

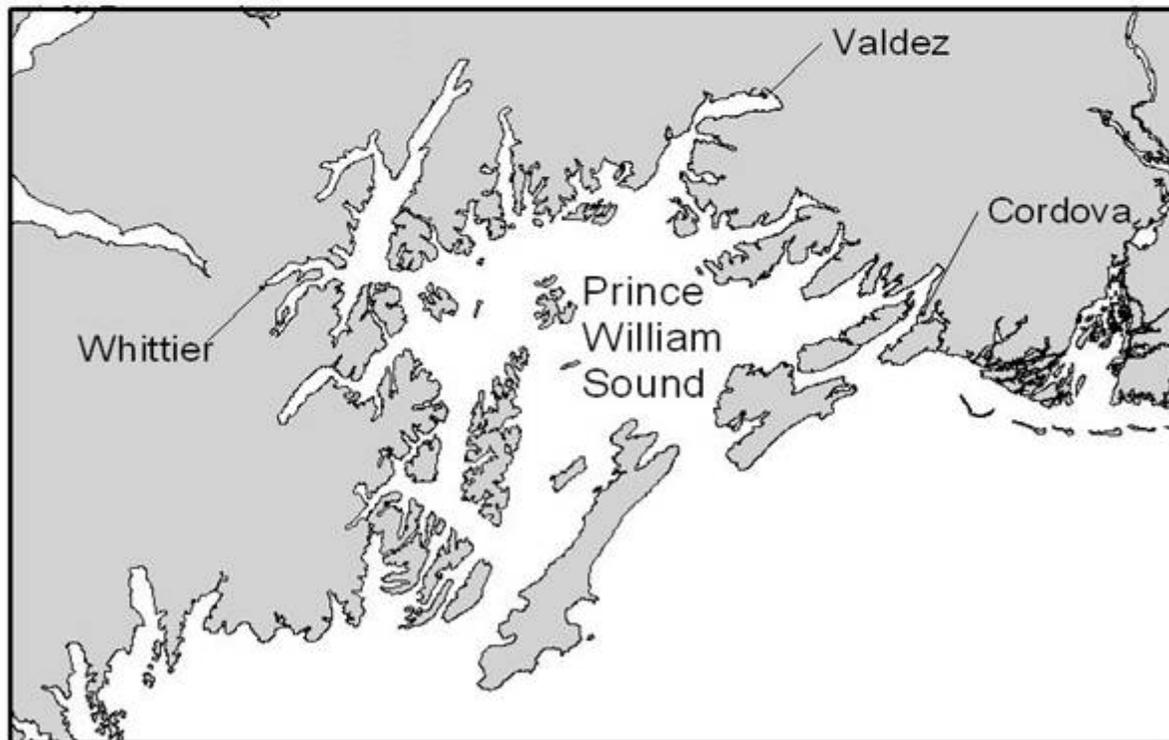
Shrimp in Prince William Sound

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Division of Sport Fisheries



Prince William Sound Shrimp

- Area
- Biology
- Regulations
- ***Catching shrimp in PWS***





Biology of Shrimp in PWS

- Species
- Habitat
- Ecology



Pink Shrimp



Side Stripe shrimp



Coon Stripe Shrimp



Spot Shrimp



Other critters



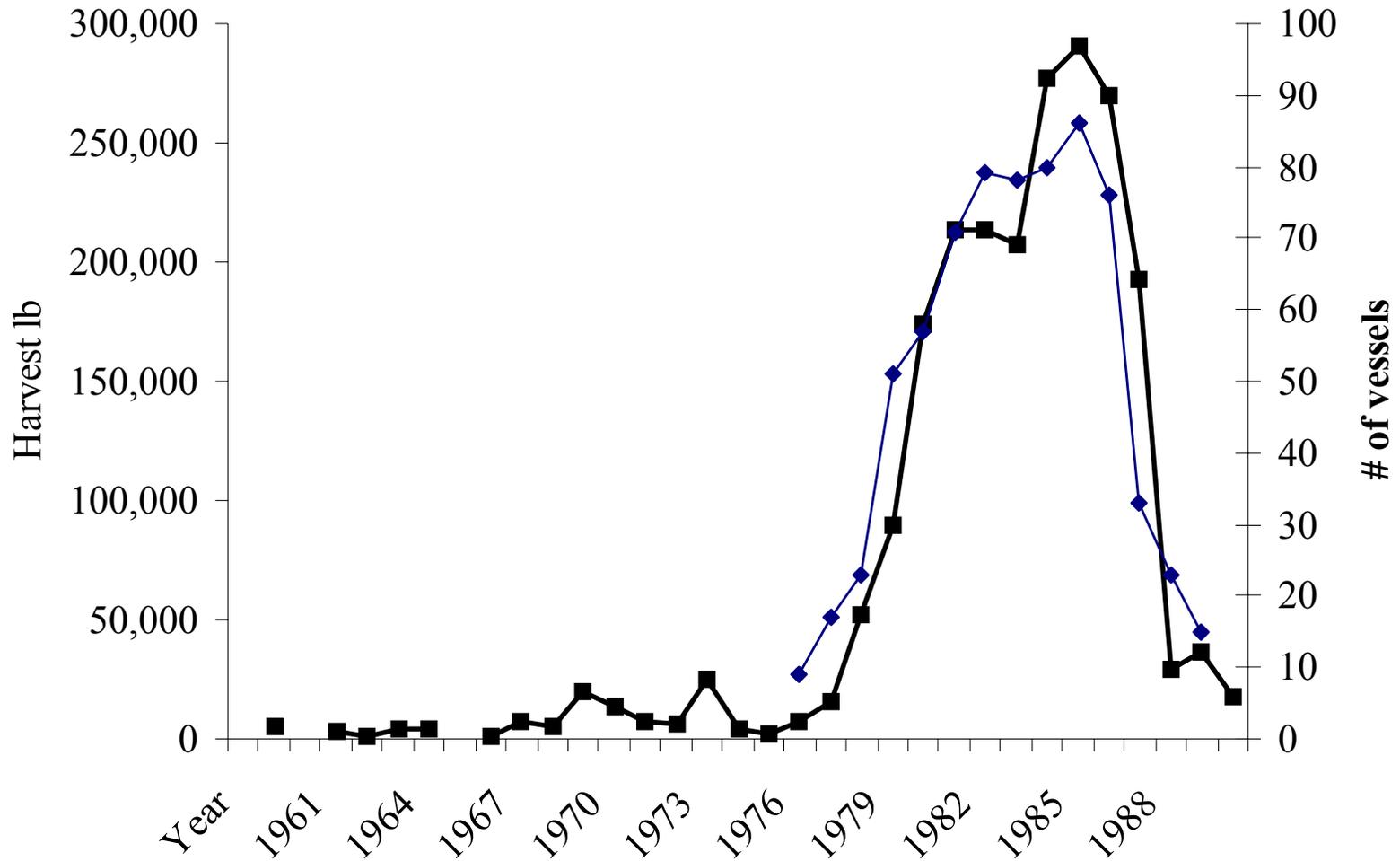
Habitats

- Pink Shrimp, Side-stripes, and Humpy
 - Deep, flat muddy terrain, 60 – 5000 ft
 - Range; throughout the polar regions
; Bering sea to Oregon
- Spot and coon stripe shrimp
 - Shallow to moderate depths 20 – 2000 ft
 - Rocky terrain, structure and cliffs
 - Moderate to strong currents
 - Range;
; AK. peninsula to Southern California

Abundance

- PWS has productive fisheries but current commercial catches and shrimp surveys by ADF&G are below long term averages.
 - Side stripe shrimp trawls
 - ADF&G spot shrimp surveys
- ADF&G considering options for commercial fishery
- Sport catches have steadily increased over time.

PWS commercial shrimp pot fishery harvest, 1960 - 1991.



