

**KODIAK MANAGEMENT AREA**  
**COMMERCIAL FOOD/BAIT HERRING FISHERY**  
**HARVEST STRATEGY**  
**1995/96**

By

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## INTRODUCTION

The Kodiak Management Area (KMA) food/bait herring fishery has a long history, dating back to 1912. Early harvests were primarily utilized for food and reduction products and harvests far surpassed current levels. Since, the early 1960's the harvest has been utilized primarily as bait for the crab and longline fisheries.

This fishery targets both Kodiak and Kamishak spawning stocks which are present in the KMA, (Figure 1). Since the sac roe herring fisheries in the Kodiak and Cook Inlet areas are closed-to-entry fisheries, they are treated as primary fisheries. These fisheries are managed to provide for the majority of the harvest on the affected stocks to occur during the Kodiak and Kamishak sac roe fisheries. The food/bait fishery on these stocks are subsequently treated as secondary fisheries. The associated harvest levels are directly related to the results of the sac roe fisheries of these stocks.

This harvest strategy will summarize regulations which are in affect and how this fishery will be managed.

## HARVEST STRATEGIES

During the Board of Fisheries meeting held in Anchorage in November of 1992 and in Kodiak in January of 1993, new harvest strategies were adopted which direct the management of the KMA food/bait herring fishery. This is the third year this fishery will be managed under these new harvest strategies.

## KAMISHAK HERRING STOCKS

The 1994-95 Commercial Herring Fishing Regulations, Cook Inlet Area Section, lists the Kamishak Bay District Herring Management Plan (5AAC 27.465.) which outlines criteria for the management of the Kamishak Bay sac roe herring fishery and Shelikof Strait food/bait fishery as follows:

### **5 AAC 27.465 Kamishak Bay District Herring Management Plan.**

- a) The purpose of the Kamishak Bay District herring management plan is to describe the management strategies used to set the guideline harvest levels for the Kamishak Bay sac roe fishery, and for that portion of the Kamishak Bay stock allocated to the food and bait fishery conducted in the North Afognak Island, West Afognak Island, Uganik, North Mainland, and Mid-Mainland food and bait management units of the Kodiak management area, known as the Shelikof Strait food and bait fishery, as described in (5 AAC 27.535(c)), (Figure 2).
- b) The management year for the Kamishak Bay herring stock is July 1 through June 30.
- c) The allocation of the allowable harvest of the Kamishak Bay herring stock is 90 percent to the Kamishak Bay sac roe fishery, and 10 percent to the Shelikof Strait food and bait fishery.

- d) The guideline harvest level for the fall Shelikof Strait food and bait fishery and the following spring Kamishak Bay sac roe fishery will be based on the projected biomass as determined by the most recent aerial surveys, age class composition, historical mortality, and recruitment trends.
- e) The maximum exploitation rate for the Kamishak Bay herring stock is 20 percent of the spawning biomass, and will be determined as follows:
  - 1) if the spawning biomass is 30,000 short tons or more, the maximum exploitation rate is 20 percent, with 18 percent allocated to the Kamishak sac roe fishery and 2 percent allocated to the Shelikof Strait food and bait fishery;
  - 2) if the spawning biomass is 20,000 short tons or more, but less than 30,000 short tons, the maximum exploitation rate is 15 percent, with 13.5 percent allocated to the Kamishak sac roe fishery and 1.5 percent allocated to the Shelikof Strait food and bait fishery;
  - 3) if the spawning biomass is 8,000 short tons or more, but less than 20,000 short tons, the allowable exploitation rate is 10 percent, with 9 percent allocated to the Kamishak sac roe fishery and 1 percent allocated to the Shelikof Strait food and bait fishery;
  - 4) if the spawning biomass is less than 8,000 short tons, the Kamishak Bay sac roe fishery and the Shelikof food and bait fishery north of the latitude of Miner's Point will be closed, (Figure 3).
- f) The management strategy for the Kamishak sac roe fishery is to target the fishery on older age classes, and to limit exploitation rates on younger age class herring (age five and younger) to 10 percent or less.
- g) The allocation of Kamishak Bay herring stocks to the Shelikof Strait food and bait fishery will be based on the spawning biomass of age five and older herring and not on the biomass of juveniles. The quantity of herring stocks aged four years and younger caught in the Shelikof Strait food and bait fishery will be adjusted to approximate the biomass of a similar number of age five herring.

### **KODIAK FOOD/BAIT HARVEST STRATEGY**

The specific management plan which guides the KMA food/bait fishery is described in the Kodiak Area 1995-96 Commercial Herring Fishing Regulation 5 AAC 27.535. The allocation of Kamishak Bay herring stock which overwinter in the Shelikof Strait in the KMA food/bait fishery is described in the Kamishak Bay District Herring Management Plan (5 AAC 27.465). The 1995/96 Kodiak Harvest Strategy combines the Kamishak food/bait guideline harvest level (GHL) with the Kodiak GHL for the West Afognak, Uganik, and Uyak food/bait management districts. Most Kodiak herring stocks have dramatically increased over the past five years. Intermixing of the Kodiak and Kamishak herring stocks occurs during the winter months on the west side of the Kodiak Island group. Actual inseason management is guided by the following regulation:

## **5 AAC 27.535. HARVEST STRATEGIES.**

- a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the department shall manage the herring food/bait fishery so that the food/bait harvest does not exceed 10 percent of the actual Kodiak herring sac roe harvest in the previous season.
- b) The department shall manage the herring food/bait fishery in waters set out in the Afognak District (5 AAC 27.505 (a)(1)-(5)), in the Uganik District (5 AAC 27.505(b)) and Uyak District (5 AAC 27.505(c)) so that the total harvest does not exceed the sum of (1) the allowable harvest of the Kamishak spawning stock that overwinter in the Shelikof Strait as determined under the Kamishak Bay District herring management plan (5 AAC 27.465) and (2) GHL set for the food/bait fishery in these waters as provided in (c), (Figure 2).
- c) The GHL for the herring food/bait fishery in waters set out in the Afognak District (5 AAC 27.505 (a)(1)-(5)), Uganik District (5 AAC 27.505(b)) and Uyak District (5 AAC 27.505(c)) shall not exceed 10 percent of the herring sac roe harvest of the previous season in these waters.
- d) When the Kamishak Bay herring spawning biomass is below 8,000 short tons the department shall close the food/bait fishery in Shelikof Strait north of the latitude of Miner's Point, (Figure 3).

## **MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS**

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

Each food/bait management district consists of several sac roe herring fishery management units, Figures (4-12). Each food/bait management district GHL is based upon 10% of the total sac roe herring harvest which occurred within the food/bait management district boundaries.

## **GUIDELINE HARVEST LEVELS**

The 1995-1996 food/bait G.H.L. for the KMA will be affected by the following management considerations:

### ***Kodiak Spawning Stocks***

For Kodiak spawning stocks, as described in 5 AAC 27.535(a) Harvest Strategies, the department shall limit the food/bait harvest to 10% of the previous spring's sac roe harvest on a stock by stock basis, (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 district. A maximum of 458 tons properly distributed throughout the KMA will be the food/bait guideline harvest on Kodiak spawning stocks.

The herring stocks within Food/Bait Management Districts F/B 2 North Afognak, F/B 3 South Afognak, F/B 10 Inner Marmot (Figure 5), and the F/B 5 Uyak (Figure 6) have declined during the last four years. Most of these units were closed during the 1995 sac roe herring fishery. To prevent further exploitation on these depressed stocks, these districts will be closed to commercial food/bait fishing for the entire 1995-96 season.

***Kamishak Spawning Stocks***

The 1996 Kamishak spawning biomass is estimated at 16,400 tons. As described in 5 AAC 27.465(e)(3) if the spawning biomass is 8,000 short tons or more, but less than 20,000 short tons, the allowable exploitation rate is 10 percent, with nine percent allocated to the Kamishak sac roe fishery and one percent allocated to the Shelikof Strait food and bait fishery.

The GHL for the Kamishak Bay herring stocks for the Shelikof Strait Food/Bait Fishery is 164 tons.

As discussed in 5 AAC 27.535(b) Harvest Strategies, the GHL's for the Kodiak food/bait management districts (F/B 1 and F/B 4) will be combined with the Kamishak Bay herring allocation.

