

Fishery Management Report No. 12-13

Southeastern District Mainland (Alaska Peninsula Area) Salmon Management Plan, 2012

by

Aaron R. Tiernan

April 2012

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 (multiple)	R
milliliter	mL	west	W	correlation coefficient (simple)	r
millimeter	mm	copyright	©	covariance	cov
		corporate suffixes:		degree (angular)	°
Weights and measures (English)		Company	Co.	degrees of freedom	df
cubic feet per second	ft ³ /s	Corporation	Corp.	expected value	E
foot	ft	Incorporated	Inc.	greater than	>
gallon	gal	Limited	Ltd.	greater than or equal to	≥
inch	in	District of Columbia	D.C.	harvest per unit effort	HPUE
mile	mi	et alii (and others)	et al.	less than	<
nautical mile	nmi	et cetera (and so forth)	etc.	less than or equal to	≤
ounce	oz	exempli gratia	e.g.	logarithm (natural)	ln
pound	lb	(for example)		logarithm (base 10)	log
quart	qt	Federal Information Code	FIC	logarithm (specify base)	log ₂ , etc.
yard	yd	id est (that is)	i.e.	minute (angular)	'
		latitude or longitude	lat. or long.	not significant	NS
Time and temperature		monetary symbols (U.S.)	\$, ¢	null hypothesis	H_0
day	d	months (tables and figures): first three letters	Jan, ..., Dec	percent	%
degrees Celsius	°C	registered trademark	®	probability	P
degrees Fahrenheit	°F	trademark	™	probability of a type I error (rejection of the null hypothesis when true)	α
degrees kelvin	K	United States (adjective)	U.S.	probability of a type II error (acceptance of the null hypothesis when false)	β
hour	h	United States of America (noun)	USA	second (angular)	"
minute	min	U.S.C.	United States Code	standard deviation	SD
second	s	U.S. state	use two-letter abbreviations (e.g., AK, WA)	standard error	SE
				variance	
Physics and chemistry				population sample	Var var
all atomic symbols					
alternating current	AC				
ampere	A				
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. 12-13

**SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT MAINLAND (ALASKA PENINSULA AREA)
SALMON MANAGEMENT PLAN, 2012**

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ABSTRACT

The Southeastern District Mainland (SEDM) commercial salmon fishery takes place on the south side of the Alaska Peninsula from west of Kupreanof Point to McGinty Point. This commercial salmon fishery is managed based on three distinct conditions and time frames: 1) the strength of Chignik River sockeye salmon *Oncorhynchus nerka* stocks from June 1 through July 25, 2) the strength of Orzinski Lake sockeye salmon in the Northwest Stepovak Section (NWSS) during July 1 through July 25, and 3) local pink *O. gorbuscha*, chum *O. keta*, and coho salmon *O. kisutch* stocks from July 26 through the end of the season. The 2012 Chignik early- and late-run forecasted harvest estimates are 735,000 and 951,000 sockeye salmon, respectively. Therefore, fishing time is anticipated in the Southeastern District Mainland. This report summarizes the Southeastern District Mainland Salmon Management Plan and is intended as a guide for commercial salmon harvesters, buyers, transporters, and tenders.

Key words: Southeastern District Mainland, commercial salmon fishery, management plan, Alaska Peninsula Management Area, sockeye salmon, *Oncorhynchus nerka*, chum salmon, *Oncorhynchus keta*, pink salmon, *Oncorhynchus gorbuscha*, coho salmon, *Oncorhynchus kisutch*, SEDM, Area M, CMA, Chignik, forecasts

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to provide commercial harvesters and processors with information and guidelines that will be used by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) to manage the Southeastern District Mainland (SEDM) commercial salmon fishery during 2012.

The Southeastern District Mainland fishery takes place on the south side of the Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Islands Management areas (Area M; Figure 1). The Chignik Management Area (CMA; Area L) lies immediately to the east of SEDM and the South Central District of Area M lies immediately to the west (Figure 1). There are six distinct fishing sections within SEDM: Beaver Bay, Balboa Bay, Southwest Stepovak, Northwest Stepovak, East Stepovak, and Stepovak Flats sections (Figure 2). The *Southeastern District Mainland Salmon Management Plan* (Appendix A1; 5 AAC 09.360) was originally established by the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF) in 1980. In 1985, the BOF established the framework of the allocation criteria that SEDM is currently managed on.

The ADF&G will manage the SEDM fishery based on three distinct conditions and timeframes: 1) the strength of Chignik sockeye salmon *Oncorhynchus nerka* stocks, 2) the strength of Orzinski Lake sockeye salmon in the Northwest Stepovak Section (NWSS; Figure 3) during July 1 through July 25, and 3) abundance of local sockeye, coho *O. kisutch*, pink *O. gorbuscha*, and chum *O. keta*, salmon stocks after July 25. From June 1 through July 25, (June 1 through June 30) in the NWSS, the SEDM fishery is allocated 7.6% of the total CMA sockeye salmon harvest. From July 1 through July 25, NWSS is managed based on the strength of sockeye salmon returning to Orzinski Lake. In NWSS, harvest during the June 1 through July 25 timeframe has ranged from no commercial salmon harvest to over 300,000 sockeye salmon harvested (Table 1).

FISHING PERIODS

The SEDM fishery is managed independently of other fisheries in Area M through July 25. The ADF&G will attempt to have fishing periods in the NWSS and Stepovak Flats Section concurrent with fishing periods in the remainder of the SEDM area to avoid concentrating fishing gear. During July 1 through July 25, salmon fishing in the NWSS, excluding Orzinski Bay, may not exceed four 24-hour periods with no more than 48 hours continuous fishing during

a seven-day period (5 AAC 09.360(e)). However, if the cumulative sockeye salmon escapement through Orzinski Lake weir exceeds 25,000 sockeye salmon, the NWSS and Orzinski Bay sections can be opened concurrently to set gillnet and purse seine gear, and set gillnet gear may be fished continuously in the NWSS and Orzinski Bay (5 AAC 09.360(e)(2)). In this case, seine gear will be restricted to four 24 hour periods with no more than 48 hours of continuous fishing during a seven day period. (5 AAC 09.360(e)(1)).