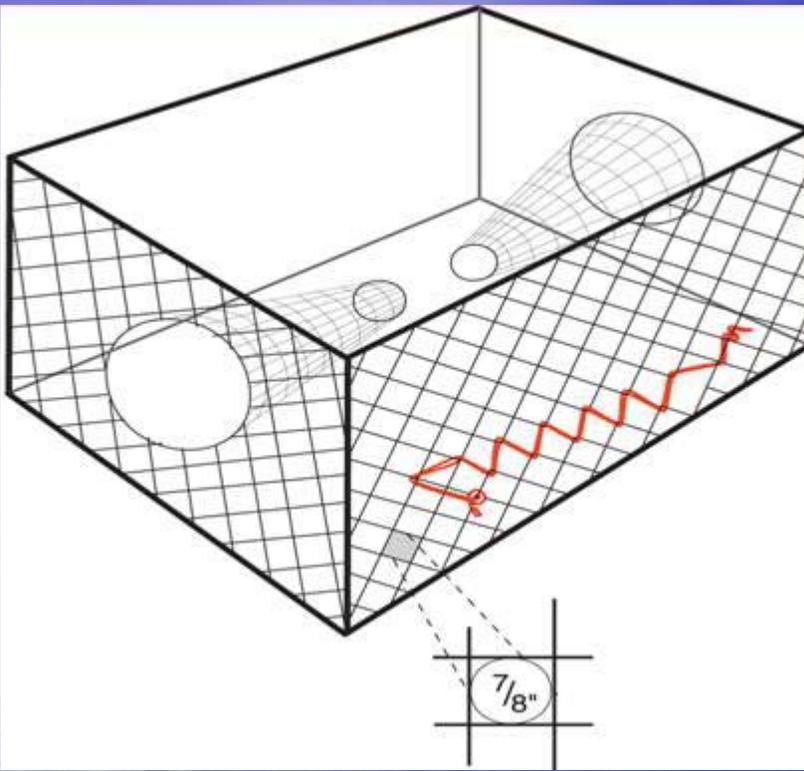
Ecology

- Spawn in fall and hatch in spring
- *Protandrous hermaphroditism*
- Lifespan up to 8-10 years in PWS*
- Everything eats shrimp
 - Abundance declines may be linked to fish increases (Salmon, Pollock or Halibut)
- Shrimp eat everything
 - Scavengers, grazers

Regulations

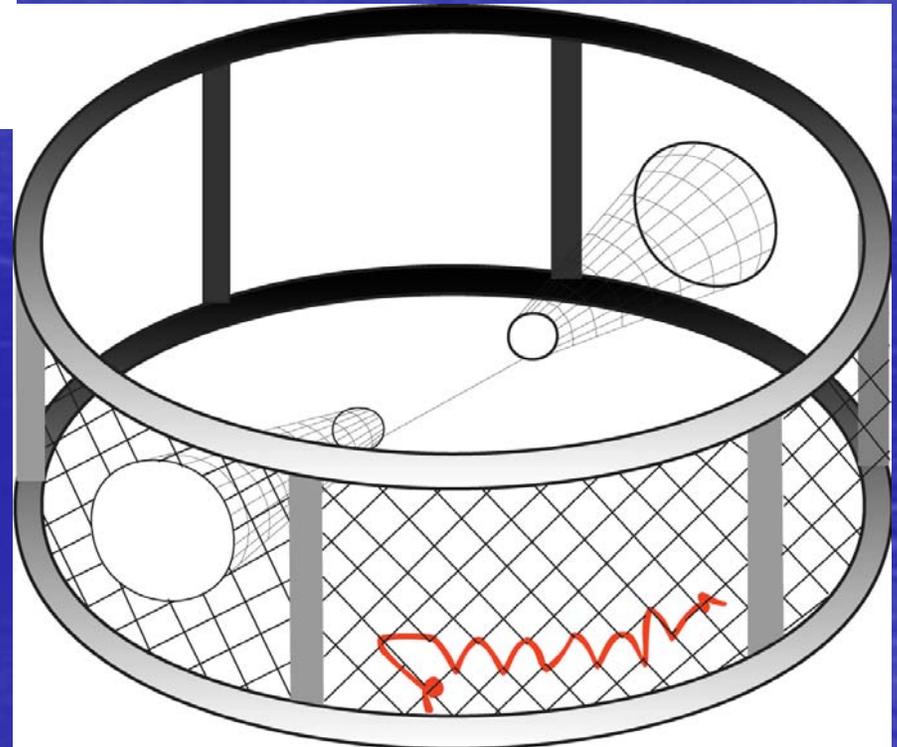
- Season in PWS
 - April 15- September 15
 - Seasons are closed to protect spawners
- Limit
 - No limit on number of shrimp
- Trap limit
 - 5 traps per person/or boat

