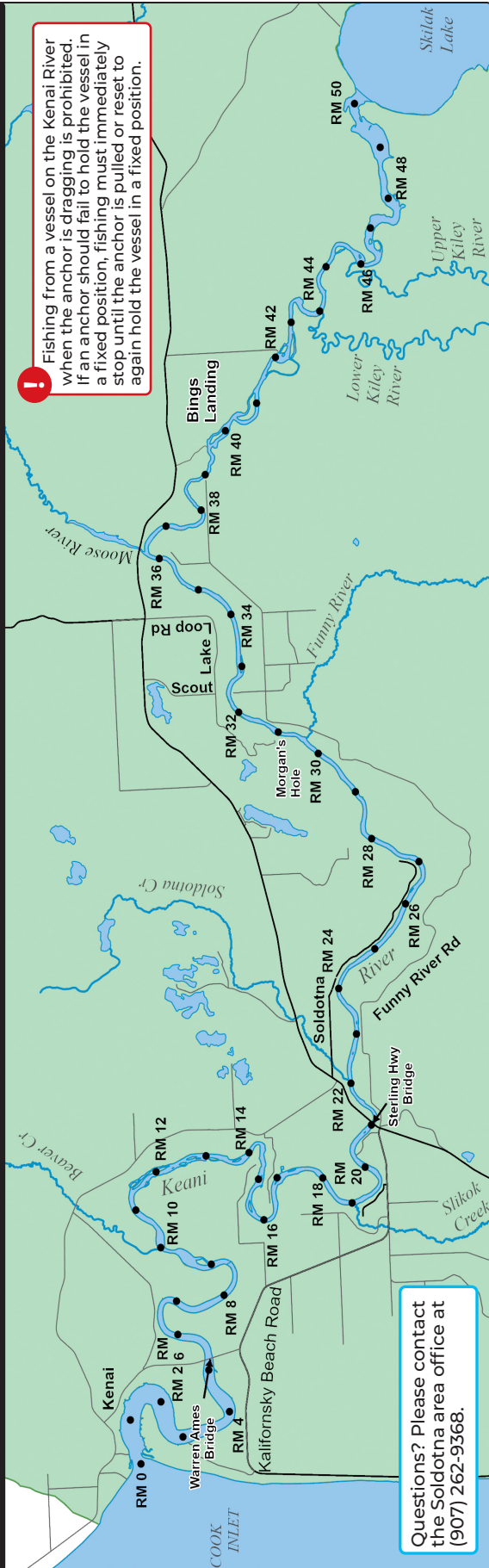


LOWER KENAI RIVER MAINSTEM



**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.

Check for emergency orders online at [www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR) prior to fishing.

**KING SALMON**

- **Please check emergency orders for king salmon closures or contact the local ADF&G office for more info.**
- **Kenai River from its mouth upstream to 300 yards below Slikok Creek:**
  - **January 1-June 30:** 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 34 inches in length.
  - **July 1-July 31:** 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.
- **300 yards below Slikok Creek upstream to the outlet of Skilak Lake:**
  - **January 1-July 31:** 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 34 inches in length.
  - **January 1-July 31:** You may not possess a king salmon that is filleted or disfigured to prevent measurement until the fish has been permanently off loaded from a boat or removed from the riverbank fishing site where the fish was hooked and taken from the water.
- **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, Kenai River, and Kenai Peninsula. **Of these 5 total king salmon no more than 2 may be taken from the Kenai River.**
  - **January 1-June 30:** King salmon less than 28 inches in length are not included in this annual limit.
- 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 from the Kenai River, you may not fish from a boat for any species of fish in the Kenai River downstream from Skilak Lake.**
- If you retain a king salmon 20 inches or longer (except for kings measuring 20-28 inches in length), you must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.
- **Less than 20 inches:**
  - 10 per day, 10 in possession.

## **SOCKEYE AND CHUM SALMON**

- Open to sockeye and chum salmon fishing year-round unless otherwise noted below.
- **June 20-August 15: 6 per day, 6 in possession, sockeye salmon only.**
- 16 inches or longer: 3 per day, 6 in possession in combination.
- Less than 16 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession in combination.

## **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. The limits for coho salmon are in combination with sockeye or chum salmon.
  - For example, you may have 1 sockeye or chum and 2 coho per day (or 2 sockeye or chum and 1 coho), not 3 sockeye or chum and 2 coho per day.
- **September 1-November 30:**
  - 3 per day, 3 in possession in combination, 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.
  - **November 1-June 30:**
    - **Closed to coho salmon fishing upstream of Bings Landing.**

## **PINK SALMON**

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

## **RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT**

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

## **ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN**

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

## **ARCTIC GRAYLING**

- 5 per day, 5 in possession.

## **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.

## **OTHER FINFISH**

- No limit.

