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POST JUNE SALMON MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR
THE SOUTH ALASKA PENINSULA, 1995

By

James N. McCullough,

Arnold R. Shaul,

and

Rodney D. Campbell

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INTRODUCTION

The southern portion of the Alaska Peninsula (South Peninsula) consists of Pacific Ocean coastal waters extending west of Kupreanof Point to Scotch Cap on Unimak Island and consists of the Southeastern, South Central, Southwestern, and Unimak Districts (Figure 1).

Prior to 1974, post June South Peninsula salmon fisheries were open five days per week, with total season closures on August 10 to provide adequate escapement and maintain product quality. From about 1976 to 1991, the salmon fishery was managed by emergency order based on local stock run strength. Fishing periods from July 6 to about July 18 were based on chum salmon run strength, and from July 18 through about August 20 on pink salmon run strength. Fishing continued into late August in years of strong pink runs. Migratory salmon were also harvested during these openings, and in some years contributed substantially to the total post June harvest. Fishing periods during September and October were based on coho salmon run strength (McCullough 1995). The Southeastern District Mainland fishery, which was managed through July 25 on a separate management plan (5 AAC 09.360) based on an allocation of Chignik bound sockeye salmon (Campbell 1995).

In November 1991 the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF) established the Post June Salmon Management Plan for the Southern Alaska Peninsula (Table 1). This plan allows for the harvest of local stocks through July 19 only in terminal areas and closes the remainder of the South Peninsula formerly open in post June fisheries. The BOF decision was based on the concept that local pink and chum salmon could be caught in terminal areas early in the season without sacrificing product quality, while at the same time allowing migratory salmon to pass through South Peninsula waters. After July 19, the BOF authorized the opening of traditional cape harvest areas to South Peninsula fishers. The BOF concluded that to maintain product quality, allow for available processing capacity, and not risk overharvesting escapement buildups, the traditional cape harvest areas would need to be open. In accordance with an Alaska State Superior Court order issued on July 10, 1992 by Judge Hopwood, an injunction was granted staying the enforcement of the Post June Salmon Management Plan for the Southern Alaska

Peninsula (5 AAC 09.366). On March 2, 1993 Judge Hopwood granted summary judgement in favor of the Alaska Board of Fisheries and this management plan was again in effect.

MANAGEMENT PLAN

The South Peninsula post June fishery will be managed according to the Post June Salmon Management Plan for the Southern Alaska Peninsula as adopted by the Alaska Board of Fisheries (Alaska Department of Fish and Game, 1992) during the November 1991 meeting (Table 1). Under this plan, commercial salmon fishing from July 1-19 will be restricted to terminal fishing areas opened by emergency order based on local stock run strength as gauged by harvest and escapement rates. These areas include Zachary Bay, Inner Pavlof Bay, and the Canoe Bay, Cold Bay, Thin Point, and Morzhovoi Bay Sections (Figures 2-4). All fishing periods will be announced by emergency order.

From July 1-19, Zachary Bay and Inner Pavlof Bay will be managed on chum salmon run strength. Morzhovoi Bay and Thin Point Sections will be managed on sockeye salmon run strength. Due to an anticipated strong sockeye run to Thin Point Cove, closed waters in Thin Point Cove will be reduced (during fishing periods without minus tides) to include only those waters within 1,000 yards of the Thin Point lagoon terminus and to all waters within 500 yards of any other salmon stream emptying into Thin Point Cove. Fishing periods at Thin Point Cove during large minus tides will be avoided to prevent salmon from backing out of the lagoon and into the fishery. Both sockeye and chum salmon run strength will be considered in managing the Cold Bay Section. Fishing periods will initially be one day or less per week. If salmon runs are strong and gear levels are not too large, more fishing time will be allowed. The first post June fishing period will be on or shortly after July 6. Whenever possible, openings will coincide with fishing periods in the Southeastern District Mainland fishery.

From July 20-August 30, the remainder of the South Peninsula may open to commercial salmon fishing by emergency order. The initial fishing period is anticipated to occur on July 20, for 2-3 days. The July 20 opening should provide adequate data regarding pink salmon run strength and immature salmon concerns to justify subsequent fishing periods. Fishing periods will be based

on pink salmon run strength, although in a few areas fishing periods will be regulated on the performance of local chum and sockeye salmon runs. Whenever possible, openings in the Southeastern, South Central, Southwestern, and Unimak Districts will be concurrent.