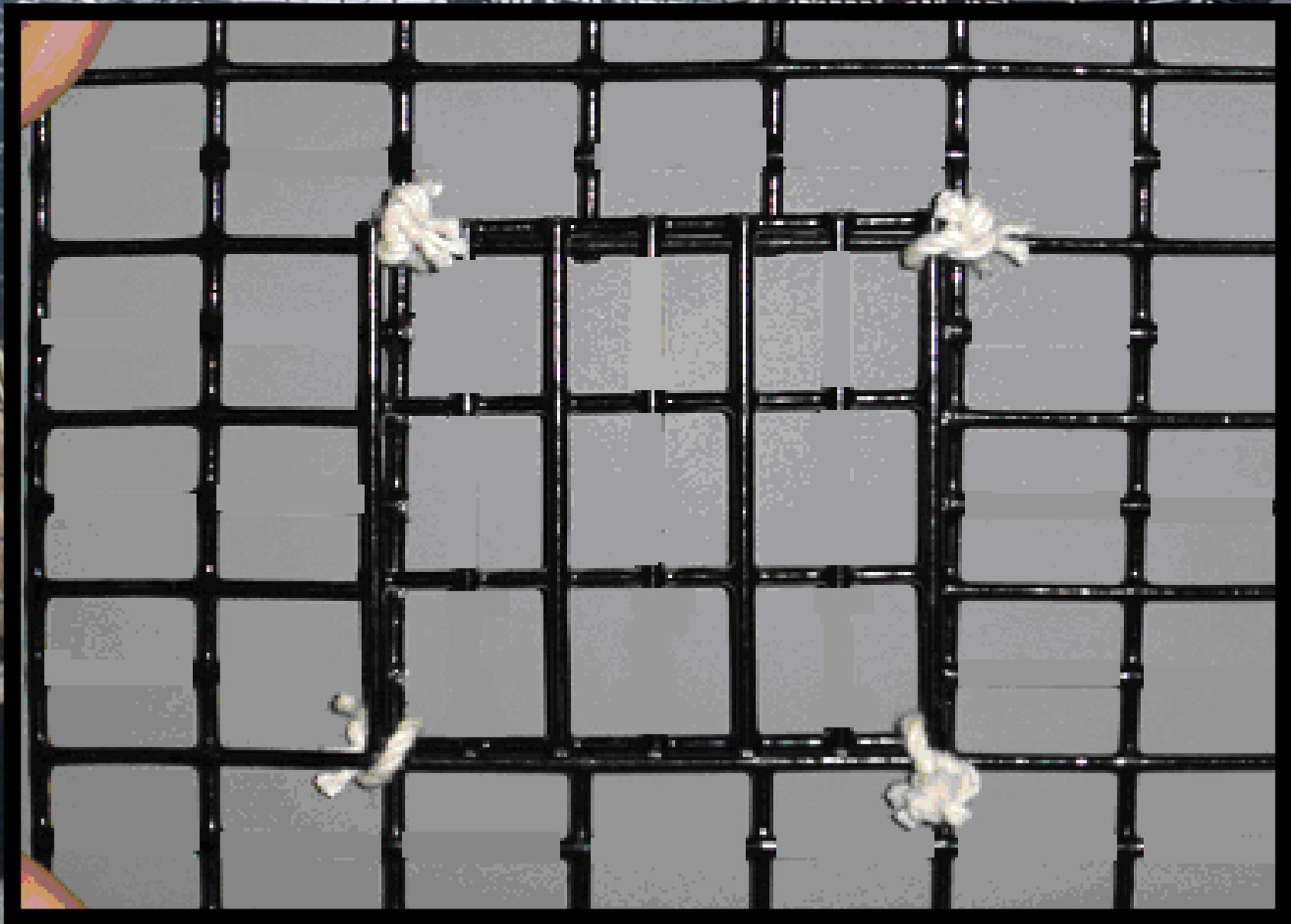
Regulations For trap construction



● Trap design

- Two adjacent vertical sides or half of trap must be webbing (a 7/8 in. dowel must pass through the mesh)
- Escape panel tied with cotton string





CA 11-21AN

Regulations

- Trap marking
 - Buoy marking trap line
 - Must have name, DOT Boat number.
- Can not disturb trap

- **Pick up a regulation booklet**

Catching shrimp in PWS



PWS shrimp fisher data



- Catch data from permit returns
 - Average catch for 2002-2005 was .42-.24
 - Total effort has increased steadily
 - Five general areas showed above average catches
 - Catches were highly variable
ranged 0 to 12 gallons per day

Variations within an area

- Tides, moon cycle
- Season
- Day light
- Food and cover abundance

Permit Returns (2001-2005)

