

KODIAK MANAGEMENT AREA
HARVEST STRATEGY
FOR THE 2004
COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHERY



By

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Regional Information Report¹ No. 4K04-19

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211 Mission Road
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May 2004

¹The Regional Information Report Series was established in 1987 to provide an information access system for all unpublished division reports. These reports frequently serve diverse ad hoc informational purposes or archive basic uninterpreted data. To accommodate timely reporting of recently collected information, reports in this series undergo only limited internal review and may contain preliminary data; this information may be subsequently finalized and published in the formal literature. Consequently, these reports should not be cited without prior approval of the author or the Division of Commercial Fisheries.

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ABSTRACT

The commercial salmon fisheries in the Kodiak Management Area (KMA) will be managed to promote maximum production opportunities for future KMA salmon returns by achieving salmon escapement goals. In addition, management will attempt to provide for orderly fisheries while maximizing harvest opportunities on the highest quality salmon, and will adhere to the biological and allocative requirements of the 10 Management Plans adopted by the Alaska Board of Fisheries for the KMA. Management follows a general chronology based on the run timing of four commercially targeted salmon species: sockeye *Oncorhynchus nerka*, pink *O. gorbuscha*, chum *O. keta*, and coho *O. kisutch* salmon.

Preseason forecasts for 2004 project a harvest of approximately 2,611,400 sockeye, 19,545,000 pink, 495,200 coho, and 1,219,400 chum salmon. Additionally, about 20,000 chinook salmon *O. tshawytscha* could be harvested incidentally in fisheries targeting other species. All fishing periods are established by emergency order. The initial sockeye salmon commercial test fishery for westside Kodiak is scheduled for June 5. A June 5 fishery opening is also planned for the Malina Creek, Foul Bay, and Waterfall Bay Terminal Harvest Areas. The initial commercial test fishery in the Alitak Bay District may occur on June 5, which would be announced no later than June 3. The actual opening date for the Alitak Bay District will be determined based on inseason indicators of run strength. Beginning July 6, weekly fishing periods targeting pink salmon will be 105 hours (4½ days) per week for Kodiak Archipelago sections and 57 hours (2½ days) per week for Mainland District sections north of Cape Aklek.

INTRODUCTION

The Kodiak Management Area (KMA; Appendices A.1 – A.7) 2004 commercial salmon fishery harvest strategy emphasizes three criteria:

- (1) Promote maximum production opportunities for future KMA salmon returns by ensuring salmon escapements of sufficient magnitude and distribution.
- (2) Provide for orderly fisheries while maximizing harvest opportunities on the highest quality salmon.
- (3) Adhere to the biological and allocative requirements of all management plans adopted by the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF) for the KMA salmon fishery.

There are 10 management plans that direct management activities for specific portions of the KMA (Table 1). Every section within the KMA has a season-long regulatory management plan. Proper implementation of these plans requires a major effort in communication between Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) and industry personnel.

Salmon run timing within the KMA follows a general chronology, by species (Figure 1). Commercial fisheries management is based on the run timing of four targeted salmon species: sockeye *Oncorhynchus nerka*, pink *O. gorbuscha*, chum *O. keta*, and coho *O. kisutch* salmon. Commercial salmon fisheries are structured around the seasonal abundance of salmon. Inseason adjustment in areas open to fishing and fishing time are dictated by escapement requirements (Nelson and Lloyd 2001).

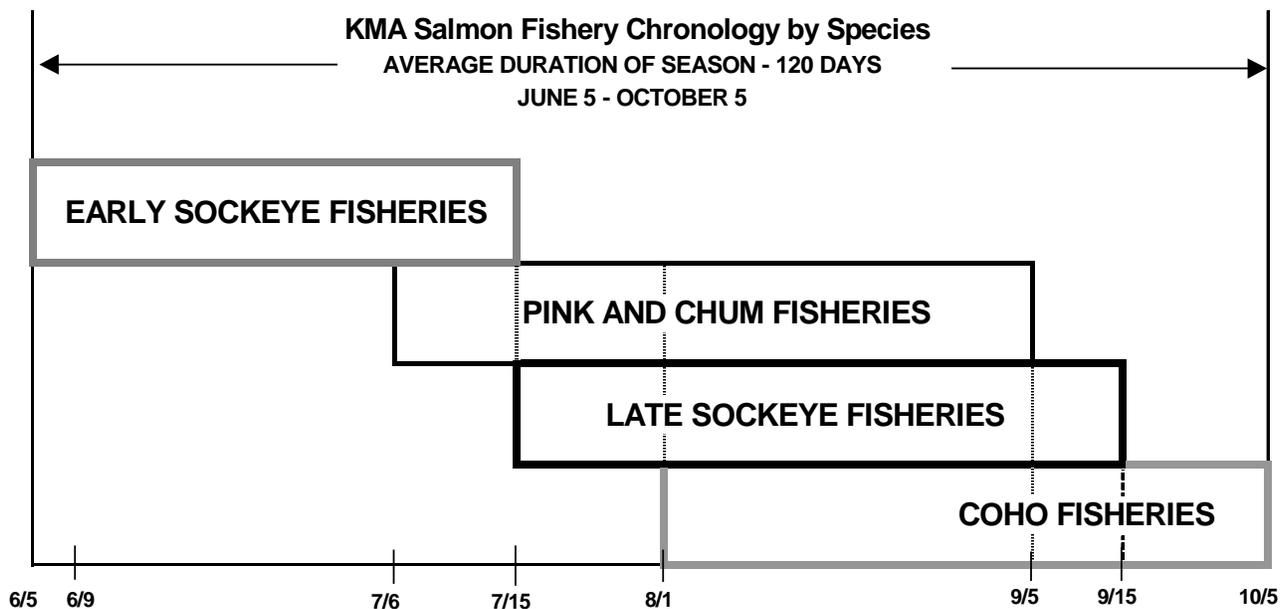


Figure 1. Commercial salmon fishery chronology by species, for the Kodiak Management Area.

The KMA salmon fisheries are managed using data compiled and evaluated daily. Data used to make fishery management decisions include: (1) escapement information from weir counts and/or aerial surveys, (2) harvest trends (total catch and fishery performance), and (3) information on fish abundance near spawning streams.

Management of major sockeye salmon runs is escapement based, and utilizes daily escapement information from up to 15 salmon counting weirs. Management of smaller sockeye salmon runs also utilizes escapement information from salmon counting weirs when available, or other indications of run strength such as aerial or foot surveys.

The initial fishing periods for pink salmon are set preseason and weekly fishing period duration depends on the magnitude of the pink salmon forecast. Adjustments in weekly fishing time and areas open to fishing occur as the actual run strength becomes apparent through assessment of harvests and escapement estimates.

Chum and coho salmon management requires a blend of these two approaches. Both species are initially harvested in directed sockeye or pink salmon fisheries. Terminal or near-terminal fisheries targeting chum or coho salmon require an assessment of actual run strength, using escapement counts from weirs or aerial surveys and current harvest information.

Commercial fisheries are not currently directed toward surplus chinook salmon *O. tshawytscha*. Minor harvests of chinook salmon occur during fisheries that are directed toward sockeye and pink salmon.

HARVEST PROJECTIONS

Based on preseason projections, a total of approximately 20,000 chinook, 2,611,400 sockeye, 495,200 coho, 19,545,000 pink, and 1,219,400 chum salmon should be available for harvesting throughout the KMA in 2004 (Table 2).

Of this total, the Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association (KRAA) has forecast the harvest of salmon returning to the Kitoi Bay Hatchery as approximately 7,545,000 pink, 393,000 chum, and 159,000 coho salmon. Additional enhanced salmon production, from projects conducted by KRAA and ADF&G, should contribute about 410,800 sockeye salmon to the common property fisheries (e.g., Spiridon Lake, Hidden Lake, etc.; Tables 2 and 3).

FISHING PERIODS

All fishing periods will be established by Emergency Order (EO). The approximate initial opening dates and times for 2004 commercial fisheries in the KMA are listed in Table 4.

Advance Notice

For the initial sockeye salmon fisheries from June 5 to June 14, there will be at least 42 hours advance notice. All subsequent fishing periods will have at least 18 hours advance notice.

For the opening of the Cape Igvak Section (Appendix A.7) fishery, there will be at least 24 hours advance notice.

For the openings in the Inner or Outer Akalura, Inner or Outer Upper Station, or Dog Salmon Flats Sections (Appendix A.5), there will be at least 24 hours advance notice.

For adjustments to closed waters (increase or decrease), there will be at least 18 hours advance notice.

For extension of a previously announced fishing period, or for inperiod closure of an announced fishing period, there will be at least 3 hours advance notice.

Fishery Opening Times

Most fishing periods open at 12:00 NOON and close at 9:00 PM, through August 15. Beginning on August 16, all fishing periods will close at 6:00 PM, instead of 9:00 PM.

There are several exceptions to this opening/closure schedule:

- Cape Igvak fisheries open at 12:01 AM and close at 12:01 AM from June 5 through July 25.
- Except for the initial June 5 to June 9 commercial test fishery, Cape Alitak, Alitak Bay, Moser Bay, and Olga Bay Section (Appendix A.5) fisheries will begin at different times through September 15, as follows:
 - In the Olga Bay Section, fishing periods open at 6:00 AM.
 - In the Moser Bay Section, fishing periods open at 12:00 NOON.
 - In the Alitak Bay Section, fishing periods open at 6:00 PM.
 - In the Cape Alitak Section, fishing periods open at 6:00 PM.

Inner Ayakulik Section (Appendix A.4) fisheries usually begin near low tide. These will be daylight openings, initiated by ADF&G personnel with a flare launch. Fishing begins when ADF&G personnel, located on the bluff northeast of the Ayakulik River mouth, launch a flare. When such openings occur, the opening time for the Outer Ayakulik Section may be adjusted to coincide with the Inner Ayakulik Section.