Beginning September 1, fishing periods will be based on coho run strength, although late pink and chum runs will be considered when determining fishing periods. No attempt will be made to have concurrent openings between the Southeastern District and the remainder of the South Peninsula.

In an effort to accommodate enforcement activities without impacting legal fishing activities (more than necessary), the following general opening and closing schedule will be used^a:

| Month | Starting Time | Closing Time |
|-----------|---------------|--------------|
| June | 6:00 a.m. | 10:00 p.m. |
| July | 7:00 a.m. | 9:00 p.m. |
| August | 8:00 a.m. | 9:00 p.m. |
| September | 9:00 a.m. | 8:00 p.m. |
| October | 9:00 a.m. | 8:00 p.m. |

^a There may be occasional circumstances which require different times.

HARVEST PROJECTIONS

The 1995 post June chinook harvest is projected to be about 5,000 salmon. This is about the same as the 1985-94 average harvest of 3,691 salmon (Table 2). The 1995 post June sockeye salmon harvest is projected to be 600,000 salmon, which is similar to the 1985-94 average harvest of 572,116 salmon (Table 2). The 1995 post June coho salmon harvest is projected to be 250,000 salmon, while the 1985-94 average harvest was 306,659 salmon (Table 2). The 1995 post June

pink salmon harvest is projected to be 7,000,000 salmon, which is above the 1985-94 average of 6,059,207 salmon (Table 2). The 1995 post June chum salmon harvest is projected to be 1,100,000 salmon, which is larger than the 1985-94 average of 936,967 salmon (Table 2).

Table 3 lists the 1985-94 South Peninsula July 1-19 salmon harvest, (minus the Southeastern District Mainland catch). Due to the post June salmon management plan for the Southern Alaska Peninsula the salmon harvest during July 1-19 should be minimal. Table 4 lists the 1985-94 catch by area in waters open during July 1-19. Table 5 lists the South Peninsula July 20-August 31, 1985-94, harvest by species. Table 6 lists the entire South Peninsula fall fisheries harvest, September 1 through the end of the season for 1985-94.

IMMATURE SALMON

The Department will conduct a test fishery in the Shumagin Islands Section prior to July 20 to assess the presence of immature salmon. Immature salmon are not anticipated to be a problem in the terminal fishing areas allowed to open from July 1-19. However, if large numbers of immature salmon are present in any area, either before or after July 19, such locations will be closed to purse seine gear until the number of immature salmon drops to an acceptable level. ADF&G has defined an acceptable harvest of immature salmon during normal purse seine fishing operations, at approximately 100 per set.

LITERATURE CITED

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- McCullough, J.N. 1995. South Alaska Peninsula Post June and Aleutian Islands Management Area Salmon Fisheries and Stock Status. Report to the Alaska Board of Fisheries, Winter 1994-95. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Commercial Fisheries Management and Development Division, Regional Information Report No. 4K95-7, Kodiak.
- Campbell, R.D. 1995. The Southeastern District Mainland Salmon Fishery of Area M. Report to the Alaska Board of Fisheries, Winter 1994-95. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Commercial Fisheries Management and Development Division, Regional Information Report No. 4K95-6, Kodiak.

Table 1. Post June salmon management plan for the Southern Alaska Peninsula.

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

(a) The department may open the following areas to salmon fishing from July 20 through September 30:

(1) the Shumagin Islands Section of the Southeastern District, excluding all waters south of a line extending from the eastern shore of Zachary Bay at 55° 22' 39" N. lat., 160° 35' 03" W. long., to a point on the western shore of Zachary Bay at 55° 22' 39" N. lat., 160° 38' 47" W. long;

(2) the South Central District, excluding the Canoe Bay Section and all waters north of the Pavlof Bay Section north of the latitude of Black Point (55° 24' 34" N. lat.);

(3) the Southwestern District, excluding the Cold Bay, Thin Point, and Morzhovoi Bay Sections, and the Unimak District;

(b) The department may open the following areas to salmon fishing from July 6 through September 30:

(1) in the Shumagin Islands Section of the Southeastern District, all waters south of a line extending from the eastern shore of Zachary Bay at 55° 22' 39" N. lat., 160° 35' 03" W. long., to a point on the western shore of Zachary Bay at 55° 22' 39" N. lat., 160° 38' 47" W. long.;

(2) in the Pavlof Bay Section of the South Central District, all waters north of the latitude of Black Point (55° 24' 34" N. lat.);

(3) the Canoe Bay Section of the South Central District;

(4) in the Southwestern District, the Cold Bay, Thin Point and Morzhovoi Bay Sections.

