

Regional Information Report No. 1J14-04

2014 Spring Troll Fishery Management Plan

by

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and

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April 2014

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	mid-eye-to-fork	MEF
gram	g	all commonly accepted		mid-eye-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			<i>all standard mathematical</i>	
milliliter	mL	at	@	<i>signs, symbols and</i>	
millimeter	mm	compass directions:		<i>abbreviations</i>	
		east	E	alternate hypothesis	H _A
		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, χ^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 ₂ , etc.
		figures): first three		minute (angular)	'
		letters	Jan,...,Dec	not significant	NS
		registered trademark	®	null hypothesis	H ₀
		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
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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2014 SPRING TROLL FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
LIST OF TABLES.....	ii
LIST OF FIGURES	ii
ABSTRACT	1
INTRODUCTION.....	1
MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND METHODS	1
Spring Fisheries	1
Terminal Area Fisheries	3
Directed Chinook Salmon Fisheries In Districts 8 And 11	3
RETENTION OF OTHER SALMON SPECIES	3
2013 SPRING FISHERY REVIEW	3
2014 SPRING FISHERIES OVERVIEW	4
Preseason Plans	4
District 8 Directed Fishery.....	4
District 11 Directed Fishery.....	4
Yakutat Spring Troll Fishery	4
New Or Modified Areas	4
Initial Openings	4
Schedule Of Initial Spring Troll Openings	5
Terminal Harvest Area Troll Fisheries	5
Management Actions To Conserve Unuk River Chinook Salmon	6
REGULATION SUMMARY	6
Closed Waters.....	6
Sport Fishing And Chartering From A Registered Troll Vessel.....	6
Regulations Pertaining To Commercial Troll Bycatch Of Groundfish And Halibut.....	7
Frozen At Sea Requirements	10
2014 ALASKA HATCHERY CHINOOK RETURN FORECAST	11
2014 SPRING FISHING AREAS AND MAPS.....	13
Ketchikan Areas	13
Wrangell and Prince of Wales Areas.....	15
Chatham Strait and Frederick Sound Areas.....	17
Sitka Areas.....	19
North Chatham Strait and Icy Strait Areas	21
Yakutat Area.....	23
FISHERY CONTACTS	24

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Page
1. Guideline limits of PST Chinook salmon (U.S./Canada) that may be harvested in each spring troll fishing area.	2
2. 2014 Alaska hatchery Chinook salmon and Neck Lake coho salmon return forecasts.	11

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure	Page
1. Southeast Alaska lingcod management areas and Sitka area closed waters.	9
2. Location of Chinook salmon hatcheries, and Chinook salmon remote release sites (RR) in Southeast Alaska, and showing broodstock in use by location.	12
3. Ketchikan area spring trolling areas, 2014.	14
4. Wrangell and Prince of Wales spring trolling areas, 2014.	16
5. Chatham Strait and Frederick Sound spring trolling areas, 2014.	18
6. Sitka spring trolling areas, 2014.	20
7. North Chatham and Icy Strait spring trolling areas, 2014.	22
8. Yakutat Bay spring troll fishery area.	23

ABSTRACT

This document summarizes the plan that the Alaska Department of Fish and Game will follow to manage the 2014 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, Chum, Troll, Spring, Commercial, Management Plan, Southeast Alaska

INTRODUCTION

This plan summarizes the management approach the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) will employ to manage the Southeast Alaska commercial spring troll fisheries in 2014. Spring fisheries generally target Alaska hatchery-produced Chinook salmon and are conducted during May and June of each year, 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. Spring fisheries are managed inseason, according to Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF) regulations and U.S./Canada Pacific Salmon Treaty (PST) provisions.

Preseason plans for the 2014 spring and terminal troll fisheries are presented, along with maps, area descriptions and Alaska hatchery Chinook forecasts. A review of the 2013 spring troll fisheries, as well as a summary of pertinent regulations, is included.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND METHODS

SPRING FISHERIES

Spring fisheries are conducted along salmon 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 Hatchery, and Anita Bay release site (Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (SSRAA)), Medvejie Hatchery and Hidden Falls Hatchery (Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association, (NSRAA)) and Macaulay Hatchery (Douglas Island Pink and Chum (DIPAC)).

Most spring troll and terminal troll fisheries target Alaska hatchery-produced Chinook salmon, though non-Alaska hatchery or PST Chinook salmon are also harvested. While there is no ceiling on the number of Chinook salmon harvested in the spring fisheries, the take of PST Chinook salmon is limited according to the percentage of the Alaska hatchery fish taken in the fishery. Non-Alaska hatchery fish are counted towards the annual PST quota of Chinook salmon but most of the Alaska hatchery-produced fish are not. The guideline limits of PST fish that may be harvested in each spring fishing area, according to BOF regulations, are listed in Table 1.

Some spring troll fisheries now target chum salmon and are located in Icy Strait and North Chatham Strait (Districts 12 and 14).

Table 1.–Guideline limits of PST Chinook salmon (U.S./Canada) that may be harvested in each spring troll fishing area.

Alaska Hatchery Contribution to the Harvest	PST Chinook Salmon 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 BOF also adopted a regulation that established criteria providing that the PST fish limits are 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 Guideline Harvest Level (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 PST limits 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 PST caps.

Each year, fishery managers from the department 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. Department personnel sample fish deliveries and ship the heads of adipose fin-clipped fish harvested to the Mark, Tag, and Age Laboratory 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). Fish tickets must be submitted to the department within seven days of landing.

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. Obtaining sampling data from Lisianski Inlet, Port Althorp and Sumner Strait areas has been challenging in the past and is of particular concern.

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, Nakat Inlet, and Neets Bay. THAs are managed according to management plans unique to each area and may involve a rotational schedule with other commercial gear types. Trollers may also harvest coho or chum salmon in THAs where those species are released, in accordance with THA management plans.

DIRECTED CHINOOK SALMON FISHERIES IN DISTRICTS 8 AND 11

In 2005, an agreement was approved between the United States and Canada that 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 BOF.

When the preseason run forecast to the Stikine River is too low to provide for an Allowable Catch, ADF&G has the option to open spring troll areas in District 8 under provisions of 5AAC 29.090 to target Alaska hatchery-produced Chinook salmon.

RETENTION OF OTHER SALMON SPECIES

Coho salmon may be retained and sold beginning June 1. 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.

2013 SPRING FISHERY REVIEW

Many spring fishery and terminal harvest areas opened initially on May 1, following the closure of the winter fishery on April 30. Additional areas opened initially at various times during May. A total of 32 spring areas and six terminal fisheries were open during 2013. A total of 613 vessels participated in the 2013 non-terminal spring fisheries, with a harvest of 37,318 Chinook salmon. Other species harvested during the spring season, including Annette Island troll, were 823 sockeye, 27,156 coho, 77,345 pink, and 330,070 chum salmon. The largest Chinook salmon harvests were taken in the Sitka Sound, Tebenkof Bay and Ketchikan spring troll areas. The Chinook salmon harvest was 12,540 fish greater than the 2012 non-terminal harvest. The Alaska hatchery contribution to non-terminal fisheries, at 41%, was lower than that in 2012 (43%) and the 5-year average (44%). Effort was 5% higher than it was in 2012, with an additional 29 permits participating.

2014 SPRING FISHERIES OVERVIEW

PRESEASON PLANS

Preseason plans call for opening 33 spring troll areas and six terminal harvest areas during May and June. A total of 14 spring and four terminal areas will open on May 1. An additional 18 spring areas will open initially during May, and four more areas will open initially in June. A schedule of these openings can be found on page 5 of this document.

DISTRICT 8 DIRECTED FISHERY

The 2014 preseason terminal run forecast for large Stikine River king salmon is 26,000 fish. A preseason terminal run forecast of this size does not provide for an Allowable Catch (AC) for either the U.S. or Canada. 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 substantially greater than the preseason forecast, limited directed king salmon fisheries could occur.

