

# Roadside Fishing in the Eastern Interior of Alaska



Northern Pike...  
Arctic Grayling...  
Rainbow Trout...  
Arctic Char...  
Dolly Varden...  
Burbot...

Exploration,  
Solitude,  
Scenery...

The Eastern  
Interior offers  
excellent and  
diverse fishing  
opportunities  
accessible from  
the highways, for  
both stocked and  
native fish...



# Table of Contents

<b>Welcome to Eastern Interior Alaska .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Fishing the Four Road Systems .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Identifying Freshwater Species Found in Eastern Interior Alaska.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Fishing the Alaska Highway .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Fishing Tips .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Fishing Glenn Hwy/Tok Cutoff .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Fishing Nabesna Road .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Fishing the Taylor Highway .....</b>	<b>6</b>

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) administers all programs and activities free from discrimination based on race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, marital status, pregnancy, parenthood, or disability. The department administers all programs and activities in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.

**If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility please write:**

ADF&G ADA Coordinator, P.O. Box 115526, Juneau, AK 99811-5526  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services, 4040 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 300 Webb, Arlington, VA 22203  
Office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of Interior, Washington DC, 20240

**The department's ADA Coordinator can be reached via phone at the following numbers:**

(VOICE) 907-465-6077, (Statewide Telecommunication Device for the Deaf) 1-800-478-3648,  
(Juneau TDD) 907-465-3646, or (FAX) 907-465-6078

**For information on alternative formats and questions on this publication, please contact:**

ADF&G, Sports Fish Division, Research and Technical Services, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, AK 99518, (907) 267-2375



Winter pike fishing ...

In the eastern interior, you will find a variety of lake and stream fishing. These areas may be reached by trails from a few hundred yards to 4.5 miles off the highway.



Stocking an interior lake with rainbow trout fingerlings...

## Welcome to Eastern Interior Alaska

Not only does Tok serve as the gateway to Alaska, it is also the centerpoint to many fishing locations in the eastern interior. Several major road systems are connected to Tok and provide access to creeks, rivers, and lakes with opportunities to fish for Arctic Grayling, northern pike, rainbow trout, coho salmon, Dolly Varden, whitefish, Arctic char and burbot. Most of these areas are accessible by trails ranging in length from a few hundred yards to several miles off the highway.

Anglers staying for multiple days can take advantage of public camping areas. State Parks and U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service campgrounds are located along the Alaska Highway and Tok Cut-Off while Bureau of Land Management campgrounds are off the Taylor Highway. Many of these parks also offer hiking trails for those wanting to further explore Alaska's woodlands.

Fishing in this area is divided along the main road systems: the Alaska Highway, the Glenn Highway/Tok Cut-Off and the Taylor Highway (see map on back of book). All of the fishing spots along the Alaska Highway lie within the Tanana River Drainage. The Tok River, flowing in a northerly direction, joins the Tanana River near Tok. At the Tetlin Junction, 12 miles east of Tok, anglers can opt to travel the Taylor Highway to fish the Fortymile River tributaries. Fishing areas along the Tok Cut-Off also lie within the Tanana River drainage for the first 50 miles. The Tok Cut-Off/Glenn Highway follows the Tok River drainage to Mentasta Pass, where it enters the Copper River drainage. The Nabesna Road turns from the Tok Cut-Off at Slana and also provides anglers with the opportunity to test their skills in several streams and lakes.

Eastern Interior communities in the area include Tok, Tanacross, Northway, Slana, Dot Lake, Chicken, Eagle, and Boundary.

## Fishing the Alaska Highway

Lake/Stream	Road Access	Species
1. Scottie Creek	Milepost 1223.3	Arctic grayling
2. Desper Creek	Milepost 1225.7 (Boat Ramp, parking off highway)	Arctic grayling, Northern pike
3. Island Lake	Milepost 1230.2 (3/4 mile hike from highway)	Northern pike
4. Hidden Lake	Milepost 1240, 1/2 mile trail to lake	rainbow trout
5. Gardiner Creek	Milepost 1246.6	Arctic grayling, Northern pike
6. Deadman Lake	Milepost 1249.4 (Road, 1 mile off highway)	Northern pike
7. Yarger Lake (Lakeview)	Milepost 1256.7 (Road, 1/4 mile off highway)	Northern pike

### Fishing Tips:

- You can use a variety of tackle to catch fish in stocked lakes and roadside streams, but check the Fishing Regulation Summary for the waters in which you plan to fish.
- Rainbow trout do not occur naturally in the Tanana River drainage, but are stocked by Alaska Department of Fish and Game in land-locked lakes. Try fly fishing with egg patterns or streamers. Spinners, spoons, or jigging with bait such as salmon eggs, shrimp, or green or pink artificial bait can work well.
- Northern pike have sharp teeth making a wire leader or heavy line a must. Bright, fast-moving lures attract pike. You can also try jigging with bait. Pike tend to remain in slow moving or still water that is less than 15 feet deep.
- Burbot bite best in the late evening. Use a large, single hook baited with whitefish, herring, or smelt, and attach adequate weight to keep the bait on the bottom.
- For Arctic grayling, use small flies such as a caddis, woolly worm, mosquito, or a pattern. A small spinner, spoon, or lead-headed jig can also bring success. In lakes, try fishing just off the weeds or lily pads.
- As water temperatures warm during summer, fish seek deeper, cooler waters in the lake. During the spring and fall, look for fish to be nearer the shoreline.
- The use of bait and treble hooks is prohibited in some waters. It is the angler's responsibility to check the Sport Fishing Regulations for each area he/she fishes. The regulations also contain a species identification page.
- Remember: For catch & release, do not use bait, use single barbless hooks, land quickly, leave the fish in the water, and handle gently when backing out the hook.
- For more fishing information, visit our website at:

<http://www.sf.adfg.state.ak.us/region3/index.cfm>

## Fishing the Alaska Highway

Lake/Stream	Road Access	Species
8. Bitters Creek	Milepost 1280.3	Arctic grayling
9. Forrest Lake	Milepost 1347.5 (ATV Trail to lake 6 miles)	rainbow trout
10. Robertson Lake #2	Milepost 1348.1 (1/2 mile trail from highway)	rainbow trout
11. Jan Lake	Milepost 1354 (Road, 1/4 mile off highway)	rainbow trout, coho salmon
12. Berry Creek	Milepost 1371.5 (Turnout, south of highway)	Arctic grayling, Dolly Varden
13. Lisa Lake	Milepost 1381.1 (Trail 3/4 mile from highway)	rainbow trout
14. Craig Lake	Milepost 1383.7 (1 mile Craig Lk Loop Rd., 1/2 mile trail)	rainbow trout
15. Donna Lakes	Milepost 1391.8 (trails 3.5 miles and 4.5 miles to lakes)	rainbow trout

*If people concentrated on the really important things in life,  
there'd be a shortage of fishing poles. ~Doug Larson*

## Fishing Glenn Hwy/Tok Cutoff

Lake/Stream	Road Access	Species
16. Tok Overflow #1	Milepost 104.5 (Culvert)	Arctic grayling, Dolly Varden
17. Tok Overflow #2	Milepost 104.9 (Culvert)	Arctic grayling, Dolly Varden
18. Tok River (Glacial)	Milepost 103.8 (Bridge Crossing)	Arctic grayling in clear side streams
19. Little Tok River (Highway Bridge)	Milepost 98.2 (Pulloff)	Arctic grayling
20. Little Tok River (Broken Bridge)	Milepost 91.0 (Pulloff)	Arctic grayling
21. Mineral Lake outlet trailhead	Milepost 90.0 (Pulloff)	Arctic grayling (hike 3/4 mile)
22. Mineral Lake inlet (Station Creek)	Milepost 89.0 (Pulloff)	Arctic grayling, Northern pike (canoe access)

Fishing Nabesna Road		
Lake/Stream	Road Access	Species
23. Rufus Creek (Spring Fishery)	Mile 6 (Turnout)	Dolly Varden
24. Copper Lake Trail Head	Mile 12.2 (14 mile trail)	lake trout, burbot
25. Long Lake	Mile 23 (Turnout)	Arctic grayling, burbot
26. Tanada Lake Trail Head	Mile 24 (15 mile trail)	lake trout, burbot
27. Little Twin Lake/ Big Twin Lake (Tanana Drainage)	Mile 27.8 (Pulloff)	Arctic grayling, lake trout, burbot
28. Jack Lake (Tanana Drainage)	Mile 31(mile trail south)	Arctic grayling, lake trout, whitefish, burbot
29. Jack Creek (Tanana Drainage)	Mile 35.3 (Pulloff)	Arctic grayling

### **FISHING REGULATIONS AND EMERGENCY ORDERS:**

***Anglers should always check for changes to regulations or emergency orders prior to fishing. Fishing information for Interior Alaska (Region III) is available online at:***

***[www.sf.adfg.state.ak.us/region3/index.cfm](http://www.sf.adfg.state.ak.us/region3/index.cfm)***

Fishing the Taylor Highway		
Lake/Stream	Road Access	Species
30. Four Mile Lake	Milepost 4.1 (Trail 1/4 mile)	rainbow trout, lake trout, Arctic char
31. Logging Cabin Creek	Milepost 43 (Turnout)	Arctic grayling
32. West Fork Dennison	Milepost 49 (Turnout)	Arctic grayling
33. Taylor Creek	Milepost 53	Arctic grayling
34. Mosquito Fork	Milepost 64	Arctic grayling
35. South Fork	Milepost 75	Arctic grayling
36. Walker Fork	Milepost 82	Arctic grayling

*Note: Arctic grayling can be found in many of the streams along the Taylor Hwy.*

This brochure was produced by:

Alaska Department of Fish & Game  
Division of Sport Fish, Region III (Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim and Upper Copper/Upper Susitna River)  
1300 College Rd., Fairbanks, AK 99701  
(907) 459-7228

Reach us on the web at:

***[www.sf.adfg.state.ak.us/region3/index.cfm](http://www.sf.adfg.state.ak.us/region3/index.cfm)***

Sport fishing regulations in the AYK/UCUS region are posted on the web and can be viewed by clicking on the link for “Regulations” at the Sport Fish home page. Emergency orders and current information about inseason closures are also posted on the day of issue on our website.

© 2008 Alaska Department of Fish and Game. All rights reserved. Photographs in this brochure are the property of ADF&G. No portion of this brochure may be reproduced without permission of ADF&G.