The Kamishak Bay GHL of 164 tons plus the Kodiak stock combined GHL's for food/bait units F/B 1 and F/B 4 of 290 tons, gives a combined GHL of 454 tons. When the 454 ton GHL is reached or approached, the following management districts will be closed collectively to further food/bait herring fishing, F/B 1, F/B 4, F/B 11, and F/B 12, Figure 2. Herring harvested in food and bait management units F/B 11 and F/B 12 are attributed to the Kamishak Bay GHL.

***GHL Summary***

Shelikof Strait Fishery	164 Tons	Kamishak Allocation
	<u>290 Tons</u>	Kodiak Stocks (F/B 1 and 4)
	454 Tons	Total
Remainder of the Kodiak Area	168 Tons	
Total for the entire Kodiak Area	622 Tons	Total

**REGULATIONS**

***Season Dates***

From August 1, 1995 through February 28, 1996.

### ***Fishing Periods***

Open to continuous fishing from 12:01 A.M. 8/1/95 to 12:00 P.M. 2/28/96 unless superseded by emergency order closures. However, if effort and harvest levels escalate, there may be a need to establish set fishing periods to maintain an orderly fishery. Changes in fishing periods will be made by an emergency order.

### ***Closed Waters***

The North Afognak F/B 2, South Afognak F/B 3, Uyak F/B 5, and the Inner Marmot F/B 10 food/bait herring districts are closed to commercial food/bait herring fishing for the entire 1995/96 season.

See CLOSED WATERS section in the 1995-96 Commercial Herring Fishing Regulations (page 57), 5 AAC 27.530.

Consult 1993 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, 1995, pages 29-33.

### ***Registration and Permits Required***

Interim Use Permit is required before a registration permit will be issued. Interim use permits are issued from the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission in Juneau for the following gear types:

- H01K Purse Seine
- H34K Gillnet
- H07K Trawl

#### **Registration Permit - Kodiak ADF&G Office**

- All fishers and processor/buyers are required to register with the Kodiak ADF&G office prior to fishing.

Registration Permit will be used for:

- Monitoring fleet size by gear type.
- Clarifying catch reporting procedures, closed water areas, and inseason emergency order announcement procedures.

### ***Legal Gear Restrictions***

Following are the gear restrictions by type for purse seine, gillnet, and trawl gear for the Kodiak Food/Bait Fishery.

Gear Code

- 01 - Purse Seines
  - Maximum length: 150 fathoms
  - Maximum depth: 1,625 meshes. For Area K there are no web size restrictions.
  - Lead length unrestricted.
  
- 34 - Gillnets
  - Maximum length: 150 fathoms; mesh size: 2-1/8" to 2-1/2".
  - No depth restrictions.
  
- 07 - Trawl
  - No restrictions

Consult the 1995-96 Commercial Herring Fishing Regulations for a complete listing of all regulations.

### EMERGENCY ORDER (E.O.) ANNOUNCEMENTS

It is important for Kodiak food/bait fishers to be aware of management district closures. This can be accomplished by 1) personal contact with the Kodiak ADF&G management staff, via office visits or by calling 486-1830, 2) contacting Kodiak ADF&G management staff on SSB radio frequency 3.230 Mhz, 3) contacting local herring processors, 4) calling the Kodiak ADF&G recorded message phone at 486-4559, 5) listening for an emergency order update which will be broadcasted at 8:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M. after the marine weather on SSB radio frequency 4.125 Mhz or 6) by picking up the most recent emergency order from the holder mounted outside the ADF&G office.

The ADF&G vessel R/V K-Hi-C may be present on the fishing grounds and will initiate management unit closures once GHl's are achieved. The R/V K-Hi-C can be reached on VHF channel 6 or SSB radio frequency 3.230 Mhz.. The crew of the R/V K-Hi-C will also contact fishers in person to inform them of closures and obtain harvest data.

### REPORTS REQUIRED BY FISHERMEN

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. - 486-1807 or 486-1830.
  
- After Office Hours: 4:30 P.M. to 8:00 A.M.
  - 486-6007 (Dave Prokopowich)
  - 486-3031 (Dennis Gretsch)
  - 486-6475 (Kevin Brennan)

All fish tickets must be completed and sent to the Kodiak Fish and Game office within a week of the landing.

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

### **FISHER COOPERATION**

Department personnel will conduct confidential skipper interviews to obtain biomass estimates, average school size, and herring distribution data. Additionally, fisher cooperation will be appreciated when Department personnel request herring samples. These samples will be used to determine age composition, and length and weight characteristics of the commercial harvest.

Table 1. Kodiak Management Area 1995/96 herring food/bait harvest strategy. A listing of guideline harvest levels by food/bait management districts<sup>a</sup>. (G.H.L. harvest numbers represent short tons).

Food/Bait Mgmt. Dist.	Sac Roe Management Units		1995 Sac Roe		1995/96 Food/Bait
	No.	Name	G.H.L.	Harvest	G.H.L.
F/B 1 West Afognak Unit	WA10	Raspberry	350	3	0
	WA20	Malina	250	55	5
	WA31	Paramanof	400	709	71
	WA32	Foul Bay	75	801	80
	WA40	Blue Fox/Devil's Inlet	60	0	0
	WA50	Offshore Afognak	Exploration	0	Exploration
UNIT TOTAL:			1,135	1,568	156
F/B 2 <sup>b</sup> North Afognak Unit	NA10	Shuyak	20	0	Closed
	NA20	Delphin Bay	Closed	0	Closed
	NA30	Perenosa Bay	Closed	0	Closed
	NA40	Seal Bay	Closed	0	Closed
	NA50	Tonki Bay	Closed	0	Closed
UNIT TOTAL:			20	0	Closed
F/B 3 <sup>b</sup> South Afognak Unit	SA10	Izhut Bay	Closed	0	Closed
	SA20	Kitoi Bay	Closed	0	Closed
	SA30	McDonalds Lagoon	Closed	0	Closed
	SA40	Danger Bay	Closed	0	Closed
	SA50	Litnik	Closed	0	Closed
	SA60	Duck Bay	Closed	0	Closed
UNIT TOTAL:			Closed	0	Closed
F/B 4 Uganik Unit	UG10	Kupreanof	10	0	0
	UG20	Viekoda Bay	100	0	0
	UG21	Terror Bay	200	357	36
	UG30	Village Islands	250	314	31
	UG31	W. Uganik Passage	75	19	2
	UG32	N.E. Arm Uganik	30	78	8
	UG33	E. Arm Uganik	100	179	18
	UG34	S. Arm Uganik	150	392	39
	UG40	Offshore Uganik	Exploration	0	Exploration
UNIT TOTAL:			915	1,339	134
F/B 5 Uyak <sup>b</sup> Unit	UY10	Offshore Uyak	Closed	0	Closed
	UY20	Harvester Island	Closed	0	Closed
	UY30	Inner Uyak	Closed	0	Closed
	UY32	Browns Lagoon	Closed	0	Closed
	UY31	Larsen Bay	Closed	0	Closed
	UY40	Zachar Bay	Closed	0	Closed
UY50	Spiridon	Closed	0	Closed	
UNIT TOTAL:			Closed	0	Closed

-Continued-

Table 1. (page 2 of 3)

Food/Bait Mgmt. Dist.	Sac Roe Management Units		1995 Sac Roe		1995/96 Food/Bait
	No.	Name	G.H.L.	Harvest	G.H.L.
F/B 6 Sturgeon/ Halibut Unit	SH10	Sturgeon/Halibut	Exploration		Exploration
F/B 7	AL10	Outer Alitak	Exploration	0	Exploration
	AL20	Inner Alitak	Exploration	17	2
Alitak	AL21	Inner Deadman Bay	150	12	1
Unit	AL22	Outer Deadman Bay	125	118	12
	AL30	Sulua Bay	190	199	20
	AL31	Portage Bay	75	77	8
	AL40	Lower Olga/Moser Bay	20	0	0
	AL41	N. Upper Olga Bay	10	0	0
	AL50	Upper Olga Bay	75	0	0
	AL60	Geese/Twoheaded	15	0	0
UNIT TOTALS:			660	423	43
F/B 8	EA10	Kaiugnak	20	0	0
	EA20	S.W. Sitkalidak	20	0	0
	EA21	Three Saints Bay	60	35	3
Eastside	EA22	Newman Bay	40	2	0
Unit	EA23	W. Sitkalidak Strait	300	106	11
	EA24	Barling Bay	50	56	6
	EA30	E. Sitkilidak	290	391	39
	EA31	Tanginak Anchorage	15	16	2
	EA40	Outer Sitkalidak	Exploration	0	Exploration
	EA41	Boulder Bay	Exploration	0	Exploration
	EA42	Shearwater Bay	90	112	11
	EA43	Outer Kiliuda Bay	80	133	13
	EA44	Inner Kiliuda Bay	80	83	8
	EA50	Outer Ugak Bay	60	135	13
	EA51	Inner Ugak Bay	120	57	6
	EA52	Pasagshak	40	20	2
UNIT TOTAL:			1,265	1,146	114
F/B 9	NE10	Womens Bay	100	9	1
	NE20	Kalsin Bay	15	0	0
Northeast	NE30	Middle Bay	20	0	0
Unit	NE40	Inshore Chiniak	10	0	0
	NE50	Offshore Chiniak	Exploration	0	Exploration
UNIT TOTAL:			145	9	1
F/B 10	IM10	Monashka/Mill Bay	Exploration	0	Closed
Inner Marmot <sup>b</sup>	IM20	Anton Larsen Bay	Closed	0	Closed
Unit	IM30	Sharatin Bay	10	0	Closed

