

South Unimak and Shumagin Islands
Commercial Salmon Fishing Gear
Study, 1984

By

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ABSTRACT

During the 1984 South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June salmon fishery, a total of 104 drift gillnet and 143 purse seine vessels harvested 27% and 72% of the incidental catch of 245,528 chum salmon. This gear study interviewed and measured the gear of 70% of the fleet. The majority of the gillnet gear used was 120 meshes deep, and most of the purse seine gear was 4 1/2 strips deep. Purse seine gear was divided into three depth categories; the shallowest, less than 3 1/2 strips, harvested 7.0 sockeye:chum salmon; medium gear, 3 3/4 to 4 1/2 strips, caught 4.0 sockeye:chum; the deepest gear, greater than 4 1/2 strips, resulted in 3.8 sockeye:chum. There was no evidence of differential selectivity by depth of drift gillnet gear. No evidence was found in the catch data indicating a differential harvest of chum salmon by time or statistical area.

KEY WORDS: South Unimak, Shumagin Islands, salmon, *Oncorhynchus*, catch, fishing gear

INTRODUCTION

The objective of this publication is to document a 1984 report to the Alaska Board of Fisheries (ABOF) in the format of a Regional Information Report. This ABOF report was subsequently revised in October, 1985 with additional statistical analysis (ADF&G 1985). Contact the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) Chief Fisheries Scientist's office in Juneau for that informal report.

Controversy developed in the early 1980's over the potential interception of western Alaska chum salmon by the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June fisheries (Figure 1). Of particular concern were the 1982 and 1983 record catches of 1.1 and 0.8 million chum salmon. The large returns of sockeye to Bristol Bay during those years provided for increased fishing time and harvest of sockeye (South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management plan, ADF&G, 1984). The increased time resulted in an increased incidental harvest of chum salmon.

During 1979-1984, sockeye salmon catches in the June fisheries averaged 1.6 million fish. Concurrent with the increased sockeye salmon harvest was an increase in the harvest of chum salmon. From 1979-1984, chum salmon catches in the June fisheries averaged 0.6 million fish compared to an average catch of 0.3 million fish in 1960-1978 (A. Shaul, ADF&G, Cold Bay, personal communication).

In response to potential problems of increased interception of western Alaska chum salmon stocks, the Alaska Board of Fisheries directed the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to continue studies of the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands fisheries during the 1984 season. The study was to include: (1) analysis of the origin of chum salmon stocks in the June fishery; (2) determination of the standard units of fishing gear utilized by the respective fleets; and (3) investigate the potential of time, area, and gear restrictions to achieve a reduced harvest of chum salmon without a corresponding reduction in the harvest of the target species, sockeye salmon. This study addresses the second and third parts of the overall study. The first component, a stock separation study, was addressed in an 1984 ABOF report by Robert Conrad (unpublished).

Description of the Fisheries

The present June fishery occurs in two locations: 1) south of Unimak Island and 2) in the Shumagin Islands (Figure 1). The South Unimak fishery is further divided into the Cape Lutke and Ikatan Peninsula areas. The Shumagin Islands fishery is restricted to set gillnet and purse seine gear. The Ikatan Peninsula fishery includes set gillnet, drift gillnet, and purse seine gear. The more exposed waters of Cape Lutke had traditionally been fished with purse seine and some drift gillnet gear.

Testimony during previous Alaska Board of Fisheries meeting indicated that chum salmon had a broader range of swimming depths than sockeye salmon. This observation was supported in papers by Manzer (1964) and Machidori (1966). These observations led the Department to investigate differential catch by depth of fishing gear.

Since this study was initially presented in 1984, fishing gear has been reduced and time and area closures have been implemented by the ABOF. Fishing gear depth limits for the Unimak and Shumagin Island fisheries were implemented in 1990. Previously gear depths had been unlimited. Purse seine nets were reduced to a maximum depth of 375 meshes, of which the first 25 meshes above the lead line is considered chaffing webbing. Purse seine leads were limited to no less than 50 fathoms nor more than 150 fathoms in length. Drift and set gillnets, in both fisheries were limited to 90 meshes in depth with no minimum mesh size during June. Beginning in 1990 fishing time and/or area closures as based on fleet performance and test fishery data, have been implemented to reduce chum salmon harvest (ADF&G 1990). A complete description of recent fishery restrictions is provided in Shaul (1995).

METHODS

Catch by Time and Area

Catch data presented in this report were compiled by the Division of Commercial Fisheries, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Kodiak. Data was compiled by *statistical week* from individual fish ticket sales receipts for fish sold to the processors; a statistical week begins at 0000 hours each Sunday and ends at 2400 hours on Saturday; weeks were numbered sequentially from the first Sunday of the year. Data were edited for misreported landings, multiple landings, incorrect gear cards, and late landings during closed periods.

Harvest information was examined for trends in chum harvest by time and area. Data in this report may differ slightly from the previous publications because of recent editing.

Gear Study

During 1984, two ADF&G staff conducted interviews and measured gear from approximately 70% of the fleet. The study focused on purse seine and drift gillnet gear as these gear types account for nearly the entire chum salmon harvest. The majority of the gear depth measurements and vessel operator interviews were conducted at Sand Point, King Cove, and Port Moller prior to the June fisheries while fishermen were repairing and loading their nets. Additional information was obtained between fishing periods at False Pass and King Cove. Staff was also involved with catch sampling for the stock identification project at King Cove, Sand Point, and Dutch Harbor. The harvest was monitored on the grounds by the ADF&G vessel MV Puffin.

Depth of gear was determined by three methods:

1. Interviews of the vessel operator when the gear was not accessible or the operator did not have time to lay the gear out for inspection.
2. Measurement of a specific portion of a net (usually one strip of seine) and calculating the depth of the seine based on the number of strips in the seine. This method was used when there was insufficient time to measure the entire net.

3. Measurement of the depth of the entire net. The net was stretched by hand along a line of selvage; the number of meshes were counted while the depth of the gear was measured. This was the only feasible method to measure gear on the back of a boat. "Stretch by weight" technique was not used because it was cumbersome and time consuming.

Stretch depth (depth of net when net is hung in the air) and estimated fishing depth (depth of a net while fishing) were estimated based on interviews with six of the major net manufactures of salmon gear for Alaska. The net loft supervisors for these companies estimated fishing depth with an average "take up" factor of 20% for gillnets and 30% for purse seines; this factor was applied to the calculated stretch depth of the net.

The length and use of purse seine leads were determined by interview as it was not logistically possible to measure gear length.

Data recorded in the interview included: vessel ADF&G number, gear type, skipper's experience (years) in the fishery, if the net was measured, depth of gear, number of meshes, mesh size, net material, length of net, number of strips (seine).

