

Regional Information Report No. IJ07-06

**Management Plan for the Spring Commercial Troll
Fishery in Southeast Alaska, 2007**

by

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and

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April 2007

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Division of Commercial Fisheries



Symbols and Abbreviations

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Weights and measures (metric)		General		Measures (fisheries)	
centimeter	cm	Alaska Administrative Code	AAC	fork length	FL
deciliter	dL	all commonly accepted abbreviations	e.g., Mr., Mrs., AM, PM, etc.	mid-eye-to-fork	MEF
gram	g	all commonly accepted professional titles	e.g., Dr., Ph.D., R.N., etc.	mid-eye-to-tail-fork	METF
hectare	ha	at	@	standard length	SL
kilogram	kg	compass directions:		total length	TL
kilometer	km	east	E		
liter	L	north	N	Mathematics, statistics	
meter	m	south	S	<i>all standard mathematical signs, symbols and abbreviations</i>	
milliliter	mL	west	W	alternate hypothesis	H _A
millimeter	mm	copyright	©	base of natural logarithm	<i>e</i>
		corporate suffixes:		catch per unit effort	CPUE
Weights and measures (English)		Company	Co.	coefficient of variation	CV
cubic feet per second	ft ³ /s	Corporation	Corp.	common test statistics	(F, t, χ^2 , etc.)
foot	ft	Incorporated	Inc.	confidence interval	CI
gallon	gal	Limited	Ltd.	correlation coefficient (multiple)	R
inch	in	District of Columbia	D.C.	correlation coefficient (simple)	r
mile	mi	et alii (and others)	et al.	covariance	cov
nautical mile	nmi	et cetera (and so forth)	etc.	degree (angular)	°
ounce	oz	exempli gratia	e.g.	degrees of freedom	df
pound	lb	(for example)		expected value	<i>E</i>
quart	qt	Federal Information Code	FIC	greater than	>
yard	yd	id est (that is)	i.e.	greater than or equal to	≥
		latitude or longitude	lat. or long.	harvest per unit effort	HPUE
Time and temperature		monetary symbols		less than	<
day	d	(U.S.)	\$, ¢	less than or equal to	≤
degrees Celsius	°C	months (tables and figures): first three letters	Jan, ..., Dec	logarithm (natural)	ln
degrees Fahrenheit	°F	registered trademark	®	logarithm (base 10)	log
degrees kelvin	K	trademark	™	logarithm (specify base)	log ₂ , etc.
hour	h	United States (adjective)	U.S.	minute (angular)	'
minute	min	United States of America (noun)	USA	not significant	NS
second	s	U.S.C.	United States Code	null hypothesis	H ₀
		U.S. state	use two-letter abbreviations (e.g., AK, WA)	percent	%
Physics and chemistry				probability	P
all atomic symbols				probability of a type I error (rejection of the null hypothesis when true)	α
alternating current	AC			probability of a type II error (acceptance of the null hypothesis when false)	β
ampere	A			second (angular)	"
calorie	cal			standard deviation	SD
direct current	DC			standard error	SE
hertz	Hz			variance	
horsepower	hp			population	Var
hydrogen ion activity (negative log of)	pH			sample	var
parts per million	ppm				
parts per thousand	ppt, ‰				
volts	V				
watts	W				

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FISHERY IN SOUTHEAST ALASKA, 2007**

by

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The Regional Information Report Series was established in 1987 and was redefined in 2007 to meet the Division of Commercial Fisheries regional need for publishing and archiving information such as project operational plans, area management plans, budgetary information, staff comments and opinions to Board of Fisheries proposals, interim or preliminary data and grant agency reports, special meeting or minor workshop results and other regional information not generally reported elsewhere. Reports in this series may contain raw data and preliminary results. Reports in this series receive varying degrees of regional, biometric and editorial review; information in this series may be subsequently finalized and published in a different department reporting series or in the formal literature. Please contact the author or the Division of Commercial Fisheries if in doubt of the level of review or preliminary nature of the data reported. Regional Information Reports are available through the Alaska State Library and on the Internet at: <http://www.sf.adfg.ak.us/statewide/divreprots/html/intersearch.cfm>.

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ABSTRACT

This document summarizes the plan that the Alaska Department of Fish and Game will follow to manage the 2007 Southeast Alaska spring commercial salmon troll fishery, according to the Board of Fisheries adopted guidelines listed in the State of Alaska Administrative Code under 5 AAC 29.090.

Key words: Salmon, Troll, Spring, Commercial, Management Plan, Southeast Alaska

INTRODUCTION

2007 SPRING TROLL FISHERIES

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) will open 22 spring troll areas and 5 terminal harvest areas this year. Seven spring troll areas and three terminal areas will open May 1 and remain open until further notice. An additional 15 spring troll areas will open initially between May 1 and May 21, according to the schedule on pages 6–7.

Directed Chinook Salmon Fisheries in Districts 8 and 11

An agreement was approved between the United States and Canada during the Pacific Salmon Commission meeting held in February, 2005. This agreement allows directed commercial and sport fisheries on Chinook salmon returning to the Stikine and Taku Rivers. Management plans were adopted by the Board of Fisheries in January, 2006 which describe fishing areas and schedules for commercial and sport fisheries in Districts 8 and 11.

District 8

The preseason king salmon return forecast for the Stikine River is 37,500 large fish. The resulting U.S. allowable catch in District 8 (troll + drift gillnet + sport fish) at this level is 6,100 large ($\geq 28''$) Stikine kings. Whenever a directed Stikine River king salmon fishery is allowed, the provisions of 5 AAC 29.090 MANAGEMENT OF THE SPRING SALMON TROLL FISHERIES are **NOT** in effect and District 8 will be managed based on the abundance of Stikine River king salmon in accordance with the new provisions of 5 AAC 29.095

District 8 King Salmon Management Plan.

The troll fishery will open by Emergency Order beginning on the first Monday in May in connection with the opening of the drift gillnet fishery. Trolling will open beginning Monday, May 7 throughout District 8 except for the closed areas and periods described below. Regulations adopted by the Board of Fisheries during the January, 2006 meeting allow for open troll fishing periods based on the length of the drift gillnet fishery as follows: **trolling will be allowed for three(3) days (12:01 a.m. Monday through 11:59 p.m., Wednesday) whenever the gillnet open period is 24 hours or less and trolling will be allowed for five(5) days (12:01 a.m., Monday through 11:59 p.m., Friday) whenever the gillnet period is open for more than 24 hours.**

Whenever the preseason forecast of the return of Stikine River king salmon is below the level where there is no or very low allowable U.S. catch, the spring fishery areas open in 2005 will be open under provisions of 5AAC 29.090 and will be managed based on the abundance of Alaska hatchery king salmon. Also, should the inseason (mid-May) forecast project a return too low to allow for a directed fishery, management of the spring fishery areas open in 2005 will revert to provisions of 5 AAC 29.090.

The following **closed areas** are in effect for the District 8 Stikine River king salmon directed troll fishery:

Babbler Point Area: waters within one-quarter mile of the mainland shoreline south of 56° 30.47' N. lat. and west of a line from Babbler Point to Hour Point, from the first Monday in May through the second Saturday in June;

Wrangell Harbor Area: waters within one-quarter mile of the western shoreline of Wrangell Island south of the latitude of Point Highfield and north of the latitude of Cemetery Point, from the first Monday in May through the second Saturday in June;

Greys Pass: waters west of the longitude of a line from the northernmost tip of Greys Island to Rynda Island, and waters north and east of a line from the southernmost tip of Greys Island to 56° 30.52' N. lat., 132° 34.31' W. long. on Sokolof Island, to the southernmost point on Rynda Island;

Beacon Point/Point Frederick Area: waters of Frederick Sound west of a line from the District 10 boundary line one nautical mile off Kupreanof Island shoreline to Sukoi Island Light to Point Frederick from the first Monday in May through the second Saturday in June;

Woodpecker Cove Area: waters of Sumner Strait north of a line from 56° 30.03' N. lat., 132° 53.94' W. long to Point Howe to the southeastern most tip of Station Island at 56° 29.56' N. lat., 132° 46.27' W. long. and west of line from Station Island light to a point Mitkof Island at 56° 30.40' N. lat. and 132° 44.94' W long. from the first Monday in May to the second Saturday in June for the entire troll opening when the gillnet fishery is open for more than 48 hours.

