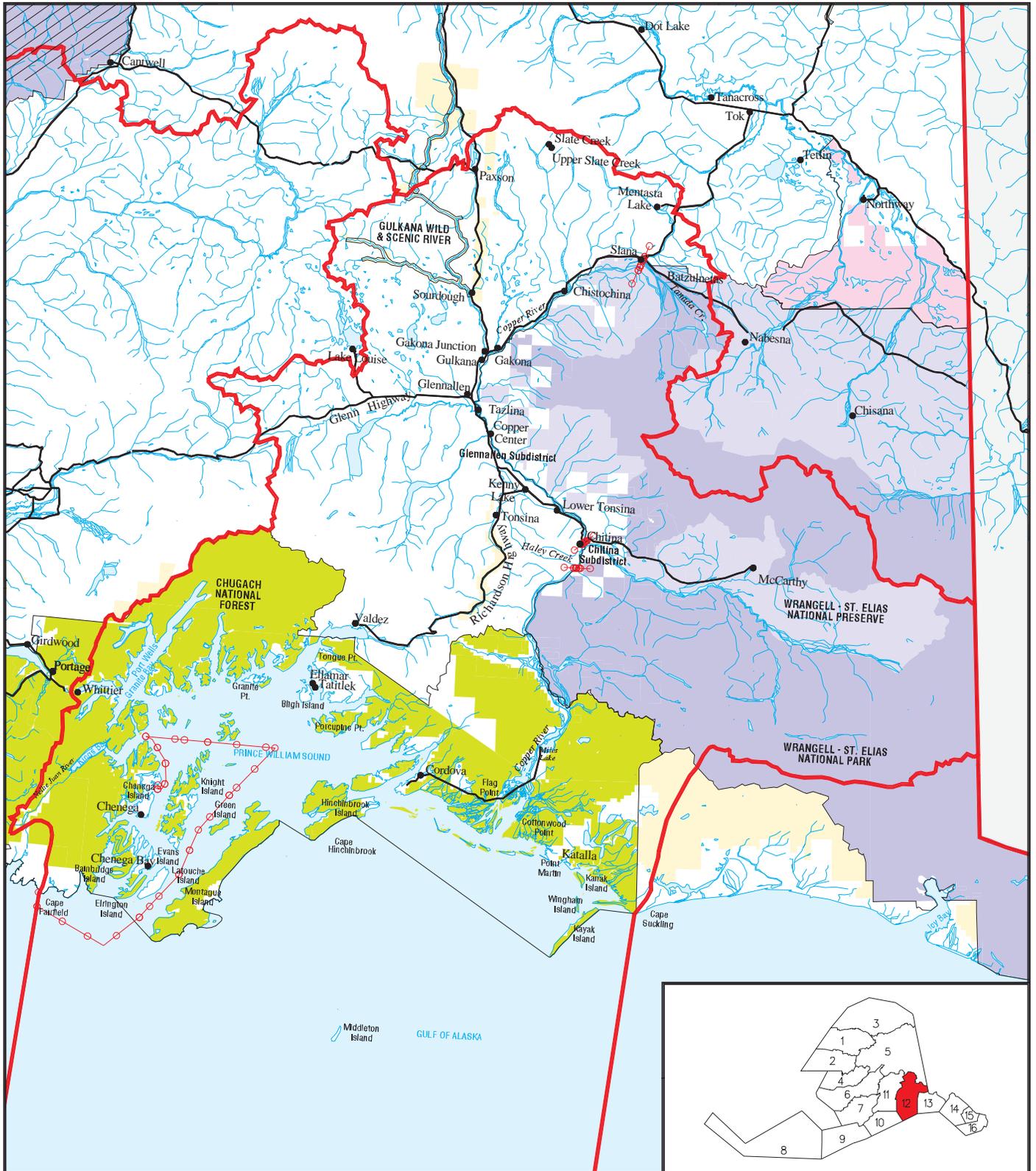


# Prince William Sound Area Subsistence Fishing



**Map 12**  
**Prince William**  
**Sound Area**

- FWS Administered Land
- NPS Administered Parks
- NPS Administered Preserves
- BLM Administered Land
- BLM Non-navigable Waters Only
- USFS Administered Land
- Closed to Subsistence
- Roads
- Area Boundary
- Federal Boundary
- Fishing Districts

Prince William Sound Area

## Prince William Sound Area Subsistence Fishing

The Prince William Sound Area includes all waters of Alaska between the longitude of Cape Fairfield and the longitude of Cape Suckling. These regulations apply on inland waters within or adjacent to the Chugach National Forest, and Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve, and exclude marine waters. General domain lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management are open to fishing only on non-navigable waters and the Gulkana River portions designated as a wild and scenic river.