All fishing periods will be established by emergency order. A minimum of 24 hours notice will be given prior to the first commercial fishing period of the season. At least 12 hours of advance notice will be given prior to any additional fishing periods, unless the announcement extends a current fishing period (5 AAC 09.360(j)).

HARVEST REPORTING

Buyers must provide salmon harvest reports to the ADF&G office in Sand Point by 9:30 AM on the day following the landings (5 AAC 39.130). These salmon harvest reports must include number and pounds of fish by species, number of deliveries by gear type, and statistical area of the harvest. Buyers may phone, e-mail, or fax their reports to the ADF&G office in Sand Point:

Sand Point	Phone: 907-383-2066	Fax: 907-383-2602
Aaron Poetter	E-mail: aaron.poetter@alaska.gov , or	
Aaron Tiernan	E-mail: aaron.tiernan@alaska.gov	

Cold Bay	Phone: 907-532-2419	Fax: 907-532-2470
Matthew Keyse	E-mail: matthew.keyse@alaska.gov	

Fish tickets must be received in the ADF&G Sand Point office (address provided below) within seven days of the purchase date, unless other arrangements have been made with ADF&G. Mail fish tickets to:

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

INSEASON 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. Announcements will also be broadcast on marine VHF channels 6 and 73 daily at 9:30 AM and 5:00 PM. The most current fishery announcements may also be obtained by calling the ADF&G's recorder phones in Sand Point at 907-383-2334 (383-ADFG) and Cold Bay at 907-532-2419.

During the 2012 season, catches, escapements, and announcements will be available at the Commercial Fisheries website:

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

2012 MANAGEMENT PLAN

Under the current SEDM Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 09.360; Appendix A):

1. The percentage of Chignik-bound sockeye salmon allocated to the SEDM fishery is 7.6% of the total number of sockeye salmon harvested in the CMA through July 25.
2. From June 1 through July 25, 80% of the sockeye salmon caught in the SEDM are considered to be Chignik-bound salmon, excluding NWSS after July 1 (Figure 2).
3. Beginning July 1, sockeye salmon caught in the NWSS will be considered 100% local fish and not counted toward the Chignik allocation (Figure 2). Fishing time in the NWSS after June 30 will be based on sockeye salmon escapement into Orzinski Lake and may not be more than four 24-hour periods with no more than 48 hours continuous fishing during a seven-day period.
4. If the Orzinski Lake escapement meets or exceeds 25,000 sockeye salmon, the NWSS and Orzinski Bay may be opened as follows:
 - (a) set gillnet gear may be operated continuously until MIDNIGHT July 25;
 - (b) purse seine and hand purse seine gear may not be operated for more than four 24-hour periods with no more than 48 hours continuous fishing during a seven-day period.
5. The BOF established a closed waters area encompassing Kupreanof Point from July 6 through August 31 (Figure 4; 5 AAC 09.350 (37)). ADF&G may extend the Kupreanof Point closed waters area through the end of the season by emergency order when the waters specified in 5 AAC 15.350 (20) are closed to conserve coho salmon.
6. From July 26 through October 31, the fishery is managed for local pink, chum, and coho salmon stocks.
7. From July 26 through October 31, the fishery will be closed for at least one 36-hour period within a seven-day period.

NORTHWEST STEPOVAK SECTION

The Orzinski Lake sockeye salmon sustainable escapement goal range is 15,000 to 20,000 salmon (Witteveen et al. 2009). Based on aerial surveys and weir counts, ADF&G developed interim sockeye salmon escapement objectives for Orzinski Lake (Figure 5). ADF&G intends to operate a weir on the Orzinski Lake system again in 2012.

STEPOVAK FLATS SECTION

The Stepovak Flats Section is open to commercial salmon fishing concurrently with the rest of SEDM. Of the sockeye salmon harvested in the Stepovak Flats Section prior to July 26, 80% are assigned to the 7.6% allocation criteria stated in the current SEDM salmon management plan. From July 26 through July 28, the Stepovak Flats Section may be opened based on the strength of pink and chum salmon runs. The Stepovak Flats Section is closed to all commercial fishing from July 29 through October 31 to protect schooling chum salmon.

CHIGNIK RIVER SOCKEYE SALMON FORECAST AND SEDM ALLOCATION

The 2012 Chignik River forecast for the early-run harvest estimate is 734,000 sockeye salmon, and the late-run harvest estimate is 951,000 sockeye salmon (Appendix B1). The ADF&G will manage the fishery so that the number of sockeye salmon harvested in the CMA, for both runs combined, will be at least 600,000 fish and the harvest of sockeye salmon considered to be Chignik bound in the SEDM will approach, as near as possible, 7.6% of the total CMA sockeye salmon harvest through July 25.

From June 26 through July 8, the strength of the Chignik sockeye salmon late-run cannot be accurately evaluated due to the mixing of early- and late run stocks. During this transition period, the ADF&G may close or restrict commercial salmon fishing in SEDM until the strength of the late-run has been determined. After July 8, the SEDM fishery will be managed based on the strength of the Chignik late-run and the total Chignik Area sockeye salmon harvest through July 25. After July 8, if the late-run interim escapement objectives are being met in the Chignik Area and the total CMA harvest is at least 300,000 sockeye salmon, SEDM may open to commercial salmon fishing. However, the harvest in SEDM at any time before July 25 may be permitted to fluctuate above or below 7.6% of the Chignik Area harvest (5 AAC 09.360 (g)).

ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES REGULATION CHANGES FROM THE FEBRUARY 2010 MEETING

During the February 2010 meeting, the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF) made the several minor changes to the *Southeastern District Mainland Salmon Management Plan* (5 AAC 09.360):

1. extend the fishing season from June 1 through October 31;
2. increased the length of seine lead that can be used with set gillnet gear from 10 fathoms to 25 fathoms. This gear modification will be in effect for the entire salmon fishing season in waters within the South Alaska Peninsula management area;
3. reduced the minimum set gillnet mesh size allowed in the SEDM after July 25 to four and one half inches;
4. waters of Dorenoi Bay are open during an established fishing periods.