-Continued-

Table 1. (page 3 of 3)

Food/Bait Mgmt. Dist.	Sac Roe Management Units		1995 Sac Roe		1995/96 Food Bait
	No.	Name	G.H.L.	Harvest	G.H.L.
	IM40	Kizhuyak Bay	15	14	Closed
	IM50	Spruce Island	10	0	Closed
UNIT TOTAL:			35	14	Closed
F/B 11	NM10	Hallo Bay	Exploration	0	Exploration
North	NM20	Inner Kukak	65	26	3
Mainland	NM30	Outer Kukak	Exploration	0	Exploration
Unit	NM40	Inner/Outer Missak	Exploration	0	Exploration
UNIT TOTAL:			65	26	3
F/B 12	MM10	Inner Katmai	65	21	2
	MM20	Outer Katmai	Exploration	0	Exploration
Mid-Mainland	MM30	Alinchak	50	0	0
Unit	MM40	Puale Bay	Exploration	0	Exploration
	MM50	Portage Bay	Exploration	0	Exploration
	MM60	Outer Portage Bay	Exploration	0	Exploration
UNIT TOTAL:			115	21	2
F/B 13	SM10	Wide Bay	125	55	5
South	SM20	Lower Shelikof	Exploration	0	Exploration
Mainland Unit					
UNIT TOTAL:			125	55	5
GRAND TOTALS:			4,480	4,601	458

<sup>a</sup> The Kodiak Area total G.H.L. for food/bait fishery, as indicated in the 1994-95 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 district, whichever applies. (See Harvest Strategy.) G-H-L and harvest figures are rounded to the nearest ton.

<sup>b</sup> These management districts will be closed for the entire 1995/96 Food/Bait Herring season.

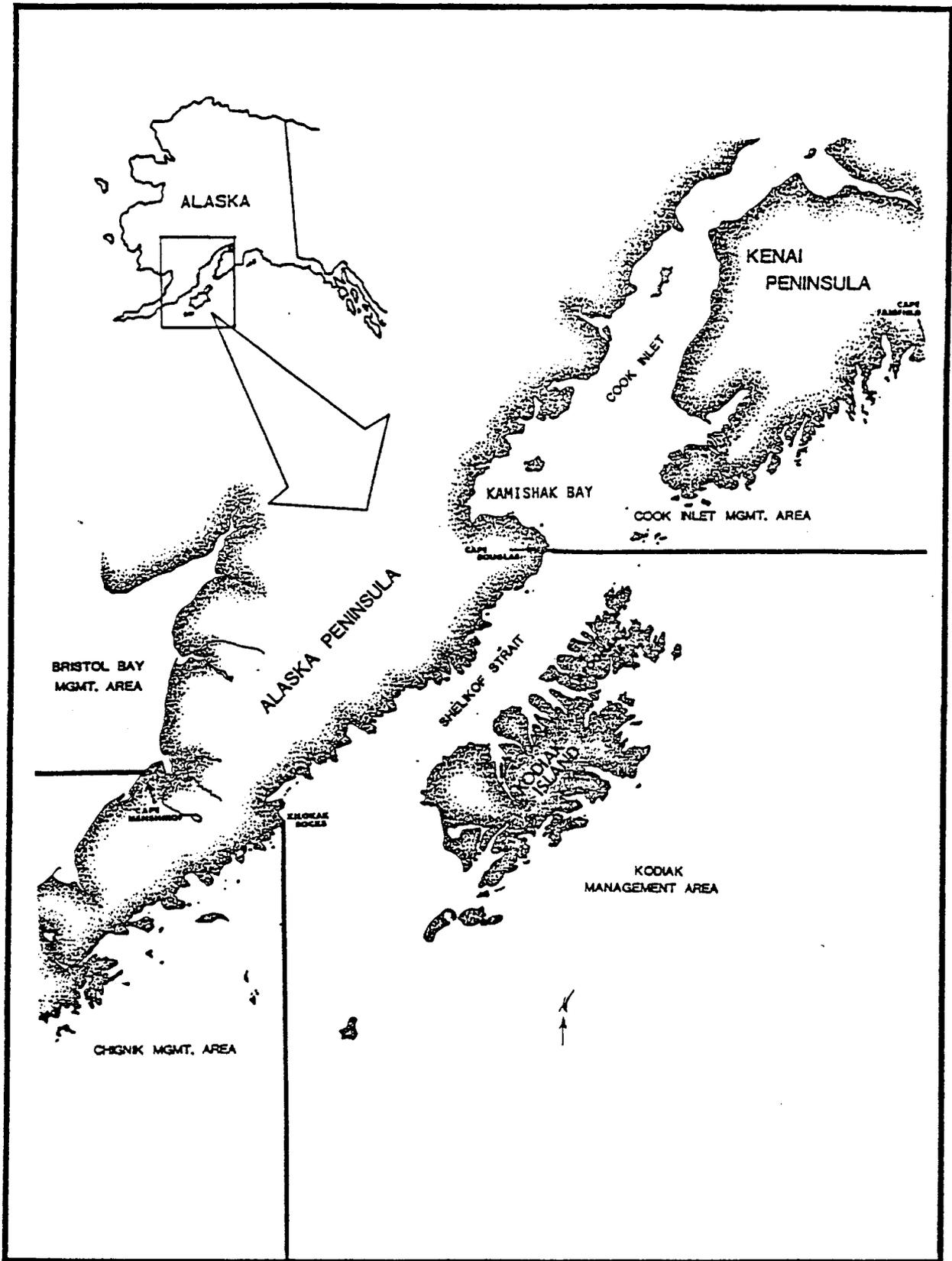


Figure 1. Map of southcentral Alaska showing the Kodiak and Cook Inlet herring management areas, along with the location of Kamishak Bay and Shelikof Strait.