## **NORTHERN PIKE**

- 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 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:**

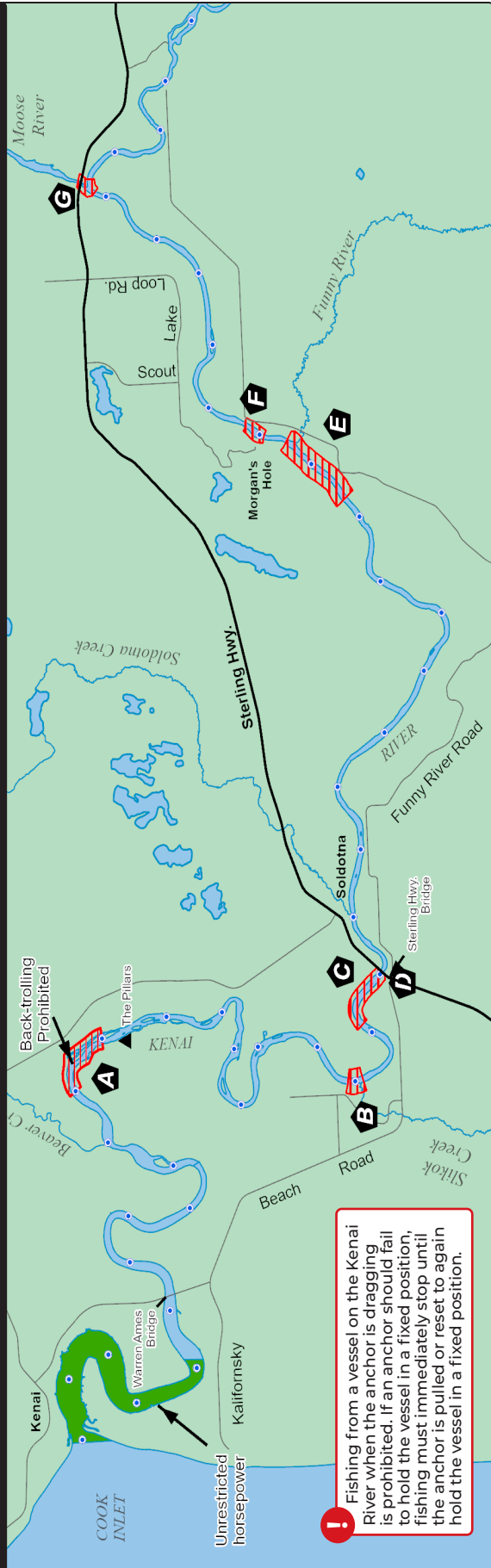
- **In flowing waters:** Beads fished ahead of flies, lures, or bare hooks must be fixed within 2 inches of the hook or be free sliding on the line or leader.

...continued



Bent fishing rod, fish on!

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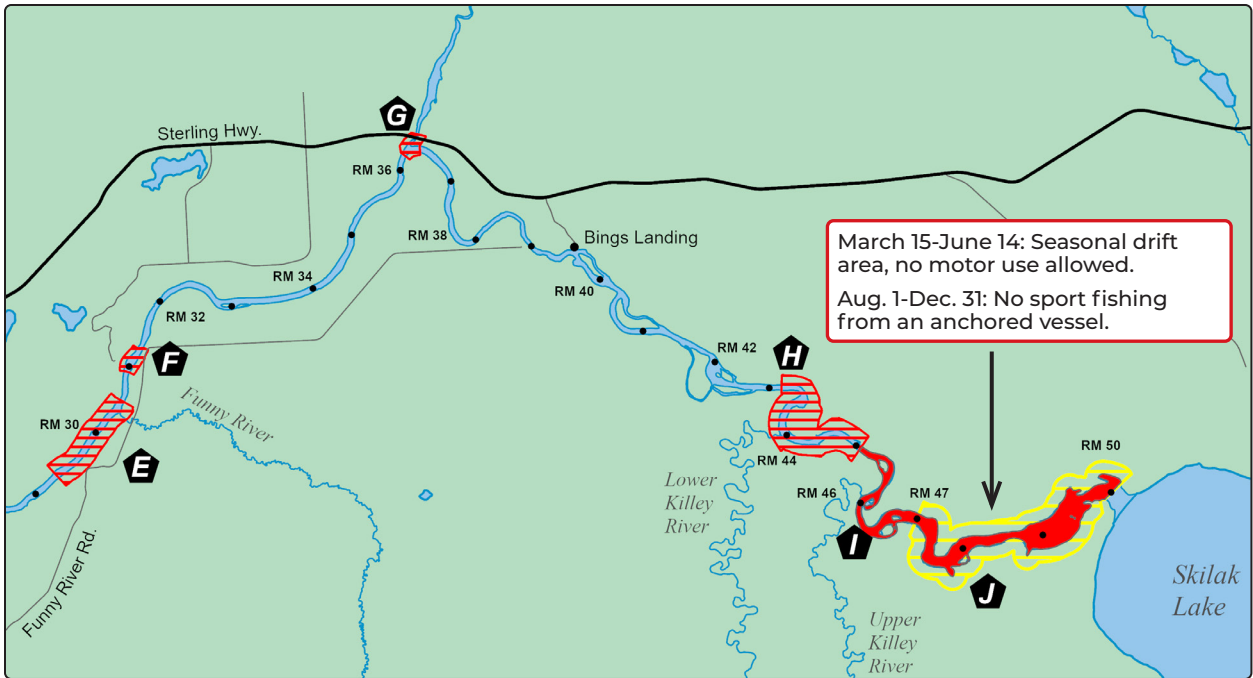
- E** **FUNNY RIVER CONFLUENCE AREA:**
  - The Kenai River from ADF&G markers about 1 mile downstream of the mouth of Funny River upstream to ADF&G markers about 200 yards upstream from the mouth of the Funny River:
    - **May 1-July 31:**
      - **Closed to king salmon fishing.**
      - **Closed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

...continued



Spawned sockeye salmon caught on a fly rod.





**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.
  - Refer to general regulations on pages 44-45 for seasons and limits.