REFERENCES CITED

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 Area; A Report to the 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.—Southeastern District Mainland commercial fishing effort and assignment of sockeye salmon harvests during the June 1-July 25 period, 1985–2011.

Year	Effort				Northwest Stepovak			SEDM minus Northwest Stepovak		SEDM		Total Catch
	Set gillnet		Seine		Total	"Local"	"Non-local"	"Local"	"Non-local"	"Local"	"Non-local"	
	Permits	Landings	Permits	Landings								
1985 ^a	49	367	23	51	16,681	16,681	0	12,855	51,421	29,536	51,421	80,957
1986	42	616	18	29	59,025	59,025	0	29,501	118,006	88,526	118,006	206,532
1987	53	528	6	9	61,287	61,287	0	36,722	146,886	98,009	146,886	244,895
1988	41	300	16	45	57,010	57,010	0	4,830	19,320	61,840	19,320	81,160
1989	42	248	25	54	83,618	83,618	0	1,121	4,485	84,739	4,485	89,224
1990	46	277	69	131	3,279	3,279	0	32,609	128,599	35,888	128,599	164,487
1991	59	747	39	71	98,834	98,834	0	38,179	152,714	137,013	152,714	289,727
1992 ^b	59	650	6	14	113,430	101,198	12,232	20,403	81,613	121,599	93,845	215,444
1993	64	763	53	82	73,747	54,955	18,792	27,436	109,744	82,391	128,536	210,927
1994	56	678	0	0	89,522	52,880	36,642	26,427	105,708	79,307	142,350	221,657
1995	58	718	26	30	62,598	51,723	10,875	19,357	77,426	71,079	88,301	159,380
1996 ^c	64	1,164	25	46	137,925	127,645	10,280	29,230	116,921	156,875	127,201	284,076
1997	57	1,173	12	23	304,865	304,865	0	0	0	304,865	0	304,865
1998	45	340	18	23	33,515	33,515	0	16,723	66,893	50,238	66,893	117,131
1999	63	649	27	30	32,884	6,577	26,307	36,828	147,313	43,405	173,620	217,025
2000	64	1,163	26	31	89,857	76,500	13,357	22,516	90,062	99,016	103,419	202,435
2001	51	551	16	20	42,681	42,681	0	12,785	51,141	55,466	51,141	106,607
2002	53	1,001	12	25	85,086	76,767	8,319	13,677	54,706	90,444	63,025	153,469
2003	48	1,035	11	20	142,410	136,391	6,019	16,006	64,025	152,397	70,044	222,441
2004	42	763	2	10	150,399	143,161	7,238	12,029	48,117	155,190	55,355	210,545
2005	43	474	21	30	58,243	29,865	28,378	37,382	149,528	67,247	177,906	245,153
2006	24	102	13	15	0	0	0	15,503	62,010	15,503	62,010	77,513
2007 ^d												
2008	27	299	1	3	31,669	31,669	0	0	0	31,669	0	31,669
2009	44	701	17	41	91,363	91,363	0	12,080	48,322	103,443	48,322	151,765
2010	45	906	16	32	70,131	62,964	7,167	19,525	78,100	82,489	85,267	167,756
2011	52	1,498	14	18	52,695	31,914	20,781	33,964	135,856	65,878	156,637	222,515
Average:				11								
1985–1991	47	440	28	9	54,248	54,248	0	22,260	88,776	76,507	88,776	165,283
1992–1995	59	702	21	8	84,824	65,189	19,635	23,406	93,623	88,594	113,258	201,852
1996–1997	61	1,169	19	6	221,395	216,255	5,140	14,615	58,461	230,870	63,601	294,471
2001–2010	38	583	11	20	67,198	61,486	5,712	13,899	55,595	75,385	61,307	136,692

-continued-

Table 1.—Page 2 of 2.

- ^a From 1985 through 1991, the Chignik contribution was 80% of the sockeye salmon harvested in Beaver Bay, Balboa Bay, Southwest Stepovak, Stepovak Flats, and East Stepovak sections.
- ^b From 1992 through 1995, the Chignik contribution was 80% of the sockeye salmon harvested in the Southeastern District Mainland fishery, except Orzinski Bay where 100% of the sockeye salmon are considered local production.
- ^c Since 1996, the Chignik contribution is 80% of the sockeye harvested in Southeastern District Mainland fishery, except in the Northwest Stepovak Section where beginning July 1, 100% of the sockeye salmon are considered local.
- ^d No fishery.