Inner Kitoi Bay Section (Appendix A.2) common property fisheries will usually begin between 12:00 NOON and 12:30 PM, with a flare launch by hatchery staff within inner Kitoi Bay.

Timing and Length of Initial Fishing Periods

Sockeye Salmon

The first KMA commercial salmon fishery will begin at 12:00 NOON June 5 in the Central and North Cape Sections, the Malina Creek, Foul Bay, Waterfall Bay Terminal Harvest Areas (THAs), and in the Inner Kitoi, Outer Kitoi, Duck, and Izhut Bay Sections. The initial June fishing period is considered a commercial test fishery, used to help gauge the strength of the sockeye salmon runs. Because of concerns about the possible harmful effects of excess early-run sockeye salmon escapement into the Karluk Lake system, it is the intent of ADF&G to try to curtail some of the very early returns of Karluk sockeye salmon. In addition, significant numbers of sockeye and chum salmon returning to enhanced systems should be available for harvest on June 5. The THAs and sections adjacent to the Kitoi Bay Hatchery will open June 5 to allow the seine fleet the opportunity to spread out into those locations.

June 5 Commercial Fisheries. Commercial salmon fishing will begin at 12:00 NOON Saturday June 5, 2004, in the following areas:

- The Central and North Cape Sections of the Northwest Kodiak District (Appendix A.3)

For these sections, this will be a 33-hour fishing period, from 12:00 NOON Saturday June 5 through 9:00 PM Sunday June 6. An extension of this period is likely, but will depend on escapement buildups in Karluk Lagoon. The commercial catch from this period will be used to assess the strength of the sockeye salmon run to the Karluk system, with consideration of the Ayakulik, Frazer (Dog Salmon), and Upper Station sockeye salmon runs.

- Malina Creek Terminal Harvest Area
- Foul Bay Terminal Harvest Area
- Waterfall Bay Terminal Harvest Area
- Inner Kitoi Bay, Outer Kitoi Bay, Duck Bay, and Izhut Bay Sections (Appendix A.2)

These fisheries will be open continuously, beginning at 12:00 NOON Saturday June 5, and will occur 24 hours per day, for as long as there are harvestable surpluses of salmon and orderly fisheries are occurring. Commercial fisheries in these management units target enhanced sockeye and chum salmon production. Fisheries on enhanced sockeye salmon runs to Malina Creek, Foul Bay, and Waterfall Bay may extend through early July. The fishery for the Kitoi Bay Hatchery early sockeye and chum salmon runs may extend through late June, depending on chum salmon broodstock requirements and cost recovery needs.

Commercial fisheries may also occur as early as June 5 in the following area:

- Alitak Bay District (Appendix A.5) Early indications of sockeye salmon run strength to Frazer and Upper Station may allow a June 5 commercial test fishing period in this district. If a commercial test fishery is allowed on June 5, it would be announced no later than June 3, and would be no more than 33 hours in length, with no extension.

If the Karluk sockeye salmon early run is as strong as expected and timing is as early as in the past few years, additional fisheries in the Northwest Kodiak District, Southwest Afognak Section, and Outer Karluk Section can be anticipated.

The timing of initial commercial fisheries in the Cape Igvak Section (Appendix A.7) depends on the evaluation of the Chignik River watershed sockeye salmon run strength. From June 5 through July 25, Chignik sockeye salmon are considered to be the principal stock harvested in the Cape Igvak Section. Fishing periods in the Cape Igvak Section, when they occur, will usually be in 24-hour increments, beginning at 12:01 AM. The 12:01 AM opening and closure time allows for more orderly fisheries due to the possibility of relatively short notice given for extensions of fishing periods.

The initial fishing period in the Inner and Outer Ayakulik Sections (Appendix A.4) of the Southwest Kodiak District is solely dependent on Ayakulik River (Red River) sockeye salmon escapement. Directed commercial fisheries within the Inner and Outer Karluk Sections (Appendix A.4) are solely dependent on Karluk River sockeye salmon escapement, and are only expected to occur if it appears likely that the Karluk sockeye salmon escapement goal will be exceeded.

June 9 Commercial Fisheries. Commercial salmon fishing will begin no later than 12:00 NOON Wednesday June 9, 2004, in the following management units:

- Southwest Afognak Section (Appendix A.2)
 - Northwest Kodiak District (except for the Inner Uganik and Kizhuyak Bay Sections; Appendix A.3)
 - Alitak Bay District
- In these management units, a 33-hour commercial fishing period will occur from 12:00 NOON Wednesday June 9 through 9:00 PM Thursday June 10. Extensions of fishing time are possible, if escapement objectives are met or exceeded at targeted early-run sockeye and chum salmon systems.

Again, if sockeye salmon early runs are as strong as expected and timing is as early as it has been during the past few years, additional fishing time in the Southwest Afognak Section and Northwest Kodiak District can be anticipated.

June 14 Commercial Fisheries. Commercial salmon fishing will begin at 12:00 NOON Monday June 14, 2004, in the following management units:

- Eastside Kodiak District (Appendix A.6)
- Northwest Afognak Section (Appendix A.2)
- Big River and Outer Kukak Bay Sections (Appendix A.7)

This fishing period, for select minor sockeye salmon systems, will also be 33 hours long, from 12:00 NOON Monday June 14 through 9:00 PM Tuesday June 15, with no extension in fishing time planned. Early sockeye salmon runs to Saltery, Ocean Beach, Thorsheim, Long Lagoon, Swikshak, and KafLIA Creeks are targeted.

Commercial fisheries in the following management units may also occur on June 14, if escapement objectives are met or exceeded:

- Alitak Bay District

Fishing time on, or after, June 14 will depend on the salmon buildups and escapements through the weirs at Dog Salmon (Frazer) and Upper Station, and the sockeye salmon catch from the ADF&G Chip Cove test fishery project.

- Inner Uganik Bay Section (Appendix A.3)
- Southeast Afognak Section (Appendix A.2)
- PerenosA and Pauls Bay Sections (Appendix A.2)

Commercial salmon fishing may begin in these sections on June 14, again dependent on salmon buildups and escapements. This initial fishing period targets early-run sockeye salmon bound for the Uganik, Litnik (Afognak Lake), PerenosA, and Pauls Bay (Laura Lake) systems.

Additional fishing time from mid-June to early-July will be based entirely on sockeye salmon run strength as determined by escapements, salmon buildups, and fishery performance. A second 33-hour fishing period for minor sockeye salmon systems, such as Uganik, Litnik (Afognak), Pauls, Portage, Thorsheim, Long Lagoon, Saltery, Ocean Beach, Swikshak, and/or KafLIA Creeks, may occur on Monday June 21, dependent on salmon buildups and escapements.

The initial commercial salmon fishing period in the Spiridon Bay Terminal Harvest Area (Telrod Cove; Appendix A.3), targeting enhanced sockeye salmon returning to Telrod Cove, is not expected to occur prior to Monday June 21. The actual starting date will depend on the salmon buildups in Telrod Cove and ADF&G's ability to monitor the commercial fisheries.

In order to maintain sockeye salmon escapements within established objectives, commercial fishing in the Inner Uganik Bay Section (Appendix A.6), targeting Saltery bound sockeye salmon, may be extended beginning June 23.

For most late-run sockeye salmon stocks, a portion of the harvestable surplus is taken during fishing periods targeting pink salmon. Consequently, a blended management strategy is needed to ensure that escapements for each species are achieved. Commercial fisheries targeting Upper Station late-run sockeye salmon may begin August 10 and fisheries targeting Karluk late-run sockeye salmon may begin August 16.

Pink Salmon

In addition to the three management criteria identified in the introduction of this document, the KMA harvest strategy for pink salmon also utilizes:

- (1) a fixed opening date (July 6),
- (2) pink salmon forecasts to set the length of the initial fishing periods, and
- (3) coordination of multiple fisheries, whenever possible, to disperse the purse seine fleet.

The initial fishing periods will be 105 hours in length, except for the Mainland District fisheries. From July 6 to July 25, fishing time for that portion of the Mainland District north of Cape Aklek will not exceed 57 hours per week (this does not include the Cape Igvak or Wide Bay Sections, which are managed in accordance with the Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan, 5 AAC 18.360.). During the peak harvest period, from late-July to mid-August, fishing periods may be adjusted to match the actual strength of the run. Below is a schedule of pink salmon fishing periods for the 2004 season, and is provided for planning purposes for industry and ADF&G, especially for the first three fishing periods.

Changes to the following schedule should be expected if the actual overall pink salmon run is weaker than forecast. No extensions will occur during the first two periods. Extensions to later fishing periods may occur.

First Period. 105 hours - 12:00 NOON Tuesday July 6 through 9:00 PM Saturday July 10. Harvests during this period provide important data to assess early run strength of KMA pink and chum salmon stocks. There will be no extensions in fishing time during this period. In the Mainland District north of Cape Aklek this period will only be 57 hours, from 12:00 NOON July 6 through 9:00 PM July 8.

Second Period. 105 hours - 12:00 NOON Monday July 12 through 9:00 PM Friday July 16. During the second period, run strength for both pink and chum salmon will again be assessed from harvest data. No extensions in fishing time is anticipated during this period. In the Mainland District north of Cape Aklek this period will only be 57 hours, from 12:00 NOON July 12 through 9:00 PM July 14.

Third Period. 105 hours - 12:00 NOON Monday July 19 through 9:00 PM Friday July 23. The previous closures will likely allow an influx of pink and chum salmon into terminal closed areas, resulting in the build up of potential escapement. At this time, a combination of harvest and early escapement and/or buildup information should provide an indication of the actual run strength for major pink salmon stocks. In the Mainland District north of Cape Aklek this period will only be 57

hours, from 12:00 NOON July 19 through 9:00 PM July 21. In the Inner or Outer Kitoi Bay, Izhut Bay, or Duck Bay Sections, fishery restrictions may occur to meet hatchery cost recovery needs.