District 11

No directed king salmon troll fishery is planned for District 11 this season. The preseason king salmon return forecast for the Taku River is 38,500 large fish ($\geq 28''$) which is well below the preseason forecast of 48,400 fish required to trigger directed fisheries in District 11 under the terms in the Pacific Salmon Treaty. At this level of return, no fish are available for a U.S. allowable catch. However, if the inseason forecast should show that the return is greater than expected and is large enough to implement a king salmon fishery in District 11, a News Release will be issued at that time announcing the new regulations, fishing periods and areas open for the troll fishery.

Yakutat Spring Troll Fishery

The BOF at its January, 2006 meeting established regulations that allow the department to open, by Emergency Order, a spring salmon troll fishery for one day per week during the months of May and June in the Yakutat Bay area east of a line from Point Manby to Ocean Cape. The maximum harvest is 1,000 king salmon and is not based on the composition of Alaska hatchery fish. This fishery may be open only if the projected inriver run of three-ocean age and older king salmon to the Situk River is greater than 1,050 fish [5 AAC 30.365(c)(5)]. In 2007, a spring fishery is not scheduled to open in Yakutat Bay due to the low return forecast of 656 large king salmon.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND METHODS

SPRING FISHERIES

Non-Alaska hatchery fish (Treaty fish) are counted towards the season Treaty quota of Chinook salmon under the Pacific Salmon Treaty, but most of the Alaska hatchery fish are not. The spring troll and terminal troll fisheries target Alaska hatchery Chinook salmon, but Treaty Chinook salmon are also harvested. In 2006, the Board of Fisheries established guideline limits of Treaty fish that may be harvested in each spring fishing area as follows:

Alaska Hatchery Contribution To The Harvest	Treaty Fish Limit
Less than 25%	1,000
At least 25% and less than 35%	2,000
At least 35% and less than 50%	3,000
At least 50% and less than 66%	5,000
66% or more	no limit

The Board of Fisheries also adopted a regulation that established the criteria for combining spring areas. The department may now combine adjacent spring troll fishery areas and their associated Treaty harvest caps if each of the areas have Alaska hatchery compositions of 25 percent or greater for three or more consecutive seasons.

The following spring areas were combined in 2006 will again be combined for the 2007 season:

The Gravina Island (101-29), Mountain Point (101-45) and West Clarence Strait (102-50) areas were combined to form the **Ketchikan Area (101-29)**, which has Treaty fish limits that are 3 times the allowable catch for each Alaska hatchery composition tier as provided for in 5 AAC 29.090(d)(1)(D).

The Kingsmill Point (109-51) and Chatham Strait (112-12) areas were combined to form a new **Chatham Strait Area (112-12)**, which has that Treaty fish limits of 2 times the allowable catch for each Alaska hatchery composition tier as provided for in 5 AAC 29.090(d)(1)(D).

The Homeshore (114-25) and Point Sophia (114-27) areas were combined to form the **Icy Strait Area (114-25)** which has Treaty fish limits of 2 times the allowable catch for each Alaska hatchery composition tier as provided for in 5 AAC 29.090(d)(1)(D).

The Middle Island (113-41), Eastern Channel (113-35) and Inner Silver Bay (113-37) areas were combined to form the **Sitka Sound Area (113-41)**, which has Treaty fish limits that are 3 times the allowable catch for each Alaska hatchery composition tier as provided for in 5 AAC 29.090(d)(1)(D).

Each year fishery managers from ADF&G hold meetings in Southeast Alaska towns to discuss fishing plans with trollers, processors, and hatchery operators. A review of the previous fishing season is presented as well as an outlook for the upcoming year. New fishing areas or changes to existing areas may be proposed. These proposed areas are then scrutinized by department biologists for potential impacts on local wild stocks and to determine whether the area is one where a substantial portion of the harvest is likely to be of Alaska hatchery origin. The department also examines whether any newly proposed areas can be sampled adequately within the current funding levels. Once plans are finalized, the department issues a news release with descriptions of fishing areas and a schedule of initial fishing periods.

Each spring fishing area is managed individually. Fishing periods are opened by emergency order, ADF&G personnel sample fish deliveries and ship the heads of adipose fin-clipped fish to the state tag lab in Juneau for coded wire tag (CWT) detection and decoding. Fishery openings are announced in a series of weekly news releases.

Fishing time in an area may be extended based on inseason assessment of CWT data and historic harvest timing information. Therefore, it is imperative that fishers and tender operators keep fish from different fishing areas separated until landing so if the fish are sampled at the dock, the percentage of Alaska hatchery fish can be determined for each spring area. Separate fish tickets must also be made for each area fished (5 AAC 29.130).

In 2007, seven spring areas that have had a consistently high percentage of Alaska hatchery fish, have been below the Treaty limits, or have had very low catch and effort will be opened on May 1 until further notice. These areas will be monitored for Alaska hatchery percentage and fishing time will be reduced if the Alaska hatchery percent is low or if the harvest approaches the Treaty fish limit. These fisheries are Ketchikan Area, Clarence Strait, Frederick Sound Area, Chatham Strait Area, South Passage, Icy Strait Area, and the Sitka Sound Area. The management of the Districts 8 and 11 fisheries were previously described under “Directed Chinook Salmon Fisheries in Districts 8 and 11”.

Trollers can assist the sampling effort by notifying ADF&G personnel when delivering their harvest to points of sale normally not covered by department sampling, such as grocery stores, direct sale by the troller, or to small processors. The department will then attempt to obtain a sample from the harvest. Early season harvests in all areas, and harvests throughout the spring from Lisianski Inlet, Port Althorp, South Passage, Tebenkof Bay and Sumner Strait areas are of particular concern in obtaining adequate samples.

The heads of all adipose fin-clipped salmon must remain attached to the fish until the fish are sold (5 AAC 29.140 (b)). Permit holders who freeze their harvest onboard are asked to contact the department prior to fishing so that sampling and fish ticket issues can be discussed.

Terminal Fisheries

Terminal fisheries are conducted in areas near a hatchery or release site. Chinook salmon caught in most terminal areas are considered to be 100% Alaska hatchery fish, based on previous sampling. Terminal area fisheries occur at Hidden Falls, Anita Bay, Neets Bay, and Wrangell Narrows.

The Chinook salmon return to the Wrangell Narrows Terminal Area is projected to be 5,500 fish. At this level of return the number of fish available for the troll fishery in the Wrangell Narrows Terminal Area is 750 fish. Under the management plan (5 AAC 33.381), the troll fishery will be managed to harvest 50% of the projected return over 4,000 fish. ADF&G will announce the allowable troll Chinook salmon harvest in this area just prior to the June 1 opening date.

Cross Sound Pink and Chum Fishery

The Cross Sound pink and chum fishery is intended as an indicator for pink and chum returns to the northern portion of the region. This fishery opens for five days per week in June, Monday through Friday, from the second Monday (June 11) through June 30 (5 AAC 29.090 (f)). There is a cap of 500 Chinook salmon for this fishery because it is not intended as a Chinook salmon

fishery. Trollers are required to offload fish caught in this fishery prior to fishing in the general opening beginning July 1.

