

# **2019 Spring Troll Fishery Management Plan**

by

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and

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April 2019

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Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Division of Commercial Fisheries



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

***REGIONAL INFORMATION REPORT NO. 1J19-06***

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by

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Alaska Department of Fish and Game  
Division of Commercial Fisheries, Publications Section  
802 3rd, Douglas, Alaska, 99824-0020

April 2019

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*This document should be cited as follows:*

*Hagerman, G., and R. Ehresmann. 2019. 2019 spring troll fishery management plan. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Regional Information Report No. 1J19-05, Douglas, Alaska.*

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## **ABSTRACT**

This document summarizes the plan that the Alaska Department of Fish and Game will follow to manage the 2019 Southeast Alaska spring commercial salmon troll fisheries, according to the Alaska Board of Fisheries adopted guidelines listed in the State of Alaska Administrative Code under 5 AAC 29.090, and under Chinook salmon action plans for stocks of management concern.

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 2019. Most spring fisheries target Alaska hatchery-produced Chinook salmon and are conducted during May and June of each year. Spring fisheries are managed in season, according to Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF) regulations and U.S./Canada Pacific Salmon Treaty (PST) provisions.

Plans for the 2019 spring and terminal troll fisheries are presented along with maps, area descriptions, and Alaska hatchery Chinook salmon forecasts. A review of the 2018 spring troll fisheries is provided as well as a summary of pertinent regulations.

## **MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND METHODS**

### **SPRING FISHERIES**

Spring fisheries are conducted along salmon migration routes or close to the following hatcheries and larger release sites: Little Port Walter Hatchery (NMFS), Port Armstrong Hatchery (Armstrong/Keta), Whitman Lake Hatchery, Crystal Lake Hatchery, Neets Bay Hatchery, Neck Lake, Carroll Inlet, and Anita Bay release sites (Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (SSRAA)), Medvejie Hatchery, Hidden Falls Hatchery, Crawfish Inlet release site (Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (NSRAA)), Port Saint Nicholas Hatchery (Prince of Wales Hatchery Association (POWHA)), 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 toward 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 target Alaska hatchery-produced chum salmon and are located in Keku Strait, North Chatham Strait, and Icy Strait (Districts 9, 10, 12, and 14).

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

<b>Alaska hatchery contribution to the harvest</b>	<b>PST Chinook salmon limit</b>
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

Most years, 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 ADF&G biologists for potential impacts on local wild stocks and to determine whether 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. With direction from both the BOF and the Office of the Commissioner of ADF&G to implement conservation measures to protect wild Southeast Alaska (SEAK) Chinook salmon, and to provide spring troll hatchery fisheries in select areas in 2019, no public meetings to discuss amendments to existing spring areas were held this year.

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 finclipped fish 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 trollers 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 29.090(k)). Fish tickets must be submitted to the department within seven days of landing (5 AAC 39.130(c)).

The heads of all adipose finclipped 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 AND SPECIAL HARVEST AREA FISHERIES**

Terminal and special harvest area (THA and SHA) fisheries are conducted in areas near a hatchery or release site. Chinook salmon caught in most THA and SHA areas are considered to be 100% Alaska hatchery fish, based on previous sampling. Terminal and special harvest areas that may open during the spring include Anita Bay, Carroll Inlet, Crawfish Inlet, Deep Inlet, Gunnuk Creek, Hidden Falls, Nakat Inlet, Neets Bay, Port Armstrong, Silver Bay, Southeast Cove, Thomas Bay, and Wrangell Narrows. THAs and SHAs 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 and SHAs where those species are released, in accordance with THA and SHA management plans.

## **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.

## **2018 SPRING FISHERY REVIEW**

A total of 270 vessels participated in the 2018 nonterminal spring fisheries, with a harvest of 6,962 Chinook salmon. The largest Chinook salmon harvests were taken in the Mountain Point, Sitka Sound, and Salisbury Sound spring troll areas. The 2018 nonterminal area Chinook salmon harvest was 10,659 fish less than the 2017 nonterminal harvest and below the 5-year and 10-year averages by 82% and 81%, respectively. The Alaska hatchery contribution of 50% was above the 5-year average (29%) and the 10-year average (37%). The total spring and terminal effort in 2018 of 401 permits was 16% below 2017 and 34% below both the 5-year and 10-year averages. A total of eight spring areas and seven terminal fisheries were open during the 2018 spring troll season. Other species harvested during the spring season, including Annette Island troll harvest, were 21 sockeye, 128 coho, 7 pink, and 4,437 chum salmon.

## **2019 SPRING FISHERIES OVERVIEW**

### **DISTRICT 8 DIRECTED FISHERY**

The 2019 preseason terminal run size forecast for Stikine River large Chinook salmon is 8,250 fish. A preseason terminal run forecast of this size does not provide an Allowable Catch (AC) for either the U.S. or Canada as the forecast is below the Escapement Goal Range (EGR) of 14,000–28,000 fish. No directed fisheries will occur in early May. Inseason terminal run size estimates may be produced starting late May of 2019. It is very unlikely any directed Chinook salmon fisheries will occur in District 8 in 2019.

### **DISTRICT 11 DIRECTED FISHERY**

The 2019 preseason terminal run size forecast for Taku River large Chinook salmon is 9,050 fish. A preseason terminal run forecast of this size does not provide an AC for either the U.S. or Canada as the forecast is below the EGR of 19,000–36,000 fish. No directed fisheries will occur in early May. Inseason terminal run size estimates may be produced starting late May of 2019. It is very unlikely any directed Chinook salmon fisheries will occur in District 11 in 2019.

### **YAKUTAT SPRING TROLL FISHERY**

A spring troll fishery will open in Yakutat Bay. The fishery is limited by regulation to one day per week during 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 Chinook salmon and is not based on the composition of Alaska hatchery fish. The first opening is scheduled for Wednesday, May 1.

