

General Regulations - Kenai Peninsula

Inclusive waters: All fresh waters of the Kenai Peninsula, including Upper and Lower Summit lakes (excluding the Kenai River drainage and North Gulf Coast fresh water drainages).

Fishing for all species is open year-round unless otherwise noted below.

KING SALMON

- The fresh waters of the Kenai Peninsula are **closed to king salmon fishing**, except Anchor River, Deep Creek, Kasilof River and Ninilchik River. See Special Regulations.
- In stocked lakes: 10 per day, 10 in possession, in combination with other salmon. See pages 88–89 for a list of stocked lakes.
- In Kenai Peninsula fresh waters open to king salmon fishing by special regulation:
 - 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.
 - 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, you must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.

OTHER SALMON

- In stocked lakes (see pages 88–89 for a list of stocked lakes):
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession in combination with king salmon.
- In other lakes, ponds and **all flowing waters**:
 - 16 inches or longer: 3 per day, 3 in possession, only 2 per day, 2 in possession may be coho (silver) salmon.
 - A coho (silver) 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 (silver) salmon 16 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
 - Less than 16 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession in combination.

General Regulations (cont.) - Kenai Peninsula

RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

- In flowing waters: 2 per day, 2 in possession; only 1 fish may be 20 inches or longer. If 20 inches or longer see below.
- In lakes and ponds: 5 per day, 5 in possession; only 1 fish may be 20 inches or longer. If 20 inches or longer see below.
- 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.

ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN

- In flowing waters: 2 per day, 2 in possession.
- In lakes and ponds: 5 per day, 5 in possession.

ARCTIC GRAYLING

- 5 per day, 5 in possession.

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.

NORTHERN PIKE

- No limit.
- **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.
- Northern pike may be taken by spear, sport fishing gear, ice fishing gear, or by bow and arrow (the arrow must be attached to the bow with a line and the arrow must have a barbed tip).
- When fishing through the ice for northern pike, you may use two hooks on a single line, provided that both hooks are attached to one single piece of bait.

Methods and Means - Kenai Peninsula

Bait Restrictions:

- **September 16–December 31:** Only unbaited, artificial lures or flies are allowed in flowing waters of the Kenai Peninsula.
- Bait and multiple hooks are allowed year-round in lakes and ponds and during certain timeframes on select flowing waters. Find more information in the Special Regulations listed below.

Use of Beads:

- In all flowing waters, beads fished ahead of flies, lures, or bare hooks must be fixed within 2 inches of the hook, or be free to slide on the entire length of the line or leader.



A nice pair of coho salmon from Deep Creek.

Special Regulations - Kenai Peninsula

Anchor River drainage

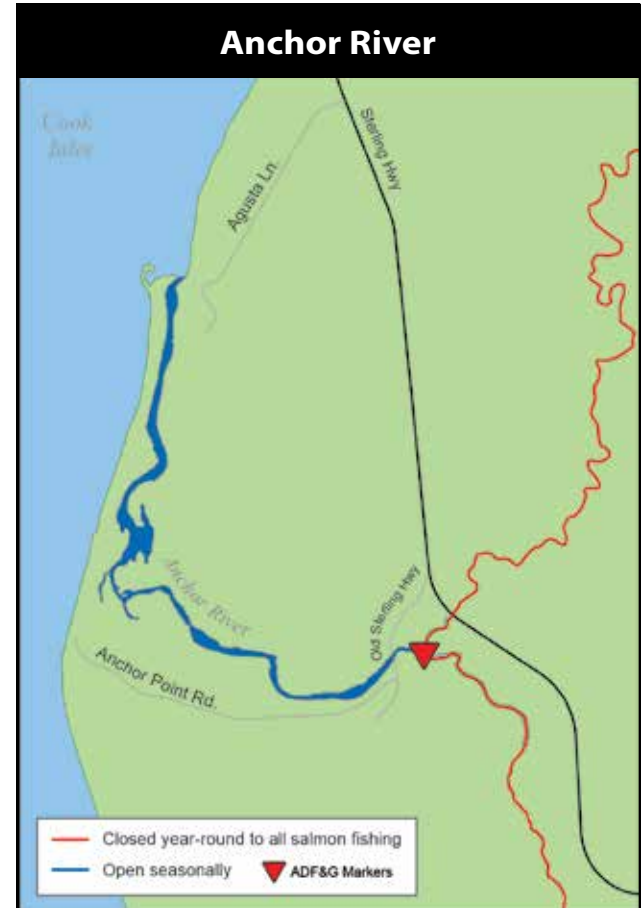
- **Closed to all fishing January 1–May 20** (except Bridge Creek reservoir is open year-round to fishing).

