

# **Management Plan for the Spring Commercial Troll Fishery in Southeast Alaska, 2010**

**by**

**Brian Lynch**

**and**

**Pattie Skannes**

---

**April 2010**

---

**Alaska Department of Fish and Game**

**Division of Commercial Fisheries**



## Symbols and Abbreviations

The following symbols and abbreviations, and others approved for the Système International d'Unités (SI), are used without definition in the following reports by the Divisions of Sport Fish and of Commercial Fisheries: Fishery Manuscripts, Fishery Data Series Reports, Fishery Management Reports, and Special Publications. All others, including deviations from definitions listed below, are noted in the text at first mention, as well as in the titles or footnotes of tables, and in figure or figure captions.

Weights and measures (metric)		General		Measures (fisheries)	
centimeter	cm	Alaska Administrative		fork length	FL
deciliter	dL	Code	AAC	mideye-to-fork	MEF
gram	g	all commonly accepted		mideye-to-tail-fork	METF
hectare	ha	abbreviations	e.g., Mr., Mrs., AM, PM, etc.	standard length	SL
kilogram	kg			total length	TL
kilometer	km	all commonly accepted			
liter	L	professional titles	e.g., Dr., Ph.D., R.N., etc.	<b>Mathematics, statistics</b> <i>all standard mathematical signs, symbols and abbreviations</i>	
meter	m	at	@		
milliliter	mL	compass directions:			
millimeter	mm	east	E	alternate hypothesis	H <sub>A</sub>
		north	N	base of natural logarithm	<i>e</i>
		south	S	catch per unit effort	CPUE
		west	W	coefficient of variation	CV
		copyright	©	common test statistics	(F, t, $\chi^2$ , etc.)
		corporate suffixes:		confidence interval	CI
		Company	Co.	correlation coefficient	
		Corporation	Corp.	(multiple)	R
		Incorporated	Inc.	correlation coefficient	
		Limited	Ltd.	(simple)	r
		District of Columbia	D.C.	covariance	cov
		et alii (and others)	et al.	degree (angular)	°
		et cetera (and so forth)	etc.	degrees of freedom	df
		exempli gratia		expected value	<i>E</i>
		(for example)	e.g.	greater than	>
		Federal Information		greater than or equal to	≥
		Code	FIC	harvest per unit effort	HPUE
		id est (that is)	i.e.	less than	<
		latitude or longitude	lat. or long.	less than or equal to	≤
		monetary symbols		logarithm (natural)	ln
		(U.S.)	\$, ¢	logarithm (base 10)	log
		months (tables and		logarithm (specify base)	log <sub>2</sub> etc.
		figures): first three		minute (angular)	'
		letters	Jan,...,Dec	not significant	NS
		registered trademark	®	null hypothesis	H <sub>0</sub>
		trademark	™	percent	%
		United States		probability	P
		(adjective)	U.S.	probability of a type I error	
		United States of		(rejection of the null	
		America (noun)	USA	hypothesis when true)	α
		U.S.C.	United States	probability of a type II error	
			Code	(acceptance of the null	
		U.S. state	use two-letter	hypothesis when false)	β
			abbreviations	second (angular)	"
			(e.g., AK, WA)	standard deviation	SD
				standard error	SE
				variance	
				population	Var
				sample	var
<b>Weights and measures (English)</b>					
cubic feet per second	ft <sup>3</sup> /s				
foot	ft				
gallon	gal				
inch	in				
mile	mi				
nautical mile	nmi				
ounce	oz				
pound	lb				
quart	qt				
yard	yd				
<b>Time and temperature</b>					
day	d				
degrees Celsius	°C				
degrees Fahrenheit	°F				
degrees kelvin	K				
hour	h				
minute	min				
second	s				
<b>Physics and chemistry</b>					
all atomic symbols					
alternating current	AC				
ampere	A				
calorie	cal				
direct current	DC				
hertz	Hz				
horsepower	hp				
hydrogen ion activity	pH				
(negative log of)					
parts per million	ppm				
parts per thousand	ppt, ‰				
volts	V				
watts	W				

***REGIONAL INFORMATION REPORT NO. IJ10-05***

**MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE SPRING COMMERCIAL TROLL  
FISHERY IN SOUTHEAST ALASKA, 2010**

*by*  
*Brian Lynch*  
*Division of Commercial Fisheries, Petersburg*

*and*  
*Pattie Skannes,*  
*Division of Commercial Fisheries, Sitka*

Alaska Department of Fish and Game  
Division of Commercial Fisheries, Publications Section  
802 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Douglas, Alaska, 99824-0020

April 2010

The Regional Information Report Series was established in 1987 and was redefined in 2007 to meet the Division of Commercial Fisheries regional need for publishing and archiving information such as project operational plans, area management plans, budgetary information, staff comments and opinions to Board of Fisheries proposals, interim or preliminary data and grant agency reports, special meeting or minor workshop results and other regional information not generally reported elsewhere. Reports in this series may contain raw data and preliminary results. Reports in this series receive varying degrees of regional, biometric and editorial review; information in this series may be subsequently finalized and published in a different department reporting series or in the formal literature. Please contact the author or the Division of Commercial Fisheries if in doubt of the level of review or preliminary nature of the data reported. Regional Information Reports are available through the Alaska State Library and on the Internet at: <http://www.sf.adfg.ak.us/statewide/divreprots/html/intersearch.cfm>.

*Brian Lynch,  
Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial Fisheries,  
16 Sing Lee Alley, Petersburg, Alaska 99833-0667 USA*

*Pattie Skannes,  
Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial Fisheries  
304 Lake Street, Room 103, Sitka, Alaska 99835-7563 USA*

*This document should be cited as:*

*Lynch, B. and P. Skannes. 2010. Management Plan for the Spring Commercial Troll Fishery in Southeast Alaska, 2010. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Regional Information Report No. IJ10-05, Douglas.*

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) administers all programs and activities free from discrimination based on race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, marital status, pregnancy, parenthood, or disability. The department administers all programs and activities in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.

**If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility please write:**

ADF&G ADA Coordinator, P.O. Box 115526, Juneau AK 99811-5526

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4040 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 300 Webb, Arlington VA 22203

Office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington DC 20240

**The department's ADA Coordinator can be reached via phone at the following numbers:**

(VOICE) 907-465-6077, (Statewide Telecommunication Device for the Deaf) 1-800-478-3648, (Juneau TDD) 907-465-3646, or (FAX) 907-465-6078

**For information on alternative formats and questions on this publication, please contact:**

ADF&G, Sport Fish Division, Research and Technical Services, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage AK 99518 (907)267-2375.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
LIST OF TABLES.....	II
LIST OF FIGURES.....	II
ABSTRACT .....	3
INTRODUCTION.....	3
Changes in the 2010 Spring Troll Fisheries.....	3
Directed Chinook Salmon Fisheries in Districts 8 and 11 .....	3
District 8 .....	3
District 11 .....	3
Yakutat Spring Troll Fishery .....	4
MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND METHODS .....	4
Spring Fisheries .....	4
Terminal Fisheries .....	5
FROZEN AT SEA REQUIREMENTS .....	5
RETENTION OF OTHER SALMON SPECIES .....	6
2009 SPRING FISHERY SUMMARY .....	6
SPRING FISHERIES UPDATE FOR 2010.....	6
New Areas .....	6
Initial Openings .....	7
Schedule Of Initial Troll Openings:.....	7
Terminal Troll Fisheries .....	7
REGULATION SUMMARY .....	8
Closed Waters.....	8
Sport Fishing And Chartering From A Registered Troll Vessel.....	8
Regulations Pertaining To Commercial Troll Bycatch Of Groundfish And Halibut.....	8
2010 ALASKA HATCHERY CHINOOK RETURN FORECAST .....	11
2010 SPRING FISHING AREAS AND MAPS.....	13
Ketchikan Areas.....	13
Wrangell and Prince of Wales Areas .....	15
Chatham Strait and Frederick Sound Areas .....	17
North Chatham Strait and Icy Strait Areas .....	19
Sitka Areas .....	21
FISHERY CONTACTS .....	24

## LIST OF TABLES

<b>Table</b>	<b>Page</b>
Table 1.—Guideline limits of (U.S./Canada) Treaty fish that may be harvested in each spring troll fishing area.....	4
Table 2.—2010 Alaska hatchery Chinook and Neck Lake coho salmon return forecasts.....	11

## LIST OF FIGURES

<b>Figure</b>	<b>Page</b>
Figure 1.—Location of Chinook salmon hatcheries, and Chinook salmon remote release sites in Southeast Alaska.....	12
Figure 2.—Ketchikan area spring trolling areas, 2010.....	14
Figure 3.—Wrangell and Prince of Wales spring trolling areas, 2010.....	16
Figure 4.—Chatham Strait and Frederick Sound spring trolling areas, 2010.....	18
Figure 5.—North Chatham and Icy Strait spring trolling areas, 2010.....	20
Figure 6.—Sitka spring trolling areas, 2010.....	22
Figure 7.—Southeast Alaska lingcod management areas and Sitka area closed waters.....	23

## ABSTRACT

This document summarizes the plan that the Alaska Department of Fish and Game will follow to manage the 2009 Southeast Alaska spring commercial salmon troll fishery, according to the Board of Fisheries adopted guidelines listed in the State of Alaska Administrative Code under 5 AAC 29.090.