Upper Copper River District consists of all waters of the mainstem Copper River, from the mouth of the Slana River downstream to an east-west line crossing the Copper River approximately 200 yards upstream of Haley Creek, as designated by ADF&G regulatory markers.

The Chitina Subdistrict consists of all waters of the Upper Copper River District downstream of the downstream edge of the Chitina-McCarthy Road Bridge.

The Glennallen Subdistrict consists of all remaining waters of the Upper Copper River District.

[See Map 12 on previous page.]

Customary and Traditional Use Determinations		
Area	Species	Determination
Southwestern District and Green Island.	Salmon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residents of the Southwestern District, which is mainland waters from the outer point on the north shore of Granite Bay to Cape Fairfield, and Knight Island, Chenega Island, Bainbridge Island, Evans Island, Elrington Island, Latouche Island, and adjacent islands.</li> </ul>
North of a line from Porcupine Point to Granite Point, and south of a line from Point Lowe to Tongue Point.	Salmon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residents of the villages of Tatitlek and Ellamar.</li> </ul>
<b>Chitina Subdistrict</b> of the Upper Copper River District.	Salmon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residents of Cantwell, Chickaloon, Chisana, Chistochina, Chitina, Copper Center, Dot Lake, Gakona, Gakona Junction, Glennallen, Gulkana, Healy Lake, Kenny Lake, Lower Tonsina, McCarthy, Mentasta Lake, Nabesna, Northway, Paxson-Sourdough, Slana, Tanacross, Tazlina, Tetlin, Tok, Tonsina, and those individuals living along the Tok Cutoff from Tok to Mentasta Pass, and along the Nabesna Road.</li> </ul>
<b>Glennallen Subdistrict</b> of the Upper Copper River District.	Salmon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residents of the Prince William Sound Area and residents of Cantwell, Chickaloon, Chisana, Dot Lake, Healy Lake, Northway, Tanacross, Tetlin, Tok, and those individuals living along the Alaska Highway from the U.S./Canada border to Dot Lake, along the Tok Cutoff from Tok to Mentasta Pass, and along the Nabesna Road.</li> </ul>
Waters of the Copper River and Tanada Creek between National Park Service regulatory markers.	Salmon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residents of Dot Lake and Mentasta Lake.</li> </ul>
Remainder of the Prince William Sound Area.	Salmon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residents of the Prince William Sound Area.</li> </ul>

*continued on next page*

## Prince William Sound Area Subsistence Fishing

Customary and Traditional Use Determinations		
Area	Species	Determination
Federal public waters of the Copper River drainage upstream from Haley Creek.	Freshwater fish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residents of Cantwell, Chisana, Chistochina, Chitina, Copper Center, Dot Lake, Gakona, Gakona Junction, Glennallen, Gulkana, Healy Lake, Kenny Lake, Lower Tonsina, McCarthy, Mentasta Lake, Nabesna, Northway, Slana, Tanacross, Tazlina, Tetlin, Tok, Tonsina, and those individuals living along the Tok Cutoff from Tok to Mentasta Pass, and along the Nabesna Road.</li> </ul>
Waters of the Prince William Sound Area, except for the Copper River drainage upstream of Haley Creek.	Freshwater fish, including trout, char, whitefish, grayling, suckers, and burbot.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residents of the Prince William Sound Area, except those living in the Copper River drainage upstream of Haley Creek.</li> </ul>
Gulkana National Wild and Scenic River.	Freshwater fish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residents of Cantwell, Chisana, Chistochina, Chitina, Copper Center, Dot Lake, Gakona, Gakona Junction, Glennallen, Gulkana, Healy Lake, Kenny Lake, Lower Tonsina, McCarthy, Mentasta Lake, Nabesna, Northway, Paxson-Sourdough, Slana, Tanacross, Tazlina, Tetlin, Tok, Tonsina, and those individuals living along the Tok Cutoff from Tok to Mentasta Pass, and along the Nabesna Road.</li> </ul>
Waters of the Bering River area from Point Martin to Cape Suckling.	Eulachon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residents of Cordova.</li> </ul>
Waters of the Copper River Delta from the Eyak River to Point Martin.	Eulachon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residents of Cordova, Chenega Bay, and Tatitlek.</li> </ul>

### Special Provisions

- ◆ If you take rainbow/steelhead trout incidentally in other subsistence net fisheries, you may retain them for subsistence purposes, unless restricted in this section.
- ◆ In the Copper River drainage, you may take salmon only in the waters of the Upper Copper River District, or in the vicinity of the Native Village of Batzulnetas. You may accumulate harvest limits of salmon authorized for the Federal public waters of the Copper River Drainage upstream from Haley Creek with harvest limits of salmon authorized under State of Alaska sport fishing regulations.
- ◆ In the Prince William Sound Area within Chugach National Forest and in the Copper River drainage downstream of Haley Creek, you may accumulate Federal subsistence fishing harvest limits with harvest limits under State of Alaska sport fishing regulations, providing that accumulation of fishing harvest limits does not occur during the same day.