FROZEN AT SEA REQUIREMENTS

Frozen at Sea (FAS) vessels participating in the spring fisheries are subject to the same landing regulations as all other vessels. Fish caught in each spring fishery must be kept separate from any other fish on board the vessel and a separate fish ticket must be issued for fish caught in each spring fishery (5 AAC 29.130). Tickets must be submitted to ADF&G within seven days of landing.

The heads of all adipose fin-clipped salmon must remain attached to the fish until the fish are sold (5 AAC 29.140(b)). Permit holders who freeze their fish onboard (FAS vessels) are asked to contact ADF&G prior to fishing so that sampling and fish ticket issues can be discussed. **A permit is required to allow the removal of heads from Chinook salmon harvested in the spring areas prior to delivery.** Additional information about the “Exemption Permit” is available on the troll website and the permits are available in area offices. Depending on which area(s) a troller intends to fish in, the department may grant a permit to allow removal of heads from adipose fin-clipped salmon. It is imperative that the department has adequate opportunity to sample all Chinook salmon landed during the spring fisheries. Spring fisheries target Alaskan hatchery fish and if adequate access to the fish for sampling purposes is not possible, then some fisheries could be closed due to the lack of data necessary to keep them open.

Reminder: FAS vessels must follow the frozen-at-sea reporting requirements passed in 2003 by the Board of Fisheries [5 AAC 29.145] and the fish ticket reporting requirements of 5 AAC 39.130. FAS vessels are defined as processors by ADF&G, the Dept. of Environmental Conservation and the Dept. of Revenue and, as such, must issue their own fish tickets imprinted with their own processor code plate. Fish tickets must be requested from the Department. It is illegal for a catcher-processor (FAS) vessel to sell processed (frozen) fish to another processor where that processor acts as the first buyer and issues fish tickets imprinted with their code plate.

RETENTION OF OTHER SALMON SPECIES

Coho salmon may be retained during open fishing periods beginning June 15. Sockeye, pink, and chum salmon may be retained at any time during open fishing periods.

If an Atlantic salmon is caught, ADF&G would like to be contacted so that biological samples can be taken. The entire fish should be saved and may be frozen, with entrails intact.

2006 SPRING FISHERY SUMMARY

A total of 515 vessels participated in the 2006 spring fisheries, and harvested 36,951 Chinook, 77 sockeye, 3,929 coho, 3,791 pink and 168 chum salmon. The 2006 spring Chinook salmon total harvest was the fourth highest on record and Alaska hatchery harvest was the tenth highest on record. The largest Chinook salmon harvests were in the Chatham Strait, Ketchikan and Sitka Sound areas. In the Cross Sound pink and chum spring fishery area 761 pink, 99 chum, 18 sockeye, 946 coho and 85 Chinook salmon were harvested. A total of 23 spring fisheries and five terminal fisheries were open during 2006.

2007 SPRING TROLL FISHERY—INITIAL OPENINGS

SPRING FISHERIES UPDATE FOR 2007

Following is a preliminary schedule for anticipated initial opening weeks for each area (for area descriptions and maps see Figures 1–5). Fishing periods will be opened by emergency order, with some areas open for two days per week and other areas open for longer periods, based on inseason and historical timing of hatchery contributions in each area. Trollers should consult department news releases for weekly fishing periods and inseason adjustments. News releases will be issued each Friday with the fishing schedule for the following week. News releases may also be issued throughout the week when extensions or early closures are announced. News releases can be found on the department’s web site at:

<http://documents.cf1.adfg.state.ak.us/TopicContents.po>

SCHEDULE OF INITIAL TROLL OPENINGS:

Areas Open on May 1 until further notice:

Ketchikan Area	Chatham Strait	South Passage
Clarence Strait	Sitka Sound	Icy Strait
Frederick Sound		

Areas open the week of May 1:

West Behm Canal	Ernest Sound	Tebenkof Bay
Sumner Strait	Deer Island	Stag Bay
Steamer Point	Little Port Walter	
Zimovia Strait		

Areas open the week of May 7:

Lisianski Inlet	Port Althorp	Redoubt Bay
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Areas open the week of May 14:

Salisbury Sound

Areas open the week of May 21:

Western Channel	Biorika Island
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TERMINAL TROLL FISHERIES

- **Hidden Falls:** opens on May 1 and will remain open until closed by emergency order. (5 AAC 33.374(b)).
- **Neets Bay:** opens on May 1 and will remain open until closed by emergency order (5 AAC 33.370(b)(1)).
- **Wrangell Narrows:** opens June 1 by emergency order and will be closed by emergency order when the troll Chinook salmon guideline harvest of 750 fish has been taken (5 AAC 33.381(b)(4)).
- **Anita Bay:** opens as a THA on June 1 by regulation with some area closures within the THA beginning June 15 (5 AAC 33.383(b)). From May 1-May 31 Anita Bay is part of the Zimovia Strait spring Fishery Area 107-30.

- **Deep Inlet:** open to trolling according to the rotational gear schedule on May 3, 9, 17, 23, 31 and June 6, 14, 20 and 28. Any schedule changes are made by E.O. and announced by News Release.

Terminal Harvest Areas may be managed for the harvest of multiple species by different gear types. Refer to management plans in regulation as listed after each THA.

REGULATION SUMMARY

CLOSED WATERS

Trollers are reminded that closed waters that apply during the summer fishery are exempted during the spring fishery. (5 AAC 29.150(a)(2). Waters within 3,000 feet of Annette Island (Annette Island Reserve) are closed.

SPORT FISHING AND CHARTERING FROM A REGISTERED TROLL VESSEL

1. A person may sport fish from a registered commercial salmon troll or power troll vessel [5 AAC 47.041 (a)]. A troll gurdy may be used as a downrigger in conjunction with a sport fishing rod to sport fish for salmon. A person who sport fishes from a vessel licensed for commercial fishing, other than a charter vessel, in waters closed to commercial salmon fishing shall, immediately upon bringing a salmon onboard, mark the salmon by removing its dorsal fin [5 AAC 47.041 (c)]. This regulation also applies when a person is sport fishing for a species closed to commercial trolling. Sport fishing from a commercially licensed vessel while commercially caught salmon are in possession is illegal in waters closed to commercial fishing [5 AAC 47.041(d)]. The sport fishing season is open year-round for all species except as follows: halibut is open February 1–December 31; lingcod is open according to regulations found on page 11 in the 2007 Alaska Sport Fishing Regulations Summary.
2. A registered troll vessel may also be registered as a charter vessel. Charter boat registration applications are available at Fish and Game offices. A vessel registered both as a commercial troller and as a charter vessel may not be used to troll commercially and charter in the same day [5 AAC 75.995(8)].

REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO COMMERCIAL TROLL BYCATCH OF GROUND FISH AND HALIBUT

For a complete guide to the Southeast Alaska Groundfish regulations, refer to the 2006–2007 Statewide Commercial Groundfish Fishing Regulations books available at all Southeast ADF&G area offices.

1. Commercial halibut may be legally retained only by trollers holding individual fishing quota shares (IFQs) during the open season for halibut, March 10–November 15 [5 AAC 28.133 (c)]. Trollers holding unfilled IFQs are required to retain any legal-sized halibut taken incidentally while trolling [50 CFR 679.7(f)(11)]. If trollers have no more than 500 pounds of halibut onboard and if landed concurrently with a legal landing of salmon, they can offload their catch without having to give a 3-hour notice to the National Marine Fisheries Service. Trollers fishing for salmon in Sitka Sound must retain halibut bycatch if they hold IFQs Halibut taken incidentally while trolling for salmon should be reported on the same troll ticket with the salmon harvest.

