

Fishery Management Report No. 11-19

**Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South
Alaska Peninsula, 2011**

by

Matthew D. Keyse

April 2011

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Divisions of Sport Fish and Commercial Fisheries



Symbols and Abbreviations

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Weights and measures (metric)		General		Mathematics, statistics	
centimeter	cm	Alaska Administrative Code	AAC	<i>all standard mathematical signs, symbols and abbreviations</i>	
deciliter	dL	all commonly accepted abbreviations	e.g., Mr., Mrs., AM, PM, etc.	alternate hypothesis	H_A
gram	g	all commonly accepted professional titles	e.g., Dr., Ph.D., R.N., etc.	base of natural logarithm	e
hectare	ha	at	@	catch per unit effort	CPUE
kilogram	kg	compass directions:		coefficient of variation	CV
kilometer	km	east	E	common test statistics	(F, t, χ^2 , etc.)
liter	L	north	N	confidence interval	CI
meter	m	south	S	correlation coefficient	
milliliter	mL	west	W	(multiple)	R
millimeter	mm	copyright	©	correlation coefficient (simple)	r
		corporate suffixes:		covariance	cov
Weights and measures (English)		Company	Co.	degree (angular)	$^\circ$
cubic feet per second	ft ³ /s	Corporation	Corp.	degrees of freedom	df
foot	ft	Incorporated	Inc.	expected value	E
gallon	gal	Limited	Ltd.	greater than	>
inch	in	District of Columbia	D.C.	greater than or equal to	\geq
mile	mi	et alii (and others)	et al.	harvest per unit effort	HPUE
nautical mile	nmi	et cetera (and so forth)	etc.	less than	<
ounce	oz	exempli gratia	e.g.	less than or equal to	\leq
pound	lb	(for example)		logarithm (natural)	ln
quart	qt	Federal Information Code	FIC	logarithm (base 10)	log
yard	yd	id est (that is)	i.e.	logarithm (specify base)	log ₂ , etc.
		latitude or longitude	lat. or long.	minute (angular)	'
Time and temperature		monetary symbols (U.S.)	\$, ¢	not significant	NS
day	d	months (tables and figures): first three letters	Jan, ..., Dec	null hypothesis	H_0
degrees Celsius	°C	registered trademark	®	percent	%
degrees Fahrenheit	°F	trademark	™	probability	P
degrees kelvin	K	United States (adjective)	U.S.	probability of a type I error (rejection of the null hypothesis when true)	α
hour	h	United States of America (noun)	USA	probability of a type II error (acceptance of the null hypothesis when false)	β
minute	min	U.S.C.	United States Code	second (angular)	"
second	s	U.S. state	use two-letter abbreviations (e.g., AK, WA)	standard deviation	SD
Physics and chemistry				standard error	SE
all atomic symbols				variance	
alternating current	AC			population sample	Var
ampere	A			sample	var
calorie	cal				
direct current	DC				
hertz	Hz				
horsepower	hp				
hydrogen ion activity (negative log of)	pH				
parts per million	ppm				
parts per thousand	ppt, ‰				
volts	V				
watts	W				

FISHERY MANAGEMENT REPORT NO. 11-19

**POST-JUNE SALMON MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE SOUTH
ALASKA PENINSULA, 2011**

by

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April 2011

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This document should be cited as:

Keyse M. D. 2011. Post-June salmon management plan for the South Alaska Peninsula, 2011. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fishery Management Report No. 11-19, Anchorage.

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ABSTRACT

The 2011 South Alaska Peninsula post-June commercial salmon fishery is scheduled to occur from July 6 through October 31. This document describes how the fishery will be managed, the requirements for industry to participate in the fishery, and how to contact and relay information to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G). This document is intended as a general guide to stakeholders interested in commercial salmon fisheries in the South Alaska Peninsula Management Area (Area M). Specific information regarding commercial salmon fishing regulations should be obtained from the ADF&G prior to fishing in the area.

Key words: Alaska Peninsula, post-June commercial salmon fishery, salmon management plan, sockeye salmon *Oncorhynchus nerka*, chum salmon *O. keta*, pink salmon *O. gorbuscha*, Area M

INTRODUCTION

This document is intended to provide commercial salmon harvesters and processors with a description of how the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) will manage the 2011 South Alaska Peninsula post-June salmon fishery from July 6 through October 31. This document also outlines the requirements for the industry to participate in the fishery, as well as how to contact and relay information to the department.

The South Alaska Peninsula Salmon Management Area (Area M) consists of Pacific Ocean state waters from Kupreanof Point west to Scotch Cap (located on Unimak Island) and includes the Southeastern, South Central, Southwestern, and Unimak districts (Figure 1).

ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES REGULATION CHANGES FROM THE FEBRUARY 2010 MEETING

During the February 2010 meeting, the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF) made the following changes to the *Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula* (5 AAC 09.366):

- Extended the salmon fishing season from September 30 through October 31 (5AAC 09.366(h)(2)).
- Increased the length of seine lead that can be used with set gillnet gear from 10 fathoms to 25 fathoms (5 AAC 09.331(b)(5)). This gear modification will be in effect for the entire commercial salmon fishing season in waters within the South Alaska Peninsula management area.
- Reduced the minimum mesh size of set gillnet gear from 5 1/4 to 4 1/2 inches in the Shumagin Islands fishery after July 31, and in the Southeastern District Mainland (SEDM) fishery after July 25 (5 AAC 09.331(b)(3)).

GPS COORDINATES AND ENFORCEMENT

The ADF&G and the Alaska Department of Public Safety use global positioning system (GPS) technology to identify latitude and longitude coordinates of districts, sections, closed waters and regulatory fishing coordinates published in regulations or emergency orders in Area M (5 AAC 09.206). GPS is based on the North American 1983 datum.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Inseason announcements will be broadcast on radio station KSDP AM 830 KHZ in Sand Point and rebroadcast over K201DA FM 88.1 MHz in King Cove, as well as on marine VHF channels

6 and 73 daily at 9:30 AM and 5:00 PM. Recorded information may also be obtained by calling the ADF&G recorder phone in Sand Point at (907) 383-2334 (383-ADFG) and in Cold Bay at (907) 532-2419. During the 2011 season, inseason harvest reports and fishery announcements will be available at the Commercial Fisheries website:

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareaakpeninsula.salmon>.