Table 2. South Peninsula July 1-End of the Season salmon harvest, (minus Southeastern District Mainland July 1-25 harvest), all gear combined, 1985-94 and the projected 1995 harvest.

| Year | Number of Salmon | | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| | Chinook | Sockeye | Coho | Pink | Chum |
| 1985 | 688 | 272,059 | 169,137 | 4,249,809 | 827,781 |
| 1986 | 3,475 | 545,160 | 235,082 | 3,698,727 | 1,346,879 |
| 1987 | 3,881 | 410,755 | 224,543 | 1,189,211 | 911,414 |
| 1988 | 6,797 | 635,804 | 502,960 | 6,767,066 | 1,307,053 |
| 1989 | 4,106 | 825,372 | 440,171 | 6,879,878 | 531,759 |
| 1990 | 5,480 | 875,237 | 288,728 | 2,299,161 | 672,937 |
| 1991 | 2,423 | 465,874 | 311,825 | 9,952,671 | 788,955 |
| 1992 | 4,003 | 765,575 | 414,809 | 9,101,628 | 863,505 |
| 1993 | 3,524 | 497,933 | 209,816 | 9,765,709 | 504,894 |
| 1994 | 1,642 | 408,089 | 249,066 | 6,640,031 | 1,591,094 |
| Average 1985-94 | 3,691 | 572,116 | 306,659 | 6,059,207 | 936,967 |
| Projected 1995 | 5,000 | 600,000 | 250,000 | 7,000,000 | 1,100,000 |

Harvest figures do not include test fish catches.

Table 3. South Peninsula July 1-19 salmon harvest, (minus Southeastern District Mainland July 1-19 harvest), all gear combined, 1985-94.

| Year | Number of Salmon | | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|---------|--------|---------|---------|
| | Chinook | Sockeye | Coho | Pink | Chum |
| 1985 | 254 | 57,366 | 16,655 | 104,281 | 117,086 |
| 1986 | 2,579 | 286,124 | 82,857 | 150,290 | 291,727 |
| 1987 | 2,793 | 247,746 | 26,273 | 55,819 | 166,677 |
| 1988 | 3,896 | 271,502 | 52,624 | 101,318 | 289,125 |
| 1989 | 847 | 265,174 | 40,316 | 176,816 | 137,863 |
| 1990 | 3,534 | 292,505 | 35,393 | 80,312 | 246,935 |
| 1991 | 395 | 117,170 | 18,195 | 66,711 | 21,773 |
| 1992 | 895 | 279,293 | 46,873 | 150,952 | 123,259 |
| 1993 | 8 | 8,220 | 10 | 1,524 | 11,298 |
| 1994 | 15 | 26,477 | 348 | 2,449 | 1,550 |
| Average 1985-94 | 1,522 | 185,158 | 31,954 | 89,047 | 140,729 |

Harvest figures do not include test fish catches.

Table 4. South Peninsula July 1-19 salmon harvest, in areas currently open under the Post June Salmon Management Plan for the Southern Alaska Peninsula, 1985-94.

