

2011 Spring Troll Fishery Management Plan

by

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and

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April, 2011

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Division of Commercial Fisheries



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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.	Mathematics, statistics	
meter	m	at	@	<i>all standard mathematical</i>	
milliliter	mL	compass directions:		<i>signs, symbols and</i>	
millimeter	mm	east	E	<i>abbreviations</i>	
		north	N	alternate hypothesis	H _A
		south	S	base of natural logarithm	<i>e</i>
		west	W	catch per unit effort	CPUE
		copyright	©	coefficient of variation	CV
		corporate suffixes:		common test statistics	(F, t, χ^2 , etc.)
		Company	Co.	confidence interval	CI
		Corporation	Corp.	correlation coefficient	
		Incorporated	Inc.	(multiple)	R
		Limited	Ltd.	correlation coefficient	
		District of Columbia	D.C.	(simple)	r
		et alii (and others)	et al.	covariance	cov
		et cetera (and so forth)	etc.	degree (angular)	°
		exempli gratia		degrees of freedom	df
		(for example)	e.g.	expected value	<i>E</i>
		Federal Information		greater than	>
		Code	FIC	greater than or equal to	≥
		id est (that is)	i.e.	harvest per unit effort	HPUE
		latitude or longitude	lat. or long.	less than	<
		monetary symbols		less than or equal to	≤
		(U.S.)	\$, ¢	logarithm (natural)	ln
		months (tables and		logarithm (base 10)	log
		figures): first three		logarithm (specify base)	log ₂ , etc.
		letters	Jan.,...,Dec	minute (angular)	'
		registered trademark	®	not significant	NS
		trademark	™	null hypothesis	H ₀
		United States		percent	%
		(adjective)	U.S.	probability	P
		United States of		probability of a type I error	
		America (noun)	USA	(rejection of the null	
		U.S.C.	United States	hypothesis when true)	α
			Code	probability of a type II error	
		U.S. state	use two-letter	(acceptance of the null	
			abbreviations	hypothesis when false)	β
			(e.g., AK, WA)	second (angular)	"
				standard deviation	SD
				standard error	SE
				variance	
				population	Var
				sample	var
Weights and measures (English)					
cubic feet per second	ft ³ /s				
foot	ft				
gallon	gal				
inch	in				
mile	mi				
nautical mile	nmi				
ounce	oz				
pound	lb				
quart	qt				
yard	yd				
Time and temperature					
day	d				
degrees Celsius	°C				
degrees Fahrenheit	°F				
degrees kelvin	K				
hour	h				
minute	min				
second	s				
Physics and chemistry					
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				

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2011 SPRING TROLL FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN

by
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ABSTRACT

This document summarizes the plan that the Alaska Department of Fish and Game will follow to manage the 2011 Southeast Alaska spring commercial salmon troll fisheries, 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

This plan summarizes the management approach the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (department) will employ to manage the Southeast Alaska commercial spring troll fisheries in 2011. Spring fisheries target Alaska hatchery-produced Chinook salmon and are conducted during May and June of each year, and following the closure of the winter troll fishery. The number of spring fisheries has increased since 1986, when the first few spring fisheries were conducted. In recent years, more than 30 spring fishery areas located within the inside waters of the region have been open to trolling. The 28 spring troll and 4 hatchery terminal areas open for 2011 are described in pages 12–21, and presented in Figures 1–5. Spring fisheries are managed inseason, according to Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF) regulations and U.S./Canada Pacific Salmon Treaty provisions.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND METHODS

SPRING FISHERIES

Spring fisheries are conducted along migration routes or close to the following hatcheries and release sites: Little Port Walter Hatchery (NMFS), Port Armstrong Hatchery (Armstrong/Keta), Whitman Lake Hatchery, Crystal Lake Hatchery, Neets Bay and Anita Bay release sites (Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (SSRAA)), Medvejie and Hidden Falls Hatcheries (Northern Southeast Aquaculture Association, (NSRAA)) and Macaulay Hatchery (Douglas Island Pink and Chum (DIPAC)).

Spring troll and terminal troll fisheries target Alaska hatchery-produced Chinook salmon, though non-Alaska hatchery or “treaty” Chinook salmon are also harvested. While there is no ceiling on the number of Chinook salmon harvested in the spring fisheries, the take of treaty Chinook salmon is limited according to the percentage of the Alaskan hatchery fish taken in the fishery. Non-Alaska hatchery fish are counted towards the annual treaty quota of Chinook salmon under the Pacific Salmon Treaty, but most of the Alaska hatchery fish are not. The locations of Chinook salmon hatcheries and remote release sites within Southeast Alaska are presented in Figure 6. The guideline limits of treaty fish that may be harvested in each spring fishing area, according to BOF regulations, are listed in Table 1.

Table 1.—Guideline limits of Pacific Salmon Treaty fish (U.S./Canada) 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 GHL 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 GHL 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. Occasionally, two or more adjacent spring areas may be combined if each area has demonstrated an Alaska hatchery composition of 25% or more for at least three consecutive seasons. 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. 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).

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 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 AREA FISHERIES

Terminal fisheries are conducted in areas near a hatchery or release site. Chinook salmon caught in many terminal harvest areas are considered to be 100% Alaska hatchery fish, based on previous sampling. Terminal harvest areas (THA) include Deep Inlet, Hidden Falls, Port Armstrong, Wrangell Narrows, Anita Bay and Neets Bay, although areas do not necessarily open each year. THA's are managed according to management plans unique to each area.

DIRECTED CHINOOK SALMON FISHERIES IN DISTRICTS 8 AND 11

In 2005, an agreement was approved between the United States and Canada which allowed directed commercial and sport fisheries for Chinook salmon returning to the Stikine and Taku

Rivers. Directed fisheries on these rivers had been closed since the mid-1970s as part of a coastwide stock rebuilding program. Commercial and sport fisheries were conducted by emergency regulation in Districts 8 and 11 that year. In 2006, management plans for these directed fisheries were adopted by the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

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.

