



Anchorage Area

Lake Fishing

Management

The Anchorage Management Area has 26 lakes stocked with rainbow trout, Arctic char, Arctic grayling, and landlocked Chinook salmon.

The species stocked depends on the availability of the fish for stocking, the characteristics of the lake, and the expressed desires of the angling public for diversified fishing opportunities.

Area fishing options range widely from remote back-country lakes in Chugach State Park that are stocked with Arctic grayling to small neighborhood lakes in city parks stocked with rainbow trout.

The fisheries in this handout are managed by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Anchorage Area Office, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99518, (907) 267-2218.



Anchorage area stocked lakes provide good fishing close to home for trout, char, and landlocked salmon. (Photo courtesy Ken Marsh)

Hot Spots and Regulations

- For weekly in-season lake fishing reports online, visit www.sf.adfg.state.ak.us or phone our 24-hour hotline recording at (907) 267-2503.
- For more stocked lakes information and maps visit: www.sf.adfg.state.ak.us/statewide/lakedata/

About the fish

Arctic Grayling

Grayling are silvery gray or greenish-blue with scattered small black splotches, large scales, and an off-white belly. The grayling's large dorsal fin distinguishes it from other members of the salmon family.

Grayling are very active in shoreline waters during spring ice-out, and are taken on small dry or wet flies, or small spoons or spinners. During the warm summer months, larger grayling can be found in 15-plus feet of water near submerged trees, logs, or other structures. They bite readily on single eggs, shrimp, or other small baits. Occasionally, grayling are taken on small baits through the ice.

Grayling generally do not reproduce in landlocked

lakes since they need a flowing, gravelly stream to deposit eggs that will hatch. Most stocked grayling are harvested by the end of their third or fourth year, although they can live up to 10 years and may grow longer than 18 inches.

Rainbow Trout

Rainbow trout are usually silvery gray, and have a reddish band from the gill plate to the tail. Rainbows have many small black speckles, and a pale white belly. Color can vary, however, depending on habitat, diet, and stage of growth. Flesh color can vary from pale white to pink.

Rainbows do not reproduce in landlocked lakes because they need water flowing over a gravel bed to deposit eggs that will hatch. Large female trout harvested in the late fall or early winter often have fully developed loose eggs in their body cavity and/or skeins containing small eggs for the next season. Most stocked trout are harvested by the end of their third year, although they occasionally live 5-6 years and may exceed 6 pounds.

Rainbows are fairly active in shoreline waters as the ice is receding, and are taken on small dry or wet flies, or small spoons or spinners. During the warm summer months large rainbows are often taken by trolling, or by casting spoons or spinners in 10-plus feet of water. Smaller fish stay near brushy shorelines and are also taken by using small dry or wet flies, small spoons, spinners, or by bait.

Rainbows feed heavily in the fall in near-shore waters and bite well at this time on lures or bait. During early winter rainbows will take lures and bait through the ice at depths of 2 - 15 feet.

Landlocked Salmon

Landlocked king salmon (Chinook) are bright silver with black spots all over the body. During the low-light, ice-covered months, rainbow trout may lose their coloring and look similar to landlocked kings. However, landlocked kings are a lighter greenish-brown to gray color, with no hint of a red horizontal band, while rain-

bows are generally darker with at least a light red band.

If not harvested by their third winter, some stocked landlocked salmon can grow to about 14 inches long, and some may become sexually mature. Salmon cannot reproduce in landlocked lakes, and most will die after

maturation. Occasionally, one of these fish may live an additional year and weigh over 2 pounds.

Landlocked salmon are fairly active in shoreline waters in the spring and the fall and are often taken on small dry or wet flies, as well as small spoons and spinners or by bait. During the summer months they are found in 15-plus feet of water, biting readily on

small lures, single eggs, shrimp or other bait. Salmon are very active throughout the winter and can be taken through the ice on small lures, single eggs, shrimp, or other bait at 2 - 15 feet.

Arctic Char

Arctic char are usually a light silvery-gray- or green-brown on the back and sides, with light pink to reddish-orange spots, and a pale white belly. Mature fish may have bright orange-red spots on lower sides, belly, and gill plates. To tell the difference between char and rainbows or salmon, remember that char have light spots, and rainbows and salmon have black spots. Char reach 12-18 inches before maturing in late fall to midwinter. These fish may spawn in landlocked lakes if they can find an area with the right combination of oxygenated springs and gravel. Most stocked char are probably harvested by the end of their fourth year, although they may occasionally live more than 10 years and exceed 5 pounds. Wild char in Big Lake have been aged up to 12 years old and harvested at weights exceeding 10 pounds.