To examine the possible effects of gear depth on the catch rates of sockeye and chum salmon, the various depths of nets were pooled based on observed groupings of gear relative to their contribution of the interviewed fleet (Figure 2). Gillnet depths were pooled into two categories: (1) gillnets less than 120 meshes in depth; and (2) gillnets greater than 121 meshes in depth. Purse seine depths were also pooled: (1) seines less than 3.5 strips in depth; (2) seines between 3.75 and 4.5 strips; and (3) seines greater than 4.5 strips (Figure 3).

Statistical tests were conducted for each gear type to determine if the mean catch of vessels that were interviewed for net depth was different from those whose gear was actually measured. The hypothesis was tested that there was no difference. The results of the Student's t-test showed no difference at $\alpha=0.01$ (Zar, 1974). The relationship of the actual stretch measure of net depth to the number of meshes was also evaluated. A simple linear regression with an "r" value of 0.91 correlation allowed the use the number of meshes (or strips of seine) as the measurement of depth (Zar, 1974). Based on these tests catch data from vessels whose skippers who gave verbal information (nets not measured) were included with that of vessels whose nets were measured, increasing the number of data points.

A computer simulation designed by Doug McBride, ADF&G, Anchorage, modeled the potential results of restricting purse seines to 3.5 strips. The model compared sockeye and chum catch rates of drift gillnet and purse seine gear from 1979 to 1984. This model estimated deviations from historical catches by gear type and year while projecting additional fishing days to meet the sockeye allocation. Details on this model may be obtained from Mr. McBride.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Chum Salmon Harvest Trends

The 1979 to 1984 catch of chum salmon by gear type and fishery area is presented in Table 1, Appendices A and B, and Figure 4. Historically, drift gillnet and purse seine gear have accounted for most of the chum harvest; less than 1% of the chum catch has been taken with set gillnets. During the period 1969-1979, drift gillnet gear harvested the majority of both sockeye (74%) and chum (69%) salmon in the South Unimak fishery (Table 2). Between 1980 and 1984, drift gillnet gear caught an average of 39% of the South Unimak chum catch. The number of gillnet vessels increased by 32 between 1978 and 1984 (Table 2), while their overall percentage of the chum catch at South Unimak declined from 90% to 40% in 1984. During this period, newer gillnet vessels added to the fleet were generally larger and capable of fishing in rougher weather conditions.

Beginning in 1979, the purse seine fleet began to harvest a much greater portion of the sockeye and chum salmon catch in the June fishery (Tables 2, 3). In 1984, the seine fleet landed approximately 245,000 chum salmon, 73% of the total June harvest. From 1978 to 1984 the purse seine fleet increased from 22 to 102 vessels. The majority of these new boats were modern, highly efficient "cape seiners" capable of fishing under more severe weather conditions than the fleet of the early 1970's.

There were no long term trends of increased selectivity in chum salmon harvest by time (Appendices A and B) or fishing area (Shumagin Islands, Ikaton Peninsula, or Cape Lutke) from 1979-1984 (Table 1). During 1983 and 1984, however, the largest catches of both sockeye and chum salmon came from the Cape Lutke area.

Description of Gear in the Fishery

Cooperation from Alaska Peninsula salmon fishermen was excellent; none refused an interview. Approximately 70% of the estimated 243 vessels were either interviewed or had their gear measured (Table 4). Gear depth measurements were obtained from 29% of the purse seine fleet and 45% of the drift gillnet fleet. Interviews were obtained from an additional 36% of the seine and 28% of the gillnet fleets. The gear depth composition of the drift gillnet and purse seine fleets, are presented in Figures 2 and 3.

The presence of the Alaska Department of Public Safety personnel during the fishery assured compliance on length regulations for both purse seine and gillnet gear.

Drift gillnet gear used in the fishery were 200 fathoms in length. Three different mesh sizes were used: 5-1/8, 5-1/4, and 5-1/2 inch stretched mesh (Table 5). The majority of the interviewed vessels (78%) used 5 1/4 in mesh gillnet.

A trend toward the greater use of "center core" multiple-strand monofilament gillnet was noted during 1983 and 1984. This new gillnet material was reported to fish better than the older style

of multiple nylon thread net. Preliminary results of recent ADF&G studies in Bristol Bay have shown the "center core" type of gear consistently catches more salmon than the "supercrystal" nylon mesh nets; no differential species selectivity was observed (Fried, et al., 1984). Neither type of gillnet was differentially selective for chum salmon in the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands fisheries.

The depth of gillnet used in the South Unimak fishery ranged from 90 meshes (approximately 42 ft stretch measure, 31.5 ft fishing depth) to 180 meshes (approximately 78 ft stretch measure, 63 ft fishing depth). The predominant gear depth was 120 meshes (approximately 66 ft stretch, 51 ft fishing depth); it was used by 52% of the vessels interviewed.

Most (45%) of the interviewed purse seine boats used 3-1/2 in web, with a range of 3-1/8 in to 4.0 in web (Table 6). All seines were reported to be 250 fathoms in length. The depth of the seines varied from 2-1/2 strips (73 ft stretch measure, 56 ft fishing depth) to 5-3/4 strips (182 ft stretch measure, 125 ft fishing depth). The most common depth of seine was 4-1/2 strips (128 ft stretch measure, 97 ft estimated fishing depth).

Nearly 67% of the purse seine operators interviewed used a "lead" (a section of larger mesh net used on the shoreward end of the net) (Table 7). The majority of those not using leads were smaller seiners. The most frequently used leads were near 200 fathoms in length. Several of the purse seine operators indicated that they were using shorter leads than in the past.

Analysis of Catch by Depth of Gear

Sockeye and chum catches, by depth of gear and gear type, are presented in Table 8.

Gillnet depths were pooled into two categories to examine the possible effects of gear depth on the catch rates of sockeye and chum salmon (Figure 2). Deeper (>120-180 mesh) gillnet gear did not catch chum salmon at significantly different rates than shallow gear (<120 mesh). Sockeye/chum ratios were 4.7:1 for 90-120 mesh gear and 4.2:1 for greater than 120 mesh gear (Table 9).

Purse seine depths were pooled into three categories: (1) seines less than 3.5 strips in depth; (2) seines between 3.75 and 4.5 strips; and (3) seines greater than 4.5 strips (Figure 3). The smallest seines (less than 3.5 strips) caught chum salmon at a significantly lesser rate than did the other two categories of seines (Table 10). The sockeye/chum ratio (S/C) for the smallest seines (7.1:1) was significantly different ($\alpha=0.05$) from the ratios of the medium and large seines (4.1:1 and 3.8:1 respectively). In other words, the shallowest depth category of seines caught approximately one chum for every seven sockeye salmon. This rate was significantly less than the 3.75-4.50 strip and >4.5 strip seines which caught approximately one chum salmon for every four sockeye salmon.