Fourth Period. 105 hours - 12:00 NOON Monday July 26 through 9:00 PM Friday July 30. A fairly realistic estimate of the total run strength should be evident by the end of the period. The pink salmon harvest should increase during this period. If the pink salmon run is strong, extensions in fishing time will occur. In the Inner or Outer Kitoi Bay, Izhut Bay, or Duck Bay Sections, fishery restrictions may occur to meet hatchery cost recovery needs.

Subsequent fishing periods should follow the same weekly, Monday to Friday, pattern unless escapement information indicates that an extension or reduction of fishing time is necessary. Fishing time will be based on pink salmon returns to individual systems. Differential fishing time, by management unit, may occur as stronger production areas are targeted, while moderate or lower production areas are provided additional protection. There may be changes in closed water sanctuaries to increase escapement levels or to harvest surplus salmon. Beginning approximately August 16, management emphasis will begin to shift toward the run strength of late-run Karluk and Upper Station sockeye salmon and late chum salmon.

From July 20 through August 31 there will be cost recovery fisheries for the Kitoi Bay Hatchery. These cost recovery fisheries will primarily occur within the Inner Kitoi Bay Section, but may also expand into the Outer Kitoi Bay Section. There will likely be restricted fishing time in the Izhut Bay and Duck Bay Sections during this time period, to allow fish to move into the Kitoi Bay Sections for cost recovery and broodstock needs.

Chum Salmon

With the exception of chum salmon returning to the Kitoi Bay Hatchery, a major portion of the 2004 chum salmon harvest will occur in non-terminal locations during directed sockeye and pink salmon fisheries. The initial fishing periods targeting chum salmon will begin on July 6, and will follow the same opening dates and times as those for pink salmon. System-specific chum salmon fisheries that occur during the pink salmon fishery may result in some management units (such as the Kizhuyak Bay, Sturgeon, Spiridon Bay, Zachar Bay, Inner or Outer Kukak, or Outer Ugak Bay Sections) having more or less fishing time than those targeting primarily pink salmon stocks. Again, from July 6 to July 25, fishing time for that portion of the Mainland District north of Cape Aklek will not exceed 57 hours per week. Additional fishing time after July 25 for that portion of the Mainland District north of Dakavak Bay will depend on assessment of local pink and chum salmon runs. Chum salmon run strength will be assessed primarily from aerial surveys and harvest data. The supplemental Kitoi Bay Hatchery chum salmon run is projected to be good this season. Extended fishing time in the vicinity of the hatchery should be expected in June and early July.

Coho Salmon

Initially, coho salmon harvests will occur in non-terminal locations during directed pink salmon fisheries. System-specific coho salmon fisheries may occur during the pink salmon fishery, and may result in some management units having more or less fishing time than those primarily targeting pink salmon stocks (such as the Pauls Bay, Perenosa, Zachar Bay, or Inner Ayakulik Sections). Coho

salmon run strength will be assessed from weir escapements, aerial surveys, and harvest data. A directed coho salmon fishery in the Pauls Bay Section will begin on August 1. The supplemental Kitoi Bay Hatchery coho salmon runs have been successful over the past several years, and are projected to be good again this season. Additional fishing time in the vicinity of the hatchery should be expected in early September once pink salmon broodstock requirements are assured. After September 10, coho salmon fishing may be allowed in the Settler Cove Terminal Harvest Area if at least 500 coho salmon are available for harvest.

Inperiod Closures

From July 6 through July 25 there are limits on the number of sockeye salmon that may be harvested in areas bordering the North Shelikof Strait (5AAC 18.363). Purse seine permit holders operating in the North Shelikof Strait from July 6 to 25, are advised that inperiod closures of designated Seaward Zones will likely occur (Appendices A.2 and A.7). Since the plan went into effect (1990), Seaward Zone closures have occurred every year except 1991 and 2000.

Seaward Zone closures, if required, will be announced on single side band radio (SSB) frequency 4.125 MHz, from the ADF&G office in Kodiak and on VHF 6 and SSB frequency 4.125 MHz from the *R/V K-Hi-C* on the fishing grounds. Inperiod Seaward Zone closures announcement times will be 8:30 AM, 10:00 AM, 2:00 PM, or 5:00 PM. There will be at least 3 hours advance notice given for Seaward Zone closures.

INSEASON EMERGENCY ORDER ANNOUNCEMENTS

After enough information has been collected to determine the fishing time needed to harvest surplus fish, a fishery announcement (news release) will be issued in the following manner:

- (1) A news release (NR) will be issued that details:
 - (a) the date, time, and number of the emergency order announcement,
 - (b) the length of the fishing period,
 - (c) the opening and closing times and dates of the fishing period,
 - (d) the areas opening to fishing,
 - (e) the areas closing to fishing,
 - (f) the location of closed water adjustments (if any), and
 - (g) a list of any previous news release information that is still pertinent.
- (2) The NR will be posted at the main entrance of the Kodiak ADF&G office at 211 Mission Road. Copies of the NR will be available outside the main entrance, and in the Kodiak ADF&G office during regular office hours (Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm).
- (3) The NR (fishery announcement) will be recorded on a 24-hour recorded message phone (486-4559).

- (4) The NR will be made available to local radio stations (KVOK-AM / KRXX-FM and KMXT-FM).
- (5) The Kodiak ADF&G management staff will monitor SSB radio channel 4.125 MHz, (call sign WHM 29), SSB channel 3.230 MHz, (call sign WON 32), and Matrix satellite phone dispatch number 7410, during regular office hours, and will reply to public and industry inquiries.
- (6) The NR will be distributed to all registered processors by fax, email, telephone, hand delivery, or through the ADF&G recorded message phone.
- (7) Copies of EOs, which detail specific regulation changes and justifications, will be mailed to a current listing of required and interested recipients.

Fishery announcements are generally very detailed and complicated. It is advised that tender operators and permit holders obtain a written copy, or use a tape recorder to document the exact wording of each announcement as it is broadcast.

ADF&G Staff Contact Numbers

ADF&G Kodiak management staff are available to answer questions regarding commercial salmon fishery regulations, openings, closures, and harvests.

General Information - 486-1830

Matrix Dispatch - 7410

Kevin Brennan - 486-1808

Dennis Gretsch - 486-1804

Jeff Wadle - 486-1807

Paul Kuriscak - 486-1810

After Hours Cell Phone - 654-1830
or 654-1827

Record-a-Phone - 486-4559

REGULATIONS

Regulations and Statistical Charts

Copies of the KMA commercial salmon fishery regulations and the most recent Kodiak Area Salmon Statistical Chart are available at the Kodiak ADF&G office. Regulations pertaining to KMA salmon fisheries are available in the 2002-2005 Chignik and Kodiak Areas Commercial Salmon Fishing Regulations booklet and a supplement concerning the Alitak Bay District Salmon Management Plan. All longitude and latitude coordinates in Kodiak Area regulations have been converted to decimal minutes and are based on the North American Datum of 1983.

Terminal Harvest Areas

Terminal Harvest Areas (THAs) are used to concentrate fishing effort in a very specific location to harvest a particular salmon run, usually at the stream mouth of the salmon's natal stream. THAs are usually associated with rehabilitated or enhanced salmon runs. They are used to maximize harvest opportunities on specific salmon runs while minimizing the harvest of other salmon stocks. There are usually substantial reductions in normally closed waters that are located within the THA boundaries. There are many times during the salmon season when a district or section containing a THA is open to fishing without the THA being specifically open to fishing by EO. When a district or section is open by EO without specifically mentioning the THA, all waters of the THA, except for the normally closed waters, are also open to fishing.

Closed Waters

All freshwater streams and rivers of the KMA are closed to commercial salmon fishing. Additionally, adjacent to streams and rivers, all saltwater within 500 yards of the seaward extremities of the exposed tideland banks is closed to commercial salmon fishing, unless:

- (1) Alternatives are specifically listed in the regulation book (see 5 AAC 18.350. CLOSED WATERS); or
- (2) The stream number is circled on the most recent version of the salmon statistical chart, issued annually by ADF&G. For streams with circled numbers commercial salmon fishing is allowed to the stream terminus by EO; or
- (3) Specifically reduced or increased inseason by EO at a particular stream or bay (announced by NR); or
- (4) "Closed Waters" markers are in place. The intent is to maintain a 500-yard closed water area from the stream terminus, at all stages of the tide, unless the area is made larger or smaller by regulation or EO (for example, the closed water area at the mouth of the Pasagshak River is 1,000 yards, by regulation). If closed waters markers are in place, the closure line may be a straight line or may be an arc, as follows:
 - (a) The closure line is a straight line between two regulatory markers if specifically stated in regulation or EO, or if, at all stages of the tide, the markers are farther than 500 yards from the seaward extremities of the exposed tideland banks of the salmon streams located inside the markers.
 - (b) The closed water line will be an arc if necessary to maintain the 500-yard distance from the seaward extremities of the exposed tideland banks of the salmon stream at any stage of the tide. Then, waters closed to salmon fishing will be a line arcing from the markers to a point 500 yards directly off the seaward extremities of the exposed tideland banks that designates the stream mouth. The actual shape of the closed water area will change as the tide ebbs and floods.

In the Pauls Bay Section (Appendix A.2) after August 1, if interim escapement objectives are being exceeded, closed waters may be reduced to a straight line from 58° 23.70' N lat., 152° 20.80' W long. to 58° 23.29' N lat., 152° 21.09' W long.

There will be no inseason adjustments of closed water markers unless ADF&G personnel are available to remove the normal markers, install new markers, and subsequently reinstall the normal markers. There will be at least 18 hours advance notice prior to adjusting closed waters.