HARVEST REPORTING

As required by 5 AAC 39.130(c), buyers, transporters, and catcher/processors must report their daily salmon purchases/harvest by species (in both numbers of fish and pounds), statistical area, and number of deliveries by gear type to the ADF&G office in Sand Point or Cold Bay by 9:30 AM the day following the delivery. Earlier reporting is appreciated and helps to manage an orderly fishery. The ADF&G offices can be contacted on VHF channels 6 and 73, and SSB radio frequency 3.230 MHz. Buyers may also phone, e-mail, or fax their harvest information to the ADF&G offices in Cold Bay or Sand Point.

Cold Bay Tel: 907-532-2419 e-mail: matthew.keyse@alaska.gov Fax: 907-532-2470
Sand Point Tel: 907-383-2066 e-mail: aaron.poetter@alaska.gov Fax: 907-383-2606

or

e-mail: alex.bernard@alaska.gov

Fish tickets must be received in the ADF&G office in Sand Point or Cold Bay (listed below) within seven days of the purchase date (5 AAC 39.130(c)).

Alaska Department of Fish & Game
P.O. Box 50
Cold Bay, AK 99571

Alaska Department of Fish & Game
P.O. Box 129
Sand Point, AK 99661

CURRENT MANAGEMENT PLAN

IMMATURE TEST FISHERY

In order to reduce the incidental harvest of immature salmon, the ADF&G will conduct a purse seine test fishery in the Shumagin Islands Section in early July, before the post-June fishery begins, to assess abundance of immature salmon. Test fishery results from the Shumagin Islands are an indicator of the presence of immature salmon in the Southeastern, South Central, Southwestern, and Unimak districts of the Alaska Peninsula Management Area (McCullough and Shaul 1992). If 100 or more immature salmon, per set, are present, the commercial fishery will be closed to purse seine gear in an area to be determined by the department (5 AAC 09.366 (i)). For the purpose of this management plan, “immature salmon, per set, are present” is defined as the number of Chinook *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*, sockeye *O. nerka*, coho *O. kisutch*, and chum *O. keta* salmon that are observed to be gilled in the seine web (5 AAC 09.366 (i)). Test fishing is standardized to purse seine gear, conducting two 20-minute sets at Popof Head, middle Set, and Red Bluff located on Popof Island. The fishery will reopen once the abundance of immature salmon harvested during the test fishery is determined to be below the threshold of 100 immature salmon per seine set. Gillnet gear is permitted to fish in these areas during the presence of immature salmon because the larger mesh size permits immature salmon to pass through the nets.

POST-JUNE HARVEST STRATEGY

From July 6 through October 31, the South Alaska Peninsula commercial salmon fishery will be managed according to the *Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula* in the Unimak District, Southwestern District, South Central District, and the Shumagin Islands Section of the Southeastern District (5 AAC 09.366; Appendix A1). The SEDM is managed under a different management plan (5 AAC 09.360) from June 1 through July 25, but is incorporated with the post-June salmon management plan from July 26 through October 31 for reporting purposes.

Harvest Strategy for July

A calendar depicting a schedule of the maximum allowable fishing periods in non-terminal harvest areas that the ADF&G can provide during the month of July can be found in Figure 2 of this document. Commercial salmon fishing opportunity during the month of July will be restricted to a maximum of six 24-hour fishing periods interspersed by 48-hour closures from July 6 through July 21, and three 36-hour fishing periods interspersed by 48-hour closures from July 22 through July 31 (5 AAC 09.366 (d)). The first post-June fishing period, for both terminal and non-terminal areas, will be on, or shortly after July 6, depending on the results from the immature test fishery. The first commercial fishing period of the July 22 through July 31 period may not start before noon on July 23 (5 AAC 09.366 (d)). Under the current management plan, commercial salmon fishing is permitted to occur concurrently in both terminal and non-terminal areas during the maximum scheduled openings for the month of July in the Shumagin Islands Section of the Southeastern District, South Central District, Southwestern District, and Unimak District. Terminal harvest areas are depicted in Figures 3 through 7, and non-terminal harvest areas are depicted in Figures 6 and 7.

Additional fishing time in terminal harvest areas may also be provided during the 48-hour closures (Figures 3 through 7) based on local salmon stock strength which is evaluated from harvest data, escapement counts, and aerial surveys. From July 6 through July 21 terminal harvest areas are: Zachary Bay, Canoe Bay, Cold Bay, Thin Point, and Morzhovoi Bay sections and the East and West Pavlof Bay sections north of the latitude of Black Point (Figure 6). Terminal areas during the July 22 through 31 time period include those areas specified for the July 6 through 21 period, as well as the Deer Island, Belkofski Bay, Mino Creek-Little Coal Bay sections. In the SEDM there are two terminal harvest areas where additional fishing time may be provided during the 48-hour closures; the Stepovak Flats Section from July 26 through July 28, and the area near Suzy Creek (ADF&G statistical area 281-65) from July 26 through July 31 (Figures 7 and 8).

Harvest Strategies after July

From August 1 through August 31, fishing periods in the South Alaska Peninsula will be based on the strength of local sockeye, coho, pink *O. gorbuscha*, and chum salmon.

From September 1 through October 31, fishing periods will be based primarily on coho salmon abundance, although late pink and chum salmon run strength may be considered when determining fishing time. Fishing effort typically declines during the fall fishery. With decreased fishing effort, ADF&G will not attempt to have concurrent openings between the Southeastern District and the remainder of the South Peninsula after September 1.