### *Customary Trade Within the Upper Copper River District*

- ◆ The total number of salmon per household taken within the Upper Copper River District and exchanged in customary trade between rural residents and between rural residents and others may not exceed 50% of the annual harvest of salmon by the household. The total cash value of salmon per household taken within the Upper Copper River District and exchanged in customary trade between rural residents and individuals other than rural residents may not exceed \$500 annually.

## Prince William Sound Area Subsistence Fishing

- ◆ Customary trade sales of salmon must be immediately recorded on a customary trade recordkeeping form. The recording requirement and the responsibility to ensure the household limit is not exceeded rests with the seller.

### *Subsistence Fishing Permit Requirements*

- ◆ You may take fish in the Prince William Sound Area only under the authority of a subsistence fishing permit. The permit for the Upper Copper River District is available from the National Park Service; in the Lower Copper River the permit is available from the U.S. Forest Service in Cordova. However, a permit is not required to take eulachon. You may take rainbow/steelhead trout incidentally only as outlined below. Gear may be restricted by subsistence fishing permit.

### Regulations

You may take salmon in the Upper Copper River District only as outlined below:

- ◆ You may not possess salmon taken with an Upper Copper River District subsistence fishing permit, unless you immediately remove the anal fin from the salmon (See Fin Identification, page 19). “Immediately” means prior to concealing the fish from plain view or transporting the fish more than 50 feet from where the fish was removed from the water.
- ◆ You must release rainbow/steelhead trout taken by dip net in the Upper Copper River District and return them unharmed to the water. If you catch rainbow/steelhead trout incidentally while subsistence fishing with fish wheels, you may retain them. Any rainbow/steelhead trout you retain for subsistence purposes must have the anal fin removed immediately (See Fin Identification, page 19). “Immediately” means prior to concealing the fish from plain view or transporting the fish more than 50 feet from where the fish was removed from the water.

Upper Copper River District			
Species	Gear	Incidental Catches	Season
Salmon	Fish wheels Dip nets Rod and Reel	<p><b>Fish wheels:</b> You may retain rainbow/steelhead trout or other freshwater fish caught incidentally to salmon by fish wheels.</p> <p><b>Dip nets:</b> You may not retain and must release unharmed rainbow/steelhead trout caught incidentally to salmon by dip net. Other freshwater fish species caught incidentally to salmon by dip net may be retained.</p>	May 15 through Sept. 30 by permit only. However, the opening date of the Chitina Subdistrict will likely be later than May 15. It will be opened by Special Action and will be announced via a news release.

Upper Copper River District	
<i>Glennallen and Chitina Subdistricts —Total combined annual harvest limits</i>	
Household Size	Annual Harvest Limits and Permit Restrictions
One-person household	30 salmon (including no more than 5 Chinook by dip net and 5 Chinook by rod and reel) Upon request, permits for additional salmon will be issued for up to 200 salmon total (Chinook limit does not change).
Household of two or more persons	60 salmon, of which no more than 5 may be Chinook salmon taken by dip net and no more than 5 Chinook taken by rod and reel, plus 10 salmon for each additional person in a household over 2 persons with a limit of 500 salmon per household. The household’s limit for Chinook salmon taken by dip net or rod and reel does not increase.

### ***For Upper Copper River District subsistence salmon fishing permits:***

- ◆ Only one permit per subdistrict will be issued to each household per year. If a household has been issued permits for both subdistricts in the same year, both permits must be in your possession and readily available for inspection while fishing or transporting subsistence-taken fish in either subdistrict. A qualified household may also be issued a Batzulnetas salmon fishery permit in the same year.
- ◆ Multiple types of gear may be specified on a permit, although only one type of gear may be operated at any one time;
- ◆ You must return your permit no later than October 31, or you will be denied a permit for the following regulatory year.
- ◆ A fish wheel may be operated by only one permit holder at one time; that permit holder must have the fish wheel marked as required by this section during fishing operations;
- ◆ Only the permit holder and the authorized members of the household listed on the subsistence permit may take salmon.
- ◆ A permit holder must immediately record all retained fish on the permit. “Immediately” means prior to concealing the fish from plain view or transporting the fish more than 50 feet from where the fish was removed from the water.
- ◆ A permit holder must personally operate the fish wheel or dip net.
- ◆ You may not loan or transfer a subsistence fish wheel or dip net permit, except as permitted.

