



S O U T H C E N T R A L R E G I O N

D e p a r t m e n t o f F i s h a n d G a m e



TERMINAL TACKLE FOR ALASKAN WATERS

The following is a list of some of the most popular fishing lures and flies used throughout the Southcentral Alaska area.

This list does not constitute endorsement by the Alaska Department of Fish & Game, nor legality for the waters you intend to fish. Please check the regulation booklet for any hook and/or bait restrictions. Names used are trademarks of respective companies.

Chinook (King) Salmon

Lures, Attractors, Bait

Vibrax spinners, sizes 5-6; Mepps spinners, sizes 5-6; Pixee spoons, 7/8 ounce; Tee Spoons sizes 4-6.

Also, a 1/0 or 2/0 single hook, or two single hooks, or one treble hook (depending on regs), with one or more of the following: Buzz Bomb, 3- or 4-inch; Spin-N-Glo; Lil' Corky; red or orange Glo-Bug yarn; large salmon egg clusters, fresh or cured; whole or chunks of eulachon (smelt, hooligan); whole or chunks of herring. 20- to 70-lb. test salmon leader & line.

Plugs

Kwikfish, sizes K-13 through K-16, sometimes with a fillet of herring or eulachon wrapped around it (depending on regs); Hot Shots, size 70; Mag Warts, Wiggle Warts, or Storm Warts; Tadpolllys.

Flies

Sizes 2 or larger, tied in Fat Freddie's; Bunny bugs or leeches; Popsicles; bucktail streamers; salmon egg, alevin, fry, or smolt patterns; "yarn flies" (a piece of red or orange Glo-Bug yarn). 9- to 11-wt. fly rod.

Coho (Silver) Salmon

Lures, Attractors, Bait

Vibrax spinners sizes 2-5; Mepps spinners sizes 2-5; Pixee spoons, 1/4 -1/2 ounce; Krocodile spoons, sizes 5/8 - 2 oz.; Coyote spoons.

Also, a size 4 - 1/0 single hook, or two single hooks, or one treble hook (depending on regs), with one or more of the



following: Buzz Bombs, 2-, 3- or 4-inch; Spin-N-Glos; Lil' Corky; "yarn flies" (a piece of red or orange Glo-Bug yarn); or salmon eggs, fresh or cured; whole or chunks of eulachon (smelt / hooligan); whole or chunks of herring; bait sometimes fished below a bobber, especially in slack water. No live fish may be used as bait in fresh waters. 8- to 20-lb. test salmon leader & line.

Plugs

Kwikfish, sizes K-7 - K-12; Hot Shots, Wiggle Warts, or Mag Warts; Tadpolllys.

Flies

Sizes 4 - 1/0 bucktail streamers; Egg-sucking Leeches; Flash Flies; Polar Shrimp or other shrimp patterns; spey patterns; Popsicles; Polly Wogs; "yarn flies" (a piece of red or orange Glo-Bug yarn). 5- to 9-wt. fly rod.

Sockeye (Red) Salmon

Lures, Attractors, Bait, Plugs

Many anglers assert that red salmon will not bite these. However, some anglers report success with a bare blue, black, or red hook, sizes 3/0 or 4/0, fished below a no. 1 or 0 dodger; FlatFish lures, size X-4, X-5 or U-20; or Mepps or other bladed spinner in sizes 1 - 3. Bait is rarely, if ever, used. 8 - 15-lb. test salmon leader & line.

Flies

The majority of anglers targeting red salmon use flies, sizes 6 - 2, such as Russian River Coho Flies; Sockeye Oranges; Sockeye Magics; Comets; Green Lanterns; Dean River Lanterns; red, pink or orange shrimp patterns; Sockeye Coppers; "yarn flies" (a piece of pink, red or orange Glo-Bug yarn); or any sparsely tied fly, especially in pink, red or chartreuse. 5- to 9-wt. fly rod.

Chum (Dog) & Pink (Humpy) Salmon

Lures, Attractors, Plugs, Bait

Vibrax spinners, sizes 2-5; Mepps spinners, sizes 2-5; Pixee spoons, 1/4 -1/2 oz.; Krocodile spoons, sizes 5/8 - 1 1/2 oz.; Coyote spoons.



