

CHIGNIK MANAGEMENT AREA  
COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHERY  
MANAGEMENT PLAN, 1998

By

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and

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## INTRODUCTION

### *Area Description*

The Chignik Commercial Salmon Management Area encompasses all coastal waters and inland drainages of the northwest Gulf of Alaska between Kilokak Rocks and Kupreanof Point (Figure 1). The area includes the Chignik River system and over 100 other salmon producing streams and tributaries.

The management area is divided into five fishing districts: Eastern, Central, Chignik Bay, Western, and Perryville (Figure 2). The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) manages commercial fisheries within these districts to achieve escapement goals for all salmon species while allowing the harvest of fish that are surplus to spawning requirements.

Closed water areas applicable to this year's commercial salmon fishing season are described in the Chignik regulatory section of the 1996-1998 Westward Alaska commercial salmon regulation booklet. **Please note that as of 1996 all longitude and latitude coordinates in the Chignik Area have been converted to decimal minutes and are based on the North American Datum of 1983.**

### *Legal Gear Description*

Purse and hand purse seines are the only legal gear types for the Chignik Management Area (CMA) commercial salmon fishery. In the Eastern, Central, Western, and Perryville Districts, no seine less than 100 fathoms or more than 225 fathoms in length may be used. No lead may be more than 75 fathoms in length and the aggregate length of the lead and seine may not be more than 225 fathoms when fished in the Eastern, Central, Western, and Perryville Districts. In the Chignik Bay District, seines may not be less than 100 fathoms or more than 125 fathoms in length. No seine may be less than three fathoms nor more than 375 meshes in depth; in addition, up to twenty-five meshes of chafing gear with a maximum mesh size of seven inches may be used.

## BOARD OF FISHERIES ACTIONS 1996

In 1996 the Board of Fisheries closed waters around Kupreanof Point in both Area M (South Peninsula) and Area L (Chignik). In the CMA, the closed area is between a line extending 65° (all headings true north) from a point at 55° 34.90' N. lat., 159° 37.10' W. long. to a line extending 135° from Kupreanof Point at 55° 33.98' N. lat. 159° 35.88'. This closed water area will be in effect from July 6 through August 31 (Figure 3). Beginning September 1, the closed water status is removed from this area and based on the run strength of the various stocks, may be opened to a line extending 135° from Kupreanof Point at 55° 33.98' N. lat., 159° 35.88' W. long (see Western and Perryville coho salmon management plan, page 7).

## **CRITERIA FOR THE ISSUANCE OF EMERGENCY ORDERS AND NEWS RELEASES**

Actual inseason fishing time will be established by emergency order when salmon are determined surplus to interim escapement goals as run strengths of the various salmon stocks are assessed. News releases will be issued prior to most anticipated openings to ready and prepare the fleet and processors for an impending fishery opening.

### **TENDER AND PROCESSOR REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

**Alaska Commercial Fishing Regulation 5 AAC 15.355 states:**

- a) The operator of a floating salmon processing vessel or tender, or a shorebased processing operation, and a company employing aircraft used for transporting salmon, shall report in person, or by radio or telephone, to a local representative of the department located in the management area of intended operation before the start of processing or buying operations. The report must include the location and the date of intended operation, and identify and describe each vessel or other method of transport employed in hauling or processing salmon.
  
- b) A commercial fishermen shall report, on an ADF&G fish ticket at the time of landing, the number of salmon taken but not sold.

Further, processors and tender operators will be required to report daily catch information to ADF&G. This can be accomplished either by radio (SSB) or telephone. Personnel at the Chignik ADF&G office will stand by on SSB 4.125 MHz and VHF channel 6, from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m., and 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. The call sign for Chignik is KGB 76 "Chignik Weir", and the telephone number is 845-2243. If unable to contact the ADF&G Chignik weir, catch information should be given to ADF&G Cold Bay (532-2419) or Kodiak (486-1830) via telephone or single side band radio. The call signs for Kodiak and Cold Bay are WHM 29 and WHW 906, respectively. **Failure to report is a violation of commercial fishing regulations (5 AAC 15.355 Vigorous enforcement of this regulation should be expected.**

## **1998 SALMON FORECASTS**

### *Sockeye Salmon Forecast*

#### **Total Sockeye Run Forecast**

The 1998 total sockeye salmon forecasted return for the CMA is 2.0 million fish. The early run that peaks in late June returns primarily to Black Lake. The late run that peaks in late July returns primarily to Chignik Lake. The total projected commercial common property harvest for both runs is 1.35 million sockeye salmon of which approximately 1.07 million sockeye salmon are expected to be caught in the CMA.

### **Black Lake (Early Run) Sockeye Forecast**

The total early run is projected to be 0.9 million sockeye salmon. The early run escapement goal is 400,000 sockeye salmon (Table 1) with a forecasted commercial common property harvest of 0.5 million sockeye salmon.

### **Chignik Lake (Late Run) Sockeye Forecast**

The late run is expected to be larger than the early run, and is forecasted at 1.1 million sockeye salmon. The escapement goal for the late run is 250,000 sockeye salmon through August 31 (Table 1) which could allow a commercial common property harvest of approximately 0.85 million sockeye salmon.

### **Cape Igvak And Southeastern District Mainland Sockeye Forecast**

The fisheries in the Cape Igvak Section of the Kodiak Management Area (KMA) and the Southeastern District Mainland fishery of the Alaska Peninsula Management Area (APMA) harvest Chignik bound sockeye salmon. The Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan (5ACC 18.360; Appendix A) and the Southeastern District Mainland Salmon Management Plan (5ACC 09.360; Appendix B), as adopted by the Board of Fisheries, will be used to manage these fisheries. The Cape Igvak allocation is 15% and the Southeastern District Mainland allocation is 6% through July 25 of the Chignik bound salmon.

### ***Chinook Salmon Forecast***

The 1998 chinook harvest projection of 7,000 is dependent upon the amount of fishing time allowed for sockeye salmon harvest in July. This projection approximates the 10-year harvest average, 1988-1997. The Chignik River System's chinook salmon minimum escapement goal above the subsistence and sport fishing removals is 1,450 spawners. If escapement in early July is weak and escapement goals are not likely to be met, the Hume's point markers may be used to encourage escapement. Over 50% of the chinook escapement should pass the weir by July 11.

### ***Coho Salmon Forecast***

The projected 1998 coho salmon commercial common property harvest is projected to be 235,000. Chignik Bay and outside district catches are based on an approximate 10-year harvest average. Ultimately, fishing time for the coho harvest will be related to the strength of the Chignik Lake sockeye, pink, and chum runs plus subsistence concerns in the Western and Perryville Districts (See page 7, Western and Perryville Coho Management Plan).

### ***Pink Salmon Forecast***

The 1998 projected pink salmon commercial common property harvest is 1.1 million fish. The forecast is based on the average harvestable surplus over the most recent 10-year period. Slightly more harvest should come from the Western and Perryville Districts than the Central and Eastern Districts. Unstable stream conditions in these districts have resulted in poor returns from excellent parent year escapements.

### ***Chum Salmon Forecast***

The 1998 projected chum salmon commercial common property harvest for the CMA is 270,000 fish. The chum salmon forecast is based on the average returns from escapements 1984 - 1993. The Western/Perryville Districts should experience the largest proportion of the catch.

