

1992/93
HARVEST STRATEGY FOR THE KODIAK MANAGEMENT AREA
COMMERCIAL FOOD/BAIT HERRING FISHERY

By

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Regional Information Report¹ No 4K92-32

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
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211 Mission Road
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October 1992

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INTRODUCTION

- This harvest strategy attempts to answer most pertinent pre-season and in-season questions regarding the Kodiak food/bait herring fishery.
- This fishery targets both Kodiak and Kamishak spawning stocks which are present in the Kodiak Area during the food/bait season (August 1, 1992 to February 28, 1993).
- Since the herring sac roe fisheries in the Kodiak and Cook Inlet areas are closed-to-entry fisheries, they are treated as primary fisheries and are managed to provide for the majority of the harvest on the affected stocks to occur in these fisheries. The food/bait fisheries on these same stocks are subsequently treated as secondary fisheries and associated harvest levels are directly related to the results of the sac roe fisheries on these stocks; food/bait harvest levels generally will not exceed 10% of the sac roe harvest on any of these stocks. Consequently, consideration is given to the biological concerns associated with "double dipping" fisheries on the same stock and is also given to the 200+ limited entry permit holders for both Kodiak and Cook Inlet sac roe fisheries whose economic interests in permits could be adversely affected without a specific allocative directive for each fishery.
- Since the commercial sac roe fisheries in Cook Inlet target on herring with mature roe beginning with age 4 and primarily on age 5 and older herring, individual food/bait landings of age 4 or less will be adjusted to reflect weights of age 5 herring for harvests which are considered to be from Kamishak spawning stocks.
- A Board of Fisheries regulatory change in March 1988 resulted in the directive to manage the Kodiak Area food/bait fishery in a manner which considers the aforementioned concerns. Specifically management is guided by the following regulation:

5 AAC 27.535

- a) The department shall manage the herring food/bait fishery, (directed on Kodiak spawning stocks) so that the food/bait harvest does not exceed 10% of the actual herring harvest in the previous season.
- b) The department shall manage the herring food/bait fishery that is directed on Kamishak spawning stocks, which over-winter in the Eastern Shelikof Strait, so that the food/bait harvest does not exceed 2% of the total available spawning biomass of Kamishak stocks as determined by the department during the most recent Kamishak herring sac roe season.

SEASON:

- August 1, 1992 through February 28, 1993.

FISHING PERIODS:

- Open to continuous fishing from 12:01 A.M. 8/1/92 to 12:00 P.M. 2/28/93 unless superseded by emergency order closures.

CLOSED WATERS:

- See CLOSED WATERS section of the 1992 Commercial Herring Fishing Regulations (page 38), 5 AAC 27.530
- Consult 1992 Commercial Salmon Fishing Regulations, (5 AAC 18.350), for a listing of closed waters for the Kodiak food/bait herring fishery for the period August 1 through October 31, pages 59-63.

PERMITS REQUIRED :

A. Interim Use Permits for legal gear:

- H01K Purse Seine
- H34K Gillnet
- H07K Trawl

B. Registration Permit - Kodiak ADF&G Office

- Permit will be used for:
 - Monitoring fleet size by gear type.
 - Clarifying catch reporting procedures, closed water areas, and in-season emergency order announcement procedures.
- Interim use permits are available through the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission office in Juneau.
- Registration permits are available at the Kodiak Fish and Game Office.

LEGAL GEAR RESTRICTIONS:

01 - Purse Seines

- Maximum length: 100 fathoms
- Maximum depth: 1,025 meshes. For Area K there is no web size restrictions.
- Lead length unrestricted.

34 - Gillnets

- Maximum length: 150 fathoms; mesh size: 2-1/8" - 2-1/2".

- 07 - Trawl
 - No restrictions
- Consult the 1992 Commercial Herring Fishing Regulations for a complete listing of all regulations.

HARVEST STRATEGY:

Regulation 5 AAC 27.535(a)(c), as approved by the Alaska Board of Fisheries in March 1988, describes a harvest strategy for the Kodiak Area food/bait fishery which provides for:

- A secondary food/bait harvest, following a primary sac roe harvest, on both Kodiak spawning stocks and on Kamishak spawning stocks which occur in the Kodiak Management Area during the Kodiak food/bait season (8/1 - 2/28).
- An exclusion of a food/bait harvest on Kodiak stocks in that portion of Shelikof Strait associated with the occurrence of Kamishak stocks as depicted in Figure 1, except that a harvest on Kodiak stocks may occur in the aforementioned units if the harvest occurs in in-shore areas (bays) prior to a closure of these areas based upon the G.H.L. for Kamishak stocks being achieved.
- An exploratory harvest scenario on unidentified stocks which occur in areas not covered by the two aforementioned provisions.

To accommodate this harvest strategy, thirteen (13) food/bait management units have been established to include geographical groupings of sac roe stocks and adjacent offshore areas.

- For each management unit there is a Guideline Harvest Level (G.H.L.) which reflects the combined G.H.L.'s for Kodiak stocks included within each food/bait unit (See Table 1).
- Six of these food/bait units have also been identified and consolidated into a geographical grouping representing that area where the food/bait harvest on Kamishak stocks will most likely occur (See Figure 1).

The 1992-1993 food/bait G.H.L. for the Kodiak Area will be affected by the following management considerations:

- For Kodiak spawning stocks, the department will generally limit the food/bait harvest to 10% of the previous spring's sac roe harvest on a stock by stock basis (Table 1). Variations are explained in the footnotes in Table 1. Harvest levels on Kodiak stocks in the adjacent offshore areas will reflect the combined food/bait G.H.L. for the sac roe stocks included within that management unit.

