

Upper Copper/Upper Susitna Basin
Roadside Fishing Guide

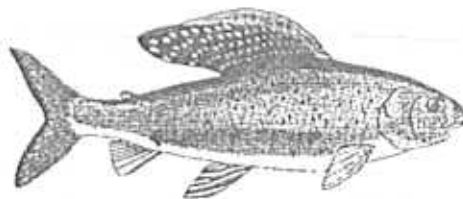
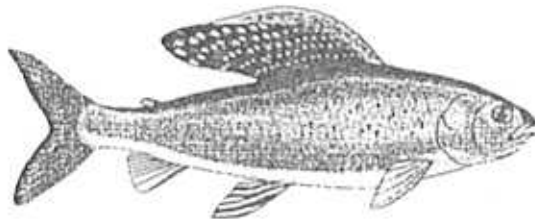


Illustration of a fish, likely a salmon, shown in profile facing right.



Upper Copper/Upper Susitna Basin Roadside Fishing Guide

The varied fishing resources of the Upper Copper/Upper Susitna river Basin (UCUS) offer something for nearly every angler. The UCUS is noted for its excellent Arctic grayling, chinook and sockeye salmon fishing. Waters in the UCUS have produced the state record lake trout and burbot. The Basin offers a great opportunity for the angler who wants good fishing away from the more congested fishing spots in the state.

Two salmon sport fisheries occur in the Gulkana and Klutina rivers. Chinook salmon first arrive in the Gulkana River in early June. The run peaks in the lower river, downstream of the pipeline crossing, around the 4th of July. The lower Klutina River chinook salmon fishery starts in mid to late June. The chinook salmon fisheries on the Gulkana and upper Klutina rivers end with the UCUS areawide chinook salmon closure on July 20. There are concurrent runs of sockeye salmon in both of these rivers. Presently, sockeye do not receive much angling effort.

Subsistence and personal use salmon fisheries for Alaskan residents take place near the community of Chitina at the end of the Edgerton Highway. The dip net and

fishwheel seasons run from approximately June 1 through September 30. Fishing for personal use is opened by emergency order. Bag and possession limits are set by the fishery management plan. Careful review of the fishing regulations is recommended prior to fishing.

The UCUS area has numerous lakes and streams that contain stocked rainbow trout, Arctic grayling, or coho salmon as well as resident species.

The guide does not cover all the roadside water bodies but gives the angler a wide variety of fisheries from which to choose. The Division of Sport Fish of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) requests all users to respect private property and to leave the shorelines and trails cleaner than you found them.

Like most major routes in Alaska, the highways in the area are posted with numbered mileposts (MP). The locations in the guide refer to highway markings, not odometer readings. This publication proceeds from the lowest milepost to the highest on each highway. □

Glenn Highway

Water	Species	Mile	Location/Access
Leina Lk	GR, BB, WF	121	Gravel pit parking, short hike to outlet.
Gunsight Cr. Lk	GR	123	Good spring fishery.
Cache Cr	GR	142.2	Pull-off present. Good spring and fall fishing.
Mirror Lk	GR, RT	149	Pull-off 200 yds from hwy.
Mendeltna Cr.	GR	153	Pull-off, accommodations available.
Gergie Lk	GR, RT	155	Pull-off.
Arizona Lk	GR	155	Pull-off shared with Gergie Lake
Buffalo Lk	RT	156	Pull-off.
Little Junction Lk	GR	159.9	South side of hwy. 1/4 mi trail.
<i>Lake Louise Rd.</i>		<i>160</i>	
Tex Smith Lk	RT	162	North side of hwy.
Lost Cabin Lk	GR	166	Across from Atlasta House. 3/4 mi trail.
Tolsona Lk	GR, BB	170	Turn north at sign, parking space provided by Moose Lk lodge.
Tolsona Cr	GR	173	Adjacent to hwy. Campground present.
Moose Cr	GR	186	Adjacent to hwy.