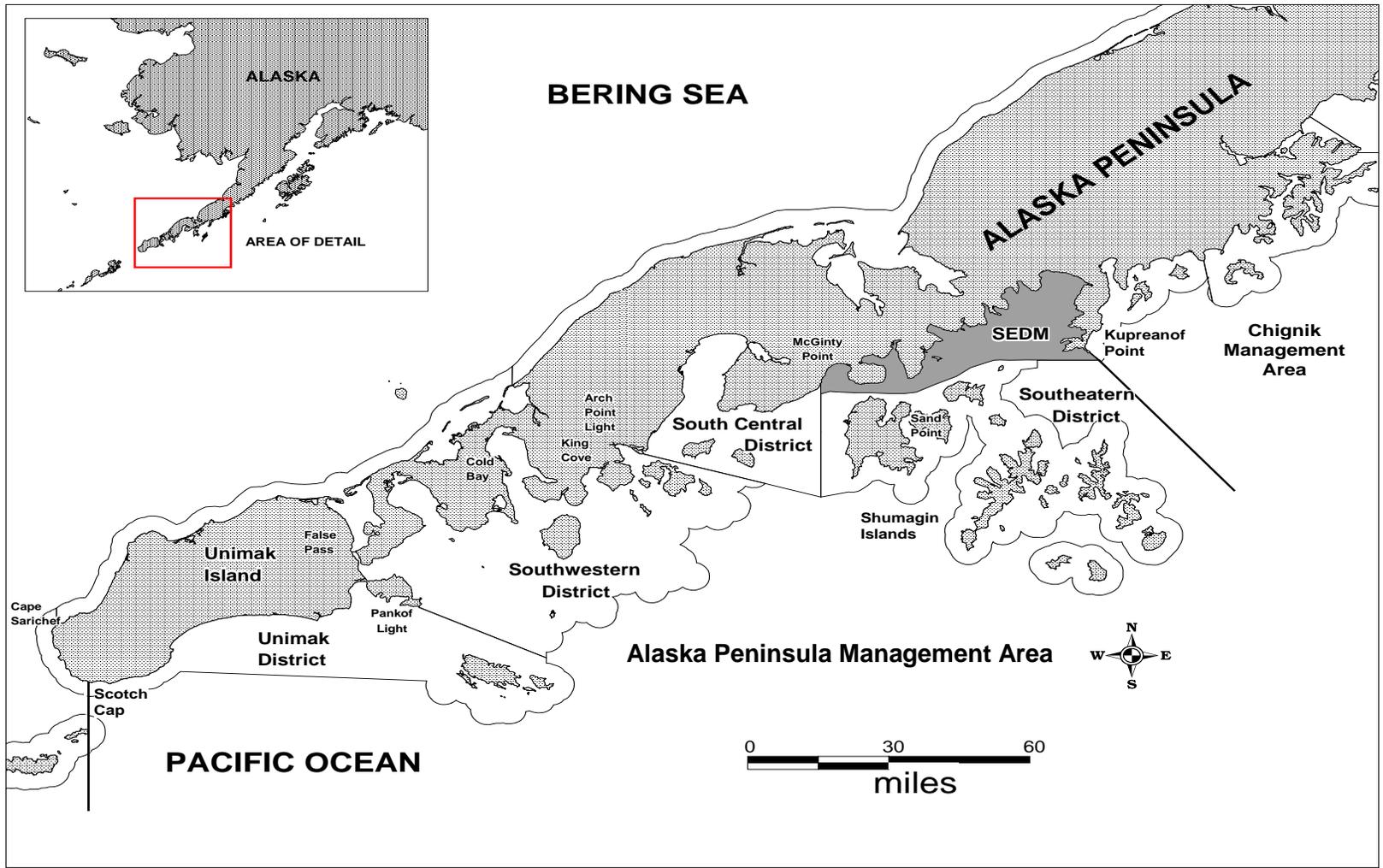


Figure 1.—Map of the South Alaska Peninsula Management Area with the Southeastern District Mainland (SEDM) defined.

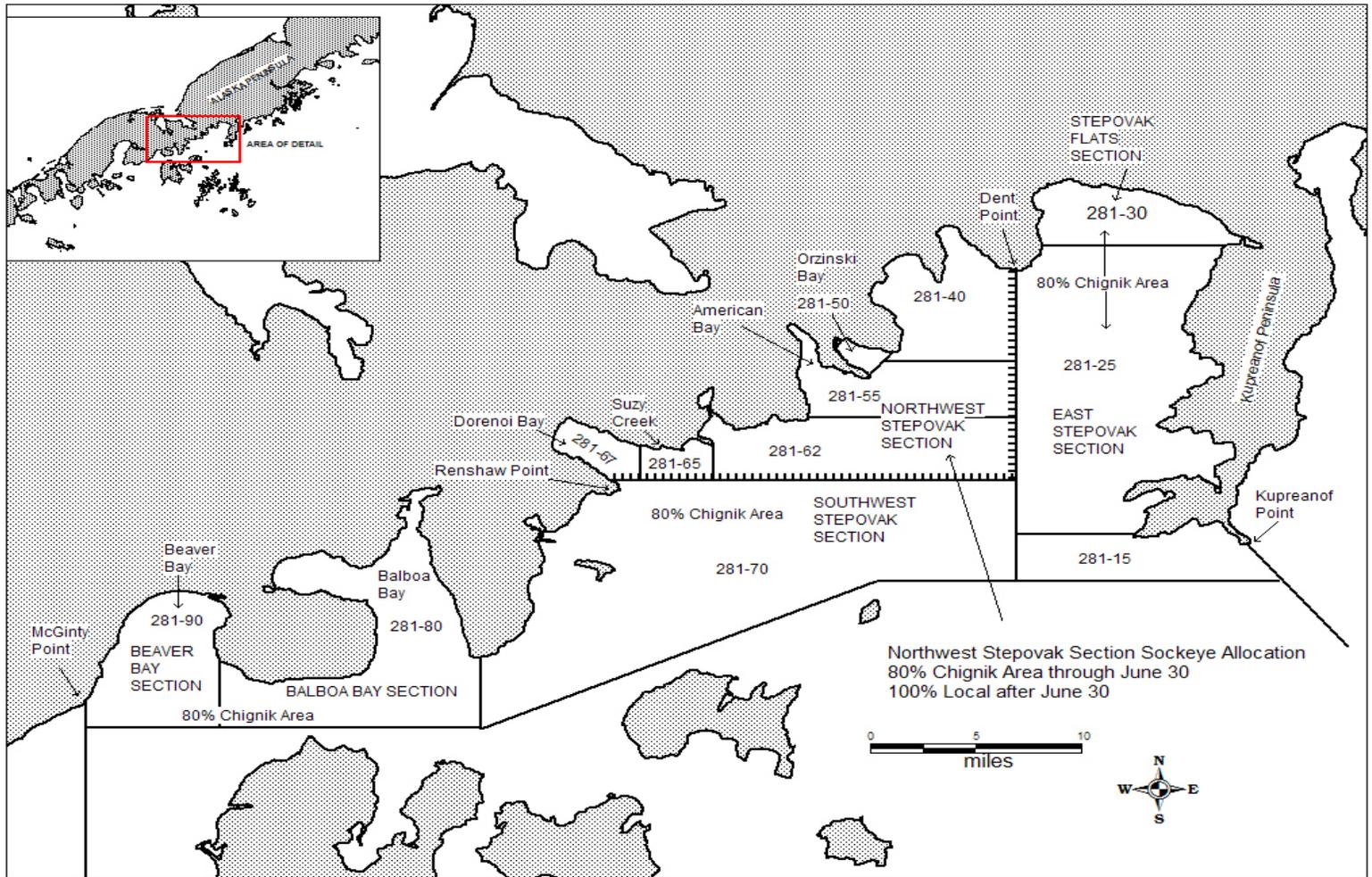


Figure 2.—Map of the Southeastern District Mainland from Kupreanof Point to McGinty Point with the salmon fishery sections defined.