## **REGULATORY CHANGES AND MANAGEMENT ACTIONS TO CONSERVE WILD STOCK CHINOOK SALMON IN THE SPRING TROLL FISHERIES**

During the BOF meeting held in Sitka from January 11–23, 2018, regulations were adopted that continue to affect the management of the spring troll fisheries. Action plans for Chilkat, King Salmon, and Unuk rivers Chinook salmon were adopted, giving the department direction through emergency order authority to conserve wild SEAK Chinook salmon. To help reduce encounters of these stocks during spring troll fisheries, the board determined, under the Unuk River action plan, that opportunities for Alaska hatchery Chinook in May and June be limited to terminal harvest areas, waters in close proximity to hatchery facilities or release sites, and in areas that have been identified as having low proportional harvests of wild stock SEAK/Yakutat Chinook salmon. In addition to the conservation measures of this action plan, supplementary actions, under the authority of the Office of the Commissioner of ADF&G for the conservation of SEAK and Transboundary River Chinook salmon stocks, further restrict May and June fishery opportunities to select terminal harvest areas and a few defined spring troll fishery areas located on the outside coast to target Alaska hatchery Chinook salmon.

For complete details of the Chinook salmon action plans for the Unuk River, Chilkat, and King Salmon rivers see the links below:

- Unuk River King Salmon Stock Status and Action Plan, 2018:

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/FedAidPDFs/RIR.1J.2018.04.pdf>

- Chilkat River and King Salmon River King Salmon Stock Status and Action Plan, 2018:

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/FedAidPDFs/RIR.1J.2018.05.pdf>

## **MODIFIED TIME AND AREAS**

- All THAs and SHAs will have initial openings on June 1, with the exception of the Neets Bay THA, which will open June 15.
- The Hidden Falls THA eastern boundary will be reduced to 1.0 nmi from June 1–14, moving out to 2.0 nmi June 15.
- The Mountain Point spring troll area has a small southern boundary line modification, will have a delayed initial opening to June 1, and has been divided into two separate areas, Mountain Point and Rock Point.
- The waters of the Bucareli Bay spring area have been expanded to the north and reduced to the east, with the waters of Port Saint Nicholas now defined as a separate spring area.
- The waters of the Thomas Bay SHA and the Southeast Cove THA will open as new chum salmon troll areas beginning June 16.
- The waters of the Crawfish Inlet THA will open as a new Chinook salmon troll area beginning June 1.

## **INITIAL OPENINGS**

Fishing periods will be opened by emergency order and will be 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. Weekly news releases will be issued on Fridays for 2019. News releases may also be issued throughout the week when extensions or

early closures are announced. News releases can be found on the Alaska Department of Fish and Game web site at:

[www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main)

## **TERMINAL AND SPECIAL HARVEST AREA TROLL FISHERIES**

Terminal and Special 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/SHA.

•**Anita Bay:** open June 1 through noon, November 10 [5 AAC 33.383(d)]. See the April 5 News Release for time and area details.

•**Carroll Inlet:** open June 1–30. Concurrent with trolling, openings are scheduled for rotational net gear fisheries from noon Thursday, June 13, through Saturday, June 29 [5 AAC 33.379].

•**Crawfish Inlet:** open June 1 through September 20. Chinook retention allowed during June and the general summer troll Chinook salmon retention periods [5 AAC 33.380].

•**Deep Inlet:** open to trolling during periods when net fisheries are closed beginning June 2. Additional troll fishing time, west of 135°20.75' W. long., is detailed in the Deep Inlet area description and in the rotational gear schedule announced by News Release April 12. Any schedule changes are made by emergency order and announced by News Release [5 AAC 33.376].

•**Hidden Falls:** open June 1–14 with the eastern boundary reduced to 1.0 nmi; from June 15 until closed by emergency order, the eastern boundary is moved out to 2.0 nmi [5 AAC 33.374(b)].

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

•**Neets Bay:** open June 15 through July 31, unless closed by emergency order. Concurrent with trolling, openings are scheduled for rotational net gear fisheries from Monday, June 17, through Saturday, July 6 [5 AAC 33.370]). Details on open waters and dates by gear type can be found in the April Neets Bay News Release.

•**Port Armstrong:** open from June 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.

**Southeast Cove:** opens June 16 and will remain open until August 3, unless closed by emergency order [5 AAC 33.387(c)].

•**Silver Bay:** opens June 1 and will remain open until July 30, unless closed by emergency order [5 AAC 33.375(a)].

•**Thomas Bay:** opens June 16 and will remain open until closed by emergency order.

•**Wrangell Narrows:** will not open in 2019 since the projected adult return of Chinook salmon to the terminal area is projected to be less than 4,000 fish [5 AAC 33.381(b)(4)].

## REGULATION SUMMARY

### CLOSED WATERS

Trollers are reminded that, with the exception of 5 AAC 29.150(h)(1) and 5 AAC 29.150(h)(2), 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)].

### 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). Fish tickets must be submitted to ADF&G within seven days of landing.

The heads of all adipose finclipped salmon must remain attached to the fish until the fish are sold (5 AAC 29.140(b)). Permit holders who freeze their fish on board (FAS vessels) are asked to contact ADF&G prior to fishing so that sampling and fish ticket issues can be discussed. **An “Exemption 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, the department may grant a permit to allow removal of heads from adipose finclipped 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 Alaska 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 in 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.

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

For information on Southeast Alaska Groundfish regulations, refer to the current 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 2019 Commercial Salmon Troll Fishery” News Release issued on January 2, 2019.

In the state waters portion of the Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area, commercial salmon trollers operating hand or power troll gear during an open spring commercial salmon 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 percentages are listed in Table 2.

Table 2.—Bycatch Provisions for the Spring Salmon Troll Fishery

<b>Species</b>	<b>Bycatch Allowance</b>
Lingcod	100% IBS, CSEO, NSEI and SSEIW 10% SSEOC
Demersal Shelf Rockfish (DSR)	10%
Other rockfish	No limit on incidental harvest
Spiny dogfish	35%
Sablefish	0%
Other groundfish	No limit on incidental harvest

Groundfish taken as bycatch must be reported on an ADF&G fish ticket by **species code, six-digit groundfish statistical area, delivery condition code, disposition code, and pounds landed**. The number of fish taken does not need to be documented for groundfish bycatch.