Since the preseason run forecast does not allow a directed troll fishery, the department will open the Chichagof Pass spring troll area (108-10) as well as the Craig Point (108-40) spring troll area to target Alaska hatchery-produced Chinook salmon.

DISTRICT 11 DIRECTED FISHERY

The 2014 preseason terminal run size forecast for large Taku River king salmon is 26,800 fish. A preseason terminal run forecast of this size does not provide for an Allowable Catch (AC) for either the U.S. or Canada. Therefore, no directed fisheries will occur in early May. An inseason terminal run estimate will be produced in late May and the department will continue to monitor the returning run strength, but it is unlikely any directed king fisheries will occur.

YAKUTAT SPRING TROLL FISHERY

A spring troll fishery will open in Yakutat Bay (183-10). The fishery is limited by regulation to one day per week during the months of May and June, in waters of Yakutat Bay east of a line from Point Manby to Ocean Cape. The maximum harvest allowed is 1,000 king salmon and is not based on the composition of Alaska hatchery fish. The first opening is scheduled for Monday, May 5.

NEW OR MODIFIED AREAS

The large spring troll area previously known as the Ketchikan Area has been divided into three smaller areas and the northern boundary has been moved southward. Those three areas will be referred to as the Ketchikan Area (101-29), Mountain Point (101-45) and West Clarence Strait (102-50). The Sumner Strait spring troll area has been split into two sub-areas, referred to as South Sumner Strait (105-41) and North Sumner Strait (106-41). Boundary lines for the Biorka Island and Goddard spring troll areas have been modified. A coordinate that is included in the Homeshore and Point Sophia spring troll area descriptions has been corrected. The Bucareli Bay spring troll area (103-50) is the only new fishery area to open in 2014 and is located near the city of Craig, on Prince of Wales Island.

INITIAL OPENINGS

Following is a preliminary schedule with anticipated initial opening weeks for each area. Areas are described in detail in a later section of this report and corresponding maps are presented.

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://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>

SCHEDULE OF INITIAL SPRING TROLL OPENINGS

Openings for the week of:

May 1	May 4–10	May 11–17	June 1–7	June 8–14
Ketchikan Area	Bucareli Bay	West Rock	Biorka Island	Northern Chatham Strait
Mountain Point	Craig Point	Stone Rock Bay	Nakat Inlet THA	
West Clarence Strait	Chichagof Pass	Kendrick Bay	Deep Inlet THA	
Ernest Sound	Snow Pass	Tebenkof Bay		
Frederick Sound	Steamer Point	Western Channel		
Chatham Strait	South Sumner Strait	Goddard		
Sitka Sound	North Sumner Strait			
Hawk Inlet	Little Port Walter			
Stag Bay	Redoubt Bay			
Cross Sound	Salisbury Sound			
South Passage	Lisianski Inlet			
Homesore	Yakutat Bay			
Point Sophia				
Port Althorp				
Neets Bay THA				
Anita Bay THA				
Port Armstrong THA				
Hidden Falls THA				

TERMINAL HARVEST AREA TROLL FISHERIES

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.

•**Anita Bay:** open May 1 through noon, November 10, with some area closures within the THA June 15–July 10 [5 AAC 33.383(d)].

•**Deep Inlet:** open to trolling on Saturdays, according to the rotational gear schedule announced by News Release on March 12, 2014. The first troll opening will be June 7. Any schedule changes are made by emergency order and announced by News Release [5 AAC 33.376].

•**Hidden Falls:** opens May 1 and will remain open until closed by emergency order [5 AAC 33.374(b)]. Coho retention begins June 1.

•**Neets Bay:** open May 1 until noon, July 2. Concurrent with trolling, openings are scheduled for rotational net gear fisheries from noon, Tuesday, June 11 through noon, Tuesday, July 2 [5 AAC 33.370(b)(1)].

•**Port Armstrong:** open from May 1 to June 30 [5 AAC 40.081(b)]. Waters north of a line from 56°17.61' N. lat., 134°40.27' W. long. to 56°17.67 N. lat., 134°39.64' W. long. are closed.

•**Wrangell Narrows:** will not open in 2014, since the Chinook salmon run is projected to be less than 4,000 fish [5 AAC 33.381(b)(4)].

•**Nakat Inlet:** open June 1 through November 10 to troll and drift gillnet gear [5 AAC 33.372].

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS TO CONSERVE UNUK RIVER CHINOOK SALMON

The Chinook salmon escapement to the Unuk River was well below the escapement goal range in 2012 and 2013, while exploitation rates on this stock were above average during those years. Another low run is forecast for 2014. The PST requires that SEAK fisheries be managed to achieve escapement objectives for SEAK and Transboundary River stocks. The Unuk River is a moderate-size system located in Behm Canal and is one of eight SEAK escapement indicator stocks.

In response, changes are planned for some spring troll fisheries to reduce the impact on Unuk River Chinook. CWT recoveries during the past five years indicate that Unuk Chinook harvest has occurred mainly during June and in some spring troll fishing areas more than others. Efforts to reduce troll fishery impacts on Unuk Chinook will focus on those spring areas closest to the Unuk River, as well as migration corridors. Management actions will include dividing the Ketchikan Area into three sub-areas, moving the northern boundary line southward and reducing fishing time during June. Three spring troll areas will not open in 2014. Sumner Strait spring troll area will be divided into smaller sub-areas to allow collection of more area-specific CWT data. Fishing time will be reduced during June in several areas where Unuk Chinook are most likely to be harvested, based on CWT data from recent years.

REGULATION SUMMARY

CLOSED WATERS

Trollers are reminded that closed waters listed in 5 AAC 29.150 are not in effect during the spring troll fishery; therefore those waters are open through June 30. Waters within 3,000 feet of Annette Island (Annette Island Reserve) are closed.

SPORT FISHING AND CHARTERING FROM A REGISTERED TROLL VESSEL

- A person may sport fish from a registered commercial salmon hand troll or power troll vessel [5 AAC 47.041 (a)], though **may not sport fish and commercial fish from the same vessel on the same day** [5 AAC 47.041 (f)]. A person who sport fishes from a vessel licensed for commercial fishing, other than a charter vessel when paying clients are onboard, shall mark the salmon by **removing its dorsal fin** immediately upon bringing a salmon onboard [5 AAC 47.041 (c)].
- 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)].

- A downrigger may be used in conjunction with a fishing rod when sport fishing. However, a downrigger may **not** be used in conjunction with a fishing rod to take salmon when engaged in commercial hand trolling [5 AAC 29.120 (b)(2)(B)].
- A **registered troll vessel may also be registered as a charter vessel**, though that vessel may not be used to troll commercially and charter on the same day [5 AAC 75.995(8)]. Charter boat registration applications are available at ADF&G offices.
- A person **may not possess unpreserved sport-caught salmon** on any commercial salmon vessel while engaging in commercial salmon fishing [5 AAC 47.041(g)]. The definition of “preserved fish” excludes unfrozen fish temporarily stored in coolers that contain ice or dry ice or fish that are lightly salted [5 AAC 75.995(21)]. In other words, “preserved” means “frozen” and sport-caught salmon must be frozen if onboard a commercial salmon vessel which is engaged in commercial salmon fishing.

REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO COMMERCIAL TROLL BYCATCH OF GROUND FISH AND HALIBUT

For information on Southeast Alaska Groundfish regulations, refer to the 2013–2014 Statewide Commercial Groundfish Fishing Regulations booklet available at ADF&G area offices. For details on groundfish bycatch allowances in the troll fishery refer to the “Groundfish Bycatch in the 2014 Commercial Salmon Troll Fishery” news release, issued on January 2, 2014.