In an effort to allow enforcement activities during daylight hours, with minimum impact to legal fishing activities, fishing periods in August will open at 8:00 AM and close at 9:00 PM (5 AAC 09.366 (c)(2)), and fishing periods in September and October will open at 9:00 AM and close at 8:00 PM (5 AAC 09.366 (c)(3)).

SALMON ESCAPEMENT GOALS

ADF&G will conduct aerial surveys using fixed winged aircraft to estimate the escapement of sockeye, coho, pink, and chum salmon on the South Alaska Peninsula. Information from these surveys will be used for inseason management of the South Alaska Peninsula commercial salmon fishery. Aerial survey methods can be found in Poetter et al. (*In prep.*).

Pink and chum salmon escapements are estimated using an indexed total escapement method, while sockeye salmon systems are estimated using peak escapements beginning in mid-July through mid-September. Due to the late timing of coho salmon, limited survey data is gathered and no indexed total escapement can be calculated. The 2011 pink salmon escapement goal (SEG) for the South Alaska Peninsula range from 1,637,800–3,275,700 fish salmon, while the 2011 chum SEG is 330,400–659,200 fish (Table 1; Witteveen et al. 2009). The Thin Point Lake sockeye salmon sustainable escapement goal (SEG) range is 14,000–28,000 fish (Witteveen et al. 2009).

REFERENCES CITED

- McCullough, J. N. and A. N. Shaul. 1992. The incidence of immature salmon in South Peninsula purse seine fisheries, 1963-91. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Regional Information Report 4K92-17, Kodiak.
- Poetter, A. D., M. D. Keyse., and A. C. Bernard. *In prep.* South Alaska Peninsula salmon annual management report, 2011. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fishery Management Report, Anchorage.
- Witteveen, M., H. Finkle, M. Loewen, M. B. Foster, and J. W. Erickson. 2009. Review of salmon escapement goals in the Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Islands Management Areas; A Report to the Alaska Board of Fisheries, 2010. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial Fisheries, Fishery Manuscript No. 09-09, Anchorage.

TABLES AND FIGURES

Table 1.–South Alaska Peninsula pink and chum salmon escapement goals for 2011.

Pink Salmon Sustainable Escapement Goal (SEG) (odd year)			
	Range		
<i>South Peninsula Total</i>	1,637,800	to	3,275,700
Chum Salmon Sustainable Escapement Goal (SEG)			
	Range		
Southeastern District	106,400	to	212,800
South Central District	89,800	to	179,600
Southwestern District	133,400	to	266,800
Unimak District	800		NA
<i>South Peninsula Total</i>	330,400	to	659,200

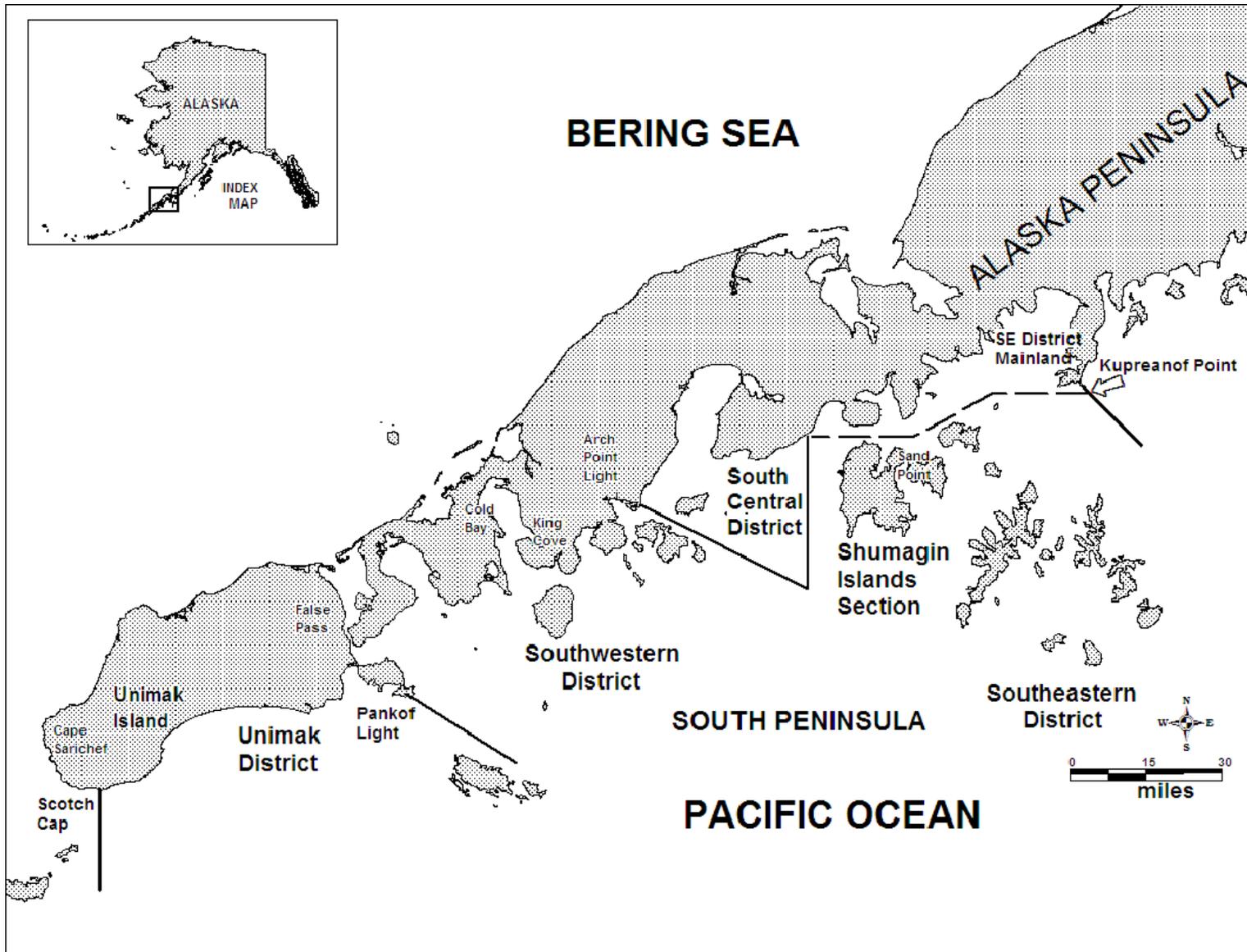


Figure 1.—South Alaska Peninsula salmon fishing districts.

