

Submitted by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game

December 3, 2014

SELECTED PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND AND UPPER COPPER RIVER AND UPPER SUSITNA RIVER AREAS FINFISH REGULATIONS

SUBSISTENCE AND PERSONAL USE SALMON FISHERIES

5 AAC 01.610. Fishing seasons. (a) Except in the nonsubsistence area described in 5 AAC 99.015(a)(5) and unless restricted in this section and 5 AAC 01.625, or unless restricted under the terms of a subsistence fishing permit, fish, other than rainbow trout and steelhead trout, may be taken at any time in the Prince William Sound Area.

(b) Salmon may be taken in the Upper Copper River District only as follows:

(1) in the Glennallen Subdistrict, from June 1 through September 30;

(2) repealed 6/12/2003;

(3) when the Copper River subsistence fishery is closed or restricted because of an inadequate escapement of sockeye or king salmon, the fishery may be reopened September 1 for the taking of coho salmon, which constitute the majority of the salmon at that time.

(c) Repealed 6/30/83.

(d) Herring spawn on kelp may be taken for subsistence purposes as follows:

(1) above water from March 15 through June 15;

(2) underwater using dive gear only during open periods for the wild herring spawn-on-kelp commercial fishery.

(e) Rainbow trout and steelhead trout taken incidentally by fish wheel or subsistence finfish net gear, except dip net gear, are lawfully taken and may be retained for subsistence purposes. Rainbow trout and steelhead trout taken by dip net gear must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed.

(f) Lingcod may be taken for subsistence purposes only from July 1 through December 31.

(g) Salmon may be taken in the districts described in 5 AAC 01.605(b), only from May 15 through October 31, during fishing periods as follows:

(1) from May 15 until two days before the commercial opening of that salmon district, seven days per week;

(2) during the commercial salmon season, only during open commercial salmon fishing periods in that district;

(3) from two days following the closure of the commercial salmon fishing season in that district through October 31, seven days a week. (In effect before 1983; am 6/30/83, Register 86; am 4/28/84, Register 90; am 4/30/91, Register 118; am/readopt 5/15/93, Register 126; em am 5/6/94, Register 130; am 5/22/94, Register 130; am 6/7/95, Register 135; am 9/29/95, Register 135; am 3/30/2000, Register 153; am 5/11/2003, Register 166; am 6/12/2003, Register 166; am 12/1/2004, Register 172; am 3/14/2009, Register 189)

Authority: AS 16.05.251 AS 16.05.258

5 AAC 01.616. Customary and traditional subsistence uses of fish stocks and amount necessary for subsistence uses. (a) The Alaska Board of Fisheries (board) finds that salmon stocks are customarily and traditionally taken or used for subsistence in the following locations:

(1) the Glennallen Subdistrict of the Upper Copper River District described in 5 AAC 01.605(2) and the waters of the Copper River described in 5 AAC 01.647(i)(3);

(2) the Southwestern District described in 5 AAC 24.200(i) and the waters along the northwestern shore of Green Island from the westernmost tip of the island to the northernmost tip of the island;

(3) the waters north of a line from Porcupine Point to Granite Point and south of a line from Point Lowe to Tongue Point;

(4) the Copper River District described in 5 AAC 24.200(a);

(5) repealed 6/12/2003;

(6) the Coghill, Northwestern, Eshamy, Unakwik, Southeastern, and Bering River Districts and those portions of the Northern, Montague, and Eastern Districts not included in (2) and (3) of this subsection, excluding those portions within the Valdez Nonsubsistence Area as described in 5 AAC 99.015(a)(5).

(b) The board finds that the following amounts of salmon are reasonably necessary for subsistence uses in the following locations:

(1) Glennallen Subdistrict of the Upper Copper River District:

(A) in that portion from the southern boundary of the subdistrict at the downstream edge of the Chitina-McCarthy Road Bridge to the mouth of the Tonsina River: 25,500 - 39,000 salmon;

(B) in that portion from the mouth of the Tonsina River upstream to the mouth of the Gakona River: 23,500 - 31,000 salmon;

(C) in that portion from the mouth of the Gakona River upstream to the mouth of the Slana River, and the waters of the Copper River as described in 5 AAC 01.647(i)(3): 12,000 - 12,500 salmon;

(2) in the Copper River District as described in 5 AAC 24.200(a):

(A) in a year when there is a harvestable surplus that allows for a commercial fishery: 3,000 - 5,000 salmon;

(B) in a year when there is no commercial fishery: 19,000 - 32,000 salmon;

(3) the Southwestern District as described in 5 AAC 24.200(i) and the waters along the northwestern shore of Green Island from the westernmost tip of the island to the northernmost tip of the island: 2,100 - 3,500 salmon;

(4) the waters north of a line from Porcupine Point to Granite Point and south of a line from Point Lowe to Tongue Point: 1,800 - 3,000 salmon;

(5) the waters described in (a)(6) of this section: 115 - 200 salmon.

(c) The board finds that groundfish, herring, herring spawn on kelp, and smelt in those portions of the Prince William Sound Area that are outside the boundaries of the nonsubsistence area described in 5 AAC 99.015(a)(5) are customarily and traditionally taken or used for subsistence.

(d) The board finds that the following amounts of fish, other than salmon, are reasonably necessary for subsistence uses in the Prince William Sound Area:

(1) 1,000 - 1,500 lingcod;

(2) 7,500 - 12,500 rockfish;

(3) 16,000 - 24,000 pounds of groundfish, other than rockfish and lingcod;

(4) 12,000 - 18,000 pounds of herring;

(5) 4,000 - 6,000 pounds of herring spawn on kelp.

(e) The board finds that freshwater finfish, other than salmon, in the Prince William Sound Area are customarily and traditionally taken or used for subsistence.

(f) The board finds that 25,000 - 42,000 usable pounds of freshwater finfish, other than salmon, are reasonably necessary for subsistence uses in the Prince William Sound Area. (Eff. 5/24/97, Register 142; am 3/30/2000, Register 153; am 6/12/2003, Register 166; am 3/30/2006, Register 177; am 3/14/2009, Register 189)

Authority: AS 16.05.251 AS 16.05.258

5 AAC 01.620. Lawful gear and gear specifications. (a) Fish may be taken by gear listed in 5 AAC 01.010(a) unless restricted in this section or under the terms of a subsistence fishing permit.

(b) Salmon may be taken only by the following types of gear:

(1) in the Glennallen Subdistrict by fish wheels or dip nets;

(2) repealed 4/30/91;

(3) in salt water by a gillnet or seine, in a district as specified in 5 AAC 24.330, and as follows:

(A) by a gillnet as described in 5 AAC 01.010(c);

(B) by a seine that is not longer than 50 fathoms in length and 100 meshes in depth with a maximum mesh size of four inches;

(4) repealed 6/12/2003.

(c) Fish wheels used for subsistence fishing may be operated only as follows:

(1) the owner of a fish wheel shall register that fish wheel with the department; the department shall issue a registration number for the fish wheel; that registration number, and either the owner's name and address or the owner's permanent identification number from a valid Alaska driver's license or a state identification card, must be permanently affixed and plainly visible on the fish wheel on a wood, metal, or plastic plate that is at least 12 inches high by 12 inches wide, in letters and numerals at least one inch high, when the fish wheel is in the water; only the registration number from the current year may be affixed to the fish wheel; any other registration number must be removed from the fish wheel;

(2) the owner of a fish wheel registered under (1) of this subsection is responsible for the fish wheel when the fish wheel is in the water;

(3) when the permit holder is a person other than the owner of the fish wheel, in addition to the requirements of (1) of this subsection, an additional plate of wood, metal, or

plastic, that is at least 12 inches high by 12 inches wide bearing the permit holder's name and address in letters and numerals at least one inch high must be attached to each fish wheel so that the name and address are plainly visible;

(4) a permit holder may operate only one fish wheel at a time and a fish wheel may be operated only by one permit holder at a time; that permit holder must;

(A) have the fish wheel marked as specified in this subsection during fishing operations; and

(B) check the fish wheel at least once every 10 hours and remove all fish caught by the fish wheel;

(5) a person may not set or operate a fish wheel within 75 feet of another fish wheel;

(6) a fish wheel

(A) may not have more than two baskets;

(B) must be removed from the water at the end of the permit period; and

(C) may not be rented, leased, or otherwise used for personal gain.

(d) Halibut may be taken only by a single hand-held line with not more than two hooks attached to it.

(e) The permit holder must personally operate the fish wheel or dip net. A subsistence fish wheel or dip net permit may not be loaned or transferred except as permitted under 5 AAC 01.011.

(f) Herring spawn on kelp may be taken only by a hand-held unpowered blade-cutting device. Kelp plant blades must be cut at least four inches above the stipe (stem). The provisions of this subsection do not apply to Fucus species.

(g) Repealed 5/24/97.

(h) Groundfish may be taken only by a single hand troll, single hand-held line, or a single longline, none of which may have more than five hooks attached to it, except that

(1) lingcod taken incidentally during a subsistence finfish fishery are lawfully taken and may be retained for subsistence purposes subject to the limitations described in 5 AAC 01.610(f) and 5 AAC 01.645(d);

(2) rockfish taken incidentally during a subsistence finfish fishery are lawfully taken and may be retained for subsistence purposes subject to the limitations described in 5 AAC 01.645(e); and

(3) groundfish taken incidentally in a subsistence net fishery, consistent with applicable subsistence salmon laws and regulations, are lawfully taken and may be retained for subsistence purposes.

(i) Repealed 3/14/2009.

(j) In addition to the requirements under 5 AAC 01.010(h), a buoy attached to one end of a subsistence gillnet must be marked in printed type with the first initial, last name, and address of the subsistence permit holder, or the ADF&G vessel license number of the vessel used to operate the gear, in numbers and letters that are

(1) at least one inch high;

(2) in a color that contrasts with the background; and

(3) plainly visible when the gear is in the water. (In effect before 1983; am 6/30/83, Register 86; am 4/28/84, Register 90; am 4/30/91, Register 118; readopt 5/15/93, Register 126; am 5/24/97, Register 142; am 3/30/2000, Register 153; am 5/11/2003, Register 166; am 6/12/2003, Register 166; am 3/30/2006, Register 177; am 3/14/2009, Register 189)

Authority: AS 16.05.251 AS 16.05.258

5 AAC 01.630. Subsistence fishing permits. (a) Except as provided in this section, fish other than salmon and freshwater fish species may be taken for subsistence purposes without a subsistence fishing permit.

(b) Salmon and freshwater fish species may be taken only under authority of a subsistence fishing permit.

(c) Repealed 6/2/88.

(d) Only one subsistence fishing permit will be issued to each household per year.

(e) The following apply to Glennallen Subdistrict subsistence salmon fishing permits:

(1) only one type of gear may be specified on a permit;

(2) only one Glennallen Subdistrict subsistence salmon fishing permit per calendar year may be issued to a household;

(3) permits must be returned to the department no later than October 31, or a permit for the following year may be denied as provided in 5 AAC 01.015(c);

(4) repealed 6/12/2003;

(5) repealed 6/12/2003;

(6) repealed 3/14/2009;

(7) only the permit holder and the authorized member of the household listed on the subsistence permit may take salmon;

(8) a subsistence permit holder shall record all harvested fish on the permit, in ink, before concealing the fish from plain view or transporting the fish from the fishing site; for the purposes of this paragraph, "fishing site" means the location where the fish is removed from the water and becomes part of the permit holder's bag limit;

(9) repealed 3/14/2009.

(f) Repealed 6/12/2003.

(g) Repealed 3/30/2000.

(h) A subsistence fishing permit may be issued to a village council, or other similarly qualified organization whose members operate fish wheels for subsistence purposes in the Glennallen Subdistrict, to operate fish wheels on behalf of members of its village or organization. A permit may only be issued following approval by the department of a harvest assessment plan to be administered by the permitted council or organization. The harvest assessment plan must include

(1) provisions for recording daily catches for each fish wheel;

(2) sample data collection forms;

(3) other information specified by the department;

(4) location and number of fish wheels;

(5) the full legal name of the individual responsible for the lawful operation of each fish wheel; and

(6) other information determined by the department to be necessary for effective resource management.

(i) Unless otherwise provided in this section, regulations governing fishing under the authority of a village council permit issued under (h) of this section, or other permit issued under this section, are those generally applicable to Glennallen Subdistrict subsistence fishing permits.

(j) The following additional provisions apply to Glennallen Subdistrict subsistence fishing permits issued under (h) of this section:

(1) the permit will list all households and household members for whom the fish wheel is being operated;

(2) the allowable harvest may not exceed the combined seasonal limits as listed in (e) of this section for the households listed on the permit; the permittee will notify the department when households are added to the list, and the seasonal limit may be adjusted accordingly;

(3) members of households listed on a permit issued to a village council or other similarly qualified organization, are not eligible for a separate household subsistence fishing permit for the Upper Copper River District;

(4) under authority delegated through a permit issued to a village council or other similarly qualified organization, an individual or individuals designated by the permitted group may issue household subsistence fishing permits to households not listed as participants in fishing fish wheels operated directly by a village council or other similarly qualified organization; the permittee may also register fish wheels; the harvest assessment plan may authorize the permittee to collect, compile, and report to the department the subsistence harvests of these household permit holders;

(5) authority to enforce all applicable laws and regulations may not be delegated through permits issued under (h) of this section. (In effect before 1982; am 4/14/82, Register 82; am 4/28/84, Register 90; am 6/2/88, Register 106; am 4/9/89, Register 110; em am 6/6/89 - 10/3/89, Register 111; am 4/30/91, Register 118; readopt 5/15/93, Register 126; am 5/24/97, Register 142; am 3/30/2000, Register 153; am 5/11/2003, Register 166; am 6/12/2003, Register 166; am 12/1/2004, Register 172; am 3/30/2006, Register 177; am 3/14/2009, Register 189)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251 AS 16.05.258

5 AAC 01.645. Subsistence bag, possession, and size limits. (a) The total annual possession limits for a Glennallen Subdistrict subsistence salmon fishing permit is as follows:

(1) for a household with one person: 30 salmon, of which no more than five may be king salmon if taken by dip net;

(2) for a household with two persons: 60 salmon, of which no more than five may be king salmon if taken by dip net;

(3) 10 salmon for each additional person in a household over those specified in (2) of this subsection, except that the household's limit under (2) of this subsection for king salmon taken by dip net does not increase;

(4) upon request, a permit for additional salmon will be issued with the following limits:

(A) no more than a total of 200 salmon for a permit issued to a household with one person, of which no more than five may be king salmon if taken by dip net;

(B) no more than a total of 500 salmon for a permit issued to a household with two or more persons, of which no more than five may be king salmon if taken by dip net.