Lake Louise Road

Junction Lk	GR	0.5	East side of rd.
Crater Lk	RT	1.5	West side of rd 200 yds.
Little Crater Lk	RT	1.5	Just beyond Crater Lake.
Old Road Lk	RT	5.2	Follow old rd east 1/4 mi., lake west of rd.
Round Lk	RT	5.2	Follow old rd east 1/4 mi, lake east of rd.
Tiny Lk	GR	6.5	Take rd west 1.5 mi. 1/4 mi south by trail.
40-Foot Lk	GR	6.5	West on rd 2 mi. 1/4 mi south by trail.
Peanut Lk	RT	6.5	West on rd 2 mi. 1/4 mi south by trail.
Mendeltna Cr	GR	6.5	West on rd 5 mi.
Forgotten Lk	GR	7	Pull-off. Lake east of rd.
Elbow Lk	GR	11.5	Lake east of rd.
Caribou Lk	GR	11.5	Lake west of rd.
Conner Lk	GR	16.2	West side, 300 yds.
Lake Louise	LT,GR,BB,WF	16.5	Public campground. Accommodations available.
Susitna Lk.	LT,GR,BB,WF		Access by boat across Lake Louise.

Richardson Highway

Port Valdez	SS,PS,CS,DV,BF		Boat rentals at dock.
Robe R. Lk	DV	2.5	Hwy crosses river. Pull-off present at Mi 3.1
Thompson Lk	GR	23.1	Lake east and downhill from hwy; can be seen from rd.
Blueberry Lk	RT	24.1	Use site present.
Worthington Lk	RT	27	Parking area present.

Water	Species	Mile	Location/Access
Richardson Highway (cont'd)			
Tiekel R	DV	43-50	River parallels hwy. Fish small in size.
Little Tonsina R	DV	64, 74	Use-site present.
Squirrel Cr. Pit	GR,RT	80	Pull-offs present.
Edgerton Highway			
Klutina R	DV,GR,KS,RS	100	
Bear Cr	GR	125.9	Pull-off present. Spring and fall fishery.
Gulkana R	RT,GR,KS,RS	126.9	Fishing trails at Mi 129.3, 136.4, 141.4. Use-site present at Mi 147.5
Slana-Tok Cutoff			
		128.7	
Poplar Grove	GR	136.4	Spring fishery.
Sourdough Cr	GR	147.5	Spring fishery.
Haggard Cr	GR	161	Spring fishery.
June Lk, Nita Lk	WF,GR	166.5	1/4 mi west.
Gillespie Cr	GR	168	Spring fishery.
Gillespie Lk	GR	168.2	Pull-off present. 1/4 mi trail.
Meiers Lk	GR	171	Pull-offs present, best fishing at inlet.
Dick Lk	GR	173.2	East side of rd.
Paxson Lk	LT,GR,BB,WF	175-182	Use-sites and numerous accommodations available.
Denali Highway			
		185	
Fish Cr. Lk(s)	GR	192	Pull-off present. Trail parallels creek 2 mi to lake.
Summit Lk	LT,GR,BB	194	Parking areas and accommodations available.
Fielding Lk	LT,GR,BB	200.5	Turn south on side rd 2 mi. Good fishing.
Edgerton Highway			
Liberty Falls Cr	GR	25	(from Richardson Hwy): DNR wayside.
3-Mile Lk	RT,GR	30	(from Richardson Hwy): Lake adjacent to rd.
2-Mile Lk	RT,GR	31	(from Richardson Hwy): Lake adjacent to rd.
Chitina (Town) Lk	GR	33	Lake bordered by town. Various pull-offs present.
McCarthy Road			
		33	
McCarthy Road			
Copper R	RS,KS	1.1	Campground present.
Strelina Lk	RT,SS	10.6	Trail. Lk 1/3 mi north.
Van/Silver Lk	RT	11.1	Trail. Lake 1/4 mi south. Accommodations available.
Sculpin Lk	RT	12.6	1/4 mi south. Accommodations available.
Strelina Cr.	DV	15.4	Fair fishing.
Lou's Lk	SS,GR	25.7	3/4 mi north.
Long Lk	GR,BB,LT,SS,DV	45	

Water	Species	Mile	Location/Access
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Siana-Tok Cutoff Highway

Tulsona Cr	GR	15-18	Creek parallels hwy. Numerous pull-offs.
Gravel Pit Lk	GR	30	North side of hwy.
Sinona Cr	GR,DV	34	
Nabesna Road			
Ahtell Cr	GR	61	Use-site present.
Carlson Lk	GR,DV	68	2-1/2 mi west up Carlson Cr.
Mable Cr	GR	76	
Mentasta Lk	GR,WF	81.5	Turn north on old Siana-Tok bypass. Inlet and outlet best fishing.