July 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
Notes: July 6 through July 21: six 24-hour fishing periods interspersed by 48-hour closures. July 22 through July 31: three 36-hour fishing periods interspersed by 48-hour closures.						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
			12:01 AM 21 Hours 9:00 PM		9:00 PM	24 Hours 9:00 PM
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	9:00 PM	24 Hours 9:00 PM		9:00 PM	24 Hours 9:00 PM	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9:00 PM	24 Hours 9:00 PM		9:00 PM	24 Hours 9:00 PM		12:00 PM
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
36 Hours 12:00 Midnight			12:01 AM 36 Hours	12:00 PM		12:00 PM
31						
36 Hours 12:00 Midnight						

Figure 2.—South Alaska Peninsula July fishing schedule for non-terminal locations based on the post-June salmon management plan.

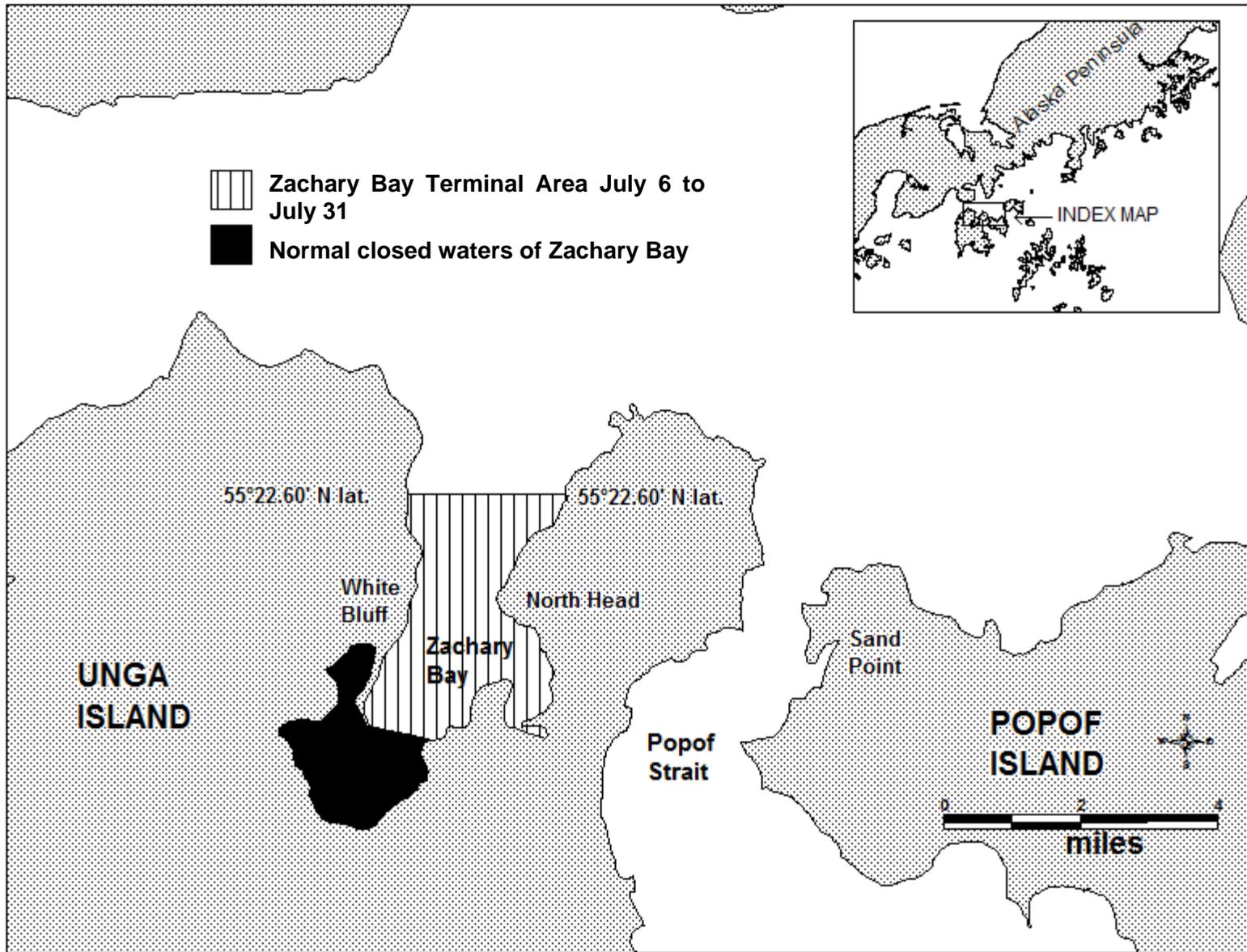


Figure 3.—Zachary Bay closed waters and post-June terminal fishing area.