Key words: Salmon, Chinook, Troll, Spring, Commercial, Management Plan, Southeast Alaska

## INTRODUCTION

### CHANGES IN THE 2010 SPRING TROLL FISHERIES

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) will open 27 spring troll areas and four terminal harvest areas this year. Ten spring troll areas and three terminal areas will open May 1 and remain open until further notice. An additional 17 spring troll areas will open initially between May 2 and May 16, according to the schedule on pages 7–8.

### DIRECTED CHINOOK SALMON FISHERIES IN DISTRICTS 8 AND 11

An agreement was approved between the United States and Canada during the Pacific Salmon Commission meeting held in February, 2005. This agreement allows directed commercial and sport fisheries on Chinook salmon returning to the Stikine and Taku Rivers. Management plans were adopted by the Board of Fisheries in January, 2006 which describe fishing areas and schedules for commercial and sport fisheries in Districts 8 and 11.

#### District 8

The **2010 preseason terminal run forecast** for large Stikine River king salmon is **23,000 fish**. A terminal run of this size results in **no U.S. Allowable Catch (AC) of large Stikine kings**. Therefore, no directed fisheries will occur in early May. An inseason terminal run estimate will be produced in late May. If the first inseason estimate is significantly greater than the preseason forecast, limited directed king salmon fisheries could occur. However, prior to that time, three spring troll areas within District 8 will open during early to mid-May and will be managed based on the composition of Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon and the catch of non-Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon, per 5 AAC 29.090(d)(1)(D).

The 2010 forecast is the second consecutive Stikine River king salmon preseason terminal run forecast in the past six seasons that does not allow for directed fisheries. During the 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009 seasons the preseason forecasts were 80,300, 60,600, 37,400, 46,100 and 32,000 fish, respectively.

#### District 11

The **2010 preseason terminal run forecast** for large Taku River king salmon is **41,328 fish**. A terminal run of this size **yields a U.S. Allowable Catch of 1,781 large Taku king salmon**. Given the relatively small Allowed Catch and taking into consideration forecast confidence intervals, **no directed fisheries will occur in early May**. An inseason terminal run estimate will be produced in late May, at which time a news release will be distributed as soon as possible with the estimated run size, resulting allowable catch, and potential information concerning directed king salmon fishery openings.

In 2009, the U.S. and Canada agreed to a revised escapement goal range for large Taku River king salmon of 19,000 to 36,000 fish, with a point goal of 25,500 large king salmon. The prior escapement goal range was 30,000 to 55,000 fish with a point goal of 36,000 large king salmon.

## YAKUTAT SPRING TROLL FISHERY

The BOF at its January, 2006 meeting established regulations that allow the department to open, by Emergency Order, a spring salmon troll fishery for one day per week during the months of May and June in the Yakutat Bay area east of a line from Point Manby to Ocean Cape. The maximum harvest is 1,000 king salmon and is not based on the composition of Alaska hatchery fish. This fishery may be open only if the projected inriver run of three-ocean age and older king salmon to the Situk River weir is greater than 1,050 fish [5 AAC 30.365(c)(5)]. In 2010, a spring fishery is **not scheduled to open** in Yakutat Bay due to the return forecast to the Situk weir of approximately 750 large king salmon.

## MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND METHODS

### SPRING FISHERIES

Non-Alaska hatchery fish (Treaty fish) are counted towards the season Treaty quota of Chinook salmon under the Pacific Salmon Treaty, but most of the Alaska hatchery fish are not. The spring troll and terminal troll fisheries target Alaska hatchery Chinook salmon, but Treaty Chinook salmon are also harvested. The locations of Chinook salmon hatcheries and remote release sites within Southeast Alaska are presented in Figure 1. The guideline limits of Treaty fish that may be harvested in each spring fishing area are listed in Table 1.

**Table 1.**—Guideline limits of (U.S./Canada) Treaty fish that may be harvested in each spring troll fishing area.

Alaska Hatchery Contribution To The Harvest	Treaty Fish Limit
Less than 25%	1,000
At least 25% and less than 35%	2,000
At least 35% and less than 50%	3,000
At least 50% and less than 66%	5,000
66% or more	no limit

The Board of Fisheries also adopted a regulation that established criteria where the Treaty Fish Limit may be increased as follows: As of May 1, if the preseason Abundance Index is 1.15 or above and the amount of kings remaining on the winter GHF to be harvested is between 10,000 and 15,000 fish, then an additional 250 non-Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon will be added to the Treaty caps in each tier. If the number of king salmon remaining on the GHF is greater than 15,000 fish, then an additional 500 king salmon will be added to the Treaty caps.

Each year fishery managers from ADF&G hold meetings in Southeast Alaska towns to discuss fishing plans with trollers, processors, and hatchery operators. A review of the previous fishing season is presented as well as an outlook for the upcoming year. New fishing areas or changes to existing areas may be proposed. These proposed areas are then scrutinized by department biologists for potential impacts on local wild stocks and to determine whether the area is one where a substantial portion of the harvest is likely to be of Alaska hatchery origin. The department also examines whether any newly proposed areas can be sampled adequately within the current funding levels. Once plans are finalized, the department issues a news release with descriptions of fishing areas and a schedule of initial fishing periods.



Each spring fishing area is managed individually. Fishing periods are opened by emergency order, ADF&G personnel sample fish deliveries and ship the heads of adipose fin-clipped fish to the state tag lab in Juneau for coded wire tag (CWT) detection and decoding. Fishery openings are announced in a series of weekly news releases.

Fishing time in an area may be extended based on inseason assessment of CWT data and historic harvest timing information. Therefore, it is imperative that fishers and tender operators keep fish from different fishing areas separated until landing so if the fish are sampled at the dock, the percentage of Alaska hatchery fish can be determined for each spring area. Separate fish tickets must also be made for each area fished (5 AAC 29.130).

In 2010, ten spring areas that have had a consistently high percentage of Alaska hatchery fish, have been below the Treaty limits, or have had very low catch and effort will be opened on May 1 until further notice. These areas will be monitored for Alaska hatchery percentage and fishing time will be reduced if the Alaska hatchery percent is low or if the harvest approaches the Treaty fish limit. These fisheries are the Ketchikan Area, West Behm Canal, Clarence Strait, Ernest Sound, Frederick Sound, Chatham Strait, Sitka Sound Area, Stag Bay, South Passage and Icy Strait.

Trollers can assist the sampling effort by notifying ADF&G personnel when delivering their harvest to points of sale normally not covered by department sampling, such as grocery stores, direct sale by the troller, or sale to small processors. The department will then attempt to obtain a sample from the harvest. Early season harvests in all areas, and harvests throughout the spring from Lisianski Inlet, Port Althorp, South Passage, Tebenkof Bay and Sumner Strait areas are of particular concern in obtaining adequate samples.

The heads of all adipose fin-clipped salmon must remain attached to the fish until the fish are sold (5 AAC 29.140 (b)). Permit holders who freeze their harvest onboard are asked to contact the department prior to fishing so that sampling and fish ticket issues can be discussed.

## **TERMINAL FISHERIES**

Terminal fisheries are conducted in areas near a hatchery or release site. Chinook salmon caught in most terminal harvest areas are considered to be 100% Alaska hatchery fish, based on previous sampling. Terminal harvest area (THA) fisheries will occur at Deep Inlet, Hidden Falls, Anita Bay and Neets Bay.

The Chinook salmon return to the Wrangell Narrows Terminal Harvest Area (THA) is projected to be below 4,000 fish, so there **will not be a troll fishery in the THA this year**, in accordance with the Wrangell Narrows THA management plan (5 AAC 33.381). The return to the terminal area is currently projected to be below 750 fish.

## **FROZEN AT SEA REQUIREMENTS**

Frozen at Sea (FAS) vessels participating in the spring fisheries are subject to the same landing regulations as all other vessels. Fish caught in each spring fishery must be kept separate from any other fish on board the vessel and a separate fish ticket must be issued for fish caught in each spring fishery (5 AAC 29.130). Tickets must be submitted to ADF&G within seven days of landing.

The heads of all adipose fin-clipped salmon must remain attached to the fish until the fish are sold (5 AAC 29.140(b)). Permit holders who freeze their fish onboard (FAS vessels) are asked to

contact ADF&G prior to fishing so that sampling and fish ticket issues can be discussed. **A permit is required to allow the removal of heads from Chinook salmon harvested in the spring areas prior to delivery.** Additional information about the “Exemption Permit” is available on the troll website and the permits are available in area offices. Depending on which area(s) a troller intends to fish in, the department may grant a permit to allow removal of heads from adipose fin-clipped salmon. It is imperative that the department has adequate opportunity to sample all Chinook salmon landed during the spring fisheries. Since the purpose of spring fisheries is to target Alaskan hatchery fish, if adequate access to the fish for sampling purposes is not possible, then some fisheries may be closed if insufficient information is available to support keeping them open.

**Reminder:** FAS vessels must follow the frozen-at-sea reporting requirements passed in 2003 by the Board of Fisheries [5 AAC 29.145] and the fish ticket reporting requirements of 5 AAC 39.130. FAS vessels are defined as processors by ADF&G, the Dept. of Environmental Conservation and the Dept. of Revenue and, as such, must issue their own fish tickets imprinted with their own processor code plate. Fish tickets must be requested from the Department. It is illegal for a catcher-processor (FAS) vessel to sell processed (frozen) fish to another processor where that processor acts as the first buyer and issues fish tickets imprinted with their code plate.