Nabesna Road

Rufus Cr	DV	9	Spring fishery.
Long Lk	GR,BB	25	Pull-off present.
Little Twin Lk	GR,LT,BB	29.5	1/3 mi south.
Big Twin Lk	GR,BB	30	
Jack Lk	GR,WF,LT,BB	31	1 mi south of rd. by old cat trail.
Jack Cr	GR	38	Pull-off present.

Denali Highway

Mud Lk	GR	.3	One mi SW of hwy by rough rd. Good early fishing.
Seven-Mile Lk	LT	6.8	Take gravel rd 3/4 mi to lake. Excellent summer fishing.
Ten-Mile Lk	LT,GR,BB	10	Pull-off small. Short hike downhill to outlet. Summer fishery.
Teardrop Lk	LT,GR,BB	10.4	Short hike down steep hill to south. Good summer fishery.
Octopus Lk	LT,GR,WF	11	1/4 mi south of rd.
Little Swede Lk	LT	16.8	Pull-off.
Big Swede Lk	LT,GR,BB,WF	16.8	2 mi south of Little Swede. Excellent fishing.
16.8 Mile Lk	LT,GR	16.8	Walk north 200 yds to lake.
Rusty Lk	LT,GR	16.8	Walk 1/2 mi northwest of 16.8 Mile Lake.
17-Mile Lk	LT,GR	17	Small lake with fair to good summer fishing.
Denali-Clearwater Cr	GR	18.1	Use site present. Spring and summer fishery.
Tangle Lks	LT,GR,BB	22.5	Rd crosses Tangle River, use-site present. Accommodations available. Excellent summer fishery.
Rock Cr	GR	25.3	Parking area present. Fair summer fishery.
Landmark Gap Lk	LT,GR	26	3 mi north from hwy. Follow cat trail. Good trout fishing.
Glacier Lk	LT,GR	31	Parking area on north side of hwy, follow cat trail 2 mi to lake. Excellent summer fishing.

Water	Species	Mile	Location/Access
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Denali Highway (Cont'd)

36-Mile Lk	LT,GR	36	1/2 mi north of rd.
46.9-Mile Lk	GR	46.9	North side of rd. Lake and outlet excellent for large grayling.
Crooked Cr	GR	46.9-50	Creek parallels hwy. Excellent fishing.
50-Mile Lk	GR	50	North side of rd. Fair fishing.
Denali-Clearwater Cr	GR	59	Use site present. Summer fishing.

GR = Grayling	DV = Dolly Varden	RT = Rainbow trout
LT = Lake trout	BB = Burbot	WF = Whitefish
RS = Red salmon	KS = King salmon	PS = Pink salmon
SS = Silver salmon	CS = Chum salmon	BF = Bottom fish

ANGLER ETHICS

- ✦ Don't pollute, haul trash out of the field, and dispose of it properly. Remember that discarded fishing line can be lethal to birds and other wildlife.
- ✦ Obey fishing regulations.
- ✦ Respect private property. Native allotments and other private land holdings are common along Alaska's waterways. Seek permission before using private land.
- ✦ Think about your needs and take only the fish you require. Preserve your fish appropriately.
- ✦ If you plan to kill fish, do so quickly and humanely. If you plan to release fish, handle them gently and do not remove them from the water.
- ✦ Minimize stream bank erosion.

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ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
TROPHY FISH AFFIDAVIT (Please type or print plainly)

I am applying for the following certificate: Honorary Catch-and-release Certificate
 Trophy Certificate

Kind of fish: _____ Certified weight _____ lbs. _____ ozs. (not for catch-and-release)

Length: _____ inches (to nearest 1/8 inch) Caught in (check one): Marine Fresh water

Date caught _____ Where caught _____ Sport Fish License No. _____

Contestant's name _____ Age (if under 16 years of age) _____

(please print)

Mailing address _____

City/State _____ Zip code _____

The undersigned, being a Trophy Fish Official, does hereby verify the identity of the described fish:

Official's name (please print) _____

Model and serial no. of scale _____

Official's address _____

We, the undersigned, witnessed the weighing and measuring of the fish described above, and verify the weight and measurements recorded:

Witness 1. (signature) _____ (address) _____

Witness 2. (signature) _____ (address) _____

I hereby swear that in taking this fish I complied with all the rules of this program, and that the witnesses hereto actually witnessed the weighing and measuring of this fish. I further declare that all the above information is true and correct.