...continued



Beautiful day river fishing for sockeye salmon.



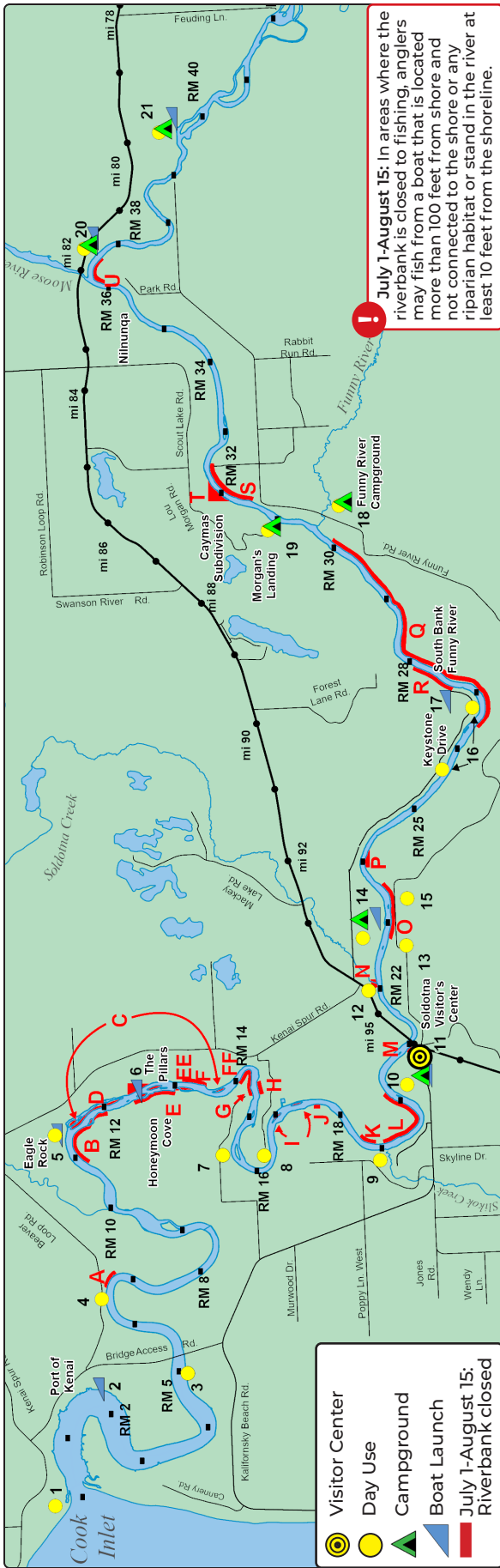
**LOWER KENAI RIVER MAINSTEM - GEAR AND BAIT REGULATIONS**



Take a kid fishing!

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



Letter	Location	Access	Notes
I	STATE-OWNED ISLANDS	Public Access Points	Between river miles 17.0 and 17.3
J	NEAR POACHERS COVE	Riverbank Closures	West bank between river miles 17.5 and 17.6
K	NORTH BANK	Riverbank Closures	Between river miles 18.6 and 18.8
9	Silikok Creek	Public Shore Access	Alaska State Parks - Day-Use Picnic Area
L	NORTH BANK	Riverbank Closures	Between river miles 18.9 and 20.2
10	Centennial Park Campground	Public Shore Access	City of Soldotna - Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area, and Boat Launch
M	NEAR SOLDOTNA VISITOR'S CENTER	Riverbank Closures	South bank between river miles 20.9 and 21.0
11	Soldotna Visitor's Center	Public Shore Access	Boardwalk
12	Soldotna Creek Park	Public Shore Access	City of Soldotna - Day-Use Picnic Area, Boardwalk Access
13	Donald E. Gilman River Center	Public Shore Access	Alaska State Parks - Day-Use
14	Swiftwater Campground	Public Shore Access	City of Soldotna - Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area, Boat Launch, and Boardwalk Access
N	SOLDOTNA CREEK	Riverbank Closures	North bank from the mouth of Soldotna Creek upstream between river miles 22.0 to 22.1
15	Rotary Park	Public Shore Access	City of Soldotna - Day-Use
O	NEAR SOLDOTNA AIRPORT	Riverbank Closures	South bank between river miles 22.7 and 23.5
16	Moose Range Meadows	Public Shore Access	Kenai National Wildlife Refuge - Day-Use
P	SOUTH BANK	Riverbank Closures	Between river miles 23.8 and 24.2
17	Keystone Drive Boat Launch (end of road)	Public Shore Access	Kenai National Wildlife Refuge - Boat Launch
Q	SOUTH BANK/FUNNY RIVER	Riverbank Closures	Between river miles 26.4 and 30.0