Arctic char are found in 15 - 40 feet of water year round. An effective method for taking large char is trolling off the lake bottom in waters deeper than 20 feet, using spinner/flasher rigs with a lure or bait trailing 12-18 inches behind. When ice fishing, small char are often taken with bait while large char are taken by jigging bright lures just off the bottom.



An angler tries Rabbit Lake for rainbow trout. Remote stocked lakes in the Chugach Mountains outside of Anchorage include Rabbit, Symphony and Eklutna lakes. (Photo courtesy of Ken Marsh)

Northern Pike

Northern pike are dark grayish-green or dark brown in color on both sides, with irregular rows of yellow spots on their sides. Pike have elongated, slender, and moderately compressed bodies, with long snouts containing numerous sharp little teeth.

Northern pike are voracious predators. They eat fish, invertebrates, amphibians, waterfowl, and small mammals. Outside of their native range in Interior and Western Alaska, pike prey on rearing salmon and trout. As a result, pike have destroyed many local salmon and trout fisheries. Northern pike are not native to Southcentral Alaska and are considered an invasive species. A number of Anchorage area lakes have had northern pike illegally introduced into them. The Department of Fish and Game has taken measures to slow and stop the spread of pike in Anchorage, and encourages angler to retain all pike they catch.

If you catch pike in a water body where you have not seen pike before, report it at: 1-877-468-2748.

Access: day-use only

Generally, the access is day-use only, and many times the only public land is at the access point, with the remaining shoreline privately-owned. Camping is not allowed at public access sites except in designated campgrounds. It is important to respect private property and help keep the public access areas clean by packing out everything you've packed in, including used fishing line.

Elmendorf Air Force Base requires Department of Defense identification or accompaniment by a base sponsor. All anglers must have a base fishing stamp on their license. Call 552-2282 or 552-2436.

Fishing on U.S. Army land in Alaska requires, in addition to a valid State of Alaska fishing license, a Recreational Access Permit (obtain at main gate Fort Richardson) and usage of the U.S. Army Recreational Tracking system

(USARTRAK). Call 384-0296 (access info) or 384-2744 (recreation info) for more information.

Anglers must observe all municipal ordinances and regulations, and receive permission to fish from private property.

Boats and motor vehicles

Motor restrictions apply to "motorized watercraft," which are watercraft powered or propelled by a force other than human muscular power, gravity, or wind. This definition does not include electric motors, or airplanes as motorized watercraft when landing, taking off, or taxiing on a water body.

Motorized uses producing continuous or repetitive noise are not allowed during some hours on certain lakes. Examples of prohibited uses during **quiet hours** include high-speed joyriding, practicing aircraft "touch-and-goes," engine testing, and racing. This restriction does not prohibit the operation of aircraft, boats, or other vehicles traveling directly to their destination. Sand Lake and Lower Fire Lake currently allow up to 50 horse power boat motors during certain hours of the day.