Additional Closed Water Sanctuaries

In addition to the closed water areas listed in the regulations (5 AAC 18.350), the following two closed water sanctuaries will be in effect for the 2004 season:

Buskin River Closed Water Sanctuary

The stream mouth of the Buskin River (stream #259-211) moves considerably from year to year. The north shore marker has been placed further up the beach and an offshore point has been designated to aid in triangulation of the closed water area. The offshore point is at the reef directly east of the spit, and may be marked with a buoy. This closed waters area is in effect for subsistence and commercial fisheries. The location of the closed waters will be described in the first salmon EO as follows:

5 AAC 18.350 CLOSED WATERS (a)(6) Northeast Kodiak District. (E) Buskin River: all waters inside of a line running from a marker on the bluff north of the mouth of the Buskin River at approximately 57° 45.80' N lat., 152° 28.38' W long. to a point offshore at 57° 45.35' N lat., 152° 28.15' W long., to a marker located onshore south of the river mouth at approximately 57° 45.15' N lat., 152° 28.65' W long.

Ayakulik River Closed Water Sanctuary

ADF&G regulatory markers will be placed in such a manner as to better define the stream terminus of the Ayakulik River. Two markers shall be placed on each side of the river mouth. Aligning the front marker with the back marker on each side triangulates the closed water area. The intent of this closed water sanctuary is to prevent seines from being set to completely block access to the river for migrating fish.

Waste of Salmon

Waste of salmon will not be tolerated and may result in fishing period closures (AS 16.05.831).

FISH TICKETS / HARVEST REPORTS

Prior to completing and signing fish tickets, permit holders and tender operators or processing personnel should make sure that the proper harvest information has been entered by statistical area, and the fish ticket is completely and accurately filled out.

Processors / Tenders

Management of the KMA commercial salmon fishery requires timely, accurate harvest reporting. Processors and buyers are required to accurately report catches daily to ADF&G (5 AAC 39.130 (a)(3)).

Catch reports must include the estimated number of salmon harvested by species, for each gear type from each major catch area (by statistical area, or by geographic area such as a bay, cape, or headland). ADF&G management staff will contact processors to arrange the daily reporting times and format. Daily reports can be made verbally, by fax, or by email. Processors should obtain correct, up to date, information from tender operators prior to providing daily reports to ADF&G. Without accurate information a more conservative harvest strategy will be adopted and less fishing time will be allowed.

Each day tender operators must provide their processing company with an accurate count of commercial salmon deliveries and number of salmon delivered, by species and by catch area. Alternately, tender operators may report, by species, the total number of pounds and the average weight, by catch area.

Statistical area numbers are used to record harvest location(s) on fish tickets. Be sure that the location of the catch, rather than the location of the tender pick-up, is recorded on the fish ticket.

The correct harvest location and number of fish harvested by species must be recorded on each fish ticket. This information is extremely important in evaluating inseason harvests, stock contribution, and effort distribution. In order to provide maximum allowable fishing time, especially in areas such as the Cape Igvak Section and the north Shelikof Strait, it is imperative that the correct statistical areas and numbers of fish by species are reported on the fish ticket at the time of delivery.

Seiners

Seiners must provide estimates of harvest by statistical area to tender operators. For example: *"1/3 of my sockeye were from Cape Alitak (257-20) and 2/3 were from Outer Ayakulik (256-20). The rest of my fish were 1/2 and 1/2 from each of those two areas."* Do not record the location of the tender as the harvest location.

Gillnetters

Because of the fixed nature of set gillnet gear, each permit holder's reporting area (statistical area) is usually consistent between landings. In the event that you move a gillnet into a new statistical area, make sure the tender operator is provided with that information.

Home Pack of Salmon

It is legal for commercial fishermen to keep salmon caught in commercial gear during open commercial fishing periods for their own use (home pack). However, the number of fish harvested and kept for home pack must be reported on a fish ticket. At the next delivery, record the number of each species of salmon caught but not sold in the lower right hand corner of the fish ticket, in the space designated for that purpose.

In the fall of 2003, the BOF clarified regulations concerning home pack of commercially taken salmon, and passed the following regulation:

5 AAC 39.010. Retention of Fish Taken in a Commercial Fishery. A person engaged in commercial fishing may retain finfish from lawfully taken commercial catch for that person's own use, including for the use as bait in a commercial fishery. Finfish retained under this section may not be sold or bartered (*emphasis added*).

Direct Marketing

There has been an increase in interest by Kodiak commercial salmon fishermen in marketing their own commercial catch (direct marketing). In the KMA, the amount of salmon being harvested, custom processed, and kept by local fishermen, has increased dramatically over the past several years. If these custom processed fish are to be sold later for human consumption, fishermen must be properly registered and licensed. Registration and licensing ensures accurate reporting of harvests, which is essential for sound management of KMA commercial fisheries.

Direct marketers are responsible for filing their own fish tickets with ADF&G and may be required to complete a Commercial Operators Annual Report. Direct marketers must also register with the ADF&G Kodiak salmon management staff.

There are several ways to legally market your own fish, but some require special registration and licensing.

You can sell to a registered and licensed processor. This is how the majority of salmon are currently sold. Only CFEC permitting, commercial fishing licenses, and vessel licenses are needed; no special registration or business license is required of the commercial fishermen. The processing company that buys the fish fills out a fish ticket for each delivery they receive. Fishermen interested in direct marketing may then purchase finished product from the processor for later resale.

You can sell to the public from your boat. If you intend to sell your catch directly from your fishing vessel, you must be registered with ADF&G Division of Commercial Fisheries as a “Catcher/Seller”. Catcher/Sellers can only sell their own unprocessed and un packaged fish from their vessels. Catcher/Sellers cannot transport their fish off the vessel (for example, in a truck) for sale. Catcher/Sellers must fill out fish tickets for the fish they catch and sell to the public.

You can have your catch ‘custom processed’ and then sell that catch to the public. If you intend to have your own commercial catch custom processed and you intend to sell that product for human consumption, you must be licensed as a “Catcher/Processor” by the Department of Revenue and the Department of Environmental Conservation. Catcher/Processors must also register with the ADF&G Kodiak salmon management staff. Catcher/Processors must fill out fish tickets for all the fish they catch, have custom processed, and sell to the public.

You can process your catch either aboard your vessel or on shore, and then sell that product to the public. If you intend to process fish aboard your fishing vessel or from a shorebased facility, you must be licensed as a Catcher/Processor or a “Processor” by the Department of Revenue and the Department of Environmental Conservation. Catcher/Processors and Processors must also register with the ADF&G Kodiak salmon management staff. Processors and Catcher/Processors must fill out fish tickets for all the fish they process.

To obtain a Catcher/Seller permit, contact the ADF&G Kodiak salmon management staff or the Division of Commercial Fisheries in Juneau at (907) 465-6131. To obtain a Catcher/Processor or Processor license, fill out the Intent to Operate application, which can be obtained by calling (907) 465-6131 and is available online (www.cf.adfg.state.ak.us/geninfo/permits/intent/sfpe_app.pdf). For more information on obtaining the correct permits, call (907) 465-6131. Some forms may be available at local ADF&G offices. Kodiak staff will assist in the acquisition of the correct permits and licenses.

Fish Transporters

A person may be authorized to transport and sell commercially taken salmon, herring, or Pacific cod as an agent of the commercial fisherman who caught the fish. A Fish Transporter Permit is required, and must be in possession of the operator during the transport and sale of fish. The ADF&G Commercial Fisheries Division issues Fish Transporter Permits. All fish transporters must also be registered with the ADF&G Kodiak commercial salmon fishery management staff. The transporting vessel used must be licensed as a commercial fishing vessel and all people working aboard the vessel must have crewmember licenses. Fish transporters are required to familiarize themselves with the fish ticket and harvest reporting requirements for the KMA salmon fisheries.

A fish transporter differs from a tender. A tender acts as the agent of a processor or buyer, and is the first point of sale of fish from the CFEC permit holder to that processor or buyer. A fish transporter is an agent of the CFEC permit holder(s), and is authorized to take legally harvested fish from one or more CFEC permit holders to a buyer or buyers. A fisherman or group of

fishermen may hire a fish transporter, who may then legally take their fish to the first point of sale.

Fish transporters are required to fill out a fish ticket for all fish taken aboard their vessel. The commercial fisherman is required to provide fish ticket information such as the CFEC permit number, the area of harvest, catch dates, and catcher vessel ADF&G number, and must sign the fish ticket. The number of fish by species and the weight of the fish by species must be estimated and recorded on the fish ticket. Final weights and fish counts will be verified upon delivery of the fish to the buyer or processor. The buyer or processor submits the finalized fish ticket to ADF&G.

Additional information and Fish Transporter Permit applications are available from the ADF&G Kodiak staff or by calling (907) 465-6131.

Use of Net Pens

The use of a single net pen by multiple CFEC permit holders requires that the operator of the net pen obtain a Fish Transporter Permit, and abide by reporting requirements, as outlined above and in the Fish Transporter Permit application and instructions. Additional licenses or permits may be required. Further information is available from the ADF&G Kodiak staff.

LITERATURE CITED

Nelson, P. A. and D. Lloyd. 2001. Escapement goals for Pacific salmon in the Kodiak, Chignik, and Alaska Peninsula/Aleutian Islands areas of Alaska. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial Fisheries, Regional Information Report 4K01-66, Kodiak.

Table 1. Board of Fisheries approved fishery management plans for the Kodiak Management Area, 2004.