Anchor River from its mouth upstream approximately 2 miles to ADF&G markers approximately 200 yards upstream of the Old Sterling Highway Bridge:

January 1–May 20	<i>Closed to all fishing.</i>	
May 21, 22, 23, 25 and May 28-30	Open to all species; closed to the retention of king salmon.	Only one, unbaited single hook artificial fly or lure is allowed.
May 24, 26, 27, 31	<i>Closed to all fishing.</i>	
June 1, 4, 5, 6, 8, 11, 12, 13, 15, 18, 19, 20, 22	Open to all species; closed to the retention of king salmon.	Only one, unbaited single hook artificial fly or lure is allowed.
June 2, 3, 7, 9, 10, 14, 16, 17, 21, 23-30	<i>Closed to all fishing.</i>	
July 1–15	Open to all species, except king salmon.	Only one, unbaited single hook artificial fly or lure is allowed.
July 16–August 31	Open to all species, except king salmon.	Bait and multiple hooks are allowed.
Sept. 1–October 31	Open to all species, except king salmon.	Only one, unbaited, single hook artificial fly or lure is allowed.
November 1, 2022 through open date in May 2023	<i>Closed to all fishing.</i>	

Check for Emergency Orders prior to fishing at:
www.adfg.alaska.gov

- King salmon:
 - Anchor River is closed by Emergency Order to the retention of king salmon in 2022. See table at left.
 - Check for Emergency Orders at www.adfg.alaska.gov for future updates.
- Rainbow/steelhead trout (entire drainage):
 - No retention. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
- All other species:
 - General Regulations on pages 66-67 apply.
- **Upstream from the ADF&G markers approximately 200 yards upstream of the Old Sterling Highway Bridge:**
 - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
 - **August 1–October 31:** Open to fishing for all species except salmon.
 - Only one, unbaited, single hook artificial lure or fly is allowed.
- Rainbow/steelhead trout:
 - No retention is allowed. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
- All other species (except salmon): Follow the General Regulations on pages 66-67.
- **November 1–July 31:** Closed to all fishing in flowing waters.
- **Bridge Creek Reservoir:**
 - Open to fishing year-round following General Regulations on pages 66-67.



Bench Creek drainage—including Bench Lake:

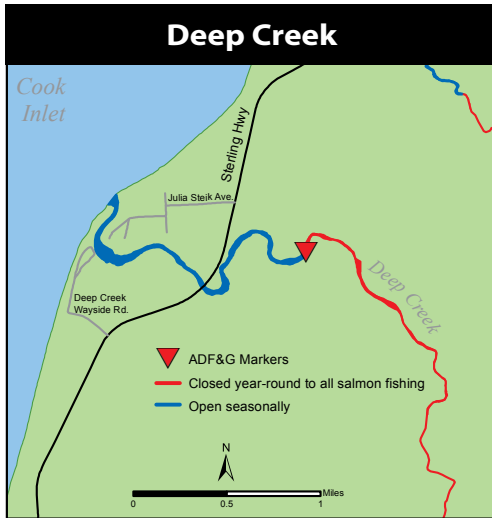
- **June 11-April 30:** Open to fishing for all species except king salmon.

Bishop Creek drainage—including Daniels Creek:

- **June 11-April 30:** Open to fishing for all species except salmon.

Crooked Creek and Coal Creek:

- **August 1–December 31:** Open to fishing for all species except king salmon.
- Rainbow/steelhead trout:
 - No retention is allowed. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
- **In all flowing waters:**
 - **September 1–December 31:** Only one unbaited, single hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed.



Deep Creek drainage:

- **Closed to all fishing January 1–May 27.**

- **From its mouth upstream approximately 2 miles to ADF&G markers:**

May 28–July 15 and September 1–October 31:

- Only one unbaited, single hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed on days open to fishing. See table.
- King salmon:
 - Deep Creek is closed by Emergency Order to the retention of king salmon in 2022. See table at right.
 - Check for Emergency Orders at www.adfg.alaska.gov for future updates.
- Rainbow/steelhead trout (entire drainage):
 - No retention is allowed. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
- Other species:
 - General Regulations on pages 66–67 apply.
- **Upstream from ADF&G markers:**
 - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
 - **August 1–October 31:** Open to fishing for all species except salmon.
 - Only one, unbaited, single hook artificial lure or fly is allowed.
 - Rainbow/steelhead trout:
 - No retention is allowed. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
 - All other species (except salmon): Follow the General Regulations on pages 66–67.
 - **November 1–July 31:** Closed to all fishing in flowing waters.

