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**KODIAK MANAGEMENT AREA**

**COMMERCIAL FOOD/BAIT HERRING FISHERY**  
**HARVEST STRATEGY**  
**1998/99**

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By

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Division of Commercial Fisheries  
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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

|   | <u>Page</u> |
|---|-------------|
| LIST OF TABLES .....                              | i           |
| LIST OF FIGURES .....                             | i           |
| INTRODUCTION .....                                | 1           |
| KODIAK FOOD/BAIT HARVEST STRATEGY .....           | 1           |
| Guideline Harvest Levels and Open Districts ..... | 1           |
| REGULATIONS .....                                 | 2           |
| Season Dates .....                                | 2           |
| Fishing Periods .....                             | 2           |
| Closed Waters .....                               | 2           |
| Gear Restrictions .....                           | 2           |
| INTERIM USE AND REGISTRATION PERMITS .....        | 3           |
| Interim Use Permit .....                          | 3           |
| Registration Permit .....                         | 3           |
| Reporting Requirements by Permit Holders .....    | 3           |
| EMERGENCY ORDER (E.O.) ANNOUNCEMENTS .....        | 4           |
| PERMIT HOLDER COOPERATION .....                   | 4           |
| TABLES .....                                      | 5           |
| FIGURES .....                                     | 6           |

## LIST OF TABLES

| <u>Table</u>  | <u>Page</u> |
|---|-------------|
| 1. Kodiak Management Area 1998/99 commercial food/bait herring fishery guideline harvest level (GHL) by district and 1998 sac roe herring fishery GHL's and harvests..... | 5           |

## LIST OF FIGURES

| <u>Figure</u>   | <u>Page</u> |
|---|-------------|
| 1. Map of Kodiak Management Area and surrounding management areas .....   | 6           |
| 2. Map of the Uganik District showing that portion south of the latitude of Miner's Point that is open to food and bait herring fishing for the 1998/99 season..... | 7           |
| 3. Map showing the Eastside Food and Bait District (F/B 8) and management sections .....  | 8           |

## 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; these harvests far surpassed current levels. Since the early 1960's the harvest has been utilized primarily as bait for crab and longline fisheries.

In recent years the majority of the harvest from this fishery has occurred mainly in the northeast Shelikof Strait of the KMA (Figure 1) with the fishery targeting Kodiak and Kamishak herring stocks. The Kamishak herring stock is forecasted to be at a low level for the 1999 sac roe season, with the spawning biomass estimated to be less than 8,000 short tons. The Kamishak Bay District Herring Management Plan (5 AAC 27.465.) outlines criteria for the management of the Kamishak sac roe fishery, and provides for a harvest allocation for the Kodiak food/bait fishery, based on the Kamishak spawning biomass. At this low biomass, the 1999 Kamishak Bay sac roe fishery and the 1998 Kodiak food and bait fishery in Shelikof Strait north of the latitude of Miner's Point will be closed (Figure 2).

The 1998/99 KMA food/bait fishery will occur on Kodiak herring stocks in that portion of the Uganik District south of the latitude of Miner's Point at 57°54.00' North latitude (Figure 2) and the Eastside District (Figure 3).

This harvest strategy will summarize regulations that are in effect and how this fishery will be managed during the 1998/99 season on Kodiak herring stocks.

## KODIAK FOOD/BAIT HARVEST STRATEGY

The management plan that guides the KMA food/bait fishery is described in the Kodiak Area 1998-99 Commercial Herring Fishing Regulation 5 AAC 27.535.

### **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.

### *Guideline Harvest Levels and Open Districts*

The food and bait fishery guideline harvest levels (GHL's) are based on the preceding sac roe season harvests within a district, with 10% of this harvest established as the food and bait fishery GHL. Due to concerns on stock status and the department's ability to manage this fishery on small GHL's (less than 50 tons) only that portion of the Uganik District (FB 4 ; GHL 78 tons) south of

the latitude of Miner's Point and the Eastside District (FB 8; GHl 66 tons) will be open (Table 1). The total KMA food/bait fishery GHl is 144 tons.

## REGULATIONS

### *Season Dates*

The fishery was opened by emergency order effective on August 17, 1998 and will remain open through February 28, 1999, unless closed by emergency order.

### *Fishing Periods*

Fishing periods for the 1998/99 food/bait fishery are established by emergency order and open daily at 8:00 a.m. and to close daily at 8:00 p.m. (12 hour periods). The first fishing period began at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, August 17. If effort and harvest levels warrant, there may be a need to shorten the duration of fishing periods to maintain an orderly fishery. Changes in fishing periods will be made by subsequent emergency orders.