Letter	Location	Access	Notes
1	Mouth of the Kenai River	Public Access Points	City of Kenai - Boat Launch
2	Port of Kenai	Public Access Points	Alaska State Parks - Day-Use Picnic Area
3	Kenai Flats State Recreation Site	Public Access Points	City of Kenai - Day-Use Picnic Area
4	Cunningham Park	Public Access Points	Alaska State Parks - Boat Launch
5	Eagle Rock	Public Access Points	Alaska State Parks - Boat Launch
6	The Pillars	Public Access Points	North bank between river miles 6.6 and 6.8
A	NEAR CUNNINGHAM PARK	Riverbank Closures	South bank between river miles 10.7 and 12.0
B	EAGLE ROCK	Riverbank Closures	Between river miles 11 and 15 (see lines D-H below)
C	STATE-OWNED ISLANDS	Riverbank Closures	North bank between river miles 12.4 and 12.6
D	THE PILLARS AREA	Riverbank Closures	South bank between river miles 12.5 and 13.0
E	HONEYMOON COVE AREA	Riverbank Closures	North bank between river miles 13.0 and 13.2
EE	HONEYMOON COVE	Riverbank Closures	East bank between river miles 13.2 and 13.5
F	NEAR FALLING-IN-HOLE	Riverbank Closures	North bank between river miles 13.6 and 14.0
FF	NEAR STEWART'S LANDING	Riverbank Closures	Between river miles 14.0 and 14.4
G	WEST BANK	Riverbank Closures	South bank between river miles 14.4 and 14.6
H	NEAR BIG EDDY ROAD	Riverbank Closures	Alaska State Parks - Day-Use Picnic Area
7	Ciechanski	Public Access Points	Alaska State Parks - Day-Use Picnic Area
8	Big Eddy	Public Access Points	Alaska State Parks - Day-Use Picnic Area

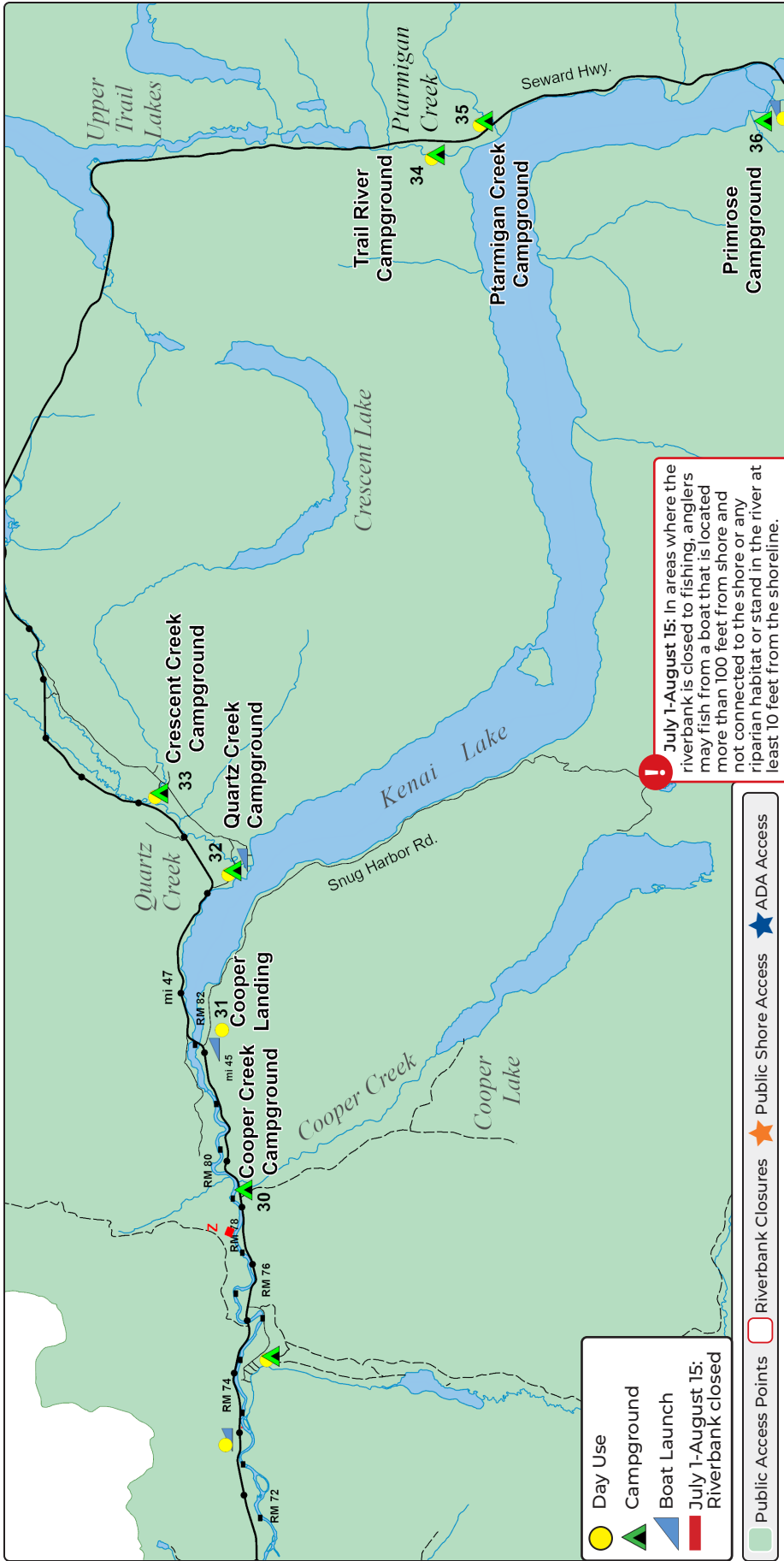
LOWER & MIDDLE KENAI RIVERBANK CLOSURE & ACCESS



	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

23	Upper Skilak Lake Campground			Kenai National Wildlife Refuge - Campground, Day-Use Picnic Area, and Boat Launch
24	Hidden Lake Campground			Kenai National Wildlife Refuge - Campground, Day-Use 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





**!** July 1-August 15: In areas where the riverbank is closed to fishing, anglers may fish from a boat that is located more than 100 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.