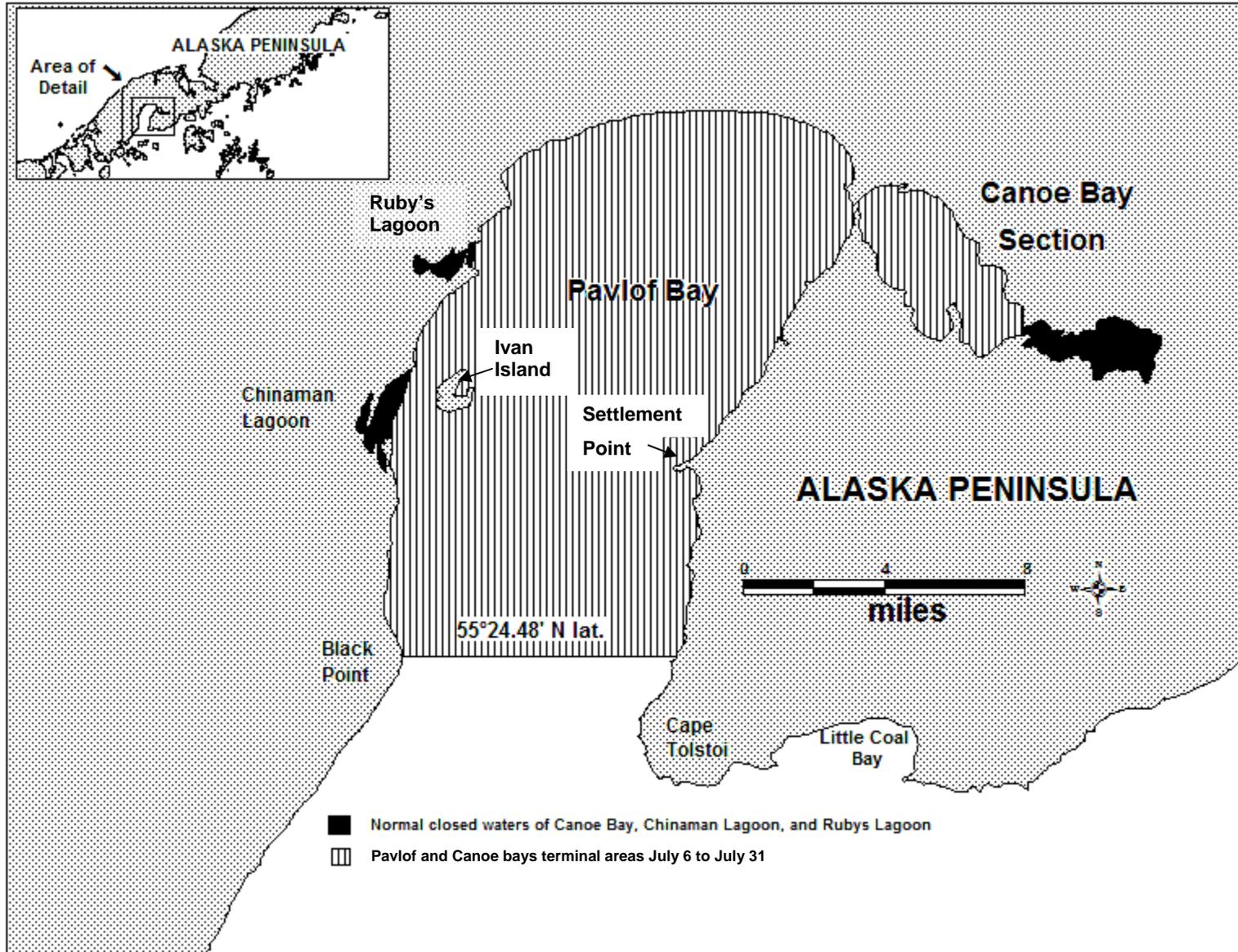


Figure 4.—Canoe Bay Section and Upper Pavlof Bay closed waters and post-June terminal fishing areas.