Lingcod may be taken as bycatch in the commercial salmon troll fishery **only from May 16 through November 30** [5 AAC 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 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, call the Groundfish Hotline at (907) 747-4882 or contact the Groundfish staff in Sitka at (907) 747-6688.

Lingcod Management Areas open to lingcod bycatch during the spring troll fishery include: Icy Bay Subdistrict (IBS), Northern Southeast Outside (NSEO) Section, Central Southeast Outside (CSEO) Section, Southern Southeast Outer Coast (SSEOC) Sector, Northern Southeast Inside (NSEI) Subdistrict, and Southern Southeast Internal Waters (SSEIW) Sector (Figure 1). A lingcod bycatch allowance, up to 100% of the round weight of salmon on board a vessel, is permitted in IBS, NSEI, SSEIW, Crawfish Inlet THA (113-33) and portions of the Goddard (113-32), and Salisbury Sound (113-62) CSEO spring troll areas.

In waters of Sitka Sound, including spring troll areas Western Channel (113-01), Sitka Sound Area (113-41), Silver Bay THA (113-35), Deep Inlet THA (113-38), Redoubt Bay (113-30), and portions of Goddard (113-32), and Salisbury Sound (113-62), commercial salmon trollers may retain and possess up to two lingcod aboard a vessel while actively fishing for salmon within the Sitka Sound area during the open CSEO lingcod season however, the lingcod taken may not exceed the 20% CSEO lingcod bycatch allowance. Lingcod taken within this area may be retained for a permit holder's personal use only and may not be sold. Upon taking a lingcod in this area, the permit holder shall mark that lingcod for personal use by immediately removing the dorsal fin of that fish. The head of each personal use lingcod must remain attached to the fish as evidence of meeting the 27-inch minimum size restriction until that lingcod is weighed and reported on the ADF&G troll salmon fish ticket documenting that fishing trip [5 AAC 28.173(a)(4)].

Having taken no more than two lingcod outside of Sitka Sound, a permit holder may fish for salmon within Sitka Sound only after removing the dorsal fin of those lingcod. Vessels in possession of more than two lingcod may not fish for salmon in this area until those lingcod are offloaded.

The waters of Sitka Sound Special Use Area affected by these lingcod restrictions are defined in 5 AAC 28.150(a) as 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., (Figure 1).

Lingcod bycatch in the SSEOC spring troll fishery [Bucareli Bay (103-50) and Port Saint Nicholas (103-60)] are limited to 10%. Lingcod taken in excess of bycatch allowances shall be reported on fish tickets as overage and forfeited to the State of Alaska.

All DSR taken 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 personal use by the permit holder. The seven species 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 [5 AAC 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.

A person aboard a vessel may not fish for groundfish with dinglebar troll or mechanical jigging machines 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 [5 AAC 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 [5 AAC 28.135 (c)].