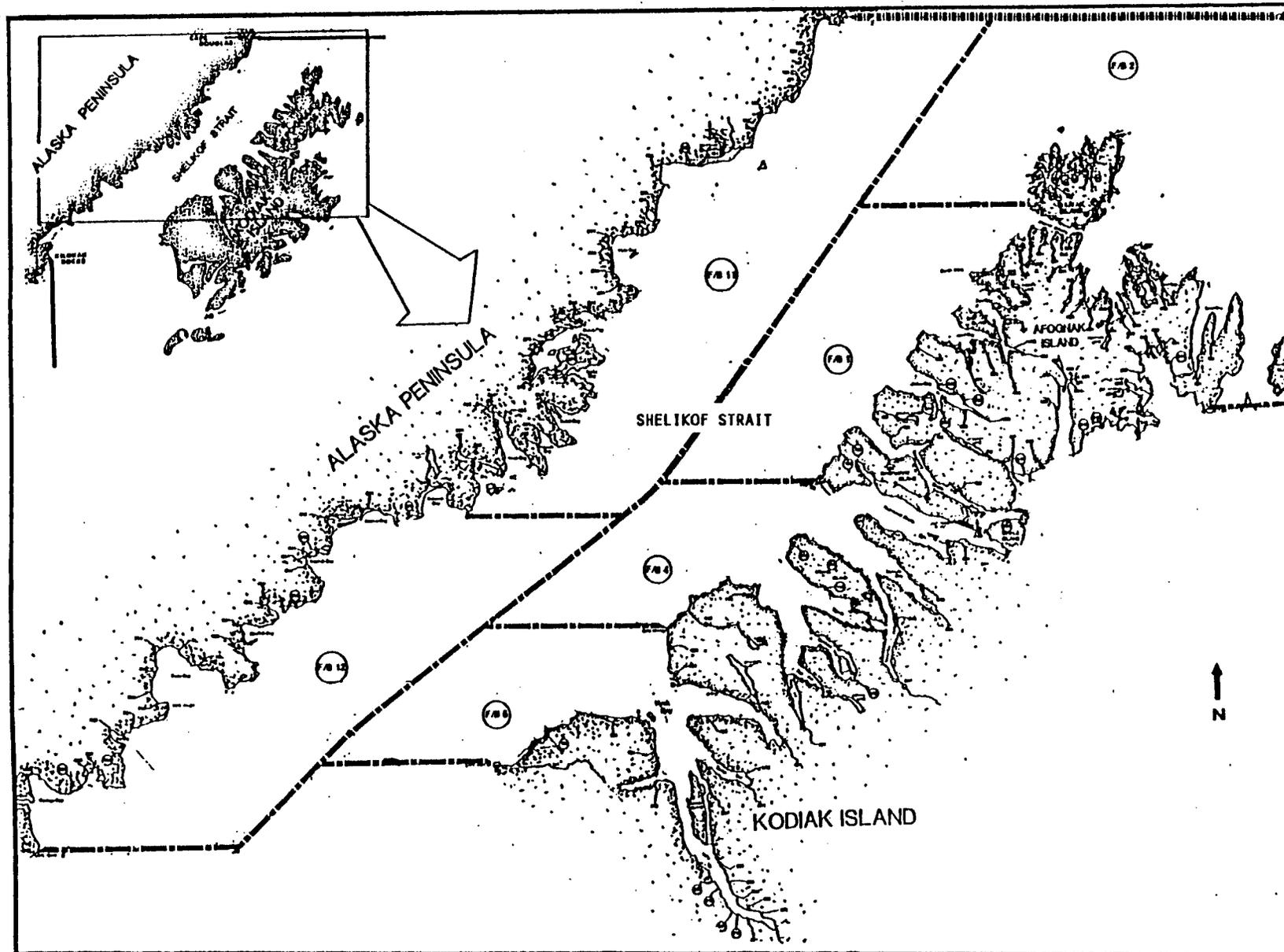


Figure 2. Kodiak food and bait herring management districts (FB1, FB2, FB4, FB5, FB11, and FB12) which are affected by the harvest of Kamishak Bay herring.

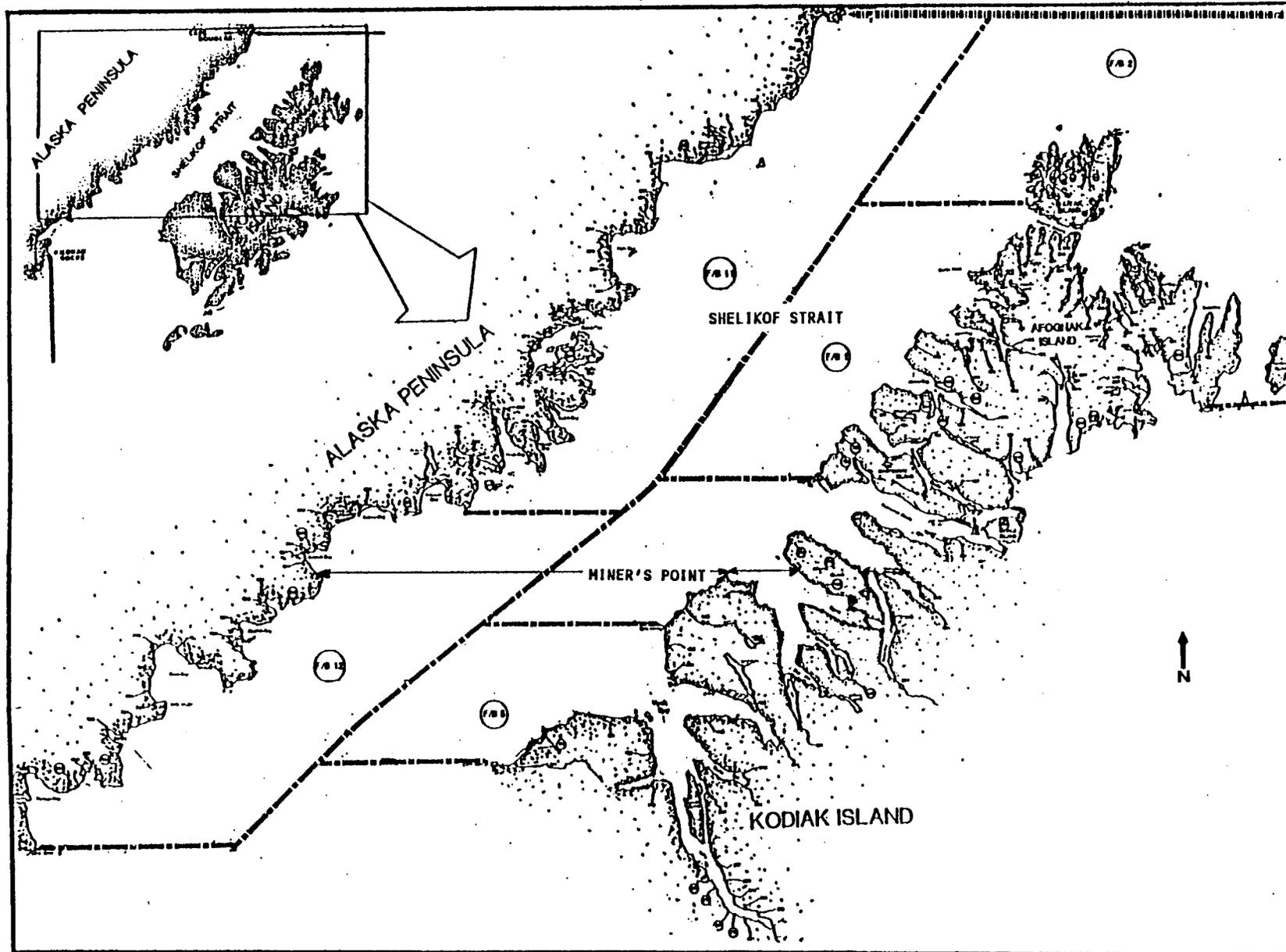


Figure 3. Kodiak food and bait management area north of the latitude of Miner's Point which would be closed if the Kamishak Bay herring biomass is below 8,000 tons.