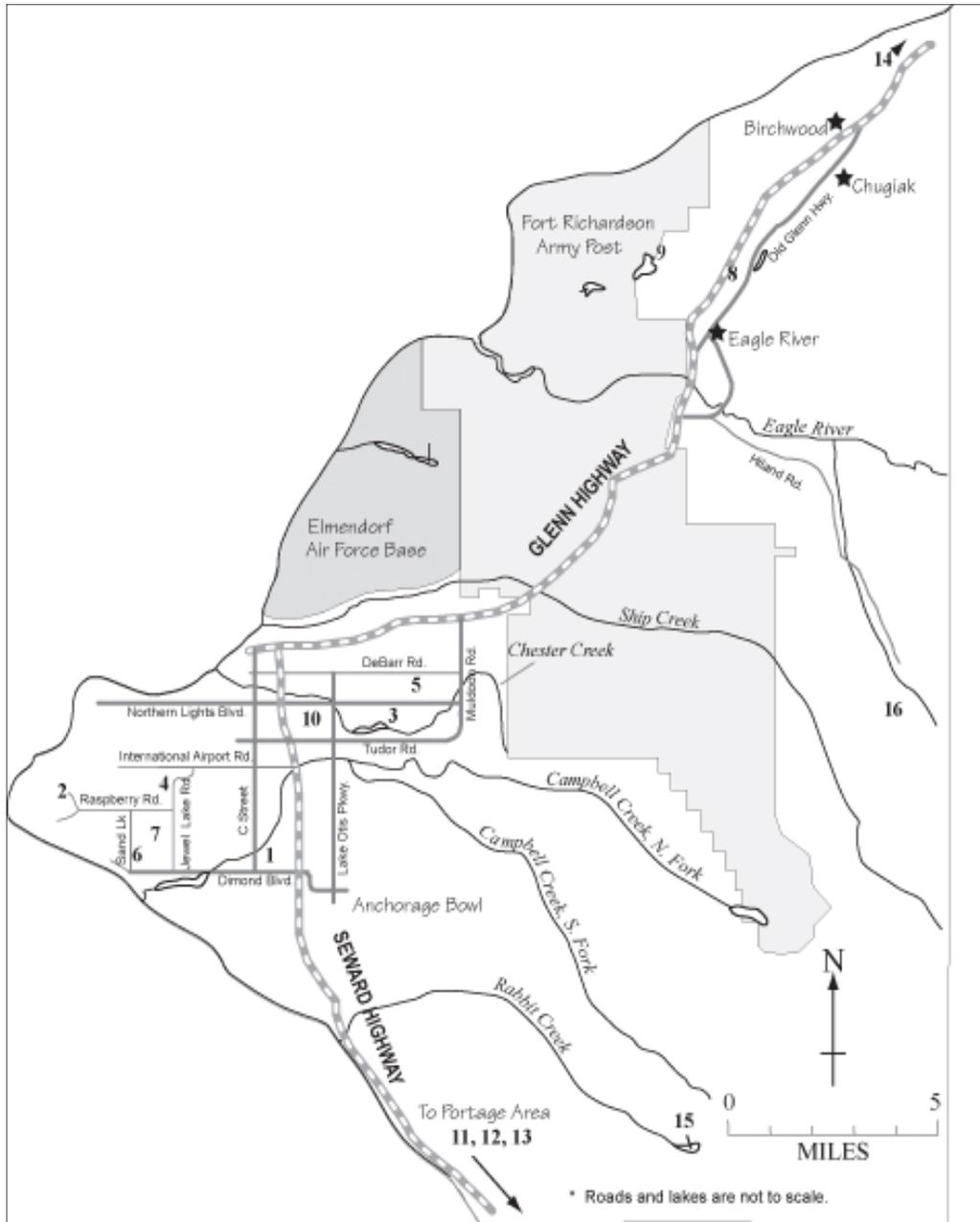
On Anchorage area lakes, motor vehicles are not allowed on the lakes during ice-covered months. "Motor vehicle" means snowmobiles, ATVs, and automotive vehicles with rubber tires for use on highways.

For current motor boat and other vehicle restrictions, go to www.muni.org/Parks/lakes.cfm



Ice fishers gather on Anchorage's Jewel Lake for a day of fishing in December.
(ADF&G 2008)

Anchorage Bowl Lakes



These opportunities funded in part by Federal Aid in Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game administers all programs and activities free from discrimination based on race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, marital status, pregnancy, parenthood, or disability. The department administers all programs and activities in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.

If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility, or if you desire further information please write to ADF&G, P.O. Box 115526, Juneau, AK 99811-5526; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4040 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 300 Webb, Arlington, VA 22203; or O.E.O., U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington DC 20240.

For information on alternative formats for this and other department publications, please contact the department ADA Coordinator at (voice) 907-465-6077, (TDD) 907-465-3646, or (FAX) 907-465-6078.

*To find the general area of the lake, note the lake number, then find that number on the map on Page 4.

Anchorage area

- #1 Taku Campbell New Seward Hwy./Dimond Blvd. Exit. West on Dimond 0.7 mile to King St. Right on King St. 0.4 mile to 76th Ave. Left on 76th Ave. to Municipality of Anchorage park. Taku Campbell is not scheduled for stocking until the northern pike problem is resolved. System contains stocked coho (silver) salmon and rainbow trout. 👍

- #2 Campbell Point Lake New Seward Hwy./Dimond Exit. West on Dimond 3.2 miles to Jewel Lake Rd. Right on Jewel Lake Rd. 1.3 miles to Raspberry Rd. Left on Raspberry Rd. 1.9 miles to Kincaid Park. Right on gravel road at Kincaid Park Entrance 0.5 miles to lake and large parking area. Lake contains stocked coho (silver) salmon, rainbow trout, and Arctic char. 👍👍