2. Lingcod greater than 27 inches (tip of snout to tip of tail) may be taken as bycatch in the commercial salmon troll fishery from **May 16 through November 30** (5 AAC 28.113 (c)) in areas in which the troll bycatch allowance has not been harvested. Troll bycatch limits have been established for the Northern Southeast Outside (NSEO) and the East Yakutat (EYKT) management areas. In the NSEO area, trollers may retain lingcod (round weight) up to 5% of the round weight of salmon onboard. In the EYKT area, trollers may retain lingcod (round weight) up to 10% of the round weight of salmon onboard. When the troll lingcod quota is reached for each management area, trollers will be required to release all lingcod back into the water. There are no troll bycatch limits in the other management areas, so trollers may retain unlimited amounts of lingcod over 27 inches in length until the troll allocation is reached in each area (5AAC 28.133(a)). Inseason closures may occur on short notice and will be announced by news release and marine radio broadcasts by the National Weather Service and the U.S. Coast Guard.
3. Trollers are requested to retain tagged **lingcod** of any size and to notify the nearest Fish and Game office at the time of delivery so the fish may be sampled. Tagged lingcod may be retained at any time, however tags must remain attached to any tagged lingcod that are undersized or taken out of season or in a closed area. Fish may be landed dressed, with the head attached. The date, exact location, and depth should be recorded. A reward will be given to those who turn in tagged lingcod with the necessary catch information. (In Sitka, contact Mike Vaughn, 304 Lake Street, Room 103; phone: 907-747-6688).
4. Trollers are reminded that the waters of Sitka Sound are closed permanently to the taking of lingcod [5 AAC 28.150(a)]. Troll bycatch of lingcod will be allowed, as of May 16, in a small portion of the Biorika Island and Salisbury Sound spring troll areas when those areas are open to trolling. Trollers who have lingcod onboard may not fish in areas closed to lingcod retention. Black rockfish taken by trollers within the waters of Sitka Sound may not be sold as bycatch [5 AAC 28.150(e)].
5. Full retention of Demersal Shelf Rockfish (DSR) is required in all state waters. All CFEC permit holders must retain, weigh, and report all DSR taken. All DSR in excess of 10% round weight, of all salmon species on board the vessel must be weighed and reported as bycatch overage on an ADF&G fish ticket. All proceeds from the sale of excess DSR bycatch shall be surrendered to the state (5 AAC 28.171 (a)). The seven species of rockfish in the DSR assemblage are yelloweye, quillback, canary, rosethorn, copper, china, and tiger rockfish. DSR bycatch overages must be reported on fish tickets but may be kept for personal use. Retention of other rockfish species is allowed but is not required.
6. Trollers are allowed to longline for groundfish and troll for salmon on the same trip as long as salmon are not onboard the vessel in an area closed to trolling and the fisher has both a commercial salmon permit and a commercial longline permit.
7. A vessel fishing for groundfish with dinglebar troll gear must display the letter “D” and a vessel fishing for groundfish with mechanical jigging machines must display the letter “M” at all times when fishing with or transporting fish taken with dinglebar troll gear or mechanical jigging machines (5AAC 28.135 (a)(4)). A person may not operate a vessel that is displaying one of these letters when the vessel is being used to fish for salmon (5AAC 28.135 (c)).

2007 ALASKA HATCHERY CHINOOK RETURN FORECAST

Hatchery facility managers are predicting total returns of approximately 77,431 Chinook salmon for 2007, as compared to estimated 2006 returns of 78,657 fish (Table 1). The largest returns for 2007 are expected to Medvejie Creek, Neets Bay, Whitman Lake and Hidden Falls.

Table 1.—2007 Alaska hatchery Chinook and Neck Lake coho return forecasts.

Release Site	2006 Total Return Projection	2006 Total Return	2007 Total Return Projection
Ketchikan Area			
Whitman Lake	16,700	11,730	11,500
Neets Bay	11,500	11,280	15,300
Deer Mountain	1,089	686	983
Tamgas Creek	8,000	3,791	4,000
<i>Total</i>	<i>37,289</i>	<i>27,487</i>	<i>31,783</i>
Chatham Strait			
Little Port Walter	2,300	6,632	1,500
Hidden Falls	22,400	10,135	11,200
Port Armstrong	1,536	1,816	1,998
<i>Total</i>	<i>26,236</i>	<i>18,583</i>	<i>14,698</i>
Juneau Area			
Gastineau Channel	3,023	1,427	2,100
Auke Creek	735	154	400
Fish Creek	1,187	922	1,300
<i>Total</i>	<i>4,945</i>	<i>2,503</i>	<i>3,800</i>
Wrangell/Petersburg			
Anita Bay	3,600	12,800	2,750
Crystal Lake	6,656	5,958	8,400
<i>Total</i>	<i>10,256</i>	<i>18,758</i>	<i>11,150</i>
Sitka Area			
Medvejie Creek	21,000	11,058	16,000
Southeast Alaska Chinook Hatchery Totals			
	99,926	78,657	77,431
Neck Lake Coho			
	68,000	33,000	68,000

2007 SPRING FISHING AREAS AND MAPS

Maps show approximate fishing area boundaries. Refer to area descriptions for a legal description of area boundaries. Refer to the regulation book for descriptions of district and section boundaries (5 AAC 33.200).

Ketchikan Areas

Ketchikan Area (Fishery area 101-29): New southern boundary. Waters of Clarence Strait and Nichols Passage north of a line from Prince of Wales Island to Duke Island at 54°54.06' N. latitude (the northern entrance to Kendrick Bay) and south of the District 2/6 boundary (a line from the easternmost tip of Narrow Point to the northernmost tip of Lemesurier Point); Tongass Narrows north of the latitude of Rosa Reef light and south of a line from Point Higgins (55°27.47' N. lat., 131°50' W. long.) to the southernmost point on the peninsula at the eastern entrance to Bond Bay (55°31.5' N. lat.); in Revillagigedo Channel and George Inlet south of the latitude of the George Inlet cannery site at 55°23' N. latitude; and north of a line from 55°13.60' N. latitude, 131°17.30' W. longitude (approximately 1-mile south of Cone Point) to Harbor Point (55°13' N. lat., 131°25' W. long.). Waters of Carroll Inlet and Thorne Arm are open. Waters within 3,000 feet of Annette Island (Annette Island Reserve) are closed.

Neets Bay Terminal Harvest Area (Fishery area 101-95): In Neets Bay, east of a longitude of the easternmost tip of Bug Island to the closed waters area at the head of the bay. From the second Sunday in June through August 1, the area will be expanded to waters of Neets Bay east of the longitude of Chin Point to the closed waters at the head of the bay (5 AAC 33.370(b)(5)).

West Behm Canal (Fishery area 101-90): In waters of W. Behm Canal within one nautical mile of the western shore of Revillagigedo Island south of the latitude of Brow Point, 55°50.13' N. latitude and north of the latitude of the northernmost tip of Grant Island including all waters of Naha and Mosher Bays and waters of Neets Bay west of the easternmost tip of Bug Island through June 9. Beginning on June 10, waters east of the longitude of Chin Point will be managed as part of the Neets Bay terminal area and harvest from this area should be reported as Neets Bay Terminal Area (101-95).

Clarence Strait (Fishery area 106-20): Only those waters of Section 6D south of a line from Luck Pt. to Pt. Stanhope and including the waters of Rocky Bay Cooney Cove, Mosman Inlet, Burnett Inlet, and McHenry Inlet.