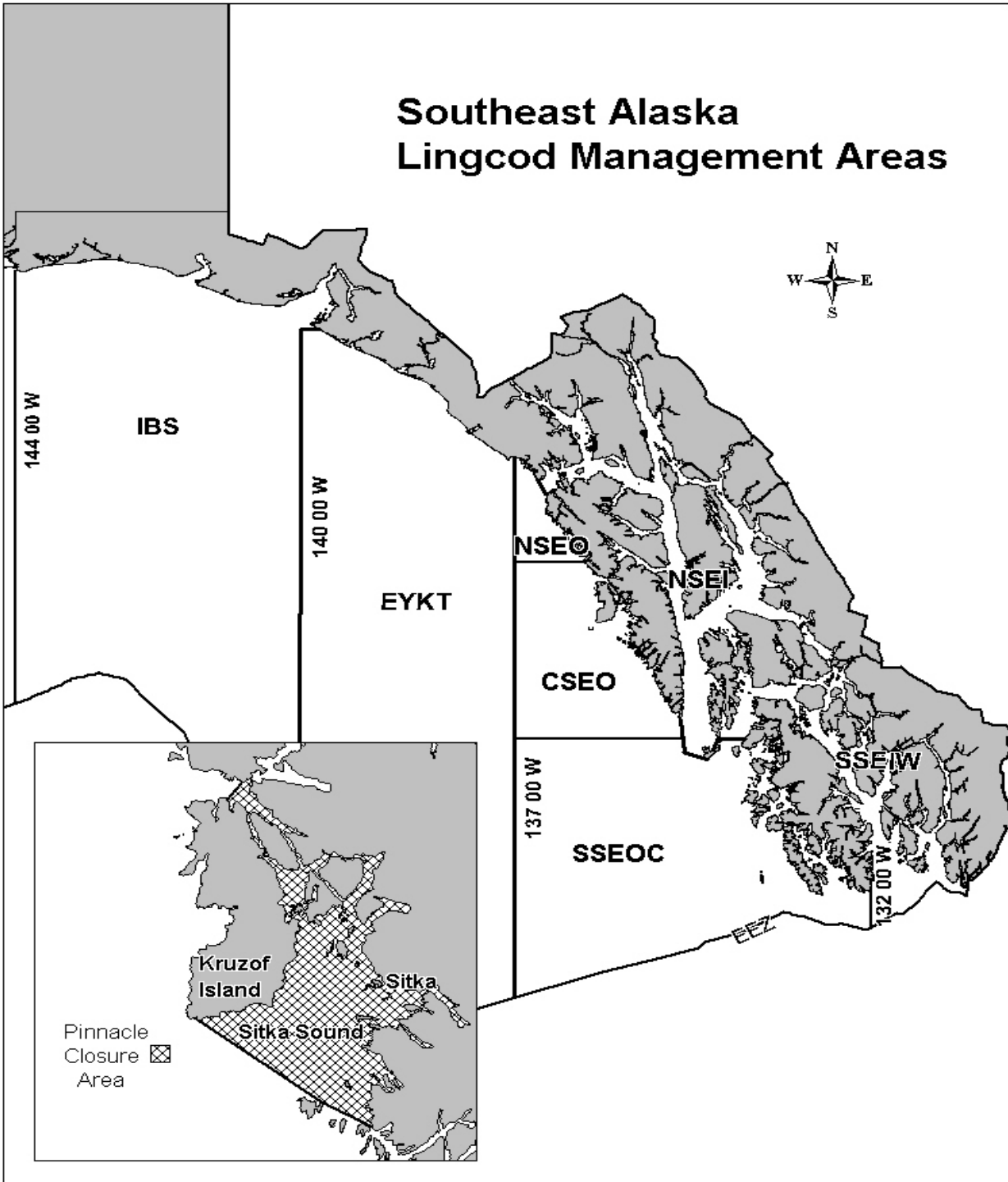


Figure 1.—Alaska Lingcod Management Areas and Restricted Waters of Sitka Sound.



## 2019 ALASKA HATCHERY CHINOOK RETURN FORECAST

Hatchery facility managers are predicting total returns of approximately 99,300 Chinook salmon for 2019, as compared to estimated 2018 returns of 79,600 fish. The largest returns for 2019 are expected to Medvejie Creek, Neets Bay, and Anita Bay. 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 3.—2019 Alaska hatchery Chinook salmon and Neck Lake coho salmon return forecasts.

Release Site	2018 Total Return Projection	2018 Total Return	2019 Total Return Projection
<b>Ketchikan Area</b>			
Whitman Lake	12,300	7,981	9,200
Carroll Inlet	1,000	1,123	8,000
Deer Mountain	700	235	-
Neets Bay	18,100	13,144	16,200
<b>Total</b>	<b>32,100</b>	<b>22,483</b>	<b>33,400</b>
<b>Chatham Strait</b>			
Little Port Walter	764	1,012	644
Hidden Falls	2,000	912	1,903
Port Armstrong	-	816	300
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,764</b>	<b>2,740</b>	<b>2,847</b>
<b>Craig/Klawock Area</b>			
Port Saint Nicholas	1,945	2,398	2,400
Coffman Cove	545	810	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,490</b>	<b>3,208</b>	<b>2,400</b>
<b>Juneau Area</b>			
Macauley (Fish Creek, Lena Cove, Gastineau Channel, Auke Bay)	9,690	8,256	6,544
Pullen Creek	70	6	70
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,760</b>	<b>8,262</b>	<b>6,614</b>
<b>Wrangell/Petersburg</b>			
Anita Bay	15,400	12,696	15,700
Crystal Lake	3,300	4,449	3,100
City Creek	1,000	239	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,700</b>	<b>17,384</b>	<b>18,800</b>
<b>Sitka Area</b>			
Crawfish Inlet	29	121	890
Medvejie Creek	10,276	23,278	28,628
Halibut Point	2,441	2,141	5,734
Sheldon Jackson	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,746</b>	<b>25,540</b>	<b>35,252</b>
<b>Alaska Hatchery Chinook Totals</b>	<b>79,560</b>	<b>79,617</b>	<b>99,313</b>
Neck Lake Coho	55,100	28,061	29,200