- #3 APU/ University Lake From New Seward Hwy./Tudor Rd. East on Tudor Rd. 1.6 miles to Bragraw St. Left on Bragraw St. 0.5 mile to University Drive. Right on University Dr. 0.5 mile to parking behind Grace Hall. Lake contains stocked rainbow trout. 👍

- #4 DeLong Lake New Seward/Dimond Blvd. Exit. West on Dimond Blvd. 3.2 miles to Jewel Lk. Rd. Right on Jewel Lk. Rd. 1.7 miles to 63rd. Ave. Left on 63rd. Ave. to Municipality of Anchorage DeLong Lake Park with parking, toilets, picnic tables and handicap accessible dock. Canoes and inflatables can be launched. Lake contains stocked coho (silver) salmon, and rainbow trout. 👍👍

- #5 Cheney Lake Mile 4.4 Glenn Hwy. Exit at Muldoon Rd. South on Muldoon Rd. 1.1 miles to De-barr Rd. Right on Debarr Rd. 0.9 mile to Beaver Place. Left on Beaver Place 0.6 mile to Municipality of Anchorage park, with parking, toilets, picnic tables and handicap access. Cheney Lake is surrounded by Municipality of Anchorage property, and is scheduled for stocking in spring 2009. 👍

- #6 Jewel Lake New Seward Hwy./Dimond Exit. West on Dimond Blvd. 3.7 miles to large parking area with toilets and handicap access. Or 3.2 miles on Dimond Blvd. to Jewel Lake Rd. Right on Jewel Lk. Rd. 0.2 miles to 88th Ave. Left on 88th Ave. 0.2 miles to Municipality of Anchorage Park with parking, toilets, picnic tables, dock and handicap access. Canoes and inflatables can be launched at both access points. Lake contains stocked coho (silver) salmon, and rainbow trout. 👍👍

- #7 Sand Lake New Seward/Dimond Blvd. Exit. West on Dimond Blvd. 3.7 miles to Jewel Lk. Rd. Right on Jewel Lk. Rd. 0.9 mile to trails available on north and south end of Sand Lake Elementary to Municipality of Anchorage Park currently being upgraded. Continue 0.2 mile to Caravelle Dr. Left on Caravelle Dr. 0.1 mile to foot trail on left to lake, street parking. Alternate access: From New Seward/Dimond Blvd. Exit. West on Dimond Blvd. 4.2 miles to Sand Lk. Rd. Right on Sand Lk. Rd. 0.7 mile to 80th Ave. Right on 80th Ave. 0.5 mile to canal access providing canoe access with limited parking. Majority of shoreline is privately owned. Lake contains stocked rainbow trout and Arctic char, and invasive northern pike. 👍👍

- #8 Lower Fire Lake Mile post 14 Glenn Hwy. North Eagle River Exit. South 0.1 mile to Old Glenn Hwy. Left at stoplight on Old Glenn Hwy. 0.5 mile to West Lake Ridge Rd. Left on West Lake Ridge Rd. 0.1 mile to unimproved access with limited parking. The majority of lake shoreline is private property. Lake contains stocked rainbow trout, Arctic grayling, and invasive northern pike. 🇺🇸

- #9 Beach Lake Mile post 20.9 Glenn Hwy. South Birchwood exit, turn west past Chugiak High School 0.9 mile to Beach Lk. Rd. Left on Beach Lk. Rd. 2.0 miles to Beach Lake with Anchorage Parks parking, overnight camping and an unimproved boat launch. Lake contains coho (silver) salmon, rainbow trout, and grayling. 🇺🇸

- #10 Otis Lake New Seward Hwy./36th Ave. East on 36th. Ave. 0.8 mile to Lake Otis Parkway. Left on Lake Otis Parkway 0.2 mile to Cornell Dr. Left on Cornell Dr. 0.1 mile to Carlson Park with street parking, paved trail, picnic tables and handicap access. Canoes and inflatables can be launched from the trail. Majority of shoreline is private access. 🇺🇸

Turnagain Arm area

- #11 Airstip/ Willow Pond Mile post 48.1 Seward Hwy. East on Portage Valley Rd. 1.0 mile to paved road on north side. (Moose Flats Recreation Area). 🇺🇸