(b) In the Copper River District and other locations open to commercial salmon fishing, the annual subsistence salmon limit is as follows:

(1) 15 salmon for a household of one person;

(2) 30 salmon for a household of two persons;

(3) 10 salmon for each additional person in a household over those specified in (2) of this subsection;

(4) no more than five king salmon may be taken per permit.

(c) The daily bag limit for halibut is two fish and the possession limit is four fish. A person may not take or possess halibut under sport fishing regulations and under this section on the same day.

(d) The daily bag limit for lingcod is two fish and the possession limit is four fish. A person may not take or possess lingcod under sport fishing regulations and under this section on the same day. Lingcod retained must measure at least 35 inches from the tip of the snout to the tip of the tail. Undersized lingcod shall be returned to the water immediately without further harm.

(e) The daily bag limit for rockfish is as follows:

(1) from May 1 through September 15, the daily bag limit is four fish and the possession limit is eight fish, of which only two per day and two in possession may be nonpelagic rockfish; a person may not take or possess rockfish under sport fishing regulations and under this section on the same day;

(2) from September 16 through April 30, the daily bag and possession limit is eight fish, of which only two per day and two in possession may be nonpelagic rockfish; a person may not take or possess rockfish under sport fishing regulations and under this section on the same day.

(f) The daily bag limit for sharks is one fish and the possession limit is two fish. A person may not take or possess sharks under sport fishing regulations and under this section on the same

day. (In effect before 1984; am 4/28/84, Register 90; am 5/23/88, Register 106; readopt 5/15/93, Register 126; am 5/24/97, Register 142; am 3/30/2000, Register 153; am 6/12/2003, Register 166; am 3/14/2009, Register 189)

Authority: AS 16.05.251 AS 16.05.258

5 AAC 01.647. Copper River Subsistence Salmon Fisheries Management Plans. (a)

The purpose of this plan is to ensure that adequate escapement of salmon in the Copper River system occurs and that subsistence uses, as described under AS 16.05.258 and 5 AAC 99.010, are accommodated.

(b) The following are directives pertaining to the management of Copper River System salmon:

(1) this policy governs only those salmon which pass the department sonar counters located at the Million Dollar Bridge;

(2) the department shall manage the Copper River commercial salmon fishery to attain a total escapement of salmon into the Copper River as specified in 5 AAC 24.360 to ensure that an adequate escapement reaches the spawning grounds and to provide for hatchery broodstock and for subsistence, personal use, and sport fisheries;

(3) repealed 4/28/84;

(4) repealed 4/28/84.

(c) Repealed 4/28/84.

(d) Repealed 4/28/84.

(e) Repealed 4/28/84.

(f) Repealed 4/28/84.

(g) Repealed 4/28/84.

(h) Repealed 4/28/84.

(i) Salmon, other than king salmon, may be taken in the vicinity of the former Native village of Batzulnetas under the following conditions:

(1) unless modified by this subsection, 5 AAC 01.001 - 5 AAC 01.040 and 5 AAC 01.600 - 5 AAC 01.645 apply to this fishery;

(2) salmon may be taken only under the authority of a Batzulnetas subsistence salmon fishing permit issued by the department;

(3) salmon may be taken only in those waters of the Copper River between ADF&G regulatory markers located near the mouth of Tanada Creek and approximately one-half mile downstream from that mouth and in Tanada Creek between ADF&G regulatory markers identifying the open waters of the creek;

(4) fish wheels and dip nets only may be used on the Copper River; dip nets and spears only may be used in Tanada Creek;

(5) salmon may be taken only from June 1 through September 1 or until the season is closed by emergency order; fishing periods are to be established by emergency order and are two days per week during the month of June and 3.5 days per week for the remainder of the season;

(6) king salmon taken must be released to the water unharmed; fish wheels must be equipped with a livebox or be monitored at all times;

(7) annual bag and possession limits are as specified in 5 AAC 01.645(a);

(8) the permit must be returned to the department's Glennallen office no later than September 30 of each year.

(j) Repealed 3/14/2009.

(k) Repealed 6/12/2003. (In effect before 1984; am 4/28/84, Register 90; am 6/2/88, Register 106; am 4/30/91, Register 118; readopt 5/15/93, Register 126; am 5/24/97, Register 142; am 5/31/97, Register 142; am 3/30/2000, Register 153; am 6/12/2003, Register 166; am 12/1/2004, Register 172; am 3/14/2009, Register 189; am 5/12/2011, Register 198)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251 AS 16.05.258

5 AAC 77.591. Copper River Personal Use Dip Net Salmon Fishery Management Plan. (a) Salmon may be taken in the Chitina Subdistrict only under the authority of a Chitina Subdistrict personal use salmon fishing permit. Only one Chitina Subdistrict personal use salmon fishing permit may be issued to a household per calendar year. A household may not be issued both a Copper River subsistence salmon fishing permit and a Chitina Subdistrict personal use salmon fishing permit.

(b) Salmon may be taken from June 7 through September 30. The commissioner shall establish a preseason schedule, including fishing times, for the period June 7 through August 31 based on daily projected sonar counts at the sonar counter located near Miles Lake. This abundance-based preseason schedule will distribute the harvest throughout the season. The commissioner may close, by an emergency order effective June 7, the Chitina Subdistrict personal use salmon fishing season and shall reopen the season, by emergency order, on or before June 15 depending on the run strength and timing of the sockeye salmon run. Adjustments shall be made to the preseason schedule based on actual sonar counts compared to projected counts. If the actual sonar count at Miles Lake is more than the projected sonar count, the

commissioner shall close, by emergency order, the season and immediately reopen it during which additional fishing times will be allowed. If the actual sonar count at Miles Lake is less than the projected sonar count, the commissioner shall close, by emergency order, the season and immediately reopen it during which fishing times will be reduced by a corresponding amount of time.

(c) Salmon may be taken only with dip nets.

(d) A personal use salmon fishing permit holder shall record all harvested salmon on the permit, in ink, before concealing the salmon from plain view or transporting the salmon from the fishing site. Permits must be returned to the department and the conditions specified in 5 AAC 77.015(c) must be met. For the purposes of this subsection, "fishing site" means the location where the salmon is removed from the water and becomes part of the permit holder's bag limit.

(e) The annual limit for a personal use salmon fishing permit is 15 salmon for a household of one person and 30 salmon for a household of two or more persons, of which no more than one may be a king salmon. However, when the department determines that a weekly harvestable surplus of 50,000 or more salmon will be present in the Chitina Subdistrict, the commissioner shall establish, by emergency order, weekly periods during which the department shall issue a supplemental permit for 10 additional sockeye salmon to a permit applicant who has met the annual limit. King salmon may not be taken under the authority of a supplemental permit. A supplemental permit will be valid from Monday to the following Sunday of the week in which the surplus salmon are expected to be present in the Chitina Subdistrict. The department may specify other conditions in a supplemental permit. The department may issue an additional supplemental permit to a permittee who has met the limits of a previously issued supplemental permit.

(f) The maximum harvest level for the Chitina Subdistrict personal use salmon fishery is 100,000 - 150,000 salmon, not including any salmon in excess of the inriver goal or salmon taken after August 31. If the Copper River District commercial salmon fishery is closed for 13 or more consecutive days, the maximum harvest level in the Chitina Subdistrict is reduced to 50,000 salmon.

(g) Rainbow or steelhead trout incidentally taken may not be retained and must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed.

(h) For the purposes of this section, the Chitina Subdistrict consists of all waters of the mainstem Copper River from the downstream edge of the Chitina-McCarthy Road Bridge downstream to an east-west line crossing the Copper River as designated by ADF&G regulatory markers located approximately 200 yards upstream of Haley Creek. (Eff. 6/12/2003, Register 166; am 3/24/2012, Register 201)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHERY

5 AAC 24.200. Fishing districts and subdistricts. (a) Copper River District: waters surrounding Hinchinbrook Island between the tip of Hook Point and Boswell Rock, including Boswell Bay waters south of a line from Boswell Rock to the radio tower at Whitshed Village, and waters between Whitshed Village and west of a line from a point on the mainland at 60° 10.21' N. lat., 144° 35.57' W. long. to the northernmost tip of Fox Island and then extending south from Fox Island along 144° 36.12' W. long.

(b) Bering River District: waters west of the longitude of Cape Suckling (144° W. long.) and east of a line from a point on the mainland at 60° 10.21' N. lat., 144° 35.57' W. long. to the northernmost tip of Fox Island and then extending south from Fox Island along 144° 36.12' W. long.

(c) Eastern District: waters of the eastern mainland shore from the radio tower at Whitshed Village to Point Freemantle, including Bligh Island, Goose Island, and other adjacent islands.

(1) Valdez Narrows Subdistrict: waters of Port Valdez enclosed by a line from Potato Point to Entrance Point;

(2) Port Fidalgo Subdistrict: waters east of 146° 24.12' W. long.

(d) Northern District: waters of the northern mainland shore from Point Freemantle to a point at the southern entrance of Esther Passage at 60° 49.33' N. lat., 147° 51.12' W. long., and waters outside the Coghill District and along the eastern shore of Culross Island and east of a line from a point on the southern shore of Culross Island at 60° 38.31' N. lat., 148° 08.62' W. long. to a point approximately 1.5 miles west of Port Nellie Juan Light at 60° 34.86' N. lat., 148° 08.62' W. long. to the Eshamy District Boundary at Port Nellie Juan Light, including Glacier Island, Fairmount Island, Perry Island, adjacent islands, and the Naked Island group, except waters of Unakwik Inlet north of 61° 00.97' N. lat.

(1) Perry Island Subdistrict: waters of the Northern District west of a line from the western entrance to Eaglek Bay at 60° 49.66' N. lat., 147° 44.92' W. long., to the northernmost tip of Axel Lind Island and from the southernmost tip of Axel Lind Island to the northern tip of Lone Island, and from the southern tip of Lone Island to the northern tip of the Eshamy District;

(2) Cannery Creek Subdistrict: waters of the Northern District in Unakwik Inlet south of 61° 00.97' N. lat., and north of the latitude of Unakwik Point;

(3) General Subdistrict: all remaining waters of the Northern District.

(e) Unakwik District: waters of Unakwik Inlet north of 61° 00.97' N. lat.

(f) Coghill District: waters north and east of a line from Point Pigot at 60° 48.21' N. lat., 148° 20.90' W. long. to a point west of Point Culross at 60° 45.45' N. lat., 148° 11.07' W. long.

and from Point Culross at 60° 45.58' N. lat., 148° 08.74' W. long. to a point west of Culross Light at 60° 45.16' N. lat., 148° 07.87' W. long. to Point Perry at 60° 45.05' N. lat., 147° 57.62' W. long. to the west island of the Bald Head Chris Islands at 60° 47.97' N. lat., 147° 51.62' W. long. to a point on the mainland at 60° 49.26' N. lat., 147° 51.20' W. long.

(1) Esther Subdistrict: waters of the Coghill District south and east of a line from a point on the western shore of Esther Island at 60° 48.08' N. lat., 148° 08.54' W. long. to Esther Rock at 60° 48.08' N. lat., 148° 10.67' W. long. to Point Culross at 60° 45.58' N. lat., 148° 08.74' W. long. to a point west of Culross Light at 60° 45.16' N. lat., 148° 07.87' W. long., and south of a line crossing Esther Passage from 60° 49.51' N. lat., 147° 52.62' W. long. to 60° 49.51' N. lat., 147° 54.82' W. long.;

(2) Granite Bay Subdistrict: waters of Port Wells, east of a line from Esther Rock at 60° 48.08' N. lat., 148° 10.67' W. long. to a point at 60° 51.68' N. lat., 148° 09.84' W. long. and to a point at 60° 55.81' N. lat., 148° 05.89' W. long., including all waters of Esther Passage north of a line at 60° 49.51' N. lat.;

(3) Bettles Bay Subdistrict: waters west of a line from Point Pigot at 60° 48.21' N. lat., 148° 20.90' W. long. to Point Pakenham at 61° 00.45' N. lat., 148° 04.85' W. long.;

(4) General Subdistrict: all remaining waters of the Coghill District.

(g) Northwestern District: waters south and west of a line from Point Pigot at 60° 48.21' N. lat., 148° 20.90' W. long. to a point west of Point Culross at 60° 45.45' N. lat., 148° 11.07' W. long. and from Point Culross at 60° 45.58' N. lat., 148° 08.74' W. long. to a point west of Culross Light at 60° 45.16' N. lat., 148° 07.87' W. long. and from a point on the southern end of Culross Island at 60° 38.31' N. lat., 148° 08.62' W. long. to a point approximately 1.5 miles west of Port Nellie Juan Light at 60° 34.86' N. lat., 148° 08.62' W. long. to the Eshamy District boundary at the light on the south shore of the entrance to Port Nellie Juan Light, including Culross Passage and waters of Culross Bay.