## **1998 SOCKEYE SALMON MANAGEMENT**

### ***Chignik Lagoon Regulatory Markers***

During 1996 in response to the Governor's and local processors' call for salmon management changes that could enhance quality, Chignik managers felt some changes could alleviate some of the quality problems in the Chignik Lagoon and provide for an even flow of escapement. During most of 1996 and 1997, Chignik managers implemented the following schedule for the Lagoon openings: 1) initial openings were only allowed up to south of the Hume's to Chignik Island markers, 2) after 24 hours the markers were then moved to Mensis Point, which is in the mouth of the Chignik River. This management action seems to have improved quality to the point that processors indicated a significant percentage boost in sockeye salmon that could be graded as number ones. Quality likely improved because salmon holding between Hume's and Mensis Point were given an extra day to migrate upriver and escape the fishery. The 1996 and 1997 sockeye escapement was extremely smooth with approximately equal escapements on opening day as well as the next day. During the 1998 salmon season this strategy will continue to be implemented.

### ***The June and Early July Fishery***

The Department intends on giving the fleet advance notice prior to any impending fishery by news releases. The first commercial fishing period can occur by regulation on June 1. However, since 1982 the first fishery usually occurs after June 11. Prior to the first commercial salmon fishing period, the following requirements must be met: 1) a minimum escapement of 40,000 sockeye salmon through the weir by June 12, and 2) a strong buildup of salmon in Chignik Lagoon as indicated by ADF&G test fishing program. Additional openings will be determined from several factors including, commercial catches, test fishing results, and inseason escapement counts as they surpass established interim escapement goals (Table 1).

During June, commercial salmon fishing will be allowed only in the Chignik Bay, Central, and Eastern Districts. Commercial salmon fishing, as described by the Eastern District Management

Plan (5AAC 15.360, Appendix C), will open and close concurrently in the Eastern, Chignik Bay, and Central Districts. During late June and early July, the Eastern District may close if the run strength of the late run (Chignik Lake) cannot be determined. After July 15, the Eastern District will be managed on sockeye salmon run strength as well as that of local pink and chum salmon. If it is determined that stocks being harvested within the Eastern District are not primarily Chignik stocks, the fishery in this district will be closed by emergency order as directed by the Board of Fisheries in the Eastern District Management Plan.

Run timing and strength of the Chignik River runs will directly affect commercial fishing time in the Eastern, Western, and Perryville Districts. If the early sockeye salmon run into Black Lake is weaker than forecasted, and the 400,000 salmon escapement goal through the Chignik River weir is not achieved, then the early July openings in all waters where sockeye salmon could be harvested may be reduced. Commercial fishery openings during the transition period between the two sockeye salmon runs (June 26 to July 9) will also be closely monitored to evaluate the Chignik Lake run strength to ensure the achievement of the 250,000 salmon escapement goal.

### ***Sockeye Escapement Goal from September 1 to September 15***

During the 1960s, the Fisheries Research Institute (FRI) established a sockeye salmon escapement goal of 250,000 for Chignik Lake to August 31. At that time, FRI recommended a goal of 200,000 to July 31, 50,000 for August, but nothing for September. The September goal was not set because very little effort occurred after mid August in the late 1960s and early 1970s when the goals were first established. However, since the 1970s, there has been increasingly more effort for sockeye resulting in higher catches after August 31 (Figure 4-5). This trend continued until recently when subsistence restrictions were implemented (Figure 6-7).

Even though in the early 1990s, the August sockeye escapement goal of 50,000 was achieved or superseded for most years, Chignik Lake subsistence users complained that they were unable to fulfill their subsistence needs (Figure 6). Also from 1990-1994, the September sockeye escapement was less than or equal to 10,000 sockeye salmon (Figure 7). This has led to the conclusion that the September sockeye escapement is the most significant contributor to fall Chignik Lake subsistence requirements.

Subsistence needs reportedly were easily filled in 1995 and 1997 but required comparatively more effort in 1996. From the data and subsistence reports, 20,000-25,000 sockeye escapement from September 1 to September 15 should be adequate to fulfill subsistence needs with a reasonable amount of effort.

## ***Post September 14 Sockeye Salmon Commercial Fisheries Management Plan***

### **Background**

In 1994, the Board of Fisheries directed the Department, industry, and subsistence users to devise a workable plan that addressed the availability of late season sockeye salmon for subsistence use. This was in response to complaints from subsistence users that testified they were not able to meet subsistence needs from post September 15 sockeye salmon destined to the Clark River and Home Creek. Then at the December 1996 Chignik Regional Planning Team (RPT) meeting in Anchorage, several members expressed the view that future late season closures should be determined from objective criteria developed by the department in addition to recommendations from commercial fishers and subsistence users.

To answer this request and to assist in determining escapement and run strength after the weir is pulled on September 5, objective criteria were developed and distributed to as many resource users as possible in March 1997 and discussed at a June 1997 RPT/Chignik Seiners Association (CSA) meeting. As a result of those discussions and a fall 1997 analysis of age composition to Chignik Lake, objective criteria are incorporated into a post September 14 sockeye salmon management plan for the commercial fishery that addresses subsistence needs for fish destined to the Clark River.

### **Objective Criteria To Determine Late Sockeye Salmon Run Strength**

- 1) Aerial surveys in early September over the Clark River drainage and Hatchery Beach will be compared to aerial survey estimates of previous years.
- 2) Apply catch/escapement ratios from late August/early September to the post-weir catch to project escapement and compare to previous years' estimates.
- 3) Compare the commercial harvest (total catch and CPUE) from September 1-14 to previous years as an indicator of run strength.
- 4) Compare or analyze age-class data from the commercial fishery. For the Chignik Lake run, a strong age 2.3 component appears necessary for any large volume of sockeye salmon to pass through the fishery. High proportions of other ages to age 2.3 fish indicates weakness in the late run.

### **Public Input To Determine Late Sockeye Salmon Run Strength**

- 1) Gather recommendations from several commercial and subsistence users regarding the late season sockeye salmon run strength.

### **Sockeye Salmon Management Options Post September 14**

The subsistence plan, that was agreed upon and implemented during the 1995, 1996, and 1997 seasons, allows for gradual restrictions of the commercial fishery.

- 1) Beginning September 15, the greatest amount of commercial fishing time is 48-hours per week. The 48-hours can be structured into one, two, three, or four commercial fishing periods depending upon the level of concern for the resource. Maximum fishing time could be distributed over 4 days within a week for 12-hour periods each day.
- 2) The plan also allows for a weekly fishing schedule less than 48-hours, or if the run weakens at any point-reduce the fishing time.
- 3) The plan also allows for a complete closure. Subsistence surveys of late season subsistence harvests indicate that, on average, about 3,500 red fish are taken in late fall and early winter at Chignik Lake. If projections indicate that this harvest level is not attainable, then appropriate action to restrict the commercial fishery should occur.

## **1998 COHO SALMON MANAGEMENT**

### ***Western and Perryville Coho Management Plan***

#### **Background**

The Chignik Advisory Committee Chairman held a teleconference in April 1997 to discuss coho salmon subsistence concerns expressed by the residents in the Perryville Village area. To address and understand the problem, the ADF&G provided historic catch and escapement data on all salmon species. Residents testified that coho escapement in recent years had diminished in the Kametlook River and other streams of the Western and Perryville Districts. Responding to the advisory chairmen's request, the department drafted a coho management plan that was discussed during the RPT and CSA June meeting, and then at a late June meeting that was attended mostly by fishermen who primarily fish districts outside of the Chignik Bay District. As a result of these discussions and meetings, the following coho management plan for the Western and Perryville Districts was first drafted and implemented in 1997. The same plan will be implemented during the 1998 salmon season.

