



FISHING

Saltwater Fishing

The waters of Prince William Sound are open year-round and home to all five species of salmon, rockfish, lingcod, and the most accessible halibut in Alaska. Anglers can fish from shore around Valdez or take a charter out onto the relatively calm waters of Port Valdez and the Valdez Narrows.

The salmon runs are colossal with pinks returning in the millions and silvers by the hundreds of thousands. Ink salmon are in the 3-6 pound range and are great fun on light tackle. Pinks are great fishing for kids of all ages. The best fishing off the shore is normally during the first three weeks in July but there will be pinks around even into August. The best fishing will be from 2 hours before and 2 hours after high tide.

Good silver fishing can usually be had by the end of July throughout the Arm and Narrows area and exceptional fishing in the Port by the 1st or 2nd week of August. The fishing can then be great through Labor Day with many fish in the 10 to 15 pound range and some at 20! Early in the run a boat is required to catch silvers and downriggers are by far the best way to troll. As the run comes in closer, silvers can be caught from shore at Allison Point on Dayville Road or along the docks in town.

The best halibut fishing starts around the middle of May and extends through August, but good fishing for halibut can be had right through summer and into early fall. Halibut in the 50-100 pound range are caught frequently and fish in the 100-300 pound range are caught fairly often.

Fish Hatchery

The Solomon Gulch Fish Hatchery presents a unique opportunity to observe salmon as they return to spawn. The hatchery is located across the port on Dayville Road en route to Allison Point. Completed in February 1983 to ensure sufficient salmon return each year, the facility releases 270 million pink salmon fry and 1.8 million silver salmon smolts each year.

Visitors may take a self-guided walking tour of the hatchery that begins along the fish ladder and extends past interpretive displays panels and interactive videos. The self-guided walkway is open daily, 7 AM to 7 PM, May to October. The best time to view salmon at the hatchery is July through October.

Bears, eagles, seagulls, sea lions and sea otters can be found feeding on the fish. Fishing is prohibited within 300 feet of the weir and fish ladder and also in the brood pond area. Please respect all wildlife, and especially maintain a safe distance from any bears in the area.



DISCOVER MORE

Non-Profit Organizations

- Valdez Fisheries Development Association: www.ValdezFisheries.org
- Valdez Fish Derbies: www.ValdezFishDerbies.com

Fishing Charters

- Easy Freeze: www.EasyFreezeInc.com
- Fish Central: www.FishCentral.net
- Halibut Grove Charters: www.Alaskan-Adventures-Unlimited.com
- Hot Rod Fishing Charters: www.HotRodFishingCharters.net
- Shark Tooth Charters: www.SharkToothCharters.com
- Surreal Saltwaters: www.SurrealSaltwaters.com
- Valdez Outfitters: www.ValdezOutfitters.com
- Valdez Saltwater Adventures: www.ValdezSaltwaterAdventures.com
- Valdez Water Taxi & Charters: www.ValdezWaterTaxiAndCharters.com

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