MANAGEMENT PLAN	YEAR INITIATED	MGMT. UNITS AFFECTED	DATES IN EFFECT
Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan (5AAC 18.360)	1978	Cape Igvak Section Wide Bay Section	6/5 - 7/25
Alitak Bay District Salmon Management Plan (5AAC 18.361)	1987	Alitak Bay District	6/5 - 10/31
Westside Kodiak Management Plan (5AAC 18.362)	1990	NW Kodiak District SW Kodiak District SW Afognak Section	6/5 - 10/31
North Shelikof Strait Sockeye Salmon Management Plan (5AAC 18.363)	1990	SW Afognak Section NW Afognak Section Shuyak Island Section Big River Section Hallo Bay Section Inner and Outer Kukak Bay Sections Dakavak Bay Section	7/6 - 7/25
Crescent Lake Coho Salmon Management Plan (5AAC 18.364)	1990	Terminal Harvest Area in the Central Section near Port Lions	7/15 - 10/31
Eastside Afognak Management Plan (5AAC 18.365)	1993	Southeast Afognak Section Raspberry Strait Section Inner and Outer Kitoi Bay Sections Duck Bay Section Izhut Bay Section	6/5 - 10/31
Spiridon Lake Sockeye Salmon Management Plan (5AAC18.366)	1993	Terminal Harvest Area in Spiridon Bay Section	6/5 - 10/31
Eastside Kodiak Salmon Management Plan (5AAC 18.367)	1995	Eastside Kodiak District NE Kodiak District	6/14 - 10/31
North Afognak / Shuyak Island Salmon Management Plan (5AAC 18.368)	1995	NE Afognak Section Perenosa Bay Section Pauls Bay Section Shuyak Island Section NW Afognak Section	6/5 - 10/31
Mainland District Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 18.369)	1999	Mainland District	6/14 – 10/31

Table 2. Actual versus projected 2003 commercial salmon harvest, by species and fishery, and 2004 harvest projections, for the Kodiak Management Area.

	Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Total
Projected Harvest 2003 ^a	20,000	2,144,900	514,400	16,263,400	1,228,200	20,170,900
Actual Harvest 2003 ^a	18,600	4,041,900	339,500	14,065,600	1,151,800	19,617,400
Projected Harvest 2004	20,000	2,611,400	495,200	19,545,000	1,219,400	23,891,000

FISHERY	2003 Harvest		2004 Harvest
	Projection ^b	Actual ^c	Projection ^b
Early Sockeye Salmon Fisheries (6/5-7/15)			
Kitoi Bay Hatchery ^d	2,000	20,700	0
Cape Igvak ^e	206,700	118,800	151,700
Karluk ^f	429,000	1,022,800	510,000
Ayakulik ^g	26,000	0	91,000
Frazer ^h	37,000	29,300	84,000
Upper Station ^h	100,000	24,200	138,000
Minor Systems ⁱ	30,000	47,300	45,000
Minor Enhancement ^j	108,800	131,300	73,800
Spiridon ^k	256,000	488,000	239,000
Other	125,000	108,500	130,000
Subtotal	1,320,500	1,990,900	1,462,500
Late Sockeye Salmon Fisheries (7/16-10/31)			
Kitoi Bay Hatchery ^d	900	7,500	0
Cape Igvak ^e	117,500	16,700	106,900
Karluk ^f	399,000	1,560,600	481,000
Ayakulik ^g	0	100	20,000
Frazer ^h	6,000	65,800	20,000
Upper Station ^h	61,000	222,100	363,000
Minor Systems ⁱ	10,000	9,700	10,000
Spiridon ^k	170,000	142,600	98,000
Other	60,000	25,900	50,000
Subtotal	824,400	2,051,000	1,148,900
TOTAL SOCKEYE	2,144,900	4,041,900	2,611,400
Pink Salmon Fisheries (7/6-10/31)			
Kitoi Bay Hatchery ^d	8,263,400	5,532,400	7,545,000
Afognak (Wild) ^l	700,000	1,992,000	350,000
Westside Kodiak ^m	3,200,000	4,340,300	8,400,000
Alitak ⁿ	2,000,000	497,800	2,100,000
Eastside/Northend Kodiak ^o	1,600,000	1,530,400	700,000
Mainland ^p	500,000	172,700	450,000
Subtotal	16,263,400	14,065,600	19,545,000

- Continued -

Table 2. (page 2 of 2)

FISHERY	2003 Harvest		2004 Harvest
	Projection ^b	Actual ^c	Projection ^b
Chum Salmon Fisheries (6/5-10/31)			
Kitoi Bay Hatchery ^d	533,200	466,200	393,000
Afognak (Wild) ^l	13,900	62,200	16,500
Westside Kodiak ^m	278,000	263,200	371,900
Alitak ⁿ	55,600	31,900	66,100
Eastside/Northend Kodiak ^o	208,500	123,800	165,300
Mainland ^p	139,000	204,500	206,600
Subtotal	1,228,200	1,151,800	1,219,400
Coho Salmon Fisheries (8/1-10/31)			
Kitoi Bay Hatchery ^d	154,400	135,100	159,000
Afognak (Wild) ^l	72,000	35,500	33,600
Westside Kodiak ^m	180,000	127,400	201,700
Alitak ⁿ	36,000	10,600	33,700
Eastside/Northend Kodiak ^o	54,000	25,200	50,400
Mainland ^p	18,000	5,700	16,800
Subtotal	514,400	339,500	495,200
GRAND TOTAL ^q	20,170,900	19,617,400	23,891,000

^a In number of salmon (rounded to nearest hundred). Does not include subsistence, sport, personal use, or ADF&G test fish harvests.

^b Projected harvests for enhanced and major sockeye systems are based on the formal forecasts for that individual stock (total run minus escapement) and the projected harvest from minor sockeye systems and other salmon species are based on less formal escapement to return relationships.

^c Actual harvest is the number taken in a particular geographic area, not the catch assigned to an individual salmon stock.

^d From the Duck Bay, Izhut Bay, and Kitoi Bay Sections only. An additional 1,055,500 fish harvested in parts of the Southeast Afognak Section (252-33) and Northeast Afognak Section (252-10 and 252-20) likely were bound for the Kitoi Bay hatchery, but are listed under Afognak (Wild).

^e From the Cape Igvak Section. Early run is from the beginning of season through June 26. Late run is from July 8 through 25.

^f From the Southwest Afognak Section, Northwest Kodiak District (except for Spiridon and Settler Cove Terminal Harvest Areas), Inner and Outer Karluk Sections, plus 50% of Halibut Bay Section from June 21 through July 15 and 100% after July 31.

^g From the Outer and Inner Ayakulik Sections, plus 50% of Halibut Bay Section from June 21 through July 15 and 100% from July 16 through 31.

^h From the Alitak Bay District. Frazer and Upper Station harvest estimates are based on initial run and fishery timing and stock separation.

ⁱ From minor systems at Inner and Outer Ugak Bay (Saltery), Buskin River, Perenos Bay (Portage), Northwest Afognak (Thorsheim & Long Lagoon), Big River (Swikshak), and Outer Kukak Bay (Kafliya & Kuliuk) Sections.

^j From the Foul Bay, Waterfall Bay, and Settler Cove Terminal Harvest Areas. Enhancement project sockeye salmon production is expected from the Malina and Laura Lakes (Pauls Bay) systems, but is mixed with wild stock production from these minor systems.

^k From the Spiridon Lake Terminal Harvest Area (Telrod Cove), plus an estimate of Spiridon-bound sockeye taken in adjacent areas.

^l From the Afognak District except for the Duck, Izhut, and Kitoi Bay Sections.

^m From the Southwest Kodiak District (256- and 255-) and the Northwest Kodiak District (254- and 253-) except for the North Cape, Anton Larson, Sharatin, and Kizhuyak Section, and part of the Central Section (259-35 to 259-39).

ⁿ From the Alitak Bay District.

^o From the Eastside Kodiak District, Northeast Kodiak District, and the North Cape, Anton Larson, Sharatin, and Kizhuyak Sections, plus part of the Central Section (258- and 259-).

^p From the Mainland District.

^q Includes a projected 2003 harvest of 20,000 chinook salmon, and the actual harvest of 18,600 chinook salmon.

Table 3. Forecast of the 2004 salmon runs and expected number available for harvest from KRAA stocking projects.

System	Species	Forecast			Expected Harvest
		Estimate	Low	High	
Spiridon Lake ^a	sockeye	337,000	178,000	421,000	337,000
Hidden Lake ^a	sockeye	32,200	13,000	72,300	32,200
Waterfall Lakes ^{a,b}	sockeye	38,000	25,000	72,200	38,000
Crescent Lake ^a	sockeye	3,600	800	15,100	3,600
	coho	3,300	2,500	4,100	3,300
Kitoi Bay Area ^a	pink ^c	7,900,000	6,200,000	9,300,000	7,545,000
	chum ^c	423,000	331,000	551,000	393,000
	coho ^c	165,000	143,000	200,000	159,000
	sockeye ^d	8,800	5,900	11,700	
Malina Lake ^e	sockeye	1,300	1,000	1,600	
Pauls/Laura Lake ^e	sockeye	2,700	2,200	3,200	
Katmai Lake ^a	coho	750	500	1,000	750
Totals:	pink	7,900,000	6,200,000	9,300,000	7,545,000
	chum	423,000	331,000	551,000	393,000
	coho	169,050	146,000	205,100	163,050
	sockeye	414,800	220,000	585,400	410,800

^a Barrired systems and/or with Terminal Harvest Areas.

^b Estimated returns to Little Waterfall and Big Waterfall Creeks are combined.

^c Pink, chum and coho salmon estimates include brood stock needed for the Kitoi Bay Hatchery program.

^d All returns from the Little Kitoi Lake stocking are intended for brood source.

^e System has natural sockeye run; expected harvest not available.

Table 4. Commercial salmon season opening times and dates for early sockeye salmon fisheries in the Kodiak Management Area, 2004.

Early Sockeye Salmon Fisheries	FISHERY OPENING TIME & DATE	
	Firm Time / Date	Approximate Time / Date
Central and North Cape Sections ^a	12:00 NOON June 5	-
Malina Creek, Foul Bay, and Waterfall Terminal Harvest Areas ^b	12:00 NOON June 5	-
Kitoi Bay Hatchery mgmt. units - (Duck, Izhut, and Kitoi Sections) ^b	12:00 NOON June 5	-
Alitak Bay District ^c		12:00 NOON June 5
Cape Igvak Section ^d	-	12:01 AM June 9
NW Kodiak District (except Uganik & Kizhuyak Sections) ^e	-	12:00 NOON June 9
SW Afognak Section ^f	-	12:00 NOON June 9
Inner and Outer Ayakulik Sections ^g	-	Low Tide June 21
<u>Minor Systems</u> ^f		
Saltery (Inner Ugak Section)	12:00 NOON June 14	-
Paramanof (NW Afognak Section)	12:00 NOON June 14	-
Swikshak (Big River Section)	12:00 NOON June 14	-
KafLIA (Outer Kukak Section)	12:00 NOON June 14	-
Pauls/Perenosa (Pauls and Perenosa Bay Sections)	-	12:00 NOON June 14
Uganik (Inner Uganik Bay Section)	-	12:00 NOON June 14
Spiridon Bay Terminal Harvest Area (Telrod Cove)	-	12:00 NOON June 21

^a Actual opening time/date is as shown. This is considered a commercial test fishery, from 12:00 NOON June 5 through 9:00 PM June 6. Extension of this fishing period will depend on sockeye salmon escapement into the Karluk system.