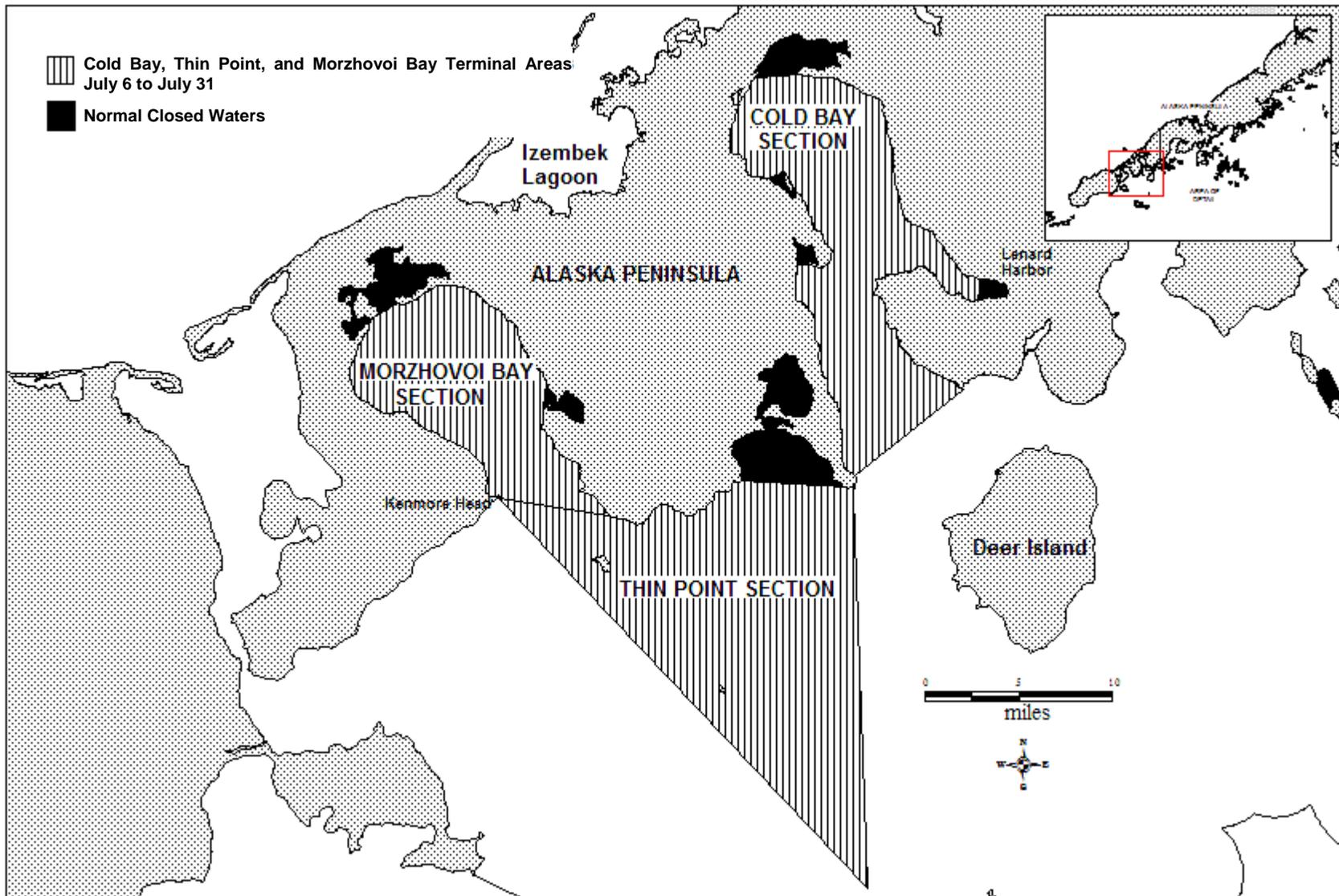


Figure 5.—Cold Bay, Thin Point, and Morzhovoi Bay sections closed waters and post-June terminal fishing areas.

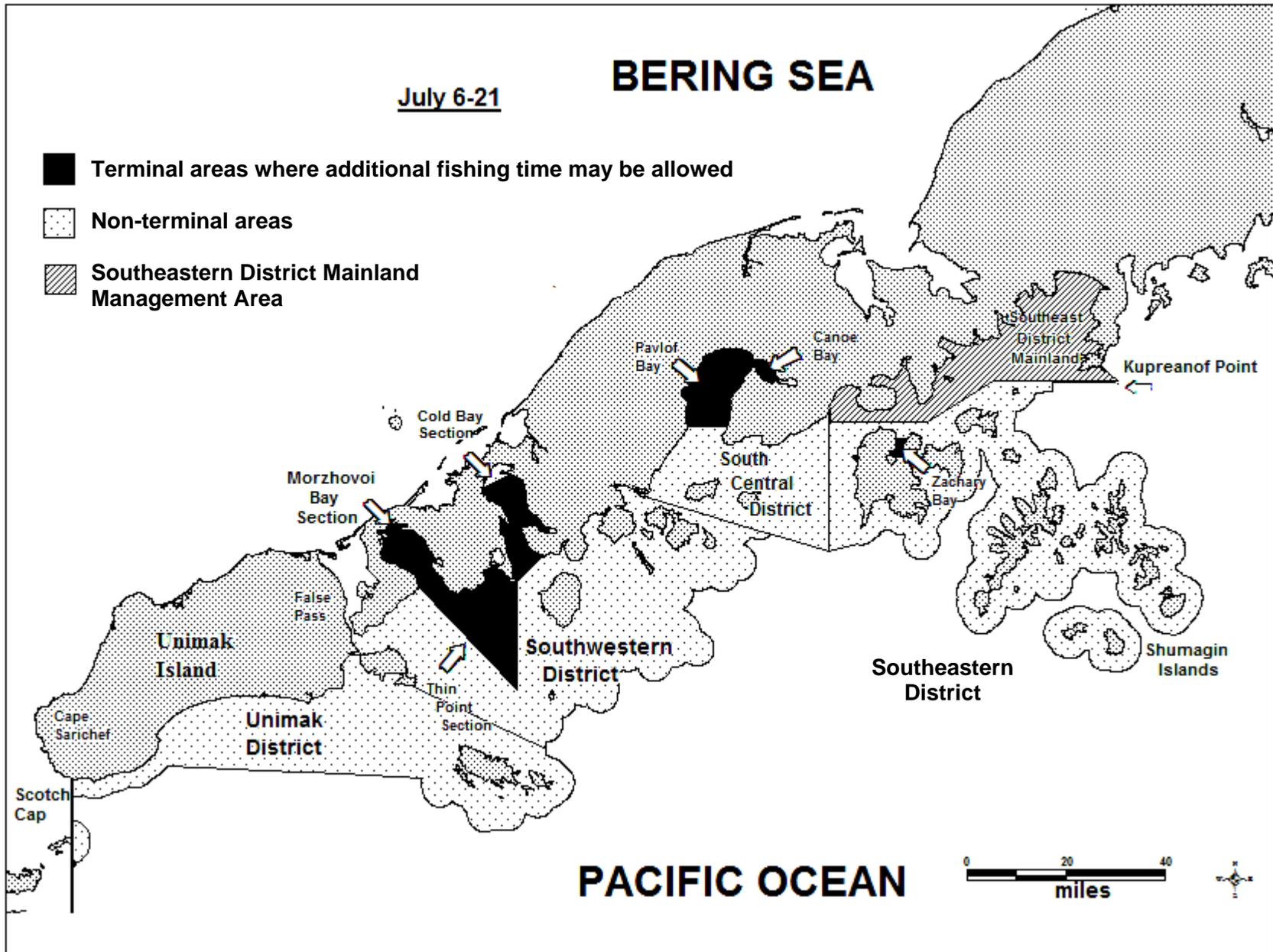


Figure 6.—South Alaska Peninsula post-June terminal fishing areas from July 6 through July 21.