Deep Creek from its mouth upstream approximately 2 miles to ADF&G markers:		
January 1–May 27	Closed to all fishing	
May 28, 29, 30	Open to all species; closed to the retention of king salmon.	Only one unbaited, single hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed.
May 31 and June 1–3	Closed to all fishing.	
June 4, 5, 6	Open to all species; closed to the retention of king salmon.	Only one unbaited, single hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed.
June 11, 12, 13	Open to all species; closed to the retention of wild king salmon.	Single hook with bait or single hook artificial fly or lure is allowed.
June 7–10 and June 14–30	Closed to all fishing.	
July 1–15	Open to all species; closed to the retention of king salmon.	Only one unbaited, single hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed.
July 16–August 31	Open to all species; closed to the retention of wild king salmon.	Bait and multiple hooks are allowed.
Sept. 1–October 31	Open to all species; closed to the retention of king salmon.	Only one unbaited, single hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed.
November 1, 2022 through open date in May 2023	Closed to all fishing.	

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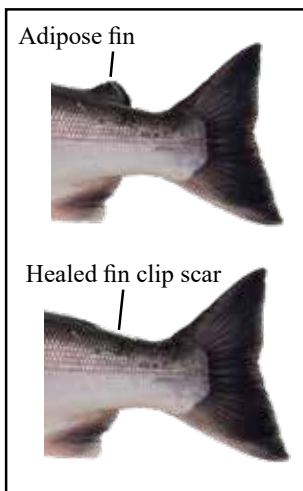
Deep Creek drainage continued...

English Bay River drainage:

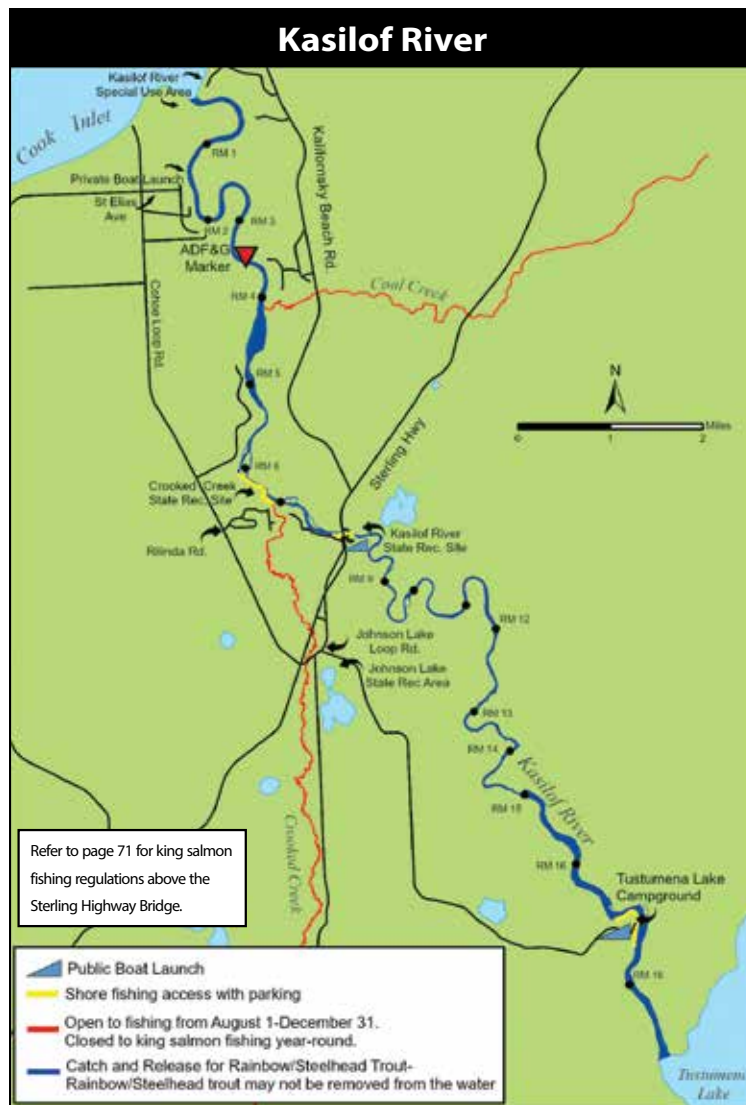
- From its mouth (including the lagoon) upstream to the outlet of Lower English Bay Lake:
 - **June 1–July 31:** Fly-fishing-only waters. See page 7 for a description of acceptable gear.
- English Bay River and all lakes and ponds of English Bay River drainage upstream from the outlet of Lower English Bay Lake:
 - Open year-round to fishing for all species except salmon.