| Area | Year | Number of Salmon | | | | |
|------------------|------|------------------|---------|--------|--------|---------|
| | | Chinook | Sockeye | Coho | Pink | Chum |
| Zachary Bay | 1985 | 1 | 240 | 32 | 260 | 282 |
| | 1986 | 1 | 1,052 | 8 | 118 | 9,127 |
| | 1987 | 4 | 486 | 38 | 10 | 563 |
| | 1988 | 137 | 1,707 | 502 | 482 | 11,088 |
| | 1989 | 0 | 835 | 49 | 327 | 103 |
| | 1990 | 11 | 666 | 71 | 188 | 8,382 |
| | 1991 | 0 | 160 | 0 | 0 | 50 |
| | 1992 | 0 | 280 | 0 | 24 | 8,333 |
| | 1993 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 178 | 5,762 |
| | 1994 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Average: | | 15 | 543 | 70 | 159 | 4,369 |
| Pavlof-Canoe Bay | 1985 | 25 | 13,549 | 4,051 | 20,872 | 37,381 |
| | 1986 | 108 | 60,668 | 4,390 | 21,942 | 69,567 |
| | 1987 | 99 | 45,413 | 4,170 | 5,022 | 50,863 |
| | 1988 | 172 | 36,348 | 10,982 | 7,523 | 114,925 |
| | 1989 | 85 | 52,953 | 11,204 | 10,014 | 40,120 |
| | 1990 | 383 | 136,405 | 10,727 | 30,635 | 44,941 |
| | 1991 | 87 | 14,179 | 1,859 | 29,558 | 4,500 |
| | 1992 | 48 | 26,492 | 1,697 | 10,774 | 21,979 |
| | 1993 | 3 | 5,249 | 10 | 1,226 | 5,419 |
| | 1994 | 1 | 14,500 | 14 | 1,721 | 559 |
| Average: | | 101 | 40,576 | 4,910 | 13,929 | 39,025 |
| Cold Bay | 1985 | 0 | 116 | 0 | 0 | 166 |
| | 1986 | 0 | 443 | 0 | 313 | 2,803 |
| | 1987 | 0 | 17 | 0 | 0 | 20 |
| | 1988 | 0 | 75 | 0 | 388 | 2,810 |
| | 1989 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,825 | 164 |
| | 1990 | 0 | 1,925 | 0 | 4 | 430 |
| | 1991 | 1 | 185 | 10 | 10 | 36 |
| | 1992 | 1 | 40 | 0 | 0 | 50 |
| | 1993 | 3 | 550 | 0 | 35 | 61 |
| | 1994 | 1 | 4,757 | 2 | 186 | 255 |
| Average: | | 1 | 811 | 1 | 276 | 680 |

-Continued-

Table 4. (page 2 of 2)

| Area | Year | Number of Salmon | | | | |
|---------------|----------|------------------|---------|------|------|------|
| | | Chinook | Sockeye | Coho | Pink | Chum |
| Thin Point | 1985 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 1986 | 0 | 4,856 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 1987 | 0 | 1,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 1988 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 1989 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 1990 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 1991 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 1992 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 1993 | 1 | 2,328 | 0 | 60 | 20 |
| | 1994 | 1 | 4,535 | 0 | 117 | 67 |
| | Average: | 0 | 1,272 | 0 | 18 | 9 |
| Morzhovoi Bay | 1985 | 1 | 1,372 | 109 | 34 | 50 |
| | 1986 | 2 | 7,235 | 50 | 216 | 350 |
| | 1987 | 5 | 2,518 | 50 | 34 | 417 |
| | 1988 | 3 | 972 | 249 | 109 | 404 |
| | 1989 | 1 | 940 | 63 | 75 | 245 |
| | 1990 | 10 | 4,737 | 427 | 105 | 464 |
| | 1991 | 4 | 1,208 | 171 | 48 | 137 |
| | 1992 | 4 | 1,926 | 643 | 468 | 747 |
| | 1993 | 1 | 93 | 0 | 25 | 36 |
| | 1994 | 12 | 2,685 | 332 | 425 | 669 |
| | Average: | 4 | 2,369 | 209 | 154 | 352 |

Table 5. South Peninsula July 20-August 31 salmon harvest, (minus Southeastern District Mainland harvest), all gear combined, 1985-94^a.

| Year | Number of Fish | | | | |
|--------------|----------------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| | Chinook | Sockeye | Coho | Pink | Chum |
| 1985 | 388 | 156,736 | 126,022 | 3,201,844 | 624,254 |
| 1986 | 727 | 218,506 | 143,367 | 3,098,529 | 935,790 |
| 1987 | 853 | 104,732 | 162,247 | 755,772 | 481,744 |
| 1988 | 2,765 | 281,047 | 396,909 | 5,522,007 | 816,195 |
| 1989 | 2,184 | 349,504 | 315,202 | 3,907,729 | 266,601 |
| 1990 | 1,804 | 447,145 | 198,625 | 2,015,387 | 310,128 |
| 1991 | 1,577 | 234,073 | 229,480 | 7,791,532 | 570,053 |
| 1992 | 2,610 | 370,497 | 290,191 | 7,968,330 | 654,926 |
| 1993 | 2,842 | 364,313 | 164,309 | 7,181,103 | 436,137 |
| 1994 | 1,286 | 266,361 | 175,510 | 6,312,759 | 1,267,887 |
| 1985-94 avg. | 1,704 | 279,291 | 220,186 | 4,775,499 | 636,372 |

^a Figures do not include salmon harvested in test fisheries.