2010 SPRING FISHERY SUMMARY

A total of 544 vessels participated in the 2010 spring fisheries (non-terminal), with a harvest of 28,614 Chinook, 108 sockeye, 7,997 coho, 8,223 pink and 28,591 chum salmon. The Chinook salmon harvest was approximately 3,967 fish fewer than the 2009 harvest and the Alaska hatchery contribution increased from 38% to 39%. The 2010 total Spring Fishery harvest was the 11th highest on record, while the Alaska hatchery harvest was the 13th highest on record. The largest Chinook salmon harvests were in the Ketchikan, Tebenkof Bay, and Sitka Sound areas. Terminal area harvests taken in the spring and summer fisheries included 1,123 Chinook, 25 sockeye, 940 coho, 1,449 pink salmon and 95,940 chum salmon. The majority of the terminal

Chinook, 862 fish, were caught in the Hidden Falls Terminal Harvest Area. A total of 27 spring areas, five terminal fisheries were open during 2010.

2011 SPRING FISHERIES UPDATE

2011 SPRING TROLL FISHERIES OVERVIEW

Preseason plans call for opening 28 spring troll areas and 4 terminal harvest areas this year. Nine spring troll areas and three terminal harvest areas opened on April 25, five days after the winter troll fishery closed. The spring troll areas selected are those which have been open continuously in past years, have a well-established history and are located in areas in which the department is able to obtain adequate samples during the first week of the fishery. Five additional spring troll areas will open the first week of May for a portion of the week. An additional 14 spring troll areas will open initially during the second and third weeks of May, according to the schedule on pages 7–8.

In 2011, 11 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 in late April or early May and will remain open 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 fishery areas are Ketchikan, West Behm Canal, Clarence Strait, Steamer Point, Ernest Sound, Frederick Sound, Chatham Strait, Sitka Sound, Stag Bay, South Passage and Icy Strait.

NEW AREAS

West Rock (Fishery Area 101-21) is being opened this year for the first time since 2002 and is located near Duke Island in lower Clarence Strait and Revillagigedo Channel.

DISTRICT 8 DIRECTED FISHERY

The **2011 preseason terminal run forecast** for large Stikine River king salmon is **30,000 fish**. The resulting **U.S. Allowable Catch (AC) is 190 large Stikine kings**. An AC of this size **will not allow for directed commercial fisheries to 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 2011 forecast is the third consecutive Stikine River king salmon preseason terminal run forecast that does not allow for directed commercial fisheries.

DISTRICT 11 DIRECTED FISHERY

The **2011 pre-season terminal run forecast** for large Taku River king salmon is **41,000 fish**. A terminal run of this size yields a **U.S. Allowable Catch of 1,533 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 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.

WRANGELL NARROWS TERMINAL HARVEST AREA

The 2011 Chinook salmon return to the Wrangell Narrows THA is projected to be less than 4,000 fish, so a **commercial troll fishery will not be conducted** in the THA this year. The current projected return to the Wrangell Narrows THA is only 1,750 adult Chinook salmon, from a total return projection of 2,600 adult Chinook.

YAKUTAT SPRING TROLL FISHERY

In 2011, a **commercial troll fishery is not scheduled to open** in Yakutat Bay due to the return forecast to the Situk weir of approximately 155 large king salmon.

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)].

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 1 to 5. 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 SPRING TROLL OPENINGS:

Areas open on April 25 until further notice:

Ketchikan	West Behm Canal	Clarence Strait	Steamer Point
Ernest Sound	Frederick Sound	Chatham Strait	Sitka Sound
Icy Strait			

Areas open the week of May 1:

Sumner Strait	Snow Pass	Chichagof Pass	Little Port Walter
Tebenkof Bay	Redoubt Bay	Lisianski Inlet	Stag Bay
Cross Sound	South Passage	Port Althorp	

Area open the week of May 8:

Salisbury Sound

Areas open the week of May 15:

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

TERMINAL AREA TROLL FISHERIES

- **Hidden Falls:** opens on April 25 and will remain open until closed by emergency order. (5 AAC 33.374(b)).
- **Neets Bay:** opens on April 25 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 April 25, with some area closures within the THA beginning June 15 (5 AAC 33.383(b)). The Anita Bay THA is **not** part of the Ernest Sound spring Fishery Area 107-10.
- **Deep Inlet:** open to trolling on Saturdays, according to the rotational gear schedule beginning on May 29. The first troll opening will be June 4. 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 2010–2011 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 2011 Salmon Troll Fishery” news release issued on January 3, 2011.

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 taken in state waters 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 salmon troll fishery may be retained in unlimited amounts until area allocations are taken except 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 open 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 on the United States Coast Guard “Notice to Mariners” report and the National

Weather Service marine broadcast. Lingcod closures during the spring troll fishery are unlikely. For updates on lingcod area closures, call the Groundfish Hotline at 907-747-4882 or contact the Groundfish staff in Sitka at 907-747-6688.

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 12–November 18, 2011. 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 participate in a directed fishery 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)].

2011 ALASKA HATCHERY CHINOOK RETURN FORECAST

Hatchery facility managers are predicting total returns of approximately 105,718 Chinook salmon for 2011, as compared to estimated 2010 returns of 95,050 fish (Table 2). The largest returns for 2011 are expected to Medvejie Creek, Neets Bay, and Whitman Lake. The projected returns to the Ketchikan area represent 40% of the total regional return projection. Compared to 2010 projections, increased returns are expected to the Chatham Strait, Wrangell/Petersburg and Sitka areas. Neck Lake coho are included here due to their early run timing, which begins during the spring troll fishery.

Table 2.—2011 Alaska hatchery Chinook salmon and Neck Lake coho salmon return forecasts.