### *Closed Waters*

Permit holders should be aware that all closed waters as described in the 1996-98 Kodiak Salmon Fishing Regulations (5 AAC 18.350) (pages 58-62) are in effect for the food/bait herring fishery from August 17 through October 31, 1998.

### *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.
  
- 34 - Gillnets
  - Maximum length: 150 fathoms; mesh size: 2-1/8" to 2-1/2".
  - No depth restrictions.

- 07 - Trawl
- No restrictions

Consult the 1998-99 Commercial Herring Fishing Regulations for a complete listing of all regulations.

## INTERIM USE AND REGISTRATION PERMITS

### *Interim Use Permit*

An Interim Use Permit is required to participate in the Kodiak food/bait herring fishery. 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*

- All permit holders, tender operators, and processors are required to register with the Kodiak ADF&G office prior to fishing. A Registration Permit is required to participate in the Kodiak food/bait herring fishery.

The registration permit will be used to:

- Monitor fleet size by gear type and fishery area.
- Clarify catch reporting procedures, closed water areas, and inseason emergency order announcement procedures.

### *Reporting Requirements by Permit Holders*

Permit holders are required to report verbally to one of the ADF&G staff listed below by telephone prior to departing the Port of Kodiak and commencing fishing operations. The permit holder must indicate the district they intend to fish. All permit holders are also required to verbally report to ADF&G staff upon returning to the Port of Kodiak. If a harvest has occurred the following information must be reported prior to off loading any herring: 1) the harvest location, 2) an estimate of the tonnage, and 3) processing location. Any permit holders who intend to transport herring out of the KMA will be required to make additional reporting requirements.

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. - 486-1804 or 486-1830.
- After Office Hours and Weekends: 4:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.
  - 487-4088 (Dennis Gretsch)
  - 487-4919 (Dave Prokopowich)
  - 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  
ATTN: Dennis Gretsch  
211 Mission Road  
Kodiak, Alaska 99615

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

It is important for KMA food/bait fishers to be aware of emergency order 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 12:00 noon and 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 Kodiak ADF&G office.

The ADF&G vessel R/V K-Hi-C may be present on the fishing grounds and may initiate district closures once GHl's are achieved or approached. The K-Hi-C can be reached on VHF channel 6 or SSB radio frequency 3.230 MHz. The crew of the K-Hi-C will also contact fishers in person to inform them of closures and obtain harvest data. Fishers are requested to monitor VHF channel 6 while fishing to receive fishery updates from ADF&G personnel on vessels or aircraft.

### **PERMIT HOLDER COOPERATION**

Department personnel will conduct confidential skipper interviews to obtain biomass estimates, average school size, and herring distribution data. Additionally, permit holder and processor 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 1998/99 commercial food/bait herring fishery guideline harvest level (GHL) by district and the 1998 sac roe herring fishery GHL's and harvest.

| Food/Bait Mgt. District                   | Sac Roe Section       |                        | 1998 Sac Roe Fishery |                | 1998/99 Food/Bait Fishery |
|---|-----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
|   | Stat. #               | Name                   | GHL (Tons)           | Harvest (Tons) | GHL (Tons)                |
| F/B 4<br><br>Uganik Unit                  | UG10                  | Kupreanof              | Closed               | 0              | Closed                    |
|   | UG20                  | Viekoda Bay            | 75                   | 189            | 19                        |
|   | UG21                  | Terror Bay             | 200                  | 183            | 18                        |
|   | UG30                  | Village Island         | 150                  | 138            | 14                        |
|   | UG31                  | W. Uganik Passage      | 20                   | 38             | 4                         |
|   | UG32                  | NE. Arm Uganik         | 30                   | 0              | 0                         |
|   | UG33                  | East Arm Uganik        | 75                   | 100            | 10                        |
|   | UG34                  | South Arm Uganik       | 100                  | 125            | 13                        |
|   | UG40                  | Offshore Uganik        | Closed               | 0              | Exploration               |
|   | <b>District Total</b> |                        |                      | <b>650</b>     | <b>773</b>                |
| F/B 8<br><br>Eastside Unit                | EA10                  | Kaiugnak               | 10                   | 0              | 0                         |
|   | EA20                  | SW. Sitkalidak         | 10                   | 0              | 0                         |
|   | EA21                  | Three Saints Bay       | 30                   | 9              | 1                         |
|   | EA22                  | Newman Bay             | 10                   | 0              | 0                         |
|   | EA23                  | W. Sitkalidak Bay      | 50                   | 62             | 6                         |
|   | EA24                  | Barling Bay            | 40                   | 49             | 5                         |
|   | EA30                  | East Sitkalidak Strait | 50                   | 32             | 3                         |
|   | EA31                  | Tanginak Anchorage     | Closed               | 0              | Closed                    |
|   | EA40                  | Outer Sitkalidak       | Closed               | 0              | Exploration               |
|   | EA41                  | Boulder Bay            | 10                   | 2              | 0                         |
|   | EA42                  | Shearwater Bay         | 90                   | 99             | 10                        |
|   | EA43                  | Outer Kiliuda Bay      | 90                   | 90             | 9                         |
|   | EA44                  | Inner Kiliuda Bay      | 90                   | 89             | 9                         |
|   | EA50                  | Outer Ugak Bay         | 60                   | 82             | 8                         |
|   | EA51                  | Inner Ugak Bay         | 90                   | 116            | 12                        |
|   | EA52                  | Pasagshak Bay          | 10                   | 25             | 3                         |
|   | <b>District Total</b> |                        |                      | <b>640</b>     | <b>655</b>                |
| <b>Combined Food/Bait District Totals</b> |                       |                        | <b>1,290</b>         | <b>1,428</b>   | <b>144</b>                |