- Day Use
- ▲ Campground
- ▲ Boat Launch
- July 1-August 15; Riverbank closed

- Public Access Points
- Riverbank Closures
- ★ Public Shore Access
- ★ ADA Access

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

# 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, 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 INJECT REQUIREMENTS

Regardless of 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 operated 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).
- From 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 48).

## PASSENGER LIMITS

No more than 6 persons 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 persons 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).

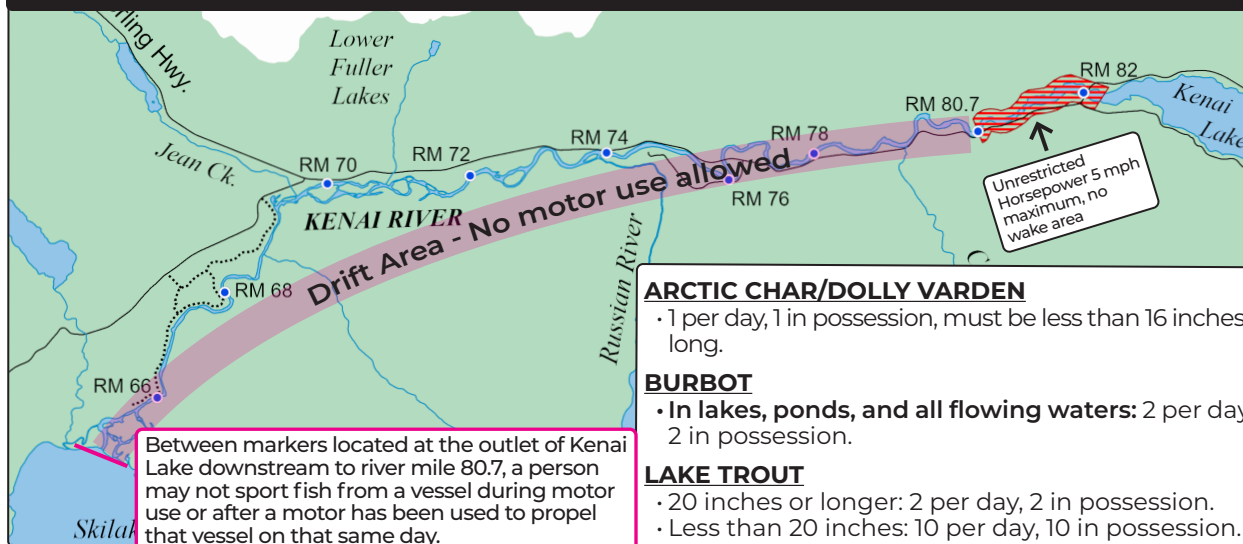
All motorized boats must be registered, either with the DMV or as a vessel meeting documentation requirements of the USCG.

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.

Check for emergency orders online at [www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR) prior to fishing.

#### KING SALMON

- Closed to king salmon fishing.

#### OTHER SALMON

- Coho salmon: See below for bag and possession limits.
  - **Season: July 1-October 31.**
  - 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.
- Pink, chum, and sockeye salmon:
  - **Season: June 11-April 30.**
  - 16 inches or longer:
    - Pink salmon: 6 per day, 6 in possession.
    - Coho, sockeye, and chum salmon:
      - **June 11-August 31:** 3 per day, 6 in possession, only 2 per day, 2 in possession may be coho salmon.
      - **September 1-October 31:** All 3 per day, 6 in possession may be coho salmon.
    - Less than 16 inches (in combination): 10 per day, 10 in possession

#### RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

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

#### ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN

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

#### BURBOT

- In lakes, ponds, and all flowing waters: 2 per day, 2 in possession.

#### LAKE TROUT

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

#### NORTHERN PIKE

- 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.

#### ARCTIC GRAYLING

- 5 per day, 5 in possession.

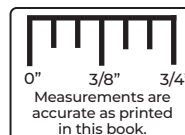
#### OTHER FINFISH

- No limit.

### GENERAL REGULATIONS - 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:

- There are special bank access regulations on the Kenai River that apply July 1-August 15. See pages 49-51 for public access points and riverbank closures on the Kenai River.

#### GEAR RESTRICTIONS:

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

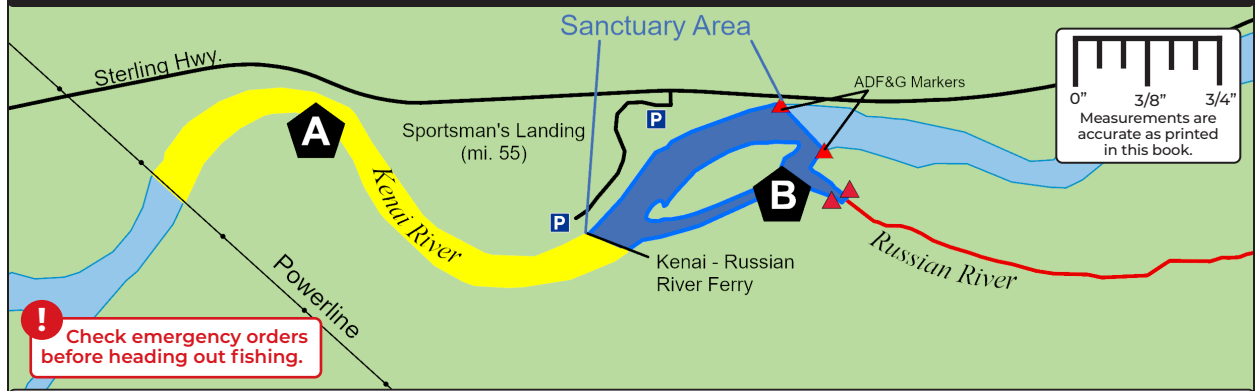
#### FISHING FROM AN ANCHORED VESSEL:

- 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

**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 sport fishing.
  - 16 inches or longer: 3 per day, 6 in possession.
  - Less than 16 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession
  - **There is no retention of sockeye salmon in this section after August 20.**

**COHO SALMON**

- **July 1-October 31:** Open to sport fishing.
  - 16 inches or longer: 1 per day, 1 in possession.
    - From **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 retain 2 sockeye 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. This 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 sport fishing.
  - 16 inches or longer: 3 per day, 6 in possession in combination. Only 1 per day, 1 in possession may be coho salmon.
  - Less than 16 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.
  - **There is no retention of sockeye in this section after August 20.**

**COHO SALMON**

- **August 21-October 31:** 16 inches or longer: 1 per day, 1 in possession.
  - Less than 16 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.

**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:

- General regulations listed on page 53 apply in this section.

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:

- General regulations listed on page 53 apply in this section.
- 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:

Check for emergency orders online at [www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR) prior to fishing.

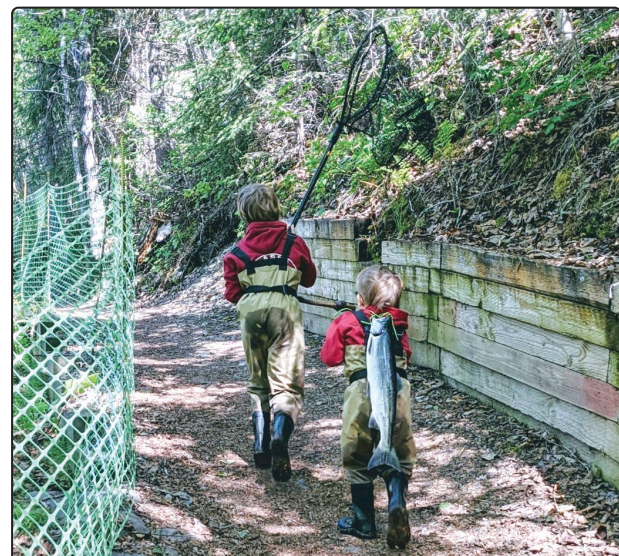
- The Russian River from an ADF&G marker located 100 yards upstream of its mouth to an ADF&G marker located 600 yards downstream of the falls:
  - **May 1-June 10:** Closed to all sport fishing.
  - **June 11-August 20:** Only artificial flies are allowed. See the map on page 54 for an inset description of allowable gear in fly-fishing-only waters.
  - Sockeye salmon:
    - **June 11-August 20:** Open to sockeye salmon fishing.
    - 3 per day, 6 in possession.
  - Coho salmon:
    - **July 1-September 30:** Open to coho salmon fishing.
    - 1 per day, 1 in possession.
    - 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.
  - Daily limits for 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.
  - Daily limits for other species, see page 53.

## LOWER AND UPPER RUSSIAN LAKES:

- Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.
- Open to sport fishing for species other than salmon year-round.
- 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 may be 20 inches or longer.
- Dolly Varden: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 may be 20 inches or longer.