## **RETENTION OF OTHER SALMON SPECIES**

Coho salmon may be retained during open fishing periods beginning June 15. Sockeye, pink, and chum salmon may be retained at any time during open fishing periods.

If an Atlantic salmon is caught, ADF&G would like to be contacted so that biological samples can be taken. The entire fish should be saved and may be frozen, with entrails intact.

## **2009 SPRING FISHERY SUMMARY**

A total of 572 vessels participated in the 2009 spring fisheries (non-terminal), with a harvest of 32,581 Chinook, 267 sockeye, 12,812 coho, 1,289 pink and 2,996 chum salmon. The Chinook salmon harvest was approximately 4,039 fish fewer than the 2008 harvest and the Alaska hatchery contribution decreased from 49% to 38%. The 2009 total Spring Fishery harvest was the 8<sup>th</sup> highest on record, while the Alaska hatchery harvest was the 13<sup>th</sup> highest on record. The largest Chinook salmon harvests were in the Sitka Sound, Tebenkof Bay and Ketchikan areas. Terminal area harvests taken in the spring and summer fisheries included 278 Chinook, 94 sockeye, 1,288 coho, 245 pink salmon and 189,227 chum salmon. The majority of the Chinook were caught in the Hidden Falls and Neets Bay Terminal Harvest Areas. A total of 26 spring areas, five terminal fisheries were open during 2009.

## **SPRING FISHERIES UPDATE FOR 2010**

### **NEW AREAS**

Three new areas are being implemented in Clarence Strait and Revillagigedo Channel this year. **Kendrick Bay** (Fishery Area 102-10) and **Point Alava** (Fishery Area 101-41) will be implemented south of Ketchikan. **Snow Pass** (Fishery Area 106-41) will be implemented west of Wrangell. The northern portion of the Snow Pass area had been in place prior to 2002 but the area now includes waters of Clarence Strait south to the northern boundary of the Clarence Strait area. Three areas in District 7 which were open last spring (Ernest Sound, Zimovia Strait and Deer Island) have been combined as a single area called Ernest Sound.

## INITIAL OPENINGS

Following is a preliminary schedule for anticipated initial opening weeks for each area. Areas are described in detail in a later section of this report and corresponding maps are presented in Figures 2 to 6. Fishing periods will be opened by emergency order, with some areas open for two days per week and other areas open for longer periods, based on inseason and historical timing of hatchery contributions in each area. Trollers should consult department news releases for weekly fishing periods and inseason adjustments. News releases will be issued each Friday with the fishing schedule for the following week. News releases may also be issued throughout the week when extensions or early closures are announced. News releases can be found on the department's web site at:

<http://documents.cfl.adfg.state.ak.us/TopicContents.po>

### SCHEDULE OF INITIAL TROLL OPENINGS:

#### Areas open on May 1 until further notice:

Ketchikan	West Behm	Clarence Strait
Ernest Sound	Frederick Sound	Chatham Strait
Sitka Sound	Stag Bay	South Passage
Icy Strait		

#### Areas open the week of May 2:

Sumner Strait	Steamer Point	Snow Pass
Chichagof Pass	Little Port Walter	Tebenkof Bay
Redoubt Bay	Lisianski Inlet	Cross Sound
Port Althorp		

#### Areas open the week of May 9:

Salisbury Sound

#### Areas open the week of May 16:

Point Alava	Kendrick Bay	Baht Harbor
Craig Point	Western Channel	Biorka Island

## TERMINAL TROLL FISHERIES

- **Hidden Falls:** opens on May 1 and will remain open until closed by emergency order. (5 AAC 33.374(b)).
- **Neets Bay:** opens on May 1 and will remain open until closed by emergency order. (5 AAC 33.370(b)(1)).
- **Wrangell Narrows:** Closed (5 AAC 33.381(b)(4)).
- **Anita Bay:** opens as a THA on May 1 with some area closures within the THA beginning June 15 (5 AAC 33.383(b)). The Anita Bay THA is NOT part of the Zimovia Strait spring Fishery Area 107-30.
- **Deep Inlet:** open to trolling on Saturdays, according to the rotational gear schedule beginning on May 30. The first troll opening will be June 5. Any schedule changes are made by E.O. and announced by News Release.

Terminal Harvest Areas may be managed for the harvest of multiple species by different gear types. Refer to management plans in regulation as listed after each THA.

## **REGULATION SUMMARY**

### **CLOSED WATERS**

Trollers are reminded that closed waters in effect during the summer fishery are exempted during the spring fishery. [5 AAC 29.150(a)(2)]. Waters within 3,000 feet of Annette Island (Annette Island Reserve) are closed.

### **SPORT FISHING AND CHARTERING FROM A REGISTERED TROLL VESSEL**

1. A person may sport fish from a registered commercial salmon hand troll or power troll vessel [5 AAC 47.041 (a)]. A troll gurdy may be used as a downrigger in conjunction with a sport fishing rod to sport fish for salmon. A person who sport fishes from a vessel licensed for commercial fishing, other than a charter vessel, in waters closed to commercial salmon fishing shall, immediately upon bringing a salmon onboard, mark the salmon by removing its dorsal fin [5 AAC 47.041 (c)]. This regulation also applies when a person is sport fishing for a species closed to commercial trolling. Sport fishing from a commercially licensed vessel while commercially-caught salmon are in possession is illegal in waters closed to commercial fishing [5 AAC 47.041(d)]. No person may possess sport-caught halibut aboard a vessel when other fish or shellfish on the vessel are destined for sale, trade or barter [5 AAC 75.070(a)].
2. A registered troll vessel may also be registered as a charter vessel. Charter boat registration applications are available at Fish and Game offices. A vessel registered both as a commercial troller and as a charter vessel may not be used to troll commercially and charter in the same day [5 AAC 75.995(8)].

### **REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO COMMERCIAL TROLL BYCATCH OF GROUND FISH AND HALIBUT**

For information on Southeast Alaska Groundfish regulations, refer to the 2009–2010 Statewide Commercial Groundfish Fishing Regulations booklet available at all Southeast ADF&G area offices. Information on groundfish bycatch allowances in the troll fishery can be found in the “Groundfish Bycatch in the 2010 Salmon Troll Fishery” news release issued on December 18, 2009.

In the spring troll fishery, all groundfish incidentally taken by hand and power troll gear operated to take salmon consistent with applicable laws and regulations are legally taken and possessed with the following restrictions:

- The bycatch allowance for demersal shelf rockfish (DSR) is limited to 10% of the round weight of all salmon on board the vessel. All DSR in excess of 10% must be weighed and reported as bycatch overage on an ADF&G fish ticket. All proceeds from the sale of excess DSR bycatch shall be surrendered to the state [5 AAC 28.171 (a)]. The seven species of rockfish in the DSR assemblage are yelloweye, quillback, canary, rosethorn, copper, china, and tiger rockfish. DSR bycatch overages must be reported on fish tickets but may be kept for a person’s own use.
- The bycatch allowance for spiny dogfish is limited to 35%.
- Lingcod may be taken as bycatch in the commercial salmon troll fishery only from May 16 through November 30 [5AAC 28.113 (c)].

- Lingcod must measure at least 27 inches from the tip of the snout to the tip of the tail, or 20.5 inches from the front of the dorsal fin to the tip of the tail.
- Lingcod bycatch in the Northern Southeast Outside (NSEO) Section is limited to 5% (round weight) of the round weight of salmon on board. The spring troll areas within NSEO include: Stag Bay (113-97), Lisianski Inlet (113-95), and the portion of Port Althorp (114-50) that is south of a line from the northernmost tip of Soapstone Point to the westernmost tip of Column Point.
- The retention of lingcod is prohibited in the troll fishery in the waters of Sitka Sound [5AAC 28.150(a)]. The Sitka Sound closure area is defined as the waters that are enclosed on the north by lines from Kruzof Island at 57°20.50' N. lat., 135°45.17' W. long. to Chichagof Island at 57°22.05' N. lat., 135°43.00' W. long., and from Chichagof Island at 57°22.58' N. lat., 135°41.30' W. long. to Baranof Island at 57°22.28' N. lat., 135°40.95' W. long., and on the south and west by a line running from the southernmost tip of Sitka Point at 56°59.38' N. lat., 135°49.57' W. long. to Hanus Point at 56°51.92' N. lat., 135°30.50' W. long. to the green day marker in Dorothy Narrows at 56°49.28' N. lat., 135°22.75' W. long. to Baranof Island at 56°49.28' N. lat., 135°22.60' W. long.

There are portions of the Biorka Island (113-31) and Salisbury Sound (113-62) spring troll areas that do not fall within the Sitka Sound lingcod closure area. Troll bycatch of lingcod will be allowed in those open areas during the lingcod season. Trollers who have lingcod onboard may not fish in areas closed to lingcod retention.

Lingcod harvest allocations for the troll fishery are set by Lingcod Management Area (Figure 7), and area closures will occur as allocations are taken. In-season closures will be announced by news release and marine radio broadcast by the U.S. Coast Guard and National Weather Service however lingcod closures during the spring troll fishery are unlikely. For updates on lingcod area closures, call the Groundfish Hotline at 747-4882 or contact the Groundfish staff in Sitka at 747-6688.