(1) Whittier Subdistrict: waters west of a line from Point Pigot at 60° 48.21' N. lat., 148° 20.90' W. long. to a point at 60° 45.85' N. lat., 148° 13.73' W. long., including Passage Canal, Blackstone Bay, and Cochrane Bay;

(2) Culross Island Subdistrict: waters east of a line from Point Pigot at 60° 48.21' N. lat., 148° 20.90' W. long. to a point at 60° 40.71' N. lat., 148° 13.87' W. long., south of a line from Point Pigot to a point west of Point Culross at 60° 45.45' N. lat., 148° 11.07' W. long. and from Point Culross to a point west of Culross Light at 60° 45.16' N. lat., 148° 07.87' W. long., including waters of Culross Bay and Culross Passage and north of a line from a point approximately 1.5 miles west of Port Nellie Juan Light at 60° 34.86' N. lat., 148° 08.62' W. long., to a point on the mainland at 60° 36.46' N. lat., 148° 11.37' W. long.;

(3) Port Nellie Juan Subdistrict: waters southwest of a line from a point on the mainland at 60° 36.46' N. lat., 148° 11.37' W. long., to a point approximately 1.5 miles west of

the Port Nellie Juan Light at 60° 34.86' N. lat., 148° 08.62' W. long., including Port Nellie Juan Light and Kings Bay.

(h) Eshamy District: waters east of a line from the entrance to Port Nellie Juan at 60° 35.87' N. lat., 148° 06.13' W. long. to a point approximately one mile offshore at 60° 36.87' N. lat., 148° 06.13' W. long., to 60° 36.52' N. lat., 148° 03.68' W. long., to 60° 36.68' N. lat., 147° 55.93' W. long., to 60° 26.12' N. lat., 147° 54.12' W. long., to 60° 24.00' N. lat., 147° 53.63' W. long., to 60° 24.00' N. lat., 147° 58.90' W. long., to Granite Point at 60° 24.94' N. lat., 147° 57.97' W. long.

(1) Main Bay Subdistrict: waters of Main Bay west of a line from 60° 33.33' N. lat., 148° 02.32' W. long. to 60° 32.86' N. lat., 148° 01.92' W. long.;

(2) Crafton Island Subdistrict: all remaining waters of the Eshamy District.

(i) Southwestern District: mainland waters from the outer point on the north shore of Granite Bay to Cape Fairfield and waters surrounding Knight Island, Chenega Island, Bainbridge Island, Evans Island, Elrington Island, Latouche Island, and adjacent islands.

(1) Port San Juan Subdistrict: waters of Elrington Passage north of 59° 59.97' N. lat., and waters within one mile of the northern and eastern shore of Evans Island, from Evans Point south to the latitude of the northern tip of Elrington Island;

(2) Point Elrington Subdistrict: waters east of the longitude of Pyke Point (148° 18.97' W. long.), north of 59° 54.97' N. lat., and west of a line extending south from Elrington Island at 148° 10.12' W. long., including waters of Elrington Passage south of 59° 59.97' N. lat., and of Prince of Wales Pass south of the latitude of Amerk Point (60° 02.76' N. lat.);

(3) General Subdistrict: all remaining waters of the Southwestern District.

(j) Montague District: waters surrounding Montague Island, Green Island, Middleton Island, and adjacent islands.

(1) Port Chalmers Subdistrict: waters of the Montague District in Montague Strait, north of an ADF&G regulatory marker located on the west shore of Montague Island at 60° 02.50' N. lat., and south of an ADF&G regulatory marker located near Graveyard Point on the west shore of Montague Island at 60° 20.00' N. lat.;

(2) General Subdistrict: all remaining waters of the Montague District.

(k) Southeastern District: waters surrounding Hawkins Island, Hinchinbrook Island, and adjacent islands, except the waters of Hinchinbrook Island on the southeast shore between Hook Point and Boswell Rock. (In effect before 1985; am 5/11/85, Register 94; am 3/29/87, Register 101; am 4/9/89, Register 110; am 4/30/91, Register 118; am 5/24/97, Register 142; am 5/31/97, Register 142; am 3/11/2001, Register 157; am 5/11/2003, Register 166; am 3/30/2006, Register 177; am 4/24/2009, Register 190; am 3/24/2012, Register 201)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 24.310. Fishing seasons. (a) The Copper River District is open and closed by emergency order.

(b) The Bering River District is open and closed by emergency order.

(c) In the Coghill and Unakwik Districts, salmon may be taken only during seasons established by emergency order.

(d) In the Eshamy District, salmon may be taken only during seasons established by emergency order.

(e) In the Eastern, Northern, Northwestern, Southwestern, Montague and Southeastern Districts, salmon may be taken only during seasons established by emergency order.

(f) Repealed 8/20/71.

(g) Repealed 4/15/81.

(h) Repealed 4/8/79. (In effect before 1988)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251(a)

5 AAC 24.331. Gillnet specifications and operations. (a) Copper River and Bering River Districts:

(1) a person may not operate more than one gillnet from a drift gillnet vessel; a drift gillnet may not exceed 150 fathoms in length, hung measure;

(2) a gillnet fished by a valid interim-use or entry permit holder may not be fastened in any manner to a gillnet fished by another interim-use or entry permit holder;

(3) gillnets with mesh size less than eight inches may not be more than 60 meshes in depth; gillnets with mesh size eight inches or larger may not be more than 40 meshes in depth;

(4) drift gillnet specifications for the Copper River District may be modified in accordance with 5 AAC 24.360;

(5) repealed 4/2/88;

(6) repealed 4/30/91;

(7) gillnets with mesh size greater than six inches will not be allowed in the Copper River District before July 15 unless specified by emergency order in accordance with 5 AAC 24.360.

(b) Eshamy, Coghill, and Unakwik Districts:

(1) in the Eshamy District

(A) no person may operate, or have on board a vessel, more than 150 fathoms of set gillnet in the aggregate;

(B) no single set gillnet may exceed 100 fathoms in length;

(C) set gillnets must be operated in substantially a straight line, except

(i) in the Crafton Island Subdistrict, no more than 10 fathoms of a single gillnet may be used as a single hook; and

(ii) in the Main Bay Subdistrict, as provided in 5 AAC 24.367(b)(3);

(D) no person may operate more than three set gillnets;

(E) repealed 4/9/89;

(F) a set gillnet buoy may not be more than 20 feet from the seaward end of the set gillnet to which it is attached;

(G) in the Crafton Island Subdistrict, the shoreward end of a set gillnet or set gillnet lead may not be operated in water deeper than four fathoms at low tide;

(2) repealed 5/11/85;

(3) the operation of each gillnet shall be performed or assisted by the fisherman who holds the valid interim-use or entry permit card for that gear;

(4) drift gillnets may not be longer than 150 fathoms;

(5) in the Eshamy District, set gillnets may be attached to seine webbing on the inshore end not to exceed 10 fathoms in length; the seine webbing may remain set during the open fishing season;

(6) before the first Monday in July, unless modified by emergency order, in the Coghill, Unakwik, and Eshamy Districts and the Port Chalmers Subdistrict, gillnets with a mesh size of less than eight inches may not be more than 60 meshes in depth and gillnets with a mesh size of eight inches or greater may not be more than 40 meshes in depth;

(7) repealed 4/2/88;

(8) during periods established by emergency order for the protection of pink salmon, gillnet mesh size may be restricted to a minimum of five and three-eighths inches.

(c) Notwithstanding 5 AAC 39.105(d)(3), for the purpose of this section, a gillnet shall be considered to be a drift gillnet unless the gillnet has been set, staked, anchored or otherwise fixed.

(d) Vessels that are in transit from one fishing district to another fishing district may be towed and each vessel may carry its own legal limit of fishing gear in the aggregate.

(e) The weight of leadline used on a drift gillnet may not be more than two and one-quarter pounds per fathom of gillnet.

(f) In the Prince William Sound Area,

(1) no more than one vessel may be used to operate a drift gillnet;

(2) notwithstanding 5 AAC 39.105(d)(3), a person may not operate a drift gillnet when the vessel to which the gillnet is attached is grounded, or when any part of the gillnet is grounded above the waterline;

(3) a person may not use mechanical power to hold a vessel in substantially the same geographical location while attached to a drift gillnet. (In effect before 1985; am 5/11/85, Register 94; am 4/16/86, Register 98; am 3/29/87, Register 101; am 4/2/88, Register 105; am 4/9/89, Register 110; am 4/30/91, Register 118; am 5/22/94, Register 130; am 3/30/2000, Register 153; am 5/11/2003, Register 166; am 3/24/2012, Register 201)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 24.332. Seine specifications and operations. (a) Except for the first five fathoms in length of the purse seine, a purse seine may not be less than 200 meshes or more than 335 meshes in depth, or less than 125 fathoms or more than 150 fathoms in length, hung measure, or with mesh size greater than four inches stretched measure, except that the first 25 meshes immediately above or below the lead line may be a chafing strip with a mesh size no larger than seven and one-half inches stretched measure. Leads deeper than the seine or exceeding 75 fathoms in length, or leads with mesh size less than six and one-quarter inches may not be used, except as specified in 5 AAC 39.260(f).

(b) Leads set for fishing must be removed from the water during closed fishing periods and during the closed season within two hours after such closure.

(c) A purse seine vessel may only be connected to a seine or lead at one end of the net. An anchor may only be connected to a seine or lead at the shoreward end of the net.

(d) A lead may only be connected to one end of a seine.

(e) Notwithstanding (a) of this section, from August 25 through the end of the fishing season in the terminal harvest areas and special harvest areas of the Prince William Sound Area, except the Main Bay Hatchery Special Harvest Area described in 5 AAC 24.361, a purse seine may be used that is not more than 150 fathoms in length and not more than 1,025 meshes in depth, hung measure, and with a mesh size no larger than one and five-eighths inches, except that the maximum lead mesh size is as specified in 5 AAC 39.260(f).

(f) A purse seine is considered to have ceased fishing when both ends of the seine are attached to the fishing vessel. (In effect before 1981; am 4/15/81, Register 78; am 8/6/81, Register 79; am 6/30/84, Register 90; am 4/9/89, Register 110; am 4/30/91, Register 118; am 3/30/2000, Register 153; am 3/30/2006, Register 177; am 5/17/2008, Register 186; am 4/24/2009, Register 190; am 3/24/2012, Register 201)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 24.350. Closed waters. The following waters are closed to commercial salmon fishing:

(1) Copper River District:

(A) within a line from Point Whitshed south to a point at 60° 26.49' N. lat., 145° 52.86' W. long. to a point at Alaganik Slough North at 60° 24.65' N. lat., 145° 36.70' W. long. to a point at Pete Dahl East at 60° 20.44' N. lat., 145° 29.14' W. long. to a point at West Kokinhenik at 60° 14.88' N. lat., 145° 10.01' W. long. to a point at East "East Side" at 60° 14.83' N. lat., 145° 03.36' W. long. to a point at Coffee Creek East at 60° 14.19' N. lat., 144° 58.01' W. long. to a point at Charlie Mohr North at 60° 15.15' N. lat., 144° 56.43' W. long. to a point at Martin River North at 60° 15.29' N. lat., 144° 52.52' W. long. to a point on Strawberry Reef at 60° 13.93' N. lat., 144° 50.66' W. long., and at all times within sloughs and in Boswell Bay within the bay;

(B) except as provided in 5 AAC 24.361(b), the inside closure area defined as all waters north of line from a point at Steamboat South at 60° 22.31' N. lat., 145° 33.50' W. long. to the west side of the Pete Dahl entrance at 60° 18.89' N. lat., 145° 30.99' W. long. to the western end of the Grass Island Bar at 60° 18.30' N. lat., 145° 28.42' W. long. to the eastern end of Grass Island Bar at 60° 15.24' N. lat., 145° 17.89' W. long. to the western end of Kokinhenik Bar at 60° 15.00' N. lat., 145° 16.20' W. long. to the eastern tip of Kokinhenik Bar at 60° 13.65' N. lat., 145° 09.46' W. long. to the western tip of Softuk Bar at 60° 13.68' N. lat., 145° 05.78' W. long. to Coffee Creek West at 60° 14.13' N. lat., 144° 58.31' W. long.;

(2) Bering River District:

(A) east of a line from Point Hey to a point on the northeastern shore of Kanak Island at 60° 09.06' N. lat., 144° 22.42' W. long., and east of a line from a point on the southeasternmost shore of Kanak Island at 60° 06.56' N. lat., 144° 19.42' W. long., to

60° 06.56' N. lat., 144° 18.32' W. long., to 60° 04.97' N. lat., 144° 11.12' W. long., to a point on Okalee Spit at 60° 04.46' N. lat., 144° 11.12' W. long.;

(B) waters bounded on the east by the longitude of Cape Suckling (144° W. long.), on the north by a line along the beach from Cape Suckling to the longitude of Lemesurier Point (144° 11.72' W. long.), and on the west by a line along the longitude of Lemesurier Point from Okalee Spit to Lemesurier Point, then along the eastern beach of Kayak Island to Pinnacle Rock, then extending south along the longitude of the southernmost tip of Pinnacle Point;

(3) Eastern District:

(A) Simpson Bay, north of 60° 38.00' N. lat., Orca Inlet and Nelson Bay south and east of a line from Salmo Point to Shepard Point, and all of Orca Inlet southeast of Hawkins Island;

(B) Sheep Bay: north of a line from 60° 41.99' N. lat., 145° 56.11' W. long. to 60° 41.17' N. lat., 145° 55.87' W. long.;

(C) Comfort Cove: east of a line from 60° 42.96' N. lat., 146° 05.67' W. long. to 60° 42.70' N. lat., 146° 05.78' W. long.;

(D) Olsen Bay: north of 60° 44.06' N. lat.;

(E) Beartrap Bay: east of a line from 60° 44.86' N. lat., 145° 59.64' W. long. to 60° 44.55' N. lat., 145° 59.62' W. long.;

(F) St. Matthews Bay: east of a line at 146° 18.09' W. long., and within 500 yards of the northwestern shore, north of 60° 45.36' N. lat.;