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Permits Issued	562	717	1,061	1,649	2,112
Permits Returned	265	599	968	1363	1,762
Reported As Did Not Fish	90	214	354	461	560
Total Estimated Effort (pot-days)	7,112	9,324	23,626	30,847	38,449
Total Estimated Harvest (lbs)*	2,731	9,620	14,136	25,702	33,285
Gallons	*1 gal = 2.4 lbs. 1,138	4,008	5,890	10,709	13,869

2002		2003		2004		2005	
GALLONS		GALLONS		GALLONS		GALLONS	
PER POT	% of Harvest						
0.0	36	0.0	43	0.0	38	0.0	38
0.5	46	0.5	40	0.5	40	0.5	43
1.0	15	1.0	15	1.0	17	1.0	15
1.5	1	1.5	2	1.5	3	1.5	2
2.0	1	2.0	1	2.0	1	2.0	1
>2.0	1	>2.0	1	>2.0	1	>2.0	1



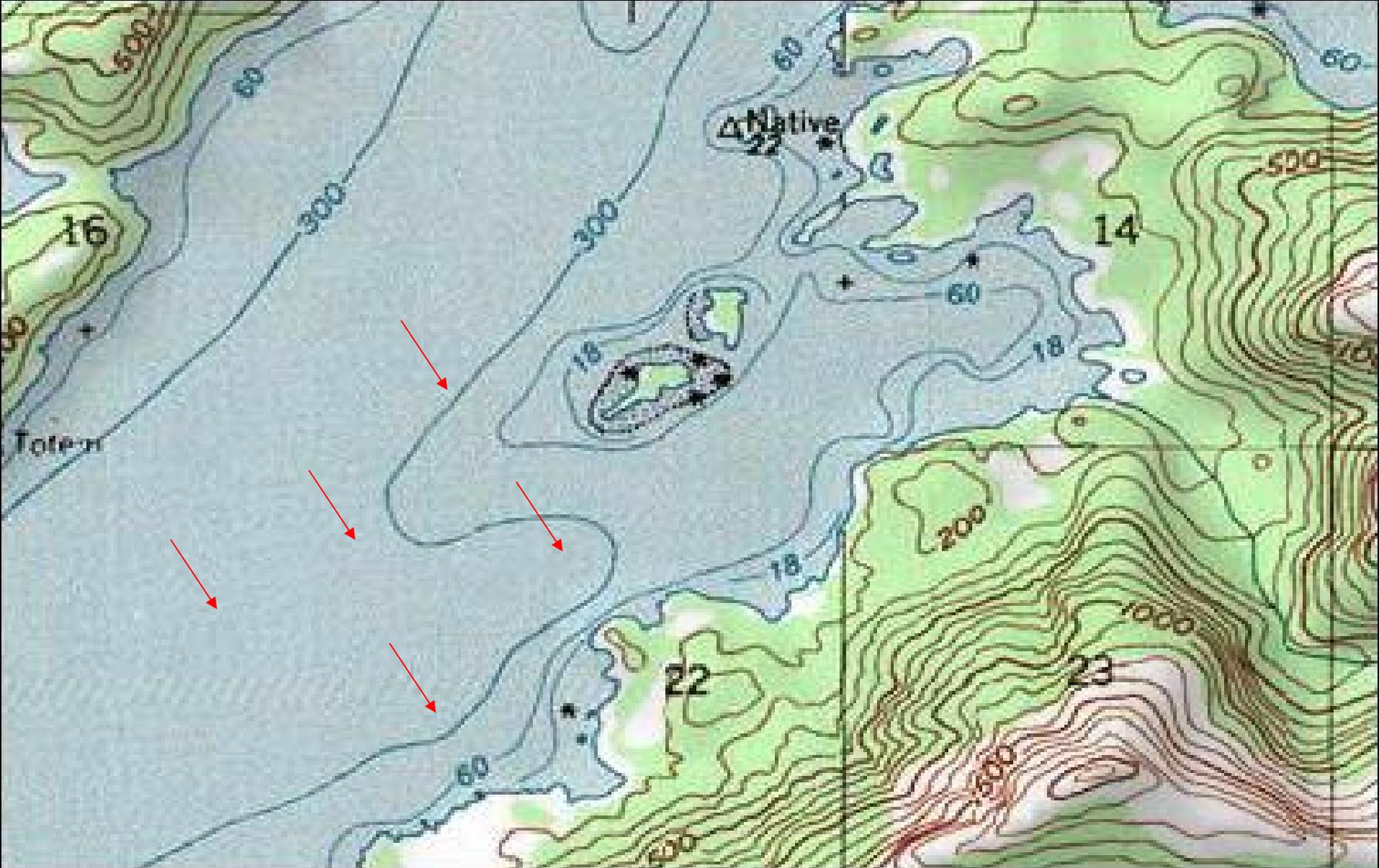
Catching shrimp in PWS

- Gear
 - Trap
 - Weight in trap
 - Fabric or panels on top
 - Rope
 - Sinking cord, 10-15% scope longer than desired depth
 - Buoy, more visible the better
 - Bait
 - Oily to leave scent trail
 - Artificial baits
 - Don't be limited by one type