Contestant's signature _____

Official's signature _____

_____ Certified by me this _____ day of _____ 19 _____

Mail this original affidavit and the photograph to:

ADF&G Division of Sport Fish

P.O. Box 25526

Juneau, Alaska 99802-5526

GRAYLING

Dry or wet flies	Hook size	Bait	Spinning Gear	Ice Fishing
Deer Hair Caddis	12,14,16	single	Small Mepps Spinners,	No
Addams	12,14,16	salmon	Small Vibrax Spinners,	
Black Gnat	12,14,16	eggs	Rooster Tails in silver &	
Caddis Nymphs			gold in 0, 00 sizes	

RAINBOWS

Dry or wet flies	Hook size	Bait	Spinning Gear	Ice Fishing
Royal Wulff	10,12,14	Salmon	Small Mepps Spinners,	single
Muddler Minnow	10,12,14	roe	Small Vibrax Spinners,	salmon
Large Streamers	10,12,14		Rooster Tails in	eggs
Caddis Nymphs	10,12,14		1 & 0 sizes	
Woolly Buggers	10,12,14			

LAKE TROUT

Dry or wet flies	Hook size	Bait	Spinning Gear	Ice Fishing
Not practical		Whitefish & Herring	Large Dardevle spoons in red and pearl, Large plugs in silver trolled very slowly	

BURBOT

Dry or wet flies	Hook size	Bait	Spinning Gear	Ice Fishing
Not practical		Whitefish & Herring	Whitefish & herring fished on bottom of lake	Yes Best time

KING SALMON

Dry or wet flies	Hook size	Bait	Spinning Gear	Ice Fishing
Coho flies, green red, orange, white		Salmon roe	Oakies, Spin & glows, red hot shots	

SOCKEYE

Dry or wet flies	Hook size	Bait	Spinning Gear	Ice Fishing
Coho flies, green red, orange, white		Salmon roe	Mepps Spinners in size 3 & 4	

SILVERS

Dry or wet flies	Hook size	Bait	Spinning Gear	Ice Fishing
Coho flies, green red, orange, white		Salmon roe	Mepps Spinners in size 3 & 4	

Basic Lures For Your Alaskan Tackle Box

Small Spinners

for Grayling, Rainbows, Dolly Varden
Brand Names: Mepps, Vibrax, Black Fury



Larger Lures

for Rainbows, Lake Trout, Pike
Brand Names: Dardevle, Pixee, Large Mepps, Larger Vibrax



Small Flies

for Grayling
Black Gnat (wet & dry), Mosquito, Shrimp, imitation egg cluster, Gray Hackle Peacock
for Rainbows
muddler, egg sucking leech



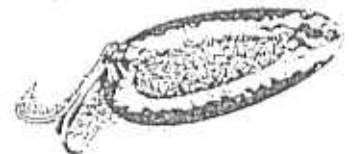
Larger Flies

for Salmon
Coho Flies in all colors (pick your favorite)
for Pike
Mouse Fly



Spoons & Lures

for Salmon
Brand Names: Pixee, Spin-n-Glo, Mepps, Dardevle, T-Spoons



CATCH AND.....RELEASE

If you enjoy fishing but don't need to eat the fish consider joining the growing number of fishermen who release fish after they catch them. When fishing for small fish, **first bend or clip the barb on your hook.**

