

See the **Southcentral** Alaska Sport Fish Regulation Summary

General Regulations - Upper Copper and Upper Susitna


Inclusive waters: All waters and tributaries of the Copper River upstream from a line between the south bank of Haley Creek and the south bank of Canyon Creek in Wood Canyon, and all waters and tributaries of the upper Susitna River drainage upstream from the confluence of the Oshetna River, but *excluding* the Oshetna River.

Fishing for all species is open year-round unless otherwise noted below or in Special Regulations.

KING SALMON

- **Season:** January 1–July 19.
- **20 inches or longer, annual limit of 4 fish—1 per day, 1 in possession. Immediately upon landing and retaining a king salmon 20 inches or longer, you must fill out a harvest record; see page 5.**
- Less than 20 inches—10 per day, 10 in possession.
- If you remove a king salmon from the water, you must retain it. Any king salmon removed from the water must be retained and becomes a part of the bag limit of the person that originally hooked the fish. **You must not remove a king salmon from the water if you intend to release it.**
- Anyone who is engaged in freshwater sport fish guiding is allowed to sport fish in the Copper River or its tributaries while a client is present or within the guide's control or responsibility, *but that guide may not retain a king salmon while guiding.*

SOCKEYE SALMON

-  16 inches or longer—3 per day, 6 in possession.
- Less than 16 inches—10 per day, 10 in possession.
- If you remove a salmon from the water, you must retain it. Any salmon removed from the water must be retained and becomes a part of the bag limit of the person that originally hooked the fish. **You must not remove a sockeye salmon from the water if you intend to release it.**

OTHER SALMON

- 16 inches or longer—3 per day, 3 in possession.
- Less than 16 inches—10 per day, 10 in possession.
- If you remove a salmon from the water, you must retain it. Any salmon removed from the water must be retained and becomes a part of the bag limit of the person that originally hooked the fish. **You must not remove a salmon from the water if you intend to release it.**

ARCTIC CHAR & DOLLY VARDEN

- 10 per day, 10 in possession, no size limit.

LAKE TROUT

- 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.

RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

- 2 per day, 2 in possession—only one of which may be 20 inches or longer.

ARCTIC GRAYLING

- 5 per day, 5 in possession, no size limit.

BURBOT

- 5 per day, 5 in possession, no size limit.
- Set lines are prohibited in lakes and flowing waters of the Upper Copper/Upper Susitna river drainages, except those waters of the Copper River drainage as described on page 30.

OTHER FINFISH (including northern pike)

- No limit.

STOCKED WATERS

- 10 in combination of stocked species—only 1 of which may be 18 inches or longer; see pages 41–42.

Methods and Means - Upper Copper and Upper Susitna

Bait and gear restrictions:

- Only unbaited, single hook, artificial lures or flies may be used in flowing waters of the Upper Copper River drainage, except as specified by special regulations in the Klutina, Gulkana, Tazlina, Tonsina, and mainstem Copper River drainages.
- Bait and treble hooks may be used in lakes and ponds of the Upper Copper River drainage except as specified by special regulations in the Gulkana River drainage.
- In all waters of the Upper Susitna River drainage, bait and treble hooks are allowed except as specified by special regulations in the Tyone River drainage.

Ice houses:

- All ice houses not removed from the ice at the end of a day's fishing must be registered and a permit obtained from ADF&G.
- Each registered ice house must have its permit number displayed on one side and on its roof in distinguishable numbers at least 12 inches high.
- Ice houses must be removed from all water bodies by April 30.

Use of spears or bow and arrows:

- **October 1–March 31:**
 - Whitefish: May be taken with spears or bow and arrow.
 - Suckers: May be taken with spears or bow and arrow year-round. Arrows must have a barbed tip and be attached by a line to the bow ('bow' means a long bow, recurve bow, compound bow, or crossbow).

Special Regulations - Upper Copper and Upper Susitna

Chitina River drainage:

- Open to fishing year-round for species other than king salmon.
- King salmon:
 - **July 1–August 10:** Open to fishing.

Chokosna River (*Chitina River drainage*):

- Open to fishing year-round for species other than king salmon.
- **Closed to king salmon fishing.** All king salmon caught must be released immediately.