In the state waters portion of the Eastern Gulf of Alaska, commercial salmon trollers operating hand or power troll gear during an open spring commercial salmon troll fishing period may legally retain and possess incidentally-taken groundfish in unlimited amounts, except as noted below. The bycatch allowance for each species or species group reflects the percentage that may be retained and sold and is based on the round weight of salmon on board.

Bycatch allowances:

Lingcod- IBS, CSEO, NSEI, and SSEIW- 70%;
 SSEOC- 30%;
 NSEO- 5%.

Demersal Shelf Rockfish (DSR)- 10%.

Spiny Dogfish- 35%.

Sablefish- 0%.

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 allowances in the spring troll fishery vary by Lingcod Management Area (Figure 1). Lingcod taken in excess of bycatch allowances shall be forfeited to the State. Troll permit holders participating in spring fisheries in the Central Southeast Outside (CSEO) Section, Northern Southeast Inside (NSEI) Subdistrict, Southern Southeast Internal Waters (SSEIW) Sector and the Icy Bay Subdistrict (IBS) are allowed a 70% lingcod bycatch, based on their round weight of salmon on board.

The retention of lingcod is prohibited in the troll fishery in the waters of Sitka Sound [5AAC 28.150(a)]. The Sitka Sound lingcod closure 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. **Spring troll areas Western Channel (113-01), Sitka Sound Area (113-41), Deep Inlet (113-38), Redoubt Bay (113-30) and portions of Biorka Island (113-31), Goddard (113-32), and Salisbury Sound (113-62) overlap with the Sitka Sound lingcod closure area.** Troll vessels with lingcod on board may not fish for salmon in areas that are closed to lingcod retention.

Lingcod bycatch in the Southern Southeast Outer Coast (SSEOC) Sector is limited to 30%. The Bucareli Bay (103-50) spring troll fishery is located within SSEOC area.

Lingcod bycatch in the Northern Southeast Outside (NSEO) Section is limited to 5%. Spring troll areas within the NSEO area 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.

Lingcod harvest allocations for the troll fishery are set by area and area closures will occur as allocations are taken. Inseason closures will be announced by ADF&G news release, United States Coast Guard "Notice to Mariners" report, and the National Weather Service broadcast. For updates on lingcod area closures, dial the Groundfish Hotline at (907) 747-4882 or contact the Groundfish staff in Sitka at (907) 747-6688.

All DSR in excess of 10% of the round weight of salmon on board the vessel 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)]. DSR bycatch overages must be reported on fish tickets but may be retained for a person's own use. The seven species of rockfish in the DSR assemblage are yelloweye, quillback, canary, copper, china, tiger and rosethorn rockfish.

Halibut incidentally taken during an open commercial halibut season by power and hand troll gear operated for salmon consistent with applicable state laws and regulations are legally taken and possessed [5AAC 28.133(c)]. Commercial halibut may be retained only by Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) permit holders during the open season for halibut. Trollers making an IFQ halibut landing of 500 lb or less of IFQ weight as determined pursuant to 50 CFR 679.42(h) are exempted from the three-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 the troll fish ticket documenting the salmon landing. For information on regulations and landing requirements for the federal IFQ halibut fishery contact NOAA Fisheries at (907) 586-7225.

A person aboard a vessel may not fish for groundfish with dinglebar troll or mechanical jig gear if salmon are 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)].

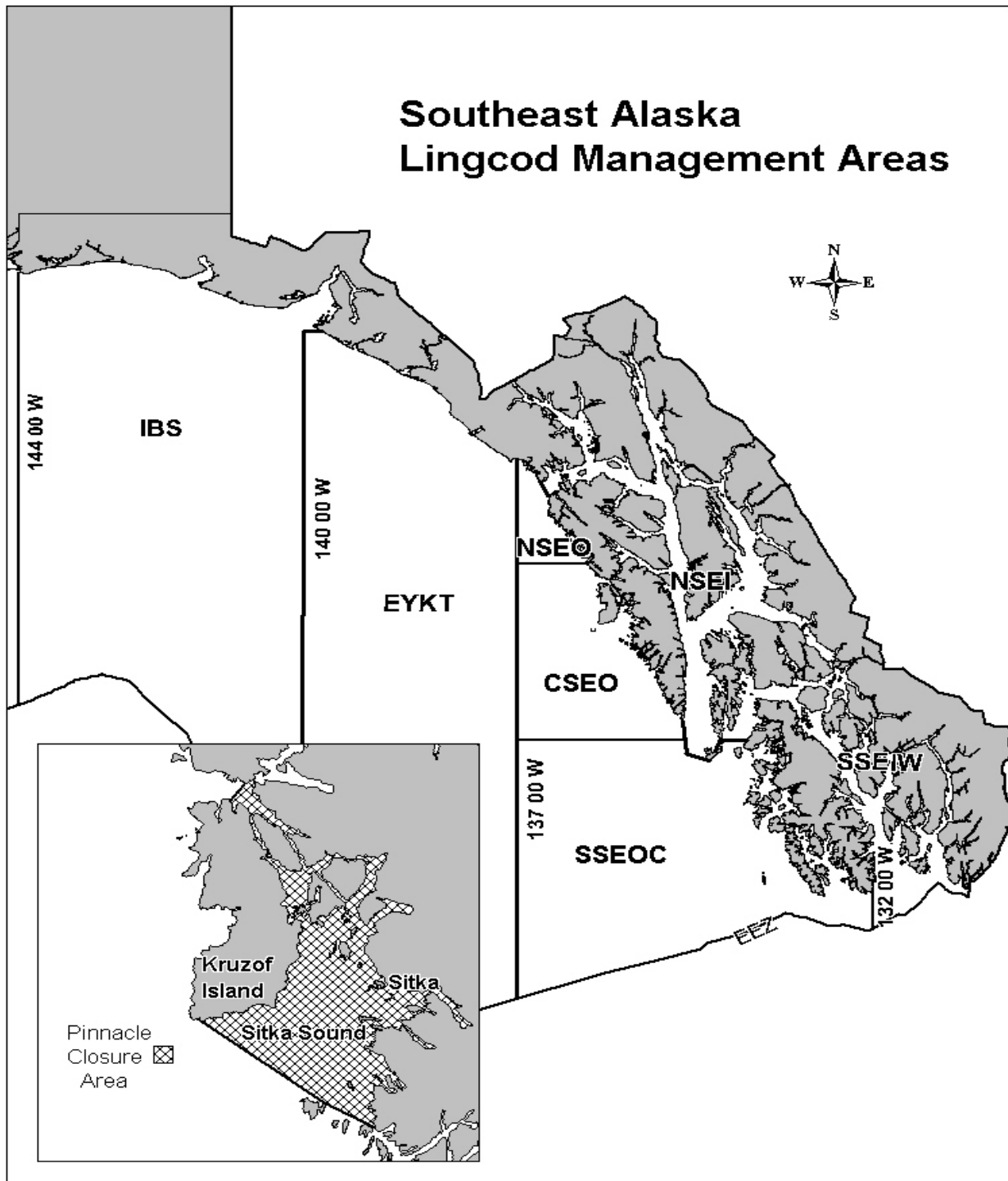


Figure 1.–Southeast Alaska lingcod management areas and Sitka area closed waters.

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 BOF [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 Department of Environmental Conservation and the Department of Revenue and, as such, must issue their own fish tickets imprinted with their own processor code plate. Fish tickets must be requested from ADF&G. 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.