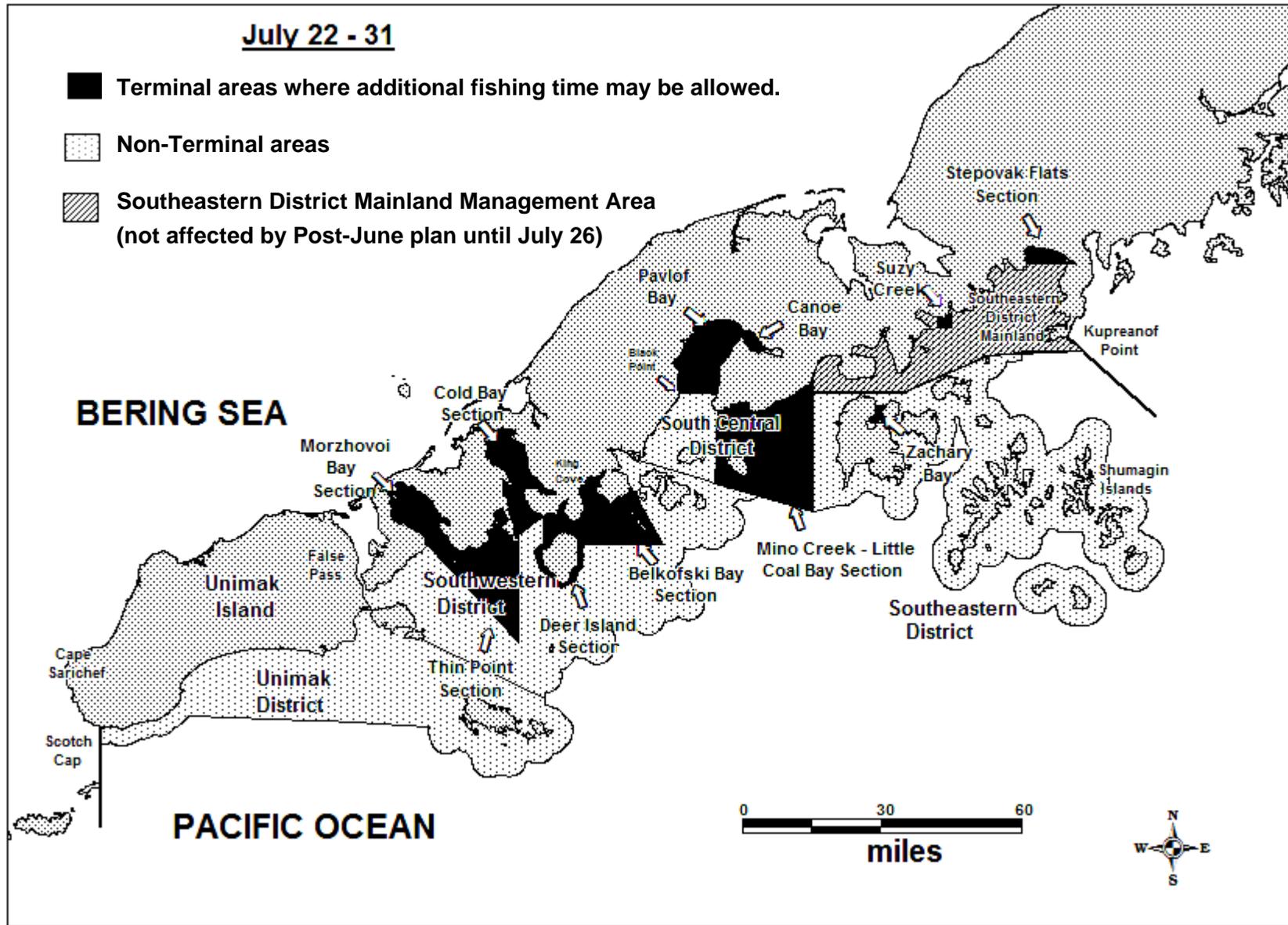


Figure 7.—South Alaska Peninsula post-June terminal fishing areas from July 22 through July 31.