Table 6. The entire South Peninsula salmon harvest, all gear combined, September 1 - End of the Season, 1985-94^a.

| Year | Number of Fish | | | | |
|--------------|----------------|---------|--------|--------|---------|
| | Chinook | Sockeye | Coho | Pink | Chum |
| 1985 | 5 | 4,002 | 14,725 | 290 | 6,960 |
| 1986 | 2 | 3,459 | 6,318 | 518 | 2,519 |
| 1987 | 12 | 23,332 | 22,040 | 1,499 | 52,079 |
| 1988 | 4 | 24,635 | 26,497 | 62,290 | 19,345 |
| 1989 | 12 | 34,932 | 15,724 | 281 | 10,058 |
| 1990 | 7 | 67,142 | 23,318 | 584 | 73,195 |
| 1991 | 2 | 20,056 | 20,337 | 0 | 16,183 |
| 1992 | 58 | 13,115 | 35,323 | 1,525 | 3,486 |
| 1993 | 31 | 16,286 | 16,965 | 515 | 2,918 |
| 1994 | 18 | 25,481 | 36,563 | 294 | 214,174 |
| 1985-94 avg. | 15 | 23,254 | 21,781 | 6,780 | 40,092 |

^a Figures do not include salmon harvested in test fisheries.

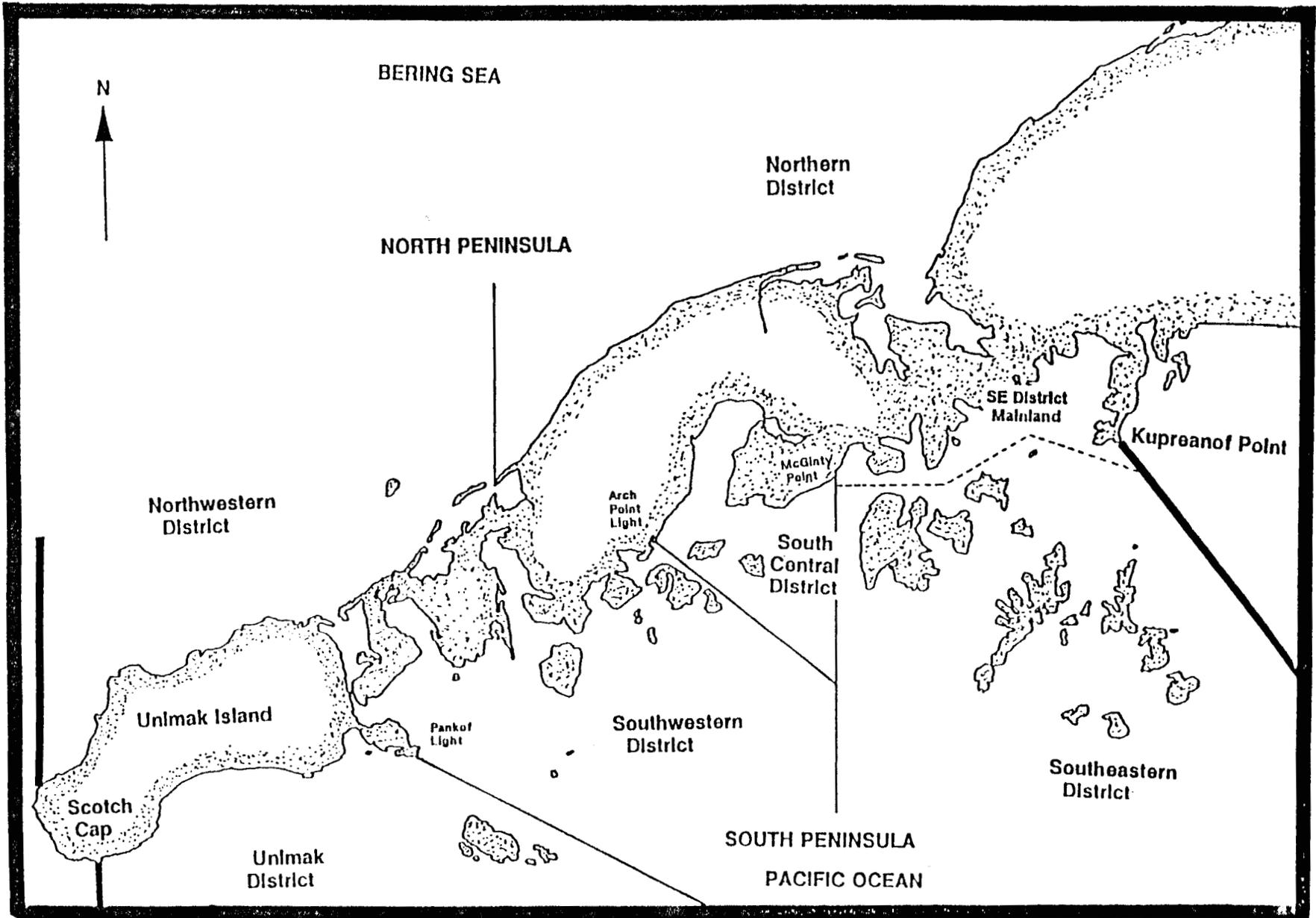


Figure 1. Map of the Alaska Peninsula Area from Kupreanof Point to Scotch Cap with the salmon fishing districts shown.