(G) Two Moon Bay: south of a line from 60° 44.74' N. lat., 146° 30.15' W. long. to 60° 44.63' N. lat., 146° 30.93' W. long.;

(H) Irish Cove: south of a line from 60° 46.13' N. lat., 146° 26.84' W. long. to 60° 46.06' N. lat., 146° 26.62' W. long.;

(I) Whalen Bay: east of a line from 60° 49.23' N. lat., 146° 15.17' W. long. to 60° 48.59' N. lat., 146° 16.02' W. long.;

(J) Fish Bay: north of 60° 48.92' N. lat.;

(K) Landlocked Bay: within the bay east of a line in the narrows from 60° 51.13' N. lat., 146° 34.05' W. long. to 60° 51.42' N. lat., 146° 34.12' W. long.;

(L) Galena Bay: east of a line from 60° 55.64' N. lat., 146° 38.16' W. long. to 60° 56.41' N. lat., 146° 36.22' W. long., and within 1,000 yards of the north shore

between 60° 57.13' N. lat., 146° 38.83' W. long. and 60° 56.81' N. lat., 146° 36.55' W. long.;

(M) Jack Bay: south and east of a line from 61° 01.76' N. lat., 146° 34.52' W. long. and 61° 01.01' N. lat., 146° 34.34' W. long., and within 1,000 yards of the terminus of all other salmon streams of the bay;

(N) Mineral Creek Delta, Gold Creek, and Kadis Creek: north of a line from 61° 07.45' N. lat., 146° 23.75' W. long. to 61° 07.45' N. lat., 146° 29.80' W. long.;

(O) Head of Port Valdez: waters east of a line from a point west of the Valdez boat harbor at 61° 07.47' N. lat., 146° 22.67' W. long., to a point on the south shore at 61° 05.13' N. lat., 146° 17.82' W. long.;

(P) Allison Creek, Sawmill Creek, and the Alyeska Safety Zone: within 200 yards of the shore from Allison Point at 61° 05.16' N. lat., 146° 20.72' W. long. to a point west of Sawmill Creek at 61° 04.81' N. lat., 146° 27.32' W. long.;

(Q) Sawmill Bay, Valdez Arm: north of a line along 61° 03.14' N. lat. in the northern arm of the bay and west of a line from 61° 03.14' N. lat., 146° 47.41' W. long. to 61° 02.74' N. lat., 146° 47.27' W. long. in the western arm of the bay;

(4) Northern District:

(A) Long Bay: north of a line from 60° 59.09' N. lat., 147° 14.52' W. long. to 60° 58.97' N. lat., 147° 13.17' W. long., north of a line from 60° 59.24' N. lat., 147° 16.35' W. long. to 60° 59.26' N. lat., 147° 16.59' W. long., north of a line from 60° 59.14' N. lat., 147° 16.93' W. long. to 60° 59.03' N. lat., 147° 17.32' W. long., and west of a line from 60° 58.46' N. lat., 147° 16.52' W. long. to 60° 57.52' N. lat., 147° 16.56' W. long.;

(B) Eaglek Bay: north of 60° 53.46' N. lat.;

(C) Wells Bay: east of a line from 61° 00.59' N. lat., 147° 25.59' W. long. to 61° 00.16' N. lat., 147° 25.48' W. long., and north of a line from 61° 00.17' N. lat., 147° 28.88' W. long. to 61° 00.11' N. lat., 147° 29.31' W. long.;

(D) Siwash Bay: west of a line from 60° 57.48' N. lat., 147° 39.73' W. long. to 60° 56.97' N. lat., 147° 39.52' W. long.;

(E) Jonah Bay: west of a line from 60° 00.82' N. lat., 147° 38.63' W. long. to 60° 56.96' N. lat., 147° 38.51' W. long.;

(F) Unakwik Inlet: within 1,000 yards of the terminus of all salmon streams north of 60° 51.97' N. lat.;

(5) Unakwik District: in Unakwik Inlet within 1,000 yards of the terminus of all salmon streams in the District south of 61° 04.97' N. lat.;

(6) Coghill District:

(A) Esther Passage: east of a line from 60° 51.49' N. lat., 147° 54.65' W. long. to 60° 52.36' N. lat., 147° 54.58' W. long.;

(B) College Fiord: within 500 yards of the terminus of Coghill River and within the cove immediately north of the Coghill River mouth;

(7) Northwestern District:

(A) Blackstone Bay: south of a line from 60° 45.95' N. lat., 148° 29.56' W. long. to 60° 45.81' N. lat., 148° 26.61' W. long.;

(B) Passage Canal (Shotgun Cove): south of a line from 60° 48.11' N. lat., 148° 33.08' W. long. to 60° 47.90' N. lat., 148° 32.09' W. long.;

(C) Cochrane Bay: southwest of a line from 60° 39.61' N. lat., 148° 25.41' W. long. to 60° 38.11' N. lat., 148° 24.57' W. long., west of a line from 60° 43.76' N. lat., 148° 22.52' W. long., to 60° 41.45' N. lat., 148° 23.09' W. long., and Surprise Cove west of a line from 60° 45.89' N. lat., 148° 22.02' W. long. to 60° 45.12' N. lat., 148° 22.31' W. long.;

(D) Long Bay (Culross Passage): west of a line from 60° 41.87' N. lat., 148° 15.74' W. long. to 60° 41.61' N. lat., 148° 15.52' W. long.;

(E) Port Nellie Juan (Mink Creek): northwest of a line from 60° 35.66' N. lat., 148° 13.82' W. long. to 60° 34.56' N. lat., 148° 16.47' W. long.;

(F) East Finger Inlet: north of 60° 32.51' N. lat.;

(G) West Finger Inlet: north of a line from 60° 34.16' N. lat., 148° 27.02' W. long. to 60° 34.11' N. lat., 148° 26.21' W. long.;

(8) Eshamy District:

(A) Eshamy Bay and its tributary waters: waters within the Eshamy Lagoon and its tributaries and within 100 yards outside the narrows at the entrance of Eshamy Lagoon;

(B) Gumboot Creek: within 750 yards of the terminus of Gumboot Creek on the northern shore of Eshamy Bay;

(9) Southwestern District:

(A) Dangerous Passage: within 1,000 yards of all salmon streams in Dangerous Passage between 148° 08.87' W. long., and 148° 02.62' W. long.;

(B) Ewan Bay: west of 148° 08.35' W. long.;

(C) Paddy Bay: north of a line from 60° 23.97' N. lat., 148° 06.07' W. long. to 60° 23.91' N. lat., 148° 04.91' W. long.;

(D) Jackpot Bay: north and west of a line from 60° 20.74' N. lat., 148° 13.18' W. long. to 60° 20.52' N. lat., 148° 13.41' W. long.;

(E) Whale Bay: south of 60° 14.16' N. lat.;

(F) Port Bainbridge: north of a line from 60° 09.72' N. lat., 148° 19.96' W. long. to 60° 09.68' N. lat., 148° 20.56' W. long.;

(10) Montague District:

(A) Zaikof Bay: south of 60° 16.86' N. lat., and within 1,000 yards of the southeastern shore of the bay from a point at 60° 17.94' N. lat., 147° 00.15' W. long., to a line at 60° 16.86' N. lat.;

(B) Rocky Bay: west of a line from a point at 60° 21.30' N. lat., 147° 06.66' W. long. to a point at 60° 20.54' N. lat., 147° 05.61' W. long.;

(C) Stockdale Harbor: east of a line from a point at 60° 19.56' N. lat., 147° 12.02' W. long. to a point at 60° 18.26' N. lat., 147° 11.72' W. long.;

(D) Port Chalmers: within a line from a point at 60° 16.97' N. lat., 147° 12.62' W. long. to a point at 60° 16.06' N. lat., 147° 12.63' W. long., from a point at 60° 15.37' N. lat., 147° 12.31' W. long. to a point at 60° 14.16' N. lat., 147° 14.42' W. long., and from a point at 60° 13.86' N. lat., 147° 14.77' W. long. to a point at 60° 13.56' N. lat., 147° 16.82' W. long.;

(E) Hanning Bay: east of a line from a point at 59° 58.93' N. lat., 147° 41.46' W. long. to a point at 59° 57.15' N. lat., 147° 42.99' W. long.;

(F) MacLeod Harbor: east of a line from a point at 59° 53.26' N. lat., 147° 46.12' W. long. to a point at 59° 52.46' N. lat., 147° 46.52' W. long.;

(G) Montague Strait: within 500 yards of the northwestern shore of Montague Island from 60° 04.61' N. lat., 147° 28.82' W. long., to 60° 03.13' N. lat., 147° 33.17' W. long., and from 60° 02.10' N. lat., 147° 34.28' W. long., to 59° 59.94' N. lat., 147° 40.57' W. long.;

(11) Southeastern District:

(A) Port Etches: east of a line from 60° 21.09' N. lat., 146° 33.94' W. long. to 60° 20.06' N. lat., 146° 32.72' W. long., and south of a line from 60° 19.71' N. lat., 146° 34.11' W. long. to 60° 19.01' N. lat., 146° 35.62' W. long.;

(B) Constantine Harbor: within the harbor from 60° 21.25' N. lat., 146° 36.29' W. long. to 60° 21.04' N. lat., 146° 37.10' W. long.;

(C) Shelter Bay, Hinchinbrook Island: east of a line from 60° 26.31' N. lat., 146° 40.12' W. long. to 60° 25.66' N. lat., 146° 40.02' W. long.;

(D) Anderson Bay: south of a line from 60° 28.24' N. lat., 146° 30.78' W. long. to 60° 28.42' N. lat., 146° 31.20' W. long.;

(E) Hawkins Cutoff-Orca Inlet Area: south of a line from 60° 27.86' N. lat., 146° 19.72' W. long. to 60° 27.65' N. lat., 146° 21.39' W. long., and Orca Inlet and Nelson Bay south and east of a line from Salmo Point to Shepard Point, and all of Orca Inlet southeast of Hawkins Island;

(F) Canoe Passage: south of a line from 60° 31.18' N. lat., 146° 07.43' W. long. to 60° 31.13' N. lat., 146° 07.07' W. long.;

(12) in other streams or rivers: within 500 yards of the terminus of the stream or river or as posted as specified in 5 AAC 39.290. (In effect before 1985; am 5/11/85, Register 94; am 4/18/86, Register 98; am 4/9/89, Register 110; am 5/22/94, Register 130; am 5/24/97, Register 142; am 3/11/2001, Register 157; am 5/11/2003, Register 166; am 3/30/2006, Register 177; am 4/24/2009, Register 190; am 6/7/2009, Register 190; am 3/24/2012, Register 201)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 24.360. Copper River District Salmon Management Plan. (a) The department shall manage the Copper River District commercial salmon fishery to achieve a sustainable escapement goal of 360,000 - 750,000 sockeye salmon into the Copper River.

(b) The department shall manage the Copper River District commercial salmon fishery to achieve an inriver goal of salmon, as measured at the sonar counter near Miles Lake, based on the total of the following categories:

Spawning escapement	lower end of sockeye salmon sustainable escapement goal 17,500 other salmon
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Glennallen Subdistrict subsistence fishery	61,000 - 82,500 salmon
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Chitina Subdistrict personal use fishery	100,000 - 150,000 salmon
Sport fishery	15,000 salmon
Hatchery brood (sockeye salmon)	estimated annually
Hatchery surplus (sockeye salmon)	estimated annually
TOTAL	announced annually

(c) Repealed 4/24/2009.

(d) Repealed 3/30/2000. (In effect before 1988; am 4/30/91, Register 118; am 5/24/97, Register 142; am 1/22/98, Register 145; am 3/30/2000, Register 153; am 5/11/2003, Register 166; am 6/12/2003, Register 166; am 3/30/2006, Register 177; am 4/23/2006, Register 178; am 4/24/2009, Register 190; am 3/24/2012, Register 201)

Authority: AS 16.05.251 AS 16.05.258

5 AAC 24.361. Copper River King Salmon Management Plan. (a) The department shall manage the Copper River commercial, sport, personal use, and subsistence fisheries to achieve a sustainable escapement goal of 24,000 or more for king salmon. For the purposes of managing these fisheries, the department shall consider the best available information regarding harvest, age composition, and escapement, including escapement information obtained from mark-recapture studies, aerial surveys, or by other means.

(b) In the commercial fishery, during the statistical weeks 20 and 21, the commissioner may not open more than one 12-hour fishing period within the inside closure area of the Copper River District described in 5 AAC 24.350(1)(B).

(c) In the sport fishery,

(1) in the upper Copper River drainage, the annual limit for king salmon 20 inches or greater in length is four fish;

(2) if the commissioner determines additional conservation measures are necessary to achieve the escapement goals, the commissioner may, by emergency order, use the following management measures in the following priority order:

- (A) reduce the annual limit for king salmon;
- (B) modify other methods and means not specified in this paragraph;
- (C) designate the fishery as a catch and release fishery only;
- (D) close specific waters to sport fishing for king salmon.

(d) In the Chitina Subdistrict personal use dipnet salmon fishery,

(1) the annual limit for king salmon is one fish;

(2) if the commissioner determines that additional conservation measures are necessary to achieve the escapement goals, the commissioner may, by emergency order, close the Chitina Subdistrict personal use dipnet salmon fishery season and immediately reopen a season during which the retention of king salmon is prohibited.

(e) In the Glennallen Subdistrict subsistence salmon fishery, if the commissioner determines that additional conservation measures are necessary to achieve the escapement goals, the commissioner may, by emergency order, close the Glennallen Subdistrict subsistence fishery season and immediately reopen a season during which the retention of king salmon is prohibited or methods and means are modified to reduce king salmon harvest in the Glennallen Subdistrict subsistence salmon fishery. (Eff. 5/24/97, Register 142; am 3/30/2000, Register 153; am 5/14/2000, Register 154; am 5/11/2003, Register 166; am 3/30/2006, Register 177; am 3/24/2012, Register 201)

Authority: AS 16.05.060

AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 24.368. Wally Noerenberg (Esther Island) Hatchery Management Plan. (a)

The department, in consultation with the hatchery operator, shall manage the Esther Subdistrict, the Perry Island Subdistrict, and the Granite Bay Subdistrict to achieve the corporation's escapement goal for the Wally Noerenberg (Esther Island) salmon hatchery. The Granite Bay Subdistrict will be opened only if the Esther and the Perry Island Subdistricts are not achieving adequate hatchery escapement.