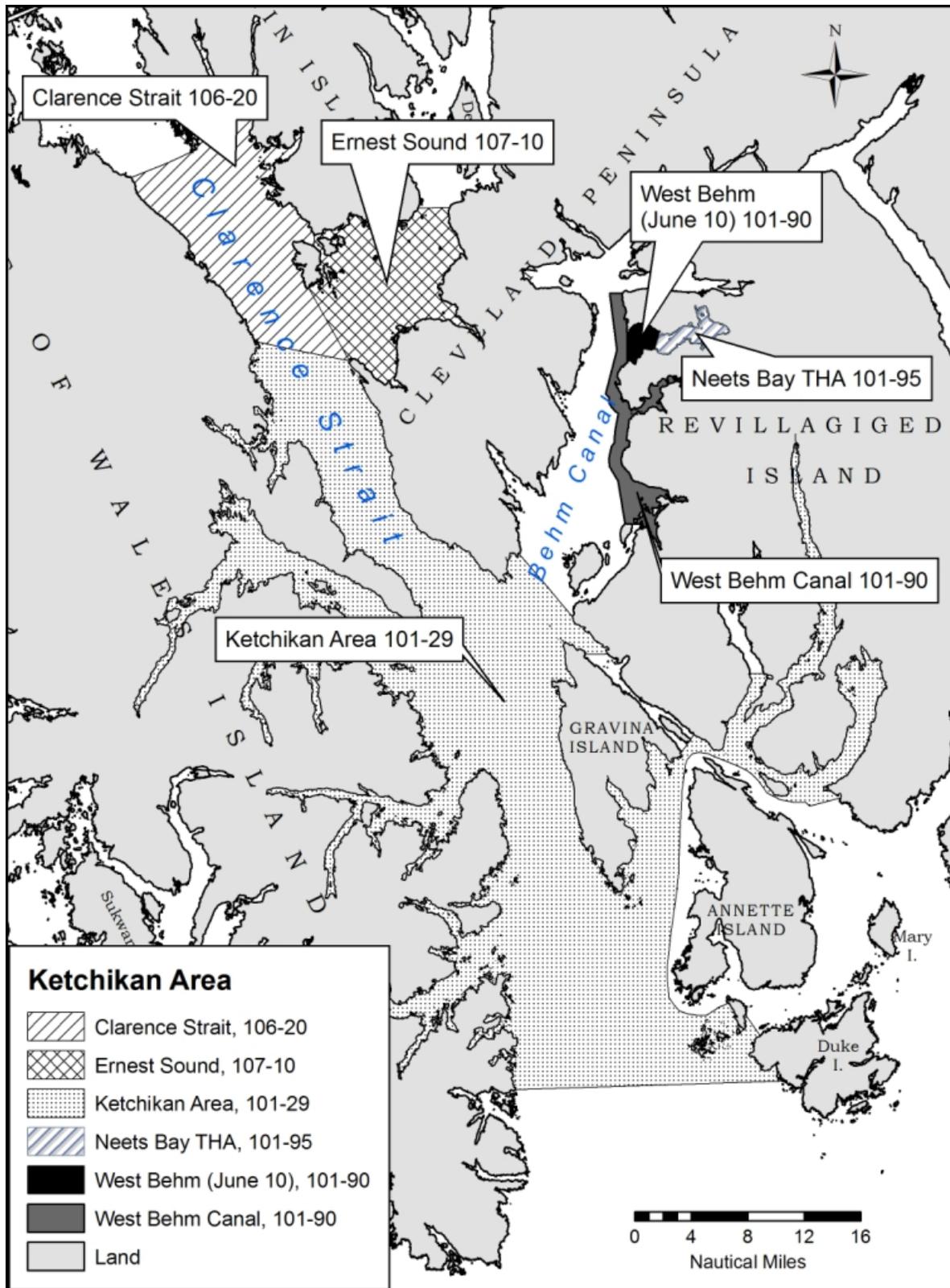


Figure 1.—Ketchikan area spring trolling areas, 2007.

Wrangell and Prince of Wales Areas

Sumner Strait (Fishery area 105-41): In District 106, the waters of Sumner Strait west of a line from Point Colpoys (56°20' N. lat., 133°12' W. long.) to Mitchell Point (56°27' N. lat., 133°12' W. long) and in District 105, the waters of Sumner Strait north of a line at the latitude of the northernmost tip of the northern Barrier Island at 56°13.4' N. Latitude.

Steamer Point (Fishery area 106-30): In Stikine Strait, only in those waters of Sections 6C and 6D north and east of a line from Point Nesbitt (56°14.00' N. lat., 132°52.00' W. long.) to Key Reef Light to Point Harrington (56°10.17' N. lat., 132°43.5' W. long.).

Wrangell Narrows Terminal Harvest Area (Fishery area 106-44): The waters of Section 6A south of 56°46' N. latitude (Martinsen's Dock), west of a line between Blind Point (56°39' N. lat., 132°54.83' W. long.) and Anchor Point (56°38.25' N. lat., 132°55.58' W. long.) and north of the latitude and east of the longitude of the northern tip of Woewodski Island.

Ernest Sound (Fishery Area 107-10): The waters of Ernest Sound in Section 7B east of a line from Lemesurier Point to Ernest Point to the southernmost point of Etolin Island and south of the latitude of Eaton Point at 55°56.30' N. latitude.

Deer Island (Fishery Area 107-20): The waters of Ernest Sound in Section 7A north of the latitude of Eaton Point at 55°56.30' N. latitude, and east of 132°07' W. longitude, west of 131°56' W. longitude and south of the southernmost tip of Wrangell Island.

Zimovia Strait (Fishery Area 107-30): The waters of Section 7A north of the southernmost tip of Wrangell Island.

Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area (Fishery area 107-35): includes those waters of Anita Bay west of a line from Anita Point to a point on Etolin Island at 56°14.26' N. latitude, 132°23.92' W. longitude.