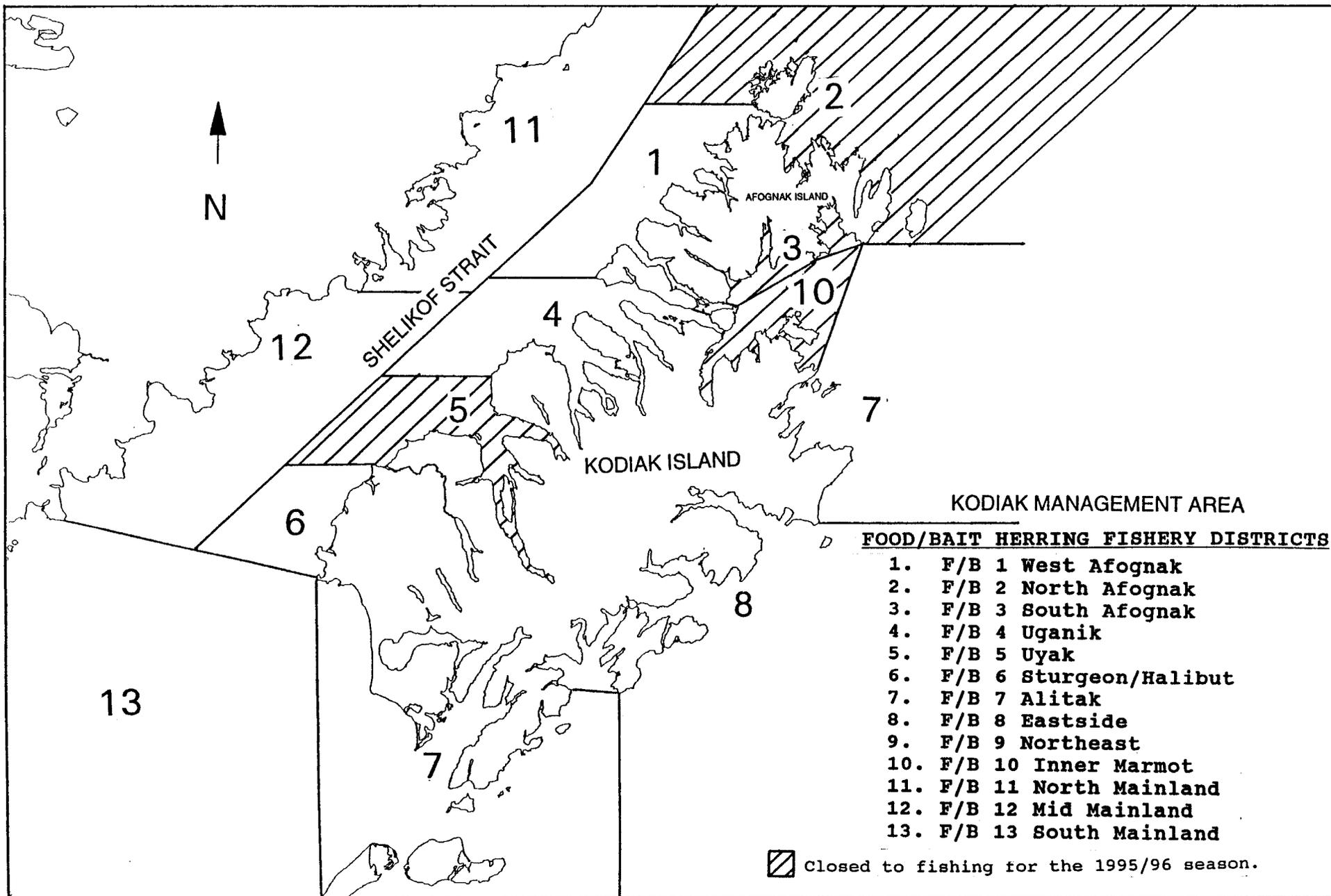


Figure 4. Kodiak Area food/bait herring fishery districts and key to enlarged maps (1-8).

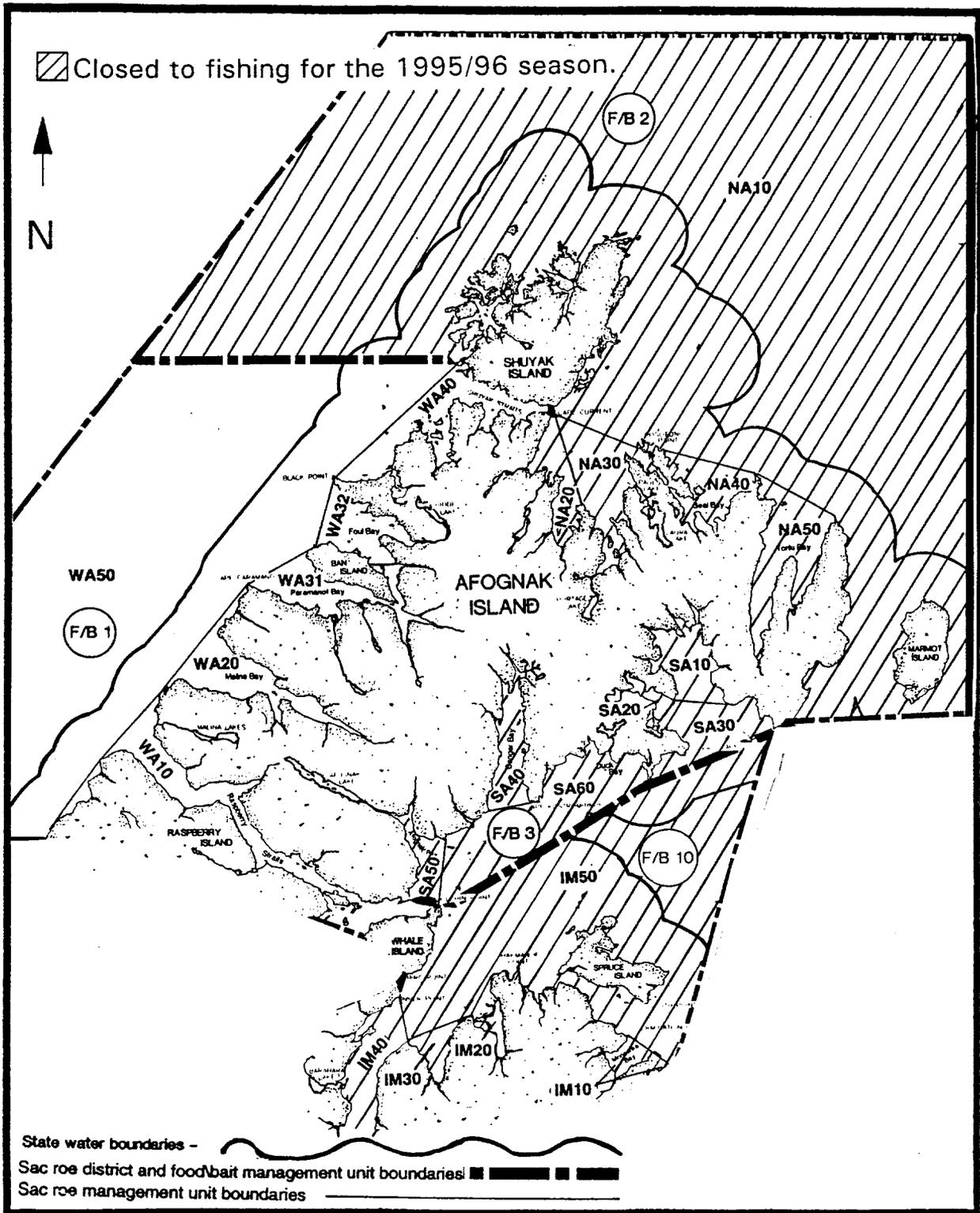


Figure 5. Map #1, food and bait districts 1, 2, 3, and 10, Kodiak Management Area.

