



August 2023

Dear Alaska Sport Fishing Charter Business Owner and/or Guide:

You are receiving this letter because you were a registered sport fishing charter business owner or guide in 2022 or 2023. I am writing to inform you of a new statewide requirement in 2025:

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT IN 2025 ALL SALTWATER CHARTER ACTIVITY IN ALASKA MUST BE REPORTED THROUGH THE ELECTRONIC LOGBOOK (ELOGBOOK).

WHY THE MOVE TO ELOGBOOKS STATEWIDE?

In 2025, use of eLogbooks will be mandatory for all saltwater charter businesses to support timely data availability for responsive fisheries management.

Through the ongoing cooperation of the charter industry in Southeast Alaska and voluntary eLogbook users in the remainder of the state, the eLogbook has proven to be a more efficient, timely, and effective sport charter data collection mechanism:

- eLogbook data are submitted faster, more easily, and more accurately than on paper.
- Data verification (ADF&G sending emails to you specific to data errors) is dramatically reduced for eLogbook data.
- In Southeast, where eLogbooks are mandatory, charter data are available to fisheries managers in a substantially shorter timeframe.

Considering these successes and the support of responsive king salmon management in Southeast, the Department has chosen to mandate saltwater charter eLogbook reporting statewide in 2025.

HOW DO WE GET AN ELOGBOOK?

eLogbooks are business-specific and, when mandatory, will be emailed to businesses after registering. For voluntary users in 2023 and 2024, links will be provided upon request. Once emailed, these links remain stable from year to year, and reactivate every year when we process your business registration.

WHEN?

Charter businesses in Southeast Alaska continue to be required to use eLogbooks. Charter businesses in the rest of the state are required to transition by the start of the 2025 season. We encourage people who are still using paper logbooks to transition during the remainder of 2023 and during the 2024 seasons to become familiar with the eLogbook before the mandate is in effect. Early adoption allows you to reach out to us with questions before the busy transition period.

ADDITIONAL TIPS AND HELPFUL INFO:

See below for a few helpful points about the eLogbook and why you should consider using yours in 2023!

- The eLogbook collects the same information as the paper logbook in an electronic format.
- Two business-specific web-links (web-based applications) work together to allow charter businesses to record, report, submit, and review their saltwater trips.
 - The **Review application** is designed for business owners and is used to review, edit, and summarize trip data. Internet is needed to use the Review app.
 - The **Entry application** is designed for guides and is used to record and report trip data. Internet is not needed to record trip data in the Entry app, but is required to upload trips according to the trip submission schedule.
- Review and Entry app links are issued to the business. Entry app links are shared by all guides operating for the business. It is the responsibility of the business owner to distribute the link to their guides.
- Charter businesses and guides **do not need internet connectivity to record trip data. Charter businesses do need internet to upload, review, and summarize data.**
- The eLogbook is designed to be used on any device (such as smartphones, tablets, or laptops) that supports a web-browser. We recommend a tablet to make data entry easier.
- The eLogbook uses the web-browser (Chrome, Firefox, Safari, etc.) to save trip data when offline. If you close the browser, the data will be saved. **Ensure you have private browsing turned off and do not clear your history/cache or you may lose data.**
- **Upload your trips in accordance with the weekly submittal schedule** found in the paper logbook or in the help menu of your eLogbook. **We recommend uploading as often as possible** to avoid data loss, but you are not required to upload daily.
- **We recommend carrying a paper logbook as backup in the event of technical difficulty.** If you do encounter issues, contact ADF&G at 907-267-2299 or 907-267-2337 within 24 hours.

If you are interested in using the eLogbook please contact:

Ben Jevons:
907-267-2299

ben.jevons@alaska.gov

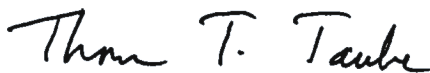
Kayla Carr:
906-267-2337

kayla.carr@alaska.gov

GRATITUDE!

Thank you for your ongoing efforts to provide world-class charter data. Through your ongoing cooperation and support, we can provide exceptional data used widely in the sustainable management of critical fisheries resources. We hope you have an excellent season.

Thank you,



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