#### **Management In The Western and Perryville Districts On Or About August 20**

- 1) Closure of the commercial fishery in the Western and Perryville Districts on or about August 20 for coho conservation.

The tentative date of August 20 was selected because most of the pink (98%) and chum (94%) salmon harvest has been caught by this date and abundance trails off on or about that date. The exact date will not only be determined by coho abundance but by pink and chum salmon abundance and previous openings to that area.

- 2) Allow commercial fishery openings after August 20 in the Castle Cape to Cape Ikti section of the Western District in years of strong coho abundance.
- 3) Allow commercial fishing after August 20 within Ivanof Bay if there is a strong run to that bay.

- 4) Strength of the run is to be determined by comparative coho commercial catch data (previous 10 years) and any available aerial survey data.
- 5) Subsistence users must implement self-imposed subsistence harvest restrictions on the Kametolook River to enhance the rebuilding process.
  - a) No Kametolook River subsistence harvests on critical spawning ground areas.
  - b) Continue protecting the Kametolook River spawning and rearing habitat.
  - c) Continued community support for the department's enhancement project on the Kametolook River.

## **1998 PINK AND CHUM SALMON MANAGEMENT**

### *Criteria For Establishing Pink and Chum Salmon Openings and Closures*

Aerial surveys will be conducted to monitor pink and chum salmon escapements. If interim escapement goals are met, openings are possible and where feasible, a 24 hour advance notice will be given prior to any commercial fishery opening. Openings and closures will be announced over single side band radio frequency 4.125 MHz and VHF radio channel 6.

### *Openings For Pink and Chum Salmon In The Western and Perryville Districts*

#### **First Opening Date**

The first pink and chum salmon openings in the Western and Perryville Districts are tentatively scheduled for July 6. In the Eastern District, commercial salmon fishing must close on July 15 pending evaluation of the pink and chum salmon run strengths (5 AAC 15.360).

Recognizing that processors need high quality fish in a competitive salmon market, management strategies will be adjusted to harvest fish as they migrate to their natal streams, such as increasing fishing effort early in the run, if a harvestable surplus is available.

#### **Openings On A Test Fishery Basis**

In recognition that during some years in early July, pink and chum escapement may be behind the normal instream timing schedule, or the run is large enough to support some limited effort, the fishery may be opened on a "test fishery" basis in order to provide harvest information. In the case where instream escapement is weak, restrictive management action may be required to ensure that the biological escapement goals will be achieved.

Since pink and chum salmon for many streams have different run timing, chum salmon often appear earlier than pink salmon, these two species would be evaluated by their own special run timing characteristics.

Run timing and strength of the Chignik River runs (Black Lake: early run and Chignik Lake: late run) will directly affect commercial fishing time in the Eastern, Western, and Perryville Districts. If the early sockeye salmon run into Black Lake is weaker than forecasted, and the 400,000 salmon escapement goal through the Chignik River weir is not achieved, then the early July openings in all waters where sockeye salmon could be harvested may be reduced. Commercial fishery openings during the transition period between the two sockeye salmon runs (June 26 to July 9) will also be closely monitored to evaluate the Chignik Lake run strength to ensure the achievement of the 250,000 salmon escapement goal .

*Actual Opening Time For All CMA Districts From July To The End Of The Season*

In the recent past, the Eastern, Western, and Perryville Districts have been opened at midnight. This policy is changed this season to address complaints about unequal access to the salmon resource by providing openings on a fair start basis that would spread the fleet out over the CMA. During June, all District openings within the CMA are concurrent with that of Chignik Lagoon. The standard for concurrent openings, established in the Eastern District Management Plan, will be applied during the 1998 season to nearly every opening within the CMA. From July 1 to the end of the season, any CMA District that is opened will be concurrent with the opening in Chignik Lagoon. The only exception to this rule would be when late evening openings are announced for the Chignik Lagoon. In that situation, any openings in the Eastern, Western, and Perryville Districts would start at midnight following the announced opening for Chignik Lagoon.

Table 1. Chignik River system sockeye salmon escapement goals for the **early run** (preimarily Black Lake) and **late run** (primarily Chignik Lake), by time period.

The numbers of fish presented in the escapement tables below were derived from averages over several years of escapements of various timing and magnitude. It should be noted that daily escapement levels will fluctuate considerably throughout the run. The tables listed serve only as a guide for achieving the total escapement for each run. Inseason variations from the figures listed may be due to variations in actual timing and/or strength of the run. The September goal is set at 25,000 sockeye salmon with the intention of providing salmon in concentrations plentiful enough to be caught by subsistence users with a reasonable amount of effort.

Early Run-400,000 Escapement		
Date	Lower	Upper
June 12		40000
June 14	50,000 -	65000
June 16	75,000 -	100,000
June 18	125,000 -	150,000
June 20	175,000 -	200,000
June 22	225,000 -	250,000
June 25	275,000 -	325,000
June 30	350,000 -	400,000

Late Run-250,000 Escapement to August 31		
-275,000 Escapement to September 15		
Date	Early Escapement Is Achieved	Early Escapement Is Not Achieved
July 6		40000
July 8		45,000 - 50000
July 10	- 40000	55,000 - 65000
July 12	50,000 - 60000	70,000 - 75000
July 14	65,000 - 75000	75,000 - 80000
July 16	80,000 - 90000	80,000 - 90000
July 19	100,000 - 115,000	100,000 - 115,000
July 21	125,000 - 135,000	125,000 - 135,000
July 23	145,000 - 160,000	150,000 - 160,000
July 26	170,000 - 180,000	170,000 - 180,000
July 29	185,000 - 195,000	190,000 - 195,000
July 31	195,000 - 200,000	195,000 - 200,000
August 31	200,000 - 250,000	200,000 - 250,000
September 15	250,000 - 275,000	250,000 - 275,000