(b) Deleted 4/19/91.

(c) The Wally Noerenberg Hatchery Terminal Harvest Area consists of the waters of Lake and Quillian Bays inside of a line from Hodgkin Point to Esther Light as marked, excluding the waters of the Wally Noerenberg Special Harvest Area.

(d) The Wally Noerenberg Hatchery Special Harvest Area consists of the waters of Lake Bay north of 60° 47.56' N. lat.

(e) Notwithstanding 5 AAC 24.320 and 5 AAC 24.330, and except as otherwise provided by emergency order, a corporation holding a permit under AS 16.10.400 for the Wally

Noerenberg Hatchery, and an agent, contractor, or employee of that corporation who is authorized under 5 AAC 40.005(g), may harvest salmon within the Wally Noerenberg Special Harvest Area from 6:00 a.m. May 25 through 6:00 p.m. September 15, using purse seines, hand purse seines, and beach seines.

(f) The commissioner may open, by emergency order, a season and establish fishing periods during which seine gear may be used in the Esther Subdistrict for the purpose of preventing deterioration of fish quality of the harvestable surplus of chum salmon that is not being adequately harvested by the drift gillnet fleet. (Eff. 4/9/89, Register 110; am 4/30/91, Register 118; am 5/22/94, Register 130; am 5/24/97, Register 142; am 5/11/2003, Register 166; am 3/24/2012, Register 201)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 24.370. Prince William Sound Management and Salmon Enhancement Allocation Plan. (a) The purpose of the management and allocation plan contained in this section is to provide a fair and reasonable allocation of the harvest of enhanced salmon among the drift gillnet, seine, and set gillnet commercial fisheries, and to reduce conflicts between these user groups. It is the intent of the Board of Fisheries (board) to allocate enhanced salmon stocks in the Prince William Sound Area to maintain the long-term historic balance between competing commercial users that has existed since statehood, while acknowledging developments in the fisheries that have occurred since this plan went into effect in 1991.

(b) For the purposes of determination of allocation percentages for the drift gillnet and purse seine fisheries, calculations shall be based on the exvessel value of the harvest of enhanced salmon stocks by the drift gillnet and purse seine fisheries without considering the set gillnet catch. The exvessel value allocation of enhanced salmon stocks for the set gillnet gear group is four percent of the total allocation. The remaining exvessel value allocation of the enhanced stocks is as follows:

(1) drift gillnet - 50 percent;

(2) purse seine - 50 percent.

(c) Each year the department shall determine the exvessel value of the enhanced salmon taken in the drift gillnet, purse seine, and set gillnet fisheries in the Prince William Sound Area during the previous year and compare the enhanced salmon stock harvest exvessel value of the drift gillnet and purse seine fisheries. The exvessel value will be calculated from the information given on the commercial operator annual report for all participating processors.

(d) The department will not make inseason adjustments or changes in management to achieve the allocation percentages established in (b) of this section.

(e) The department shall manage the Prince William Sound commercial salmon fisheries as follows:

(1) the Eastern, Northern (except Perry Island Subdistrict), Southeastern, Northwestern, and Montague Districts purse seine fishery shall be managed with fishing seasons opened and closed by emergency order based on the strength of wild and enhanced salmon stocks;

(2) Southwestern District:

(A) the district is closed to salmon fishing before July 18;

(B) on or after July 18, based on the strength of pink salmon stocks, purse seine fishing periods may be opened by emergency order;

(3) Perry Island Subdistrict:

(A) the district is closed to salmon fishing before July 21;

(B) on or after July 21, based on the strength of pink salmon stocks, purse seine fishing periods may be opened by emergency order;

(4) the Eshamy District gillnet fisheries shall be managed with fishing periods opened and closed by emergency order based on the surplus of wild and enhanced salmon stocks returning to the district;

(5) Coghill District:

(A) except as otherwise provided in this section, drift gillnet gear may be operated throughout the district during periods established by emergency order;

(B) beginning July 21, when the harvestable surplus is predominately pink salmon, purse seine gear may be operated in the district during periods established by emergency order;

(C) during a year when the purse seine fleet is allowed to harvest enhanced salmon in the Esther Subdistrict before July 21 under (h)(2) of this section, from June 1 through July 20,

(i) the Granite Bay Subdistrict will be closed;

(ii) if the commissioner determines that an emergency opening is necessary in the Granite Bay Subdistrict to prevent fish quality deterioration of enhanced salmon stocks returning to the Wally Noerenberg Hatchery, purse seine and drift gillnet gear groups will be allowed to harvest the surplus salmon in an area within the Granite Bay Subdistrict as specified by emergency order.

(f) If the set gillnet gear group catches five percent or more of the previous five-year average exvessel value of the total common property fishery for enhanced salmon as calculated

by the department under (c) of this section, the year following this calculation beginning on July 10, the commissioner shall, by emergency order, open set gillnet fishing periods totaling no more than 36 hours per week.

(g) If the drift gillnet or purse seine gear group harvest value comparison of enhanced salmon is 47 percent or less of the previous five-year average exvessel value comparison of the common property enhanced salmon stocks harvested, as calculated by the department under (c) of this section, then in the year following this calculation the department will consult with the hatchery operator to address making proportional adjustments in cost recovery during the applicable year to correct the exvessel value allocation percentages to the drift gillnet and purse seine gear groups.

(h) If the drift gillnet or purse seine gear group harvest value of enhanced salmon is 45 percent or less of the previous five-year average exvessel value comparison of the common property enhanced salmon stocks harvested, as calculated by the department under (c) of this section, then in the year following this calculation the fishery shall be managed as follows:

(1) if the drift gillnet gear group harvest value is 45 percent or less, then in the year following the current calculations, the drift gillnet gear group shall have exclusive access to the Port Chalmers Subdistrict to harvest enhanced salmon returns from June 1 through July 30, during fishing periods established by emergency order; and

(2) if the purse seine gear group harvest value is 45 percent or less, then in the year following the current calculations, the purse seine gear group shall have exclusive access to the Esther Subdistrict to harvest enhanced salmon returns from June 1 through July 20, during fishing periods established by emergency order.

(i) It is the intent of the board that the provisions of this section do not restrict the commissioner's authority to take emergency order action if necessary for the management of wild stocks even if it affects the allocation percentages established in this section.

(j) In this section, "enhanced salmon stocks" means salmon produced by the Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation. (Eff. 4/30/91, Register 118; am 5/24/97, Register 142; am 5/11/2003, Register 166; am 5/20/2004, Register 170; am 3/30/2006, Register 177; am 4/23/2006, Register 178)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 24.378. Use of aircraft unlawful. During open commercial salmon fishing periods no person may use an aircraft to locate salmon for the commercial taking of those fish or to direct commercial fishing operations. (Eff. 4/30/91, Register 118)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

Commercial General Provisions

5 AAC 39.010. Retention of fish taken in a commercial fishery. (a) A person engaged in commercial fishing may retain finfish from lawfully taken commercial catch for that person's own use, including for the use as bait in a commercial fishery. Finfish retained under this section may not be sold or bartered.

(b) Except as otherwise specified in 5 AAC 01 – 5 AAC 39, a commercial fisherman shall report on an ADF&G fish ticket, at the time of delivery of the commercial catch, the number of steelhead retained from the commercial catch but not sold. For the purposes of this subsection, "delivery" means the offloading of the finfish for sale or for transport to a buyer for later sale. (Eff. 3/13/2004, Register 169; am 8/8/2007, Register 183)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 39.250. Gillnet specifications and operations. (a) The trailing of gillnet web is prohibited at any time or place where fishing is not permitted.

(b) Set gillnets shall be removed from the water during any closed period.

(c) The gillnet web in a gillnet must contain

(1) at least 30 filaments, each of which must be of equal diameter; or

(2) at least six filaments, each of which must be at least 0.20 millimeters in diameter.

(d) The float line and floats of gillnets must be floating on the surface of the water while the net is fishing, unless natural conditions cause the net to temporarily sink. The restriction of this subsection does not apply in the Arctic-Kotzebue Area (5 AAC 03.100), the Norton Sound-Port Clarence Area (5 AAC 04.100), the Yukon Area (5 AAC 05.100), the Kuskokwim Area (5 AAC 07.100), and the Kodiak Area (5 AAC 18.100). (In effect before 1983; am 4/16/83, Register 86; am 3/29/87, Register 101; am 4/2/88, Register 105; am 7/16/92, Register 123; am 7/13/2012, Register 203)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

COMMERCIAL GROUND FISH FISHERY

5 AAC 28.206. Prince William Sound Area registration. (a) The Prince William Sound Area is an exclusive registration area for Pacific cod during a state-waters season described in 5 AAC 28.367.

(b) In the Prince William Sound Area, for the pollock fishery using trawl gear, the registration deadline for the registration year is January 13.

(c) In the Inside District, a Prince William Sound CFEC sablefish permit holder, or the permit holder's agent, must register for the commercial sablefish fishery before 5:00 p.m. April 1. (Eff. 4/4/97, Register 142; am 7/5/2000, Register 155; am 3/30/2003, Register 165; am 3/30/2006, Register 177; am 3/14/2009, Register 189; am 3/24/2012, Register 201; am 4/20/2012, Register 202)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 28.210. Fishing seasons for Prince William Sound Area. (a) Repealed 5/11/2003.

(b) Sablefish may be taken in the Inside District from April 15 through August 31. There is no open season for commercial sablefish fishing in the Outside District.

(c) Lingcod may be taken

(1) in a directed fishery only from July 1 through December 31, unless closed earlier by emergency order; and

(2) as bycatch up to 20 percent by weight of the directed finfish species on board a vessel, unless the commissioner closes the season and opens another season in which the bycatch is prohibited or further limited; bycatch taken under this paragraph is counted as part of any bycatch limit established under 5 AAC 28.070(b).

(d) Rockfish may be taken in the Prince William Sound Area only as bycatch as described in 5 AAC 28.265.

(e) Pollock may be taken from 12:00 noon January 20 until 11:59 p.m. March 31, unless closed earlier by emergency order.

(f) Miscellaneous groundfish may be taken only as specified in 5 AAC 28.220(c) and (d).

(g) Pacific cod may be taken only as specified in 5 AAC 28.267. (Eff. 7/30/89, Register 111; am 4/7/93, Register 126; am 4/4/97, Register 142; am 6/15/97, Register 142; am 5/31/98, Register 146; am 3/30/2000, Register 153; am 7/29/2000, Register 155; am 3/30/2003, Register 165; am 5/11/2003, Register 166; am 3/14/2009, Register 189; am 4/20/2012, Register 202)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 28.230. Lawful gear for Prince William Sound Area. (a) Repealed 4/7/93.

(b) Groundfish taken incidentally by drift gillnet gear operated for salmon consistent with applicable state laws and regulations are legally taken and possessed.

(c) A groundfish pot may not be attached to a line connected to another groundfish pot, except that in the Prince William Sound sablefish fishery groundfish pots may be connected if each end of the buoy line is marked as specified in (d) of this section.

(d) At least one buoy on each groundfish pot must be legibly marked with the permanent ADF&G vessel license plate number of the vessel operating the gear. The buoy may bear only a single number - that of the vessel operating the gear. The number must be placed on the top one-third of the buoy in numerals at least four inches high, one-half inch wide, and in a color that contrasts with the color of the buoy. The buoy markings must be visible on the buoy above the water surface when the buoy is attached to the groundfish pot.

(e) Repealed 4/4/97.

(f) In the Prince William Sound Area, nonpelagic trawl gear may not be used to take groundfish, except that sablefish may be taken with shrimp trawl gear operated as specified in 5 AAC 31.225(3).

(g) Notwithstanding (f) of this section, a person operating a vessel that is validly registered to fish for shrimp with trawls may retain a bycatch limit of groundfish taken during the shrimp fishing season. The bycatch limit that may be retained under this subsection may not exceed 10 percent of the gross weight of the shrimp landed.

(h) In the Prince William Sound Area, a mechanical jigging machine used to take groundfish may not have more than

(1) five lines; and

(2) 30 hooks per line.

(i) In the Prince William Sound Area, the holder of a CFEC permit in a fixed gear or net gear sablefish fishery may use groundfish pots only if two or more pots are connected as specified in (c) of this section. (Eff. 7/30/89, Register 111; am 4/7/93, Register 126; am 5/22/94, Register 130; am 4/4/97, Register 142; am 5/31/98, Register 146; am 7/5/2000, Register 155; am 7/1/2006, Register 178; am 7/20/2006, Register 179; am 3/24/2012, Register 201)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 28.250. Closed waters in Prince William Sound Area. (a) Groundfish may not be taken with pots in the waters enclosed by lines from Point Whitshed to Point Bentinck, from Cape Hinchinbrook Light to Seal Rocks Light to Zaikof Point (60° 19' N. lat., 146° 55' W. long.), and from a point at 60° 11' N. lat., 147° 20' W. long. on the northwest side of Montague Island, north to a point at 60° 30' N. lat., 147° 20' W. long., then east to a point at 60° 30' N. lat., 147° 00' W. long., then northeast to Knowles Head (60° 41' N. lat., 146° 37.50' W. long.), except that groundfish may be taken with pots

(1) within Orca Bay, east of 146° 37.50' W. long., excluding the waters of Port Gravina north of a line from Gravina Point to Red Head at 60° 40.25' N. lat., 146° 30.22' W. long.;

(2) in waters not more than 75 fathoms deep within waters enclosed by a line from Johnstone Point Light to Montague Point at 60° 23' N. lat., 147° 06' W. long., to Middle Point at 60° 20.50' N. lat., 147° W. long. to Schooner Rock Light (Zaikof Point) to Cape Hinchinbrook Light.