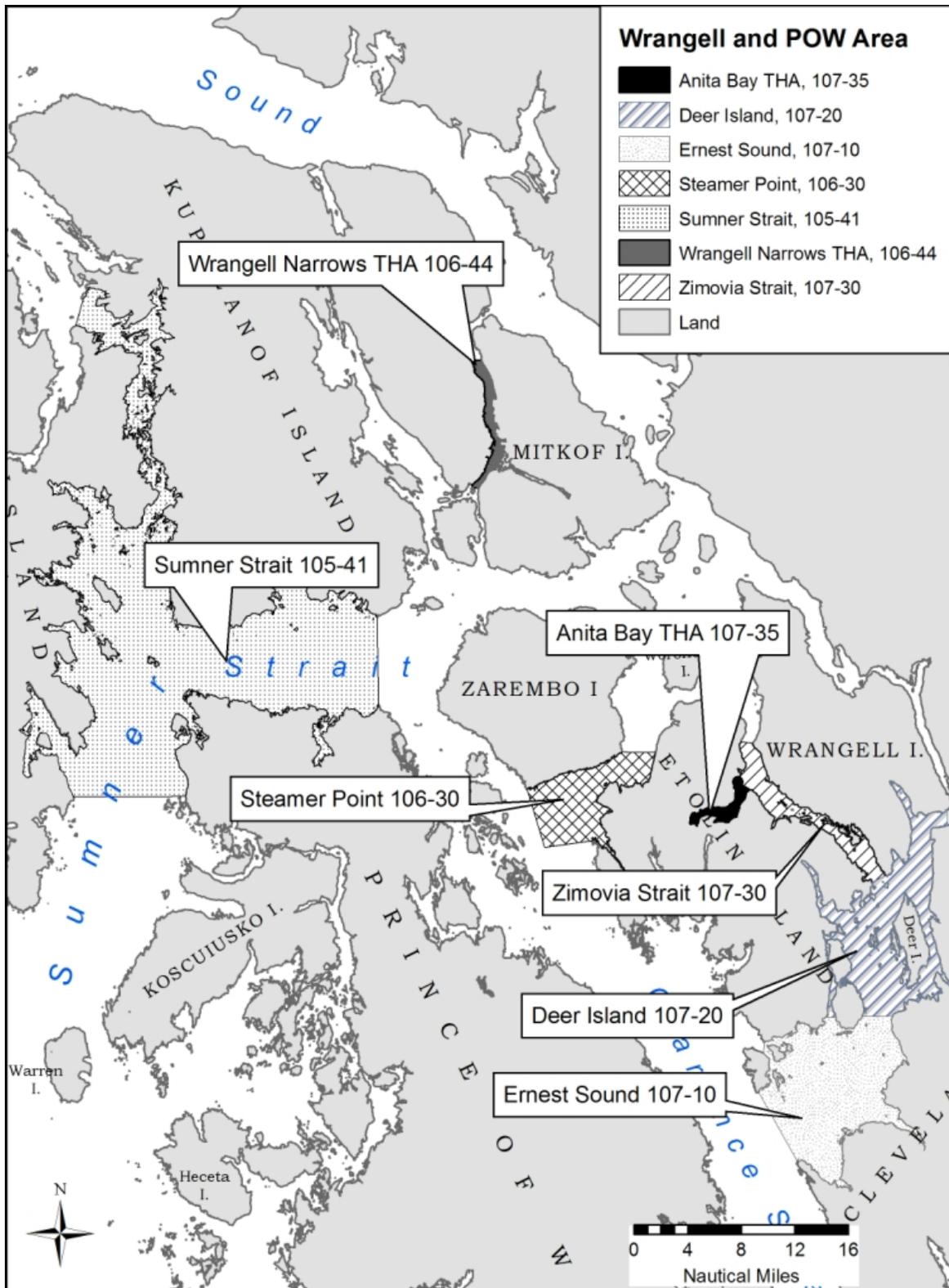


Figure 2.—Wrangell and Prince of Wales spring trolling areas, 2007.

Chatham Strait and Frederick Sound Areas

Chatham Strait (Fishery Area 112-12): The waters of Chatham Strait and Frederick Sound south of the latitude of Point Hepburn, including the waters of Freshwater Bay, Tenakee Inlet, and Kelp Bay, and excluding the waters of the Hidden Falls Terminal Area (112-22); waters north of Point Ellis (56°33.12' N. lat.), including Keku Strait and Port Camden and west of the District 9/10 boundary (the southernmost tip of Elliot Island to Pt. McCartney); waters of Peril Strait and Hoonah Sound north of Pogibshi Point. The waters of Tebenkof Bay east of Pt. Ellis (134°19.00' W. long.) are excluded.

Hidden Falls Terminal Harvest Area (Fishery area 112-22): In Chatham Strait, only those waters of Section 12A within two nautical miles of the Baranof Island shoreline south of the latitude of South Point (57°20' N. lat.) and north of 57°06.83' N. latitude (south of Takatz Bay) excluding waters of Kelp Bay (5 AAC 33.374(a)).

Frederick Sound (Fishery area 110-31): In Frederick Sound, those waters north and east of a line from the westernmost tip of Point Macartney to 57°06' N. latitude, 134°03.35' W. longitude; south and east of a line from 57°06' N. latitude., 134°03.35' W. longitude to McDonald Rock buoy; south of the line from McDonald Rock buoy to the point of land on the mainland east of Entrance Island at 57°25.32' N. latitude, 133°25.63' W. longitude; and north and west of a line from Boulder Point (57°00.83' N. lat., 133°18.92' W. long.) to Point Highland (57°09' N. lat., 133°27.75' W. long.). Waters of Port Houghton east of 133°11' W. longitude are closed to protect the run of wild Chinook salmon at the head of Port Houghton.

NOTE: Beginning June 1, the Frederick Sound area will be extended to include those waters of District 10 that are north and west of a line from Wood Point (56°59.75' N. lat., 132°56.95' W. long.) to Beacon Point (56°56.25' N. lat., 132°59.50' W. long.), excluding waters of Farragut Bay north and east of a line from Bay Point (57°06.50' N. lat., 133°19' W. long.) to Grand Point (57°05' N. lat., 133°11' W. long.), and also excluding those waters of Thomas Bay that are north and east of a line from Point Vandeput (57°01.25' N. lat., 133°00' W. long.) to Wood Point.

Little Port Walter (Fishery area 109-10): In Chatham Strait, only in those waters of Section 9-A south of the latitude of Patterson Point (56°32.50' N. lat., 134°38.33' W. long.) and north of 56°15.83' N. latitude (located immediately south of Graveyard Cove), including all waters of Patterson Bay, Deep Cove, Port Herbert, Port Walter, Port Lucy, and Port Conclusion.

Tebenkof Bay (Fishery Area 109-62): In Section 9-B, the waters of Tebenkof Bay south of the latitude of Point Ellis (56°33.12' N. lat.), north of the latitude of Point Harris (56°17.50' N. lat.), and east of 134°24' W. longitude;

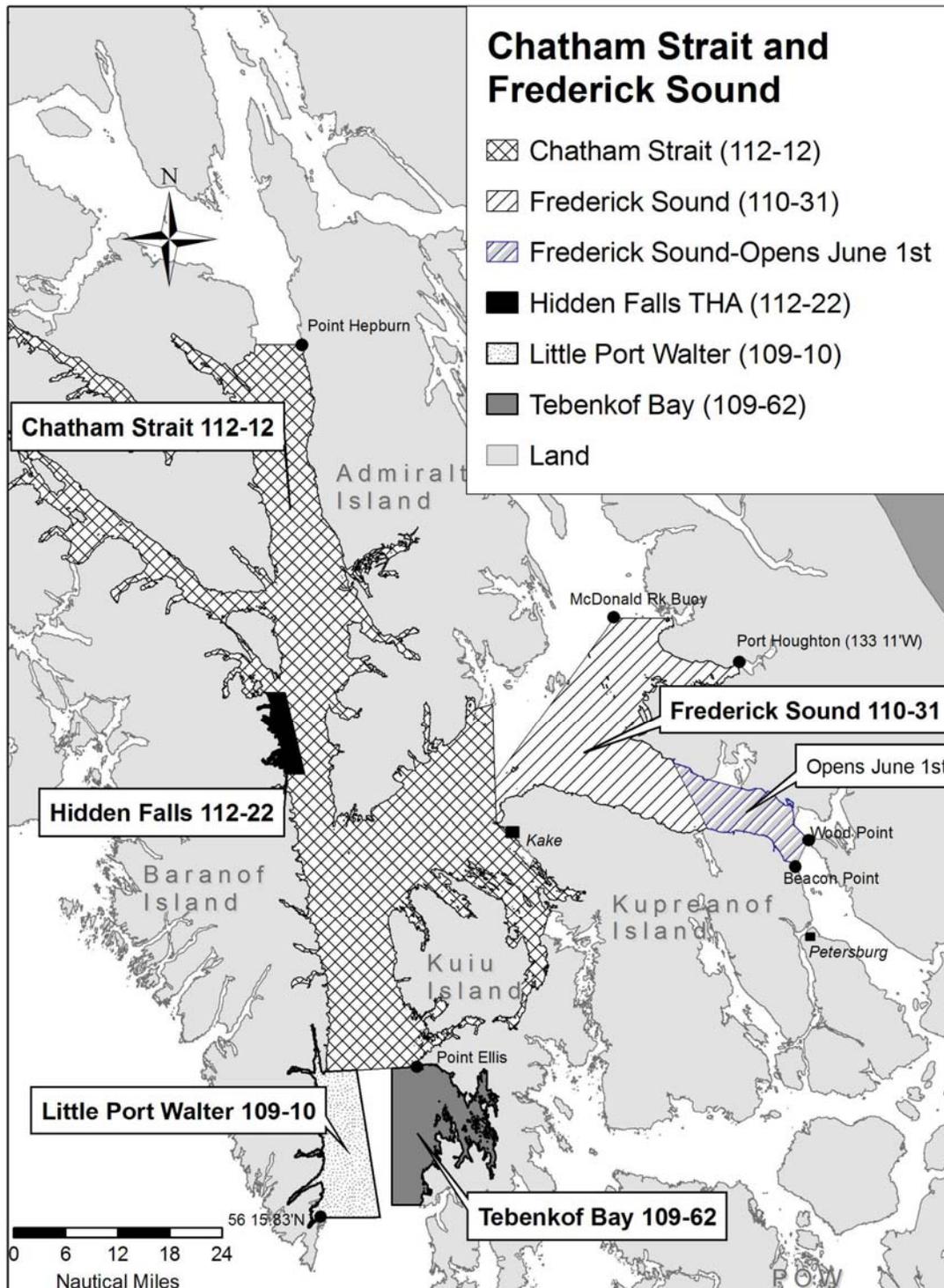


Figure 3.—Chatham Strait and Frederick Sound spring trolling areas, 2007.