Copper River drainage:

- Open to fishing year-round for species other than king salmon.
- **Downstream of the upstream bank of the Klutina River** (see specific regulations for Klutina and Tonsina rivers on page 35):
 - King salmon:
 - **July 1–August 10:** Open to fishing.
- **Mainstem only**—downstream of the confluence of the Slana River:
 - Bait and artificial lures or flies permitted, including treble hooks.
- **Mainstem and flowing waters of east bank Copper River tributaries, and in flowing waters of west bank Copper River tributaries downstream of the Richardson Highway and Glenn Highway (Tok Cutoff), excluding the Gulkana River** (see pages 32-34):
 - Burbot may be taken with more than one line and hook, as specified on page 7 under “Sport fishing gear for burbot.”

Fish Creek (*tributary to Mentasta Lake*)

- **Closed to salmon fishing.** All salmon caught must be released immediately.

Gakona River—clearwater tributaries, including all flowing waters within ¼-mile radius of their confluence with the Gakona River:

- Open to fishing year-round for species other than king salmon.
- **Closed to king salmon fishing.** All king salmon caught must be released immediately.

Gilahina River (*Chitina River drainage*)—including all flowing waters within ¼-mile radius of its confluence with the Chitina River:

- Open to fishing year-round for species other than king salmon.
- **Closed to king salmon fishing.** All king salmon caught must be released immediately.

Gulkana River (see pages 32-34):

Hanagita River drainage:

- Open to fishing year-round.
- Rainbow/steelhead trout: Rainbow trout retention prohibited. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.

Hudson Lake:

- Open to fishing year-round.
- Burbot limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.

Indian Creek (*Copper River drainage*)—including all flowing waters within ¼-mile radius of the confluence with the Copper River:

- Open to fishing year-round for species other than king salmon.
- **Closed to king salmon fishing.** All king salmon caught must be released immediately.

Klutina River drainage (see page 35):

Lake Louise (*Tyone River drainage*):

- Open to fishing year-round.
- **April 16–October 31:** Only unbaited, single hook, artificial lures or flies may be used.
- **November 1–April 15:** Single hooks only; bait may be used.
- Burbot limits: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.
- Lake trout limits: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.

Lakina River (*Chitina River drainage*)—including all flowing waters within ¼-mile radius of its confluence with the Chitina River:

- Open to fishing year-round for species other than king salmon.
- **Closed to king salmon fishing.** All king salmon caught must be released immediately.

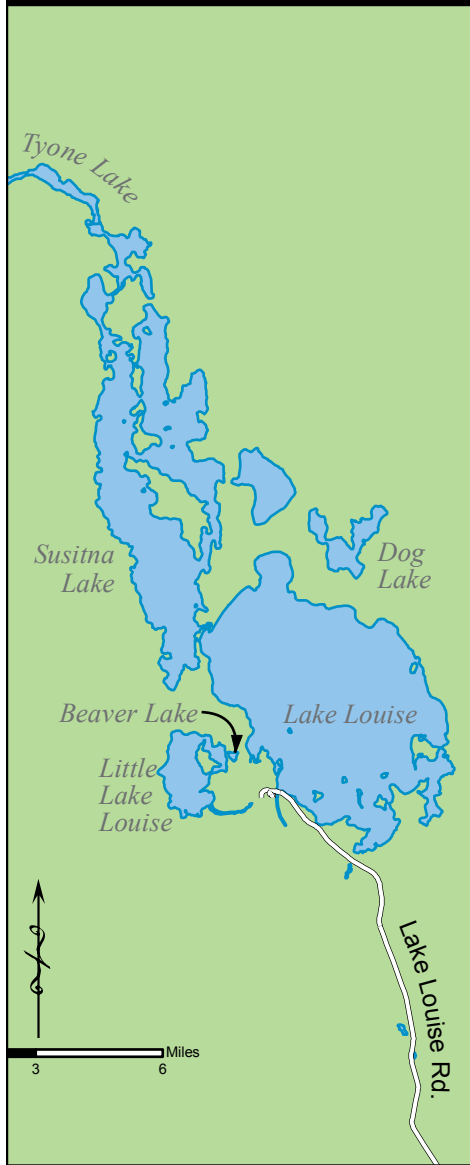
Mendeltna Creek drainage:

- Open to fishing year-round for species other than salmon and Arctic grayling.
- **All flowing waters, including all waters within ¼ mile of the Mendeltna Creek confluence with Tazlina Lake:**
 - **Closed to salmon fishing.** All salmon caught must be released immediately.
 - Arctic grayling limits:
 - **June 1-March 31:** Open to fishing.
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession, 12 inch minimum. All Arctic grayling 12 inches or less must be released immediately.
- **All lakes:**
 - Open to fishing year-round except for salmon.
 - **Closed to salmon fishing.** All salmon caught must be released immediately.

Moose Creek (*Tazlina River drainage*):

- Bait and artificial lures or flies are permitted year-round, including treble hooks (see Methods and Means on pages 6-7).

Tyone River drainage



Moose Lake (*Tazlina River drainage*)—including *Our Creek* (a tributary to Moose Lake):

- Open to fishing year-round except for Arctic grayling.
- Burbot limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
- Arctic grayling limits:
 - **June 1–March 31:** Open to fishing.
 - 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.

Sinona Creek—including all flowing waters within ¼-mile radius of its confluence with the Copper River:

- **Closed to king salmon fishing.** All king salmon caught must be released immediately.

Slana River drainage—including all flowing waters within ¼-mile radius of the confluence of the Slana and Copper rivers (including Ahtell and Natat creeks):

- Open to fishing year-round for species other than king salmon.
- **Closed to king salmon fishing.** All king salmon caught must be released immediately.
- Whitefish: whitefish may be taken by spear or bow and arrow year-round.

Stocked lakes (listed in tables on pages 41-42):

- Open to fishing year-round.
- Bait and artificial lures or flies are permitted, including treble hooks.
- Rainbow/steelhead trout, Arctic char/Dolly Varden, Arctic grayling, landlocked salmon limits:
 - 10 per day, 10 in possession (in combination), only one of which may be 18 inches or longer.

Summit Lake and Bridge Creek (*outlet stream of Summit Lake*)—*Tebay River drainage*:

- Open to fishing year-round.
- Rainbow/steelhead trout limits: 10 per day, 10 in possession, only one of which may be 18 inches or longer.

Susitna Lake (*Tyone River drainage*):

- Open to fishing year-round.
- **April 16–October 31:** Only unbaited, single hook, artificial lures or flies may be used.
- **November 1–April 15:** Single hooks only; bait may be used.
- Burbot limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
- Lake trout limits: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.

- **Susitna River drainage**—*upstream from the Oshetna River*:
 - **Closed to salmon fishing.** All salmon caught must be released immediately.

Upper Tazlina River drainage—*all flowing waters entering Tazlina Lake—except a ¼-mile radius around the mouth of Kaina Creek*:

- Open to fishing year-round for species other than king salmon.
- **Closed to king salmon fishing.** All king salmon caught must be released immediately.

Tebay River drainage—*downstream from its confluence with the Hanagita River*:

- Open to fishing year-round for species other than king salmon.
- King salmon:
 - **July 1–August 10:** Open to fishing.
- Rainbow/steelhead trout: No retention. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.

Tolsona Lake:

- Open to fishing year-round.
- Burbot limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.

Tonsina River drainage (see page 35).

Tyone Lake:

- Open to fishing year-round.
- **April 16–October 31:** Only unbaited, single hook, artificial lures or flies may be used.
- **Nov. 1–April 15:** Single hooks only; bait may be used.
- Burbot limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
- Lake trout limits: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.

Tyone River drainage (see map at left):

- Open to fishing year-round.
- **All flowing waters:**
 - Burbot limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.
- **All lakes (except Louise, Susitna and Tyone lakes):**
 - Burbot limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.

Special Regulations - Gulkana River Drainage

Refer to maps on pages 33-34 for colored sections and corresponding numbers. If you have any questions about the Gulkana River drainage, please contact the Glennallen ADF&G office at 907-822-3309.