Kasilof River —excluding Crooked Creek, Coal Creek, and Tustumena Lake and its tributaries:

- King salmon:
 - **January 1–June 30:** You may not fillet, mutilate, or otherwise disfigure a king salmon in such a manner that prevents determination whether the fish is a wild or hatchery fish until you have stopped fishing in the Kasilof River drainage for the day and have moved more than 100 yards away from the Kasilof River.
- Rainbow/steelhead trout:
 - Open to fishing year-round. No retention is allowed. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
- From its mouth upstream to the Sterling Highway Bridge:
 - **January 1–July 31:** Sport fishing from a motorized boat is not allowed. Motors 10 hp or less may be used only downstream of ADF&G markers located at approximately river mile 3, and only after fishing from the boat has stopped for the day.
 - **May 16–September 15:** Bait and multiple hooks are allowed.
 - **September 16–May 15:** Only one unbaited, single hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed.
- King salmon:
 - 20 inches or longer:
 - **January 1–June 30:** 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 may be a naturally-produced king salmon recognized by the presence of the adipose fin. Fish with an adipose fin may be kept only on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays.



- **July 1–July 31:** 1 per day, 1 in possession (naturally-produced or hatchery-produced).
- See harvest recording requirements and annual harvest limit information on page 66.
- Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.



Special Regulations - Kenai Peninsula (cont.)

Kasilof River—excluding Crooked Creek, Coal Creek, and Tustumena Lake and its tributaries (continued):

- **From ADF&G markers at the mouth of Crooked Creek downstream to ADF&G markers near the cutbank:**
 - **January 1–June 30:** Fishing from an anchored boat is prohibited. “Anchoring” means using an anchor or any device other than oars or paddles to slow or stop a boat’s downstream drift.
- **From the Sterling Highway Bridge upstream to ADF&G markers located at the outlet of Tustumena Lake:**
 - **August 1–15:** Sport fishing from a boat is not allowed.
 - **January 1–September 15:** Bait and multiple hooks are allowed.
 - **September 16–December 31:** Only unbaited, artificial lures or flies allowed.
 - King salmon:
 - **Season:** January 1–June 30:
 - 20 inches or longer:
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession, only 1 may be a naturally-produced king salmon, recognized by the presence of the adipose fin. Fish with an adipose fin may be kept only on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays.
 - 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.
 - Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession.

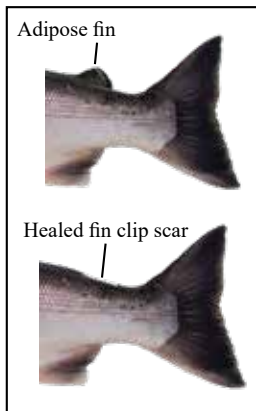
Ninilchik River drainage:

- **Closed to all fishing January 1–May 27.**
- **From its mouth upstream approximately 2 miles to ADF&G markers:**
 - **May 28–July 15 and September 1 – October 31:**
 - One single hook with bait or single hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed on days open to fishing. See table.
 - **July 16–August 31:** Bait and multiple hooks are allowed.
 - **Hatchery king salmon:**
 - Season:** May 28–30; June 4, 5, 6 and June 11, 12, 13 and June 16–October 31.
 - See table for bait and hook restrictions during open fishing periods.
 - 20 inches or longer: 2 per day, 2 in possession, hatchery king salmon only.
 - You may not fillet, mutilate, or otherwise disfigure a king salmon in such a manner that prevents determination whether the fish is a wild or hatchery fish until you have stopped fishing in the Ninilchik River drainage for the day and have moved more than 100 yards away from the Ninilchik River.
 - After taking two hatchery king salmon 20 inches or longer from the Ninilchik River, you may not fish for any species rest of the day in:
 - Anchor River, Deep Creek or Ninilchik River (this applies from May 28–June 13).
 - The Ninilchik River (this applies June 16–October 31)
 - If you retain a king salmon 20 inches or longer, you must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.
 - See annual limit information on page 66.
 - Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession, hatchery king salmon only.