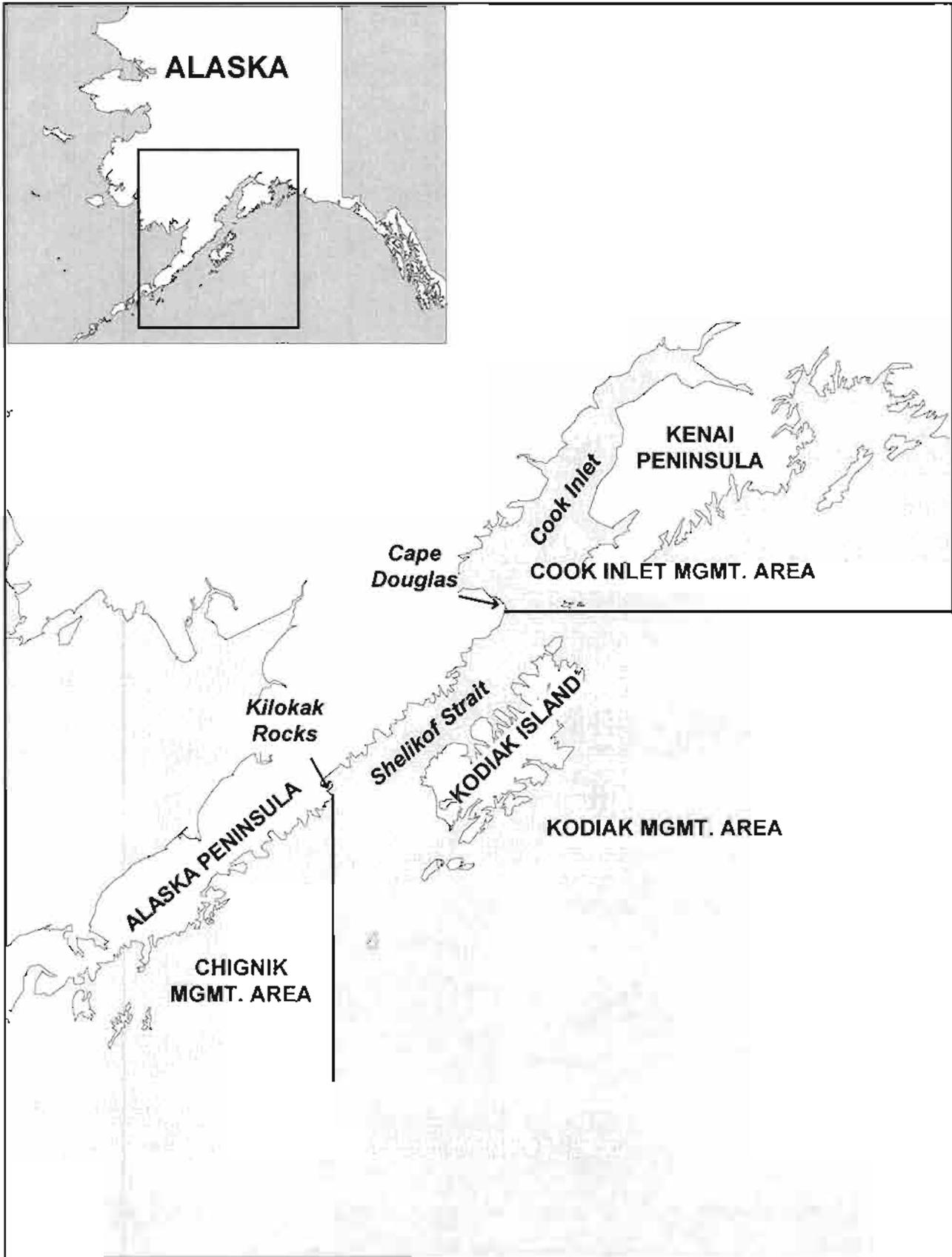


Figure 1. Map of the Kodiak Management Area and surrounding management areas.