Also, a size 4 - 1/0 single hook, or two single hooks, or a treble hook (depending on regs), with one or more of the following: Buzz Bombs, 2- or 3-inch; Spin-N-Glos; Lil' Corkys; "yarn flies" (a piece of Glo-Bug yarn in just about any color); or salmon egg clusters, fresh or preserved. 10- to 20-lb. test salmon leader and line.

Flies

Sizes 6 - 2 coho streamers; Egg sucking Leeches; Flash Flies; Polar Shrimps; Popsicles; shrimp patterns; patterns with metallic tinsel; Polly Wogs for top-water action in chartreuse or hot pink; "yarn flies"; just about any saltwater fly. 6- to 9-wt. fly rod.



Rainbow Trout, Arctic Char/Dolly Varden

Lures, Attractors, Plugs, Bait

Mepps spinners, sizes 0 - 4; Vibrax spinners, sizes 0 - 4, Pixee spoons, 1/4 oz.; Krocodile spoons, 1/4 oz.; Rapala plugs, 1 - 3-inch; FlatFish, 1 1/2 - 1 3/4 inch.

Also size 32 - 4 single hook or treble hook (depending on regs) with one or more of the following: small Spin-N-Glos; small Lil' Corky; a plastic or glue gun bead in pink, red, orange or white; salmon egg clusters or single salmon eggs, cured or fresh, as well as fresh cocktail shrimp, canned clams, PowerBait, worms or crickets (all depending on bait regs). No live fish may be used as bait in fresh waters. 2- to 15-lb. test leader and line.

Flies

Size 32 - 2 flies in just about any pattern; most popular are Prince Nymphs and other bead heads; caddis imitations; stonefly imitations; chironomid imitations; salmon egg, alevin, fry or flesh patterns; Mosquitoes; Adams Parachutes; Egg-sucking Leeches; Scuds; Muddler Minnows. 0- to 8-wt. fly rod.

Arctic Grayling

Use the same tackle as trout, only smaller sizes, since these fish have smaller mouths.

Northern Pike

Lures, Attractors, Bait

Buzzbaits or spinnerbaits, 1/2 - 3/8; plastic baits imitating juvenile pike, salmon, or worms; Hot Shots or Wiggle Warts; Coyote spoons; Rapala top water baits. Weedless hooks are recommended, since pike prefer aquatic vegetation.

Also, a size 6 - 1/0 single hook or treble hook with one or more of the following: Lil' Corky; Spin-N-Glos; Buzz Bombs; Polly Wogs; whole or chunks of herring; whole or chunks of eulachon (smelt / hooligan). No live fish may be used as bait in fresh waters. 5- to 15-lb. test steel leader, line.

Flies

Size 6 - 2/0 mouse, shrew, frog or duckling patterns; Muddler Minnows; Dahlberg Divers; Woolly worms or buggers; sculpin patterns; Pike Bunnys; foam poppers; minnow or smolt patterns; Deceivers. 4- to 9-wt. fly rod.

Other Gear

There may be areas where it is legal to use a spear to target pike, and other areas where is it open to bowfishing for pike.

Steel leaders are highly recommended, since they ensure that the pike's sharp teeth won't break the line. Pike also have teeth on their gills, so a hook removal tool would also be helpful.

Also Helpful

Large landing net, preferably rubber, since fish flop and twist a lot; pliers or other hook removal tool; hook sharpener; nippers to trim line; knot tying guide; extra line and or leader; measuring tape or guide (some fish have length limits); fillet knife & knife sharpener; breathable waders and wading shoes, or hip boots; fish stringer. Felt-soled wading shoes are illegal in Alaskan fresh waters.

Don't forget to take a life jacket/PFD, sunblock and bug repellent, first aid kit, and regulation booklet. Remember, there may be many areas where cell phones do not work, so be sure to let someone know where you are going and when you are expected to return.



SPORT FISHING SERIES PRODUCED BY:

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