- #12 Alder Pond Mile post 48.1 Seward Hwy. East on Portage Valley Rd. 1 1/4 miles to dirt road on south side of road. Turn right on dirt road to Y. Turn left at Y 0.1 miles to Alder Pond. 🇺🇸

- #13 Tangle Pond Mile post 48.1 Seward Hwy., East on Portage Valley Rd. 2.3 miles to pullout on north side of road. 🇺🇸

Fort Richardson area

*The following lakes are located on Fort Richardson military reservation. To fish these lakes, the public must check in at gate, then proceed to the military fish and game office for a 10-minute orientation. Proof of current fishing license must be shown to receive a card for fishing on base. The card must be shown when entering the base for fishing. Wildlife MPs can be reached during regular hours at 384-0431 for questions and listing of areas open to fishing. A recorded number, 384-0437, provides areas closed for training. Call 384-2744 for more recreation information.

- Clunie Lake Arctic char, coho (silver) salmon, and rainbow trout 🇺🇸

- Gwen Lake Rainbow trout 🇺🇸

- Waldon Lake Rainbow trout 🇺🇸

- Thompson Lake Rainbow trout 🇺🇸

Elmendorf Air Force Base area

*The following lakes are located on Elmendorf military reservation. To fish these lakes, the public must check in at main gate at Boniface. After May 27, 1996, Wildlife MP's will issue a card for fishing on base. Proof of current fishing license must be shown. More information, including lakes locations, can be obtained at the main gate or by calling 552-2436 during regular office hours or the hot line number at 552-2282.

- Upper Sixmile Lake Dolly Varden, rainbow trout, and coho (silver) salmon 🐟
- Triangle Lake Rainbow trout. 🐟
- Fish Lake Rainbow trout 🐟
- Hillberg Lake Rainbow trout and coho (silver) salmon 🐟
- Spring Lake Rainbow trout 🐟
- Green Lake Rainbow trout and coho (silver) salmon 🐟

Remote Lakes

#14 Eklutna Lake Mile post 26.3 Glenn Hwy. Eklutna Exit. East on Eklutna Rd. 10 miles to Eklutna Lake Recreation Area. Access to lake from campground with parking area, camping, picnic area, toilets. Fees are charged. Canoes or inflatables can be portaged to lake. A well maintained trail follows east side of lake for 8 miles. NOTE: Eklutna Lake is in Chugach State Park. All surrounding shoreline is public. Lake contains rainbow trout and Dolly Varden. 🐟

#15 Rabbit Lake Mile post 15.2 Seward Hwy. East at McHugh Creek State Wayside with picnic sites, toilets and parking. Beginning of McHugh Creek Trailhead. Follow trail 7 miles to Rabbit Lake. Lake contains rainbow trout. 🐟

#16 Symphony Lake Mile post 11.6 Glenn Hwy. Hiland Rd. Exit. South on Hiland Rd. 7 miles to South Fork Eagle River Valley Trailhead in Chugach State Park. 5 miles on trail to Symphony Lake and Eagle Lake. Lake contains grayling. 🐟🐟



Selected regulations for lakes in this handout

For a complete summary of sport fishing regulations, refer to the *Southcentral Alaska Sport Fishing Regulation Summary* booklet available free wherever licenses are sold.

SPECIES	DAILY BAG/POSSESSION LIMIT	SPECIAL REGULATIONS
Rainbow trout	5/5, only one 20" or longer,	Rainbows 20" or longer that are kept must be recorded immediately on the back of the fishing license or on the Harvest Record Card. Only two rainbows 20" or longer may be kept per year from Anchorage area lakes.
Arctic Grayling	5/5 (any size), unless listed as an exception below.	none
Arctic Char	5/5 (any size), unless listed as an exception below.	none
Landlocked Salmon	10/10, any size	none
Northern pike	No limit	Northern pike may also be taken by spear, or by bow and arrow, if the arrow has a barbed tip, and if the arrow is attached to the bow with a line.

For information about camping, accommodations, fishing guides, and other visitor services, contact the Matanuska-Susitna Convention & Visitor's Bureau at (907) 746-5000, 7744 E. Visitors View Court, Palmer, Alaska, 99645, email: info@alaskavisit.com, web: www.alaskavisit.com or drop by their information center at Mile 35.5 Parks Highway (Trunk Rd. exit)



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 Alaska Department of Fish and Game Anchorage, Alaska 99518
 Division of Sport Fish

Sport Fish Information Center
 (907) 267-2218
 M-F 8am - 5 pm
 Except on state & federal holidays