(b) Repealed 6/20/2010.

(c) In addition to the trawl restrictions specified in 5 AAC 39.165, a person may not use trawl gear for pollock fishing from June 1 through November 1 within 10 nautical miles of the following areas:

(1) Point Elrington at 59° 56.00' N. lat., 148° 15.20' W. long.;

(2) Wooded Island at 59° 52.90' N. lat., 147° 20.65' W. long.;

(3) The Needle at 60° 06.64' N. lat., 147° 36.17' W. long.;

(4) Glacier Island at 60° 51.30' N. lat., 147° 14.50' W. long.;

(5) Seal Rocks at 60° 09.78' N. lat., 146° 50.30' W. long.;

(6) Cape Hinchinbrook at 60° 14.00' N. lat., 146° 38.50' W. long.;

(7) Hook Point at 60° 20.00' N. lat., 146° 16.50' W. long. (Eff. 4/4/97, Register 142; am 7/5/2000, Register 155; am 3/14/2009, Register 189; am 6/20/2010, Register 194)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 28.263. Prince William Sound Pollock Pelagic Trawl Management Plan. (a) For directed pollock fisheries, the Inside District of the Prince William Sound Area is divided into the following three sections:

(1) Bainbridge Section: all waters of the Inside District west of 148° W. long.;

(2) Knight Island Section: all waters of the Inside District between 148° W. long. and 147° 20' W. long.;

(3) Hinchinbrook Section: all waters of the Inside District east of 147° 20' W. long.

(b) Notwithstanding 5 AAC 39.165(1) and (2), during a directed pollock fishery, pelagic trawl gear may be operated in that portion of the Hinchinbrook Section located north of a line

from Cape Hinchinbrook Light at 60° 14.25' N. lat., 146° 38.80' W. long. to Zaikof Point at 60° 18.48' N. lat., 146° 55.10' W. long., and west of lines from Johnstone Point to Knowles Head at 60° 41.00' N. lat., 146° 37.50' W. long., to Porcupine Point at 60° 44.60' N. lat., 146° 42.10' W. long. to the southernmost tip of Bligh Island at 60° 48.30' N. lat., 146° 47.90' W. long., and the northernmost tip of Bligh Island at 60° 52.90' N. lat., 146° 46.00' W. long. to Rocky Point at 60° 57.00' N. lat., 146° 46.20' W. long. to Point Freemantle at 60° 56.00' N. lat., 146° 58' W. long.

(c) During a directed pollock fishery, no more than 60 percent of the guideline harvest level may be taken from any one section described in (a) of this section.

(d) During a directed pollock pelagic trawl fishery, the total bycatch weight of all species combined may not exceed five percent of the total round weight of the pollock harvested.

(e) After registration of a vessel to fish for pollock in the Prince William Sound Area, a CFEC permit holder must contact the department before fishing and again when departing the management area. A CFEC permit holder must contact the department before fishing in a new management area. Department contacts will be specified in writing by the department on registration forms at the time of registration.

(f) Catch reports must be submitted to the department as specified in the registration forms.

(g) Log sheets will be provided by the department at the time of registration and must be filled out completely after each tow. Signed copies of the log sheets must be received by the department's Cordova office, at the address or facsimile number specified on the log sheet, within 10 days after each landing.

(h) The commissioner may require onboard observers on a vessel during fishing operations. (Eff. 7/5/2000, Register 155; am 3/30/2006, Register 177; am 7/1/2006, Register 178; am 3/14/2009, Register 189; am 3/24/2012, Register 201)

Authority: As 16.05.251

5 AAC 28.265. Prince William Sound Rockfish Management Plan. (a) A vessel may not land or have on board more than a combined total of 3,000 pounds (round weight) of all rockfish species within five consecutive days.

(b) In the Prince William Sound Area, when fishing in a directed fishery, other than for rockfish, a CFEC permit holder must retain all rockfish, except that

(1) unless otherwise specified in this section, all rockfish in excess of 10 percent, round weight, of all directed species on board the vessel must be weighed and reported as bycatch overage on an ADF&G fish ticket; any proceeds from the sale of excess rockfish shall be surrendered to the state;

(2) during the sablefish fishery, all rockfish in excess of 20 percent, round weight, of all sablefish on board the vessel must be weighed and reported as bycatch overage on an ADF&G fish ticket; any proceeds from the sale of excess rockfish shall be surrendered to the state;

(3) during a state-waters season for Pacific cod with groundfish pots, mechanical jigging machines and hand troll gear, or longline gear all rockfish in excess of five percent, round weight, of all Pacific cod on board the vessel must be weighed and reported as bycatch overage on an ADF&G fish ticket; any proceeds from the sale of excess rockfish shall be surrendered to the state.

(c) The guideline harvest level is 150,000 pounds (round weight) for all rockfish species combined. (Eff. 4/7/93, Register 126; am 6/15/95, Register 134; am 4/4/97, Register 142; am 3/30/2000, Register 153; am 7/5/2000, Register 155; am 4/20/2012, Register 202)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 28.267. Prince William Sound Pacific Cod Management Plan. (a) The management plan in this section governs the harvest of Pacific cod in the Prince William Sound Area.

(b) Each year the commissioner

(1) shall open and close, by emergency order, a parallel season for mechanical jigging machine and hand troll gear, groundfish pot gear, and longline gear in the Prince William Sound Area to coincide with the initial federal season in the federal Central Gulf of Alaska Area, as follows:

(A) the parallel season for mechanical jigging machine and hand troll gear will coincide with the initial federal season for jig gear;

(B) the parallel season for groundfish pot gear will coincide with the initial federal season for pot gear;

(C) the parallel season for longline gear will coincide with the initial federal season for hook and line gear operated from vessels less than 50 feet in overall length;

(2) may open and close, by emergency order, a parallel season for mechanical jigging machine and hand troll gear, groundfish pot gear, and longline gear in the Prince William Sound Area to coincide with the federal Central Gulf of Alaska Area "B" season, as follows:

(A) the parallel season for mechanical jigging machine and hand troll gear will coincide with the federal "B" season for jig gear;

(B) the parallel season for groundfish pot gear will coincide with the federal "B" season for pot gear;

(C) the parallel season for longline gear will coincide with the federal "B" season for hook and line gear operated from vessels less than 50 feet in overall length.

(c) The commissioner shall open and close, by emergency order, a state-waters season for mechanical jigging machine and hand troll gear, groundfish pot gear, and longline gear in the Prince William Sound Area, as follows:

(1) for mechanical jigging machines and hand troll gear, the state-waters season will open 24 hours following the closure of the initial federal season in the Central Gulf of Alaska Area for jig gear and will close when the guideline harvest level is reached, a parallel season for mechanical jigging machine and hand troll gear is opened under (b)(2) of this section, or December 31, whichever occurs first;

(2) for groundfish pot gear, the state-waters season will open 24 hours following the closure of the initial federal season in the Central Gulf of Alaska Area for groundfish pot gear and will close when 90 percent of the guideline harvest level is reached, a parallel season for groundfish pot gear is opened under (b)(2) of this section, or December 31, whichever occurs first;

(3) for longline gear, the state-waters season will open seven days following the closure of the initial federal season in the Central Gulf of Alaska Area for hook and line gear operated from vessels less than 50 feet in overall length or concurrent with the individual fishing quota halibut season opening date, whichever occurs later, and will close when 85 percent of the guideline harvest level is reached, a parallel season for longline gear is opened under (b)(2) of this section, or December 31, whichever occurs first;

(4) if there is any guideline harvest level remaining on September 1, the commissioner may close, by emergency order, the state-waters season and immediately reopen a state-waters season to all legal gear on September 1 or following a parallel season closure; the state-waters season will close on December 31 or when the guideline harvest level is reached, whichever occurs first; if the season is closed and immediately reopened under this paragraph, a vessel participating in the state-waters season when it was closed will not be required to comply with the landing requirements specified in 5 AAC 28.371 until the season is closed again.

(d) The commissioner may open and close, by emergency order, fishing seasons at times other than those specified in this section if the commissioner determines it is necessary to

(1) adapt to unanticipated openings or closures of the federal season;

(2) maintain sustained yield management;

(3) provide for orderly fisheries; or

(4) allow for a concurrent state-waters season and federal season for Pacific cod based on inseason assessment of effort, harvest rate, or remaining Pacific cod quota.

(e) During a state-waters season,

(1) the guideline harvest level for Pacific cod in the Prince William Sound Area is 25 percent of the estimated total allowable harvest of Pacific cod for the federal Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area;

(2) Pacific cod may be taken in the waters of the Prince William Sound Area described in 5 AAC 28.205, except those waters of the Eastern Section east of 146° 15.12' W. long.;

(3) Pacific cod may be taken only with groundfish pots, mechanical jigging machines, hand troll gear, and longline gear, as follows:

(A) except as provided in (g) of this section, no more than 60 groundfish pots may be operated from a vessel registered to fish for Pacific cod;

(B) no more than five mechanical jigging machines may be operated from a vessel registered to fish for Pacific cod;

(C) in addition to the requirements of 5 AAC 28.020, a vessel must be registered to fish with mechanical jigging machines and hand troll gear (jig gear), pot gear, or longline gear, and may not simultaneously be registered to fish with more than one gear type; a vessel's gear registration may be changed during a state-waters season to a different gear registration if the owner, or the owner's agent, submits a written request for a change in registration by mail, facsimile, or in person, to the department office in Cordova, or other locations specified by the department, for validation, and that registration has been validated by the department.

(f) The Prince William Sound Area is an exclusive registration area for Pacific cod during a state-waters season.

(g) If at any time after October 30 the commissioner determines that the guideline harvest level will not be reached by December 31, the commissioner may close, by emergency order, the state-waters season and immediately reopen a state-waters season during which the following shall be implemented to increase the harvest to achieve the guideline harvest level:

(1) removal of the limits on the number of groundfish pots and mechanical jigging machines that may be operated from a vessel;

(2) if needed, designation of the Prince William Sound Area as a nonexclusive registration area for Pacific cod.

(h) If the state-waters season is closed and immediately reopened under (g) of this section, a vessel participating in the state-waters season when it was closed will not be required to comply with the landing requirements of 5 AAC 28.271 until the season is closed again.

(i) Notwithstanding the provisions of 5 AAC 28.070, the commissioner may, by emergency order, open a fishing season under this subsection in which the bycatch amounts allowed during a directed fishery are increased. During a fishing season opened under this subsection, in addition to the allowance of bycatch of other species specified in 5 AAC 28.070, the bycatch allowance of Pacific cod may be up to 20 percent of the directed finfish species on board a vessel using groundfish pot gear, mechanical jigging machine and hand troll gear, or longline gear. The landed weight of Pacific cod taken as bycatch may not exceed 20 percent of the directed finfish species on board the vessel. The commissioner may, by emergency order, close and immediately reopen a season in which the bycatch limit for any species is reduced.

(j) If a state-waters season and a federal season for Pacific cod are opened concurrently for the same gear type or for a different gear type,

(1) a vessel may not participate in a state-waters season and any other Pacific cod season at the same time;

(2) a vessel's registration for the state-waters season in the Prince William Sound Area must be invalidated and all groundfish on board that vessel must be landed before that vessel may participate in any other concurrent Pacific cod season;

(3) registration for a state-waters season may only occur in person or by facsimile from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on a working day at the department office in Cordova, or other locations specified by the department; and

(4) all groundfish on board a vessel must be landed before that vessel may be registered for a Prince William Sound Area state-waters season for Pacific cod. (Eff. 4/4/97, Register 142; am 11/27/97, Register 144; am 3/30/2000, Register 153; am 7/5/2000, Register 155; am 5/31/2001, Register 158; am 5/11/2003, Register 166; am 3/14/2009, Register 189; am 4/20/2012, Register 202)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

SPORT FISHERIES

Upper Copper River and Upper Susitna River Area Sport Fishery

5 AAC 52.022. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Upper Copper River and Upper Susitna River Area.

(a) Unless otherwise specified in 5 AAC 52.023, or by an emergency order issued under AS 16.05.060, the following are the seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and method and means that apply to sport fishing for finfish in the Upper Copper River and Upper Susitna River Area:

(1) in all flowing waters, only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures may be used;

(2) in all lakes, except Crosswind Lake, Lake Louise, Paxson Lake, Summit Lake, Susitna Lake, and Tyone Lake, bait and artificial lures may be used; in Crosswind Lake, Lake Louise, Paxson Lake, Summit Lake, Susitna Lake, and Tyone Lake, a hook and bait may be used only as follows:

(A) from April 16 - October 31, only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures may be used;

(B) from November 1 - April 15, only single-hooks may be used; bait may be used;

(3) king salmon: may be taken only from January 1 - July 19, as follows;

(A) 20 inches or greater in length; bag and possession limit of one fish; annual limit of four fish; a harvest record is required as specified in 5 AAC 75.006; a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person originally hooking it;

(B) less than 20 inches in length; bag and possession limit of 10 fish;

(C) in all waters, a king salmon that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person that originally hooked the fish; a person may not remove a king salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

(4) salmon, other than king salmon: may be taken from January 1 - December 31, as follows;

(A) greater than 16 inches in length; bag and possession limit of three fish;

(B) 16 inches or less in length; bag and possession limit of 10 fish;

(C) in all waters, a salmon, including a king salmon as specified in (3)(C) of this subsection, that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person that originally hooked the fish; a person may not remove a salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

(5) rainbow/steelhead trout: may be taken from January 1 - December 31; bag and possession limit of two fish, of which only one may be 20 inches or greater in length;

(6) burbot: may be taken from January 1 - December 31; bag and possession limit of five fish; no size limit;

(7) Arctic grayling: may be taken from January 1 - December 31; bag and possession limit of five fish; no size limit;

(8) Dolly Varden/Arctic char: may be taken from January 1 - December 31; bag and possession limit of 10 fish; no size limit;

(9) lake trout: may be taken from January 1 - December 31; bag and possession limit of two fish; no size limit;

(10) other finfish not specified in (3) - (9) of this subsection: may be taken from January 1 - December 31; no bag, possession, or size limits;

(11) whitefish may be taken from October 1 - March 31 by spear or bow and arrow; an arrow must have a barbed tip and be attached by a line to a bow;

(12) suckers may be taken from January 1 - December 31 by spear or bow and arrow; an arrow must have a barbed tip and be attached by a line to a bow;

(13) in the upper Copper River and Susitna River drainages, a person using an ice house that is not removed from the ice at the end of a day after fishing from the ice house, must register that ice house with, and be issued a permit from the department for that year; a registered ice house must have the person's permit numbers displayed on one side and on its roof in numbers at least 12 inches high that are plainly visible; the department may designate time, area, and other conditions on the permit;

(14) the use of set lines is prohibited.

