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AROLIK RIVER FLOAT

The Arolik River Float is an awesome trip. There is good fishing for the 5 species of Salmon, Rainbow Trout, Grayling, and Char/Dolly Varden. The trip begins with flying from Dillingham to Arolik Lake via DHC-2 Beaver on floats (max wt. 1200#). From the lake you head down the East Fork for about 9 miles. This 9 miles is very narrow and depending on the water level you may end up dragging your raft for the whole 9 miles. From the confluence of the east and south forks, there is plenty of water for easy floating. When you reach Bessie Creek, the water becomes murky. Depending on rain at the time, you may find the water clear, or you may have no visibility at all. 10% of the time the water is completely clear. When picking a camping spot on the lower river look for high, grassy ground. Don't camp on the gravel as you can have problems with tidal water. You can arrange for a pickup on the lower river with the Beaver. Run timing for fishing is as follows:

Kings Mid June-end of July (Peak June 20-July 10) 20 to 25 pound average, use eggs or big spoons, the bigger the better.

Sockeye Mid June-early August

Chum Early June-mid August

Pinks Even years only, Early July-early August

Coho Early August-end of September (peak August 7-September 1) 8 to 12 pound average, green or orange Popsicle.

Rainbows Good fishing all season, 3.5 pound average with chance for 5-pound fish; Memphis Spinner with silver blade, Egg Sucking Leeches in black or purple, fishing quality depends on water levels and clarity of the water.

Grayling Primarily 8-year-old fish averaging 2 to 3 pounds; use purple Egg Sucking Leeches or dry fly Muddlers.

Char Good fishing anytime, these char will hit on most anything.

Cost Estimate for Arolik Float:

Drop-off @ Arolik Lake (Beaver)	\$1800
Pick-up @ Arolik River (Beaver)	\$2250
Pick-up @ Quinhagak Village (Wheelplane) estimate	\$1625
Raft Rental (SOTAR w/rowing frame) 13 ft \$90/day	

You need to float the North Mouth of the river for a pick up at low tide on the beach at Quinhagak. Larry Strunk provides the truck pick up and ride to the airport. He charges \$50/person for this service. You pay Larry directly for his services. Larry's telephone number is 907-556-8556.