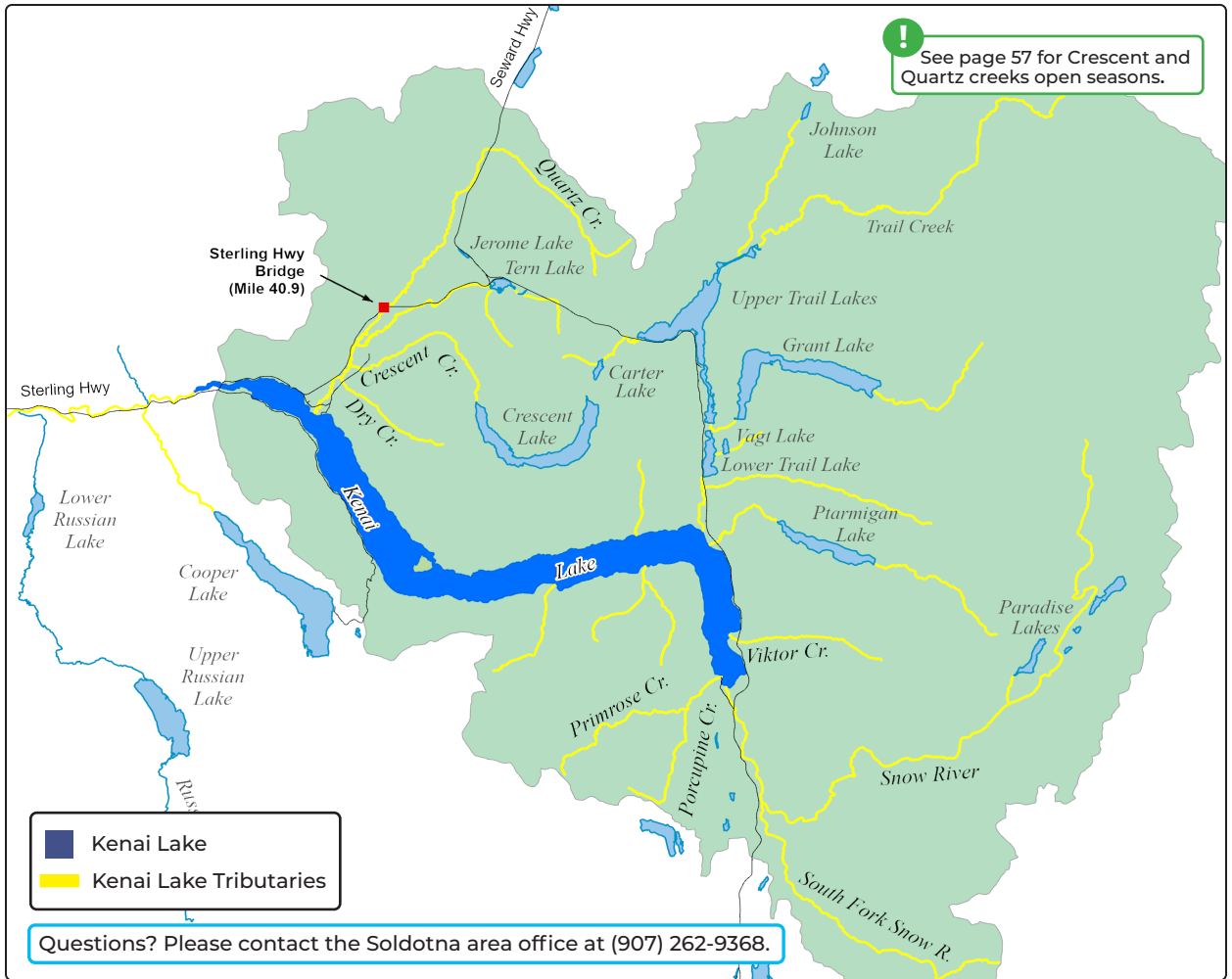
## UPPER RUSSIAN/GOAT CREEK - upstream from ADF&G markers about 300 yards upstream from its confluence with Upper Russian Lake:

- Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.
- **May 1-June 10 and August 1-August 31:**
  - Closed to sport fishing for all species.
- 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.
- Daily limits for other species, see page 53.



Dynamic duo with their Russian River catch.

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## 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.

Check for emergency orders online at [www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR) prior to fishing.

### KING SALMON

- Closed year-round to king salmon fishing.

### OTHER SALMON

- Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.

### ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN

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

### ARCTIC GRAYLING

- **In lakes, ponds, and all flowing waters:** 5 per day, 5 in possession.

### RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

- **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 fish may be 20 inches or longer.
- **In stocked lakes:** 5 per day, 5 in possession, only 1 fish may be 20 inches or longer. See pages 86-87 for a list of stocked lakes in this section.
- 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 5 for recording instructions.

### NORTHERN PIKE

- 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.

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## LAKE TROUT

- In lakes, ponds, 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, ponds, and all flowing waters: 2 per day, 2 in possession.

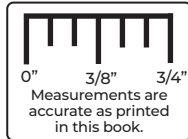
## OTHER FINFISH

- In lakes, ponds, 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:
  - 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.



### 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 following daily bag and possession limits under general regulations, see pages 56-57.
- Bait and multiple hooks are allowed year-round.

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## 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.

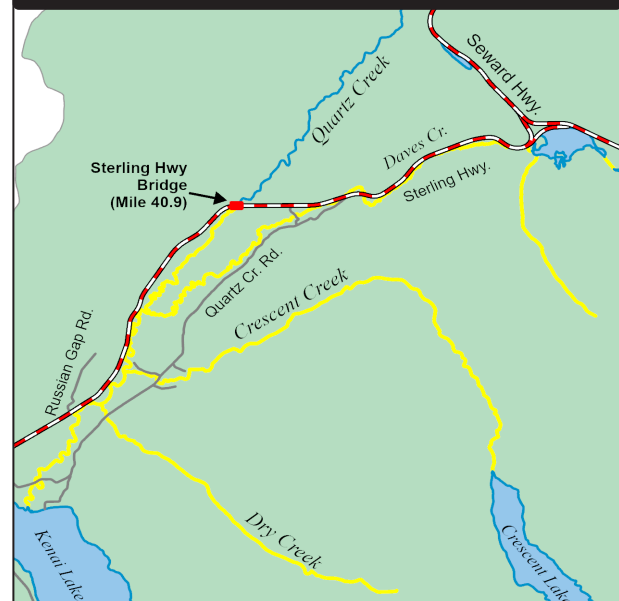
### KENAI LAKE within ¼ mile of all inlet streams:

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

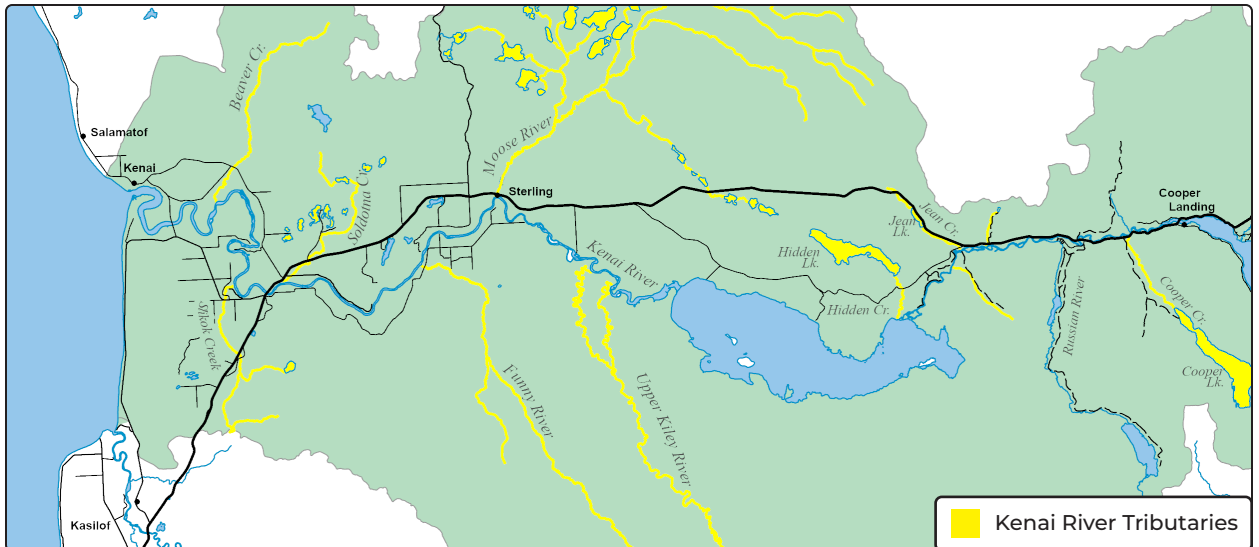
### KENAI LAKE OUTLET:

- 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.

## KENAI LAKE AND TRIBUTARIES



- May 1-June 10: Closed to all sport fishing
- May 1-June 10 and Sept. 15-Oct. 31: Closed to all sport fishing



## 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.

**Check for emergency orders online at [www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR) prior to fishing.**

### **KING SALMON**

- Closed year-round to king salmon fishing.

### **OTHER SALMON**

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

### **ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN**

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

### **ARCTIC GRAYLING**

- In lakes, ponds, and flowing waters: 5 per day, 5 in possession.

### **RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT**

- In flowing waters: 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 16 inches long.
- In lakes and ponds: 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 fish may be 20 inches or longer.
  - 20 inches or longer:
    - There is a total annual limit of 2 rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer taken north of the latitude of Point Adam, from the waters of the following areas: West Cook Inlet, Susitna River Drainage, Knik Arm, Anchorage Bowl, Kenai Lake drainages, Kenai River tributaries, and Kenai Peninsula.
    - If you retain a rainbow/steelhead trout 20 inches or longer, you must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.

### **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, ponds, and flowing waters:
  - 2 per day, 2 in possession.

### **NORTHERN PIKE**

- 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.

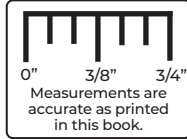
### **OTHER FINFISH**

- In flowing waters, lakes, and ponds: No limit.

## 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 all species other than salmon.

### KILLEY RIVER:

- **May 1-July 31:** Closed to all sport fishing.
- **August 1-April 30:** Open to sport fishing for all 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.**
  - **May 1-July 31:** Only artificial flies are allowed in these waters. See page 94 for a description of allowable gear.
  - Open to sport fishing for all other species following general regulations on pages 58-59.
- **Remainder of drainage:**
  - **May 1-June 10:** Closed to sport fishing in flowing waters.
  - **June 11-April 30:** Open to sport fishing for all species other than salmon.

### SLIKOK CREEK:

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

### SOLDOTNA CREEK:

- **May 1-June 10:** Closed to all sport fishing.
- **June 11-April 30:** Open to sport fishing for all 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:** Open to sport fishing for all species other than salmon.
- **November 1-April 30:** Open to sport fishing for all 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 fish may be 20 inches or longer.

### HIDDEN CREEK:

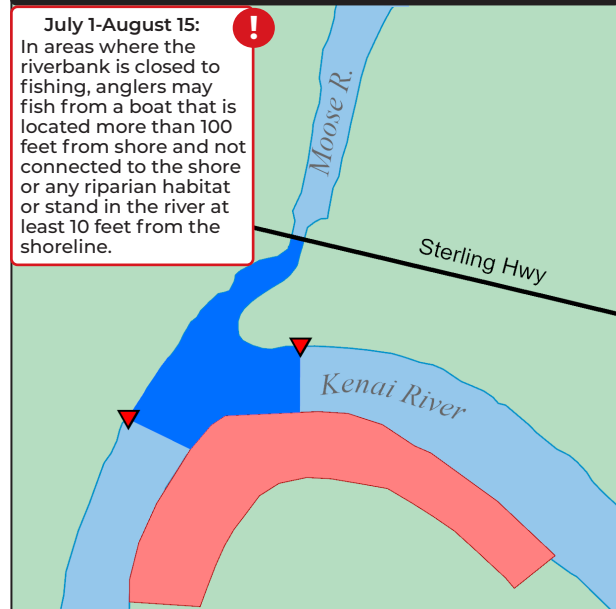
- **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
- **May 1-June 10:** Closed to all sport fishing.

### HIDDEN LAKE:

- **September 15-November 30:** Closed to all sport fishing.
- **December 1-September 14:** Open to sport fishing for all 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.
- **Closed year-round to king salmon fishing.**
- **Closed year-round to burbot fishing.**
- Lake trout: 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 16 inches in length.

## 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 100 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.