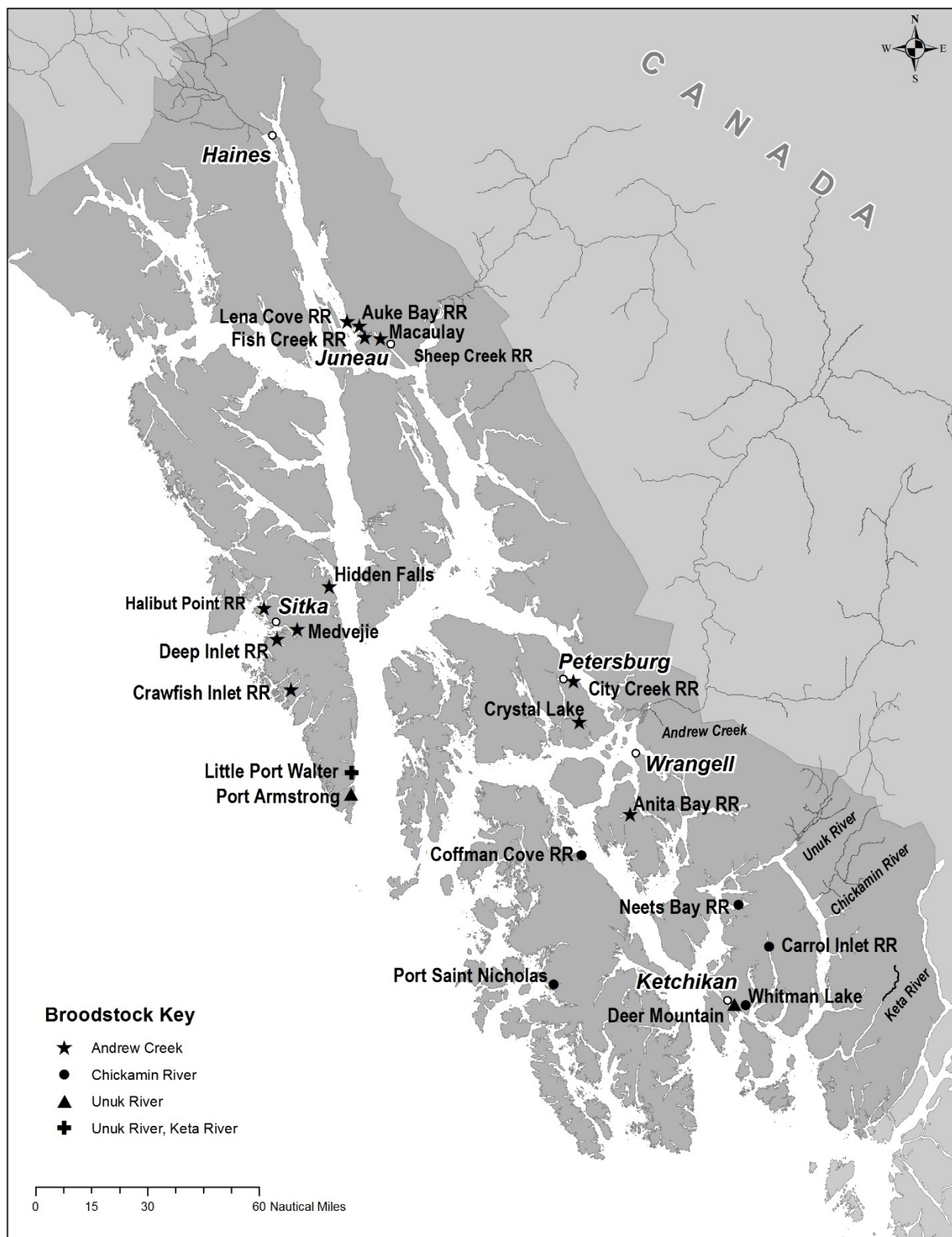


Figure 2.—Location of Chinook salmon hatcheries and Chinook salmon remote release sites (RR) in Southeast Alaska, showing broodstock in use by location.

## 2019 SPRING FISHING AREAS AND MAPS

### KETCHIKAN AREAS

**Mountain Point (Fishery Area 101-45) modified area:** The waters of George and Carroll inlets north of a line from Mountain Point at 55°17.57' N. lat., 131°32.41' W. long., to **Cutter Rocks Light at 55°17.34' N. lat., 131°31.47' W. long.,** to 55°17.57' N. lat., 131°28.18' W. long., and south of the latitude of the George Inlet cannery site at 55°23.00' N. lat., and **in Carroll Inlet south of the latitude of California Head at 55°19.57' N. lat.**

**Rock Point (Fishery area 101-46) new area:** The waters of Carroll Inlet north of the latitude of California Head at 55°19.57' N. lat., and south of Nigelius Point at 55°33.50' N. lat.

**Carroll Inlet Terminal Harvest Area (Fishery area 101-48):** From June 1–30, the THA includes only those waters of Carroll Inlet north of Nigelius Point at 55°33.50' N. lat.

**Neets Bay Terminal Harvest Area (Fishery area 101-95):** The waters 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. long., until the barrier net is in place; at that time, the closed waters are those waters east of the barrier net.

**The THA will open to troll gear from 12:01 a.m., Saturday, June 15, through 11:59 p.m., Wednesday, July 31,** unless closed by emergency order. The Neets Bay THA will not expand to include those waters of Neets Bay east of the longitude of Chin Point until July 1 for troll gear.

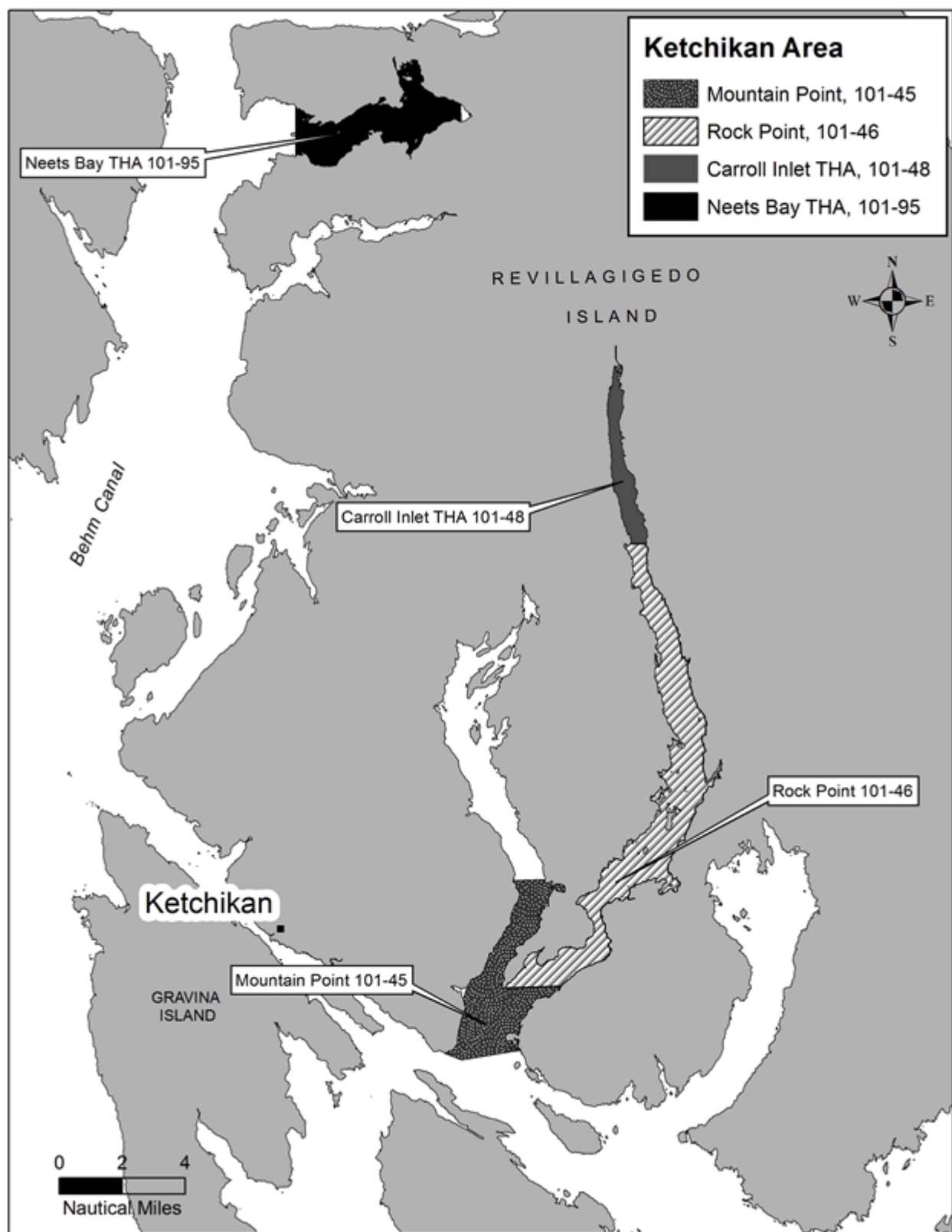


Figure 3.—Ketchikan area spring troll areas, 2019.