North Chatham Strait and Icy Strait Areas

Cross Sound Pink and Chum (Fishery area 114-21): In the waters of Section 14A west of the longitude of Point Dundas (136°16.75' W. long.), south of the latitude of Point Dundas (58°19' N. lat.), and east of the longitude of the southern tip of Taylor Island (136°29.01' W. long.) to 58°10' N. latitude, then east to Althorp Rock Light, then north to the light at the entrance to Elfin Cove.

Lisianski Inlet (Fishery area 113-95): New Northern boundary. In Section 13A, in waters of Lisianski Inlet south of a line from **Ewe Pt. (58°04.06' N. lat., 136°27.44' W. long.) to Dace Rock (58°05.48' N. lat., 136°26.17' W. long.)** and east of the longitude of the navigational marker at Rock Point at approximately 58°00.17' N. latitude, 136°21.15' W. longitude

Port Althorp (Fishery area 114-50): New Western and Southern boundaries. In waters of Section 14A in Lisianski Inlet north of a line from **Ewe Pt. (58°04.06' N. lat., 136°27.44' W. long.) to Dace Rock (58°05.48' N. lat., 136°26.17' W. long.)** and in **Cross Sound and Lisianski Inlet bounded by a line from on the west from Soapstone Point (58°06.36' N. lat., 136°29.96' W. long.)**, to the Cape Spencer lighthouse at 58°11.93' N. latitude, 136°38.43' W. longitude then east to Althorp Rock Light, then north to the light at the entrance to Elfin Cove.

Icy Strait (Fishery area 114-25): In the waters of Icy Strait and Chatham Strait, east of the longitude of Noon Pt. (135°32.2' W. long.), west of 135°09.6' W. longitude, and the waters bounded by a line from Point Adolphus (58°17.25' N. lat., 135°47' W. long.) to a point one-mile due north of Point Adolphus to the northern tip of the northernmost island of the Sisters Islands at 58°10.90' N. latitude, 135°15.58' W. longitude to Hanus Reef Light to the southernmost tip of Hawk Point (at the entrance to Hawk Inlet), and north of the latitude of Point Hepburn (58°56.42' N. lat.), including waters of Port Frederick and Hawk Inlet.

South Passage (Fishery area 114-23): In waters of Icy Strait south and east of a line extending from the prominent point on northeastern side of the Inian Peninsula at 58°13.43' N. latitude, 136°16.75' W. longitude to the westernmost tip of Lemesurier Island to the northernmost tip of Lemesurier Island to Point Gustavus and north and west of the northern and western boundaries of the new Icy Strait area (see above), including the waters of Icy Passage.

Stag Bay (Fishery area 113-97): In waters of Lisianski Strait north of a line from Point Theodore through Point Urey and south and west of the navigational marker at Rock Point at approximately 136°21.15' W. longitude, including the waters of Stag Bay.

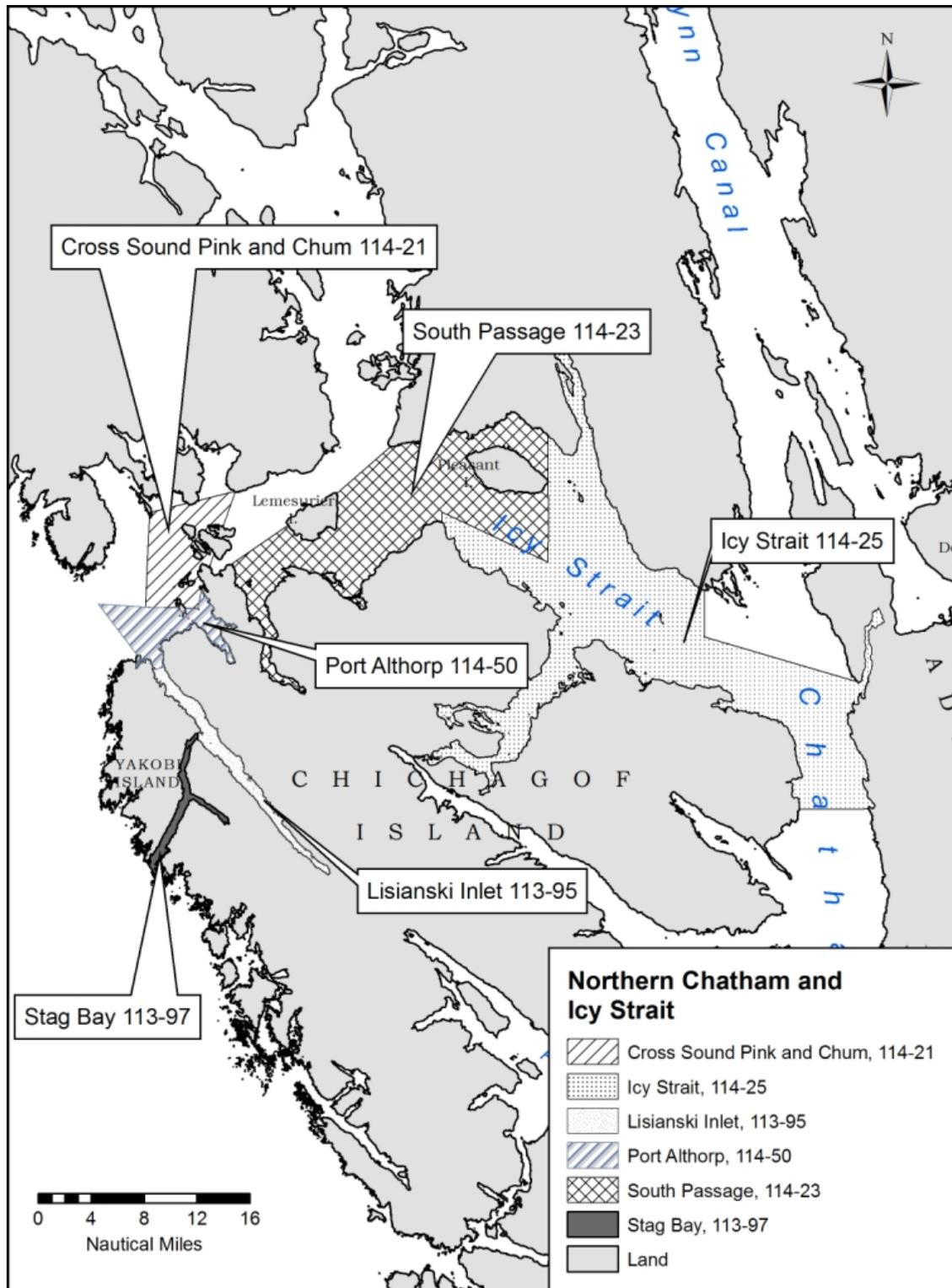


Figure 4.–North Chatham and Icy Strait spring trolling areas, 2007

Sitka Areas

Western Channel (Fishery area 113-01): In waters of Sitka Sound northeast of a line from Kulichkof Rock (56°59.5' N. lat., 135°26.5' W. long.) to Vitskari Island Light to a point on Kruzof Island at 57°03.42' N. latitude, 135°36' W. longitude, south of a line from a point on Kruzof Island at 57°05' N. latitude, 135°35' W. longitude to 57°02.05' N. lat., 135°23.45' W. long. (the intersection of a line from a point on Kruzof Island at 57°05' N. latitude, 135°35' W. longitude through The Eckholms Light with a line from the southernmost tip of Makhnati Island to Kulichof Rock) to Kulichof Rock.