Other regulations:

Halibut incidentally taken during an open commercial halibut season by power and handtroll gear being operated for salmon consistent with applicable state laws and regulations are legally taken and possessed [5AAC 28.133 (c)]. Commercial halibut may be legally retained only by IFQ permit holders during the open season for halibut, March 6–November 15, 2010. Trollers making an IFQ halibut landing of 500 lbs or less of IFQ weight as determined pursuant to 50 CFR 679.42(h) are exempted from the 3 hour Prior Notice of Landing (PNOL) if landed concurrently with a legal landing of salmon [50 CFR 679.5(l)(1)(iv)(A)]. Halibut taken incidentally during the troll fishery shall be reported on a fish ticket using the CFEC salmon permit. For information on regulations and landing requirements for the federal IFQ halibut fishery contact the National Marine Fisheries Service at 586-7225 (Juneau), 747-6940 (Sitka), 772-2285 (Petersburg), or 247-5804 (Ketchikan).

Trollers are allowed to longline for groundfish and troll for salmon on the same trip as long as fish are not onboard the vessel in an area closed to commercial fishing or closed to retention of

that species and the fisher has both a commercial salmon permit and the appropriate commercial longline permit.

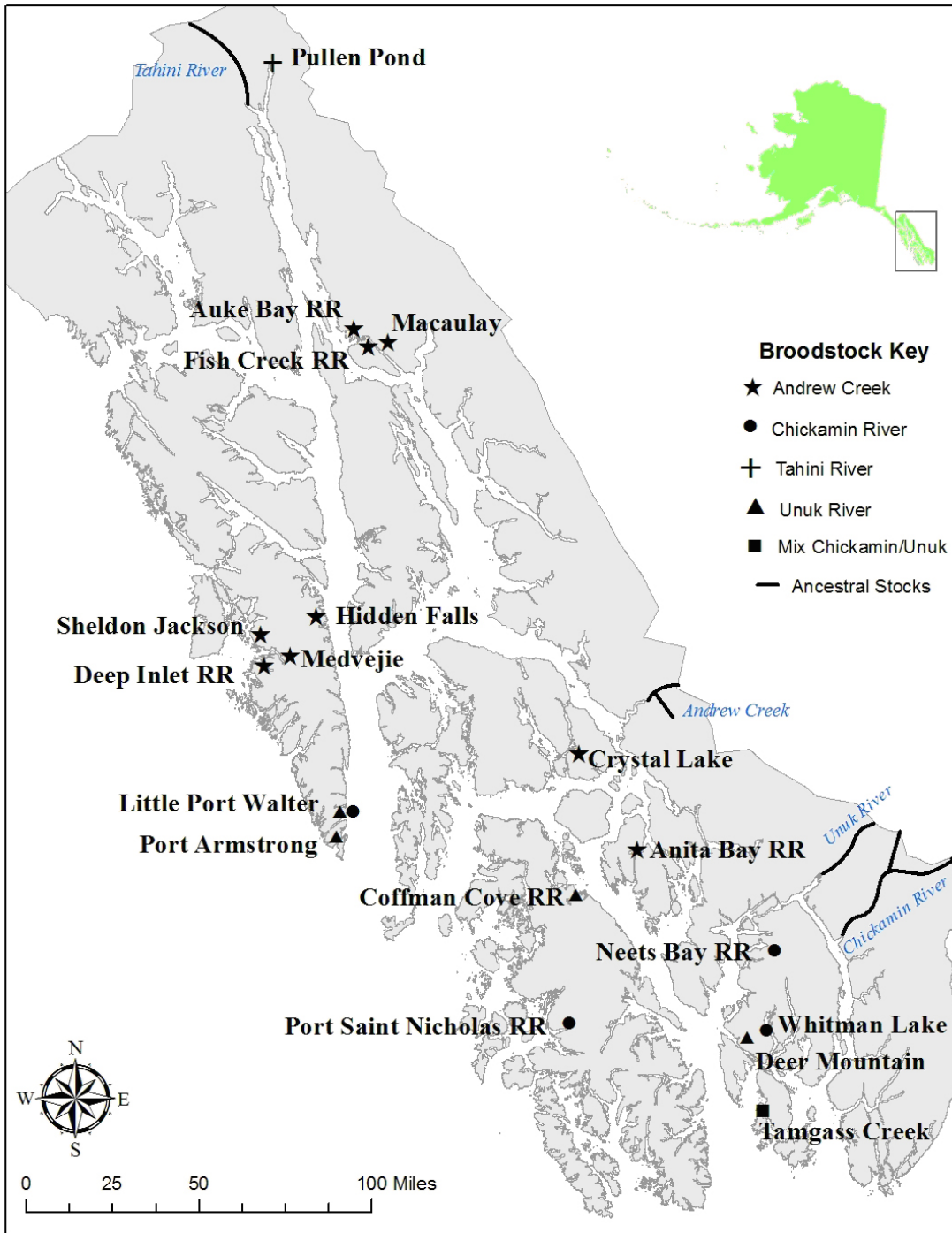
A vessel may not engage in directed fishing for groundfish with dinglebar troll or mechanical jig gear if they have commercial caught salmon on board. A vessel fishing for groundfish with dinglebar troll gear must display the letter “D” and a vessel fishing for groundfish with mechanical jigging machines must display the letter “M” at all times when fishing with or transporting fish taken with dinglebar troll gear or mechanical jigging machines [5AAC 28.135 (a)(4)]. A person may not operate a vessel that is displaying one of these letters when the vessel is being used to fish for salmon [5AAC 28.135 (c)].

## 2010 ALASKA HATCHERY CHINOOK RETURN FORECAST

Hatchery facility managers are predicting total returns of approximately 95,050 Chinook salmon for 2010, as compared to estimated 2009 returns of 98,913 fish (Table 2). The largest returns for 2010 are expected to Neets Bay, Medvejie Creek, and Whitman Lake. Neck Lake coho are included due to their early run timing, which coincides with the spring troll fishery.

**Table 2.**—2010 Alaska hatchery Chinook and Neck Lake coho salmon return forecasts.

Release Site	2009 Total Return Projection	2009 Total Return	2010 Total Return Projection
<b>Ketchikan Area</b>			
Whitman Lake	17,200	18,450	16,800
Neets Bay	15,000	28,920	23,900
Deer Mountain	410	545	528
Tamgas Creek	3,714	3,768	3,500
<i>Total</i>	<i>36,324</i>	<i>51,683</i>	<i>44,728</i>
<b>Chatham Strait</b>			
Little Port Walter	2,100	1,803	1,210
Hidden Falls	7,600	6,647	7,100
Port Armstrong	2,510	2,491	4,112
<i>Total</i>	<i>12,210</i>	<i>10,941</i>	<i>12,422</i>
<b>Juneau Area</b>			
Macaulay	4,300	2,555	3,700
<b>Wrangell/Petersburg</b>			
Anita Bay	9,700	9,190	8,700
Crystal Lake	7,500	3,800	1,700
<i>Total</i>	<i>17,200</i>	<i>12,990</i>	<i>10,400</i>
<b>Sitka Area</b>			
Medvejie Creek	42,100	20,744	23,800
<b>Southeast Alaska Chinook Hatchery Totals</b>	<b>112,134</b>	<b>98,913</b>	<b>95,050</b>
Neck Lake Coho	52,000	111,830	85,000



**Figure 1.**—Location of Chinook salmon hatcheries, and Chinook salmon remote release sites in Southeast Alaska.



## 2010 SPRING FISHING AREAS AND MAPS

Maps show the approximate fishing area boundaries. Fishermen should refer to the area descriptions below for a legal description of area boundaries. Descriptions of district and section boundaries can be found in the regulation book (5 AAC 33.200).

### **Ketchikan Areas**

**Ketchikan Area (Fishery area 101-29):** Waters of Clarence Strait and Nichols Passage north of a line from Prince of Wales Island to Duke Island at 54°54.06' N. latitude (the northern entrance to Kendrick Bay) and south of the District 2/6 boundary (a line from the easternmost tip of Narrow Point to the northernmost tip of Lemesurier Point); Tongass Narrows north of the latitude of Rosa Reef light and south of a line from Point Higgins to the southernmost point on the peninsula at the eastern entrance to Bond Bay; in Revillagigedo Channel and George Inlet south of the latitude of the George Inlet cannery site at 55°23' N. latitude; and north of a line from 55°13.60' N. latitude, 131°17.30' W. longitude (approximately 1-mile south of Cone Point) to Harbor Point. Waters of Carroll Inlet and Thorne Arm are open. Waters within 3,000 feet of Annette Island (Annette Island Reserve) are closed.