- **For identified non-Kodiak spawning stocks**, the department will control the harvest to insure that a particular stock is not overexploited. Currently, Kamishak Bay spawning stock(s) is the only identified non-Kodiak spawning stock(s) which occurs in the Kodiak Management Area during the Kodiak food/bait season (8/1 - 2/28).
 - In the case of Kamishak Bay spawning stock(s) where evidence exists that it is present in Kodiak area waters during the food/bait season, the harvest level will not be allowed to exceed 240 tons. This tonnage is approximately 1% of the 1991 Kamishak Bay pre-sac roe season total available indexed spawning biomass of 24,077 short tons.
 - Management of Kamishak stocks for both the sac roe and food/bait fisheries is outlined in Appendix A.
- During the food/bait fishery, the Department will attempt to identify the location of Kamishak stock(s) in Kodiak Area waters via data collected from the commercial fishery and/or the ADF&G vessel M/V Resolution during its hydroacoustical surveys targeting on Shelikof Strait herring biomass; the M/V K-Hi-C may also assist in this search.
- All herring samples will be expeditiously worked-up to apply age, length, and weight (AWL) comparisons between Kodiak and Kamishak stocks.
- Biomass estimates will be obtained from the fishery in terms of verbal estimation via skipper interviews as to stocks, distribution, average school size and estimated number of schools. Biomass estimates may also be obtained acoustically from the M/V Resolution surveys.
- Herring harvested in this fishery from the following management units will be identified as either Kodiak stocks (per regulation 5 AAC 27 535) or as Kamishak stock(s): F/B 1, F/B 2, F/B 4, F/B 5, F/B 11 and F/B 12 (Figure 1).
- Herring harvested from the aforementioned food/bait management units, where the harvest occurred in in-shore (bays) locations, will be considered to be Kodiak stocks unless A-W-L and/or biomass data indicates otherwise, in which case they will be considered to be Kamishak stocks.
- If the harvest ceiling of 240 tons on Kamishak stocks is achieved, all of the aforementioned management units would be closed to herring fishing for the remainder of the food/bait season.
- **For non identified herring stocks** which may occur in off-shore locations in the remaining food and bait management units, the department will control the harvest to insure that a particular stock is not overexploited. Actual harvest levels may be determined by harvest location, biomass observed and age-weight-length information.

GUIDELINE HARVEST LEVELS:

- For the 1992/93 food/bait season the following harvest levels will be in effect:
 - **For Kodiak spawning stock:** Per regulation 5 AAC 27.535(a) as described under "Harvest Strategy", a maximum of 426 tons properly distributed by stock throughout the management area will be the food/bait harvest on Kodiak spawning stocks.
 - See Table 1 for harvest projections by stock and Figures 2-11 for the geographical locations of the food/bait management units.
 - **For Kamishak spawning stock:** Per regulation 5 AAC 27.535(c) as described under "Harvest Strategy", a maximum of 240 tons harvested from that portion of Shelikof Strait depicted in Figure 1 (see attached) will be the food/bait harvest ceiling on Kamishak spawning stocks which occur in the Kodiak Area during the food/bait season (8/1 - 2/28).
 - Prior to harvesting Kamishak stocks in the aforementioned area, a harvest on Kodiak stocks may occur per regulation 5 AAC 27.535(a).
 - Herring harvested in inshore (bays) locations will be considered to be Kodiak stocks unless A-W-L sampling and/or biomass information indicates otherwise, in which case they will be considered to be Kamishak stocks.
 - **For unidentified stocks:** No guideline harvest levels are established, however the department shall manage food/bait harvests in these areas not to exceed 10% exploitation rate.
 - Harvest levels per geographically distinct biomasses will be established in-season per information obtained from A-W-L sampling and from "skipper" interviews detailing estimates of biomass seasonal distribution and school size.

REPORTS REQUIRED BY FISHERMEN:

- **Per regulation 5AAC 39.130(10) all landings of herring for food/bait purposes must be verbally reported to ADF&G before the product is totally unloaded at the dock.**
- The following phone numbers will reach Fish and Game personnel 24 hours per day:
 - ADF&G Office: Monday through Friday
8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. - 486-1830 or 486-1807

- After Office Hours:
 - 4:30 P.M. to 8:00 A.M.
 - 486-6007 (Dave Prokopowich)
 - 486-6475 (Kevin Brennan)
 - 486-4831 (Pete Probasco)

All fish tickets must be completed and sent in to the Kodiak Fish and Game office within a week of the landing (5AAC 39.130).

- Send to: Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division of Commercial Fisheries
ATTN: Dave Prokopowich
211 Mission Road
Kodiak, Alaska 99615

Table 1. Kodiak Management Area 1992/93 herring food/bait harvest strategy. A listing of guideline harvest levels by food/bait Management Units^a. (G.H.L. harvest numbers represent short tons).

Food/Bait Mgmt. Units	Sac Roe Management Units		1992 Sac Roe		1992/93 Food/Bait
	No.	Name	G.H.L.	Harvest ^a	G.H.L.
F/B 1 West Afognak Unit	AO10	Raspberry	165	93	9 ^b
	AO20	Malina	45	101	10 ^c
	AO31	Paramanof	50	362	36 ^c
	AO32	Foul Bay	20	145	15 ^c
	AO40	Blue Fox/Devil's Inlet	20	70	7 ^c
	AO50	Offshore Afognak	-	0	d
UNIT TOTALS			300	771	77
F/B 2 North Afognak Unit	AO60	Shuyak	20	0	0 ^b
	AO70	Perenosa	15	13	1
	AO71	Delphin	10	4	0 ^b
	AO72	Seal Bay	10	0	0 ^b
	AO80	Tonki	15	0	0 ^b
UNIT TOTALS			70	17	1
F/B 3 East Afognak Unit	AO90	Izhut	20	8	1
	AO91	Kitoi	15	5	1
	AO92	McDonalds	10	1	0 ^b
	A100	Danger	15	12	1
	A101	Litnik	10	4	0 ^b
	A102	Inshore Marmot	10	0	0 ^b
UNIT TOTALS			80	30	3
F/B 4 Uganik Unit	UG10	Kupreanof	10	1	0 ^b
	UG20	Viekoda	40	168	17 ^c
	UG21	Terror	60	102	10 ^c
	UG30	Village Islands	45	351	35 ^c
	UG31	W. Uganik Passage	25	99	10 ^c
	UG32	N.E. Arm Uganik	55	120	12 ^c
	UG33	E. Arm Uganik	40	55	5
	UG34	S. Arm Uganik	50	58	6
	UG40	Offshore Uganik	-	0	d
	UNIT TOTALS			325	954
F/B 5 Uyak Unit	UY10	Offshore Uyak	-	0	d
	UY20	Harvester	10	5	0
	UY30	Inner Uyak	180	81	8
	UY32	Browns Lagoon	20	17	2
	UY31	Larsen Bay	10	3	0
	UY40	Zachar	100	87	9
UY50	Spiridon	120	117	12	
UNIT TOTALS			440	310	31
F/B 6 Sturgeon/ Halibut Unit	SH01	Sturgeon/Halibut	Exploration	0	Exploration
F/B 7 Alitak Unit	AL10	Outer Alitak	Exploration	0	Exploration
	AL20	Inner Alitak	Exploration	82	8
	AL21	Deadman	195	220	22
	AL30	Sulua	95	274	27 ^c
	AL40	Lower Olga/N.UpperOlga	25	19	2
	AL50	Upper Olga/Moser	145	107	11
AL60	Geese/Twoheaded	Exploration	10	1	
UNIT TOTALS			460	712	71