Release Site	2010 Total Return Projection	2010 Total Return	2011 Total Return Projection
Ketchikan Area			
Whitman Lake	16,800	21,910	17,000
Neets Bay	23,900	21,275	22,500
Deer Mountain	528	523	527
Tamgas Creek	3,500	722	2,000
<i>Total</i>	<i>44,728</i>	<i>44,430</i>	<i>42,027</i>
Chatham Strait			
Little Port Walter	1,210	990	750
Hidden Falls	7,100	6,758	7,200
Port Armstrong	4,112	5,225	5,491
<i>Total</i>	<i>12,422</i>	<i>12,973</i>	<i>13,441</i>
Juneau Area			
Macaulay	3,700	4,115	3,100
Wrangell/Petersburg			
Anita Bay	8,700	9,780	10,000
Crystal Lake	1,700	1,350	2,600
<i>Total</i>	<i>10,400</i>	<i>11,130</i>	<i>12,600</i>
Sitka Area			
Medvejie Creek	23,800	21,875	34,550
Southeast Alaska Chinook Hatchery Totals	95,050	94,523	105,718
Neck Lake Coho	85,000	122,180	112,000

2011 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

West Rock (Fishery Area 101-21, “new area”): The waters of Section 1-F south of a line from the westernmost tip of Pt. White to a point on Prince of Wales Island located on the northern entrance to Kendrick Bay at 54°54.13' N. lat, 131° 58.37' W. long and north of the latitude of Barren Island (54°44.75' N. lat) and north and west of a line from Barren Island to Yellow Rocks to a point 2 miles east of Duke Pt. at the latitude of Duke Pt.(54°55.12' N.lat, 131°08.34'W.long).

Ketchikan Area (Fishery area 101-29): Waters of Clarence Strait and Nichols Passage north of a line from the westernmost tip of Pt. White located on Duke Island to a point on Prince of Wales Island located on the northern entrance to Kendrick Bay at 54°54.13' N. lat, 131°58.37' W. long, and south of a line from the easternmost tip of Narrow Pt. to the northernmost tip of Lemesurier Pt.; Tongass Narrows north of the latitude of Rosa Reef light and south of a line from Pt. 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°23.00' N. lat; and north of a line from 55°13.60' N. lat, 131°17.30' W. long (approximately 1 mile south of Cone Point) to Harbor Point. Waters of Felice Strait are closed east of a line from Pt. White to Survey Pt. Waters within 3,000 feet of Annette Island Reserve are closed.

Point Alava (Fishery Area 101-41): Waters of Revillagigedo Channel north of a line from a point on Annette Is. at the southernmost tip of the northern entrance to Crab Bay (approximately 55°06.55' N.lat) to the prominent point on Mary Is. (approximately 55°05.25' N. lat) to Mary Is. Light to the northernmost tip of Black Is., then due east to the mainland shore to the easternmost tip of Pt. 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 Reserve are closed.

West Behm Canal (Fishery area 101-90, “modified boundaries”): Waters of West Behm Canal enclosed by a line from Brow Pt. to a point 1 mile west of Brow Pt. at 55°50.13' N. lat, 131°44.16 W. long), then south to a point at 55°43.92' N. lat, 131°45.44' W. long (located 1 mile west of the northernmost tip of Bushy Pt.), then south to a point at 55°39.09' N. lat, 131°44.69' W. long (located 1 mile west of Escape Pt.), to the northernmost tip of Grant Is., then due east to a point on the Revillagigedo Is. shoreline, including all waters of Naha and Moser Bays.

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)).

Clarence Strait (Fishery area 106-20): Waters of Section 6-D south of a line from Luck Pt. to Pt. Stanhope, including 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 54°46.13' N. lat, south of the southern boundary of the Ketchikan Area (101-29) and west of the Districts 1/2 boundary.