(b) For the purposes of this section, "bow" means a long bow, recurve bow, compound bow, or crossbow. (Eff. 5/4/94, Register 130; am 5/5/94, Register 131; am 4/11/97, Register 142; am 7/8/99, Register 151; am 3/16/2000, Register 153; am 5/11/2003, Register 166; am 3/30/2006, Register 177; am 4/24/2009, Register 190; am 3/24/2012, Register 201; am 2/23/2014, Register 209)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 52.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Upper Copper River and Upper Susitna River Area. Unless otherwise specified by an emergency order issued under AS 16.05.060, the following are special provisions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means provisions under 5 AAC 52.022 for the Upper Copper River and Upper Susitna River Area:

(1) repealed 4/24/2009;

(2) in Chokosna River, sport fishing for king salmon is closed; king salmon may not be taken or possessed;

(3) in the Copper River drainage, in that portion of the mainstem of the Copper River downstream from the confluence of the Copper River and the Slana River,

(A) bait and artificial lures may be used;

(B) the bag and possession limit for burbot is five fish; burbot may be taken with more than one line and hook only under the following conditions:

(i) with sport fishing gear, as defined in 5 AAC 75.020, ice fishing gear, as defined in 5 AAC 75.021, or a set line, as defined in 5 AAC 75.995;

(ii) the aggregate number of hooks may not exceed five hooks;

(iii) only single hooks with a gap between the point and shank that is larger than three-fourths inch may be used;

(iv) if using a set line, each hook must be set to rest on the bottom, and each line must be identified with the angler's name and address on a tag or label attached to the shoreward end of the line or above the ice; unattended set lines are prohibited and must be physically inspected at least once every 24 hours;

(4) in the Copper River drainage, in that portion of the flowing waters of the Copper River tributaries downstream of the Richardson Highway and Glenn Highway (Tok cutoff) on the west bank tributaries and the flowing waters of the east bank tributaries, excluding the Gulkana River, set lines with bait may be used;

(5) in Crosswind Lake,

(A) the bag and possession limit for lake trout is one fish, with no size limit;

(B) repealed 3/24/2012;

(6) in Fish Creek (tributary to Mentasta Lake), sport fishing for salmon is closed;

(7) in all clearwater tributaries of the Gakona River, including all flowing waters within a one-quarter mile radius of their confluence with the Gakona River, sport fishing for king salmon is closed; king salmon may not be taken or possessed;

(8) in the Gilahina River, including all flowing waters within a one-quarter mile radius of its confluence with the Chitina River, sport fishing for king salmon is closed; king salmon may not be taken or possessed;

(9) in the Gulkana River drainage,

(A) from June 1 - July 31, only single-hook, artificial flies, with a gap that does not exceed three-quarters inch between the point and shank, may be used in that portion of the Gulkana River downstream from the Richardson Highway Bridge to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 500 yards downstream of the

confluence with the Copper River; additional weight may only be used 18 inches or more ahead of the fly;

(B) from June 1 - July 19, bait and artificial lures may be used in that portion of the mainstem of the Gulkana River upstream from the Richardson Highway Bridge to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately at an unnamed creek flowing into the Gulkana River about seven and one-half miles upstream from the confluence with the West Fork of the Gulkana River;

(C) in waters upstream of Paxson Lake, and those waters of Paxson Lake within a 100-yard radius of the mouth of the East Fork at the north end of Paxson Lake, upstream to Summit Lake,

(i) sport fishing for salmon is closed; salmon may not be taken or possessed;

(ii) rainbow/steelhead trout may not be retained or possessed; all rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(iii) the bag and possession limit for Arctic grayling is two fish, of which only one may be 14 inches or greater in length;

(D) in all flowing waters from 100 yards upstream from the narrows at the Paxson Lake outlet downstream to the confluence with the Middle Fork,

(i) sport fishing for king salmon is closed; king salmon may not be taken or possessed;

(ii) salmon, other than king salmon, may be taken only from September 10 - December 31; the bag and possession limit for salmon, other than king salmon, greater than 16 inches in length is three fish; the bag and possession limit for salmon other than king salmon, 16 inches or less in length is 10 fish;

(iii) rainbow/steelhead trout may not be retained or possessed; all rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(iv) the bag and possession limit for Arctic grayling is five fish, of which only one may be 14 inches or greater in length;

(E) in all waters of the Middle Fork of the Gulkana River from the outlet of Dickey Lake to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately three miles downstream, including Hungry Hollow Creek and Twelvemile Creek,

(i) sport fishing is allowed only from June 15 - April 14, except that sport fishing for king salmon is closed; king salmon may not be taken or possessed and must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(ii) rainbow/steelhead trout may not be retained or possessed; all rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(iii) the bag and possession limit for Arctic grayling is five fish, of which only one may be 14 inches or greater in length;

(F) in all other waters of the Middle Fork of the Gulkana River not specified in (E) of this paragraph,

(i) sport fishing for king salmon is closed; king salmon may not be taken or possessed and must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(ii) rainbow/steelhead trout may not be retained or possessed; all rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(iii) the bag and possession limit for Arctic grayling is five fish, of which only one may be 14 inches or greater in length;

(G) all waters downstream of the confluence of the Middle Fork,

(i) rainbow/steelhead trout may not be retained or possessed; all rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(ii) the bag and possession limit for Arctic grayling is five fish, of which only one may be 14 inches or greater in length;

(H) in all flowing waters of the West Fork of the Gulkana River upstream of an ADF&G regulatory marker located one-half mile upstream of the confluence of the West Fork and mainstem of the Gulkana River,

(i) salmon, other than king salmon, may be taken from January 1 - July 31, with a bag and possession limit of three fish for salmon, other than king salmon, greater than 16 inches in length and a bag and possession limit for salmon, other than king salmon, of 10 fish, 16 inches or less in length;

(ii) sockeye salmon may be taken from August 1 - December 31, with a bag and possession limit of six fish;

(iii) rainbow/steelhead trout may not be retained or possessed; all rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(iv) the bag and possession limit for Arctic grayling is five fish, of which only one may be 14 inches or greater in length;

(10) in Hudson Lake, the bag and possession for burbot is two fish, with no size limit;

(11) in Indian Creek, including all flowing waters within a one-quarter mile radius of its confluence with the Copper River, sport fishing for king salmon is closed; king salmon may not be taken or possessed;

(12) in the Klutina River drainage, bait and artificial lures may be used;

(A) in Klutina Lake,

(i) sport fishing for king salmon is closed; king salmon may not be taken or possessed;

(ii) salmon, other than king salmon, may be taken only from January 1 - July 19, with a bag and possession limit of three fish greater than 16 inches in length, and a bag and possession limit of 10 fish 16 inches or less in length;

(B) in all flowing waters upstream of Klutina Lake,

(i) sport fishing for king salmon is closed; king salmon may not be taken or possessed;

(ii) salmon, other than king salmon, may be taken only from January 1 - July 19, with a bag and possession limit of three fish greater than 16 inches in length, and a bag and possession limit of 10 fish 16 inches or less in length;

(C) in all flowing waters upstream of the ADF&G regulatory markers located at Mile 19.2 on the Klutina Lake Road,

(i) king salmon may be taken only from July 1 - July 19, excluding Manker Creek, with a bag and possession limit of one fish 20 inches or greater in length, and a bag and possession limit of 10 fish less than 20 inches in length;

(ii) salmon, other than king salmon, may be taken only from January 1 - July 19, with a bag and possession limit of three fish greater than 16

inches in length, and a bag and possession limit of 10 fish 16 inches or less in length;

(D) in Manker Creek, including all flowing waters within a one-quarter mile radius of its confluence with the Klutina River,

(i) sport fishing for king salmon is closed; king salmon may not be taken or possessed;

(ii) salmon, other than king salmon, may be taken only from January 1 - July 19, with a bag and possession limit of three fish greater than 16 inches in length, and a bag and possession limit of 10 fish 16 inches or less in length;

(E) in all flowing waters downstream of the ADF&G regulatory markers located at Mile 19.2 on the Klutina Lake Road, king salmon may be taken only from July 1 - July 31, with a bag and possession limit of one fish 20 inches or greater in length, and a bag and possession limit of 10 fish less than 20 inches in length;

(F) in all other lakes, salmon, other than king salmon, may be taken only from January 1 - July 19, with a bag and possession limit of three fish greater than 16 inches in length, and a bag and possession limit of 10 fish 16 inches or less in length;

(G) in all flowing waters downstream of the ADF&G regulatory markers located at Mile 13 on the Klutina Lake Road, king salmon may be taken only from July 1 - August 10, with a bag and possession limit of one fish 20 inches or greater in length, and a bag and possession limit of 10 fish less than 20 inches in length;

(13) in Lake Louise,

(A) repealed 3/30/2006;

(B) repealed 3/30/2006;

(C) the bag and possession limit for burbot is one fish, with no size limit;

(D) the bag and possession limit for lake trout is one fish, with no size limit;

(14) in the Mendeltna Creek drainage,

(A) in all flowing waters, including all waters within one-quarter mile of Mendeltna Creek's confluence with Tazlina lake,

(i) sport fishing for salmon is closed; salmon may not be taken or possessed;

(ii) Arctic grayling may be taken only from June 1 - March 31, with a bag and possession limit of two fish, which must be greater than 12 inches in length;

(B) in all lakes, sport fishing for salmon is closed; salmon may not be taken or possessed;

(15) in Moose Lake,

(A) sport fishing for salmon is closed; salmon may not be taken or possessed;

(B) the bag and possession limit for burbot is two fish, with no size limit;

(C) Arctic grayling may be taken only from June 1 - March 31, with a bag and possession limit of two fish;

(16) repealed 4/24/2009;

(17) in Our Creek,

(A) Arctic grayling may be taken only from June 1 - March 31, with a bag and possession limit of two fish;

(B) the bag and possession limit for burbot is two fish, with no size limit;

(18) in Paxson Lake,

(A) in the waters 100 yards upstream from the narrows at the lake outlet to within a 100-yard radius of the mouth of the East Fork of the Gulkana River at the north end of Paxson Lake,

(i) sport fishing for king salmon is closed; king salmon may not be taken or possessed;

(ii) salmon, other than king salmon, may be taken only from July 20 - December 31, with a bag and possession limit of three fish greater than 16 inches in length, and a bag and possession limit of 10 fish 16 inches or less in length;

(iii) rainbow/steelhead trout may not be retained or possessed; all rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(iv) the bag and possession limit for Arctic grayling is five fish, of which only one may be 14 inches or greater in length;

(v) the bag and possession limit for lake trout is one fish, with no size limit;

(B) in the remainder of Paxson Lake, not specified in (A) of this paragraph,

(i) sport fishing for salmon is closed; salmon may not be taken or possessed;

(ii) rainbow/steelhead trout may not be retained or possessed; all rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(iii) the bag and possession limit for Arctic grayling is five fish, of which only one may be 14 inches or greater in length;

(iv) the bag and possession limit for lake trout is one fish, with no size limit;

(19) in the Slana River drainage, including the flowing waters within a one-quarter mile radius of the confluence of the Slana and Copper Rivers,

(A) whitefish may be taken using a spear or bow and arrow from January 1 - December 31;

(B) sport fishing for king salmon is closed; king salmon may not be taken or possessed;

(20) in the Summit Lake drainage,

(A) in Summit Lake from its outlet to within a 100-yard radius of the mouth of Gunn Creek,

(i) sport fishing for king salmon is closed; king salmon may not be taken or possessed;

(ii) salmon, other than king salmon, may be taken only from July 20 - December 31, with a bag and possession limit of three fish greater than 16 inches in length, and a bag and possession limit of 10 fish 16 inches or less in length;

(iii) rainbow/steelhead trout may not be retained or possessed; all rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(iv) the bag and possession limit for burbot is two fish, with no size limit;

(v) the bag and possession limit for Arctic grayling is two fish, of which only one may be 14 inches or greater in length;

(vi) the bag and possession limit for lake trout is one fish, with no size limit;

(B) in all waters of the Gunn Creek drainage and all waters within a 100-yard radius of the mouth of Gunn Creek at Summit Lake,

(i) sport fishing for king salmon is closed; king salmon may not be taken or possessed;

(ii) salmon, other than king salmon, may be taken only from August 1 - December 31, with a bag and possession limit of three fish greater than 16 inches in length, and a bag and possession limit of 10 fish 16 inches or less in length;

(iii) rainbow/steelhead trout may not be retained or possessed; all rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(iv) the bag and possession limit for burbot is two fish, with no size limit;

(v) the bag and possession limit for Arctic grayling is two fish, of which only one may be 14 inches or greater in length;

(vi) the bag and possession limit for lake trout is one fish, with no size limit;