-Continued-

Table 1. (Page 2 of 3)

Food/Bait Mgmt. Units	Sac Roe Management Units		1992 Sac Roe		1992/93 Food/Bait
	No.	Name	G.H.L.	Harvest	G.H.L.
F/B 8 Eastside Unit	GO10	Kaiugnak	10	32	3
	GO20	W. Sitkalidak	100	355	36 ^c
	GO21	Barling	40	40	4
	GO22	E. Sitkinak	120	130	13
	GO23	Tanginak	15	24	2
	GO30	Outer Sitkalidak	Exploration	0	Exploration
	GO40	Outer Kiliuda	Exploration	25	2
	GO41	Inner Kiliuda	20	86	9 ^c
	GO42	Shearwater	50	163	16 ^c
	GO50	Outer Ugak	Exploration	115	11
	GO50	Pasagshak	25	22	2
GO51	Inner Ugak	75	83	8	
UNIT TOTALS			455	1,075	106
F/B 9 Chiniak Unit	GO60	Womens Bay	110	149	15
	G100	Kalsin Bay	15	17	2
	G101	Middle Bay	20	17	2
	G102	Inshore Chiniak	10	0	0 ^b
UNIT TOTALS			155	183	19
F/B 10 North Kodiak Unit	GO70	Monashka/Mill Bay	Exploration	0	Exploration
	GO80	Anton Larsen	10	4	0 ^b
	GO81	Sheratin	10	0	0 ^b
	GO90	Kizhuyak	110	110	11
	G103	Spruce Island	10	1	0 ^b
UNIT TOTALS			140	115	11
F/B 11 North Mainland Unit	MO10	North Mainland	Exploration	0	Exploration
	MO20	Inner Kukak	65	36	4 ^b
	MO30	Outer Kukak	-	0	Exploration
	MO40	Inner/Outer Missak	Exploration	0	Exploration
	MO40	Outer Missak			
UNIT TOTALS			65	36	4
F/B 12 Mid-Mainland Unit	MO50	Inner Katmai	65	0	0 ^b
	MO60	Outer Katmai	-	0	Exploration
	MO70	Alinchak	40	16	2 ^b
	MO80	Puale Bay	Exploration	0	Exploration
	MO90	Portage Bay	Exploration	0	Exploration
UNIT TOTALS			105	16	2
F/B 13 South Mainland Unit	M100	Outer Portage	-	0	Exploration
	M110	Wide Bay	125	57	6 ^b
	M120	Lower Shelikof	Exploration	0	Exploration
UNIT TOTALS			125	57	6
GRAND TOTALS:			2,720	4,276	426

-Continued-

Table 1. (Page 3 of 3)

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- ^a The Kodiak Area total G.H.L. for food/bait fishery, as indicated in the 1992 Herring Regulations, is managed so that the food/bait harvest does not exceed 10% of the actual herring sac roe harvest in the previous season. This table reflects the available food/bait harvest for each sac roe stock or food/bait unit, whichever applies. (See Harvest Strategy.) G-H-L and harvest figures are rounded to the nearest ton.
- ^b Sac roe management units where a sac roe underharvest has occurred.
- ^c Sac roe management units where the sac roe harvest substantially exceeded pre-season expectations. Probably as a result of increased stock abundance rather than overharvest and where an increased food/bait harvest commensurate with the increased sac roe fishery is justified.
- ^d See plan for management of the Kamishak Bay Herring Spawning Stocks in the Eastern Shelikof Strait Food and Bait Fishery (Page 9).