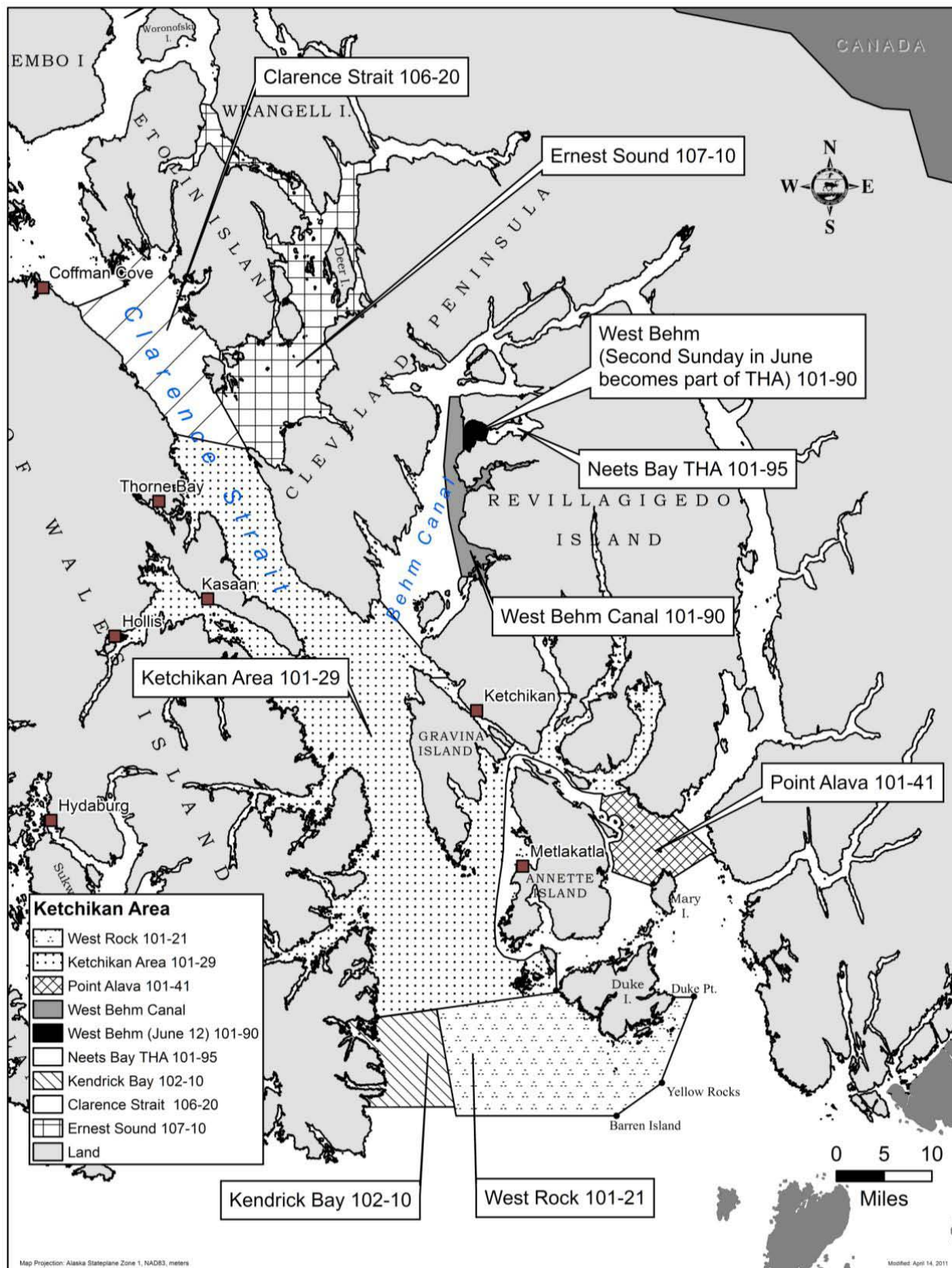


Figure 1.–Ketchikan area spring trolling areas, 2011.

Wrangell and Prince of Wales Areas

Sumner Strait (Fishery area 105-41): In District 6, the waters of Sumner Strait west of a line from Point Colpoys Light to the southernmost tip of Mitchell Point and in District 5, 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 6-C and 6-D 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°56.00' W. long. 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. lat, 132°23.92' W. long.

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 8-B south of 56°24.5' N. lat, and east of a line from Reef Point to a point on Etolin Island at 56°20.10' N. lat, 132°32' W. long.

Baht Harbor (Fishery area 108-30): In Sumner Strait, waters of Section 8-B 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 8-B in Sumner and Stikine Strait 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. lat, 132°32' W. long.

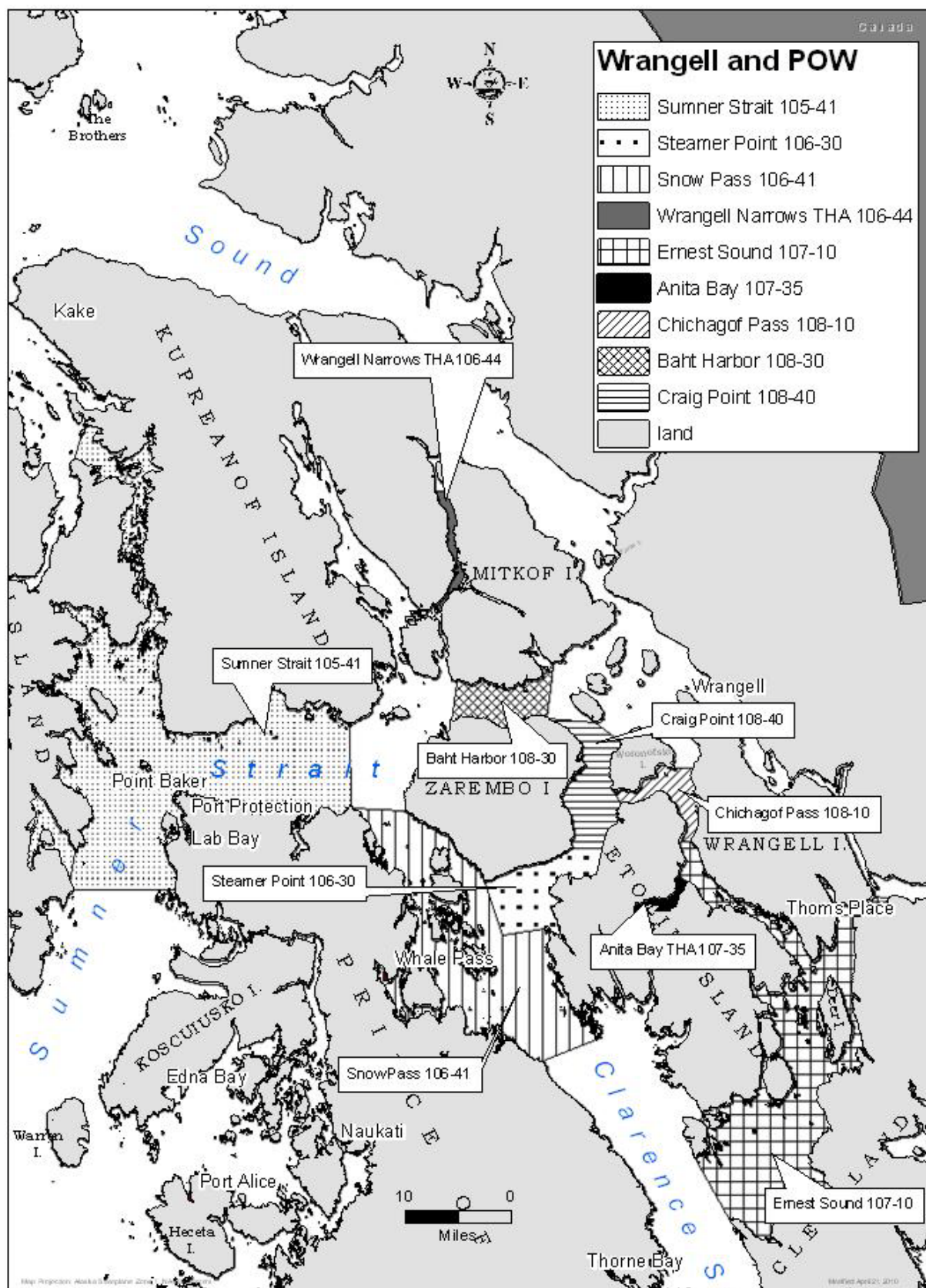


Figure 2.—Wrangell and Prince of Wales spring trolling areas, 2011.