## WRANGELL AND PRINCE OF WALES AREAS

**Bucareli Bay (Fishery area 103-50) modified area:** In the waters of Ursua Channel and Bucareli, Trocadero, and San Alberto bays south of a line from Point Polocano at 55°32.37' N. lat., 133°17.38' W. long., to the northernmost tip of Abbess Island at 55°33.78' N. lat., 133°10.81' W. long., to a point on Peratrovich Island at 55°35.19' N. lat., 133°07.09' W. long., to Cemetery Point at 55°33.82' N. lat., 133°06.36' W. long., to the northernmost tip of Klawock Island at 55°33.42' N. lat., 133°06.39' W. long., south and west of a line from Cape Suspiro at 55°27.48' N. lat., 133°08.54' W. long., to the northernmost tip of Toti Island at 55°24.90' N. lat., 133°07.34' W. long., to Point Miraballes at 55°25.86' N. lat., 133°05.20' W. long., and northeast of a line from Point Amargura at 55°27.00' N. lat., 133°21.65' W. long. to 55°24.67' N. lat., 133°21.18' W. long., to Point Providence at 55°21.51' N. lat., 133°16.23' W. long.

**Port Saint Nicholas (Fishery area 103-60) new area:** In the waters of Port Saint Nicholas and Bucareli Bay north and east of a line from Cape Suspiro at 55°27.48' N. lat., 133°08.54' W. long., to the northernmost tip of Toti Island at 55°24.90' N. lat., 133°07.34' W. long., to Point Miraballes at 55°25.86' N. lat., 133°05.20' W. long.

**Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area (Fishery area 107-35):** The waters of Anita Bay south and west of a line from the tip of Anita Point at 56°13.68' N. lat., 132°22.48' W. long., to a point on the northern shore at 56°14.26' N. lat., 132°23.92' W. long.

From June 1–12, the waters of the Anita Bay THA north and east of a line from 56°12.90' N. lat., 132°24.51' W. long., to 56°12.75' N. lat., 132°23.50' W. long., are open to troll gear only.

From June 15 through July 10, the waters within .25 nmi 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.*  
(3) *From July 2 through July 10, the waters of Anita Bay THA west of 132°28.00' W. long., are closed to the harvest of salmon.*

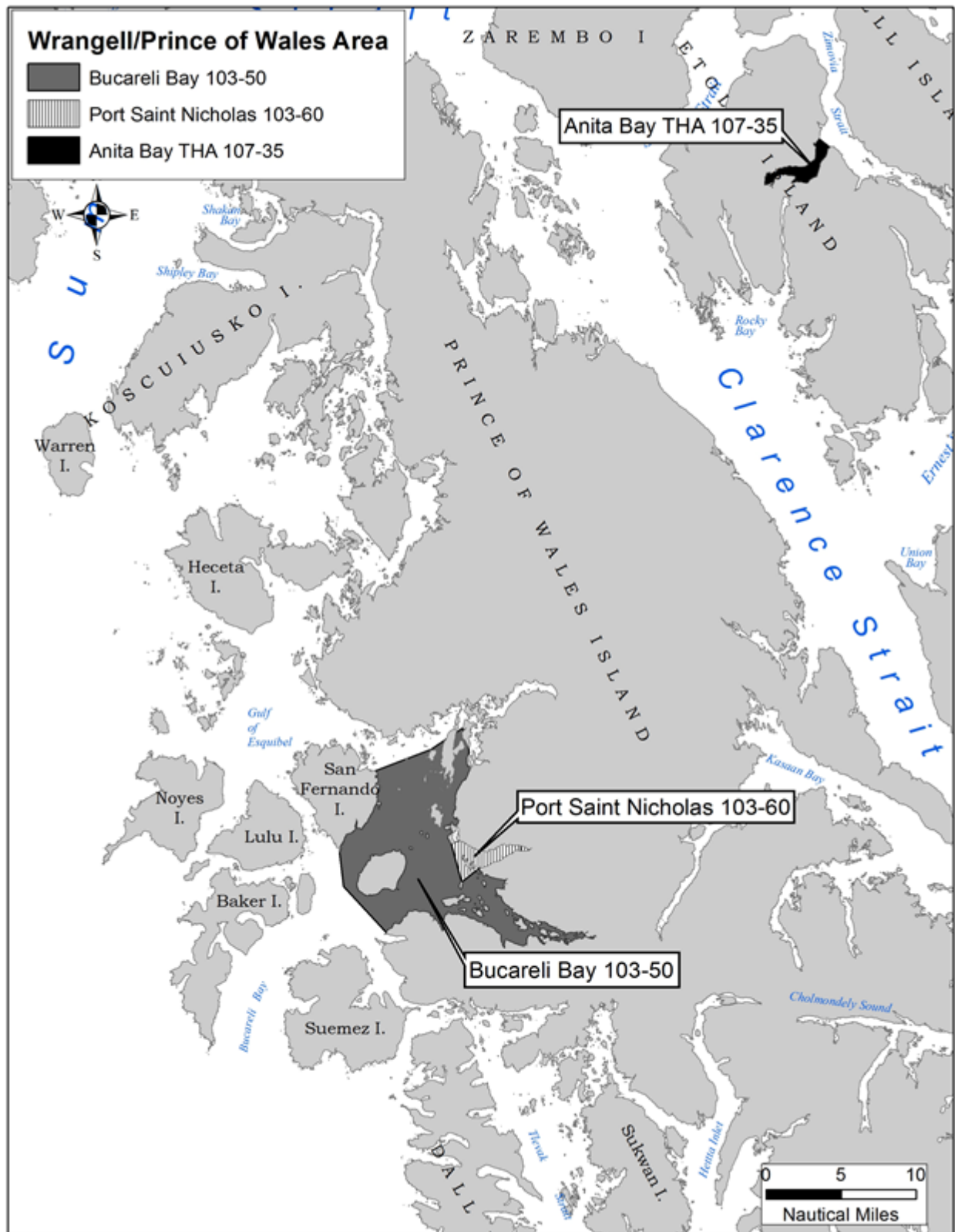


Figure 4.—Wrangell and Prince of Wales spring troll areas, 2019.