2014 ALASKA HATCHERY CHINOOK RETURN FORECAST

Hatchery facility managers are predicting total returns of approximately 117,042 Chinook salmon for 2014, as compared to estimated 2013 returns of 129,697 fish (Table 2). The largest returns for 2014 are expected to Medvejie Creek, Neets Bay, Anita Bay, and Whitman Lake. Compared to 2013 projections, decreased returns are expected to all but the Wrangell/Petersburg and Sitka areas. Neck Lake coho are included due to their early run timing, which coincides with the spring fishery. The locations of Chinook salmon hatcheries and remote release sites within Southeast Alaska are presented in Figure 2.

Table 2.—2014 Alaska hatchery Chinook salmon and Neck Lake coho salmon return forecasts.

Release Site	2013 Total Return Projection	2013 Total Return	2014 Total Return Projection
Ketchikan Area			
Whitman Lake	18,000	11,305	12,300
Neets Bay	22,000	15,189	18,100
Deer Mountain	632	116	358
Tamgas Creek	3,000	N/A	3,000
Total	43,632	26,610	33,758
Chatham Strait			
Little Port Walter	600	1,659	100
Hidden Falls	12,300	7,354	6,100
Port Armstrong	4,912	2,964	3,408
Total	17,812	11,977	9,608
Craig/Klawock Area			
Port Saint Nicholas	10,626	1,078	5,363
Coffman Cove	9,027	851	6,654
Total	19,653	1,929	12,017
Juneau Area			
Macaulay	5,900	4,854	5,640
Pullen Creek	1,000	1,065	940
Total	6,900	5,919	6,580
Wrangell/Petersburg			
Anita Bay	10,000	23,665	15,400
Crystal Lake	1,700	3,670	3,300
Total	11,700	27,335	18,700
Sitka Area			
Medvejie Creek	30,000	40,491	36,179
Sheldon Jackson	400	323	200
Total	30,000	40,491	36,379
Alaska Hatchery Chinook Totals	129,697	114,261	117,042
Neck Lake Coho	52,000	33,526	68,000

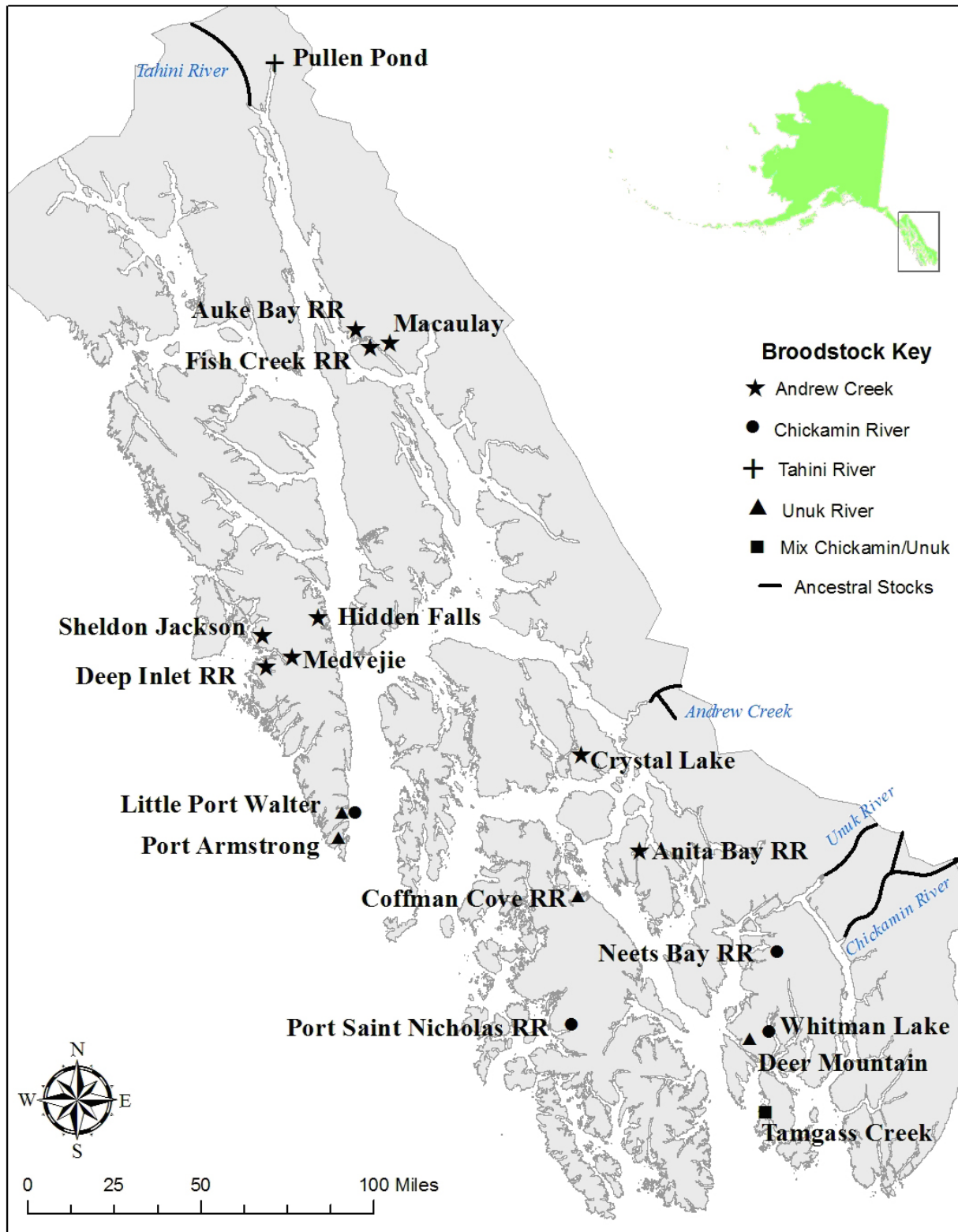


Figure 2.—Location of Chinook salmon hatcheries, and Chinook salmon remote release sites (RR) in Southeast Alaska, and showing broodstock in use by location.

Maps showing spring fishing areas are shown in the following section, Figures 3–8.

2014 SPRING FISHING AREAS AND MAPS

KETCHIKAN AREAS

West Rock (Fishery Area 101-21): The waters of Section 1-F south 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 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): modified area: In Section 1F, waters 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 the latitude of South Vallenar Point at 55°22.89' N. lat., in waters of Nichols Passage south of the latitude of Driest Point (55°10.67' N. lat.). 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.

Mountain Point (Fishery Area 101-45): modified area: In Section 1F, waters of Nichols Passage north of the latitude of Driest Point (55°10.67' N. lat.) and south of a line from Gravina Point (55°17.25' N. lat., 131°36.88' W. long.) to a point on Revillagigedo Island at 55°18.73' N. lat., 131°35.28' W. long., 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°13.13' N. lat., 131°16.22' W. long. to 55°11.53' N. lat., 131°18.93' W. long. Waters of Carroll Inlet and Thorne Arm are open. Waters within 3,000 feet of Annette Island Reserve are closed.

Neets Bay Terminal Harvest Area (Fishery area 101-95): In Neets Bay, east of the longitude of the easternmost tip of Bug Island and west of the closed waters at the head of the bay. The closed waters at the head of the bay are those waters east of 131°29.86' W. longitude until the barrier net is in place; at that time, the closed waters are those waters east of the barrier net.

Stone Rock Bay (Fishery area 102-09): modified area: Waters of Clarence Strait north of the latitude of 54°43.34' N. lat, east of the longitude of 131°56.42' W. long, and south of the latitude of the southernmost tip of the northern entrance to Stone Rock Bay at 54°45.98' N. lat.

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°45.98' N. lat, south 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 west of the Districts 1/2 boundary.

West Clarence Strait (Fishery area 102-50): modified area: In District 2, waters of Clarence Strait south of the latitude of South Vallenar Point at 55°22.89' N. lat. and 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.