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. lat (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°06.00' N. lat, 134°03.35' W. long; south and east of a line from 57°06.00' N. lat., 134°03.35' W. long 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. lat, 133°25.63' W. long; and north and west of a line from the northernmost tip of Boulder Point to Point Highland. Waters of Port Houghton east of 133°11.00' W. long 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 Point to Grand Point 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°00.00' 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 Point McCartney); waters of Peril Strait and Hoonah Sound north of Pogibshi Point. Waters south of the latitude of Point Ellis (56°33.12' N. lat) are excluded.

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

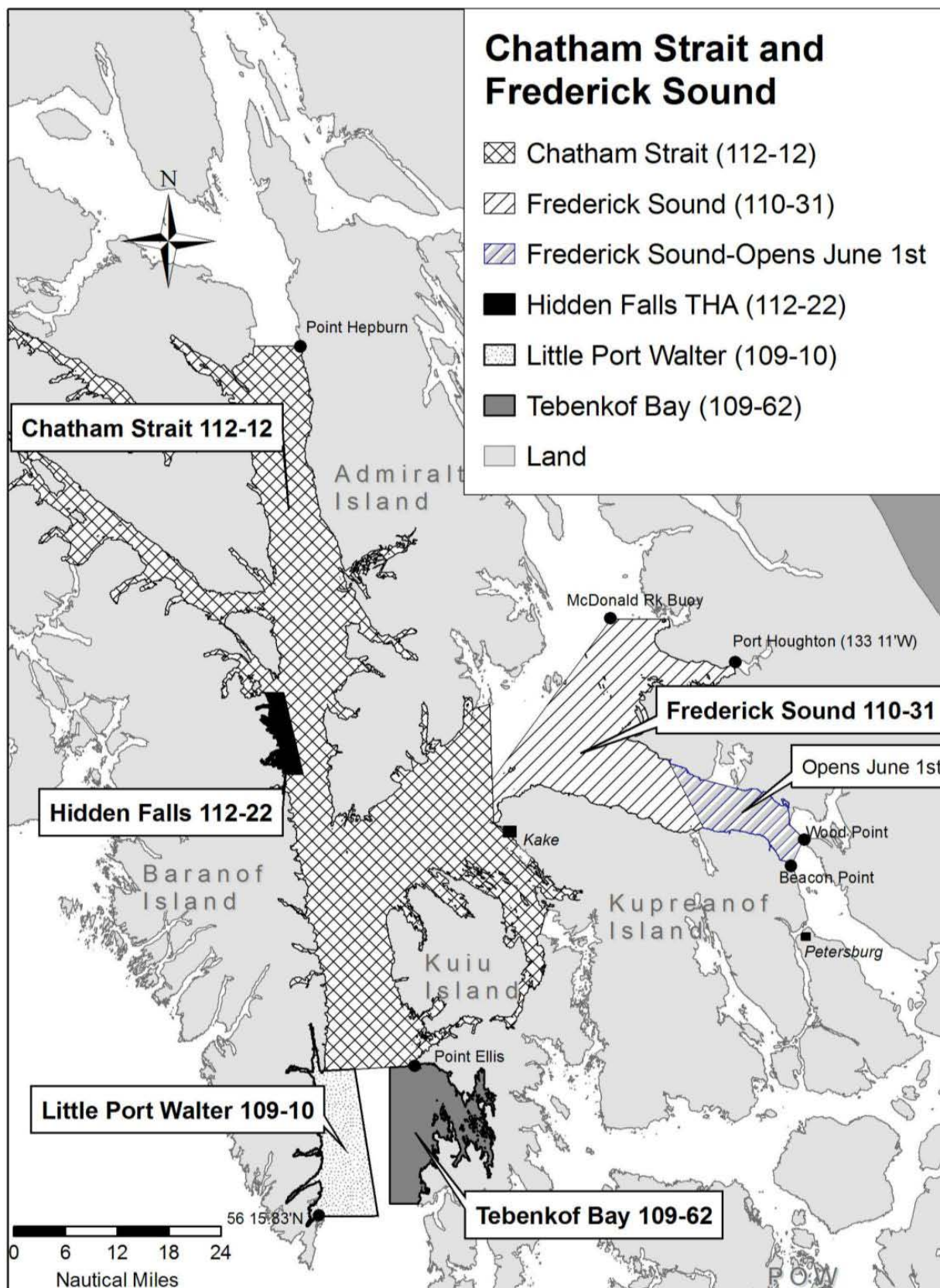


Figure 3.—Chatham Strait and Frederick Sound spring trolling areas, 2011.

North Chatham Strait and Icy Strait Areas

Lisianski Inlet (Fishery area 113-95 “modified area”): In Section 13-A, 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 a line from a point on Yakobi Island at 58°00.67' N.lat, 136°20.62' W. long to the southernmost tip of Miner Island at 58°00.46' N. lat, 136°20.27' W. long to the northernmost tip of Rock Point at 58°00.17' N. lat., 136°21.18' W. long.

Stag Bay (Fishery area 113-97 “modified area”): In waters of Lisianski Strait north of a line from Point Theodore through Point Urey and south and west of a line from a point on Yakobi Island at 58°00.67' N.lat, 136°20.62' W. long to the southernmost tip of Miner Island at 58°00.46' N. lat, 136°20.27' W. long to the northernmost tip of Rock Point at 58°00.17' N. lat., 136°21.18' W. long, including the waters of Stag Bay.