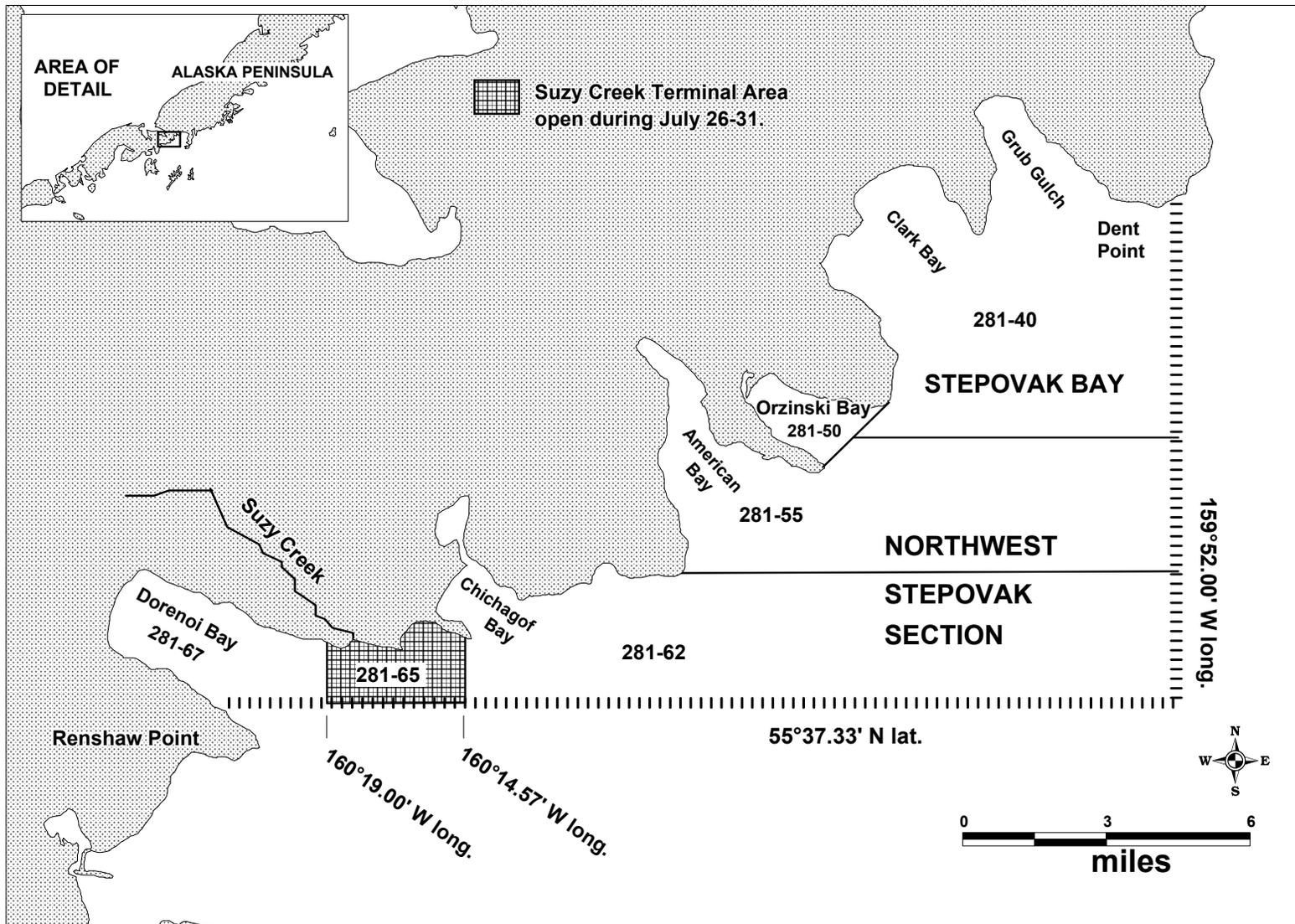


Figure 3.—Map of the Northwest Stepovak Section and the Suzy Creek terminal harvest area.