- GPS
- Depth finder
- Bathymetry charts

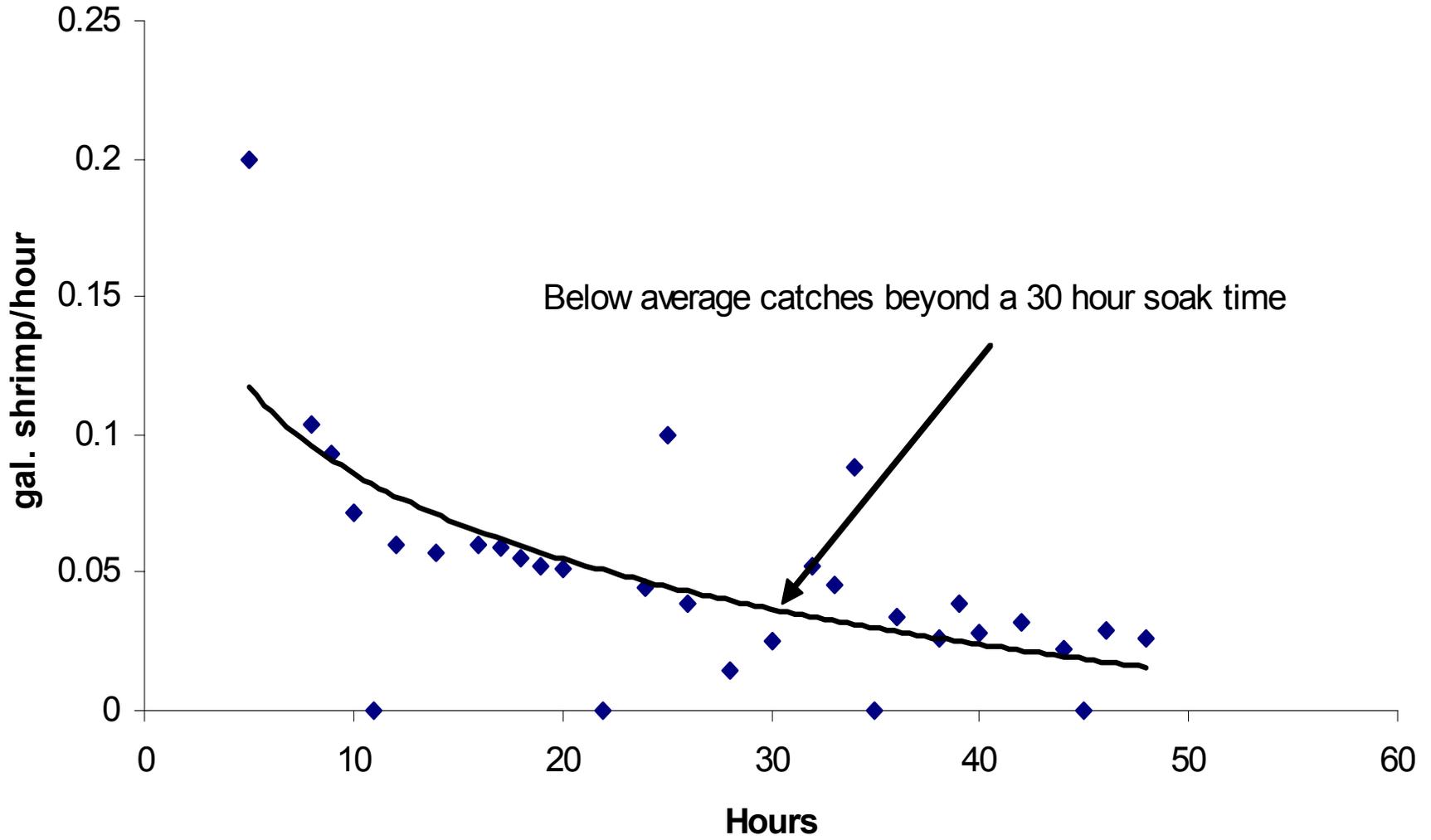
Catching shrimp in PWS

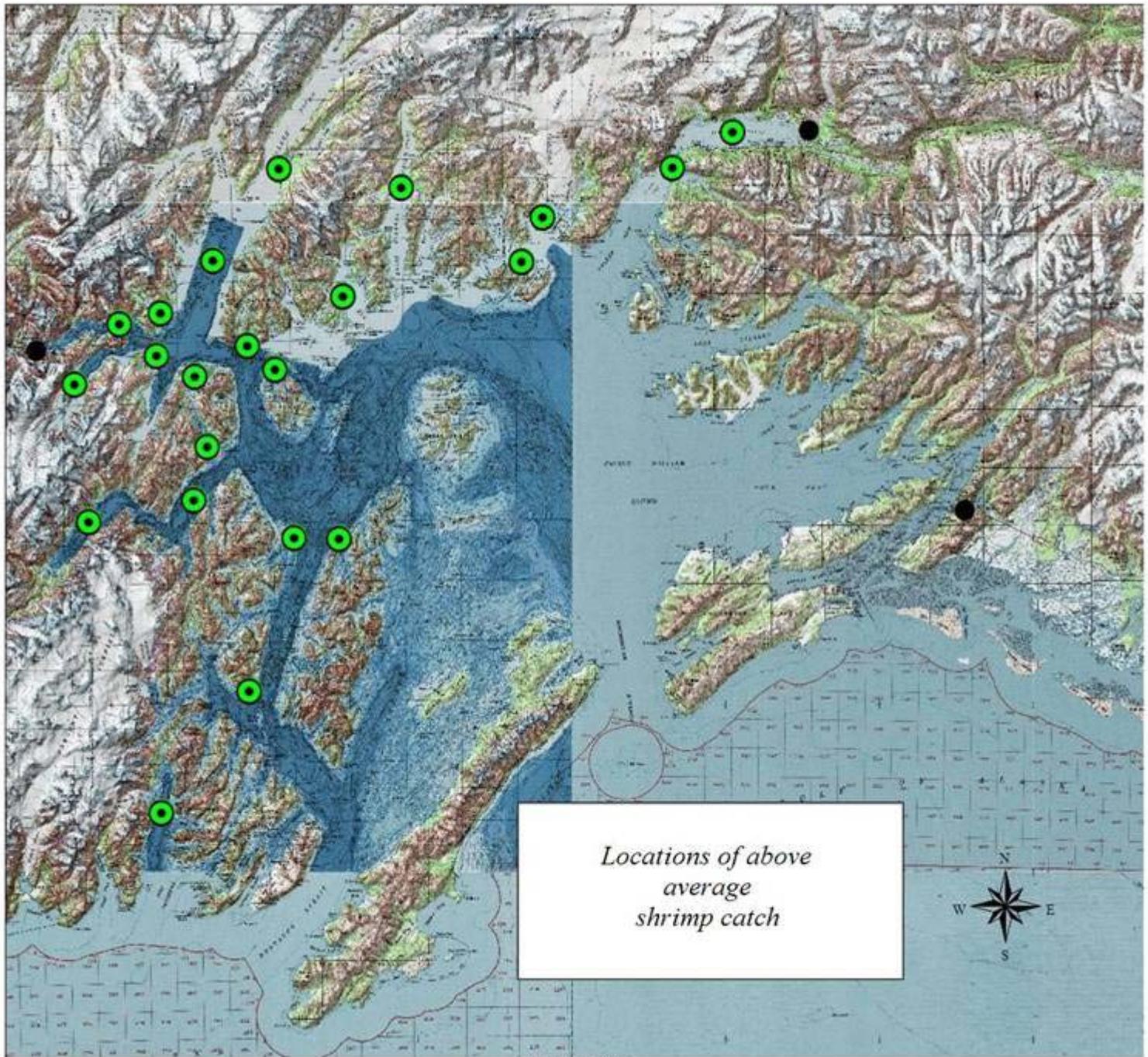
- Setting traps
 - Anticipate currents
 - Let trap swing into area
 - Pick areas that may hold shrimp
 - Availability of food and cover
 - Find structure with depth finder; 100 – 400 ft
 - Examine areas at several angles