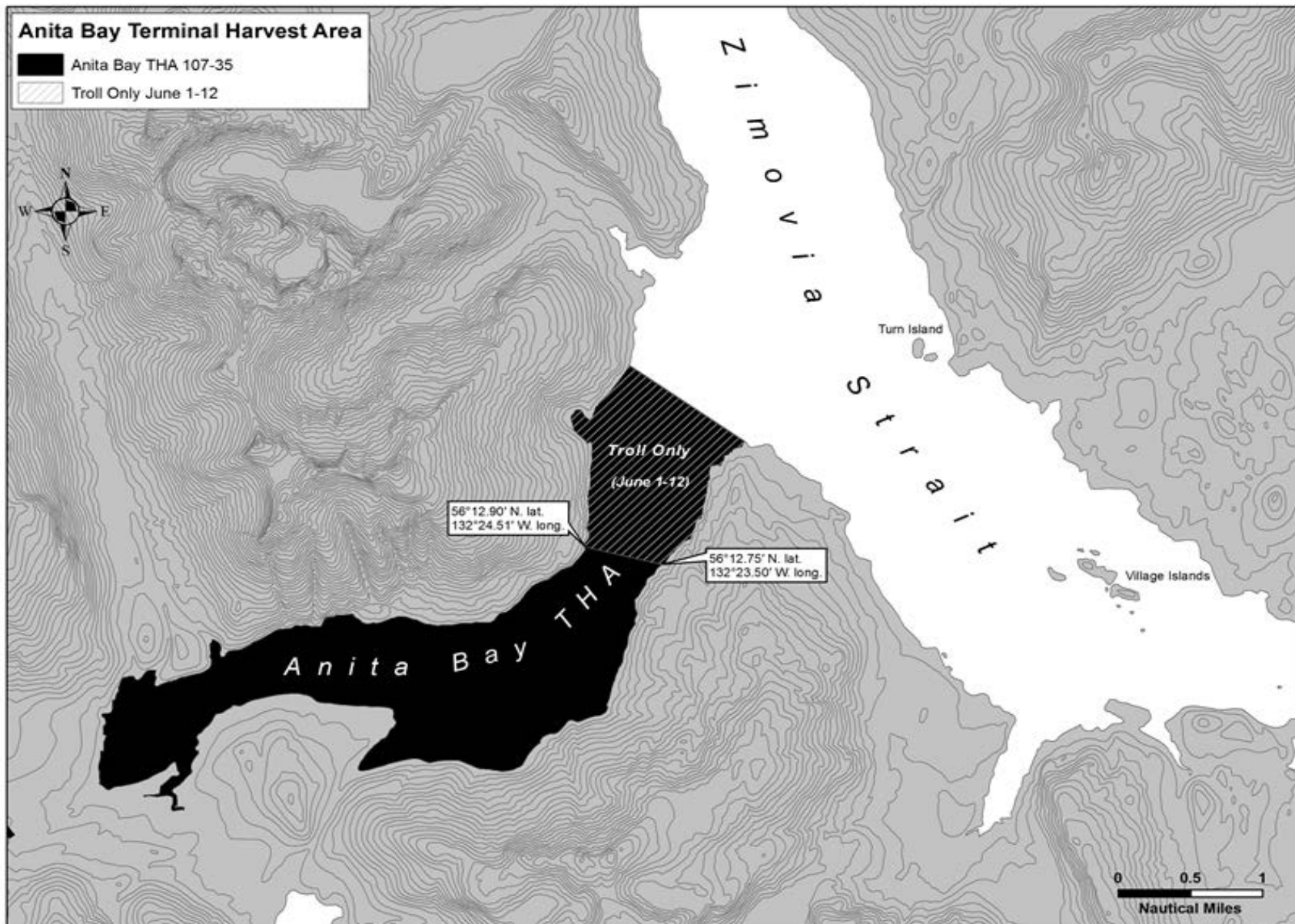


Figure 5.—Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area.



## CHATHAM STRAIT AND FREDERICK SOUND AREAS

**Port Armstrong Special 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.

**Southeast Cove Terminal Harvest Area (Fishery Area 109-41) new area:** In the waters of Keku Strait enclosed by a line from a rocky point on the northern end of Kuiu Island located on the east side of Southeast Cove at 56°52.95' N. lat., 134°01.33' W. long., to the northwest corner of Hound Island at 56°53.12' N. lat., 133°56.77' W. long., then northwest connecting points along the northern shore of Keku Islands at 56°53.98' N. lat., 133°57.58' W. long., to 56°54.90' N. lat., 133°59.53' W. long., to 56°55.93' N. lat., 134°00.97' W. long., to 56°55.95' N. lat., 134°02.15' W. long., to 56°55.22' N. lat., 134°02.53' W. long., to 56°56.37' N. lat., 134°06.62' W. long., then to the northwest corner of Payne Island at 56°57.45' N. lat., 134°08.75' W. long., then south to a point on Kuiu Island at 56°55.08' N. lat., 134°09.25' W. long.