A computer simulation was designed by Doug McBride, ADF&G-Stock Biology Group, to estimate the potential results of limiting the depth of seine gear from 1979 to 1984 (Table 11). In theory reducing the depths of purse seines to 3.5 strips could have reduced the total chum catch in each of the years tested. The total seine catch of both chum and sockeye salmon would

also be reduced. The reduction would reallocate more sockeye and chum salmon to the drift gillnet fleet while reducing the overall chum catch. During most years additional harvest time would be required to reach the sockeye allocation.

Caution is suggested before concluding that depth of the seine gear is the factor affecting the different catch rates of chum salmon. For instance, similar cases could be made for the length and use of leads. Because the smallest seines use the shortest leads, one could also argue that high sockeye/chum ratios are associated with short leads. Another possible variable that could affect the sockeye/chum ratio is the location fished. Larger vessels fish deeper seines (>3.75 strips) and generally fish in more exposed offshore areas than the smaller seines.

Although the project had no means to actually test which, if any, of the above explanations represents the crucial variable, comparison of the gillnet and purse seine data indicate that depth of gear may be the major factor. This conclusion was based on the observations that drift gillnets: (1) catch sockeye and chum salmon in the same relative ratio as the medium and large purse seines; (2) do not use leads; and (3) are fished in different areas than the medium and large seines. Also, the smaller purse seines probably have a shallower effective fishing depth than either the larger seines or most of the gillnet fleet. The majority of the gillnets have an effective fishing depth of 50 to 60 feet (Table 5). Shallow seines, <3.5 strips, have an estimated fishing depth of 56 to 76 ft; Medium seines, 3.75-4.5 strips, have an estimated fishing depth of 82-97 ft; Deep seines, >4.5 strips, have a fishing depth of 102-125 ft.

Application

The problem was to determine if the differential chum catch rate could be effectively reduced by applying a gear restriction regulation. Although it was likely that reduction of seine depth below 3.5 strips would result in a substantial savings of chum salmon, several important factors needed to be addressed to fully evaluate the utility of this option. First, regulating the medium and large seines out of the fishery would require approximately 75% of the fleet to re-gear. Second, it is questionable whether the largest seine boats could effectively fish shallower gear. Third, gear limitations would considerably restrict available fishing area. Finally, a reduction in the efficiency of the seine fleet could result in a substantial re-allocation of catch by gear type within the fishery. It is obvious that the costs of implementing this strategy may be high.

CONCLUSIONS

The following conclusions were based on the continuation of the current management guidelines for harvesting a predetermined quota of sockeye salmon by the June fisheries.

1. No evidence was found that chum and sockeye salmon were differentially harvested by time or area in the June fishery. Therefore, time/area restrictions during the June fishery would probably not be effective in reducing the catch of chum salmon relative to the sockeye salmon catch.

2. No evidence was found that chum and sockeye salmon were differentially selected by depth of drift gillnet gear. Therefore, gear restrictions on drift gillnet gear would probably not be effective in reducing the catch of chum salmon relative to the sockeye salmon catch.
3. There was evidence that chum and sockeye salmon were differentially selected by depth of purse seine gear. Significant differences were found between the ratio of sockeye-to-chum catches for seines less than 3.5 strips in depth and seines of greater depth. Currently, only 25% of the seine fleet utilizes this depth of gear. This segment of the fleet fishes in shallower more restricted area than the majority of the fleet. All of the ramifications of utilizing a major gear restriction to reduce the incidence of chum salmon harvests have not been evaluated.

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Table 1. South Unimak and Shumagin Islands fisheries catch by species, by fishing area, 1979-1984.

Year	Fishing Area	Catch		% of Total Chum Catch by Gear	Percent Total Chum by Area
		Sockeye	Chum		
1979	<u>Shumagins</u>				
	Set Gillnet	13,446	1,698	1.6	39
	Purse Seine	176,682	39,196	37.0	
	<u>Ikatan</u>				
	Set Gillnet	1,349	92	.1	45
	Drift Gillnet	185,898	42,099	40.0	
	Purse Seine	23,010	4,740	5.0	
	<u>Cape Lutke</u>				
	Drift Gillnet	11,588	2,039	1.0	16
	Purse Seine	461,628	15,174	15.0	
	<u>Total</u>				
	Set Gillnet	14,795	1,790	2.0	
Drift Gillnet	197,486	44,138	42.0		
Purse Seine					
1980	<u>Shumagins</u>				
	Set Gillnet	20,792	2,298	.4	13
	Purse Seine	551,280	69,014	13.0	
	<u>Ikatan</u>				
	Set Gillnet	13,135	239	.05	22
	Drift Gillnet	623,079	92,508	18.0	
	Purse Seine	143,720	21,407	4.0	
	<u>Cape Lutke</u>				
	Drift Gillnet	8,896	2,392	.5	65
	Purse Seine	1,942,318	340,079	64.0	
	<u>Total</u>				
	Set Gillnet	33,927	2,537	.5	
Drift Gillnet	631,975	94,900	18.0		
Purse Seine	2,637,318	430,500	82.0		
1981	<u>Shumagins</u>				
	Set Gillnet	18,272	720	.1	9
	Purse Seine	332,300	53,351	10.0	
	<u>Ikatan</u>				
	Set Gillnet	31,480	1,473	.3	46
	Drift Gillnet	691,866	183,491	33.0	
	Purse Seine	319,568	72,898	13.0	
	<u>Cape Lutke</u>				
	Set Gillnet	1,300	1,095	.2	45
	Purse Seine	319,568	72,898	13.0	
	<u>Total</u>				
	Set Gillnet	49,752	2,193	.4	
Drift Gillnet	1,118,045	184,586	33.0		
Purse Seine	1,078,047	377,168	67.0		

-Continued-

Table 1. (page 2 of 2)