^b Actual opening time/date is as shown. These areas will be open continuously, 24 hours per day, for as long as orderly fisheries are maintained and enhancement project salmon are available for harvest. There will be closures in late July and August in Kitoi Bay Hatchery management units, to assure cost-recovery and broodstock needs are met.

^c Anticipated opening time/date is as shown. Sockeye salmon escapements, build-ups, and Chip Cove test-fishery catches will determine actual fishery opening date. The initial fishery is considered a commercial test-fishery with a maximum fishing time of 33 hours. There will be no extension of the initial commercial test-fishery opening. Also, for the initial commercial test fishery all sections will open at the same time. Subsequent openings will have different opening times for each section, as specified in 5 AAC 18.361.

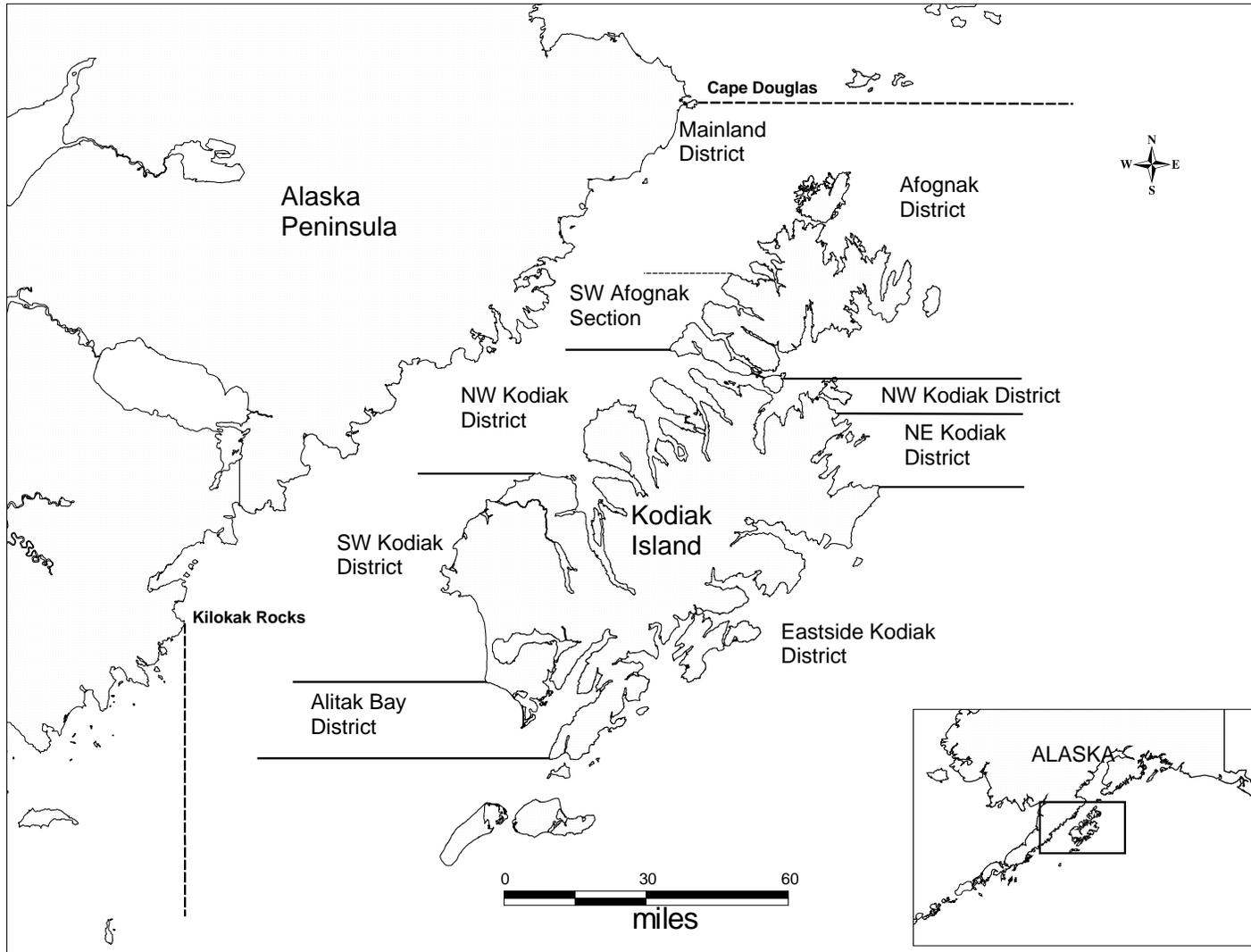
^d Anticipated opening time/date is as shown. The opening date will be determined by Chignik sockeye salmon escapement and the achievement of allocative criteria (the anticipated harvest) in the Chignik Management Area. Fishing time will be in 24-hour increments, beginning at one minute after midnight (12:01 AM).

^e Anticipated opening time/date is as shown. Strong early runs to local streams or very strong early runs to major sockeye salmon systems could allow for an earlier opening date.

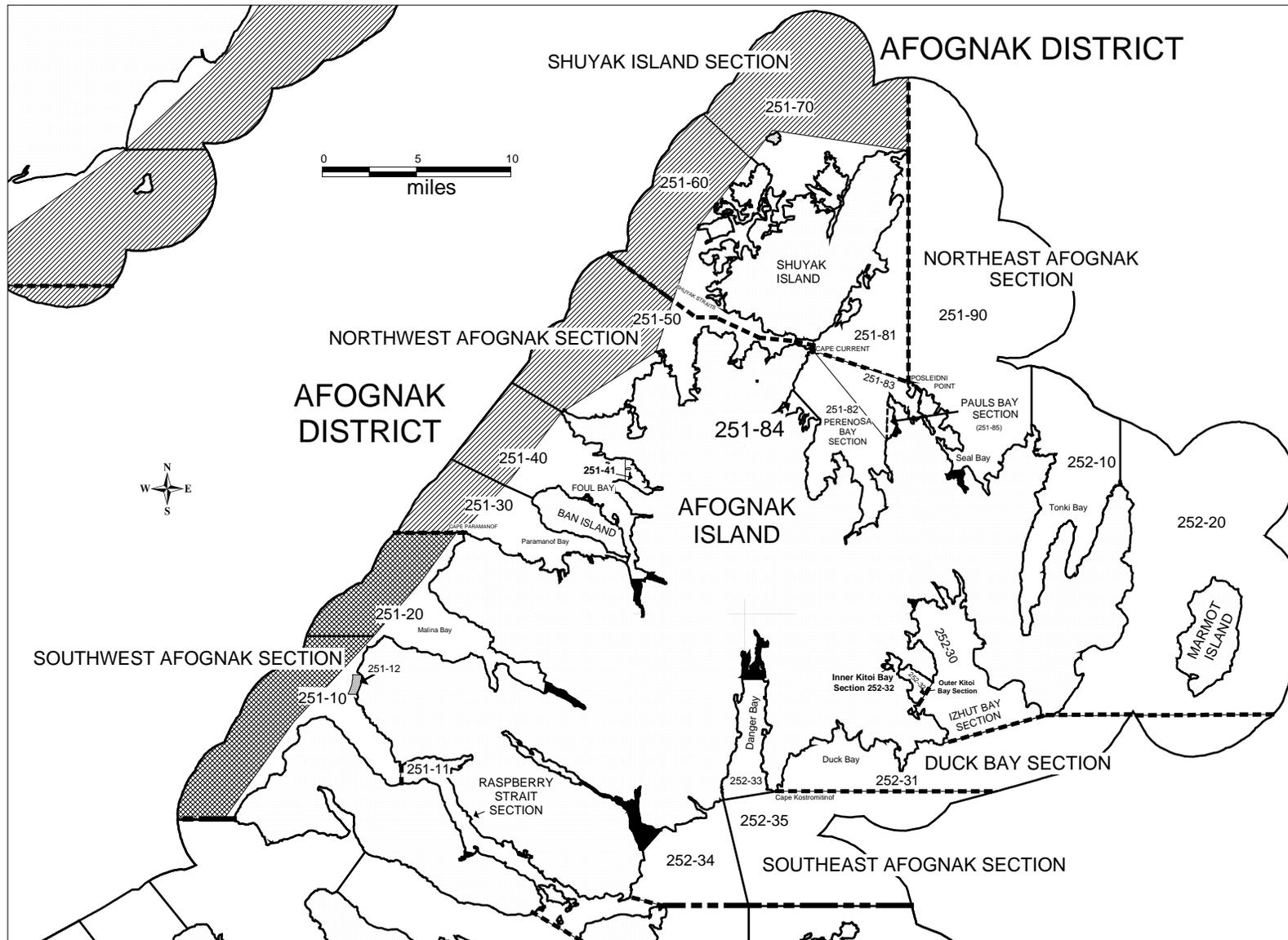
^f Actual opening time/date is shown for some minor systems, anticipated opening time/date is shown for other minor systems.

^g Anticipated opening time/date is as shown. The sockeye salmon escapement into the Ayakulik River will determine fishery opening time/date. The opening will occur during daylight hours near low tide. Openings in the Inner Ayakulik Section are normally initiated using a flare.