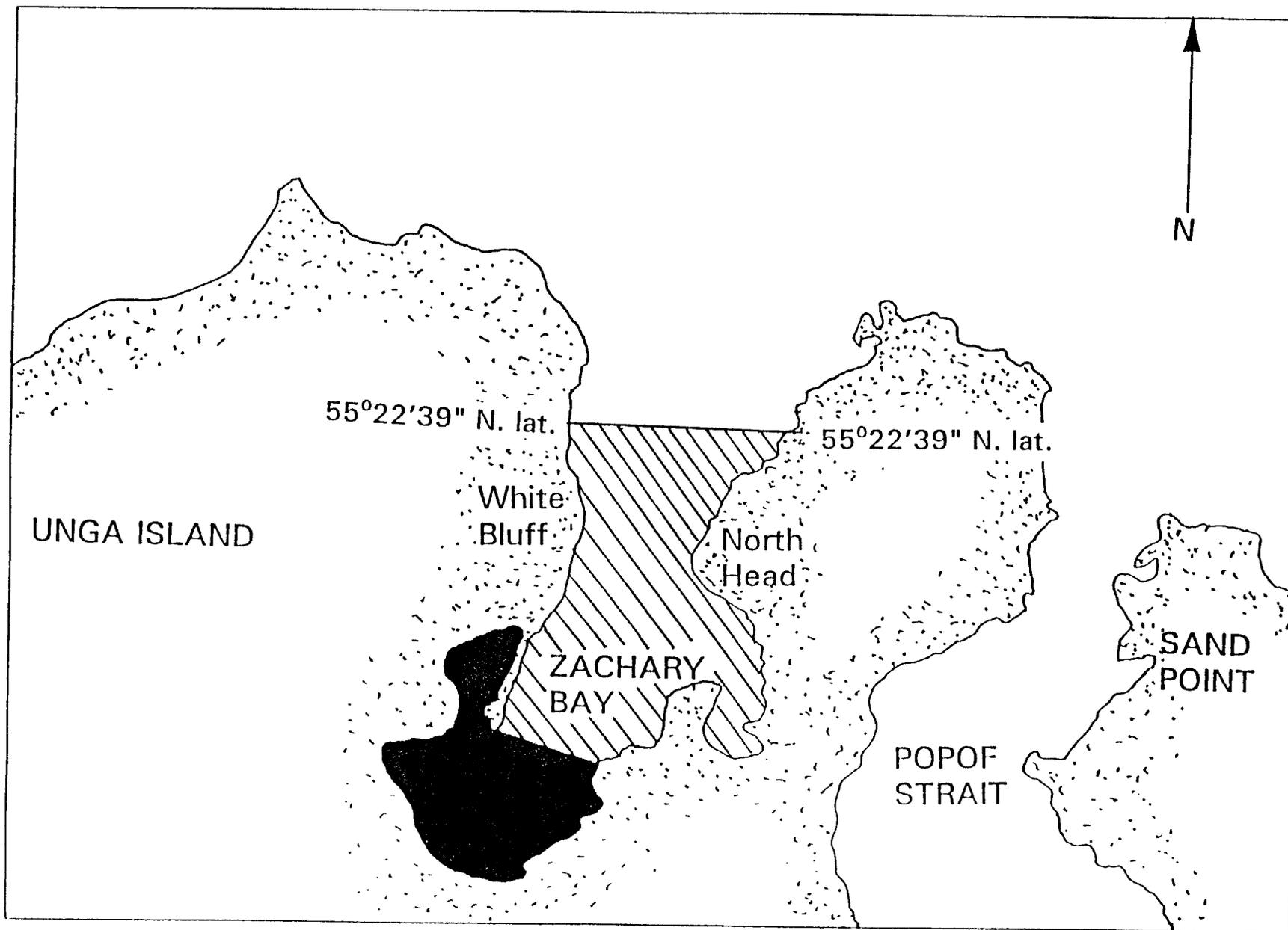
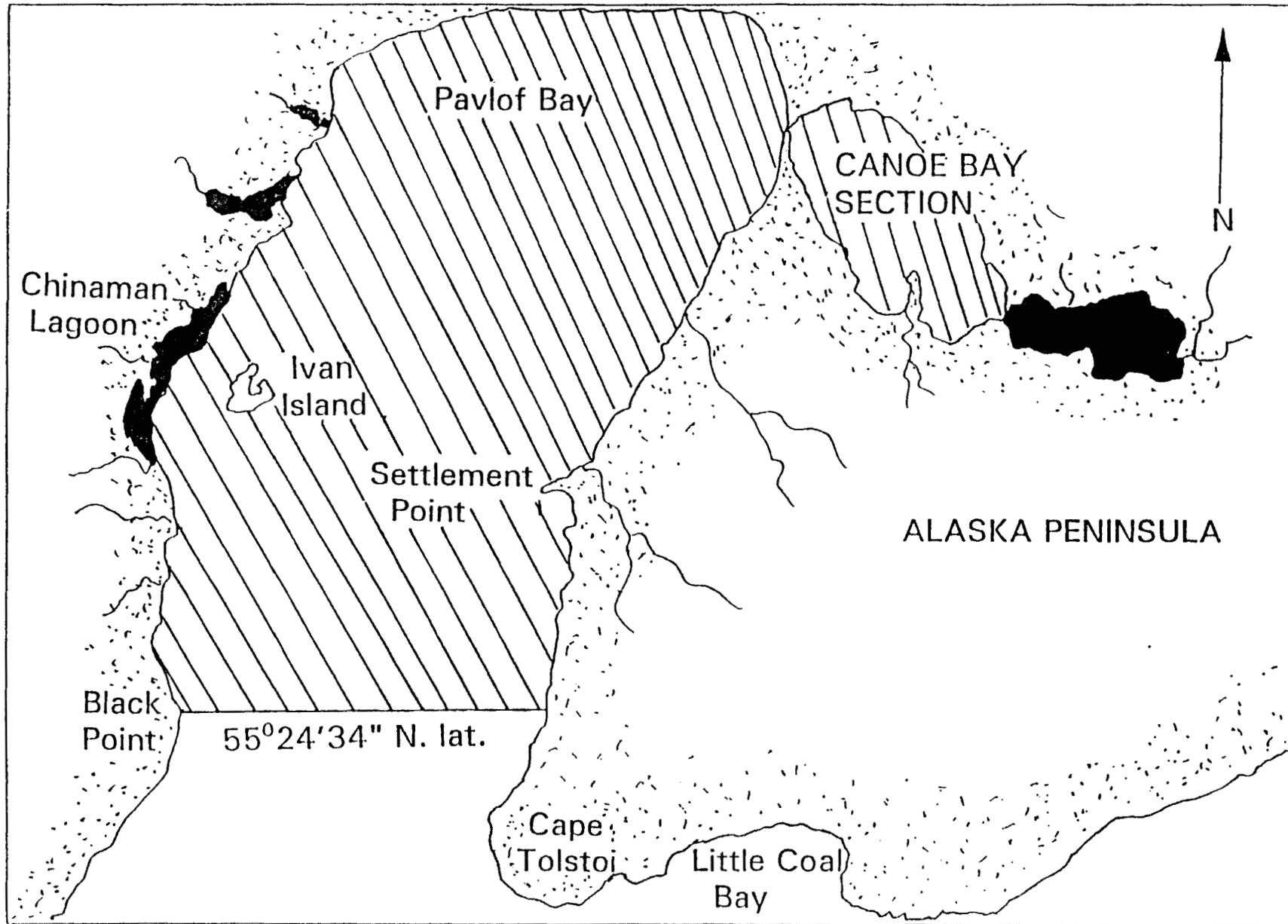


Figure 2. Map of Zachary Bay. In Zachary Bay the shaded area denotes normal closed waters, while the hashed area denotes the zone that may open to commercial salmon fishing from July 6 - September 30, south of a line at 55°22'39" N. lat. See regulation book for official locations of boundaries.