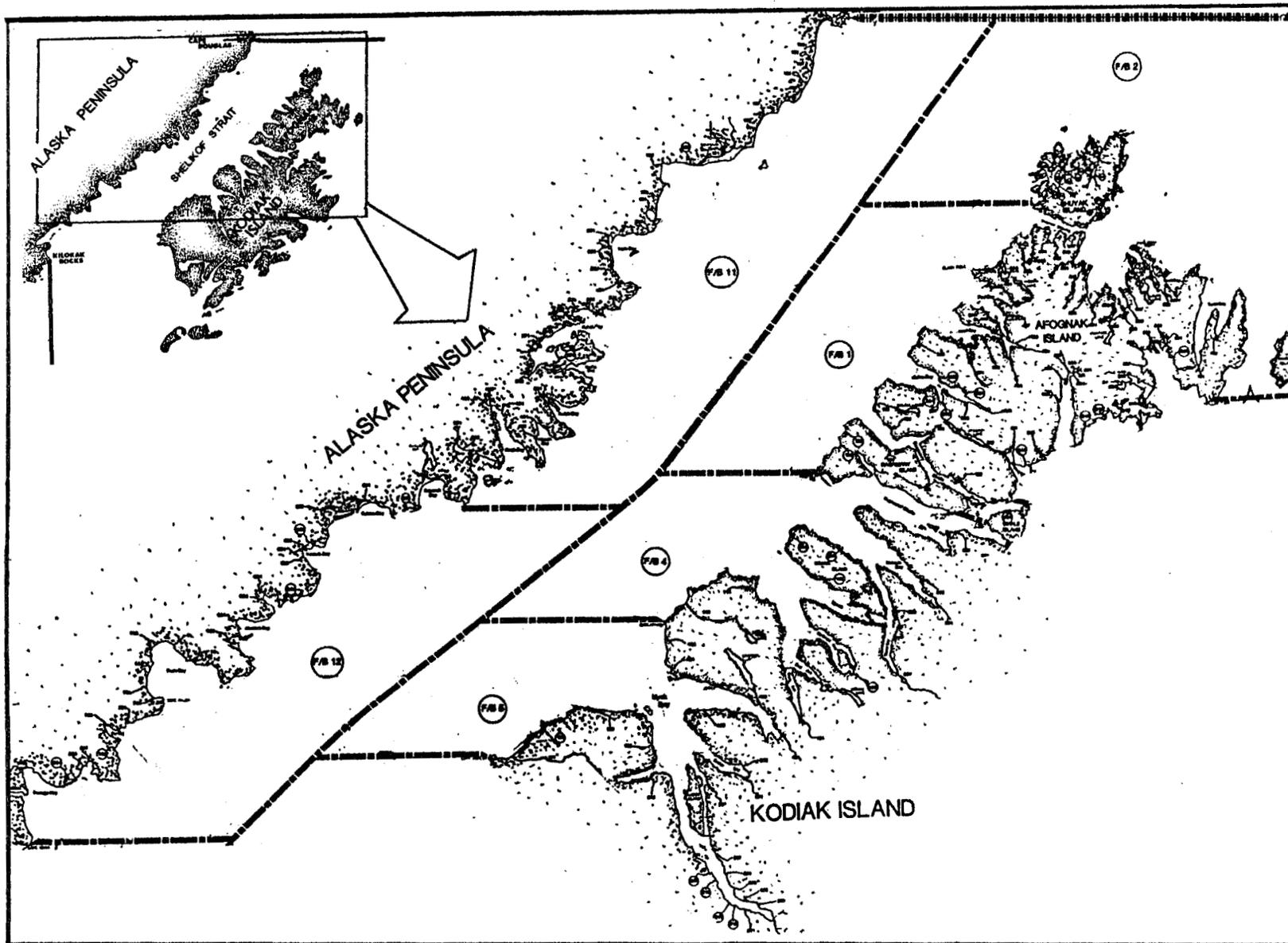


Figure 1. Food and bait herring management units, (FB1, FB2, FB4, FB5, FB11, and FB12) which are affected by harvest of Kamishak herring stocks.

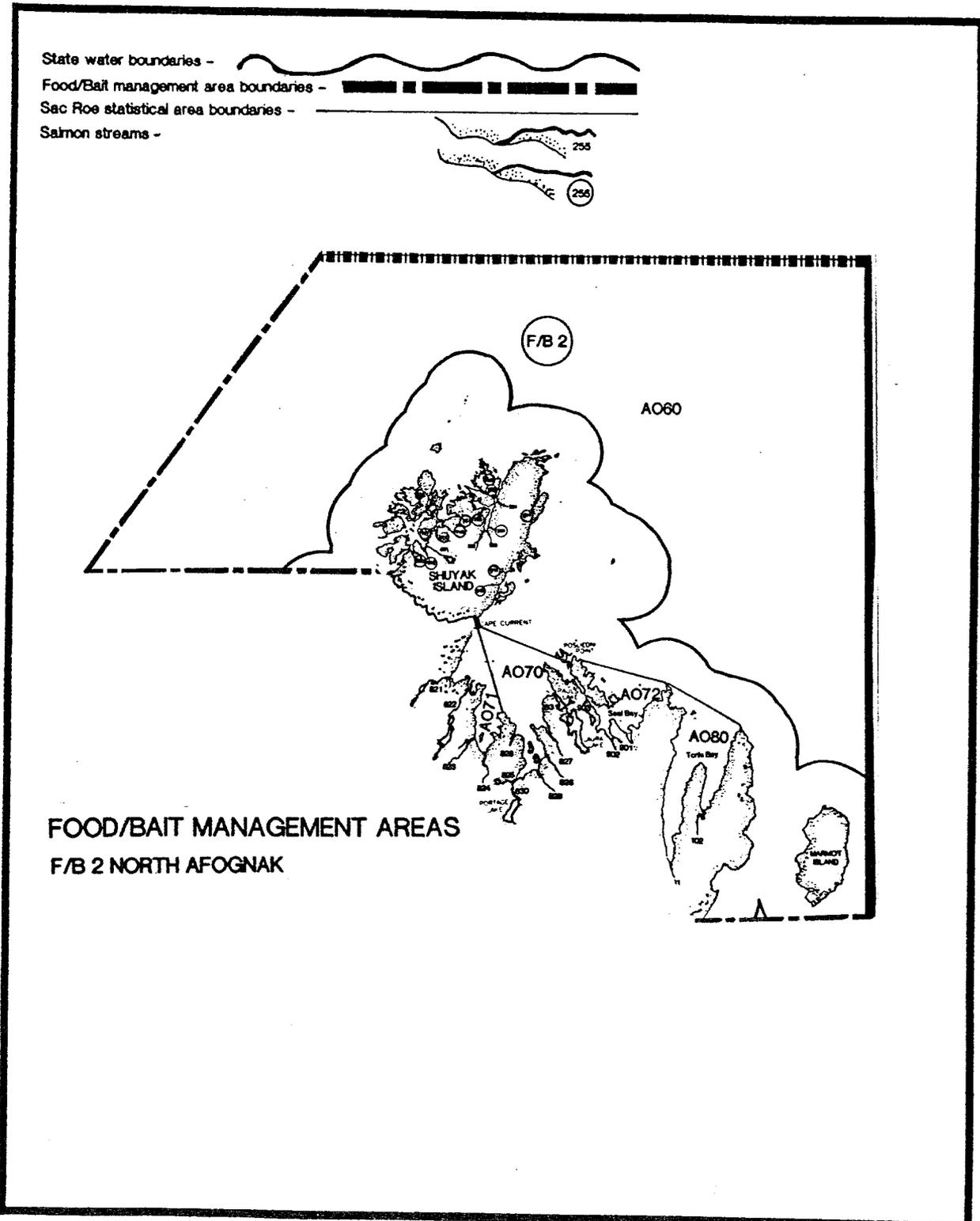


Figure 3. Map #1, food and bait herring management unit 2, Kodiak Management Area.

