



Advisory Announcement

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THOMAS BAY TERMINAL HARVEST AREA FISHERIES ANNOUNCEMENT

The following information details the Northern Southeast Alaska Regional Aquaculture Association (NSRAA) commercial fishing open waters and fishing schedules in the Thomas Bay Terminal Harvest Area (THA) for the 2023 season.

NSRAA is forecasting a total run of 97,000 chum salmon to Thomas Bay THA (Figure 1). This year's run will be the fifth for this project and will be comprised of 3-, 4-, and 5-year-old fish. A portion of the run may be harvested in common property fisheries in Chatham Strait and Frederick Sound.

The Thomas Bay THA are those waters of Thomas Bay northeast of a line from Point Vandeput at 57°00.94' N lat, 133°00.02' W long, to Wood Point at 56°59.55' N lat, 132°56.96' W long, northwest of a line from a point on the mainland shoreline at 56°59.57' N lat, 132°54.02' W long to Ruth Island at 57°00.42' N lat, 132°51.07' W long, north of line from a point on the southeastern shoreline of Ruth Island at 56°58.70' N lat, 132°49.13' W long, to the mainland shoreline at 56°58.70' N lat, 132°47.32' W long, west of a line from the mainland shoreline at 56°59.38' N lat, 132°47.60' W long, to the southern tip of Spray Island at 56°59.80' N lat, 132°47.73' W long, to the northern tip of Spray Island at 57°00.07' N lat, 132°47.80' W long, to the mainland shoreline at 57°00.56' N lat, 132°47.57' W long, and south of a line from 57°03.00' N lat, 132°49.62' W long, to 57°03.00' N lat, 132°52.03' W long, with the following restrictions:

Spurt Cove: waters of Spurt Cove are closed northwest of a line from 57°01.98' N lat, 132°52.49' W long, to 57°02.08' N lat, 132°52.37' W long;

Thomas Bay Bluffs: waters northeast of a line from the northern tip of Spray Island at 57°00.07' N lat, 132°47.80' W long to a point on the northern boundary line approximately 0.5 nautical mile (nmi) from the mainland shoreline at 57°03.00' N lat, 132°50.55' W long, are **closed every Saturday and Sunday of each week from 12:01 a.m., Saturday to 11:59 p.m., Sunday.**

Purse seine: will be open from 5:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Sunday and Thursday each week from Sunday, June 18, 2023, through Thursday, August 3, 2023.

Troll: will be open during those periods the purse seine fishery is closed from 12:01 a.m., Sunday, June 18, 2023, through 11:59 p.m., Saturday, August 5, 2023.

Chinook Salmon Landing Restrictions for Thomas Bay THA: Chinook salmon retention is permitted in the troll fishery only during general summer troll Chinook salmon retention periods established under 5 AAC 29.100; trollers may retain and sell only those Chinook salmon that are 28 inches or greater in length. Chinook salmon caught in the purse seine fishery 28 inches or greater in length may NOT be retained and Chinook salmon less than 28 inches may be retained but not sold.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1E0223.

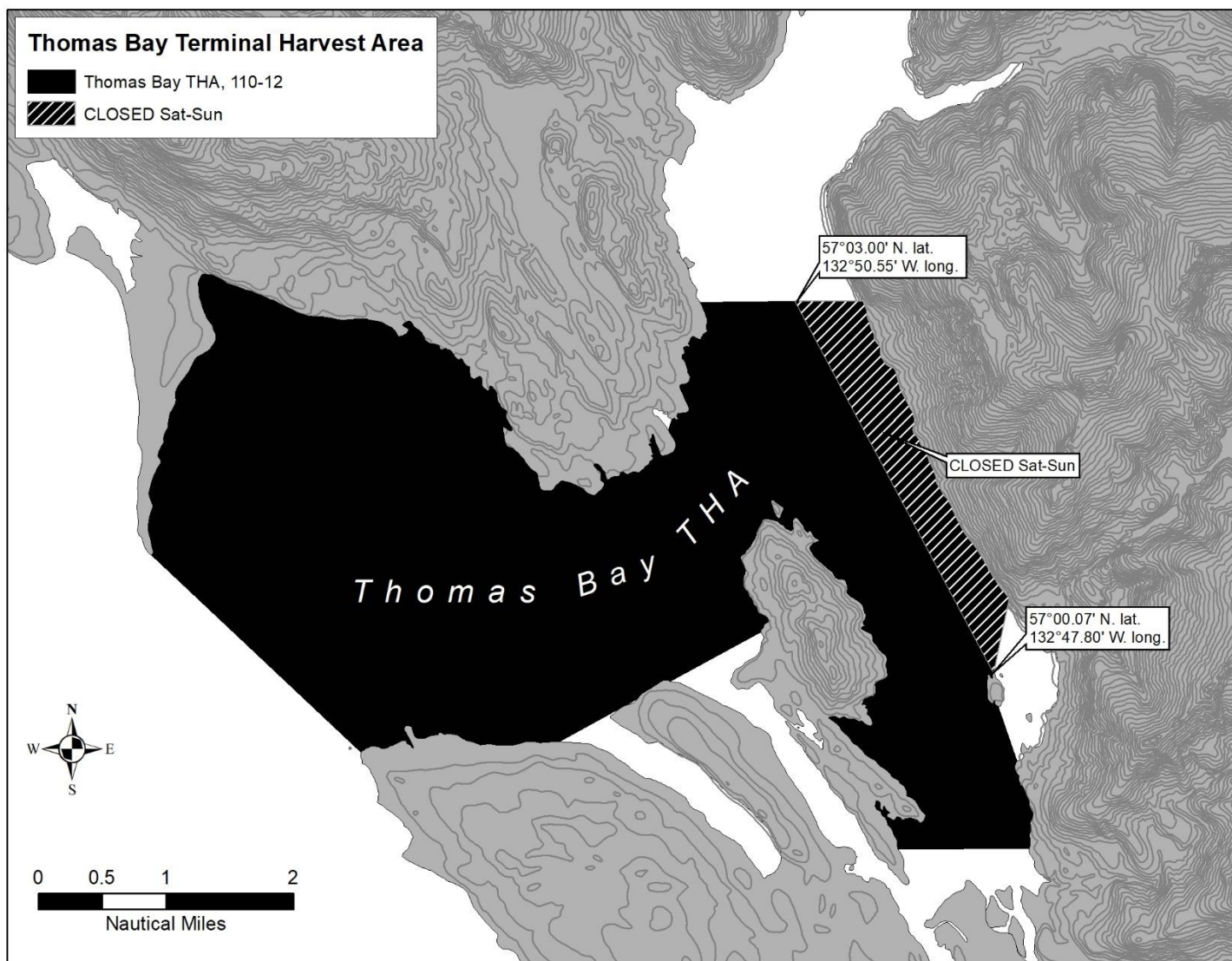


Figure 1.-Map of Thomas Bay THA

Advisory Announcement web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

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