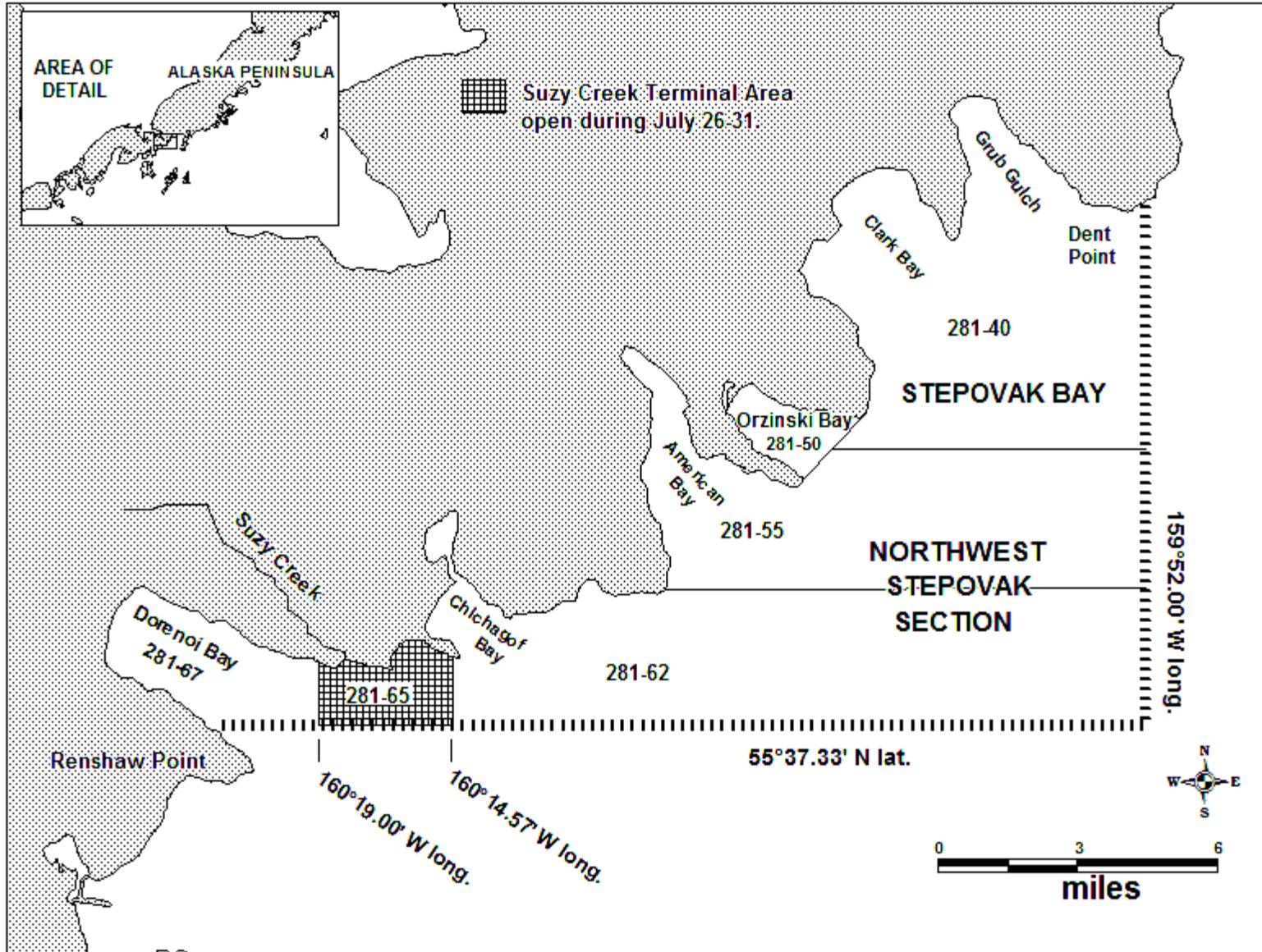


Figure 8.—Northwest Stepovak Section depicting the Suzy Creek post-June terminal harvest area.

**APPENDIX A. POST-JUNE SALMON MANAGEMENT PLAN
FOR THE SOUTH ALASKA PENINSULA REGULATIONS**

5 AAC 09.366. POST-JUNE SALMON MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE SOUTH ALASKA PENINSULA.

- (a) The purpose of this management plan is to provide management guidelines to the department for the management of the post-June salmon fisheries along the South Alaska Peninsula, to provide for the harvest of local stocks in terminal harvest areas, and to establish fishing periods for the South Alaska Peninsula salmon fisheries outside of terminal harvest areas.
- (b) The commissioner shall establish, to the extent practicable, concurrent fishing periods in the Southeastern, South Central, Southwestern, and Unimak Districts.
- (c) Fishing periods may be established under this section only as follows:
 - (1) except as specified in (d), for July, from 7:00 AM to 9:00 PM;
 - (2) for August, from 8:00 AM to 9:00 PM;
 - (3) for September and October, from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM; and
- (d) Notwithstanding (c)(1) of this section, the commissioner may establish, by emergency order, six 24-hour fishing periods interspersed by 48 hour closures from July 6 through July 21, and three 36-hour fishing periods interspersed by 48 hour closures from July 22 through July 31. The first commercial fishing period of the July 22 through July 31 period may not start before NOON on July 23.
- (e) Repealed 6/4/2004.
- (f) The commissioner may open, by emergency order, the following terminal harvest areas to salmon fishing from July 6 through July 21:
 - (1) the Shumagin Islands Section of the Southeastern District, waters of Zachary Bay south of the latitude of 55°22.60' N. lat.; fishing periods shall be established based on the abundance of pink and chum salmon stocks;
 - (2) the East and West Pavlof Bay Sections of the South Central District, waters north of the latitude of Black Point (55°24.48' N. lat.); fishing periods shall be established based on the abundance of pink and chum salmon stocks;
 - (3) the Canoe Bay Section of the South Central District; fishing periods shall be established based on the abundance of pink and chum salmon stocks;
 - (4) in the Cold Bay, Thin Point, and Morzhovoi Bay Sections of the Southwestern District as follows:
 - (A) fishing periods in the Cold Bay Section shall be established based on the abundance of sockeye and chum salmon stocks;
 - (B) fishing periods in Thin Point Cove and Morzhovoi Bay Sections shall be established based on the abundance of sockeye salmon stocks.
- (g) In addition to the terminal harvest areas specified in (f) of this section, the commissioner may open, by emergency order, the following terminal harvest areas to salmon fishing from July 22 through July 31:
 - (1) the Northwest Stepovak Section of the Southeastern District Mainland (near Suzy Creek), after July 25, the waters east of 160°19.00' W long. (in Dorenoi Bay), west of the cape separating Chichagof Bay and West Cove (160°14.57' W. long.) and north of 55°37.33' N. lat.; fishing periods shall be established based on the abundance of local pink salmon stocks;
 - (2) the Stepovak Flats Section of the Southeastern District Mainland, from July 26 through July 28; fishing periods shall be established based on the abundance of local chum salmon stocks;

-continued-

- (3) the Mino Creek-Little Coal Bay and East Pavlof Bay Sections of the South Central District; fishing periods shall be established based on the abundance of local pink and chum salmon stocks;
 - (4) the Belkofski Bay Section of the Southwestern District; fishing periods shall be established based on the abundance of local pink and chum salmon stocks;
 - (5) the Deer Island Section of the Southwestern District; fishing periods shall be established based on the abundance of local pink salmon stocks.
- (h) The commissioner may open, by emergency order, the commercial salmon fishery in the South Alaska Peninsula as follows:
- (1) from August 1 through August 31, fishing periods shall be based on the abundance of local sockeye, coho, pink, and chum salmon stocks;
 - (2) from September 1 through October 31, fishing periods shall be based on abundance of coho salmon stocks, although the department may consider the abundance of late pink and chum salmon stocks.
- (i) The department shall conduct a seine test fishery in the Shumagin Islands Section to assess the presence of immature salmon. If 100 or more immature salmon, per set, are present, the commissioner shall close, by emergency order, the seine fishery in an area to be determined by the department. If the seine fishery is closed in an area under this subsection, the set gillnet fishery shall remain open in that area. For the purposes of this subsection, “immature salmon per set, are present” means the number of immature king, sockeye, coho, and chum salmon observed to be gilled in the seine web.
-