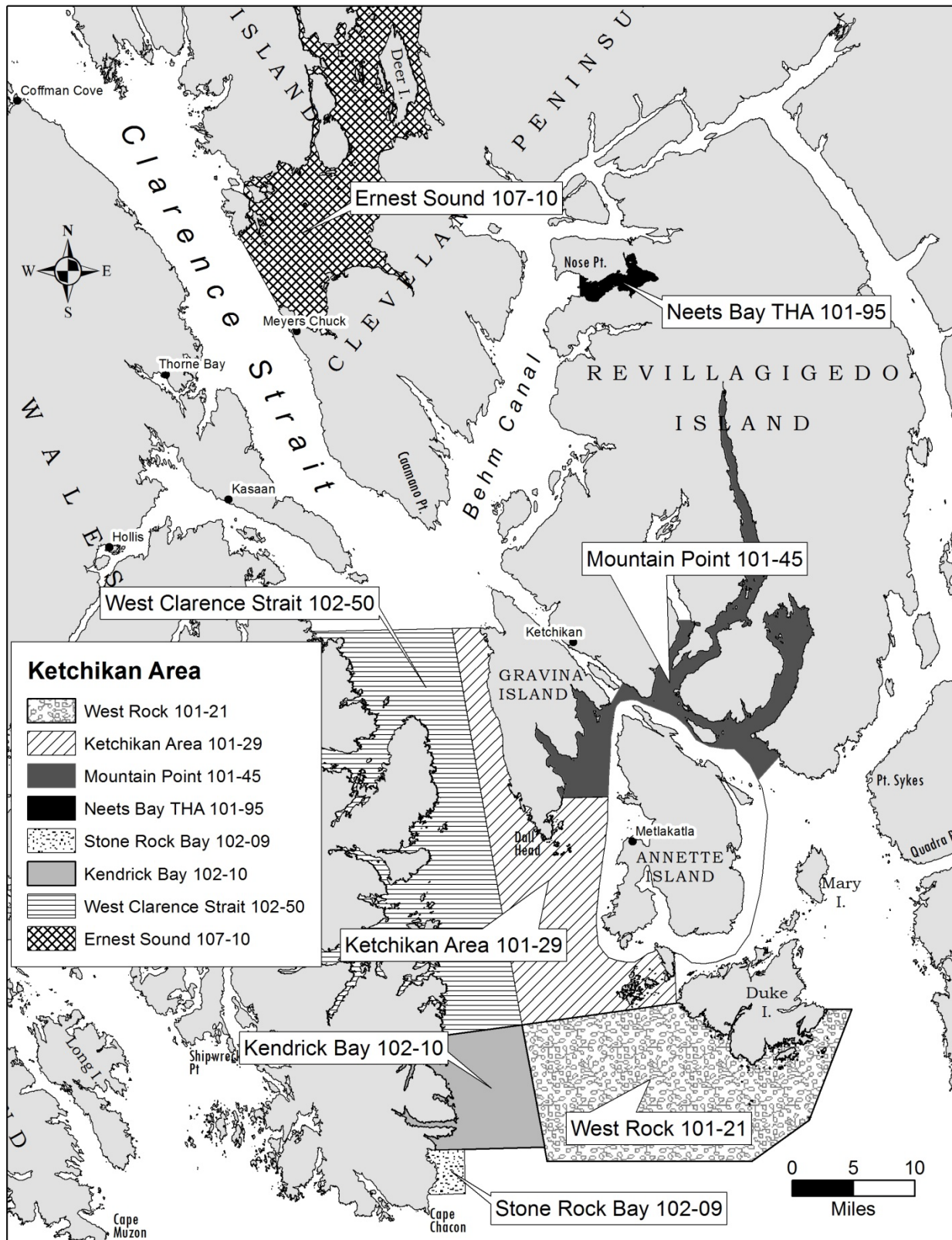


Figure 3.—Ketchikan area spring trolling areas, 2014.

WRANGELL AND PRINCE OF WALES AREAS

Bucareli Bay (Fishery area 103-50): new area: In the waters of Ursua Channel and Bucareli Bay south and west of a line from a point on San Fernando Island at 55°30.11' N. lat., 133°16.83' W. long., to Cape Suspiro, west of 133°04.00' W. long., and north east of a line from Point Amargura to Diamond Point to Point Providence.

South Sumner Strait (Fishery area 105-41): modified area: In District 6, the waters of Sumner Strait west of a line from Point Baker to Point Barrie 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.

North Sumner Strait (Fishery area 106-43): modified area: The waters of Section 6-A, west of a line from Colpoys Light to the southernmost tip of Mitchell Point, and east of a line from Point Baker to Point Barrie.

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): The 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.

From June 15 through July 10, the waters within one-quarter mile of the northern shoreline of Anita Bay west of a line from 56°12.31' N. lat, 132°26.22' W. long, to 56°12.06' N. lat, 132°26.22' W. long, and east of a line from 56°11.96' N. lat, 132°29.58' W. long, to 56°11.73' N. lat, 132°29.36' W. long, will be open.

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°24.50' N. lat, and east of a line from Reef Point to a point on Etolin Island at 56°20.10' N. lat, 132°32.00' W. long.

Craig Point (108-40): In Stikine Strait, only in those waters of Section 8-B, south of the latitude of Reef Point, and west of a line from Reef Point to a point on Etolin Island at 56°20.10' N. lat, 132°32.00' W. long.