Ninilchik River from its mouth upstream approximately 2 miles to ADF&G markers:		
January 1-May 27	Closed to all fishing	
May 28, 29, 30	Open to all species; closed to the retention of wild king salmon.	One *single hook with bait or one single hook artificial fly or lure is allowed.
May 31 and June 1-3	Closed to all fishing.	
June 4, 5, 6	Open to all species; closed to the retention of wild king salmon.	One *single hook with bait or one single hook artificial fly or lure is allowed.
June 7	Closed to all fishing.	
June 8	Youth-Only Fishery See page 72.	One *single hook with bait or one single hook artificial fly or lure is allowed.
June 9-10	Closed to all fishing.	
June 11, 12, 13	Open to all species; closed to the retention of wild king salmon.	One *single hook with bait or one single hook artificial fly or lure is allowed.
June 14-15	Closed to all fishing.	
June 16–July 15	Open to all species; closed to the retention of wild king salmon.	One *single hook with bait or one single hook artificial fly or lure is allowed.
July 16–August 31	Open to all species; closed to the retention of wild king salmon.	Bait and multiple hooks are allowed.
Sept. 1–October 31	Open to all species; closed to the retention of wild king salmon.	Only one unbaited, *single hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed.
November 1, 2022 through open date in May 2023	Closed to all fishing.	
* A single hook is a hook with one point, with or without a barb.		

Ninilchik River drainage continued...

- **Hatchery king salmon only—**
 - **June 16–October 31:** (Hatchery king salmon are missing their adipose fin and have a healed fin clip scar).
 - 20 inches or longer: 2 per day, 2 in possession.
 - If you retain two **hatchery king salmon 20 inches or longer** from the Ninilchik River, you may not fish for any species in the Ninilchik River for the rest of the day.
 - Annual limit applies. See information on page 66.
 - Less than 20 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession, of **hatchery king salmon only**.
 - You must immediately release all wild king salmon caught.
- Rainbow/steelhead trout (entire drainage):
 - No retention is allowed. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
- Other species:
 - General Regulations on pages 66-67 apply.
- **Upstream from the ADF&G markers:**
 - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
 - **August 1–October 31:** Open to fishing for all species except salmon.
 - Only one, unbaited, single hook artificial lure or fly is allowed.
 - Rainbow/steelhead trout:
 - No retention is allowed. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
 - All other species (except salmon): Follow the General Regulations on pages 66-67.
 - **November 1–July 31:** Closed to all fishing in flowing waters.



Ninilchik River Youth-Only Fishery:

- **From the mouth of the Ninilchik River upstream to the Sterling Highway Bridge marker:**
 - If you are 15 years of age or younger, you may fish for king salmon in this section between 6 a.m.–9:59 p.m. on the second Wednesday after Memorial Day (June 8, 2022).
 - Youth-Only king salmon limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession (of any size) of hatchery king salmon only. Annual limit applies. See information on page 66.
 - After taking two, hatchery king salmon of any size from the Ninilchik River, you may not fish for any species in the Anchor River, Deep Creek or Ninilchik River for the rest of the day.
 - If you retain a king salmon 20 inches or longer, you must immediately record that harvest. See page 5 for recording instructions.

Stariski Creek drainage:

- **Closed to all fishing November 1–June 30.**
- **Closed year-round to fishing for king salmon.**
- Rainbow/steelhead trout:
 - No retention is allowed. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
- **From its mouth upstream to the Sterling Highway Bridge:**
 - **July 1–October 31:** Open to fishing for all species except king salmon. See General Regulations on pages 66 and 67.
 - **July 1–15 and September 1–October 31:** Only one unbaited, single hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed.
 - **July 16–August 31:** Bait and multiple hooks are allowed.
- **Upstream of the Sterling Highway Bridge:**
 - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**
 - **August 1–October 31:** Open to fishing for all species except salmon.
 - Only one, unbaited, single hook artificial lure or fly is allowed.
 - Rainbow/steelhead trout:
 - No retention is allowed. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
 - All other species (except salmon): Follow the General Regulations on pages 66-67.
 - **November 1–July 31:** Closed to all fishing in flowing waters.

Swanson River drainage:

- **In all flowing waters:**
 - **May 1 - June 10:** Closed to fishing.
 - **June 11-April 30:** Open to fishing for all species except king salmon. See General Regulations on pages 66 and 67.
 - Bait and multiple hooks are allowed during open fishing season.
 - Rainbow/steelhead trout: 5 per day, 5 in possession (only one may be 20 inches or longer).
- **Sucker Creek:**
 - **Closed year-round to all salmon fishing.**

Tustumena Lake:

- **Closed year-round to fishing for sockeye (red) salmon.**
- Open to fishing year-round following General Regulations on pages 66 and 67.

Tustumena Lake tributaries:

- **June 11-April 30:** Open to fishing for all species except king salmon. See General Regulations on pages 66 and 67.