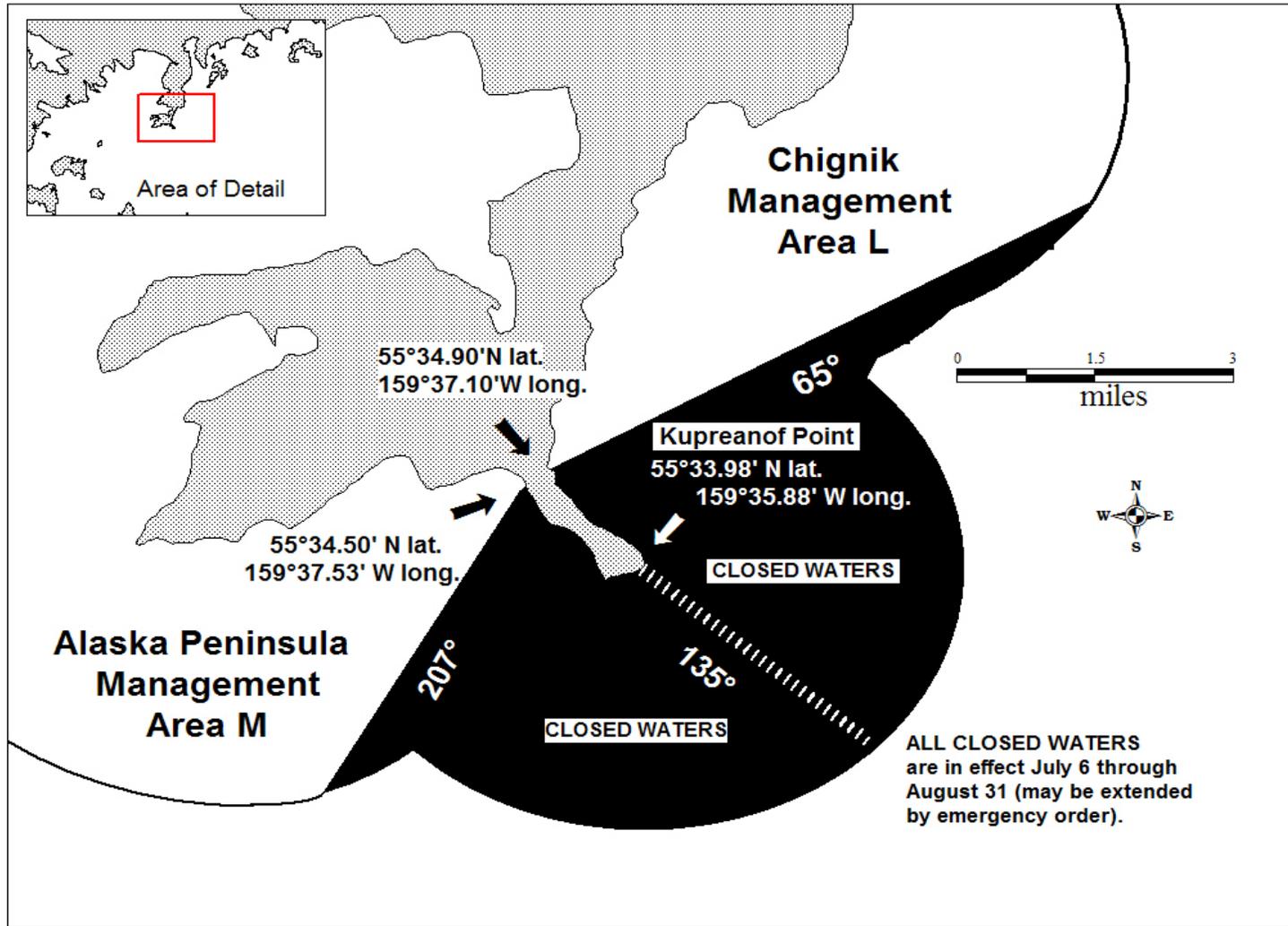


Figure 4.—Map of the Kupreanof Point area closed waters.

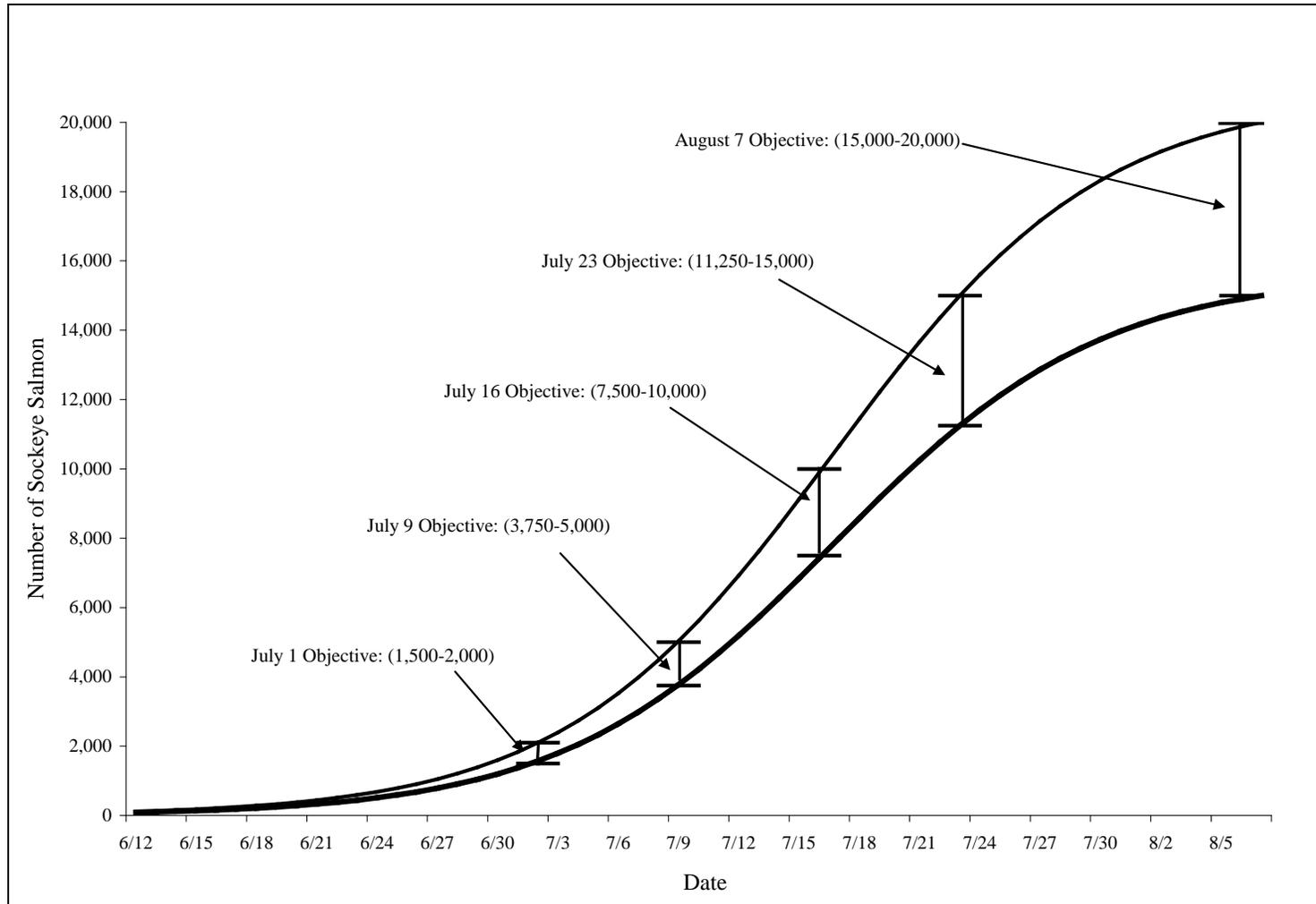


Figure 5.—Graph of the Orzinski Lake interim sockeye salmon escapement objectives by date.