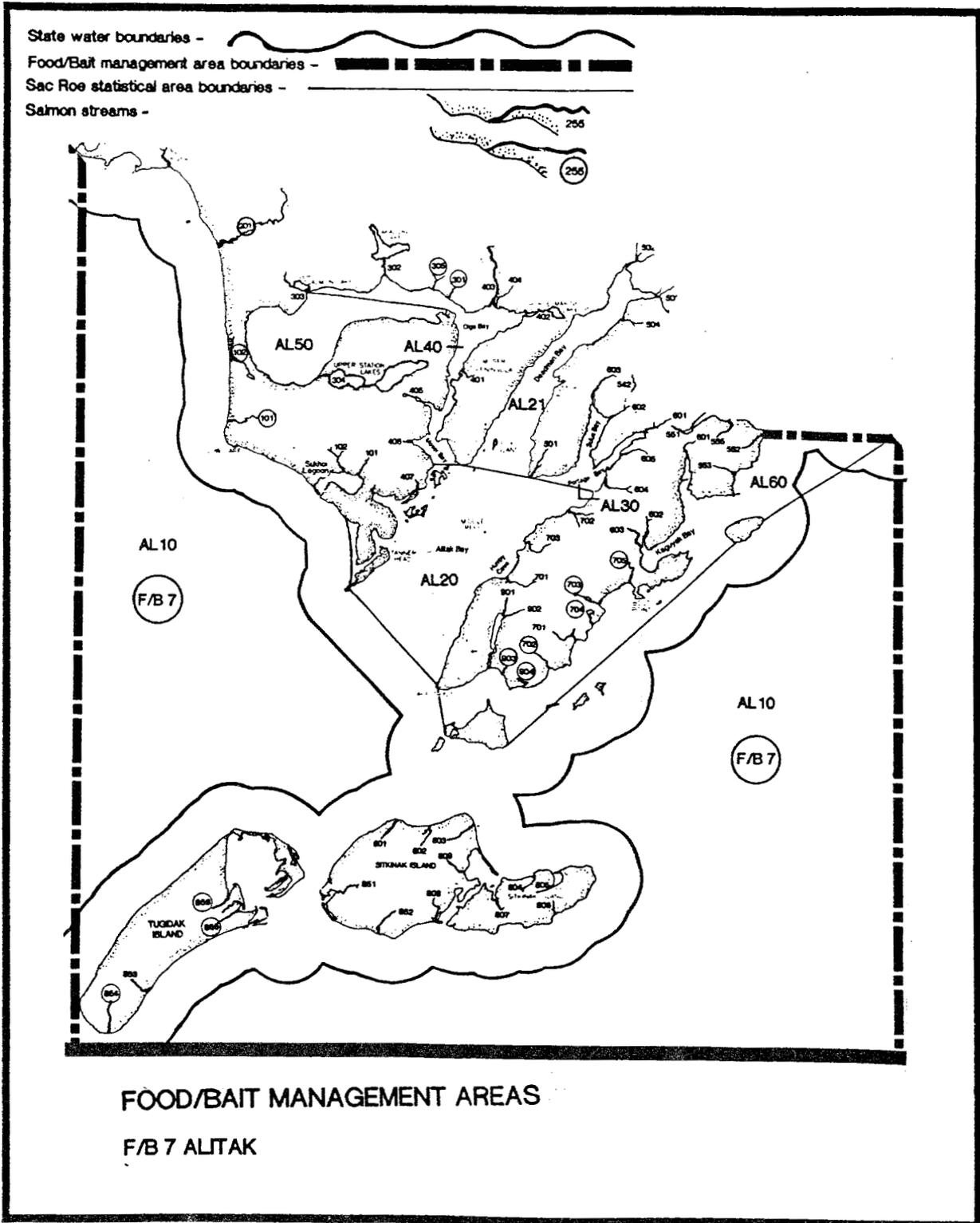


Figure 6. Map #4, food and bait herring management unit 7, Kodiak Management Area.

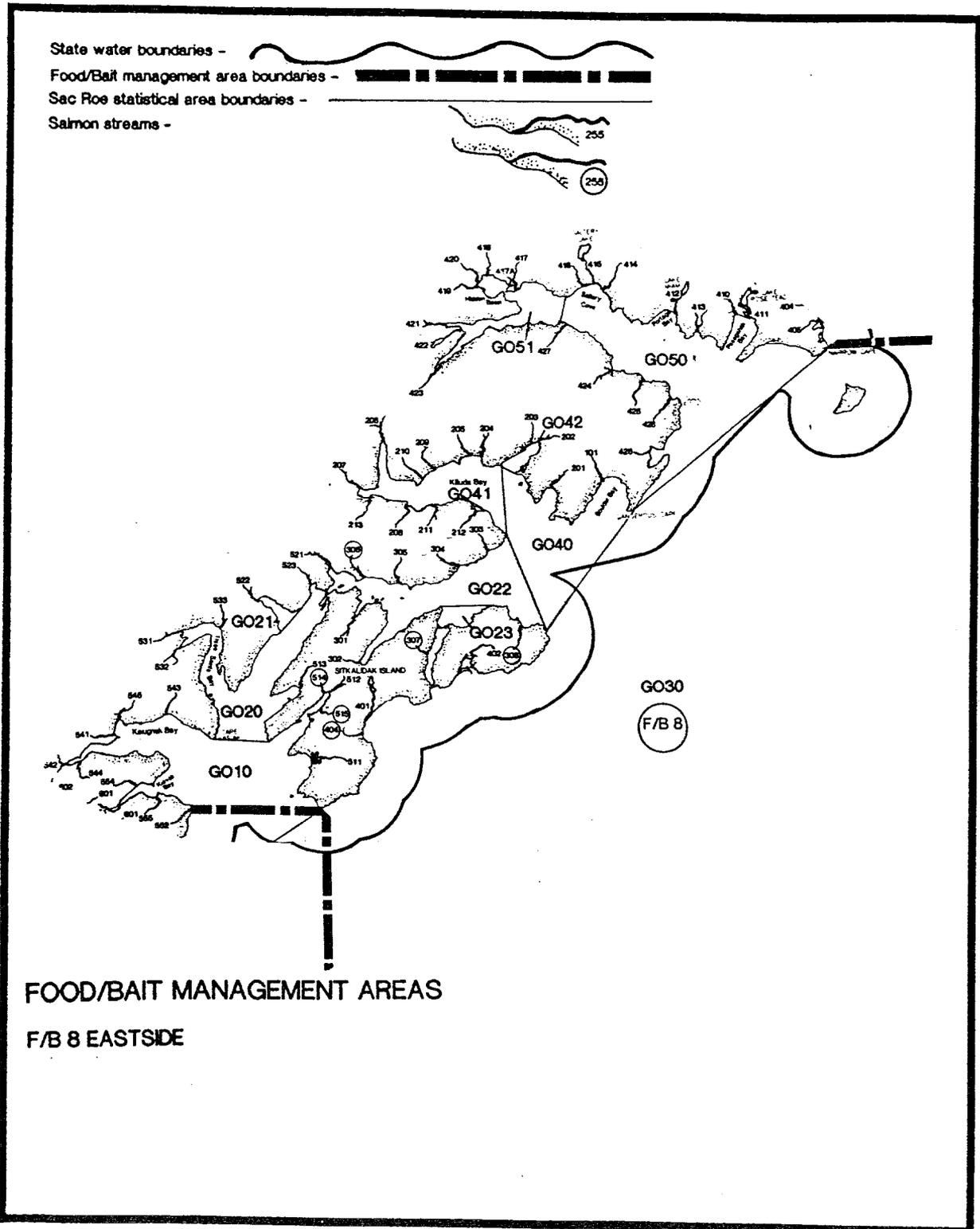


Figure 7. Map #5, food and bait herring management unit 8, Kodiak Management Area.