Gulkana River drainage:

The following regulations apply to all waters of the Gulkana River drainage, unless otherwise specified in colored sections on pages 33-34.

- Entire year (**in flowing waters**): Only unbaited, single hook, artificial lures or flies may be used. See Gulkana River mainstem (sections 7 & 8) for exceptions.
- Entire year (**in lakes and ponds**): Bait and treble hooks may be used. See Summit and Paxson lakes (section 1 & 2) and Crosswind Lake (section 9) for exceptions.
- Set lines are prohibited in all waters.
- Rainbow/steelhead trout: No retention. All rainbow/steelhead trout caught must be released immediately.

Gulkana River drainage—Upstream of Paxson Lake, including East Fork Gulkana, Summit Lake, and Gunn and Fish Creek Drainages:

All waters:

- Closed to all salmon fishing. Salmon may not be targeted. Any salmon caught incidentally must remain in the water and must be released immediately.
-  Arctic grayling limits: **2 per day, 2 in possession.**
- Lake trout limits: 1 per day, 1 in possession.

1

Summit Lake:

- **April 16–October 31:** Only unbaited, single hook, artificial lures or flies may be used.
- **November 1–April 15:** Single hooks only; bait may be used.

Summit Lake and Gunn Creek drainage:

- Burbot limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession, no size limit.


Paxson Lake

All waters:

- Closed to all salmon fishing. Salmon may not be targeted. Any salmon caught incidentally must remain in the water and must be released immediately.
- **April 16–October 31:** Only unbaited, single hook, artificial lures or flies may be used.
- **November 1–April 15:** Single hooks only; bait may be used.
- Lake trout limits: 1 per day, 1 in possession.

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Waters within a 100 yard radius of the mouth of the East Fork:

-  Arctic grayling limits: **2 per day, 2 in possession.**

Gulkana River—All flowing waters from 100 yards upstream from the narrows at the outlet of Paxson Lake, downstream to the confluence of the Middle Fork:

All waters:

- Closed to salmon fishing. Salmon may not be targeted. Any salmon caught incidentally must remain in the water and must be released immediately.

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Middle Fork—Waters of the Middle Fork of the Gulkana River:

All waters:

- Closed to king salmon fishing. King salmon may not be targeted. Any king salmon caught incidentally must remain in the water and must be released immediately.

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Middle Fork, Hungry Hollow Creek and Twelve Mile Creek—All waters of Twelvemile Creek, Hungry Hollow (including Tenmile Lake) and the Middle Fork of the Gulkana River from the outlet of Dickey Lake to an ADF&G marker three miles downstream:

All waters:

- Closed to salmon fishing. Salmon may not be targeted. Any salmon caught incidentally must remain in the water and must be released immediately.
- **Closed to all sport fishing April 15–June 14.**

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Upper Gulkana

1 Gulkana River drainage—Upstream of Paxson Lake, including East Fork Gulkana, Summit Lake, and Gunn and Fish Creek Drainages.