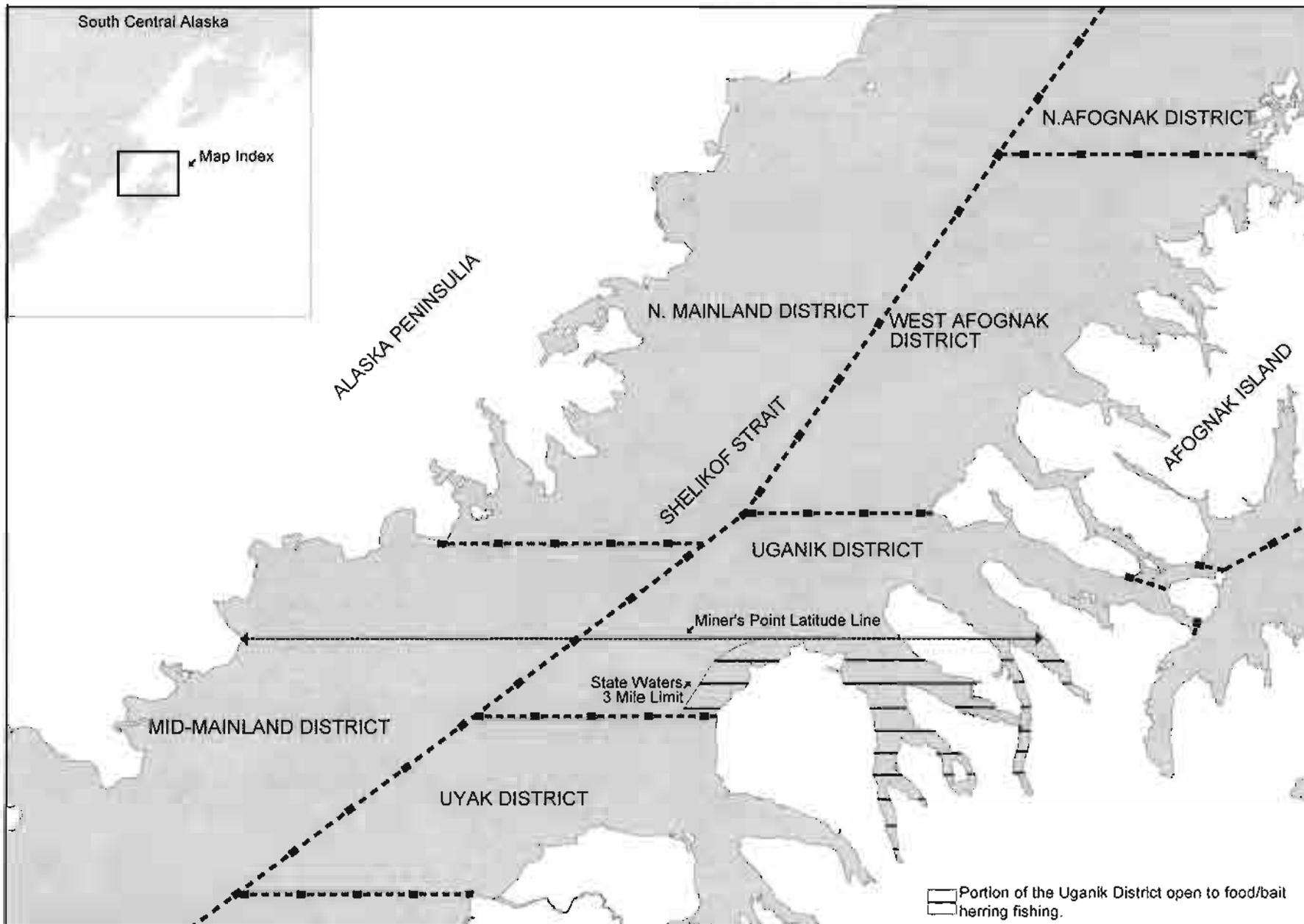


Figure 2. Map of the Uganik District showing that portion south of the latitude of Miner's Point that is open to food and bait herring fishing for the 1998/99 season.



Figure 3. Map showing the Eastside Food and Bait District (F/B 8) and management sections.

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