### ***If you are a fish wheel owner***

- ◆ You must register your fish wheel with ADF&G or the National Park Service.
- ◆ Your registration number and a wood, metal, or plastic plate at least 12 inches high by 12 inches wide bearing either your name and address, Alaska Driver’s license number, or Alaska State identification card number in letters and numerals at least 1 inch high must be permanently affixed and plainly visible on the fish wheel when the fish wheel is in the water. Only the current year’s registration number may be affixed to the fish wheel, you must remove any other registration number from the fish wheel;
- ◆ You are responsible for the fish wheel. You must remove the fish wheel from the water at the end of the permit period;
- ◆ You may not rent or lease your subsistence fish wheel for personal gain.

### ***If you are operating a fish wheel***

- ◆ You may operate only one fish wheel at any one time.
- ◆ You may not set or operate a fish wheel within 75 feet of another fish wheel.
- ◆ No fish wheel may have more than two baskets.
- ◆ You must check your fish wheel at least once every 10 hours, and remove all fish.
- ◆ If you are a permittee other than the owner, an additional wood, metal, or plastic plate at least 12 inches high by 12 inches wide, bearing your name and address in letters and numerals at least 1 inch high, must be attached to the fish wheel so that the name and address are plainly visible.

### ***If you are a village council or similar organization whose members operate fish wheels***

- ◆ Village councils (or other similarly qualified organizations) whose members operate fish wheels for subsistence purposes on behalf of members of its village or organization may request a subsistence fishing permit.
- ◆ The permit will list all households and household members for whom the fish wheel is operated. The permit will identify a person who will be responsible for each fish wheel.

## Prince William Sound Area Subsistence Fishing

- ◆ The permit will include provisions for recording daily catches for each fish wheel, location and number of fish wheels, full name of individual responsible for each fish wheel, and other information determined to be necessary for effective resource management.
- ◆ The allowable harvest may not exceed the combined seasonal harvest limits for the households listed on the permit; the permittee will notify the ADF&G or the National Park Service when households are added to the list, and the seasonal harvest limits may be adjusted accordingly.
- ◆ Members of the 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.

**Batzulnetas.** Under these conditions, residents of Mentasta Village and Dot Lake may take salmon in the vicinity of the former Native village of Batzulnetas only under authority of a Batzulnetas subsistence salmon fishing permit available from the National Park Service:

- ◆ **Copper River.** You may take salmon only in those waters of the Copper River between National Park Service regulatory markers located near the mouth of Tanada Creek and approximately one-half mile downstream from that mouth and in Tanada Creek between National Park Service regulatory markers identifying the open waters of the creek.
- ◆ You may use only fish wheels, dip nets, and rod and reel in the Copper River.
- ◆ **Tanada Creek.** You may use only dip nets, fyke nets, spears, and rod and reel in Tanada Creek. One fyke net and associated lead may be used in Tanada Creek upstream of the National Park Service weir. You may only use a fyke net after consultation with the in-season manager. You must be present when the fyke net is actively fishing. You may take no more than 1,000 sockeye salmon in Tanada Creek with a fyke net.
- ◆ You may take salmon only from May 15 through September 30 or until the season is closed by Special Action.
- ◆ You may retain Chinook salmon taken in a fish wheel in the **Copper River**. You may not take Chinook salmon in **Tanada Creek**.
- ◆ You must return the permit to the National Park Service no later than October 15.

### *The following regulations apply to specific freshwater streams that flow into Prince William Sound:*

You may take pink salmon for subsistence purposes from freshwaters with a dip net from May 15 through September 30, 7 days per week, with no harvest or possession limits in these areas:

- ◆ Green Island, Knight Island, Chenega Island, Bainbridge Island, Evans Island, Elrington Island, Latouche Island and adjacent islands, and the mainland waters from the outer point of Granite Bay located in Knight Island Passage to Cape Fairfield.
- ◆ Waters north of a line from Porcupine Point to Granite Point, and south of a line from Point Lowe to Tongue Point.

**FEDERAL DELEGATED OFFICIALS**

 **Copper River Drainage**  
Superintendent  
Wrangell-St. Elias National Park  
and Preserve

 **Prince William Sound Area**  
Cordova District Ranger  
Chugach National Forest

*See Directory at the back of this book  
for contact information.*