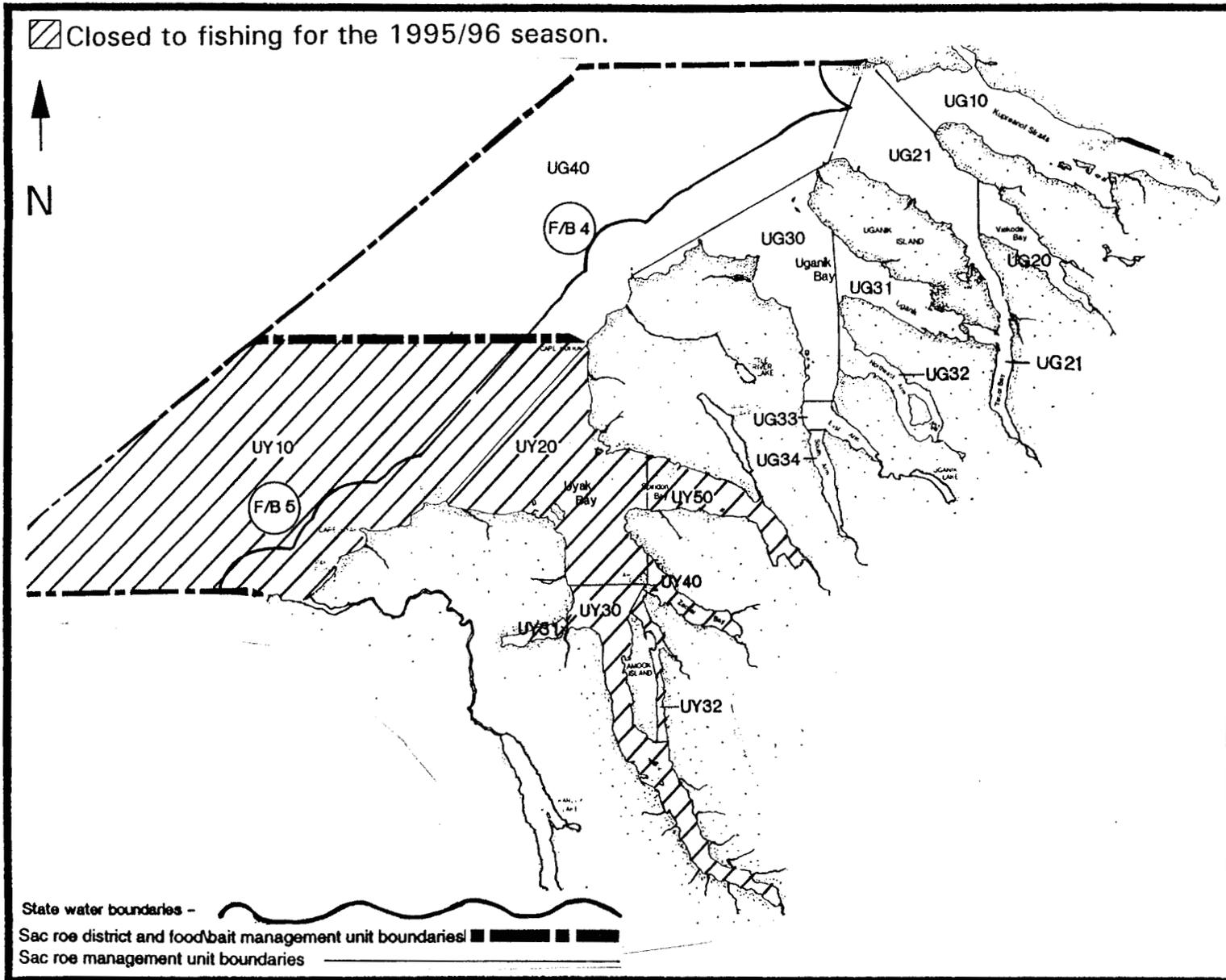


Figure 6. Map #2, food and bait herring districts 4 and 5, Kodiak Management Area.

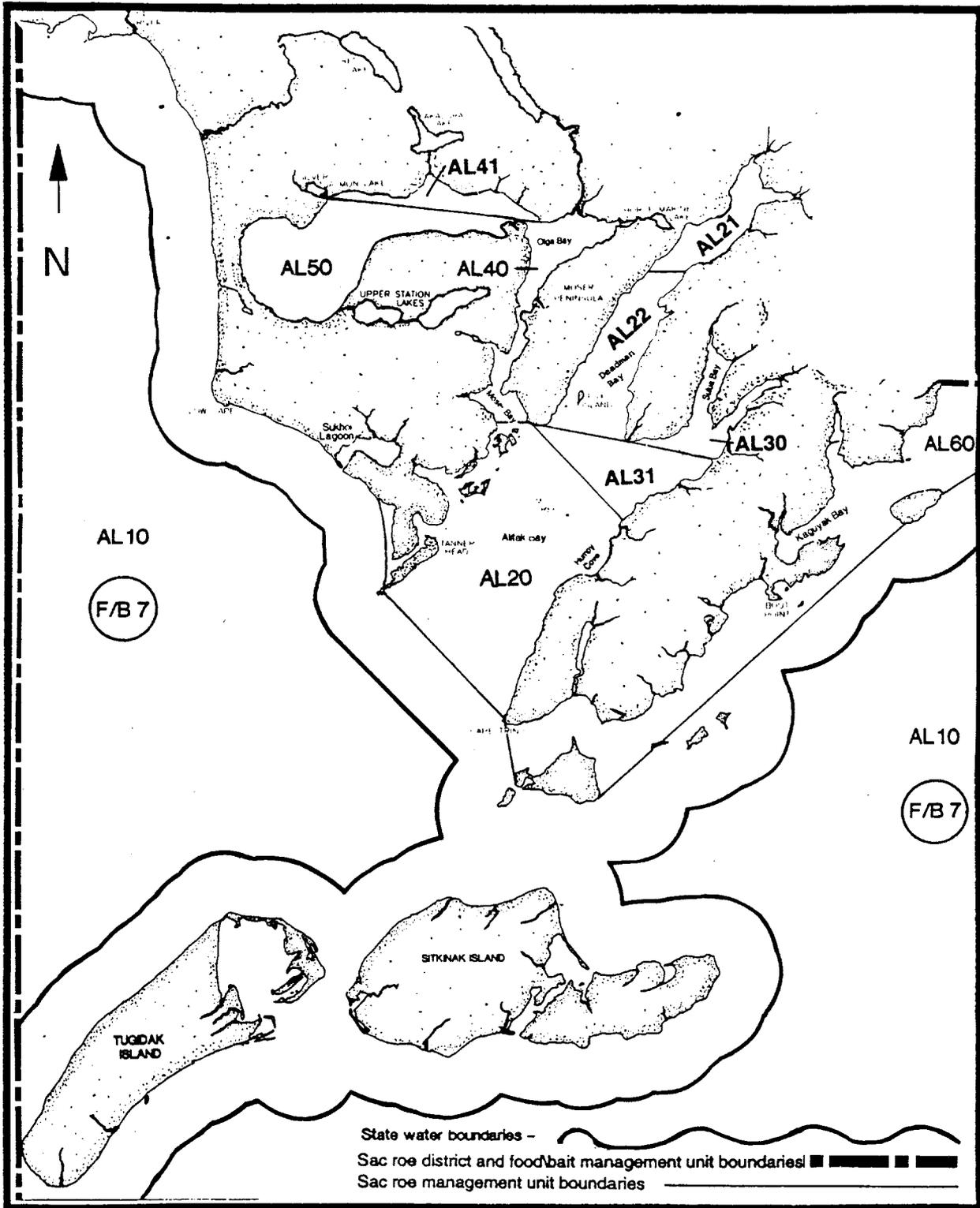


Figure 7. Map #3, food and bait herring district 7, Kodiak Management Area.

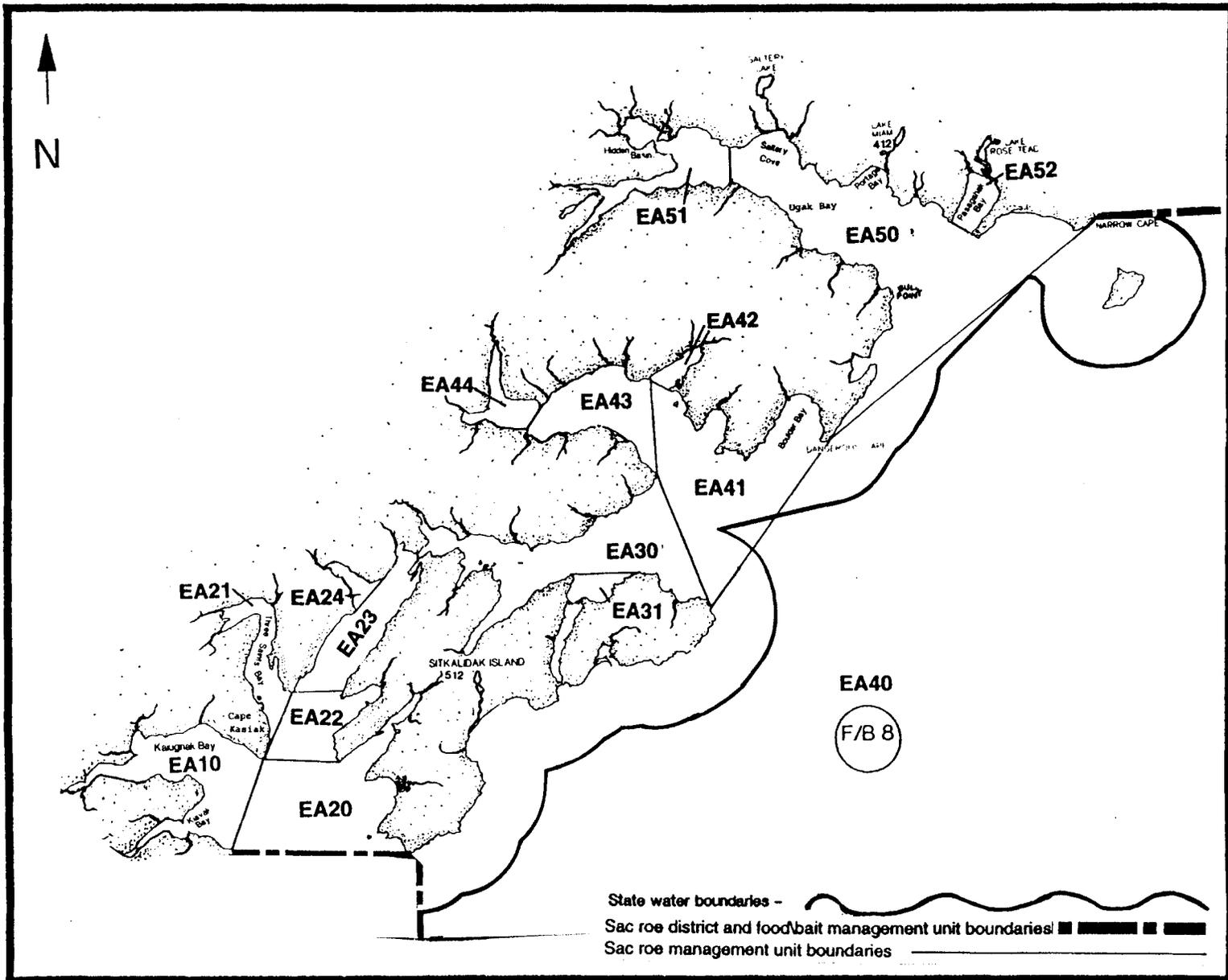


Figure 8. Map #4, food and bait herring district 8, Kodiak Management Area.