Year	Fishing Area	Catch		% of Total Chum Catch by Gear	Percent Total Chum by Area	
		Sockeye	Chum			
1982	<u>Shumagins</u>					
	Set Gillnet	12,128	1,798	.2	15	
	Purse Seine	438,420	159,518	15.0		
	<u>Ikatan</u>					
	Set Gillnet	19,663	1,785	.2	11.0	
	Drift Gillnet	740,673	497,655	46.0		
	Purse Seine	263,749	118,704	11.0		
	<u>Cape Lutke</u>					
	Drift Gillnet	4,228	3,557	.3	29	
	Purse Seine	639,050	311,957	29.0		
	<u>Total</u>					
	Set Gillnet	31,791	3,583	.3	46.0	
	Drift Gillnet	1,379,723	501,212	46.0		
	Purse Seine	1,341,216	590,179			
	1983	<u>Shumagins</u>				
Set Gillnet		10,662	659	.1	21	
Purse Seine		405,822	168,618	21.0		
<u>Ikatan</u>						
Set Gillnet		10,980	851	.1	33	
Drift Gillnet						
<u>Cape Lutke</u>						
Drift Gillnet		27,951	10,755	1.0	46	
Purse Seine		746,099	351,752	45.0		
<u>Total</u>						
Set Gillnet		21,642	1,510	.2	73.0	
Drift Gillnet		602,228	212,515	27.0		
Purse Seine		1,340,145	574,300	73.0		
1984		<u>Shumagins</u>				
		Set Gillnet	13,592	711	.2	32
	Purse Seine	244,615	32			
	<u>Ikatan</u>					
	Set Gillnet	11,098	305	.01	28	
	Drift Gillnet	352,556	79,448	24.0		
	Purse Seine	130,379	123,085	36.0		
	<u>Cape Lutke</u>					
	Drift Gillnet	51,853	12,571	4.0	40	
	Purse Seine	588,174	122,443	36.0		
	<u>Total</u>					
	Set Gillnet	24,690	1,016	.03	27.0	
	Drift Gillnet	404,409	92,019	27.0		
	Purse Seine	963,168	245,528	72.0		

Table 2. Peak estimates of the number of units of gear operating in the South Unimak^a and Shumagin Islands June fisheries, 1976-1984^b.

Year	Purse Seine	Drift Gillnet	Set Gillnet
1976	25	94	16
1977 ^c	15	98	16
1978	22	106	17
1979	33	100	22
1980	51	123	24
1981	74	126	32
1982	85	126	33
1983	92	139	41
1984	104	143	52
Additional Units Since 1978	80	32	35

^a Includes South Unimak and Shumagin Islands fisheries.

^b The number of units of gear reflect the maximum number during the peak of the fishery.

^c Implementation of management plan for June fishery.

Table 3. Percent composition of chum and sockeye catches in the South Unimak^a June fishery by gear type, 1969-1984.

Year	Sockeye		Chum	
	Seine	Gillnet	Seine	Gillnet
1969	24	76	20	80
1970	48	52	31	69
1971	25	75	19	81
1972	12	88	9	91
1973	9	91	6	94
1974	NO FISHERY			
1975	23	77	29	71
1976	18	82	13	87
1977	15	85	10	90
1978	18	82	10	90
1979	71	29	31	69
1969-79 Average	26	74	18	82
1980	76	24	79	21
1981	51	49	64	36
1982	54	46	46	54
1983	60	40	66	34
1980-83 Average	61	39	63	37
1984	63	36	59	40

^a Includes Cape Lutke and Ikatan fisheries.

Table 4. Summary of 1984 gear study interview data.

Gear Type	Estimated Fleet Size	No. Interviewed but not Measured	Percent of Fleet	Numbered Units Measured	Percent of Fleet	No. Measured and Interviewed	Percent of Fleet
Purse Seine	104	37	36%	30	29%	67	64%
Drift Gillnet	143	39	27%	62	44%	101 ^a	71%
Total	243	76	31%	92	38%	168	69%

^a Three vessels not analyzed.

Table 5. Drift gillnet gear used in the June South Unimak Fishery, 1984.

Number Meshes Deep	Total Interviewed and Measured	Number Units Interviewed	Number Units Measured	Avg. Stretch Depth ^a	Est. Maximum Fishing Depth ^b			Number of Units by Mesh Size			Type of Net Material		
					5 1/8	5 1/4	5 1/2	5 1/8	5 1/4	5 1/2	# Units Super Crystal	# Units Multiple Monofil.	# Units Mixed Material
90	2	1	1	42			33			1	1		
120	32	12	10	51	41	42	44	2	24	1	14	13	3
140	3	1	2	59	48	49		2	1		1	1	
145	2	1	1	59		51			1			1	
150	16	7	9	62	51	53		1	11		4	8	1
160	2	1					59			1		1	
180	2	1				63			1			1	
Total	61	23	33					6	47	7	20	25	4

^a Depth determined by stretching the net tight, by hand, along a line of selvage.

^b Assumes fishing depth in feet of = (# meshes x mesh size) (.8) / 12. Based on the average "take up" factor of .8 used by six net manufacturers. Actual depth might vary depending on the technique by which the nets were hung.

Table 6. Purse Seine gear used in the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June fisheries, 1984.

Total Strips Deep ^a	Total Interviewed and Measured	Number Units Interviewed	Number Units Measured	Number of Units by Mesh Size ^b					Size Not Known	Average Stretch Depth ^c	Estimated Fishing Depth ^d
				3 1/8	3 1/4	3 1/2	3 7/8	4.0			
2 1/2	2	1	1			2				73	56
2 3/4	1	1					1				61
3	2	2	1			1					71
3 1/4	1		1			1				96	71
3 1/2	10	8	2			5		1	4	102	76
3 3/4	2		2			1	1			103	82
4	5	2	3			3			2	113	87
4 1/4	1		1			1				120	92
4 1/2	30	15	15			18	1	1	10	128	97
4 3/4	2	2				2					102
5	2		2			2				135	107
5 1/4	1		1								112
5 1/2	3	2	1		1	1			1	148 ^e	117
MIXED MESH SIZES (3 1/2" + 4" combined)											
4 1/2	1	1									
5 1/4	1	1	1							178	110
5 1/2	2	1	1							119	119
5 3/4	1		1							182	125
TOTAL	67	35	32								

- a Total # strips usually contains 1/4 strip of corkline chafing (same size as body web), body web and 1/4 strip of 5" poly for leadline chafing. One strip of seine = 100 meshes.
- b Based on interviews.
- c Depth in feet determined by stretching net tight by hand, vertically for corkline to lead lines.
- d Estimated fishing (hanging) depth in feet = [(# meshes of seine/strip) x (strips) x (mesh size/12")] x .7 + depth of chafing strip. Formula based on interviews of 6 net manufacturers. Actual depth may vary according to the method of hanging web used.
- e 3 1/4 " mesh.

Table 7. Purse seine leads used in the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June fisheries, 1984.

Depth in Strips	Number Vessels Interviewed	Number Unknown Use	Number Not Using Leads	Lead Use Number Using Leads	Length in Fathoms ^a		
					Low	Range High	Avg.
2-1/2	2	-	2	-	-	-	-
2-3/4	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
3	2	1	1	-	-	-	-
3-1/4	1	-	-	1	70	70	70
3-1/2	10	-	7	3	100	150	116
3-3/4	2	1	1	-	-	-	-
4	5	-	1	4	100	180	138
4-1/4	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
4-1/2	31	1	6	24	94	350	174
4-3/4	2	-	-	2	150	150	150
5	2	-	-	2	170	200	185
5-1/4	2	-	-	2	230	380	305
5-1/2	5	3	-	2	200	204	202
5-3/4	1	6	-	1	150	150	150
Total	67	6	20	41	70	380	181^b

^a Length of leads determined from interviews.