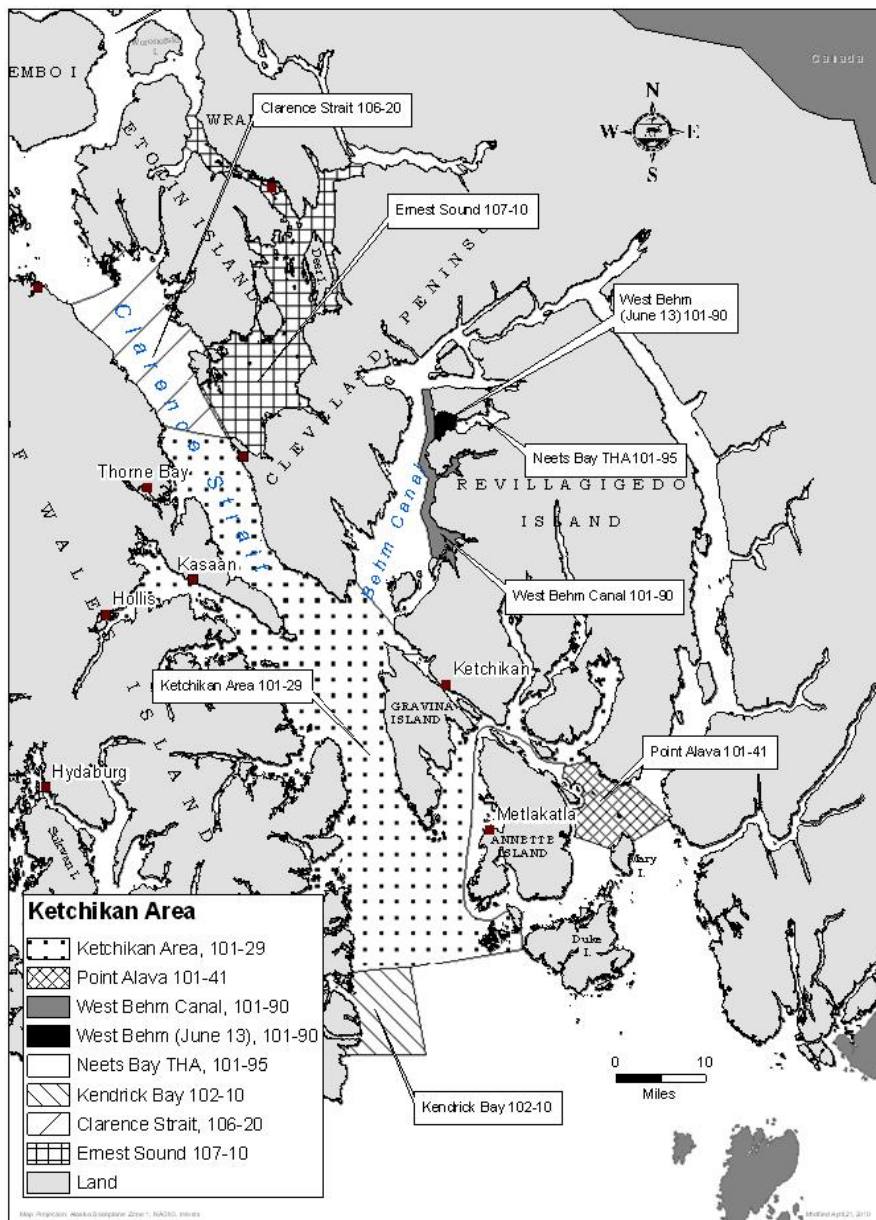
**Point Alava (Fishery Area 101-41):** Waters of Revillagigedo Channel north of a line from a point on Annette Island at the southernmost tip of the northern entrance to Crab Bay (approximately 55°06.55' N. Lat.) to the prominent point on Mary Island at approximately 55°05.25' N. latitude to Mary Island Light to the northernmost tip of Black Island then due east to the mainland shore to the easternmost tip of Point Alava, and south of the Ketchikan Area boundary that is located approximately one mile south of Cone Point. Waters within 3,000 feet of Annette Island (Annette Island Reserve) are closed.

**Neets Bay Terminal Harvest Area (Fishery area 101-95):** ): In Neets Bay, east of a longitude of the easternmost tip of Bug Island to the closed waters area at the head of the bay. From the second Sunday in June through August 1, the area will be expanded to waters of Neets Bay east of the longitude of Chin Point to the closed waters at the head of the bay (5 AAC 33.370(b)(5)).

**West Behm Canal (Fishery area 101-90):** In waters of W. Behm Canal within one nautical mile of the western shore of Revillagigedo Island south of the latitude of Brow Point, 55°50.13' N. latitude and north of the latitude of the northernmost tip of Grant Island including all waters of Naha and Mosher Bays and waters of Neets Bay west of the easternmost tip of Bug Island through June 12. Beginning on June 13, waters east of the longitude of Chin Point will be managed as part of the Neets Bay terminal area and harvest from this area should be reported as Neets Bay Terminal Area (101-95).

**Clarence Strait (Fishery area 106-20):** Only those waters of Section 6D south of a line from Luck Pt. to Pt. Stanhope and including the waters of Rocky Bay, Cooney Cove, Mosman Inlet, Burnett Inlet, and McHenry Inlet.

**Kendrick Bay (Fishery area 102-10):** Waters of Clarence Strait north of the latitude of the southernmost tip of the northern entrance to Stone Rock Bay at approximately 54°46.13' N. latitude, south of the southern boundary of the Ketchikan Area (101-29) and west of the Districts 1/2 boundary.



**Figure 2**–Ketchikan area spring trolling areas, 2010.

## **Wrangell and Prince of Wales Areas**

**Sumner Strait (Fishery area 105-41):** In District 106, the waters of Sumner Strait west of a line from Point Colpoys Light to the southernmost tip of Mitchell Point and in District 105, the waters of Sumner Strait north of a line at the latitude of the northernmost tip of the northern Barrier Island.

**Steamer Point (Fishery area 106-30):** In Stikine Strait, only in those waters of Sections 6C and 6D north and east of a line from the southwesternmost tip of Point Nesbitt to Key Reef Light to Point Harrington.

**Snow Pass (Fishery area 106-41):** The waters of Sections 6-B, 6-C and 6-D north of a line from Luck Point to Point Stanhope and west and south of a line from the southwesternmost tip of Point Nesbitt to Key Reef Light to Point Harrington.

**Ernest Sound (Fishery Area 107-10):** The waters of District 7 west of 131°56' W. longitude. The waters of Anita Bay THA are excluded.

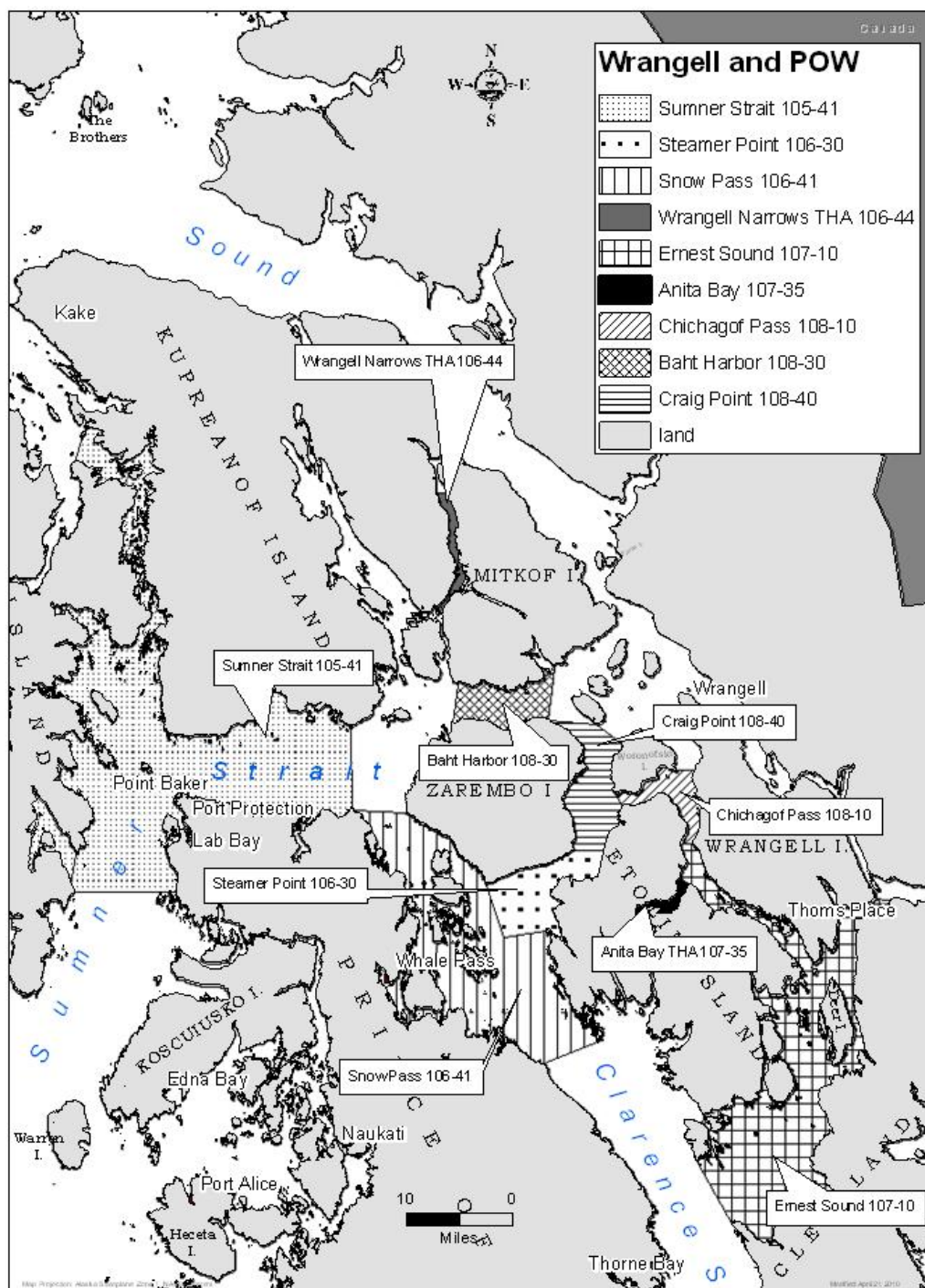
**Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area (Fishery area 107-35):** Includes those waters of Anita Bay west of a line from Anita Point to a point on Etolin Island at 56°14.26' N. latitude, 132°23.92' W. longitude.