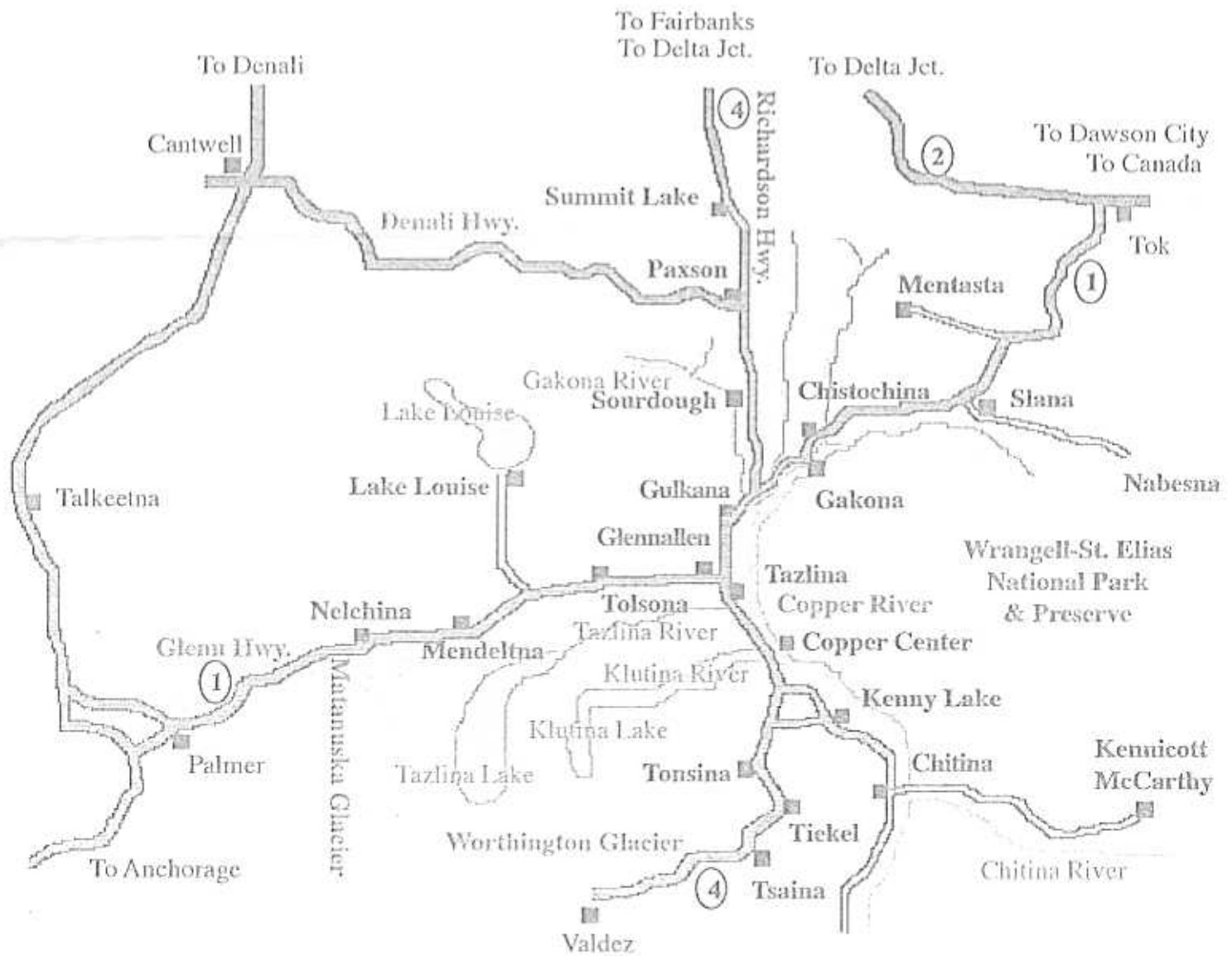


Clip the barb

After you catch a fish try to keep it in the water. Handle the fish carefully. First hold the fish in the water for a few seconds so it can recover and swim away under its own power. Don't throw or drop the fish back into the water.