Cross Sound (Fishery area 114-21): In the waters of Section 14-A 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. lat, 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. lat, 136°16.75' W. long 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 Icy Strait area (see below), 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 Point on Pleasant Island (135°32.20' W. long), west of 135°09.60' W. long, 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 lat of Point Hepburn, including waters of Port Frederick and Hawk Inlet.

Port Althorp (Fishery area 114-50): In waters of Section 14-A 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 at the latitude of 58°10.00' N. lat to Althorp Rock Light, then north to the light at the entrance to Elfin Cove.

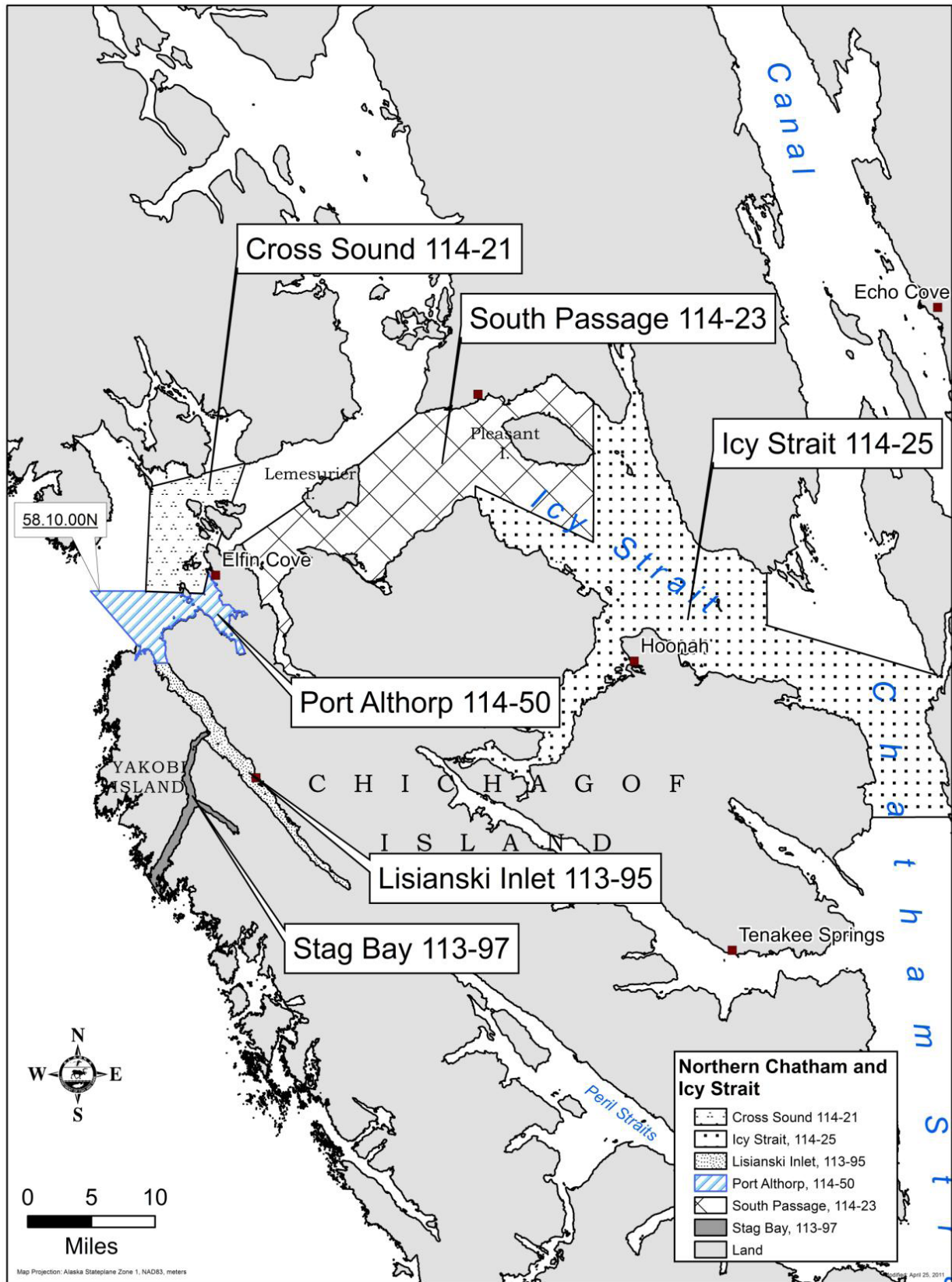


Figure 4.—North Chatham and Icy Strait spring trolling areas, 2011.

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. lat, 135°36' W. long, south of a line from a point on Kruzof Island at 57°05' N. lat, 135°35' W. long 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. lat, 135°35' W. long through The Eckholms Light, with a line from the southernmost tip of Makhnati Island to Kulichkof Rock) to Kulichkof Rock.

Redoubt Bay (Fishery area 113-30): In waters of Sitka Sound south of a line from the westernmost tip of Cape Burunof to Kulichkof Rock and east and north of a line from Kulichkof 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°15.00' N. lat, 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°05.00' N. lat, 135°35.00' W. long through The Eckholms Light with a line from the southernmost tip of Makhnati Island to Kulichkof Rock**) to a point on Kruzof Island at 57°05.00' N. lat, 135°35.00' W. long, 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 in the Sitka Sound area through May 28:**

Deep Inlet THA: Deep Inlet, Aleutkina Bay, and contiguous waters south of a line from a point west of Pirates Cove at 56°59.35' N. lat, 135°22.63' W. long, 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 57°00.30' N. lat, 135°17.67' W. long to a point on the southern side of the unnamed island at 57°00.08' N. lat, 135°16.78' W. long and then to a point on the Baranof Island Shore at 56°59.93' N. lat 135°16.53' W. long. Waters of Sandy Cove will be closed.

From May 29 through June 30, the waters of the Deep Inlet THA described above will be managed on a rotational gear fishing schedule which was announced in a previous news release on April 8.