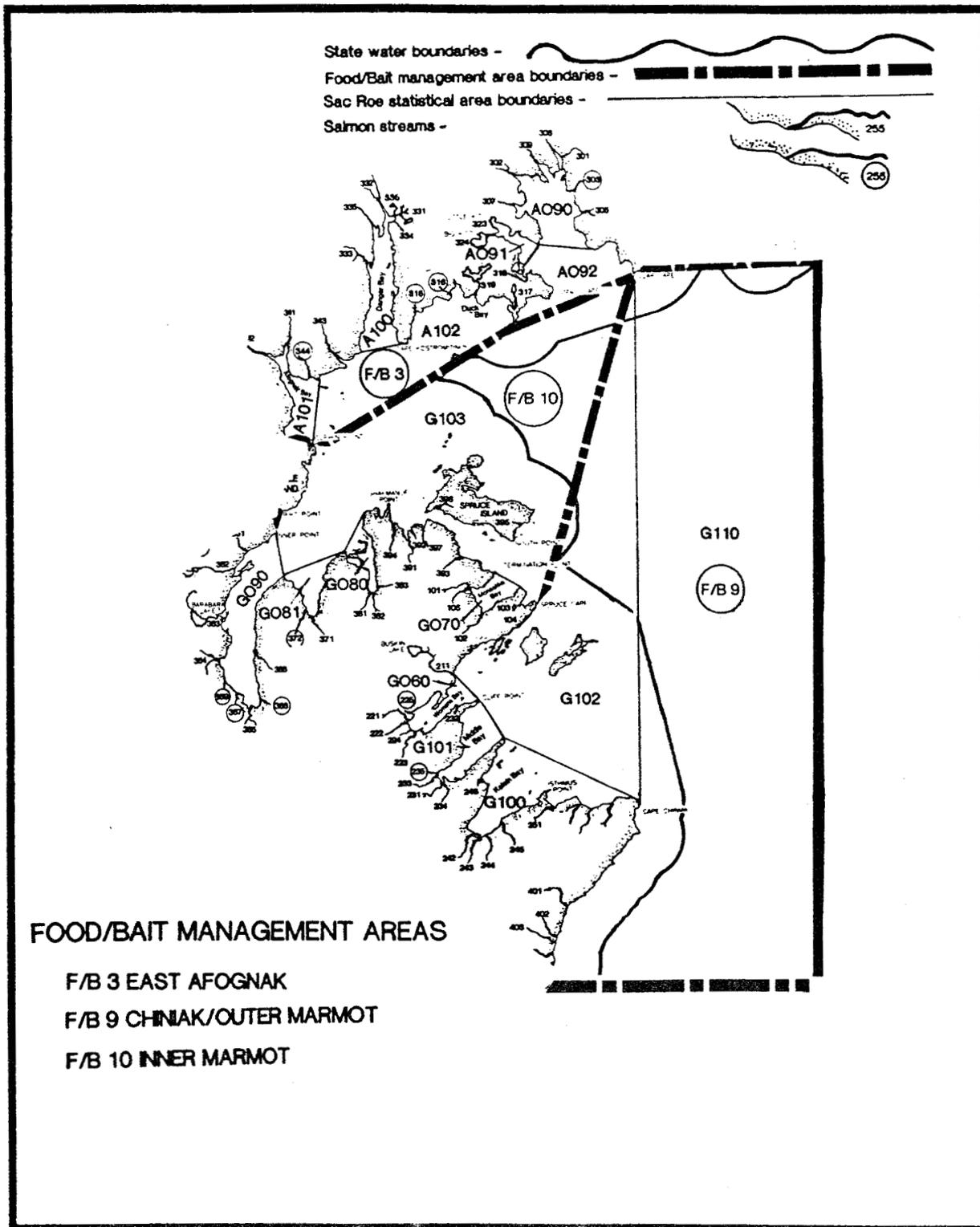


Figure 8. Map #6, food and bait herring management units 3, 9, and 10, Kodiak Management Area.