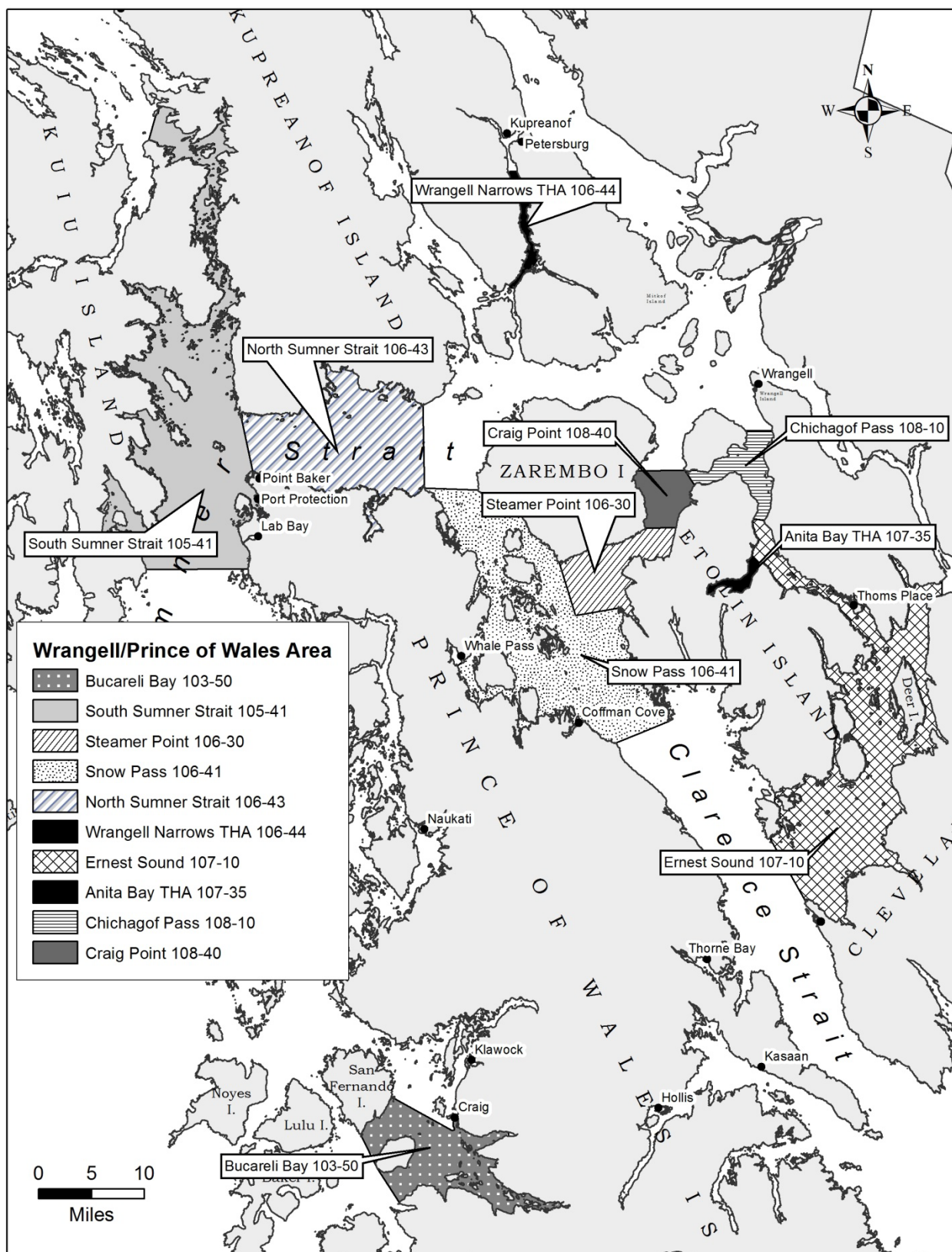


Figure 4.—Wrangell and Prince of Wales spring trolling areas, 2014.

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.

Port Armstrong Terminal Harvest Area (Fishery Area 109-11): waters of Port Armstrong west of a line from Point Eliza at 56°17.73' N. lat, 134°38.75' W. long, to a point on the Baranof Island shoreline at 56°17.98' N. lat, 134°38.35' W. long. Waters north of a line from 56°17.61' N. lat., 134°40.27' W. long. to 56°17.67' N. lat., 134°39.64' W. long. are closed.

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 (56°17.41' N lat, 134°17.96' W. long) and east of 134°24.00' W. long.

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 Harvest 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 the latitude of Pogibshi Point at 57°30.56' N. lat. 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)).

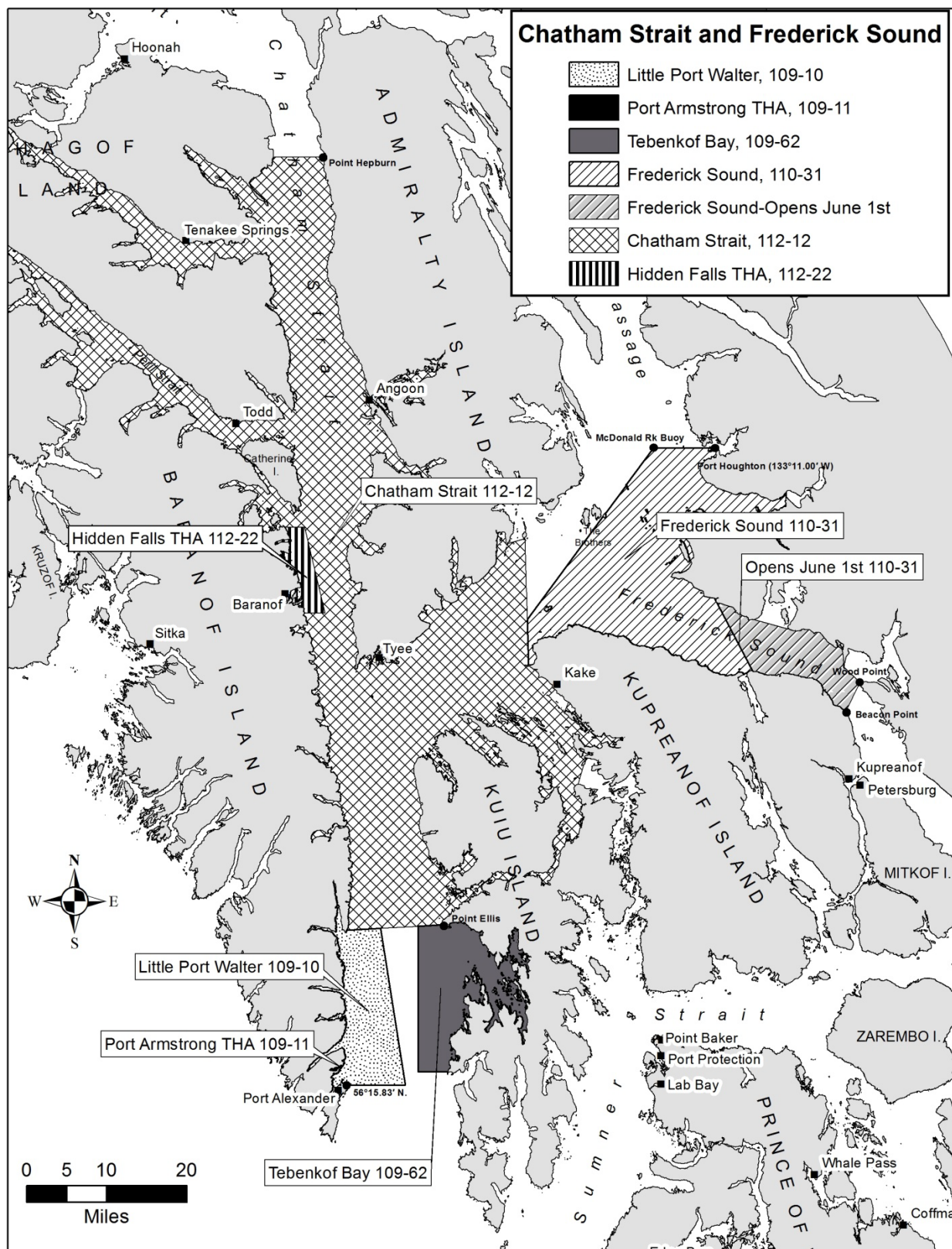


Figure 5.—Chatham Strait and Frederick Sound spring trolling areas, 2014.

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°05.00' N. lat, 135°35.00' 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°05.00' 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 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°51.40' N. lat, 135°23.49' W. long.

Biorka Island (Fishery area 113-31) modified area: In waters of Sitka Sound south and east of a line from the northernmost tip of Hanus Islet at 56°51.92' N. lat, 135°30.42' W. long, to the northwesternmost point on Peisar Island, and west of a line from the southernmost point on Peisar Island to the westernmost point on Torsar Island at 56°51.06' N. lat, 135°26.00' W. long, and from the southernmost point on Torsar Island to the easternmost tip of Blackbird Island to a point on Legma Island at 56°50.00' N. lat, 135°26.53' W. long, and north and east of a line from the southernmost point on Legma Island to the southernmost point on Liesnoi Island to Point Woodhouse.

Goddard Area (Fishery area 113-32) modified area: In waters enclosed by a line from Baranof Island at 56°51.40' N. lat, 135°23.49' W. long, to the southernmost point on Viesokoi Rock the southernmost point on Peisar Island to the westernmost point on Torsar Island at 56°51.06' N. lat, 135°26.00' W. long, and from the southernmost point on Torsar Island to the easternmost tip of Blackbird Island to a point on Legma Island at 56°50.00' N. lat, 135°26.53' W. long, and north of the latitude of a line from Legma Island to Elovoi Island at 56°49.34' N. lat, and north and west of a line from 56°49.44' N. lat, 135°23.15' W. long, to a point on Baranof Island at 56°49.58' N. lat, 135°22.60' W. long.