**NOTE:** (1) From June 15 through June 25, the waters of the Anita Bay THA west of 132°26.22' W. long. are closed to the harvest of salmon; (2) From June 26 through July 1, the waters of Anita Bay THA west of 132°26.98 W. long. are closed to the harvest of salmon.

**Chichagof Pass (108-10):** The waters of Chichagof Pass and Zimovia Strait in Section 8B south of 56°24.5' N. latitude, and east of a line from Reef Point to a point on Etolin Island at 56°20.10' N. latitude, 132°32' W. longitude.

**Baht Harbor (Fishery area 108-30):** In Sumner Strait, waters of Section 8B east of the District 8 western boundary and west of a line from the eastern entrance of Blind Slough to the Craig Point light.

**Craig Point (Fishery area 108-40):** Waters of Section 8B in Sumner and Stikine Straits south and east of a line from Craig Point Light to Neal Point Light to Wedge Point and west of a line from Reef Point to a point on Etolin Island at 56°20.10' N. latitude, 132°32' W. longitude.



**Figure 3.**–Wrangell and Prince of Wales spring trolling areas, 2010.

## **Chatham Strait and Frederick Sound Areas**

**Little Port Walter (Fishery area 109-10):** In Chatham Strait, only in those waters of Section 9-A south of the latitude of Patterson Point Light and north of 56°15.83' N. latitude (located immediately south of Graveyard Cove), including all waters of Patterson Bay, Deep Cove, Port Herbert, Port Walter, Port Lucy, and Port Conclusion.

**Tebenkof Bay (Fishery Area 109-62):** In Section 9-B, the waters of Tebenkof Bay south of the latitude of Point Ellis (56°33.12' N. lat.), north of the latitude of Point Harris Light and east of 134°24' W. longitude.

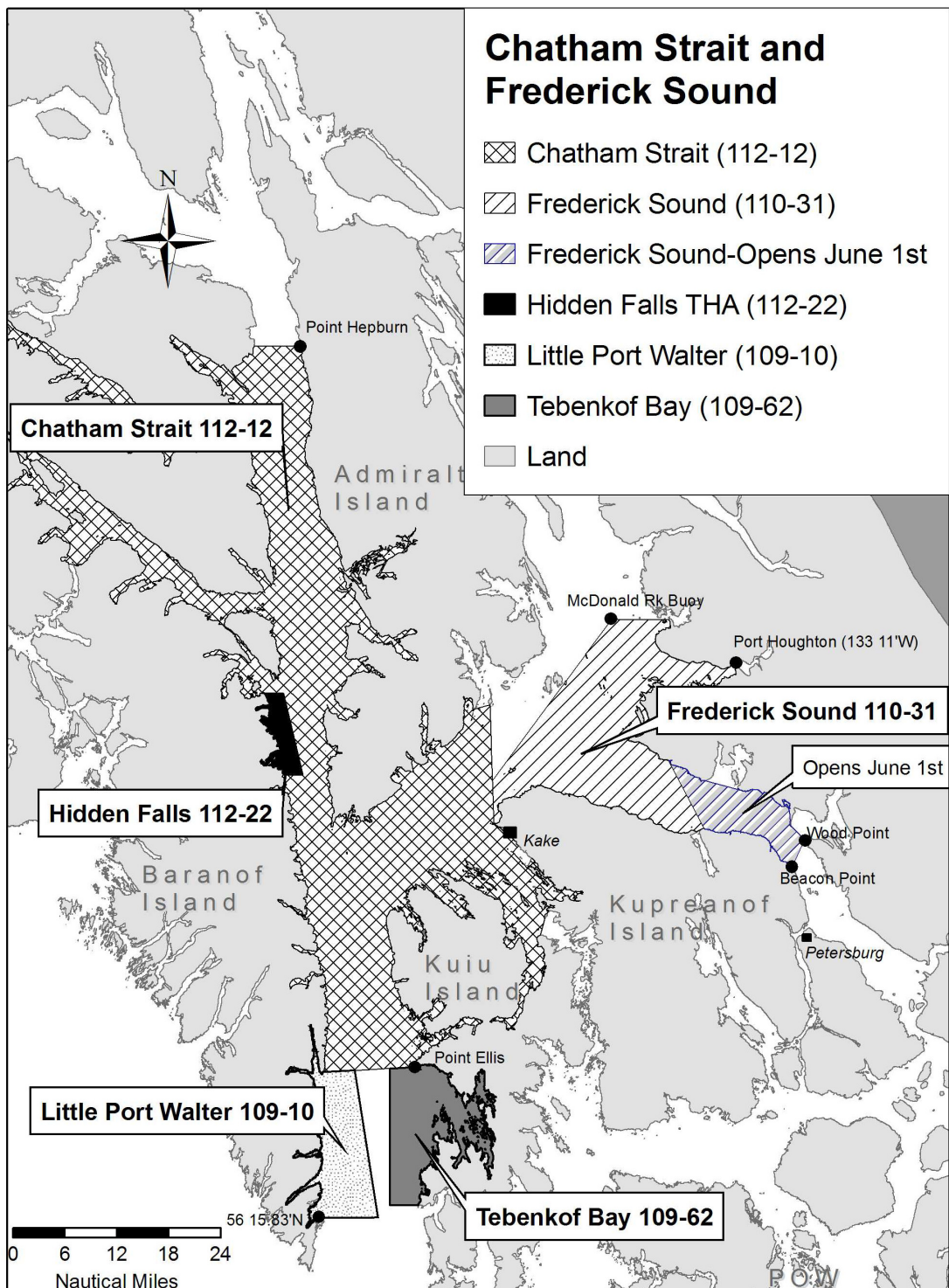
**Frederick Sound (Fishery area 110-31):** In Frederick Sound, those waters north and east of a line from the westernmost tip of Point Macartney to 57°06' N. latitude, 134°03.35' W. longitude; south and east of a line from 57°06' N. latitude, 134°03.35' W. longitude to McDonald Rock buoy; south of the line from McDonald Rock buoy to the point of land on the mainland east of Entrance Island at 57°25.32' N. latitude, 133°25.63' W. longitude; and north and west of a line from the northernmost tip of Boulder Point to Point Highland. Waters of Port Houghton east of 133°11' W. longitude are closed.

**NOTE:** Beginning June 1, the Frederick Sound area will be extended to include those waters of District 10 that are north and west of a line from Wood Point (56°59.75' N. lat., 132°56.95' W. long.) to Beacon Point excluding waters of Farragut Bay north and east of a line from Bay to Grand and also excluding those waters of Thomas Bay that are north and east of a line from Point Vandeput (57°01.25' N. lat., 133°00' W. long.) to Wood Point.

**Chatham Strait (Fishery Area 112-12)** The waters of Chatham Strait and Frederick Sound south of the latitude of Point Hepburn, including the waters of Freshwater Bay, Tenakee Inlet, and Kelp Bay, and excluding the waters of the Hidden Falls Terminal Area (112-22); waters north of Point Ellis (56°33.12' N. lat.), including Keku Strait and Port Camden and west of the District 9/10 boundary (the southernmost tip of Elliot Island to Pt. McCartney); waters of Peril Strait and Hoonah Sound north of Pogibshi Point. The waters of Tebenkof Bay east of Pt. Ellis (134°19.00' W. long.) are excluded.

**Hidden Falls Terminal Harvest Area (Fishery area 112-22):** In Chatham Strait, only those waters of Section 12A within two nautical miles of the Baranof Island shoreline south of the latitude of South Point and north of 57°06.83' N. latitude (south of Takatz Bay) excluding waters of Kelp Bay (5 AAC 33.374(a)).





**Figure 4.**—Chatham Strait and Frederick Sound spring trolling areas, 2010.

## **North Chatham Strait and Icy Strait Areas**

**Lisianski Inlet (Fishery area 113-95):** In Section 13A, in waters of Lisianski Inlet south of a line from Ewe Pt. (58°04.06' N. lat.) to Dace Rock (58°05.48' N. lat.) and east of the longitude of the navigational marker at Rock Point (58°02.08' N. lat., 136°21.92' W. long.).