^b Average of all length data.

Table 8. Catch of sockeye and chum salmon by depth of gear, 1984.

Number Strips	Number Meshes	Mean Catch		% Chum	Number Landings
		Number Sockeye	Number Chum		
<u>Purse Seine</u>					
2-1/2	250	1510	105	7	8
2-3/4	275	1579	69	4	6
3	300	1485	42	3	3
3-1/2	350	1724	285	17	57
3-3/4	375	1350	225	17	2
4	400	2602	418	16	26
4-1/4	425	856	171	20	6
4-1/2	450	2335	623	21	130
4-3/4	475	2429	585	24	12
4-7/8	495	4443	1352	30	5
5	500	2476	606	24	9
5-1/4	525	4074	248	6	5
5-1/2	550	2556	763	30	28
5-3/4	575	1598	295	18	2
6	600	4599	1827	40	3
<u>Gillnet</u>					
	90	504	91	18	9
	120	717	150	21	235
	140	1007	158	16	8
	145	629	104	17	5
	150	808	194	24	103
	160	864	273	32	8
	180	889	274	31	5

Table 9. Catch by species for two drift gillnet gear depth groups, 1994.

Number Meshes	Number Boats	Total Sockeye	Catch Chum	Boats By %	Catch Sockeye	By % Chum	Catch per Boat		
							Sockeye	Chum	S/C
90 - 120	66	172,920	36,696	67.3	62.0	59.1	2620.0	556.0	4.7
>120	32	105,760	25,344	32.7	38.0	40.9	3305.0	792.0	4.2
Total	98	278,680	62,040	100.0	100.0	100.0			

Table 10. Catch by species for three purse seine gear depth groups, 1994.

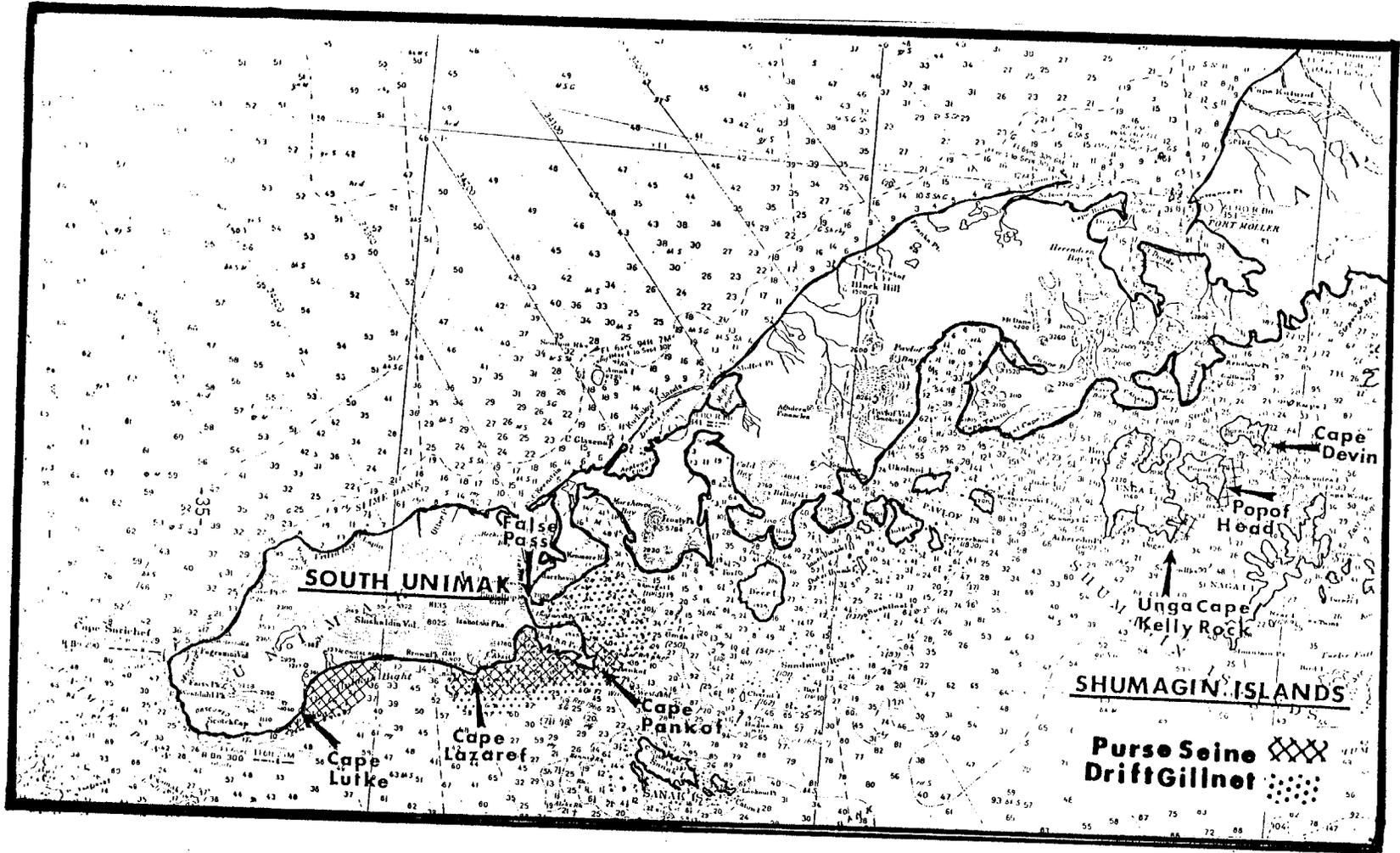
Number Strips	Number Boats	Total Sockeye	Catch Chum	% of Boats	Catch Sockeye	% of Chum	Catch per Boat		
							Sockeye	Chum	S/C
2.50-3.50	16	124,256	17,617	25.4	18.1	11.1	7,309.2	1,036.3	7.1
3.75-4.50	39	379,084	93,284	52.2	55.3	58.7	10,831.0	2,665.3	4.1
>4.5	12	182,589	47,905	22.4	26.6	30.2	12,172.6	3,193.7	3.8
Total	67	685,929	158,806	100.00	100.00	100.00			

Table 11. Simulated effects of limiting purse seines to a maximum of depth of 3.5 strips of net during 1979-1984.