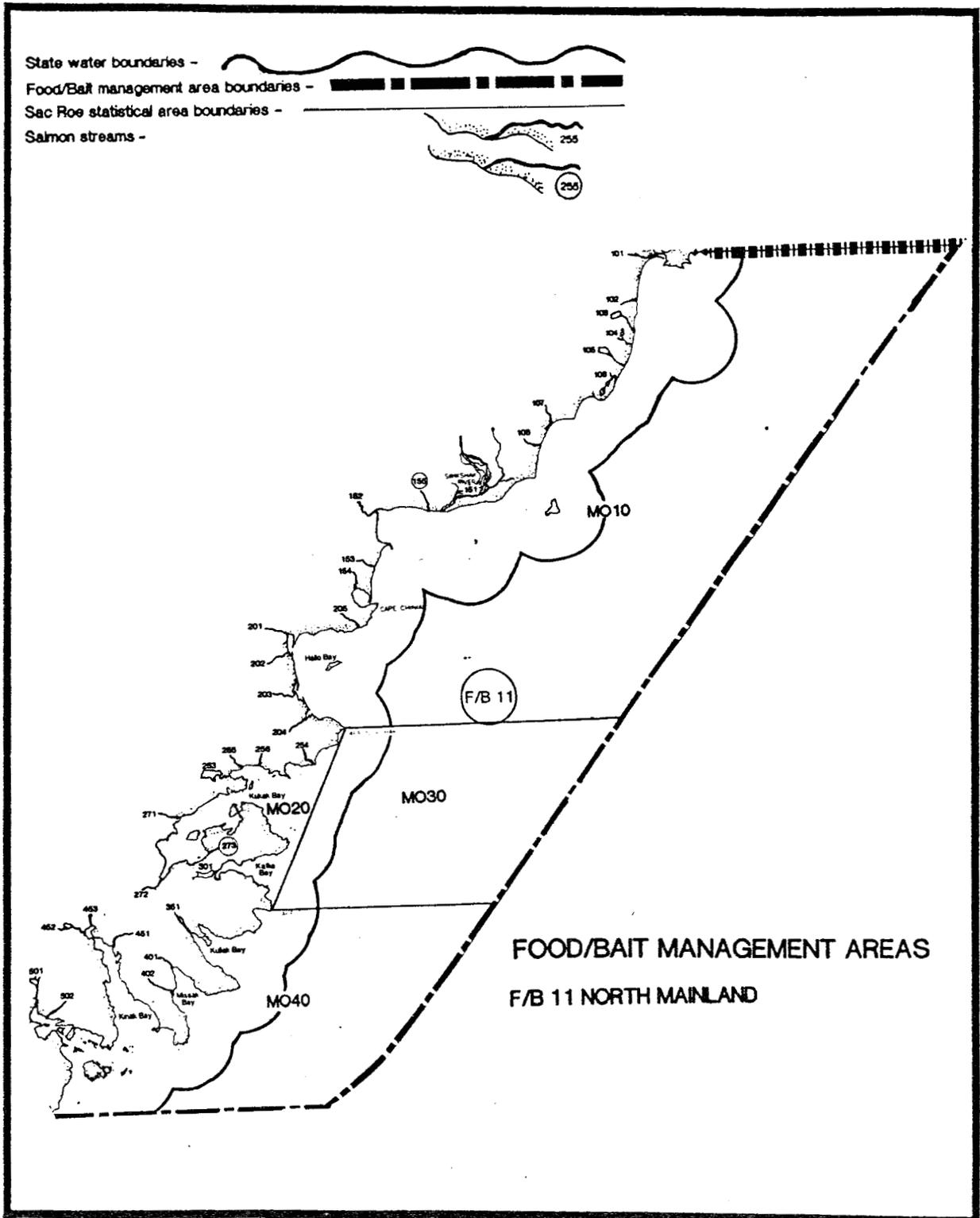


Figure 9. Map #7, food and bait herring management unit 11, North Mainland, Kodiak Management Area.

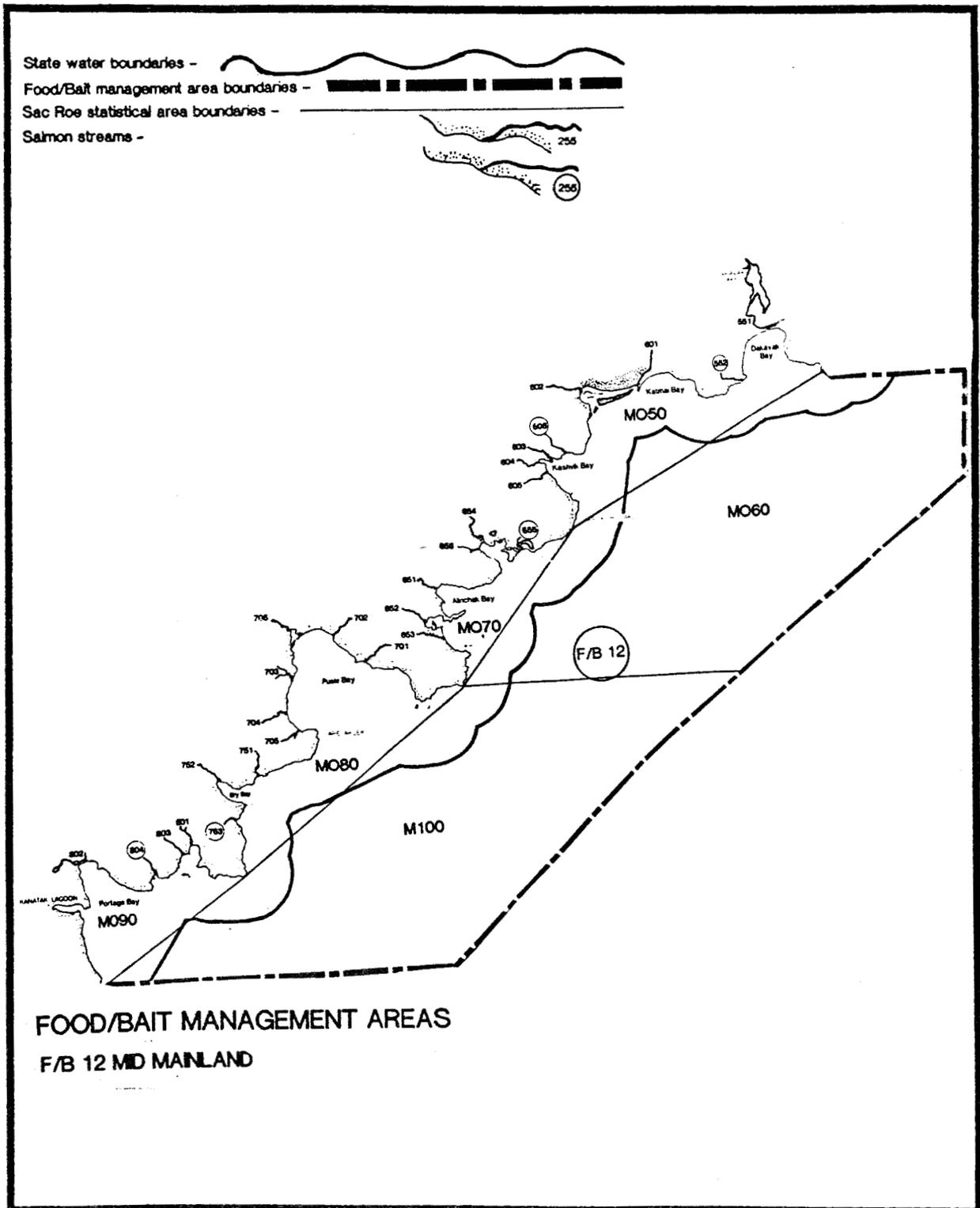
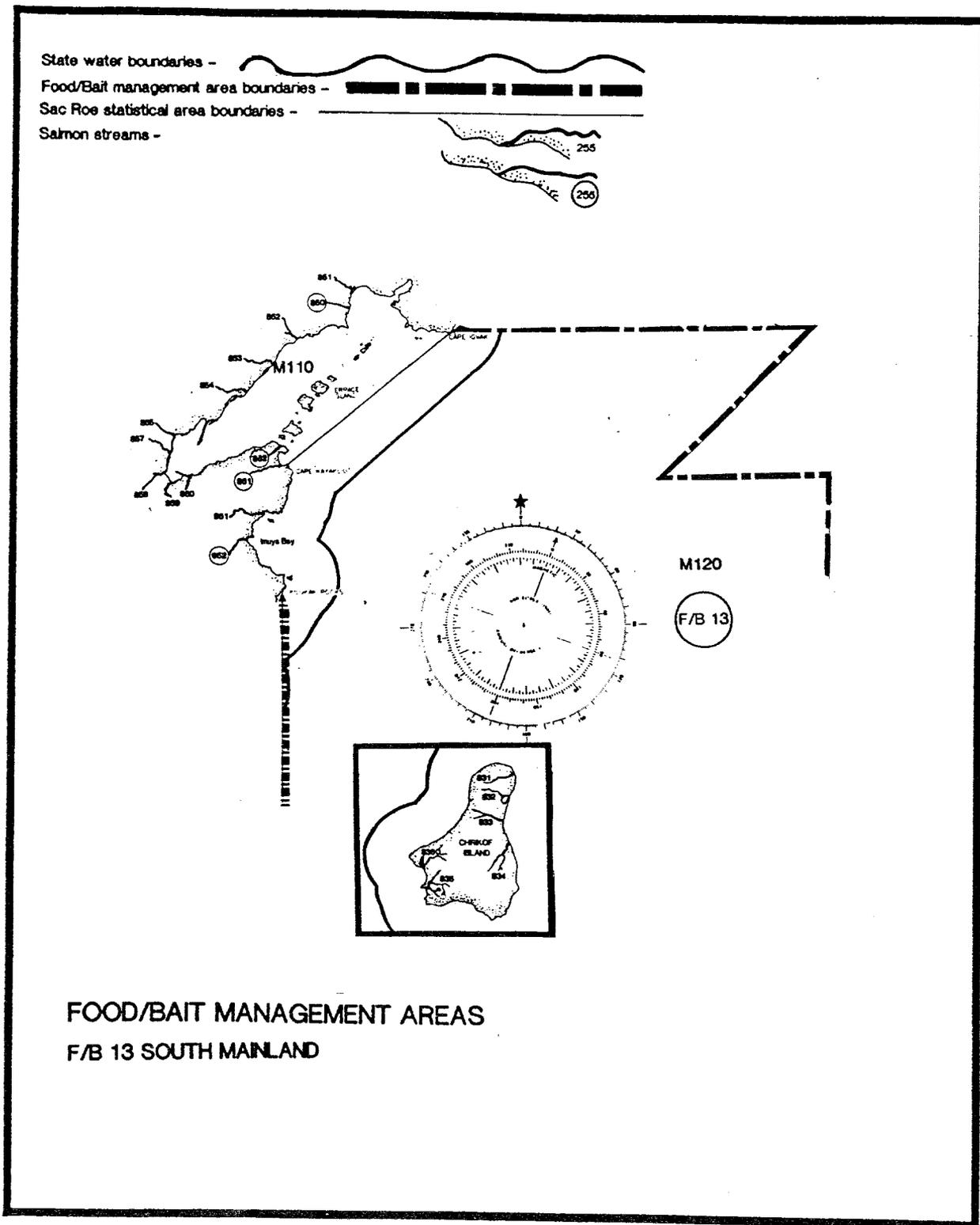