**APPENDIX A. SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT MAINLAND
SALMON REGULATIONS**

5 AAC 09.360. SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT MAINLAND SALMON MANAGEMENT PLAN.

(a) The purpose of this management plan is to provide guidelines to the ADF&G for the management of the interception of Chignik River sockeye salmon caught in the Southeastern District Mainland fishery conducted in the East Stepovak, Stepovak Flats, Northwest Stepovak, Southwest Stepovak, Balboa Bay, and Beaver Bay Sections. Except as specified in 5 AAC 09.330(f)(3), before July 11, only set gillnet gear may be used in these sections. For the purpose of the management plan in this section, local runs include only those salmon in the waters

- (1) beginning July 1, in the Northwest Stepovak Section described in 5 AAC 09.200(f);
- (2) in the Stepovak Flats Section described in 5 AAC 09.200(f).

(b) In years when a harvestable surplus for the first (Black Lake) and second (Chignik Lake) runs of Chignik River system sockeye salmon is expected to be less than 600,000, a commercial salmon fishery is not allowed in the East Stepovak, Southwest Stepovak, Balboa Bay, and Beaver Bay Sections, and in the Northwest Stepovak Section, excluding Orzinski Bay north of a line from Elephant Point at 55° 41.92' N. lat., 160° 03.20' W. long. to Waterfall Point at 55° 43.18' N. lat., 160° 01.13' W. long., until a harvest of 300,000 sockeye salmon is achieved in the Chignik Area described in 5 AAC 15.100. After July 8, if at least 300,000 sockeye salmon have been harvested in the Chignik Area, and if escapement goals are being met, ADF&G shall manage the fishery so that the number of sockeye salmon harvested in the Chignik Area will be at least 600,000 and the number of sockeye salmon, destined to the Chignik River, harvested in the East Stepovak, Stepovak Flats, Southwest Stepovak, Balboa Bay, and Beaver Bay Sections, and before July 1, in the Northwest Stepovak Section, approaches as near as possible 7.6 percent of the sockeye salmon harvest in the Chignik Management Area.

(c) In years when a harvestable surplus beyond escapement goals for the first and second runs of Chignik River system sockeye salmon is expected to be more than 600,000 but the first run fails to develop as predicted and it is determined that a total sockeye salmon harvest in the Chignik Area of 600,000 or more might not be achieved, the commercial salmon fishery in the East Stepovak, Stepovak Flats, Southwest Stepovak, Balboa Bay, and Beaver Bay Sections, and in the Northwest Stepovak Section, excluding Orzinski Bay north of a line from Elephant Point at 55° 41.92' N. lat., 160° 03.20' W. long. to Waterfall Point at 55° 43.18' N. lat., 160° 01.13' W. long., shall be curtailed in order to allow a harvest in the Chignik Area of at least 300,000 sockeye salmon through July 8 if that number of fish are determined to be surplus to the escapement goals of the Chignik River system. After July 8, if at least 300,000 sockeye salmon have been harvested in the Chignik Area, and if escapement goals are being met, ADF&G shall manage the fishery so that the number of sockeye salmon harvested in the Chignik Area is at least 600,000 and the number of sockeye salmon, destined to the Chignik River, harvested in the East Stepovak, Stepovak Flats, Southwest Stepovak, Balboa Bay, and Beaver Bay Sections, and before July 1, in the Northwest Stepovak Section, approaches as near as possible 7.6 percent of the sockeye salmon harvest in the Chignik Management Area.

(d) In years when a harvestable surplus beyond the escapement goals for the first and second runs of Chignik River system sockeye salmon is expected to be more than 600,000 and ADF&G determines that the runs are as strong as expected, the department shall manage the fishery so that the number of sockeye salmon, destined to the Chignik River, taken in the East Stepovak, Stepovak Flats, Southwest Stepovak, Balboa Bay, and Beaver Bay Sections, and before July 1, in the Northwest Stepovak Section, approaches as near as possible 7.6 percent of the sockeye salmon harvest in the Chignik Management Area.

(e) Beginning July 1, in the Northwest Stepovak Section,

(1) the fishing schedule in the Northwest Stepovak Section, excluding Orzinski Bay north of a line from Elephant Point at 55° 41.92' N. lat., 160° 03.20' W. long. to Waterfall Point at 55° 43.18' N. lat., 160° 01.13' W. long. may not be more than four 24-hour periods with no more than 48-hours continuous fishing during a seven-day period.

(2) However, when the escapement through Orzinski weir exceeds 25,000 sockeye salmon, the commissioner may open the Northwest Stepovak Section, including Orzinski Bay concurrently; fishing periods will be as follows:

(A) set gillnet gear will operate continuously through 12:00 p.m. midnight July 25;

(B) purse seine and hand purse seine gear will operate as specified in (1) of this sub-section.

(f) The estimate of sockeye salmon destined for the Chignik River has been determined to be 80 percent of the sockeye salmon harvested in the East Stepovak, Stepovak Flats, Southwest Stepovak, Balboa Bay, and Beaver Bay Sections, and before July 1 in the Northwest Stepovak Section. Beginning July 1, all sockeye salmon taken in the Northwest Stepovak Section are considered to be destined for Orzinski Bay.