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

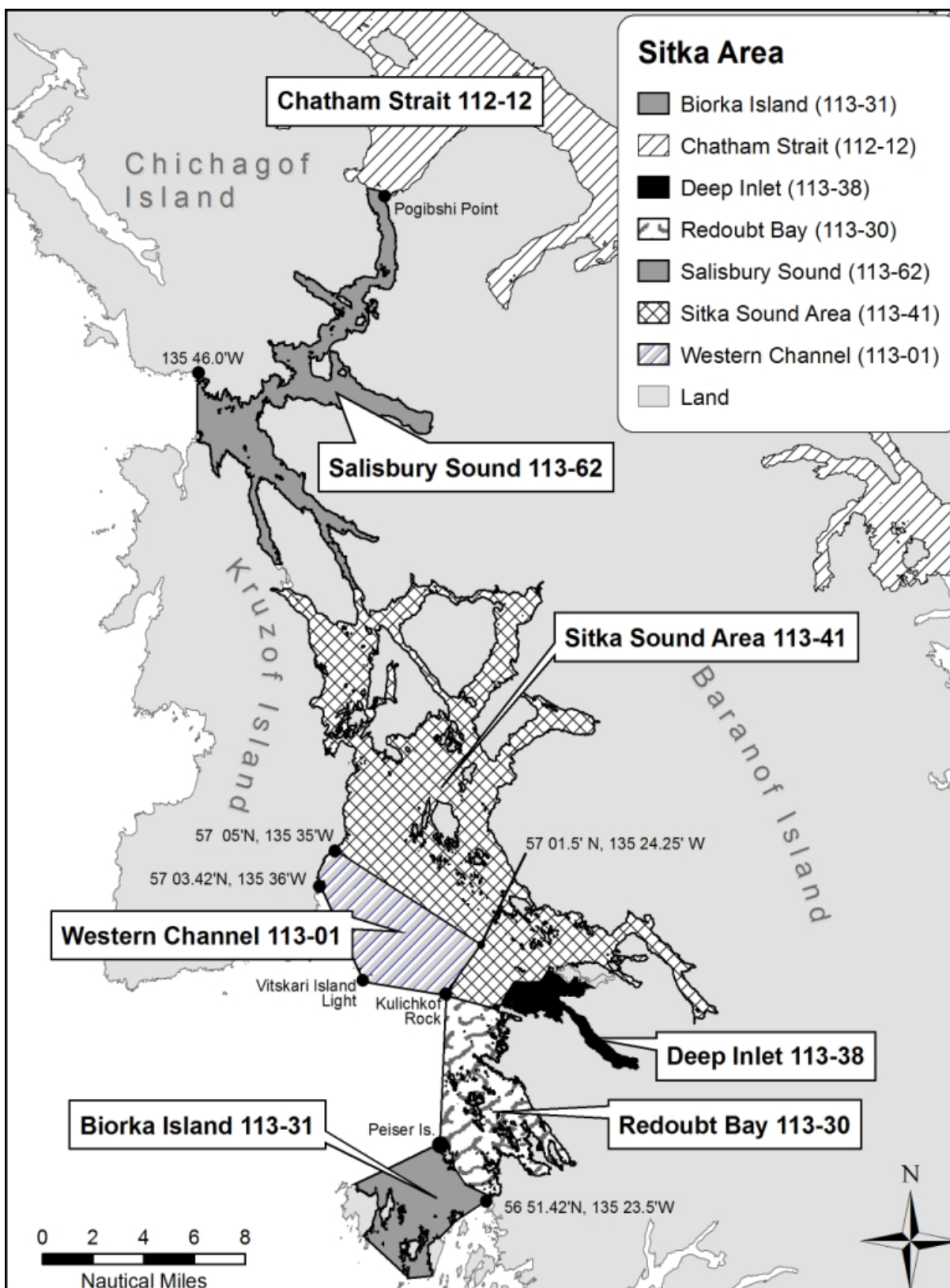


Figure 5.—Sitka spring trolling areas, 2011.