Unregulated Fishery Catches (thousands of fish)							
Year	Purse Seine		Drift Gillnet		Total		
	Sockeye	Chum	Sockeye	Chum	Sockeye	Chum	
1979	663.4	59.1	197.5	44.1	860.8	103.3	
1980	2637.3	430.5	632.0	94.8	3269.4	525.3	
1981	1078.0	377.2	693.0	185.0	1771.0	562.2	
1982	1341.4	590.2	745.0	501.0	2086.4	1091.2	
1983	1339.9	574.4	602.2	212.5	1942.1	786.9	
1984	963.3	245.5	404.4	92.0	1367.7	334.5	

Regulated Fishery													
Year	Deviations from Historical Catches (thousands of fish) ^a						Deviations from Historical Catches (percent of historical catch) ^a						Days Additional
	Purse Seine		Drift Gillnet		Total Change		Purse Seine		Drift Gillnet		Total Change		
	Sockeye	Chum	Sockeye	Chum	Sockeye	Chum	Sockeye	Chum	Sockeye	Chum	Sockeye	Chum	
1979	-35.6	-21.8	35.6	8.0	0	-13.9	-5%	-37%	+18%	+18%	0	-13%	+4.3
1980	-152.0	-187.7	152.0	22.8	0	-164.9	-6%	-44%	+24%	+24%	0	-31%	+4.1
1981	-86.4	-175.6	86.4	23.1	0	-152.5	-8%	-47%	+12%	+12%	0	-27%	+3.0
1982	-84.1	-258.7	84.1	56.6	0	-203.1	-6%	-44%	+11%	+11%	0	-19%	+3.3
1983	-110.2	-253.6	110.2	38.9	0	-214.7	-8%	-44%	+18%	+18%	0	-27%	+2.0
1984	-109.8	-113.5	109.8	25.0	0	-88.5	-11%	-46%	+27%	+27%	0	-26%	+1.1

^aLegend: (+) are GAINS, (-) are LOSSES



Drift Gillnet Depth of Gear

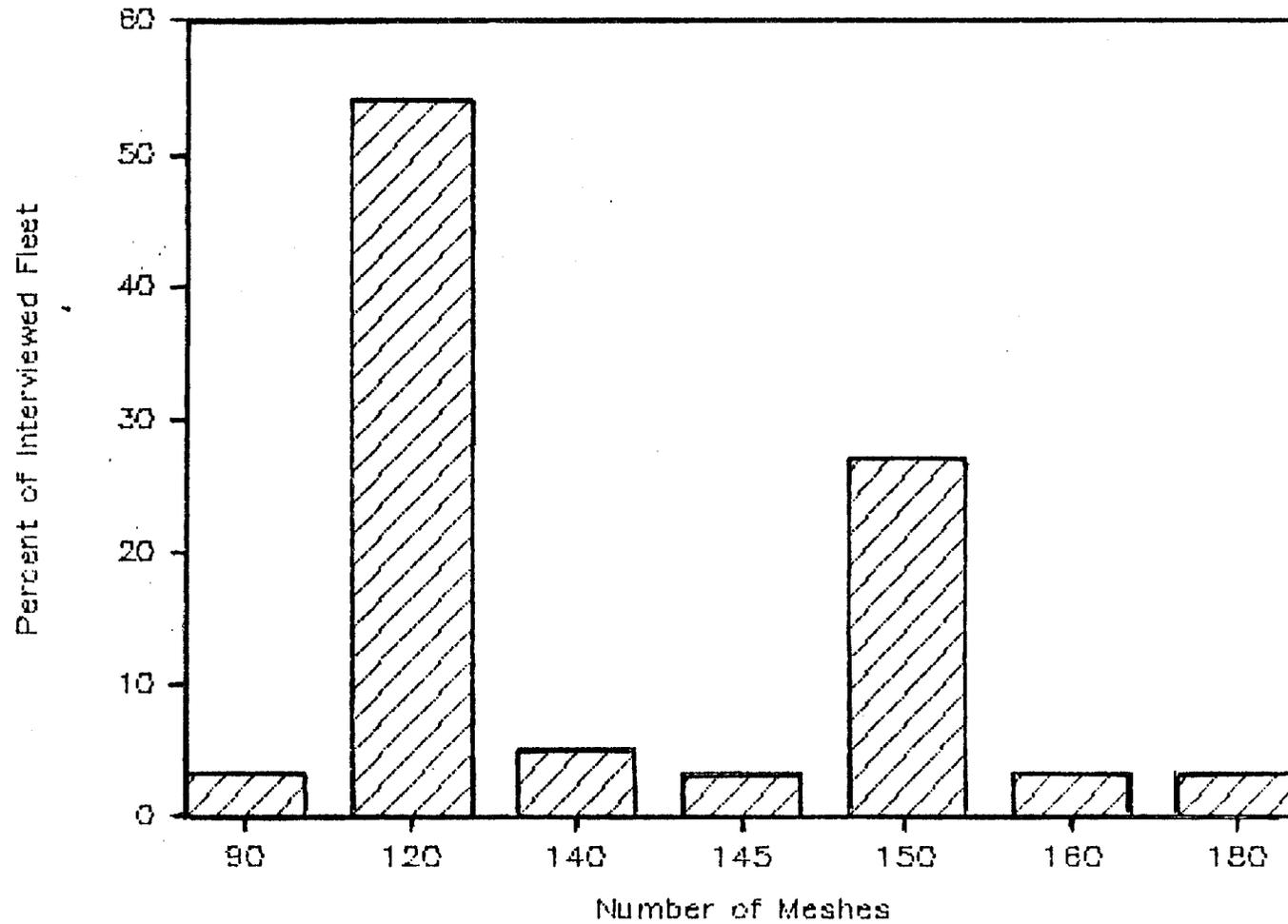


Figure 2. Composition of drift gillnet fleet by depth of gear, 1984.