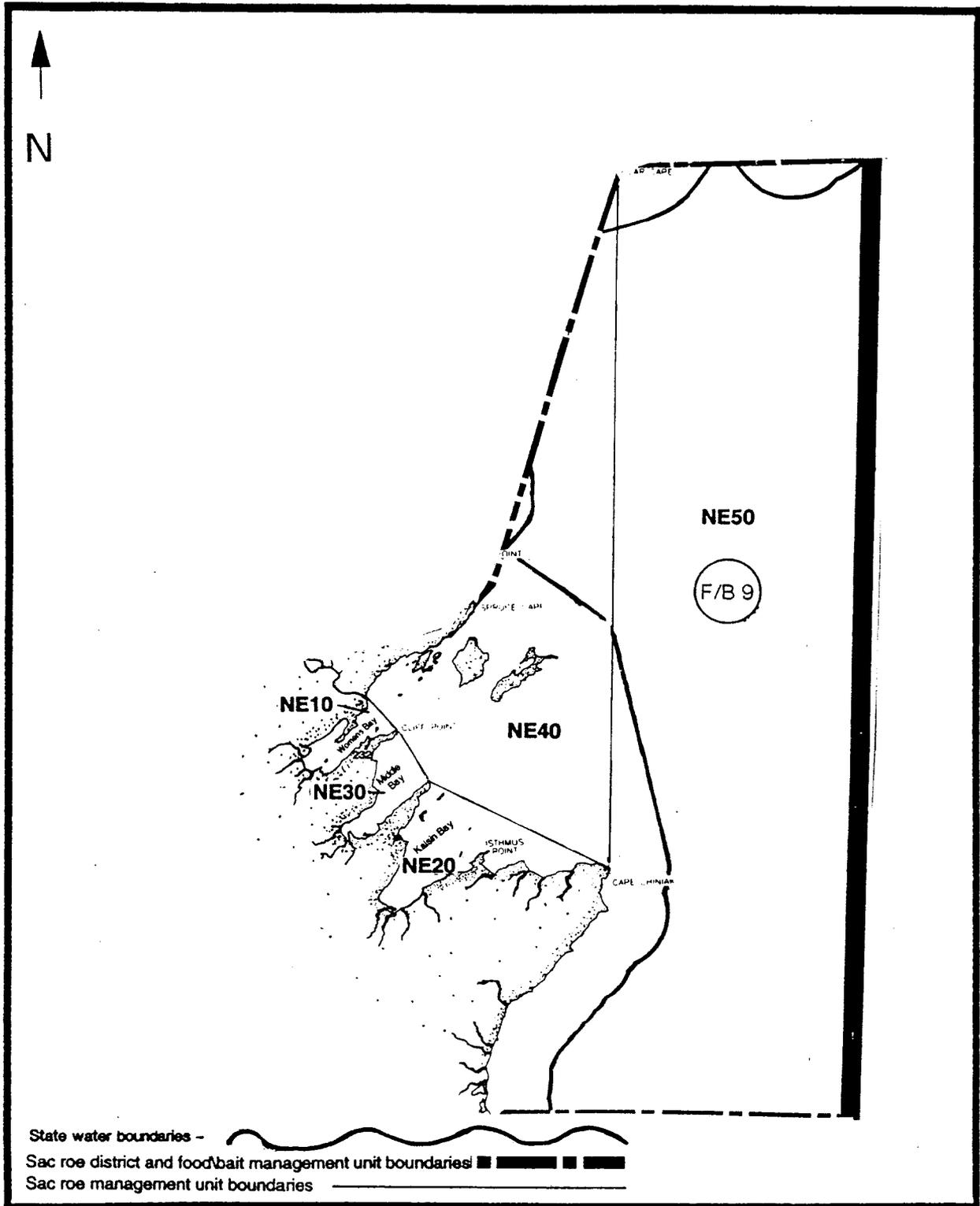


Figure 9. Map #5, food and bait herring district 9, Kodiak Management Area.

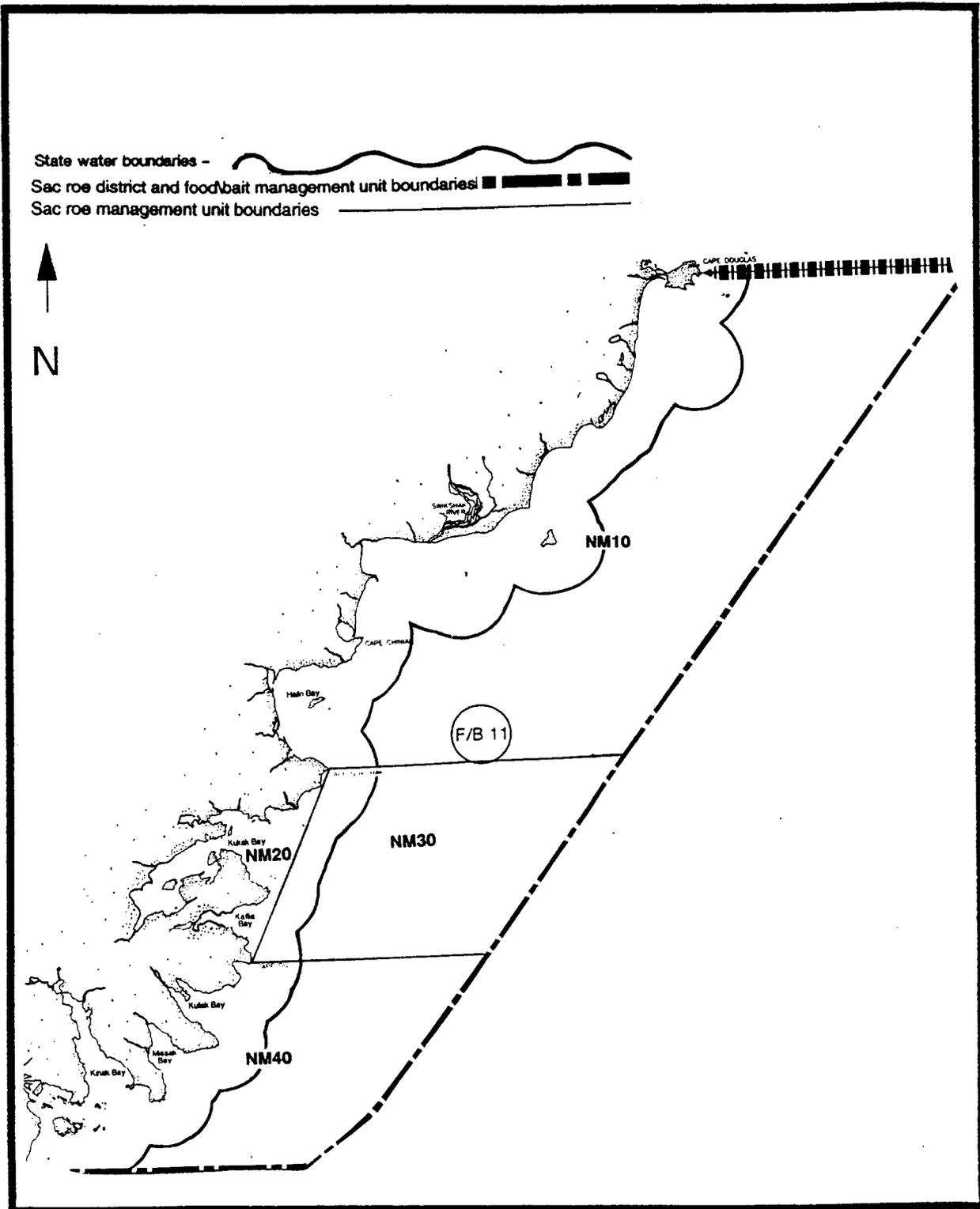


Figure 10. Map #6, food and bait herring district 11, Kodiak Management Area.