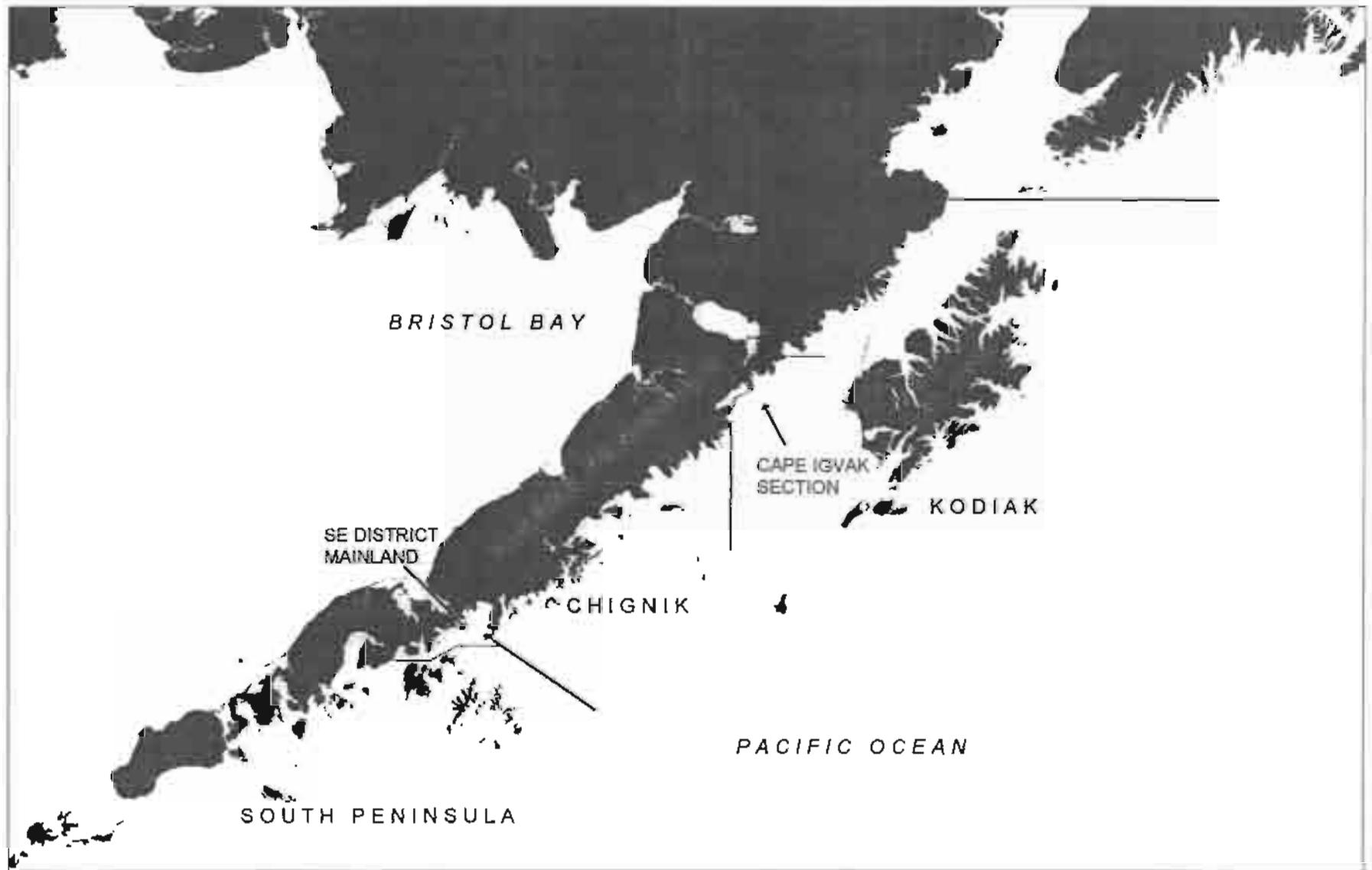


Figure 1. Map of the Alaska Peninsula illustrating the relative locations of the Chignik, Kodiak, and South Peninsula Management Areas.

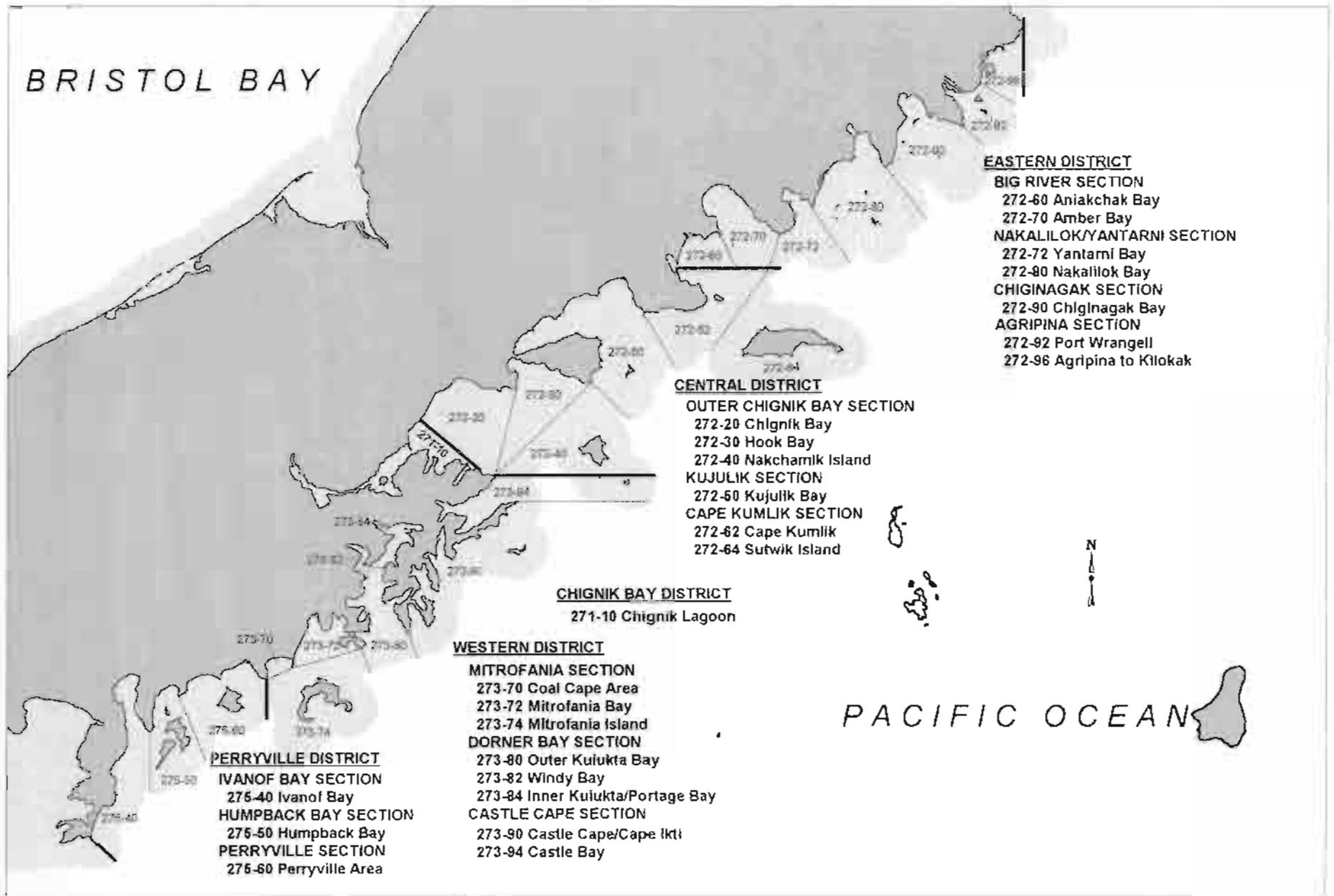


Figure 2. Map of Chignik Management Area illustrating district boundaries.