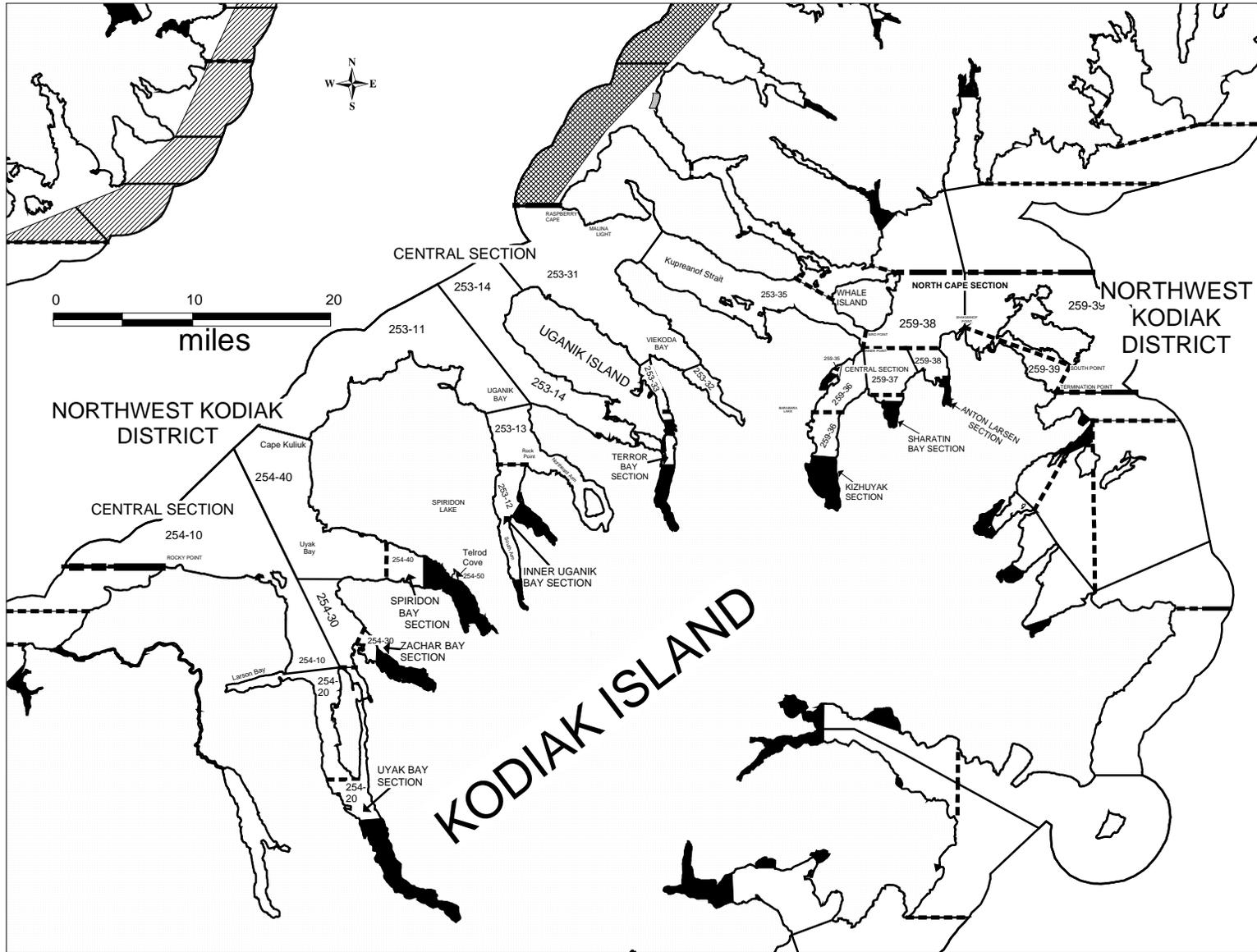
APPENDIX



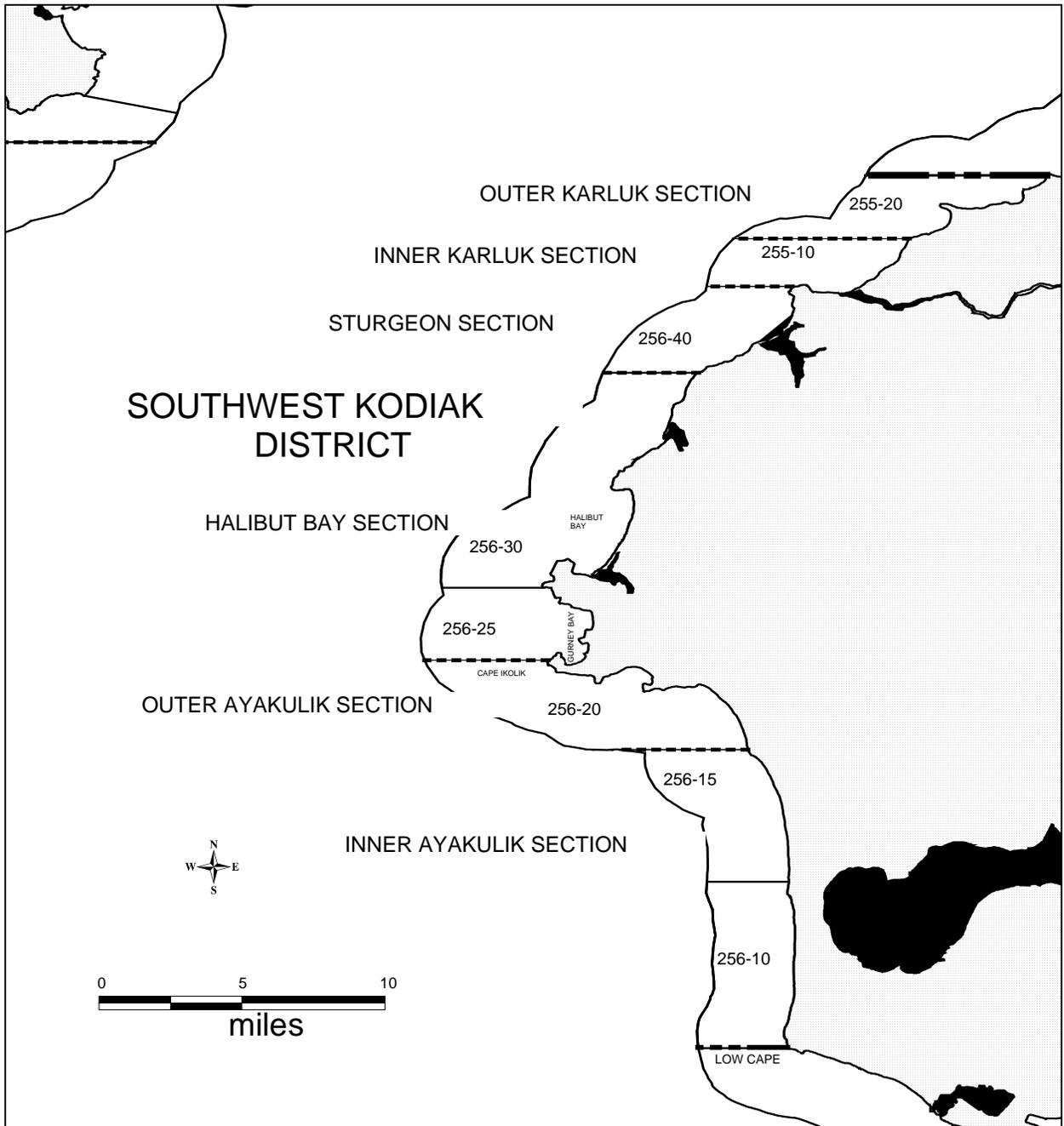
Appendix A.1. Map of the Kodiak Management Area identifying commercial salmon fishing districts.



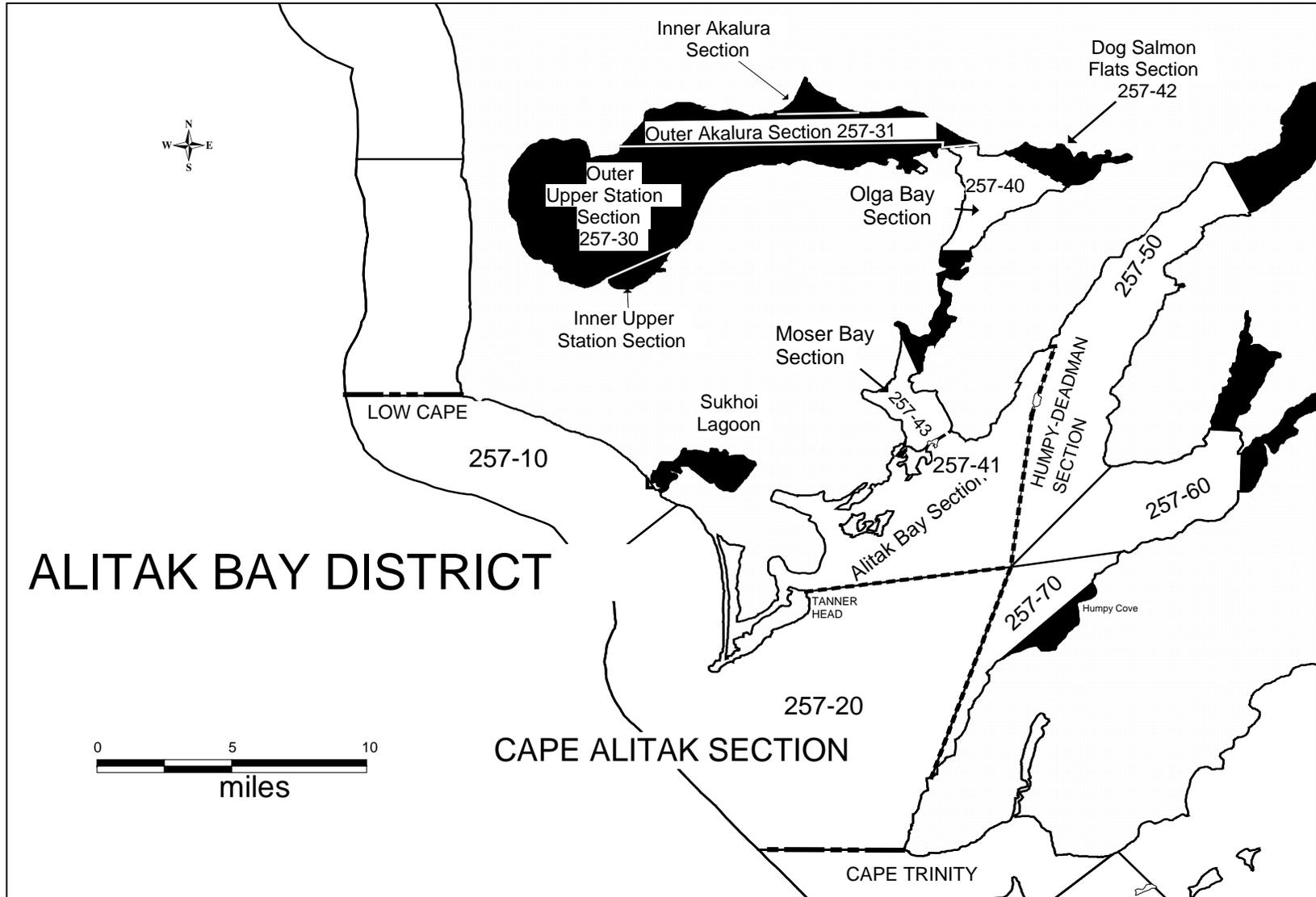
Appendix A.2. Map of the Afognak District identifying commercial salmon fishing sections and statistical areas.