Purse Seine Depth of Gear

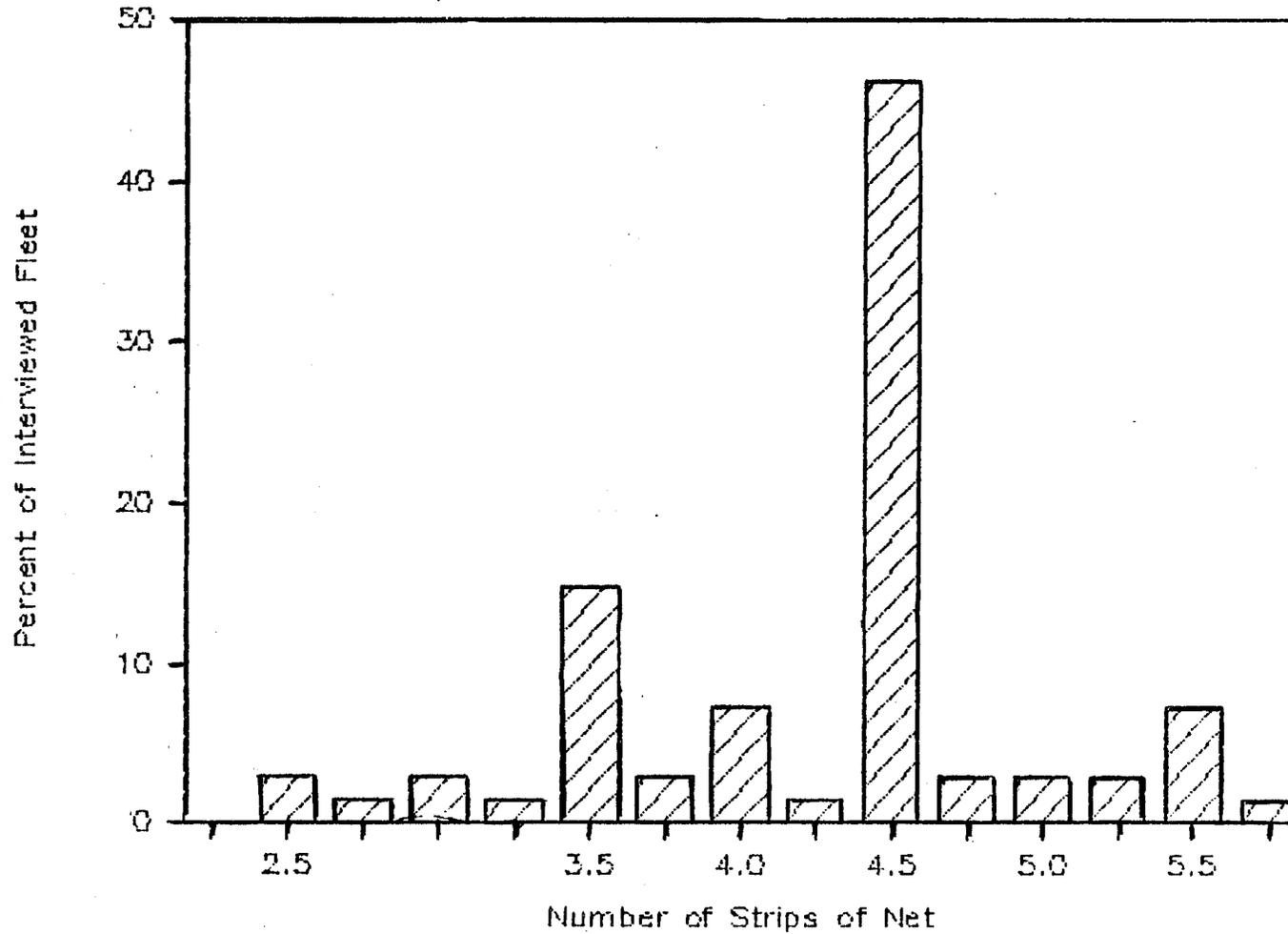


Figure 3. Percent composition of purse seine fleet by depth of gear, 1984.

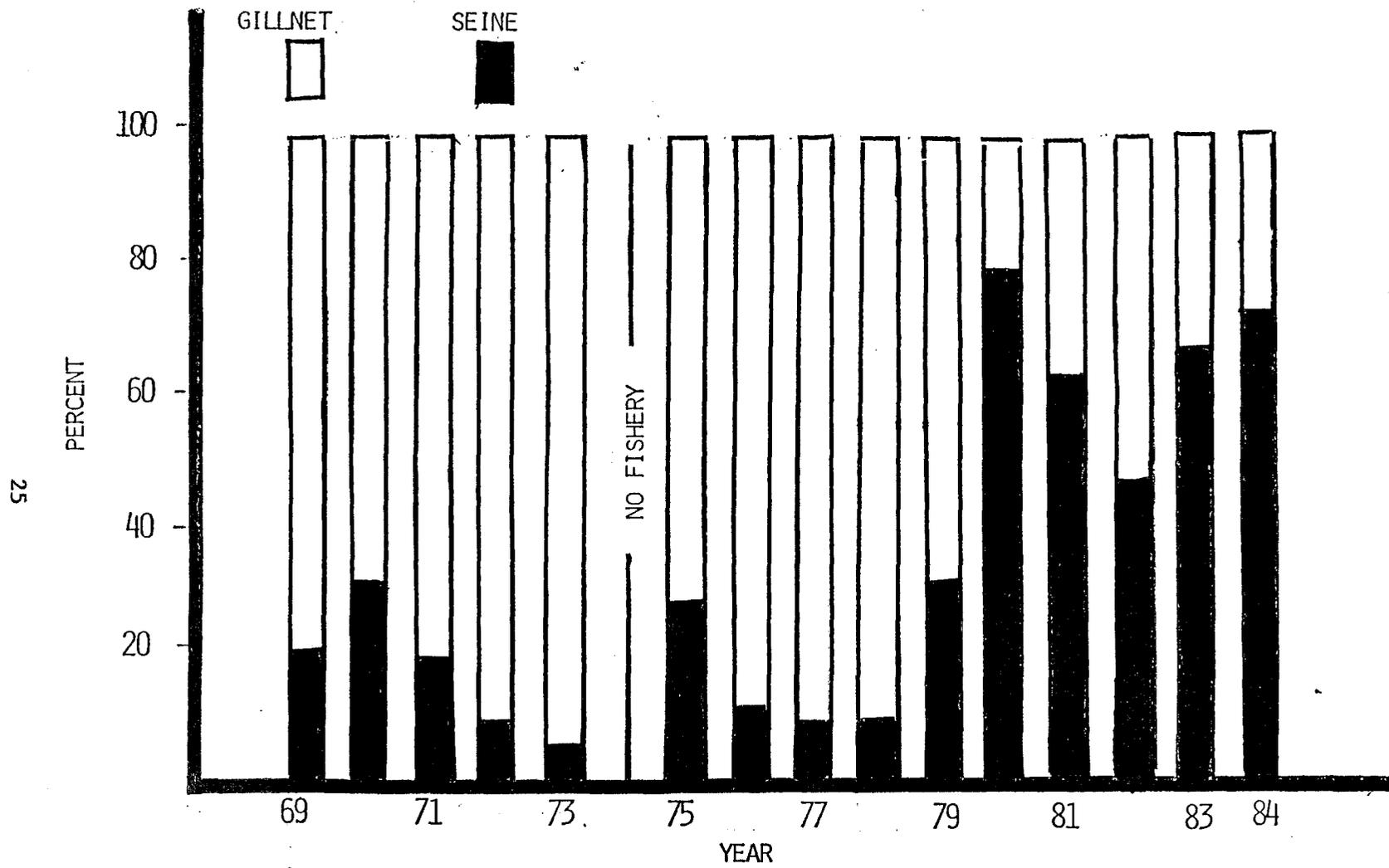


FIG. 4. SOUTH UNIMAK CHUM SALMON CATCH BY GEAR TYPE

APPENDIX

Appendix A.1. South Unimak June fishery, daily sockeye catch, 1975-1984 year (in thousands of fish).