Map of Pavlof Bay and Canoe Bay Section. The shaded area denotes normal closed waters, while the hashed area denotes the area that may open to commercial salmon fishing from July 6 - September 30, north of a line at Black Point ($55^{\circ}24'34''$ N. lat.). See regulation book for official locations of boundaries.

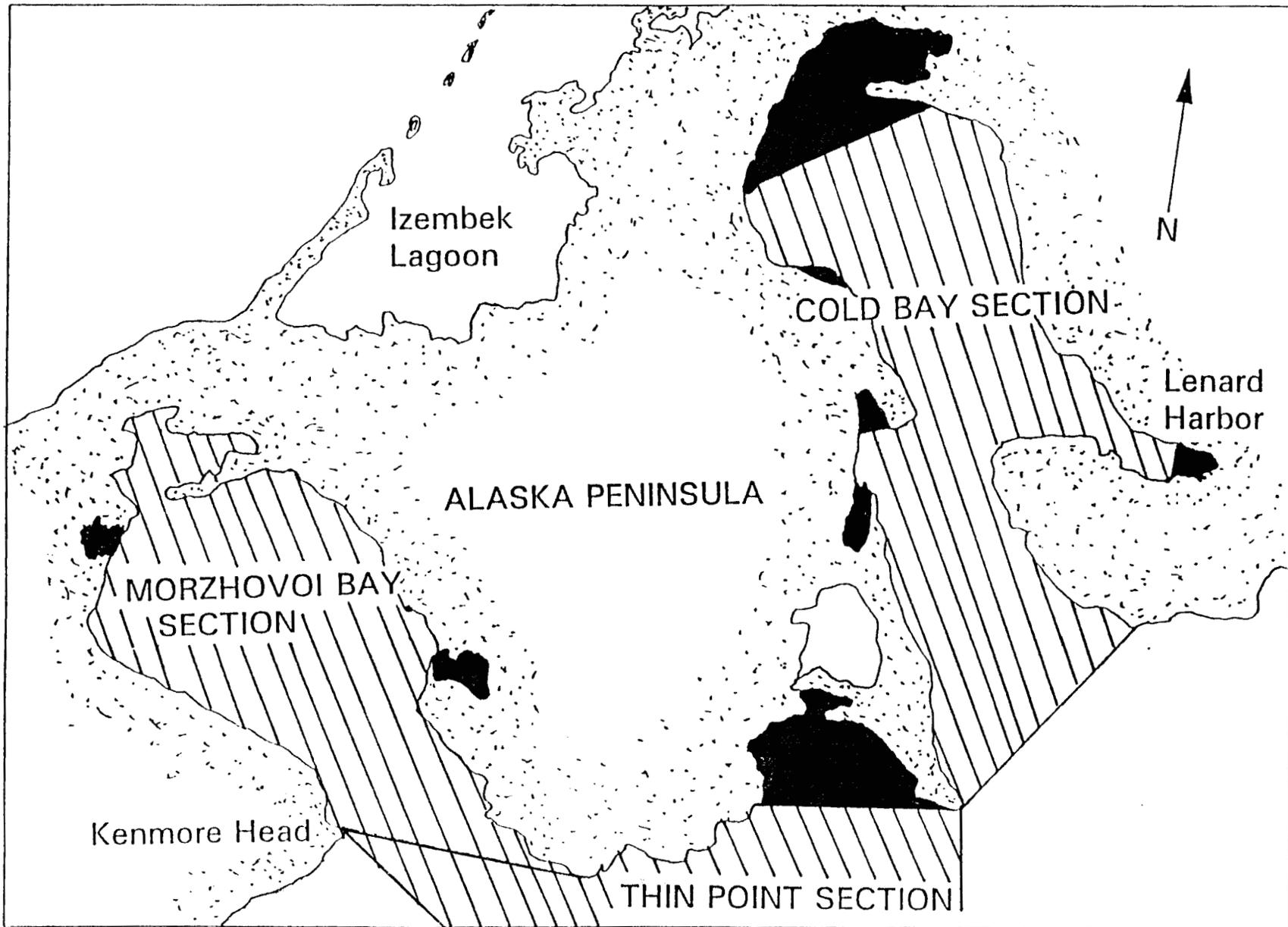


Figure 4. Map of Cold Bay, Thin Point, and Morzhovoi Bay Sections. The shaded area denotes normal closed waters, while the hashed area denotes the area that may open to commercial salmon fishing from July 6 - September 30. See regulation book for official locations of boundaries.

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