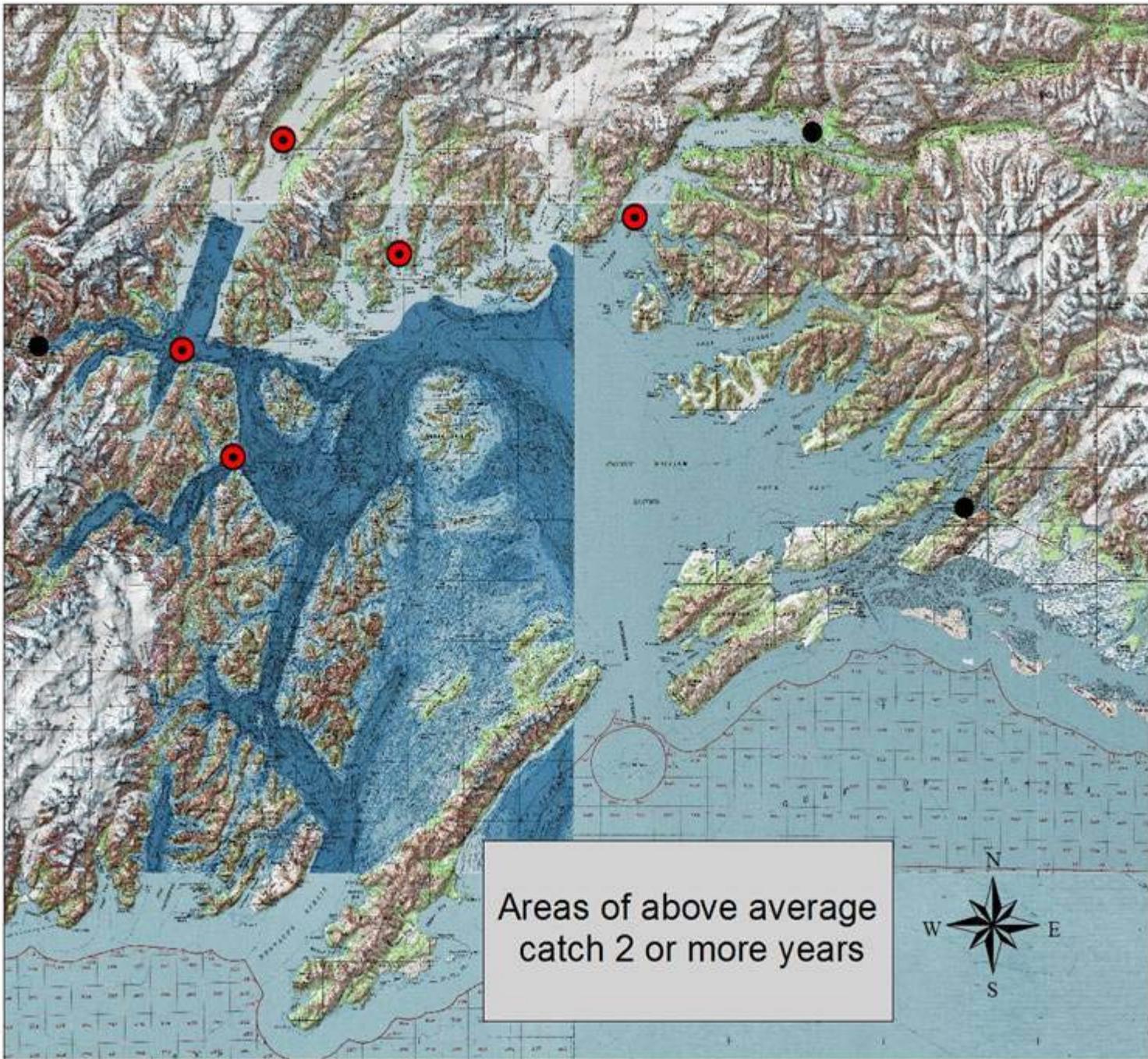
TN * MN
21 1/2°
0.0 0.5 1.0 1.5 2.0 2.5 3.0
Map created with TOPO!® ©2002 National Geographic (www.nationa

How long to soak your trap









Areas of above average
catch 2 or more years



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"PWS sport fisheries"

PWSMA website

www.sf.adfg.state.ak.us/region2/areas/pws/ahpr2pws.cfm