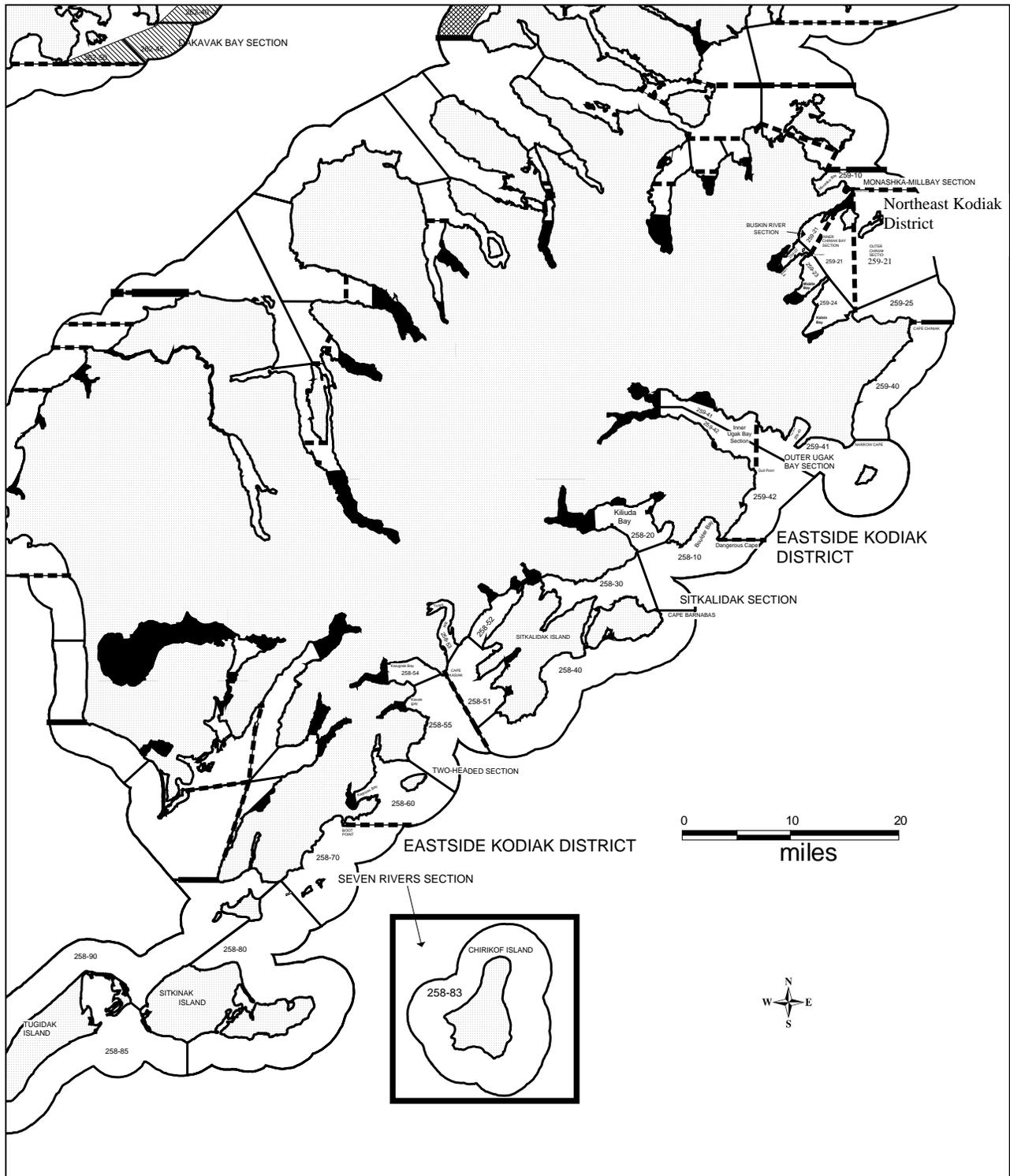
Appendix A.3. Map of the Northwest Kodiak District identifying commercial salmon fishing sections and statistical areas.



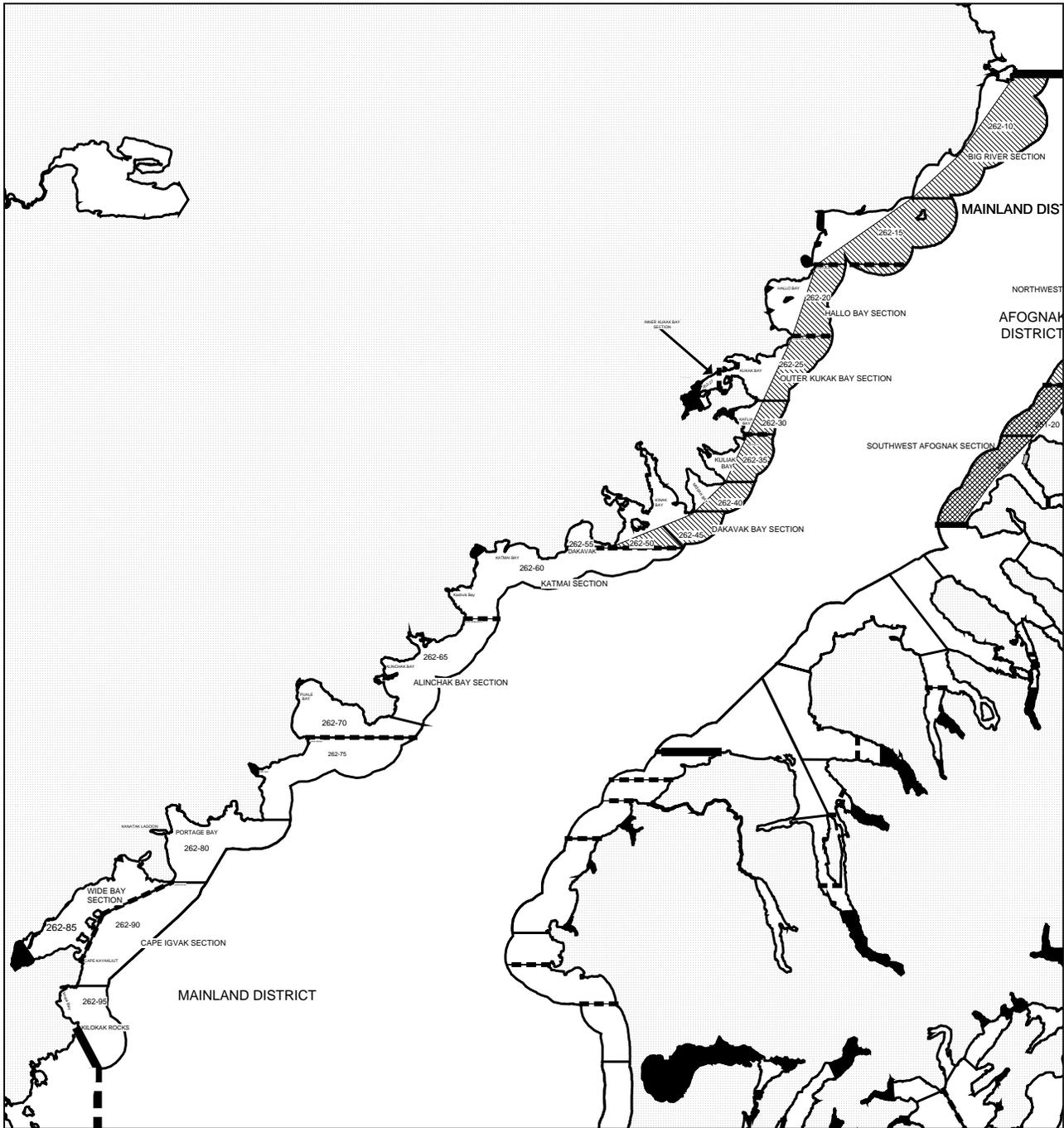
Appendix A.4. Map of the Southwest Kodiak District identifying commercial salmon fishing sections and statistical areas.



Appendix A.5. Map of the Alitak Bay District identifying commercial salmon fishing sections and statistical areas.



Appendix A.6 Map of the Northeast Kodiak and Eastside Kodiak Districts identifying commercial salmon fishing sections and statistical areas.



Appendix A.7. Map of the Mainland District identifying commercial salmon fishing sections and statistical areas.

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