2 Paxson Lake—All waters of Paxson Lake.

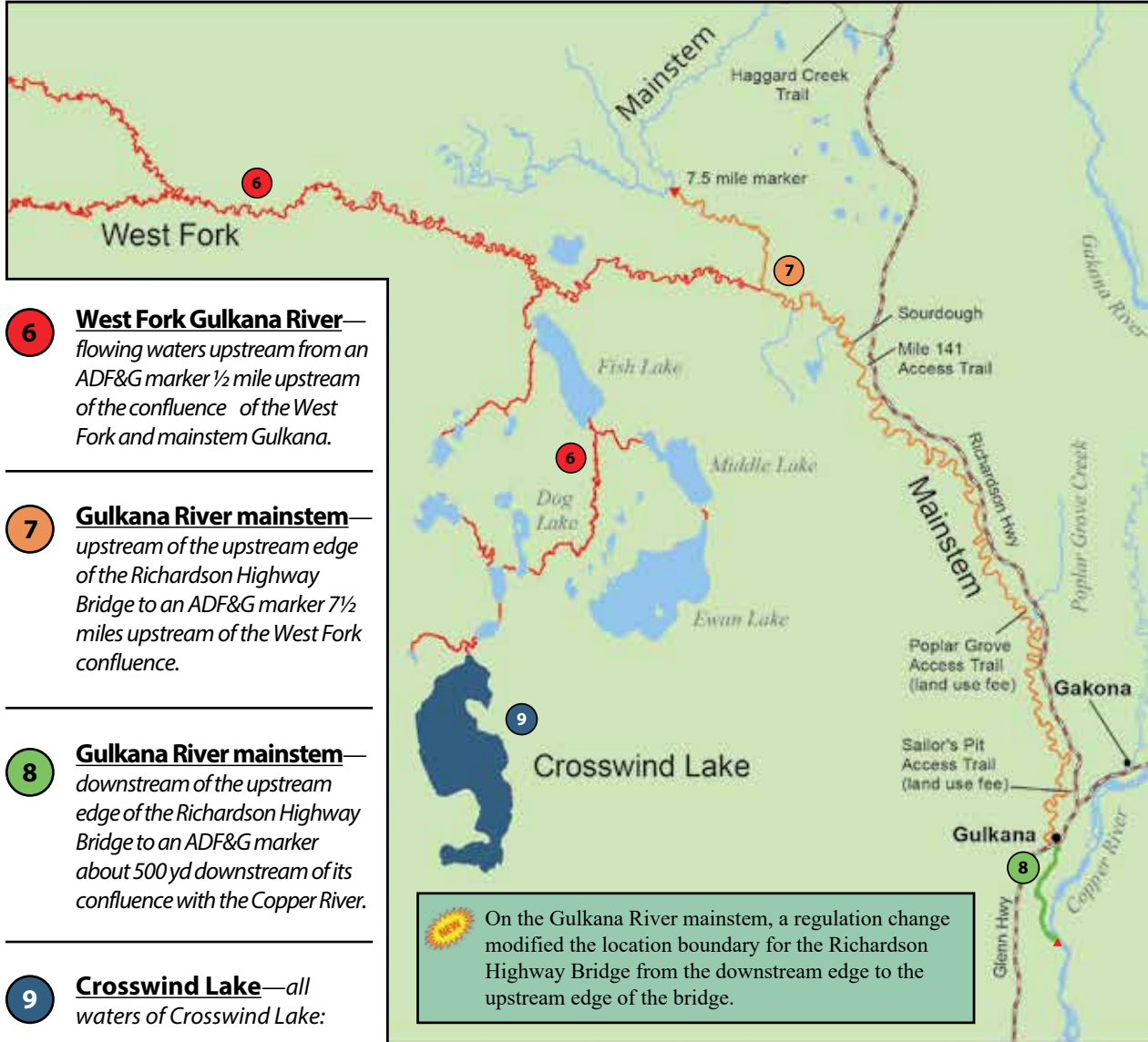
3 Gulkana River—All flowing waters from 100 yards upstream from the narrows at the outlet of Paxson Lake, downstream to the confluence of the Middle Fork:

4 Middle Fork—Waters of the Middle Fork of the Gulkana River.

5 Middle Fork, Hungry Hollow Creek and Twelvemile Creek—All waters of Twelvemile Creek, Hungry Hollow (including Tenmile Lake) and the Middle Fork of the Gulkana River from the outlet of Dickey Lake to an ADF&G marker three miles downstream:



Lower Gulkana River



6 **West Fork Gulkana River**—flowing waters upstream from an ADF&G marker ½ mile upstream of the confluence of the West Fork and mainstem Gulkana.

7 **Gulkana River mainstem**—upstream of the upstream edge of the Richardson Highway Bridge to an ADF&G marker 7½ miles upstream of the West Fork confluence.

8 **Gulkana River mainstem**—downstream of the upstream edge of the Richardson Highway Bridge to an ADF&G marker about 500 yd downstream of its confluence with the Copper River.

9 **Crosswind Lake**—all waters of Crosswind Lake:

NOTE On the Gulkana River mainstem, a regulation change modified the location boundary for the Richardson Highway Bridge from the downstream edge to the upstream edge of the bridge.