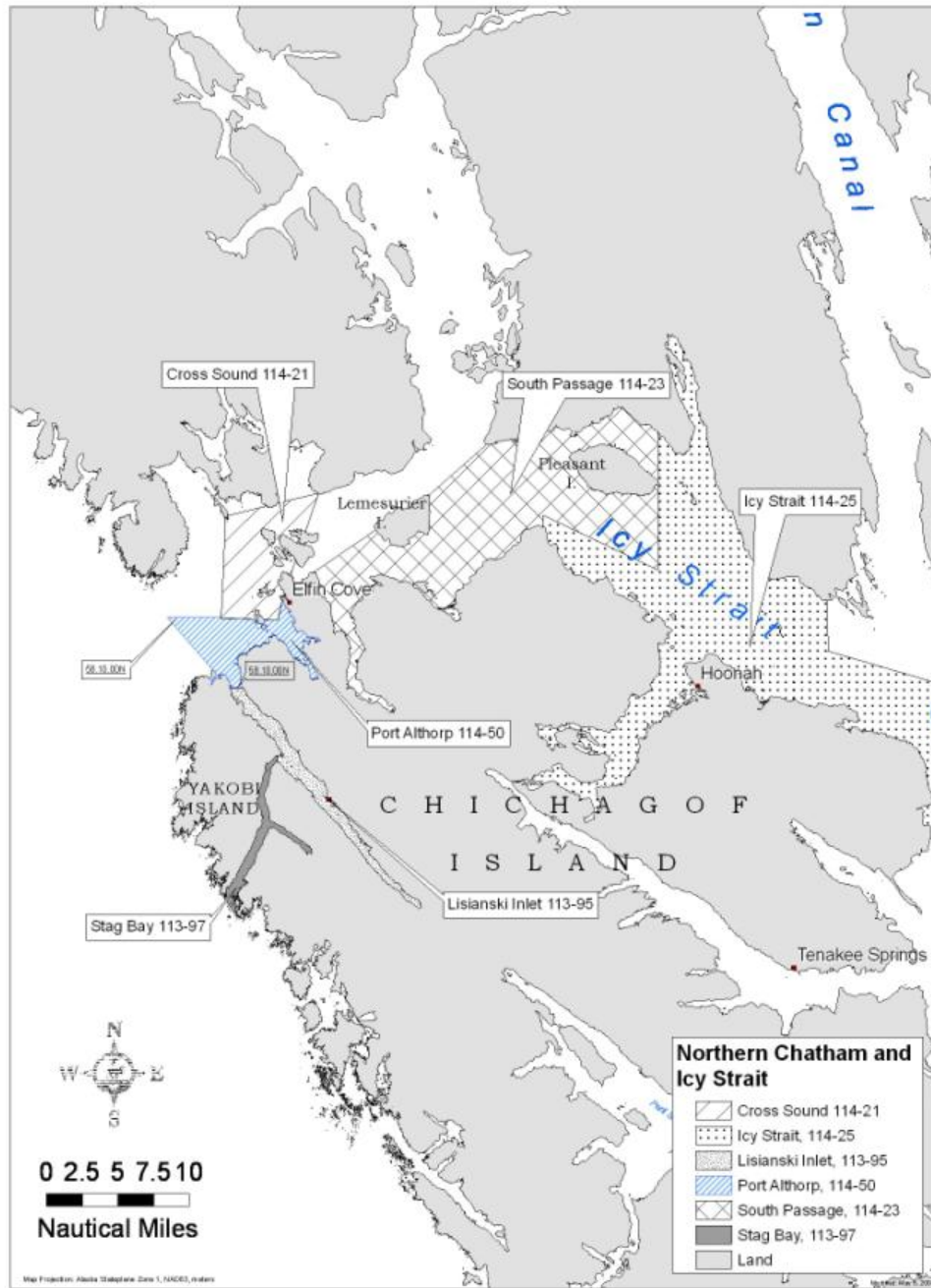
**Stag Bay (Fishery area 113-97):** In waters of Lisianski Strait north of a line from Point Theodore through Point Urey and south and west of the navigational marker at Rock Point (58°02.08' N. lat., 136°21.92' W. long. including the waters of Stag Bay.

**Cross Sound (Fishery area 114-21):** In the waters of Section 14A west of the longitude of the southernmost tip of Point Dundas (136°16.75' W. long.), south of the latitude of the southernmost tip of Point Dundas (58°19' N. lat.) and east of the longitude of the southernmost tip of Taylor Island to 58°10' N. latitude, then east to Althorp Rock Light, then north to the light at the entrance to Elfin Cove.

**South Passage (Fishery area 114-23):** In waters of Icy Strait south and east of a line extending from the prominent point on northeastern side of the Inian Peninsula at 58°13.43' N. latitude, 136°16.75' W. longitude to the westernmost tip of Lemesurier Island to the northernmost tip of Lemesurier Island to Point Gustavus and north and west of the northern and western boundaries of the new Icy Strait area (see above), including the waters of Icy Passage.

**Icy Strait (Fishery area 114-25):** In the waters of Icy Strait and Chatham Strait, east of the longitude of Noon Pt. (135°32.2' W. long.), west of 135°09.6' W. longitude, and the waters bounded by a line from Point Adolphus Light to a point one-mile due north of Point Adolphus to the northernmost tip of the northernmost island of the Sisters to Hanus Reef Light to the southernmost tip of Hawk Point (at the entrance to Hawk Inlet), and north of the latitude of Point Hepburn including waters of Port Frederick and Hawk Inlet.

**Port Althorp (Fishery area 114-50):** In waters of Section 14A in Lisianski Inlet north of a line from Ewe Pt. (58°04.06' N. lat.) to Dace Rock (58°05.48' N. lat.) and in Cross Sound and Lisianski Inlet bounded by a line from on the west from Soapstone Point (58°06.36' N. lat., 136°29.96' W. long.), to the Cape Spencer light, then east to Althorp Rock Light, then north to the light at the entrance to Elfin Cove.



**Figure 5.**–North Chatham and Icy Strait spring trolling areas, 2010.



## **Sitka Areas**

**Western Channel (Fishery area 113-01):** In waters of Sitka Sound northeast of a line from Kulichkof Rock to Vitskari Island Light to a point on Kruzof Island at 57°03.42' N. latitude, 135°36' W. longitude, south of a line from a point on Kruzof Island at 57°05' N. latitude, 135°35' W. longitude to 57°01.50' N. lat., 135°24.25' W. long. (the intersection of a line from a point on Kruzof Island at 57°05' N. latitude, 135°35' W. longitude through The Eckholms Light with a line from the southernmost tip of Makhnati Island to Kulichof Rock) to Kulichof Rock.

**Redoubt Bay (Fishery area 113-30):** In waters of Sitka Sound south of a line from the westernmost tip of Cape Burunof to Kulichof Rock and east and north of a line from Kulichof Rock to the northwesternmost point on Peisar Island to the southernmost point on Peisar Island to the southernmost point on Viesokoi Rock to a point on Baranof Island at 56°51.42' N. lat., 135°23.50' W. long.

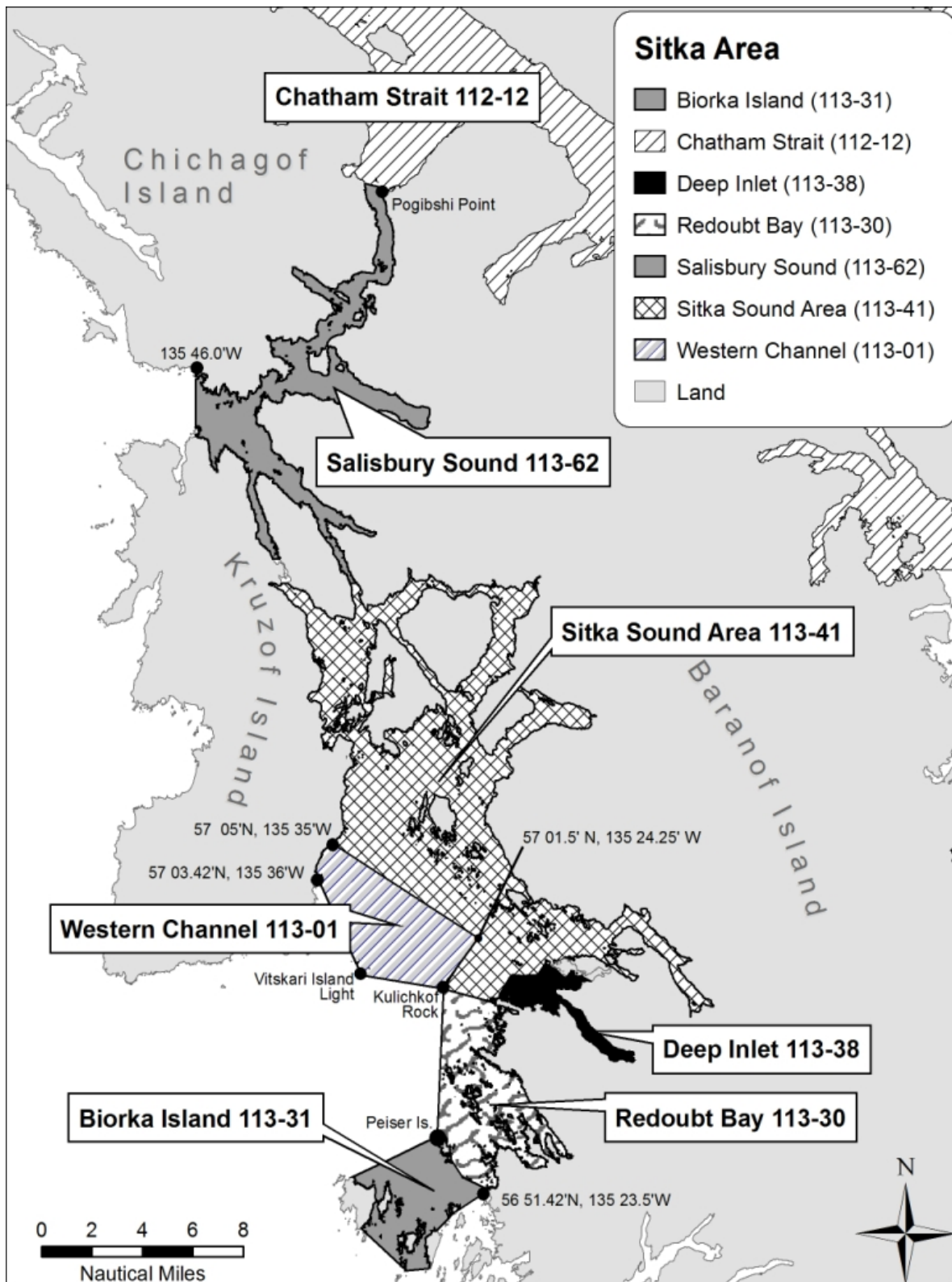
**Biorka Island (Fishery area 113-31):** In waters of Sitka Sound south and east of a line from the northernmost tip of Biorka Island to the northwesternmost point on Peisar Island, south and west of a line from the northwesternmost point on Peisar Island to the southernmost point on Peisar Island to the southernmost point on Viesokoi Rock to a point on Baranof Island at 56°51.42' N. lat., 135°23.5' W. long. to the southernmost point on Torsar Island to the northernmost point on Legma Island to the southernmost point on Legma Island, and north and east of a line from the southernmost point on Legma Island to the southernmost point on Liesnoi Island to Point Woodhouse.