Date	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984
June 1						0.3	0.1		0.5	
2							0.3	0.9	3.7	
3		0.1					0.3	0.2	7.1	25.3
4							0.6	1.6	9.7	49.5
5				0.3	0.5			1.3	39.6	
6				0.1	1.6		0.6	3.6	80.8	
7		1.0		0.4	0.9			2.4		
8		1.4	0.3	0.1	1.5	4.1	1.9	3.1		
9			0.4	0.4	2.5	5.0	6.4	1.6		
10	1.4	1.3	2.3	0.3	1.7	3.2	6.6	7.2		
11		5.1			3.7		47.6	12.7		
12	8.9			5.2	1.6		73.6	13.7	200.7	468.2
13			2.7	5.4	18.3		144.1	6.0	290.5	122.6
14		4.8		16.5	24.2		119.7	3.3	301.1	
15		10.8	4.0	21.3	14.3	53.7	71.8	119.0		
16	15.8		24.3	6.0	29.0	250.2	21.0	143.4		
17		15.6	26.6	4.4	33.1	267.2		156.7		
18	38.5	26.9	29.8	37.0	92.1	313.4		105.5		
19				46.2	71.7	187.8	202.4	131.3	420.3	466.5
20	10.1		68.0	38.8	118.8	198.7	226.3	22.9		
21		38.9		38.5	96.1	397.0	218.9	111.5	191.0	
22		1.3		17.8	20.8	234.9	138.1	120.8		
23	40.1	44.0		54.3	22.9	107.2		155.5		
24	42.9		8.9	29.0	32.6	256.9		170.0		
25	33.0	14.9	28.0		27.3	146.5		9.3		
26		51.0		47.3	21.9	114.5	99.7	124.1		
27				49.5	20.0	79.6	51.9	75.7		
28		3.5			14.8	82.6	24.4	23.7		
29		4.5				25.1		81.4		
30		6.5				3.4	18.0	61.4		
July 1		4.1			1.1					
2					0.5					
3					9.6					

Appendix A.2. Shumagin Islands June fishery, daily sockeye catch, 1975-1984 (in thousands of fish).

Date	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984
June 1										
2									2.0	6.4
3		0.2							1.0	16.5
4		0.1							7.8	
5									13.0	
6									7.9	
7		0.3								
8		0.1	0.1				2.3			
9			3.4					0.3		
10		0.5	3.7				1.6	1.5		
11	2.8	1.0		0.4			26.7	0.9		
12				3.7			22.3		90.8	76.7
13	2.3		12.1	3.6	6.2		32.7		87.1	39.9
14		1.1		0.1	12.7		37.0	1.6	78.6	
15		4.5		9.1	12.4	58.1	20.3	14.9		
16	5.7			4.4	4.9	55.4	40.3	25.8		
17		5.5		0.2	7.8	31.1		40.7		
18	23.9	12.5		5.0	8.6	34.4		23.4		
19				5.7	16.8	10.1	24.3	42.8	127.7	76.3
20	20.2		26.5	2.6	13.6	20.6	54.2	23.5		
21		26.7		2.3	21.3	32.7	43.4	63.8		
22				0.1	7.1	17.4	36.4	98.0		
23		19.7		3.3	8.0	13.4		65.9		
24				4.8	4.1	6.3				
25					17.8	13.0				
26				10.1	18.5	73.6		47.7		42.5
27				7.1	10.7	47.1				
28				5.4	8.7	45.2				
29						10.7				
30						6.0				
July 1						13.5				
2						29.9				
3						15.6				
4						38.0				

Appendix B.1. South Unimak Island June Fishery Daily Chum Catch, 1975-1984 (in thousands of fish)

Date	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984
June 1							0.2		0.8	
2				1.0			0.5	3.6	5.6	
3		0.3					0.6	1.0	7.3	14.4
4							1.2	2.7	13.0	32.5
5				0.1	0.4			3.0	17.3	
6				0.1	2.6		1.2	9.2	31.2	
7		3.6	0.2	0.4	0.7			10.2		
8		8.6	0.4	0.1	1.9	0.3	1.8	13.3		
9			0.9	0.2	1.3	0.4	10.9	4.2		
10	2.1	13.9	4.2	1.1	1.5	1.6	4.8	10.4		
11		55.4			3.4		24.0	19.8		
12	7.0			2.9	0.7		36.0	35.8	88.5	90.8
13			2.0	1.9	3.9		48.2	13.5	109.0	23.5
14		14.9		4.3	7.1		24.1	7.0	99.3	
15		32.8	2.2	5.4	1.9	8.3	10.4	98.2		
16	13.4		18.7	2.6	0.7	36.7	7.5	105.0		
17		31.7	12.5	1.6	1.1	41.3		92.0		
18	8.9	52.0	12.0	7.2	2.2	58.2		57.9		
19				7.7	2.7	34.0	45.6	66.6	169.6	68.4
20	3.3		21.6	3.7	6.8	27.4	39.7	6.4		
21		23.4		11.0	7.5	51.9	37.9	52.2	73.3	
22				2.0	3.3	44.0	26.9	43.4		
23	0.4	30.7		10.6	3.1	24.1		55.8		
24	21.2		6.2	9.3	2.7	52.7		50.6		
25		14.6	13.4		1.6	24.5		2.3		
26		44.1		12.8	2.4	18.3	47.3	43.7		
27				17.4	2.9	18.5	75.1	42.7		
28		2.5			0.7	11.4	42.8	7.9		
29		3.4				2.1		45.3		
30		4.5				1.3	34.5	30.6		

Appendix B.2. Shumagin Islands June fishery, daily chum catch, 1975-1984 (in thousands of fish).

Date	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984
June 1		0.1								
2									4.6	
3		2.3							6.8	2.3
4		0.8							6.4	11.8
5									14.0	
6									5.4	
7		0.8								
8		0.1	0.2				3.3			
9	0.2		5.5					1.2		
10		5.4	3.5				1.5	3.2		
11	5.2	6.3					8.1	1.6		
12				1.6			5.9		34.1	26.8
13	1.6		8.4	1.9	1.8		4.3		40.3	13.1
14		1.3			4.7		3.0	6.2	23.3	
15		7.5		1.8	2.1	5.9	1.4	12.9		
16	5.3			1.1	1.4	3.3	3.8	12.7		
17		9.9			2.2	6.0		16.2		
18	12.6	12.6		0.8	2.6	2.9		6.8		
19				0.9	4.1	1.5	4.4	9.0	34.3	16.6
20	10.6		4.4	0.6	2.7	1.2	6.2	9.7		
21		15.5		0.7	3.4	2.2	5.6	17.5		
22					1.1	1.1	6.8	30.4		
23		10.9		1.9	1.1	1.2		17.3		
24				2.3	0.4	0.9				
25					3.5	1.6				
26				2.9	3.6	7.2		15.6		36.7
27				1.1	3.9	4.9				
28				0.8	2.2	5.8				
29						2.5				
30						2.1				

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