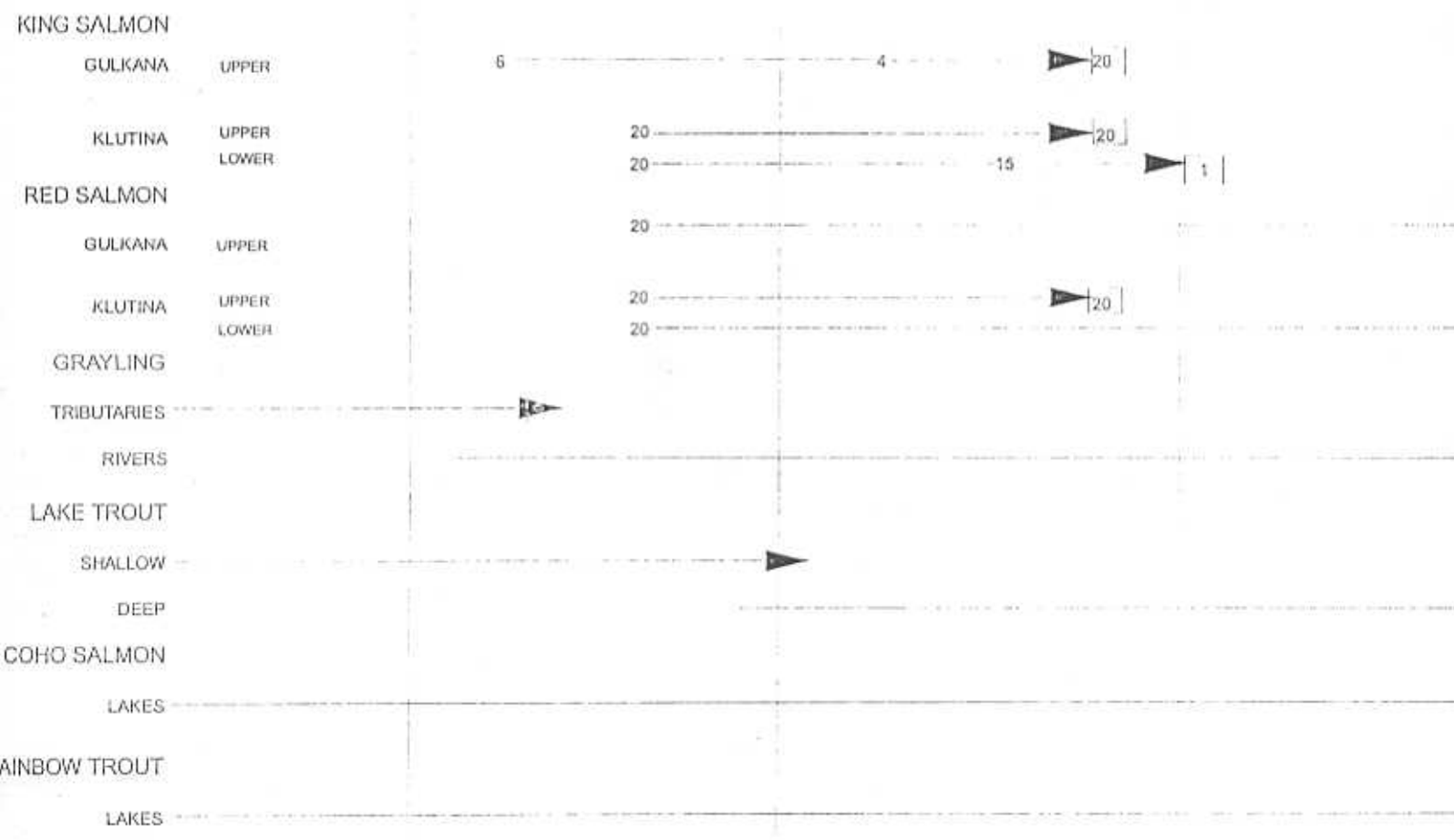
Copper River Valley

Alaska



Copper Basin Run Timing

MAY JUNE JULY AUGUST



Closed by regulation

Common Lures for the Copper Basin

SPRING

SUMMER

FALL

WINTER

KING SALMON

Oakie drifter/salmon eggs
Coho fly (*4 aut')

RED SALMON

Coho fly (*2')

GRAYLING

Silver vibrax (*0")
Mepps (*0")
Single egg/split shot

Mosquito
Black gnat
Bivisible
Wooley bugger
Renegade

RAINBOW

Single egg/split shot
Daredevil
Mepps

LAKE TROUT

Egg fly (*0" or *1")
Egg sucking leach
Muddler minnow
Daredevil
Rapala
Flatfish
Spoon
Bait

ICE

ICE