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 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. The waters Silver Bay will be open with the exception of Bear Cove, which is closed east of a line from a point on the south shore at 57°00.77' N. lat, 135°09.08' W. long, to the north shore at 57°00.94' N. lat, 135°09.23' W. long. **The waters of the Deep Inlet THA, as described in 5 AAC 33.376(b), are included in the Sitka Sound area through May 31. From June 1 through June 21, the waters of Deep Inlet west of 135°20.75' W. long, will be included in the Sitka Sound area. On June 22, all waters of the Deep Inlet THA will be excluded from the Sitka Sound area for the remainder of season.** From June 1 through September 27, 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 March 12.

Salisbury Sound (Fishery area 113-62): In waters of Peril Strait south of the latitude of Pogibshi Point at 57°30.56' N. lat, waters of Salisbury Sound east of 135°46.00' W. long, and waters of Sukoi Strait and Neva Strait north of 57°15.00' N. lat.

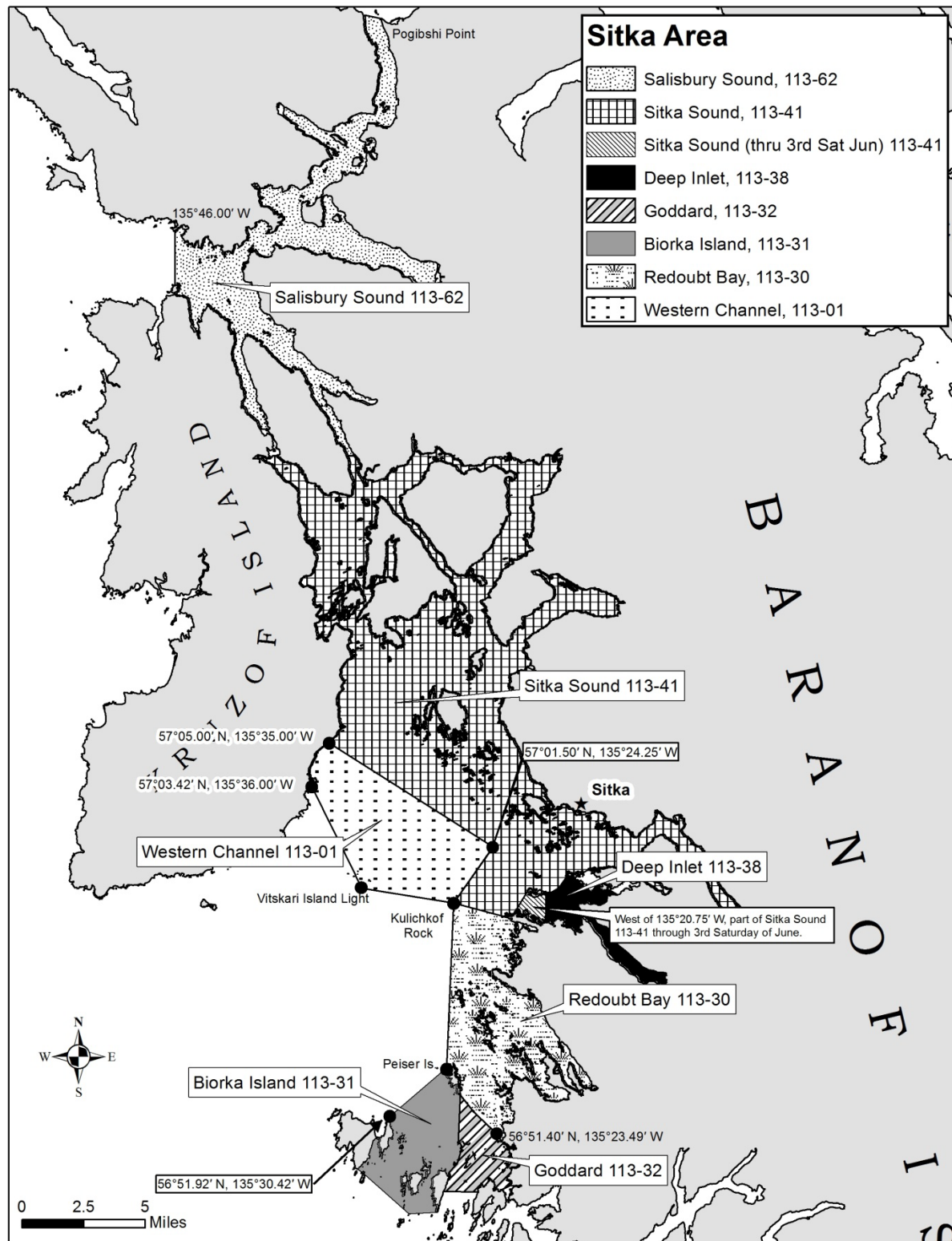


Figure 6.—Sitka spring trolling areas, 2014.

NORTH CHATHAM STRAIT AND ICY STRAIT AREAS

Northern Chatham Strait Enhanced Chum (Fishery area 112-16): In waters enclosed by a line from 58° 11.29' N. lat, 134° 53.27' W. long, to 58° 10.40' N. lat, 135° 02.63' W. long, to 58° 07.78' N. lat, 135° 00.78' W. long, to 58° 05.81' N. lat, 134° 47.09' W. long.

Lisianski Inlet (Fishery area 113-95): In Section 13A, in waters of Lisianski Inlet south of a line from Dace Rock to a point on Yakobi Island at 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): 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 a line from the southernmost tip of Point Dundas (58°18.93' N. lat, 136°16.79' W. long) to the westernmost tip of Lemsurier Island to the prominent point on the northeastern side of the Inian Peninsula at 58°13.43' N. lat, 136°16.75' W. long, and east of the longitude of the southernmost tip of Taylor Island to 58°10.00' 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 Homeshore and Point Sophia areas, including the waters of Icy Passage.

Homeshore (Fishery area 114-25) modified area: In waters of District 114 only in the waters of Icy Strait, east of the longitude of Noon Pt. (135°32.20' W. long) west of 135°09.60' W. long, and north of a line from 58° 07.78' N. lat, 135° 00.78' W. long to the northern tip of the northernmost island of the Sisters Islands at **58°10.78' N. lat, 135°15.48' W. long**, to a point one mile offshore at the longitude of Point Adolphus (Point Sophia area northern boundary).

Point Sophia (Fishery area 114-27) modified area: In Sections 14B, 14C, and 12A, in waters of Icy Strait and Chatham Strait bounded by a line from Point Adolphus (58°17.25' N. lat, 135°47.00' W. long) to a point one mile due north of Point Adolphus to the northern tip of the northernmost island of the Sisters Islands at **58°10.78' N. lat, 135°15.48' W. long**, to the western Hawk Inlet area boundary at a line from 58°07.78' N. lat, 135°00.78' W. long, to the northernmost tip of Point Augusta.

Port Althorp (Fishery area 114-50): In waters of Section 14A in Lisianski Inlet north of a line from Dace Rock to a point on Yakobi Island at 58°05.48' N. lat, and in Cross Sound and Lisianski Inlet bounded by a line 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.

Hawk Inlet (Fishery area 112-65): In waters enclosed by a line from 58°05.81' N. lat, 134°47.09' W. long, to 58°07.78' N. lat, 135° 00.78' W. long, to the northernmost tip of Point Augusta, and north of the latitude of Point Hepburn, including waters of Hawk Inlet.