Redoubt Bay (Fishery area 113-30): In waters of Sitka Sound south of a line from Cape Burunof (56°59' N. lat., 135°23' W. long.) to Kulichof Rock (56°59.5' N. lat., 135°26.5' W. long.) and east and north of a line from Kulichof Rock to the northwesternmost point on Peisar Island to the southernmost point on Peisar Island to the southernmost point on Viesokoi Rock to a point on Baranof Island at 56°51.42' N. lat., 135°23.50' W. long.

Biorka Island (Fishery area 113-31): In waters of Sitka Sound south and east of a line from the northernmost tip of Biorka Island to the northwesternmost point on Peisar Island, north and west of a line from the northwesternmost point on Peisar Island to the southernmost point on Peisar Island to the southernmost point on Viesokoi Rock to a point on Baranof Island at 56°51.42' N. lat., 135°23.17' W. long. to the southernmost point on Torsar Island to the northernmost point on Legma Island to the southernmost point on Legma Island, and north and east of a line from the southernmost point on Legma Island to the southernmost point on Liesnoi Island to Point Woodhouse.

Sitka Sound Area (Fishery area 113-41): Combines the former Middle Island, Eastern Channel and Inner Silver Bay areas. The waters of Sitka Sound, including Krestof Sound and Neva Strait south of 57°15' N. latitude, and north and east of a line from line from Cape Burunof (56°59' N. lat., 135°23' W. long.) to Kulichkof Rock (56°59.5' N. lat., 135°26.5' W. long.) to 57°01.50' N. lat., 135°24.25' W. long. (**the intersection of a line from a point on Kruzof Island at 57°05' N. latitude, 135°35' W. longitude through The Eckholms Light with a line from the southernmost tip of Makhnati Island to Kulichof Rock**) to a point on Kruzof Island at 57°05' N. latitude, 135°35' W. longitude, including the waters of Nakwasina Passage, Nakwasina Sound, Katlian Bay and Silver Bay will be open. **The waters of the Deep Inlet THA, as described below, are not included:**

Deep Inlet THA: Deep Inlet, Aleutkina Bay, and contiguous waters south of a line from a point west of Pirates Cove at 135°22.63' W. longitude, 56°59.35' N. latitude to the westernmost tip of Long Island to the easternmost tip of Long Island to the westernmost tip of Emgeten Island to the westernmost tip of Error Island to the westernmost tip of Berry Island to the southernmost tip of Berry Island to the westernmost tip of the southernmost island in the Kutchuma Island group to the easternmost tip of the southernmost island in the Kutchuma Island group to the westernmost tip of an unnamed island at 135°17.67' W. longitude, 57°00.30' N. latitude to a point on the southern side of the unnamed island at 135°16.78' W. longitude, 57°00.08' N. latitude and then to a point on the Baranof Island Shore at 135°16.53' W. longitude 56°59.93' N. latitude. Waters of Sandy Cove will be closed. Waters of Deep Inlet THA west of 135°21.52' W. long. will be closed May 1–21.

Salisbury Sound (Fishery area 113-62): In waters of Peril Strait south of the latitude of Pogibshi Point at 57°30.5' N. latitude, waters of Salisbury Sound east of 135°46' W. longitude, and waters of Sukoi Strait and Neva Strait north of 57°15' N. latitude.

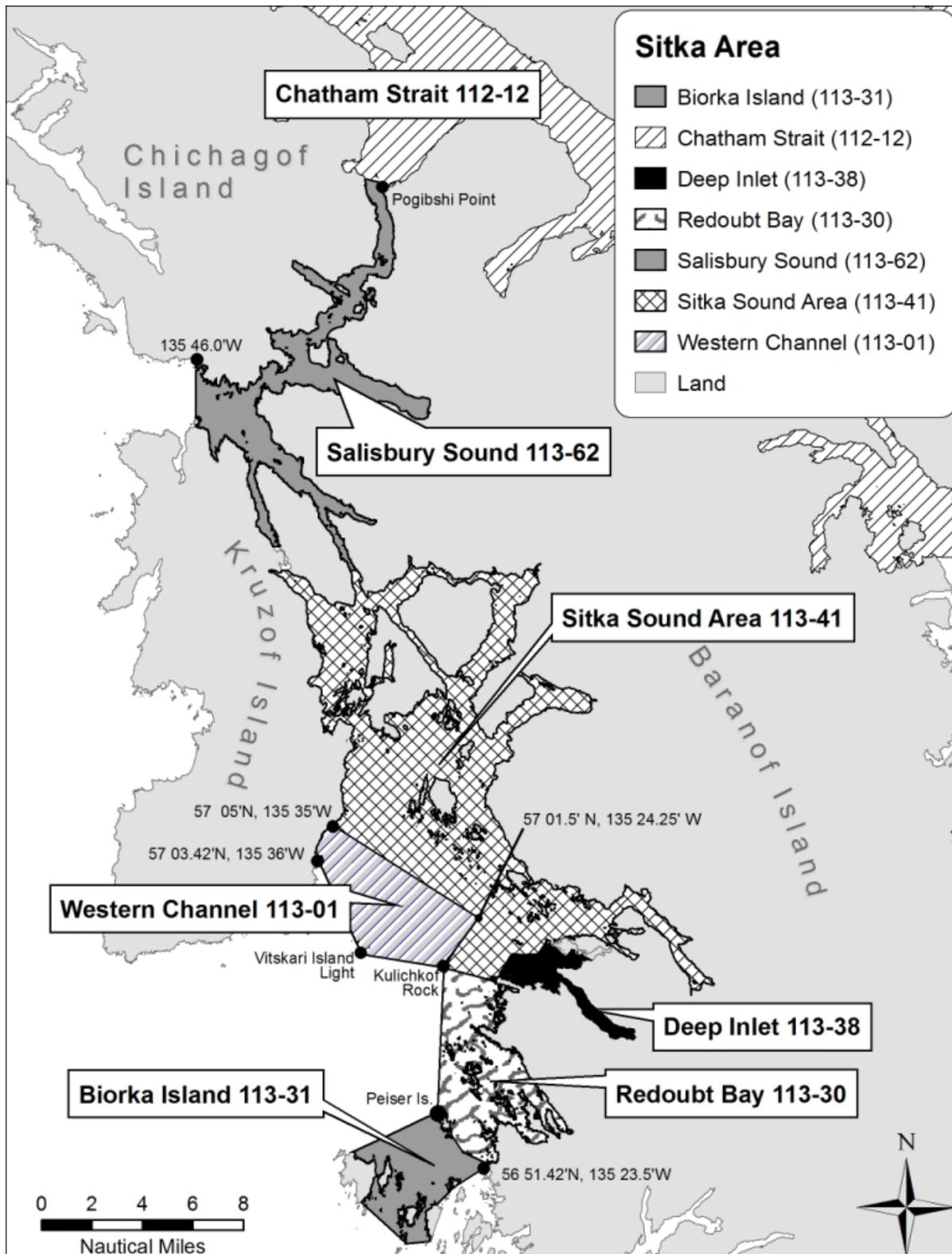


Figure 5.—Sitka spring trolling areas 2007.

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For up-to-date troll information, call the 24-hour information line in the Douglas Office at 465-TROL (8765). In addition, the following telephone numbers may be called during the troll fishing season to obtain recorded announcements concerning areas open to trolling.

Ketchikan-(907) 225-6870

Sitka-(907) 747-8765

Petersburg-(907) 772-3700