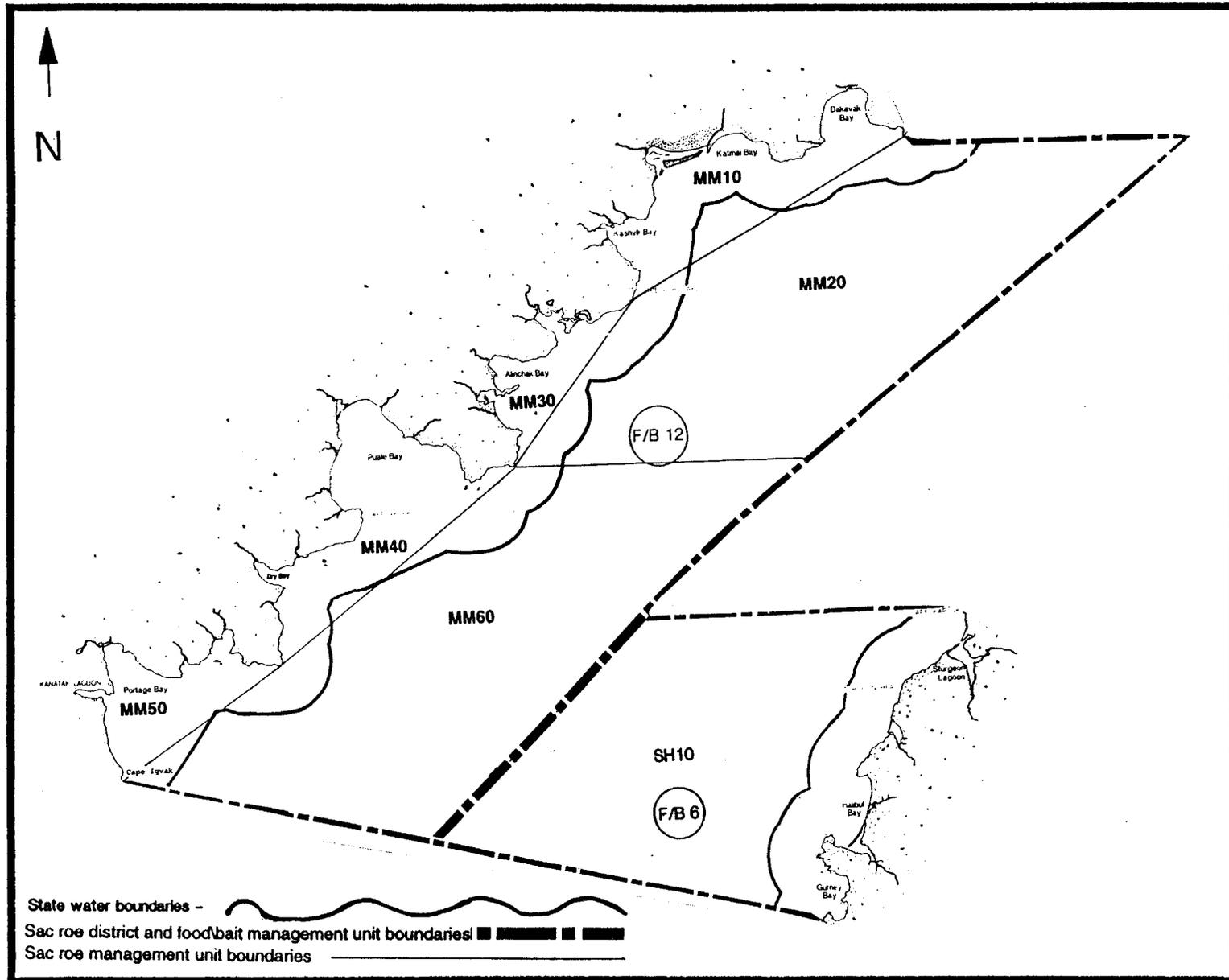


Figure 11. Map #7, food and bait herring districts 6 and 12, Kodiak Management Area.

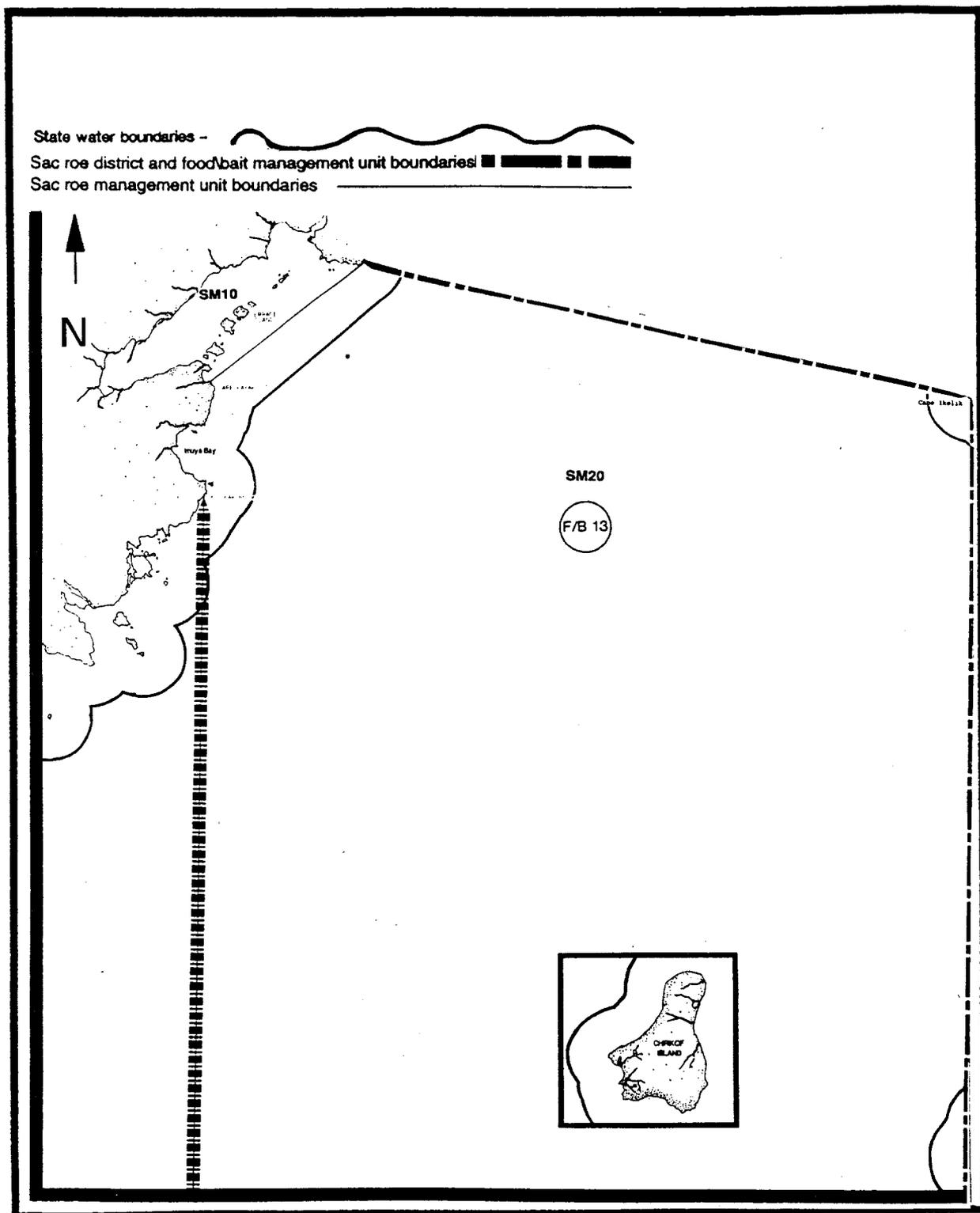


Figure 12. Map #8, food and bait herring district 13, Kodiak Management Area.

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