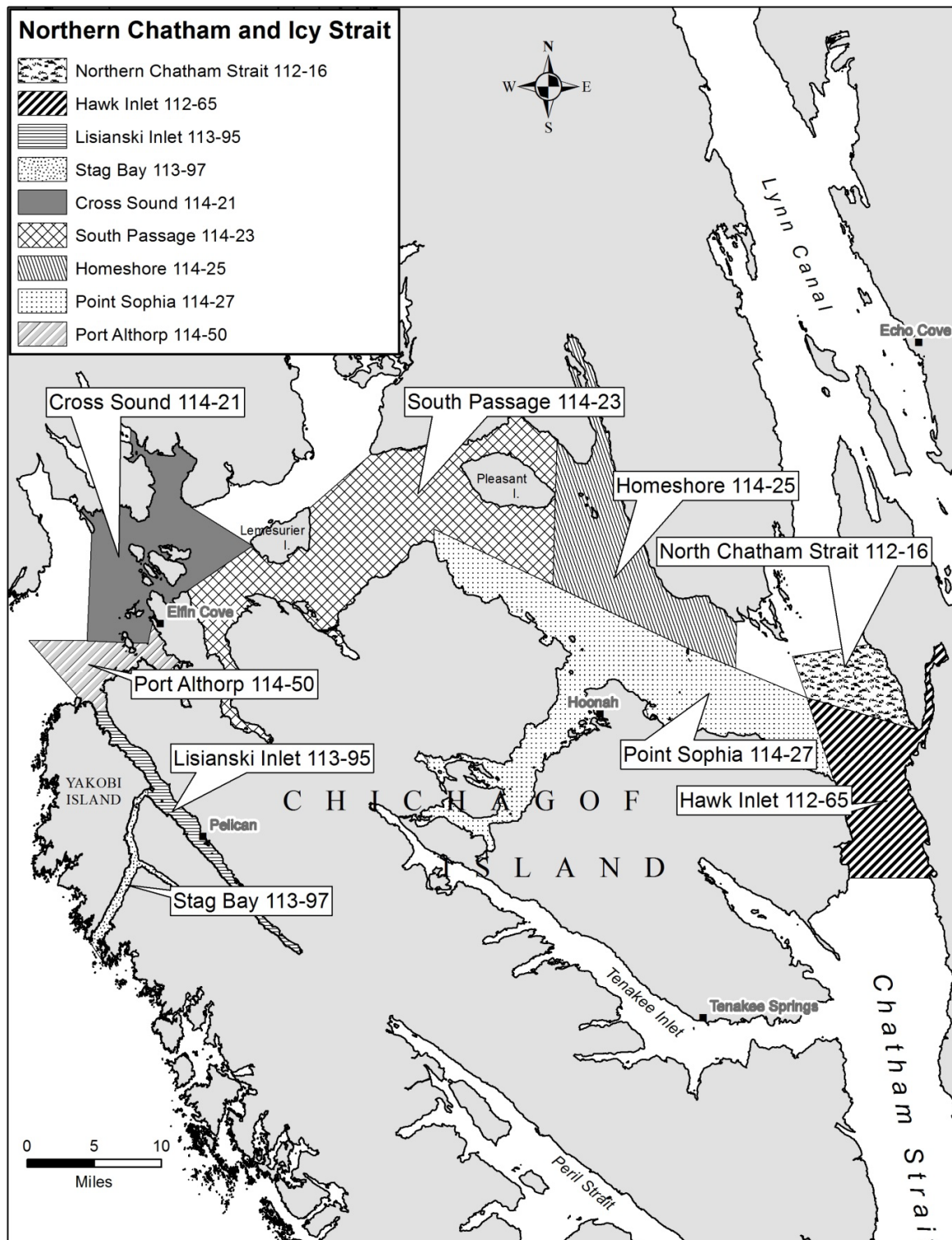


Figure 7.—North Chatham and Icy Strait spring trolling areas, 2014.

YAKUTAT AREA

Yakutat Bay (Fishery Area 183-10): The waters of Yakutat Bay east of a line from Point Manby (59°41.66' N. lat, 140°19.70' W. long.) to Ocean Cape (59°32.06' N. lat, 139°51.46' W. long.).

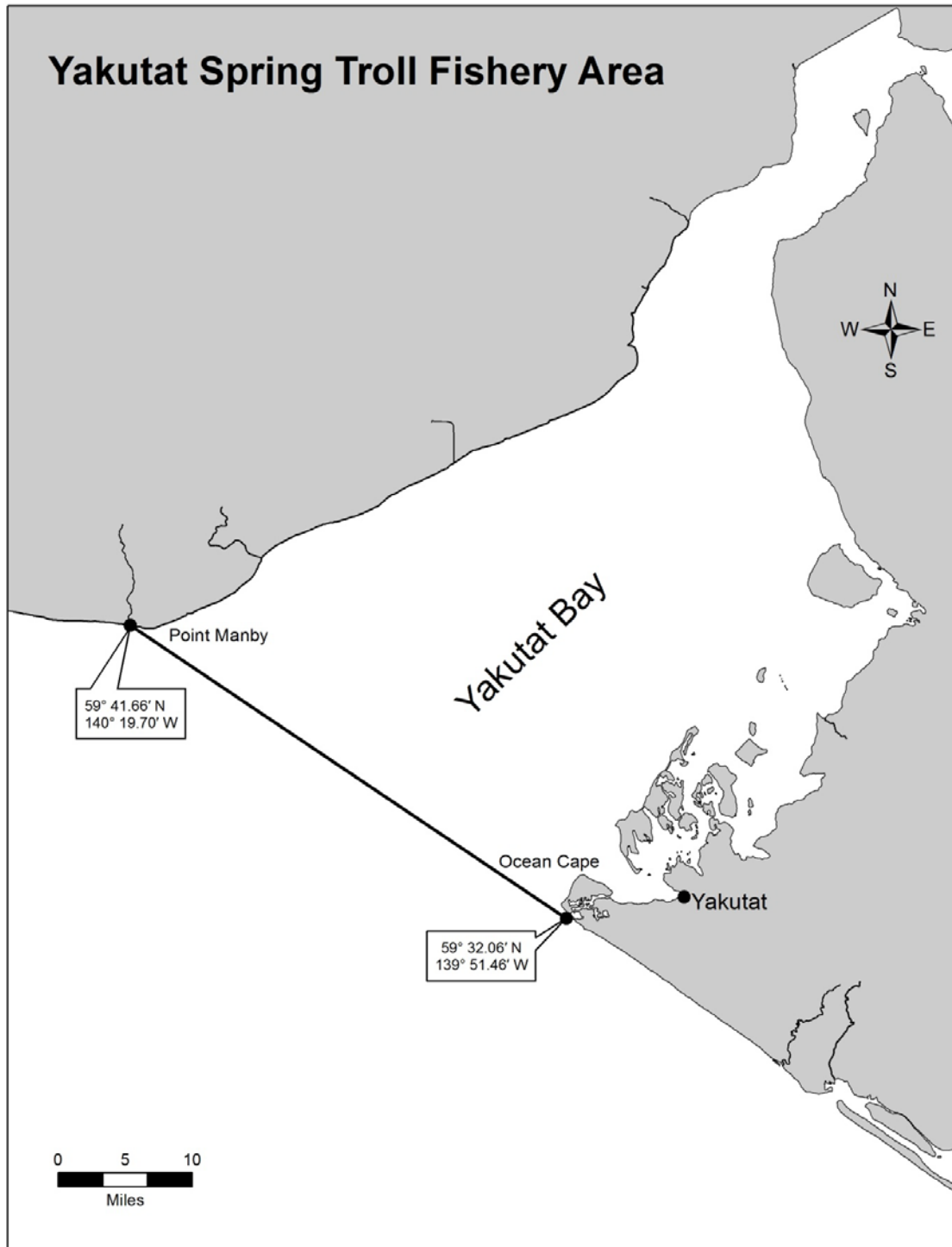


Figure 8.–Yakutat Bay spring troll fishery area.

FISHERY CONTACTS

The following are Division of Commercial Fisheries contacts regarding this management plan:

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Dave Gordon and Eric Coonradt Area Management Biologists 304 Lake Street, room #103 Sitka, Alaska 99835-7653 (907) 747-6688	Dave Harris and Scott Forbes Area Management Biologists PO Box 110024 Douglas, Alaska 99811-0024 (907) 465-4250
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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