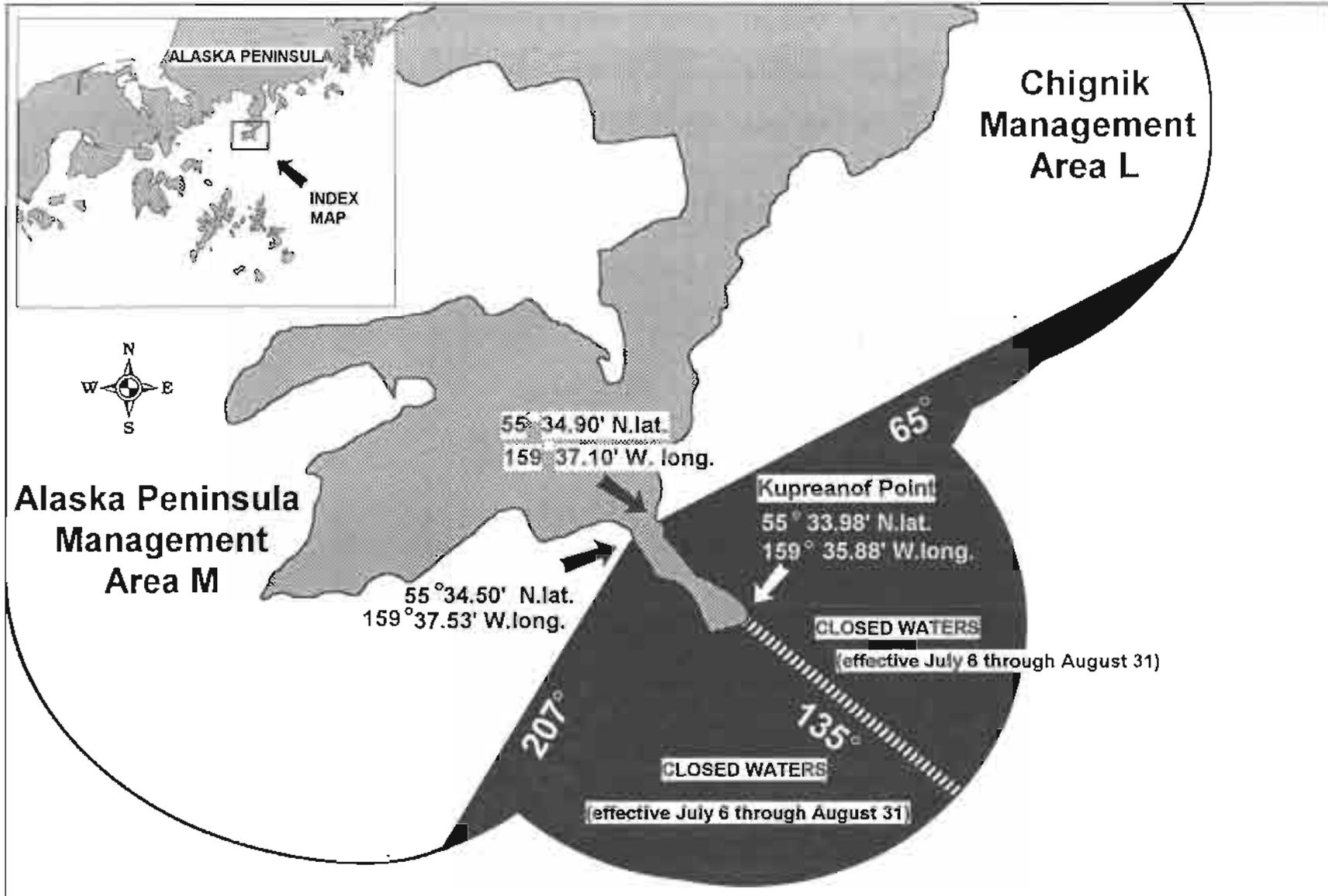


Figure 3. Map of the closed waters in the Chignik and Southeastern District Mainland Management Areas at Kupreanof Point.

### Number of Permits Fishing in Chignik Lagoon by Five Year Increments

41

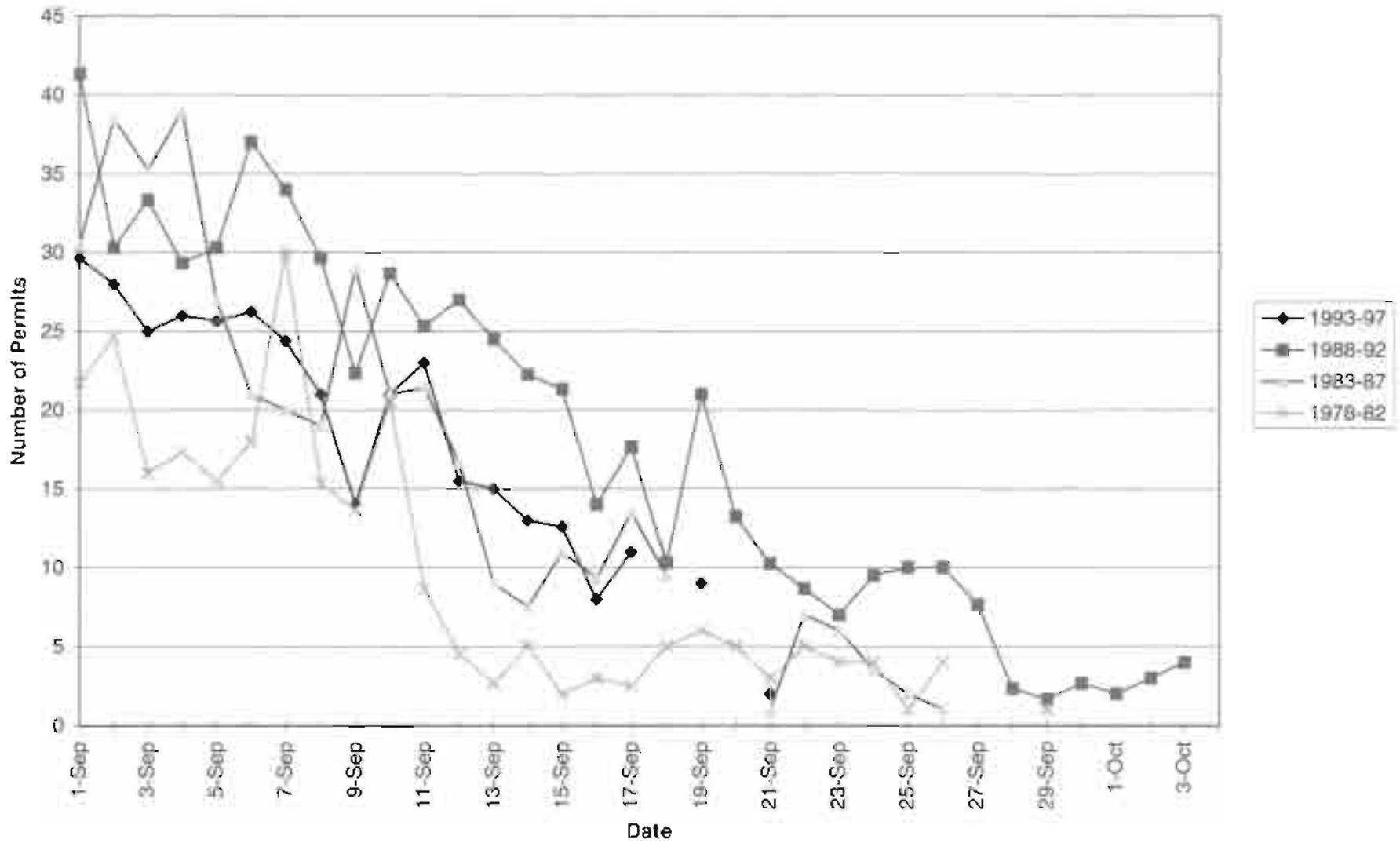


Figure 4. Average number of permits fishing in Chignik Lagoon by day by five year increments.

