

Sport Fishing Guide Services Board – SB24 Quick Reference Chart

The purpose of this Act is to promote the health, safety, and welfare of the guided fish angler and the stability of the sport fish guide industry in the state by regulating the activities of providers of sport fishing guide, outfitter, and transportation services.*

Requirement	Current Guide Regulation	Post Guide Bill Approval			
		Guide	Assistant Guide	Outfitter	Transporter
• A current Alaska sport fishing license, tags, stamps or permits that are required to engage in the sport fishery	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
• A current sport fishing guide license	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
• A current U.S.C.G. Operator's license if operating a motorized vessel on navigable waters and current TWIC card	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
• Current first aid card.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
• Be a resident of the United States, Canada, Mexico or a resident alien	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
• Assistants, deckhands, and similar persons are exempt from the guide licensing requirements.	✓				
• A copy of the current ADF&G sport fishing business license of the guide's employer	✓				
• A Photo ID	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
• All businesses must have a logbook.	✓	✓			
• Current State of Alaska Business License	✓	✓		✓	✓
• Insurance - liability or marine protection policy providing coverage of at least \$100,000 for each incident, and \$300,000 per year	✓	✓		✓	✓
• All vessels, powered and unpowered, must have a current AK # issued by the DMV	✓	✓		✓	✓
• A person may not receive or renew a license if his right to obtain or exercise the privileges granted by a sport fishing guide-outfitter, sport fishing outfitter, sport fishing assistant guide, or sport fishing transporter license or registration is suspended or revoked in this state or another state or in Canada or Mexico.		✓	✓	✓	✓
• Licensing responsibility falls under ADF&G	✓				
• Licensing responsibility falls under Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development.		✓	✓	✓	✓
• Provide employment agreement with guide-outfitter or passes certification course			✓		
• Written and oral qualification and certification examinations required		✓		✓	
• Board will establish sport fish guide Use-Units and registration requirements.		✓		✓	
• Provide an activity report on a form provided by ADF&G		✓		✓	✓
• Board renews licenses every two years		✓	✓	✓	✓
• Board will enforce regulations		✓	✓	✓	✓

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* A full copy of the Guide Services Bill, (SB-24) can be found here:

http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/get_bill.asp?bill=SB%20%2024&session=27

Note: This comparison is made to the working copy of SB-24 as of January, 2011. Final legislation may vary in content and requirements from this document. Please refer to the final bill upon passage for detail regulations.

SB 24 – Quick Reference on Issues

Purpose: The purpose of SB 24 is to promote the health, safety, and welfare of the guided fish angler and the stability of the sportfishing industry in the state by regulating the activities of providers of sport fishing guide, outfitter, and transportation services. Primary goals include:

1. Assure that Alaska's sport fishing services continue to compete favorably in the marketplace with the best in the world.
2. Assure that, as the state's valuable fishery resources are invested in the sport fishing services industry, the State of Alaska is doing so as would a diligent investor in any business.

Problem Statement

- The sportfishing industry is not recognized by the State making it subject to harmful laws and regulations and ineligible for numerous programs that would support its sustainability and growth.
- There is no common sportfishing voice within the Alaskan governmental process.
- There are no ethical standards of conduct business practices, safety, or service excellence for the industry and certain segments have little regulation at all.
- There is no management or accurate accounting of the recreational, social, and economic values in the guided sportfishing industry.

Benefits: Industry Recognition

- Legitimizes the sportfishing profession and gives us a standing in the State's legislative/governing process.
 - Upon enactment, the "SPORTFISHING INDUSTRY" will be identified as the 4th largest contributor to the economy, i.e. creating \$1.4B in economic value, providing 16,000 jobs, and lifeblood to our coastal communities.
 - Brings stability to the industry.
 - Provides a mechanism for sustainable growth.
- Shifts regulation of the industry from ADF&G to a Sport Fishing Guide Services Board established within the Department of Commerce, alongside other analogous industry groups.
- Brings other service providers (lodges, outfitters, unguided operations) into regulation alongside existing sportfishing guide requirements.
- Serves as a primary source of statistics and related information about the industry. For example, it permanently repeals the logbook's termination language in existing statutes, and provides a means to assess the recreational, social and economic values generated by the industry.
- Makes the industry eligible for numerous State sponsored marketing, education, financial, and development programs similar to other industry.
- Gives the sportfishing industry a focused voice within the legislative process.

Benefits: Industry Regulation

- Provides oversight to protect consumers to ensure the highest quality fishing experience. Through enactment of professional standards, it ensures ethical service excellence and customer safety by establishing codes of conduct, education, and safety standards and enforcement.
- Replaces a flawed federal Limited Access Program with one designed by and for the sportfishing industry.
- Regulation will boost the prestige of the sportfishing professions.
- Provides oversight to protect consumers to ensure the highest quality fishing experience.
- The standards of the profession will rise over time and consumers will receive a better fishing experience.
- Allows clients of sport fishing businesses an avenue to have their grievances heard.
- Ensures a) service excellence and b) safety by establishing codes of conduct, education, and safety standards and enforcement.