(g) The percentage of sockeye salmon, destined to the Chignik River, harvested in the Southeastern District Mainland fishery may be permitted to fluctuate above or below 7.6 percent of the sockeye salmon harvest in the Chignik Management Area at any time before July 25.

(h) The allocation method described in (a) - (g) of this section is in effect through July 25. The commissioner may not open the first fishing period of the commercial salmon fishing season in the East Stepovak, Southwest Stepovak, Balboa Bay, and Beaver Bay Sections, and before July 1 in the Northwest Stepovak Section, before the first fishing period of the commercial salmon fishing season in the Chignik Area. After July 25, the commissioner may open, by emergency order, commercial salmon fishing in the entire Southeastern District Mainland area for local stocks.

(i) During the period from approximately June 26 through July 8, the strength of the second run of the Chignik River system sockeye salmon cannot be evaluated. In order to prevent overharvest of the second run, ADF&G may disallow or severely restrict commercial salmon fishing in the East Stepovak, Stepovak Flats, Southwest Stepovak, Balboa Bay, and Beaver Bay Sections during this period, and from June 26 through June 30 in the Northwest Stepovak Section.

(j) The commissioner shall open all commercial fishing periods by emergency order. Before commencement of the first commercial salmon fishing period of the season, the department shall give at least 24 hours' notice. For subsequent fishing periods, the department shall give at least 12 hours' notice. If an existing fishing period is extended, the department shall give notice of the extension as soon as possible before the end of the existing fishing period.

(k) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, from July 1 through July 10, if the department determines that the Orzinski Lake sockeye salmon escapement objectives have been exceeded, in addition to set gillnet gear, the commissioner may open, by emergency order, the waters of Orzinski Bay west of 160° 04.25' W. long. to fishing with purse seine and hand purse seine gear.

(l) From July 26 through October 31,

(1) the department shall manage the fishery based on the abundance of local pink, chum, and coho salmon stocks;

(2) there shall be at least one 36-hour closed period within a seven-day period.

**APPENDIX B. 2012 CHIGNIK MANAGEMENT AREA
SOCKEYE SALMON FORECAST**

Forecast Area: Chignik

Species: Sockeye Salmon

Preliminary Forecast of the 2012 Run		Forecast Estimate (thousands)	Forecast Range (thousands)
Early Run (Black Lake)	Total Run	1,084	430–1,738
	Escapement ^a	350	350–400
	Harvest ^b	734	
Late Run (Chignik Lake)	Total Run	1,201	747–1,655
	Escapement ^a	250	250–400
	Harvest ^b	951	
Total Chignik System	Total Run	2,285	1,177–3,393
	Escapement ^a	600	600–800
	Harvest ^b	1,685	

^a Targeted escapement and range are the lower bound and range of the 2012 escapement goals for early (350,000 to 400,000 fish), late (200,000 to 400,000 fish), and combined (600,000 to 800,000 fish) runs. These numbers include an inriver run goal of 50,000 sockeye salmon added to the lower bound of the late-run escapement goal.

^b Includes anticipated harvests of Chignik-bound fish in Southeastern District Mainland and Cape Igvak fisheries.

Forecast Methods

Simple and multiple linear regressions using age-class relationships and escapement data from 1977 to the present were used to forecast the 2012 early and late Chignik sockeye salmon runs. Each regression model was assessed with standard regression diagnostic procedures.

For the early run, simple linear regression of sibling relationships was used to predict age-1.3 and -2.3 sockeye salmon which make up 82% of the run. Age-1.3 fish were estimated based on the abundance of age-1.2 fish from the prior year. Age-2.3 sockeye salmon were predicted from age-2.2 fish. Remaining age-.3, -.1, -.2, and -.4 components of the run were predicted by calculating median returns since the 1981 outmigration year.

The 2012 late run was predicted using ocean-age-class relationships, sibling-age-class relationships, and parental escapement. Age-.2 sockeye salmon were predicted from the prior year's age-.1's using simple linear regression; age-.4's were predicted from the prior year's age-.3 fish by the same method. A sibling-relationship simple linear regression was used to predict age-1.3 fish from prior-year 1.2 fish. A multiple regression was used to predict age-2.3 sockeye salmon from prior-year age-2.2 fish and parent escapement. Median run values were used for remaining age-.3 fish and age-.1 fish (1.4% of the run).

The variance of each estimate was calculated from the error of the regression. Eighty-percent prediction intervals for median estimates were calculated using the 10th and 90th percentiles of the data. Eighty-percent prediction intervals for the regression estimates were calculated using the variances of the regression models. Overall 80% prediction intervals were calculated as the square root of the sum of the squared 80% prediction intervals for each forecasted age class. The early- and late-run regression and median estimates were summed to estimate the total Chignik River sockeye salmon run for 2012. The combined early- and late-run 80% prediction interval was calculated by summing the lower prediction bounds and upper prediction bounds of the two runs.

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The 2012 Chignik sockeye salmon run is expected to be approximately 2.29 million fish. The early run is expected to be approximately 1.08 million fish. The late run is expected to be approximately 1.20 million fish. The 2012 Chignik sockeye salmon run is expected to be approximately 320,000 fish more than the recent 10-year average run (1.97 million) and 1.61 million fish less than the 2011 run (3.90 million).

The projected early-run harvest estimate of 734,000 fish is based on achievement of the lower end of the early-run escapement goal range of 350,000 fish. The projected late-run harvest estimate of 951,000 fish is based on achieving the lower end of the late-run goal of 250,000 sockeye salmon. Harvest estimates for both runs include Chignik-bound sockeye salmon harvested in the Cape Igvak Section of the Kodiak Management Area and the Southeastern District Mainland of the Alaska Peninsula Management Area.

Due to a range of variation in the relationships used in this forecast, our confidence in it is fair. Exploratory analysis using time series data, a smolt-based forecast, and other sibling relationships corroborate this formal forecast.

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