Average Catch on Days Fished by Five Year Increments, 1978-1997

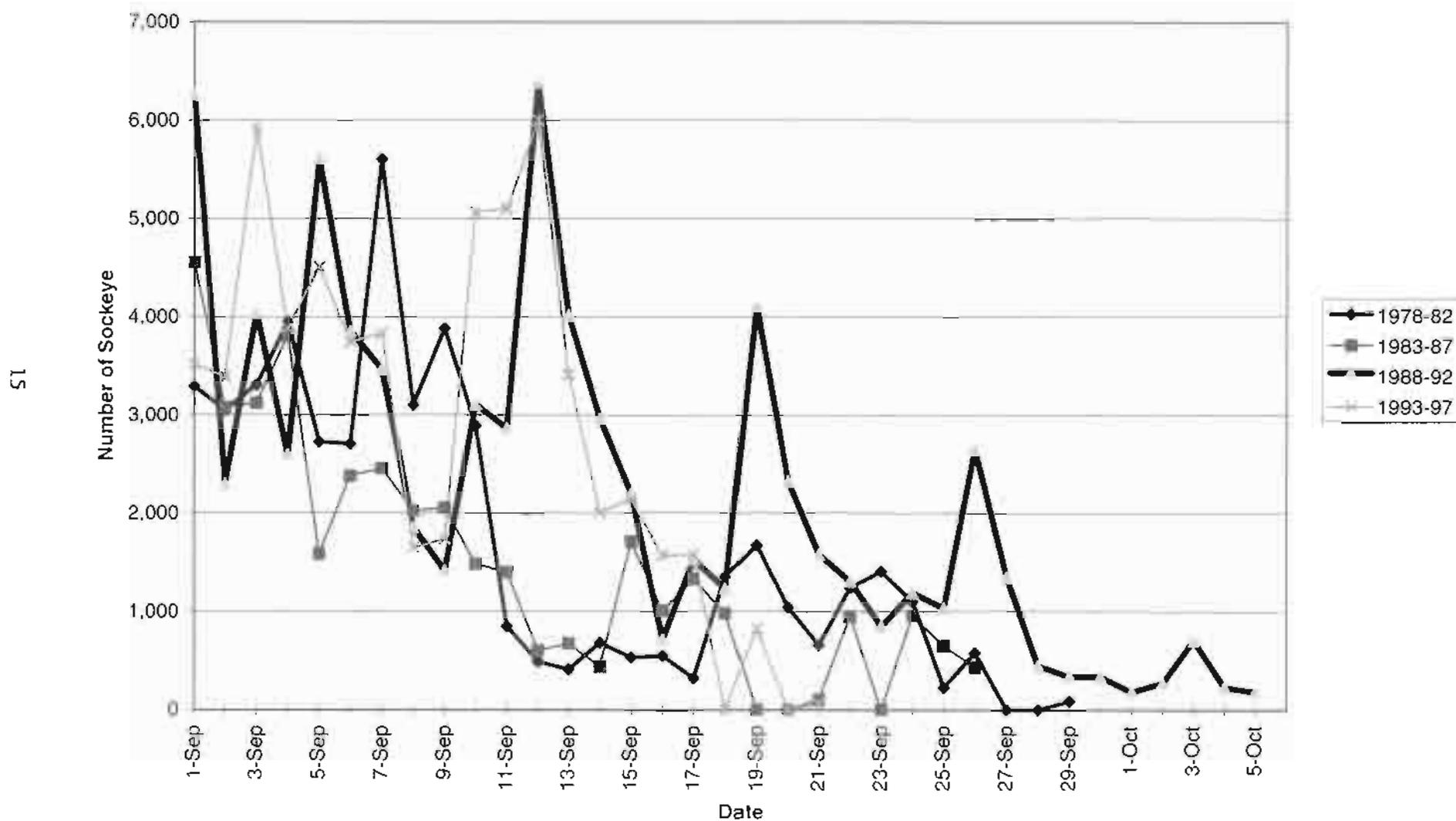


Figure 5. Average catch in Chignik Lagoon by day by five year increments, 1978-1997.

### Chignik System Catch and Estimated Escapement From August 1 to August 31

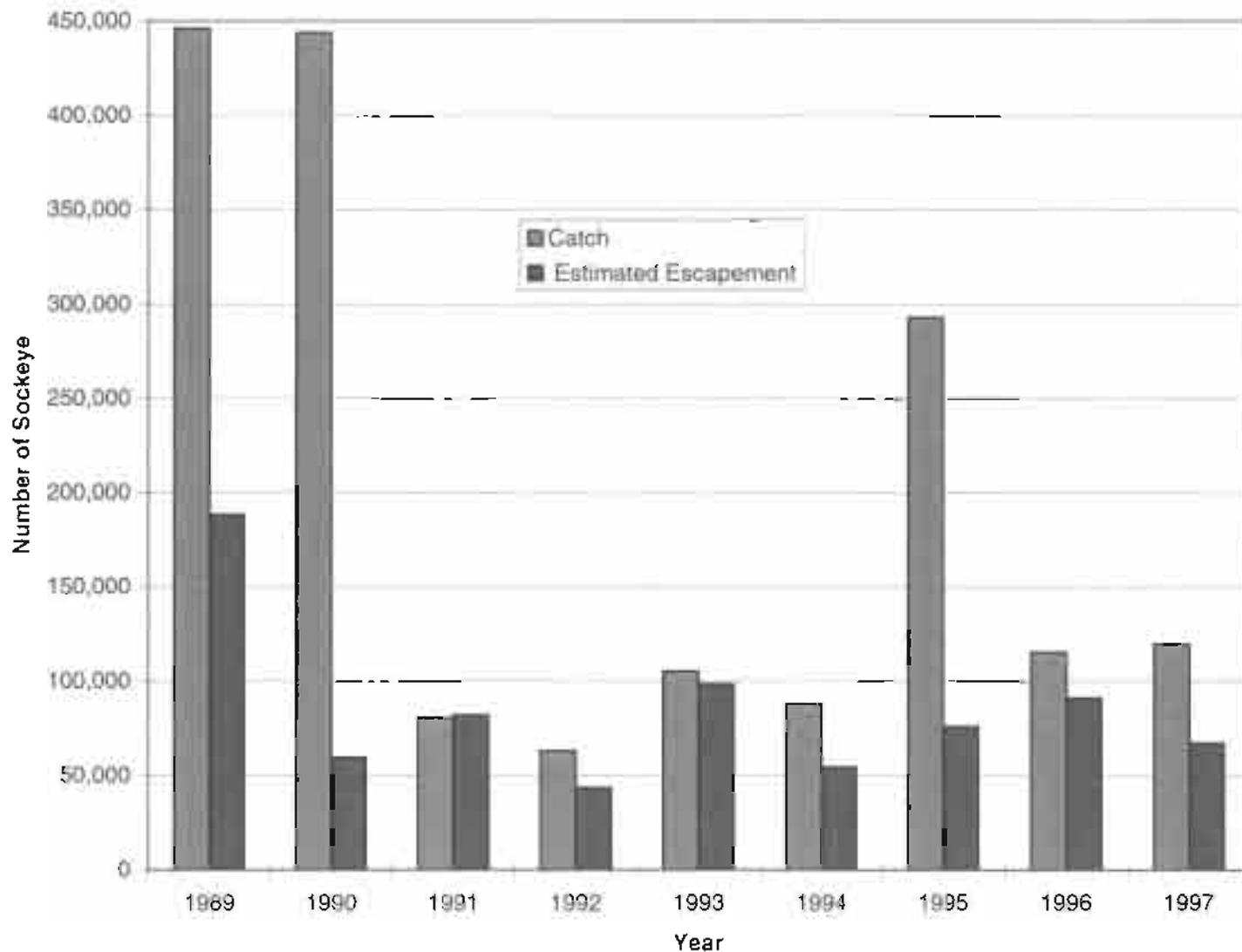


Figure 6. Chignik Lagoon catch and Chignik Lake escapement for sockeye salmon from August 1- 31, 1989 to 1997. (After weir is removed, catch ratios prior to removal are used to estimate post weir escapement).