Figure 10. Map #8, food and bait herring management unit 12, mid-Mainland, Kodiak Management Area.



FOOD/BAIT MANAGEMENT AREAS
F/B 13 SOUTH MAINLAND

Figure 11. Map #9, food and bait herring management unit 13, South Mainland, Kodiak Management Area.

Appendix A. Management of the Kamishak Bay herring spawning stocks in the Shelikof Strait food and bait fishery.

Addendum to the 1988 Kamishak Bay
Herring Management Plan

Kamishak Bay herring spawning stocks support both the Kamishak Bay sac roe fishery and the Shelikof Strait food and bait fishery. Pursuant to the Board of Fisheries decision to allocate 2% of the Kamishak Bay herring spawning biomass to the Shelikof Strait food and bait fishery, the following adjustments will be made to the 1988 Kamishak Bay sac roe fishery management plan to accommodate the Board's actions and to protect the Kamishak Bay herring stock from over harvest:

- 1) ADF&G guidelines direct that herring harvest rates be kept at or below 20% of the current best estimate of biomass, depending upon stock strength and age composition. Best estimates of biomass of the Kamishak Bay herring stock are currently determined by aerial survey following the spring sac roe fishery. Therefore, harvest levels in the Shelikof Strait food and bait fishery will be based on this estimate of spawning biomass.
 - 2) The harvest ceiling for the Shelikof Strait food and bait fishery will be 2% of the best estimate of the total Kamishak biomass, as determined by the Department during the most recent Kamishak herring sac roe season. The total Kamishak Bay biomass will be determined by the best estimate of the spawning biomass following the sac roe fishery plus the total harvest from the sac roe fishery.
 - 3) Present management strategy for the Kamishak Bay spawning stock attempts to achieve a maximum harvest rate on older fish of 20% while keeping the harvest rate of fish age 5 and younger at or below 10%.
 - 4) If ADF&G determines the harvest rate for the stock of Kamishak Bay herring should be less than 20%, either due to a decrease in biomass, weak year classes, or poor recruitment, the 2% food and bait harvest ceiling will be reduced proportionally. [i.e. If the biological markers (decrease in biomass, weak year classes, or poor recruitment) indicate that the sac roe harvest needs to be reduced, for example to 15%, the food and bait fishery would be reduced to 1.5%]
 - 5) If the spawning biomass of the Kamishak Bay herring stock falls below the biological threshold level of 8,000 tons, both the Kamishak Bay sac roe and the Shelikof Strait food and bait fishery will be closed or severely limited.
 - 6) The allocation of herring to the Shelikof Strait food and bait fishery is based on spawning biomass, primarily age 5 and older herring, not on the biomass of juveniles. Therefore, the quantity of Kamishak Bay stocks ages 4 and younger caught in Shelikof Strait will be adjusted upward to bring the biomass of these younger age classes up to the biomass of age 5 herring.
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