West Fork Gulkana River—flowing waters upstream from an ADF&G marker ½ mile upstream of the confluence of the West Fork and mainstem Gulkana:

- Sockeye salmon limits: **6**
- **January 1–July 31:** 3 per day, 6 in possession.
- **August 1–December 31:** 6 per day, 6 in possession.

Gulkana River mainstem—upstream of the upstream edge of the Richardson Highway Bridge to an ADF&G marker 7½ miles upstream of the West Fork confluence:

- **June 1–July 19:** Bait and artificial lures or flies are permitted, including treble hooks. **7**
- **July 20–May 31:** Only unbaited, single hook, artificial lures or flies may be used.

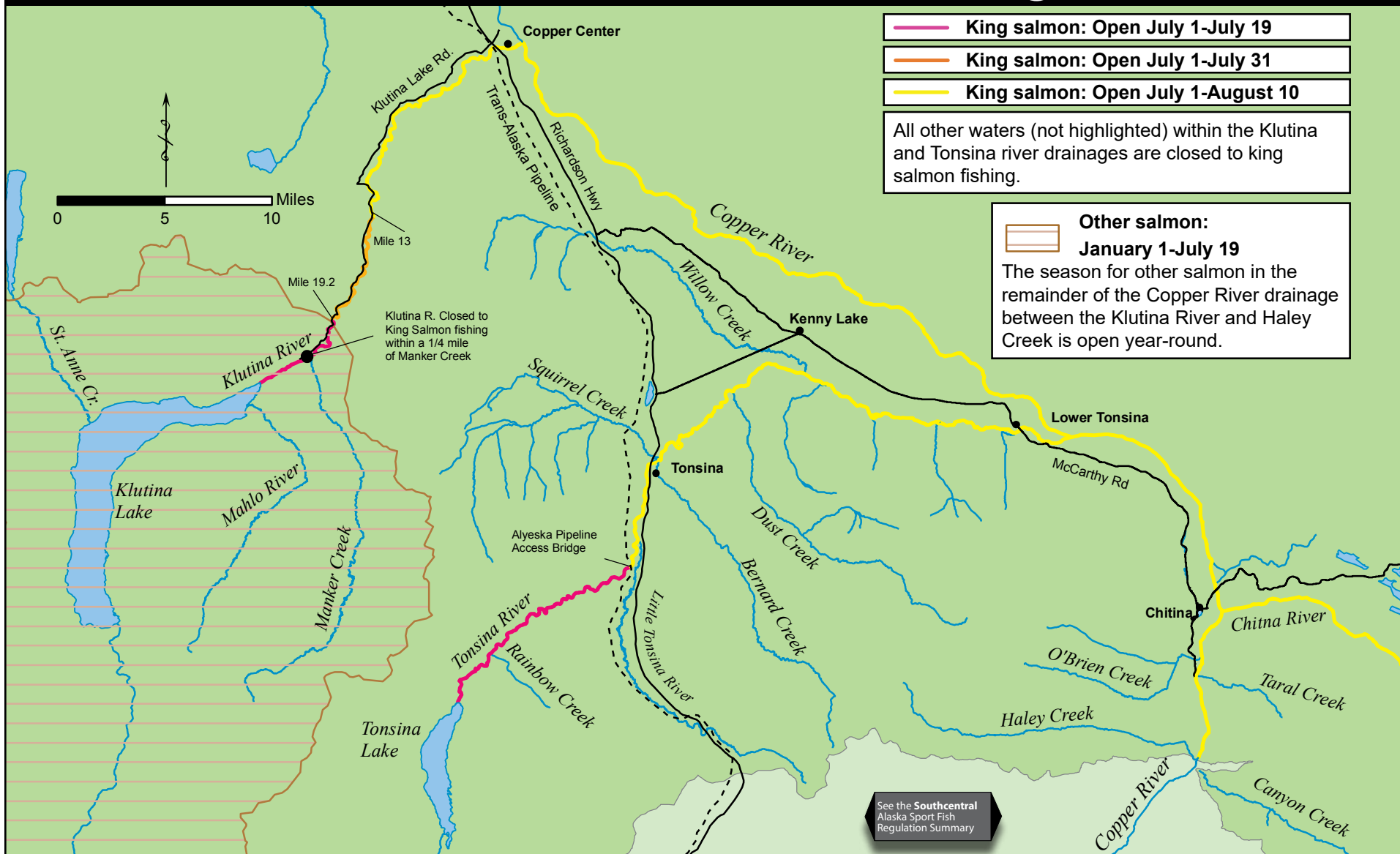
Gulkana River mainstem—downstream of the upstream edge of the Richardson Highway Bridge to an ADF&G marker about 500 yd downstream of its confluence with the Copper River:

- **June 1–July 31:** Only unbaited, single hook, artificial flies allowed, with gap between point and shank ¾ inch or less. Additional weight may only be used 18 inches or more ahead of fly. **8**
- A bead fished on the line above a bare hook or a single bare hook is not an artificial fly.
- **August 1–May 31:** Only unbaited, single hook, artificial lures may be used.

Crosswind Lake—all waters of Crosswind Lake:

- **April 16–October 31:** Only unbaited, single hook, artificial lures or flies may be used. **9**
- **November 1–April 15:** Single hooks only; bait may be used.
- Lake trout: 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size limit.

Klutina and Tonsina River drainages



Klutina River drainage:

- **Entire year:** Bait and artificial lures or flies are permitted, including treble hooks (see Methods and Means on page 6).
- **All flowing waters upstream of ADF&G marker at Mile 19.2 Klutina Lake Road, to Klutina Lake:**
 - King salmon:
 - **July 1–July 19:** Open to fishing.
 - Other salmon:
 - **January 1–July 19:** Open to fishing.
- **All flowing waters downstream of the ADF&G marker at Mile 19.2 Klutina Lake Road, to the ADF&G marker at Mile 13.0 Klutina Lake Road:**
 - King salmon:
 - **July 1–July 31:** Open to fishing.
- **All flowing waters downstream of ADF&G marker at Mile 13.0 Klutina Lake Road:**
 - King salmon:
 - **July 1–August 10:** Open to fishing.
- **Klutina Lake**—including all flowing waters entering Klutina Lake:
 - Open to fishing year-round for species other than king salmon.
 - **Closed to king salmon fishing.** All king salmon caught must be released immediately.
 - Salmon (other than king salmon):
 - **January 1–July 19:** Open to fishing.
- **Manker Creek**—including all flowing waters within ¼-mile radius of its confluence with the Klutina River:
 - Open to fishing year-round for species other than king salmon.
 - **Closed to king salmon fishing.** All king salmon caught must be released immediately.
 - Salmon (other than king salmon):
 - **January 1–July 19:** Open to fishing.
- **All other lakes in the Klutina River drainage:**
 - Open to fishing year-round for species other than king salmon.
 - Salmon (other than king salmon):
 - **January 1–July 19:** Open to fishing.



Fishing on the Klutina River.

Tonsina River drainage:

- Open to fishing year-round for species other than king salmon.
- In the flowing waters of the Tonsina River drainage upstream of Tonsina Lake, only unbaited, single hook, artificial lures or flies may be used year-round.
- In all flowing waters of the Tonsina River drainage downstream from the outlet of Tonsina Lake, bait and artificial lures or flies are permitted, including treble hooks year-round.
- **All flowing waters downstream of Tonsina Lake to the downstream edge of the Alyeska Pipeline access bridge:**
 - King salmon:
 - **July 1–July 19:** Open to fishing.
- **All flowing waters downstream of the downstream edge of the Alyeska Pipeline access bridge:**
 - King salmon:
 - **July 1–August 10:** Open to fishing.
- **All tributaries of the Tonsina River, including the Little Tonsina River and Bernard Creek, and all flowing waters within a ¼-mile radius of their confluence with the Tonsina River:**
 - Open to fishing year-round for species other than king salmon.
 - **Closed to king salmon fishing.** All king salmon caught must be released immediately.
- **Tonsina Lake:**—including all flowing waters entering Tonsina Lake:
 - Open to fishing year-round for species other than king salmon.
 - **Closed to king salmon fishing.** All king salmon caught must be released immediately.