### Chignik System Catch and Estimated Escapement From September 1 to September 15

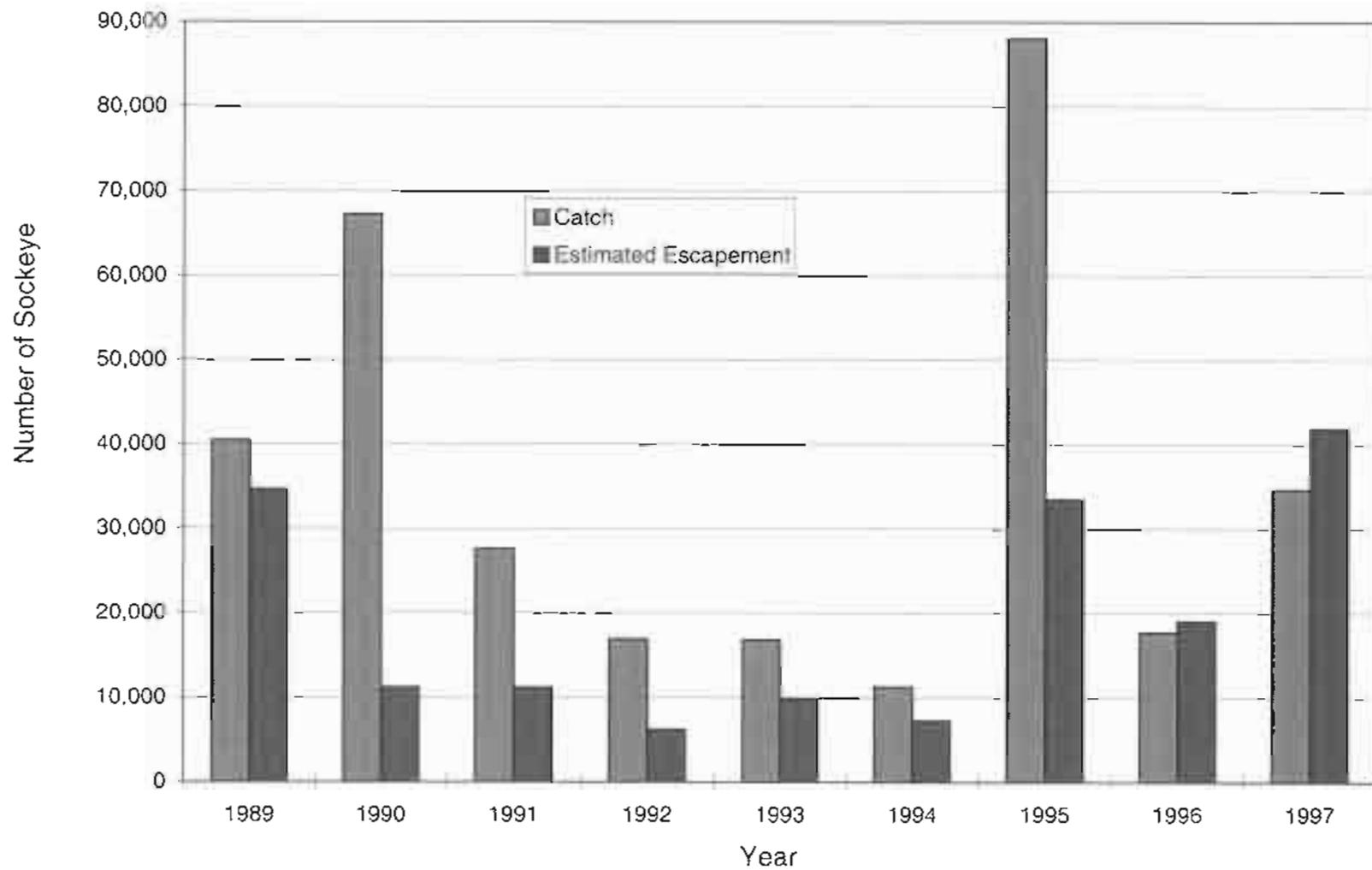


Figure 7. Chignik Lagoon catch and Chignik Lake escapement for sockeye salmon from September 1-15, 1989-1997. (After weir is removed, catch ratios prior to removal are used to estimate post weir escapement).

## **APPENDIX**

*Appendix A. Management Plan for the Cape Igvak fishery, 1998.*

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5 AAC 18.360 CAPE IGVAK SALMON MANAGEMENT PLAN.

(a) In years when a harvestable surplus beyond escapement goals for the first (Black Lake) and second (Chignik Lake) runs of Chignik River system sockeye salmon is expected to be less than 600,000, there will be no commercial salmon fishery allowed in the Cape Igvak Section, as described in 5 AAC 18.200(g)(8), until a harvest of 300,000 sockeye salmon in the Chignik Area, as described in 5 AAC 15.100, is achieved. After July 8, after at least 300,000 sockeye salmon have been harvested in the Chignik Area, and if escapement goals are being met, the department shall manage the fishery so that the number of sockeye salmon harvested in the Chignik Area will be at least 600,000 and the harvest in the Cape Igvak Section will approach as near as possible 15 percent of the total Chignik sockeye salmon catch.

(b) In years when a harvestable surplus beyond escapement goals for the first and second runs of Chignik River system sockeye salmon is expected to be more than 600,000, but the first run fails to develop as predicted and it is determined that a total sockeye salmon harvest in the Chignik Area of 600,000 or more may not be achieved, the Cape Igvak Section commercial salmon fishery will be curtailed in order to allow at least a minimum harvest in the Chignik Area of 300,000 sockeye salmon by July 9 if that number of fish are determined to be surplus to the escapement goals of the Chignik River system. After July 8, after at least 300,000 sockeye salmon have been harvested in the Chignik Area, and if escapement goals are being met, the department shall manage the fishery so that the number of sockeye salmon harvested in the Chignik Area will be at least 600,000 and the harvest in the Cape Igvak Section will approach as near as possible 15 percent of the total Chignik sockeye salmon catch.

(c) On years when a harvestable surplus beyond the escapement goals for the first and second runs of Chignik River system sockeye salmon is expected to be more than 600,000 and the department determines the runs are as strong as expected, the department will manage the fishery in such a manner whereby the number of sockeye salmon taken in the Cape Section will approach as near as possible 15 percent of the total Chignik sockeye salmon catch.

(d) The total Chignik sockeye salmon catch constitutes those sockeye salmon caught within the Chignik Area plus 80 percent of the sockeye salmon caught in the East Stepovak, Southwest Stepovak, Stepovak Flats, Balboa Bay, and Beaver Bay Sections, as described in 5 AAC 09.500 (f), plus 80 percent of the sockeye salmon caught in the Cape Igvak Section. The harvest in the Cape Igvak Section at any time before July 25 may be permitted to fluctuate above or below 15 percent of the cumulative Chignik sockeye salmon catch.