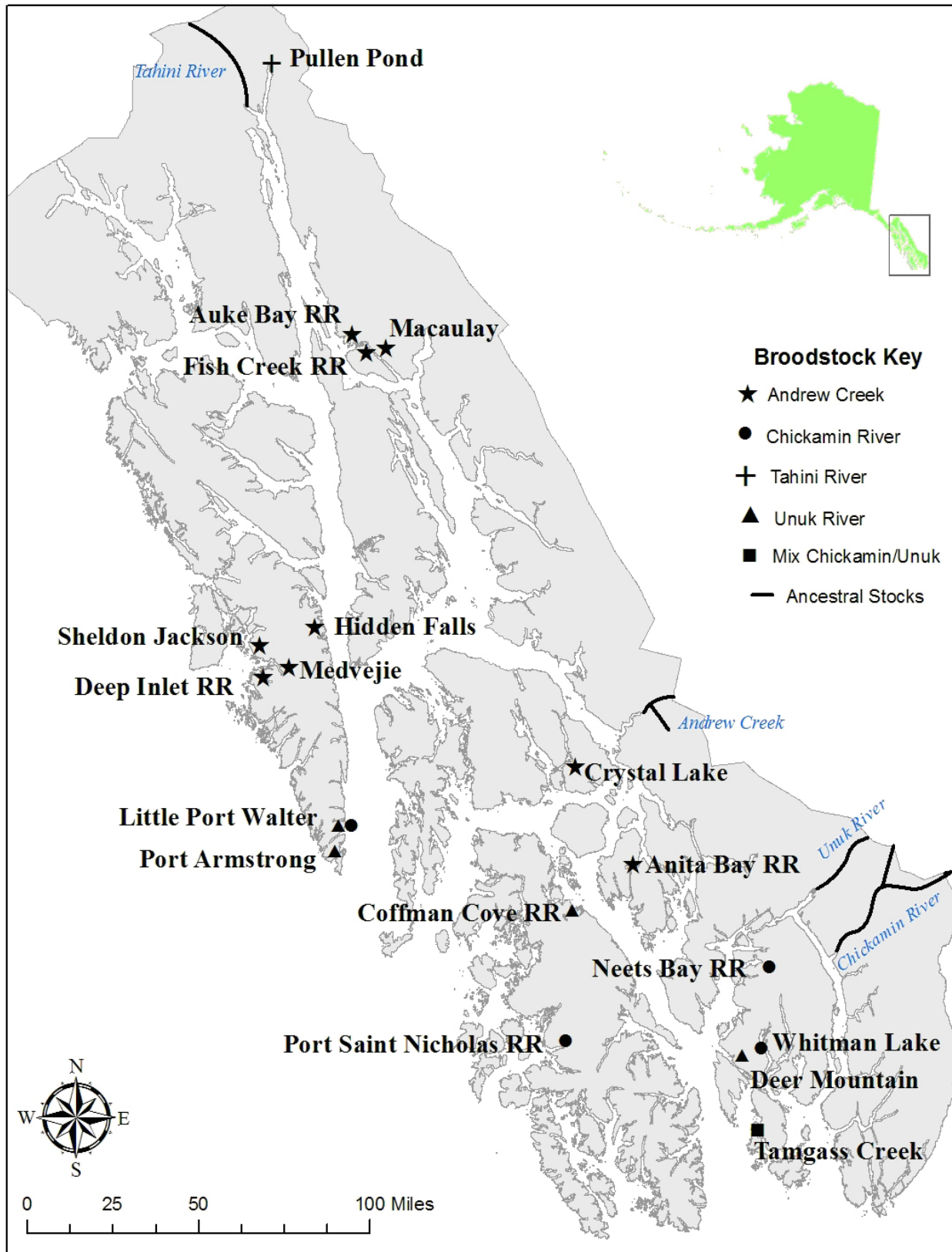


Figure 6.—Location of Chinook salmon hatcheries, and Chinook salmon remote release sites in Southeast Alaska.

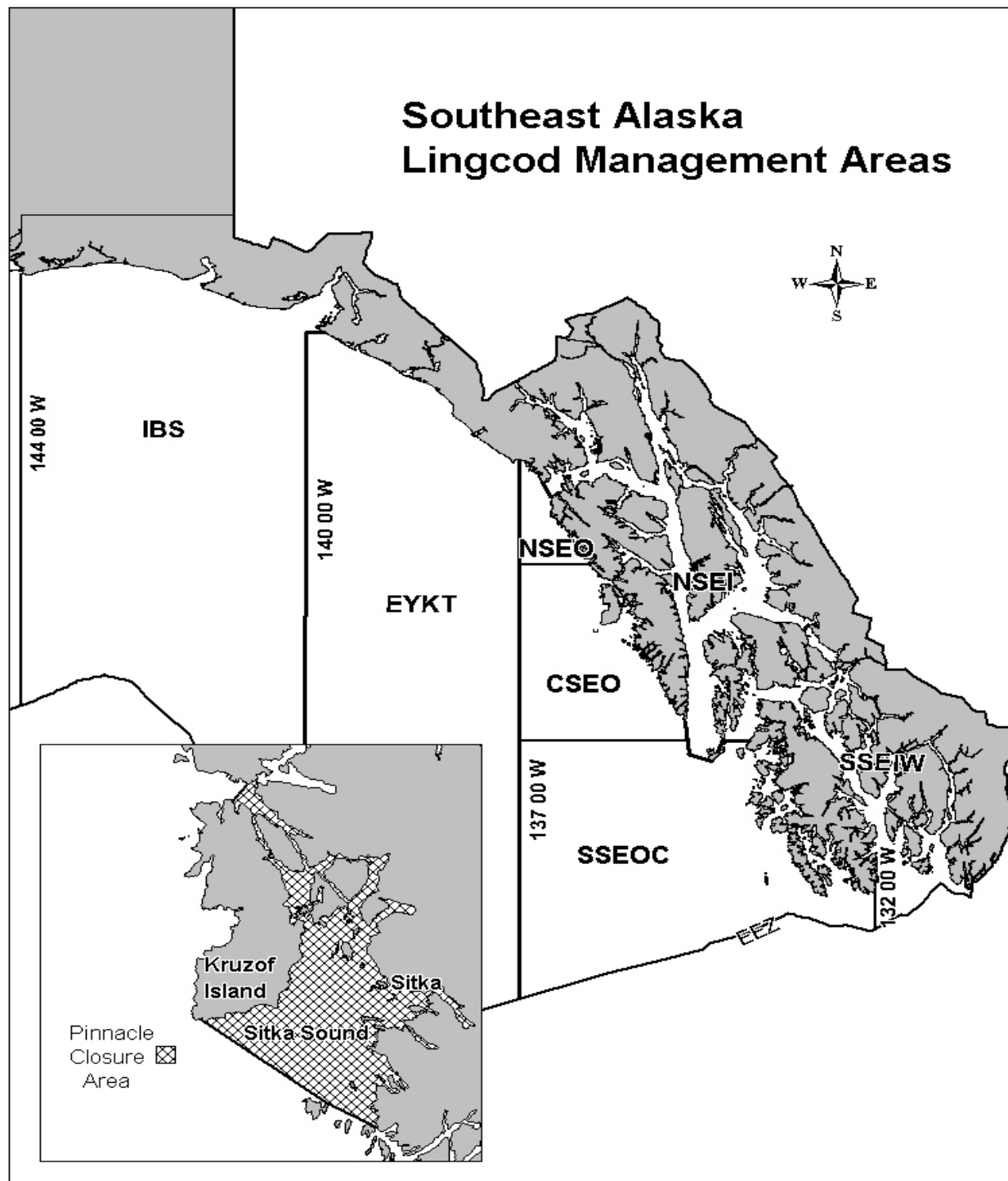


Figure 7.—Southeast Alaska lingcod management areas and Sitka area closed waters.

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

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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