

# HOW TO IDENTIFY THE FIVE PACIFIC SALMON SPECIES FOUND IN ALASKA

## CHINOOK (KING, TYEE, BLACKMOUTH) SALMON

Blue-gray back with silvery sides. Small, irregular-shaped black spots on back, dorsal fin, and usually on both lobes of the tail.

Spawning king salmon adults lose their silvery bright color and turn maroon to olive brown.

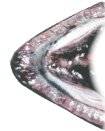


Black mouth with **BLACK** gums at base of teeth on lower jaw.

## SOCKEYE (RED) SALMON

Dark blue-black back with silvery sides. No distinct spots on back, dorsal fin, or tail.

Greenish-blue back with silvery sides. Small black spots on the back, dorsal fin, and usually on upper lobe of tail only.



Black mouth with **WHITE** gums at base of teeth on lower jaw.



Spawning sockeye salmon adults develop dull-green heads and brick-red to scarlet bodies.



Spawning coho salmon adults develop greenish-black heads and dark brown to maroon bodies.

## CHUM (DOG, KETA, CALICO) SALMON

Dull gray back with yellowish-silver sides. No distinct spots on back or tail. Large eye pupil, covers nearly the entire eye.

Large spots on the back and large black oval blotches on both tail lobes. Very small scales.



Spawning adults develop olive-green coloration on the back with maroon sides covered with irregular dull red bars. Males exhibit many large canine-like teeth.

Spawning adults turn dull gray on their backs and upper sides and creamy white below. Males develop a pronounced hump.