(21) in Susitna Lake,

(A) the bag and possession limit for burbot is two fish, with no size limit;

(B) the bag and possession limit for lake trout is one fish, with no size limit;

(22) in the Tazlina River drainage,

(A) in all flowing waters entering Tazlina Lake, except for a quarter-mile radius around the mouth of Kaina Creek, sport fishing for king salmon is closed; king salmon may not be retained or possessed;

(B) in Moose Creek, artificial lures and bait may be used;

(23) in the Tebay River drainage,

(A) in Summit Lake, the bag and possession limit for rainbow/steelhead trout is 10 fish, of which only one may be greater than 18 inches in length;

(B) in the Hanagita River drainage, and the Tebay River downstream from the confluence with the Hanagita River, rainbow/steelhead trout may not be retained or possessed and must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(24) in Tolsona Lake,

(A) the bag and possession limit for burbot is two fish, with no size limit;

(B) repealed 4/24/2009;

(25) in the Tonsina River drainage,

(A) in all flowing waters downstream from the outlet of Tonsina Lake,

(i) bait and artificial lures may be used;

(ii) king salmon may be taken only from July 1 - July 19, with a bag and possession limit of one fish 20 inches or greater in length, and a bag and possession limit of 10 fish less than 20 inches in length;

(B) in Tonsina Lake, sport fishing for king salmon is closed; king salmon may not be retained or possessed;

(C) in all flowing waters entering into Tonsina Lake, sport fishing for king salmon is closed; king salmon may not be retained or possessed;

(D) in all tributaries to Tonsina River, including Little Tonsina River and Bernard Creek, and all flowing waters within a one quarter-mile radius of their confluence with the Tonsina River, sport fishing for king salmon is closed; king salmon may not be retained or possessed;

(E) in all flowing waters downstream of the downstream edge of the Alyeska Pipeline crossing bridge, king salmon may be taken only from July 1 - August 10, with a bag and possession limit of one fish 20 inches or greater in length, and a bag and possession limit of 10 fish less than 20 inches in length;

(26) in Tyone Lake,

(A) repealed 3/30/2006;

(B) repealed 3/30/2006;

(C) the bag and possession limit for burbot is two fish, with no size limit;

(D) the bag and possession limit for lake trout is one fish, with no size limit;

(27) in the Tyone River drainage,

(A) in all flowing waters,

(i) repealed 3/30/2006;

(ii) the bag and possession limit for burbot is two fish, with no size limit;

(B) in all lakes,

(i) repealed 3/30/2006;

(ii) repealed 3/30/2006;

(iii) repealed 3/30/2006;

(iv) the bag and possession limit for burbot is two fish, with no size limit;

(28) in stocked waters, the bag and possession limit for rainbow/steelhead trout, Arctic char/Dolly Varden, landlocked salmon, and Arctic grayling is 10 fish in combination, of which only one may be greater than 18 inches in length; for the purposes of this paragraph "stocked waters" include Arizona Lake, Buffalo Lake, Connor Lake, Crater Lake, Dick Lake, DJ Lake, Gergie Lake, John Lake, Junction Lake, Kathleen Lake, Little Crater Lake, Little Junction Lake, North Jans Lake, Old Road Lake, Peanut Lake, Pippin Lake, Round Lake, Ryan Lake, Sculpin Lake, Silver Lake, Strelna Lake, South Jans Lake, Squirrel Creek Pit Lake, Tex Smith Lake, Three Mile Lake, Tolsona Lake, Tolsona Mountain Lake, Two Mile Lake, and Van Lake;

(29) in the Susitna River drainage, upstream from the confluence of the Oshetna River, sport fishing for salmon is closed; salmon may not be retained or possessed; all salmon caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

(30) in the Lakina River, including all flowing waters within a one-quarter mile radius of its confluence with the Chitina River, sport fishing for king salmon is closed; king salmon may not be taken or retained;

(31) in Sinona Creek, including all flowing waters within a one-quarter mile radius of its confluence with the Copper River, sport fishing for king salmon is closed; king salmon may not be taken or retained;

(32) in the Copper River drainage, downstream of the upstream bank of the Klutina River, king salmon may be taken only from July 1 - August 10, with a bag and possession limit of one fish 20 inches or greater in length, and a bag and possession limit of 10 fish less than 20 inches in length. (Eff. 5/11/2003, Register 166; am 5/19/2004, Register 170; am 3/30/2006, Register 177; am 4/24/2009, Register 190; am 3/24/2012, Register 201; am 7/13/2012, Register 203)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

Prince William Sound Area Sport Fishery

5 AAC 55.022. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Prince William Sound Area. (a) Unless otherwise specified in 5 AAC 55.023, or by an emergency order issued under AS 16.05.060, the following are the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means that apply to sport fishing for finfish in the Prince William Sound Area:

(1) in all fresh waters of the Prince William Sound Area, only unbaited, artificial lures may be used from April 15 - June 14;

(2) king salmon: may be taken from January 1 - December 31, as follows:

(A) in fresh waters, as follows:

(i) king salmon 20 inches or greater in length; bag limit of two fish; possession limit of four fish;

(ii) king salmon less than 20 inches in length; bag and possession limit of 10 fish;

(B) in the salt waters; bag limit of two fish; possession limit of four fish; no size limit;

(3) salmon, other than king salmon: may be taken from January 1 - December 31; bag limit of six fish; possession limit of 12 fish, of which only three fish per day and in possession may be coho salmon; no size limit;

(4) rainbow/steelhead/cutthroat trout, as follows:

(A) repealed 3/30/2006;

(B) in stocked lakes: may be taken from January 1 - December 31; bag and possession limit of 10 fish; no size limit; for the purposes of this subparagraph, "stocked lakes" includes Ruth Lake and Blueberry Lake;

(C) in all other waters not specified in this paragraph, except the Copper River Delta Special Management Area specified in 5 AAC 55.033: may be taken from June 15 - April 14; bag and possession limit of two fish, and notwithstanding 5 AAC 75.222, with a size limit of at least 11 inches in length but not more than 16 inches in length;

(5) Dolly Varden/Arctic char: may be taken from January 1 - December 31; bag and possession limit of 10 fish; no size limit;

(6) Arctic grayling: may be taken from January 1 - December 31; bag and possession limit of 10 fish; no size limit;

(7) halibut: may be taken only from February 1 - December 31; bag limit of two fish; possession limit of four fish; no size limit;

(8) lingcod: may be taken only from July 1 - December 31; bag limit of two fish; possession limit of four fish; must be 35 inches or greater in length including the head, or 28 inches or greater in length with the head removed;

(9) rockfish:

(A) may be taken from May 1 - September 15; bag limit of four fish; possession limit of eight fish, of which only two per day and in possession may be nonpelagic rockfish; the first two nonpelagic rockfish caught must be retained and become part of the bag limit of the person originally hooking the fish; no size limit;

(B) may be taken from September 16 - April 30; bag and possession limit of eight fish, of which only two per day and in possession may be nonpelagic rockfish; the first two nonpelagic rockfish caught must be retained and become part of the bag limit of the person originally hooking the fish; no size limit;

(10) sharks may be taken only as specified in 5 AAC 75.012;

(11) other finfish not specified in this subsection: may be taken from January 1 - December 31; no bag, possession, or size limits.

(b) Unless otherwise specified in 5 AAC 55.023, or by an emergency order issued under As 16.05.060, the following are the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means that apply to sport fishing for shellfish in the Prince William Sound Area:

(1) the bag and possession limits for sport-harvested shellfish are not in addition to those allowed under subsistence fishing regulations under 5 AAC 02 or under personal use fishing regulations under 5 AAC 77;

(2) king crab: no open season; may not be taken or possessed;

(3) Tanner crab: no open season; may not be taken or possessed;

(4) Dungeness crab: no open season; may not be taken or possessed;

(5) shrimp may be taken as follows:

(A) may be taken from April 15 - September 15; no bag, possession, or size limits;

(B) no more than five pots per person, with no more than five pots per vessel, may be used to take shrimp;

(C) all shrimp pots must have at least two adjacent vertical sides, or near-vertical sides, excluding tunnels, completely composed of uncovered net webbing or rigid mesh; pots that do not have a definable side, including round pots, must have net webbing or rigid mesh panels covering a minimum of 50 percent of the vertical, or near-vertical, surface area of the pot; the net webbing or rigid mesh on all pots must be large enough to allow the unaided passage of a maximum 12-inch long, seven-eighths inch diameter, round wooden peg without deforming the opening, except for the salvage;

(D) only under a permit issued by the department; a harvest recording form under 5 AAC 75.016 is required;

(6) razor clams: may be taken from January 1 - December 31, in the waters of Prince William Sound east of 146° W. long. and south of a line from the southernmost tip of Point Bentinck to the southernmost tip of Point Whitshed; no bag or possession limits; only razor clams four and one-half inches or greater in shell length may be retained; a harvest recording form is required as specified in 5 AAC 75.016;

(7) shellfish not specified in this subsection: may be taken January 1 - December 31; no bag, possession, or size limits. (Eff. 5/4/94, Register 130; am 9/5/97, Register 143; am 3/16/2000, Register 153; am 7/5/2000, Register 155; am 9/30/2000, Register 155; am 5/11/2003, Register 166; am 3/13/2004, Register 169; am 12/1/2004, Register 172; am 3/30/2006, Register 177; am 7/1/2006, Register 178; am 4/24/2009, Register 190; am 8/23/2009, Register 191; am 3/24/2012, Register 201; am 6/1/2013, Register 206)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 55.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Prince William Sound Area. Unless otherwise specified by an

emergency order issued under AS 16.05.060, the following are special provisions to seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means provisions under 5 AAC 55.022 in the Prince William Sound Area:

(1) the following special provisions apply to salmon, other than king salmon:

(A) in all freshwater drainages crossed by the Copper River Highway from and including Eyak River to the Million Dollar Bridge, including Clear Creek at mile 42 downstream of the Carbon Mountain Road Bridge, the bag and possession limit is three fish; a coho salmon removed from the water shall be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person originally hooking it; a person may not remove a coho salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

(B) within the following terminal harvest areas, the bag limit is six fish; and the possession limit is 12 fish:

(i) Cordova vicinity: the salt waters north of a line from Odiak Slough to Stump Point and south of a line from Orca Cannery to Knot Point;

(ii) Valdez vicinity: the salt waters north of a line from Point Freemantle to Rocky Point, excluding Jack Bay, Sawmill Bay, and Galena Bay;

(iii) Whittier vicinity: the salt waters west of a line from Trinity Point to Gradual Point;

(iv) Chenega vicinity: the salt waters inside the entrance of Sawmill Bay and Crab Bay;

(C) Shelter Bay: in salt waters of Shelter Bay of Hinchinbrook Island and all fresh waters draining into Shelter Bay; bag limit of six fish and possession limit of 12 fish, of which only one fish may be a coho salmon;

(D) repealed 3/24/2012;

(E) Johnstone Bay: in the freshwater drainages of Johnstone Bay: bag and possession limit of three fish, of which two per day and in possession may be coho salmon;

(2) snagging is prohibited

(A) repealed 3/24/2012;

(B) within the Whittier small boat harbor;

(C) from June 1 - September 30, in the Cordova vicinity in the salt waters north of a line from Odiak Slough to Stump Point and south of a line from Orca Cannery to Knot Point;

(3) the waters of Lake Bay of Ester Island inside ADF&G regulatory markers located approximately 100 feet seaward of the Ester Hatchery broodstock holding pen are closed to sport fishing;

(4) the Robe River downstream from the Richardson Highway to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 100 yards downstream from the confluence with the Lowe River is a fly-fishing-only water, with a bag and possession limit of three salmon, of which only one fish may be a coho salmon and only one fish may be a sockeye salmon;

(5) Solomon Gulch Creek downstream from an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 300 feet downstream of the Valdez Fisheries Development Association's weir is open to salmon fishing with a bag limit of six fish and possession limit of 12 fish, of which only three per day and in possession may be coho salmon;

(6) in the Copper River Delta Special Management Area for Trout described in 5 AAC 55.033,

(A) only catch and release fishing is allowed for all trout species;

(B) only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures may be used for all sport fishing;

(7) in the Eyak River from a point 200 yards upstream from the Eyak Lake water control structure to a point 200 yards downstream from the bridge at the outlet of Eyak Lake, from June 1 - September 30, only single-hook, artificial flies with a gap between the point and the shank of 3/8 inch or less with no additional weight attached to the line may be used;

(8) the following waters of the Prince William Sound Area are closed to sport fishing for salmon:

(A) Clear Creek upstream of the Carbon Mountain Road Bridge located at Mile 42 of the Copper River Highway;

(B) Eccles Creek;

(C) Eyak Lake and its tributaries;

(D) Hartney Creek upstream from Whitshed Road;

(E) all waters that drain into Port Valdez inside of a line from Allison Point to and including Mineral Creek, except the Robe River and Solomon Gulch Creek as described in (4) and (5) of this section;

(9) Ibeck Creek is closed to sport fishing in the waters upstream from ADF&G regulatory markers located approximately three miles upstream from the Copper River Highway Bridge. Eff. 5/11/2003, Register 166; am 12/1/2004, Register 172; am 9/1/2006, Register 179; am 4/24/2009, Register 190; am 3/24/2012, Register 201)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 55.033. Copper River Delta Special Management Area for Trout. (a) The Copper River Special Management Area for Trout consists of all waters of Alaska draining into the Gulf of Alaska that are south of Miles Glacier, east of the Copper River, excluding the Clear Creek drainage, and west of Cape Suckling.

(b) Unless otherwise specified in 5 AAC 55.022 or by emergency order issued under AS 16.05.060, only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures may be used in the special management area described in this section.

(c) Fishing for trout in the special management area under this section is catch and release only; all trout caught must be released immediately. The department shall, to the extent practicable, manage the special management area to maintain historic size and age distributions of all trout species. (Eff. 3/16/2000, Register 153)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251