**Sitka Sound Area (Fishery area 113-41):** The waters of Sitka Sound, including Krestof Sound and Neva Strait south of 57°15' N. latitude, and north and east of a line from line from the westernmost tip of Cape Burunof to Kulichkof Rock to 57°01.50' N. lat., 135°24.25' W. long. (the intersection of a line from a point on Kruzof Island at 57°05' N. latitude, 135°35' W. longitude through The Eckholms Light with a line from the southernmost tip of Makhnati Island to Kulichof Rock) to a point on Kruzof Island at 57°05' N. latitude, 135°35' W. longitude, including the waters of Nakwasina Passage, Nakwasina Sound, Katlian Bay and Silver Bay will be open. The waters of the Deep Inlet THA, as described below, are included through May 29:

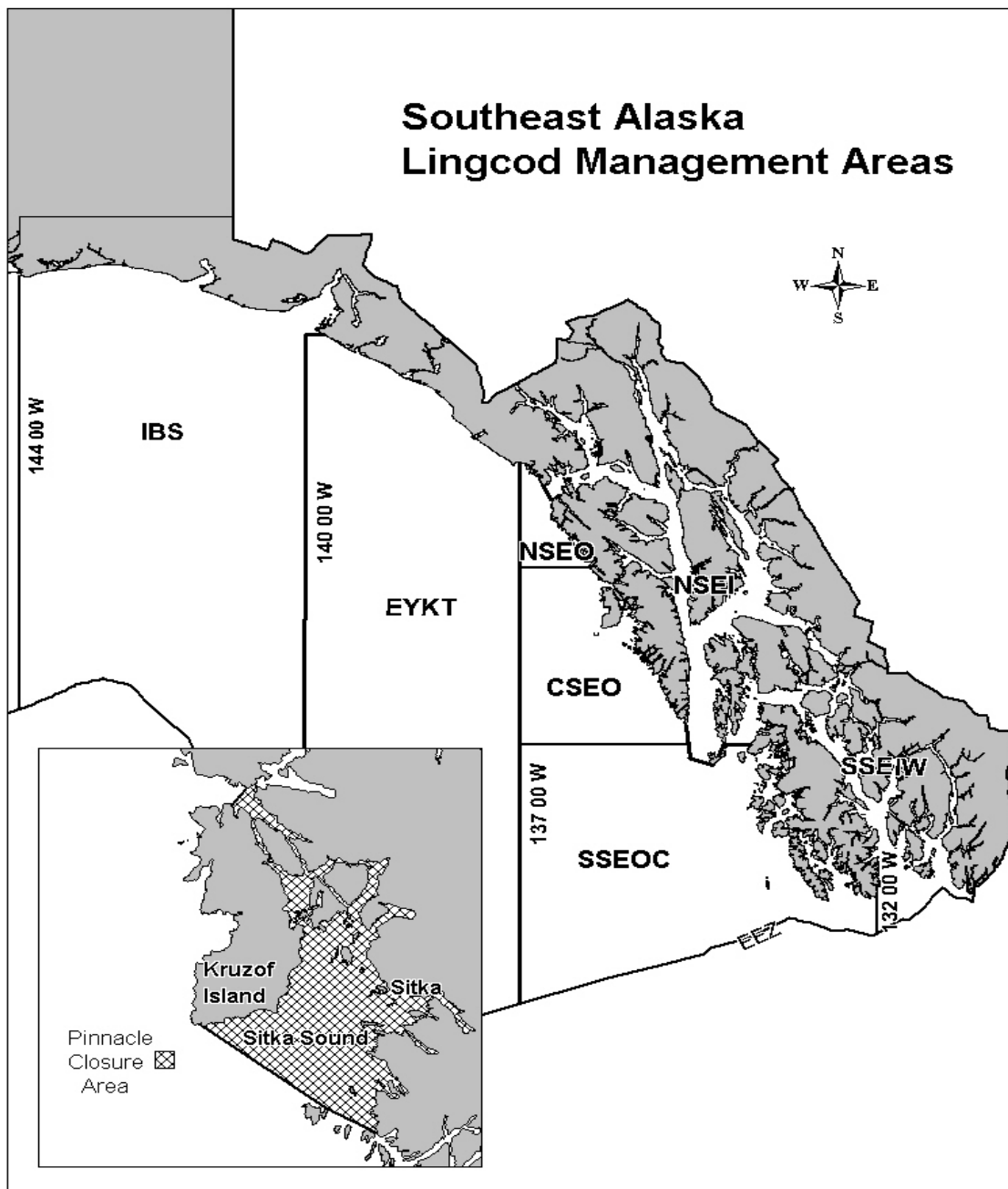
**Deep Inlet THA:** Deep Inlet, Aleutkina Bay, and contiguous waters south of a line from a point west of Pirates Cove at 135°22.63' W. longitude, 56°59.35' N. latitude to the westernmost tip of Long Island to the easternmost tip of Long Island to the westernmost tip of Emgeten Island to the westernmost tip of Error Island to the westernmost tip of Berry Island to the southernmost tip of Berry Island to the westernmost tip of the southernmost island in the Kutchuma Island group to the easternmost tip of the southernmost island in the Kutchuma Island group to the westernmost tip of an unnamed island at 135°17.67' W. longitude, 57°00.30' N. latitude to a point on the southern side of the unnamed island at 135°16.78' W. longitude, 57°00.08' N. latitude and then to a point on the Baranof Island Shore at 135°16.53' W. longitude 56°59.93' N. latitude. Waters of Sandy Cove will be closed.

From May 30 through June 30, the waters of the Deep Inlet THA described above will be managed on a rotational gear fishing schedule which will be announced in a future news release.

**Salisbury Sound (Fishery area 113-62):** In waters of Peril Strait south of the latitude of Pogibshi Point at 57°30.5' N. latitude, waters of Salisbury Sound east of 135°46' W. longitude, and waters of Sukoi Strait and Neva Strait north of 57°15' N. latitude.



**Figure 6.**—Sitka spring trolling areas, 2010.



**Figure 7.**—Southeast Alaska lingcod management areas and Sitka area closed waters.

## FISHERY CONTACTS

The following are commercial fisheries division contacts regarding this management plan:

Brian Lynch  
Troll Management Biologist  
P. O. Box 667  
Petersburg, Alaska 99833  
(907) 772-3801

Troy Thynes and Kevin Clark  
Management Biologists  
P. O. Box 667  
Petersburg, Alaska 99833  
(907) 772-3801

Bill Davidson  
Regional Management Biologist  
304 Lake Street, # 103  
Sitka, Alaska 99835-7653  
(907) 747-6688

Thomas Kowalske  
Management Biologist  
P.O. Box 200  
Wrangell, Alaska 99829  
(907) 874-3822

Scott Walker, Justin Breese and Bo Meredith  
Management Biologists  
2030 Sea Level Drive, Suite, 205  
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901  
(907) 225-5195

Gordon Woods  
Management Technician  
and  
Nicole Zeiser  
Assistant Area Management Biologist  
P. O. Box 49  
Yakutat, Alaska 99689-0049  
(907) 784-3255

Pattie Skannes  
Assistant Troll Management Biologist  
304 Lake Street, room #103  
Sitka, Alaska 99835  
(907) 747-6688

Scott Kelley  
Regional Supervisor  
P. O. Box 240020  
Douglas, Alaska 99824-0020  
(907) 465-4250

Dave Gordon and Eric Coonradt  
Management Biologist  
304 Lake Street, room # 103  
Sitka, Alaska 99835-7653  
(907) 747-6688

Kevin Monagle and Dave Harris  
Management Biologists  
P. O. Box 240020  
Douglas, Alaska 99824-0020  
(907) 465-4250

Randy Bachman  
Management Biologist  
P.O. Box 330  
Haines, Alaska 99827-0330  
(907) 766-2830 or 3124

For up-to-date troll information, call the 24-hour information line in the Douglas Office at 465-TROL (8765). In addition, the following telephone numbers may be called during the troll fishing season to obtain recorded announcements concerning areas open to trolling.

Ketchikan-(907) 225-6870

Sitka-(907) 747-8765

Petersburg-(907) 772-3700