(e) This allocation method will be in effect through July 25. The first fishing period of the commercial salmon fishing season in the Cape Igvak Section will not occur before the first fishing period of the commercial salmon fishing season in the Chignik Area. After July 25, commercial salmon fishing in the Cape Igvak Section may be allowed on the local Kodiak Area stocks.

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(f) During the period from approximately June 26 to July 9, the strength of the second run of Chignik River system sockeye salmon cannot be evaluated. In order to prevent over-harvest of the second run, commercial salmon fishing in the Cape Igvak Section will, in the department's discretion, be disallowed or severely restricted during this period.

(g) The department shall announce commercial salmon fishing periods by emergency order. The department shall give at least one-day notice prior to the opening of a commercial salmon fishing period unless it is an extension of a fishing period in progress.

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*Appendix B: Southeastern District Mainland Salmon Management Plan.*

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**5 AAC 09.360. SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT MAINLAND SALMON MANAGEMENT PLAN**

(a) This plan pertains to the management of the interception of Chignik River sockeye salmon caught in the Southeastern District Mainland fishery: East Stepovak, Stepovak Flats, Northwest Stepovak, Southwest Stepovak, Balboa Bay, and Beaver Bay Sections. Before July 11, only set gill net gear may be used in these sections. For the purpose of this plan, local runs include only those salmon in the waters:

- 1) beginning July 1, in the Northwest Stepovak Section described 5 AAC 09.200(f):
- 2) the Stepovak Flats Section as described in 5 AAC 09.200(f).

(b) In years when a harvestable surplus for the first (Black Lake) and second (Chignik Lake) runs of Chignik River system sockeye salmon is expected to be less than 600,000, no commercial salmon fishery is allowed in the East Stepovak, Southwest Stepovak, Balboa Bay, and Beaver Bay Sections, and in the Northwest Stepovak Section, as described in 5 AAC 09.200(f) excluding Orzinski Bay of the Northwest Stepovak Section north of a line from Elephant Point at 55°41.92' N. lat., 160°03.2' W. long., to Waterfall Point at 55°43.18' N. lat., 160°01.13' W. long., until a harvest of 300,000 sockeye salmon is achieved in the Chignik Area, as described in 5 AAC 15.100.

After July 8, if at least 300,000 sockeye salmon have been harvested in the Chignik Area, and if escapement goals are being met, the department shall manage the fishery so that the number of sockeye salmon harvested in the Chignik Area will be at least 600,000 and the number of sockeye salmon harvested in the East Stepovak, Stepovak Flats, Southwest Stepovak, Balboa Bay, and Beaver Bay Sections and before July 1 in the Northwest Stepovak Section, approaches as near as possible six percent of the total Chignik sockeye salmon catch.

(c) In years when a harvestable surplus beyond escapement goals for the first and second runs of Chignik River system sockeye salmon is expected to be more than 600,000 but the first run fails to develop as predicted and it is determined that a total sockeye salmon harvest in the Chignik Area of 600,000 or more may not be achieved, the commercial salmon fishery in the East Stepovak, Stepovak Flats, Southwest Stepovak, Balboa Bay, and Beaver Bay Sections and in the Northwest Stepovak Section, ), excluding Orzinski Bay of the Northwest Stepovak Section north of a line from Elephant Point at 55°41.92' N. lat., 160°03.20' W. long., to Waterfall Point at 55°43.18' N. lat., 160°01.13' W. long., shall be curtailed in order to allow a harvest in the Chignik Area of 300,000 sockeye salmon through July 8 if that number of fish are determined to be surplus to the escapement goals of the Chignik River system. After July 8, if at least 300,000 sockeye salmon have been harvested in the Chignik Area, and if escapement goals are being met, the department shall manage the fishery so that the number of sockeye salmon harvested in the Chignik Area is at least 600,000 and the number of sockeye salmon harvested in the East Stepovak, Stepovak Flats, Southwest Stepovak, Balboa Bay, and Beaver Bay Sections and before July 1 in the Northwest Stepovak Section, approaches as near as possible six percent of the total Chignik sockeye salmon catch.

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(d) In years when a harvestable surplus beyond the escapement goals for the first and second runs of Chignik River system sockeye salmon is expected to be more than 600,000 and the department determines that the runs are as strong as expected, the department shall manage the fishery so that the number of sockeye salmon taken in the East Stepovak, Stepovak Flats, Southwest Stepovak, Balboa Bay, and Beaver Bay Sections and before July 1 in the Northwest Stepovak Section, approaches as near as possible six percent of the total Chignik sockeye salmon catch.

(e) The fishing schedule in the Northwest Stepovak Section, excluding the waters of Orzinski Bay located north of a line from Elephant Point at 55°41.92' N. lat., 160°03.20' W. long., to Waterfall Point at 55°43.18' N. lat., 160°01.13' W. long., will not exceed four days during a seven day period. The maximum number of consecutive fishing days is two.

(f) The estimate of sockeye salmon destined for the Chignik River has been determined to be 80 percent of the sockeye salmon harvested in the East Stepovak, Stepovak Flats, Southwest Stepovak, Balboa Bay, and Beaver Bay Sections and before July 1 in the Northwest Stepovak Section. The sockeye salmon taken in the Northwest Stepovak Section beginning July 1 are considered to be 100% destined for Orzinski Bay.

(g) The total Chignik sockeye salmon catch constitutes those sockeye salmon caught within the Chignik Area, plus 80 percent of the sockeye salmon caught in the East Stepovak, Stepovak Flats, Southwest Stepovak, Balboa Bay, and Beaver Bay Sections, and before July 1 in the Northwest Stepovak Section, as described in 5 AAC 09.200(f), plus 80 percent of the sockeye salmon caught in the Cape Igvak Section of the Kodiak Area. The percentage of Chignik sockeye salmon may be permitted to fluctuate above or below six percent at any time before July 25.

(h) This allocation method is in effect through July 25. The first fishing period of the commercial salmon fishing season in the East Stepovak, Southwest Stepovak, Balboa Bay, and Beaver Bay Sections and before July 1 in the Northwest Stepovak Section, may not occur before the first fishing period of the commercial salmon fishing season in the Chignik Area. After July 25, commercial salmon fishing in the entire Southeastern District Mainland area may be allowed on local stocks.

(i) During the period from approximately June 26 through July 8, the strength of the second run of the Chignik River system sockeye salmon cannot be evaluated. In order to prevent over-harvest of the second run, the department may disallow or severely restrict commercial salmon fishing in the East Stepovak, Stepovak Flats, Southwest Stepovak, Balboa Bay, and Beaver Bay Sections during this period, and from June 26 through June 30 in the Northwest Stepovak Section

(j) The department shall announce all commercial salmon fishing periods by emergency order. The department shall give at least 24 hour notice before the first opening of the season. After the season opening, the advance notice will be 12-hours, unless it its an extension of a fishing period in progress.

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*Appendix C. 5 AAC 15.360. Eastern District Salmon Management Plan, 1998.*

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(a)The department shall open and close the Eastern District for commercial salmon fishing concurrently with the Chignik Bay and Central Districts. The department may close the Eastern District for the period between the first (Black Lake) and second (Chignik Lake) sockeye salmon runs.

(b)The department shall close the Eastern District on July 15 to evaluate run strength of the pink and chum salmon runs.

(c)The department shall close the Eastern District if it is determined that the salmon being harvested in that district are from stocks not originating from spawning areas located in the Chignik Management Area.

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