**Keku Strait Area (Fishery Area 109-42):** Waters of Districts 9 and 10 enclosed by a line extending from 1.0 nmi north of Cornwallis Point Light at 56°56.80' N. lat., 134°16.43' W. long., to Pinta Rocks Light 57°05.15' N. lat., 134°00.76' W. long., to Cape Bendel 57°04.27' N. lat., 134°00.76' W. long. Waters of the Southeast Cove THA and the Gunnuk Creek SHA are excluded.

**Thomas Bay Special Harvest Area (Fishery Area 110-12) new area:** In the waters of Thomas Bay northeast of a line from Point Vandeput at 57°00.94' N. lat., 133°00.02' W. long., to Wood Point at 56°59.54' N. lat., 132°56.95' W. long., northwest of a line from a point on the mainland shoreline at 56°59.57' N. lat., 132°54.02' W. long., to Ruth Island at 57°00.42' N. lat., 132°51.07' W. long., north of line from a point on the southeastern shoreline of Ruth Island at 56°58.70' N. lat., 132°49.13' W. long., to the mainland shoreline at 56°58.07' N. lat., 132°47.32' W. long., west of a line from the mainland shoreline at 56°59.38' N. lat., 132°47.60' W. long., to the southern tip of Spray Island at 56°59.80' N. lat., 132°47.73' W. long., to the northern tip of Spray Island at 57°00.07' N. lat., 132°47.80' W. long., to the mainland shoreline at 57°00.56' N. lat., 132°47.57' W. long., and south of a line from 57°03.00' N. lat., 132°49.62' W. long., to 57°03.00' N. lat., 132°52.03' W. long.

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

Waters northeast of a line from the northern tip of Spray Island at 57°00.07' N. lat., 132°47.80' W. long., to a point on the northern boundary line approximately .50 nmi from the mainland shoreline at 57°03.00' N. lat., 132°50.55' W. long., are closed Saturdays and Sundays of each week.

**Hidden Falls Terminal Harvest Area (Fishery area 112-22) modified area:** In Chatham Strait, only those waters of Section 12-A **within 1.0 nmi 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)). Beginning June 15, the THA will expand from within 1.0 to within 2.0 nmi of the Baranof Island shoreline.



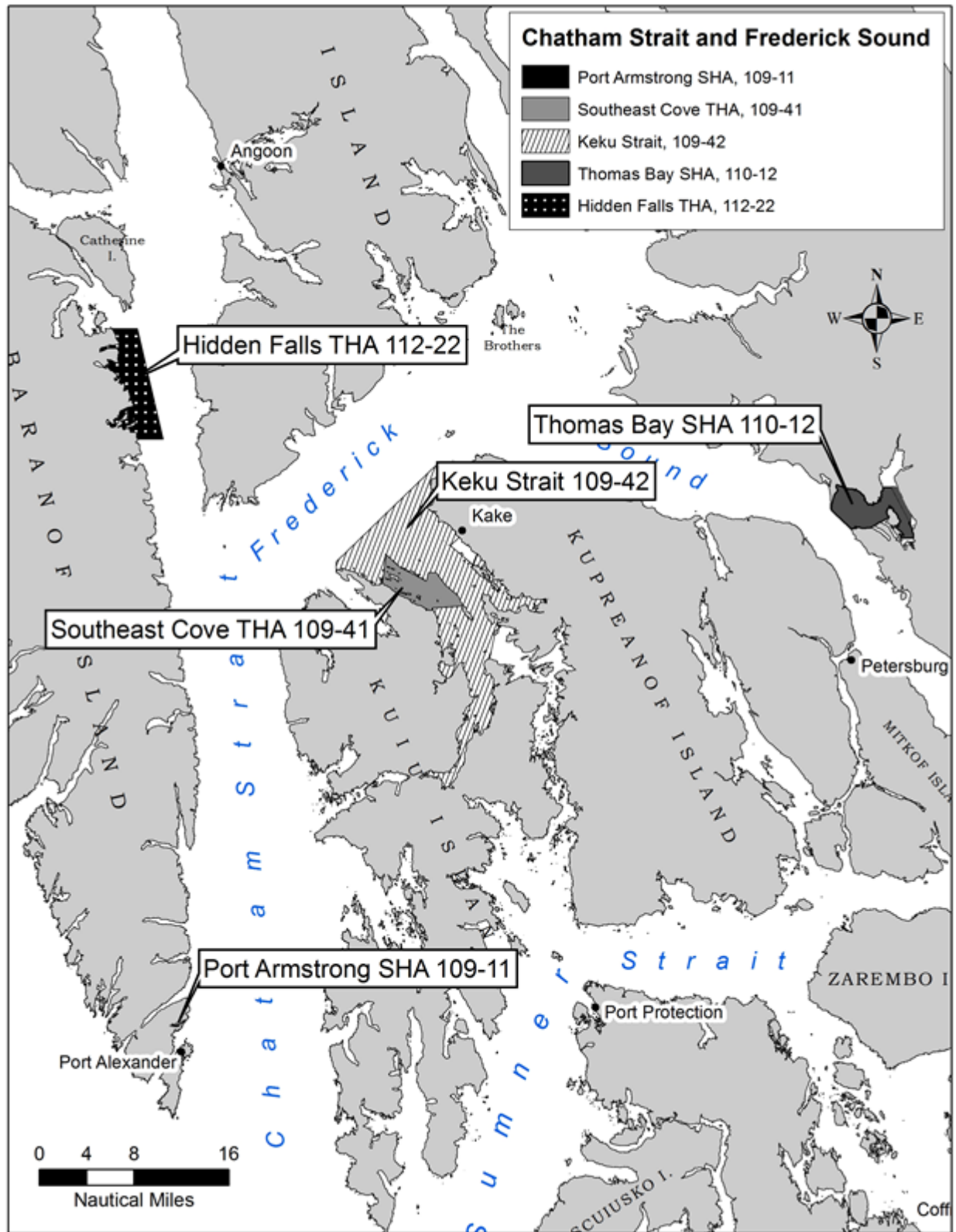


Figure 6.—Chatham Strait and Frederick Sound spring troll areas, 2019.

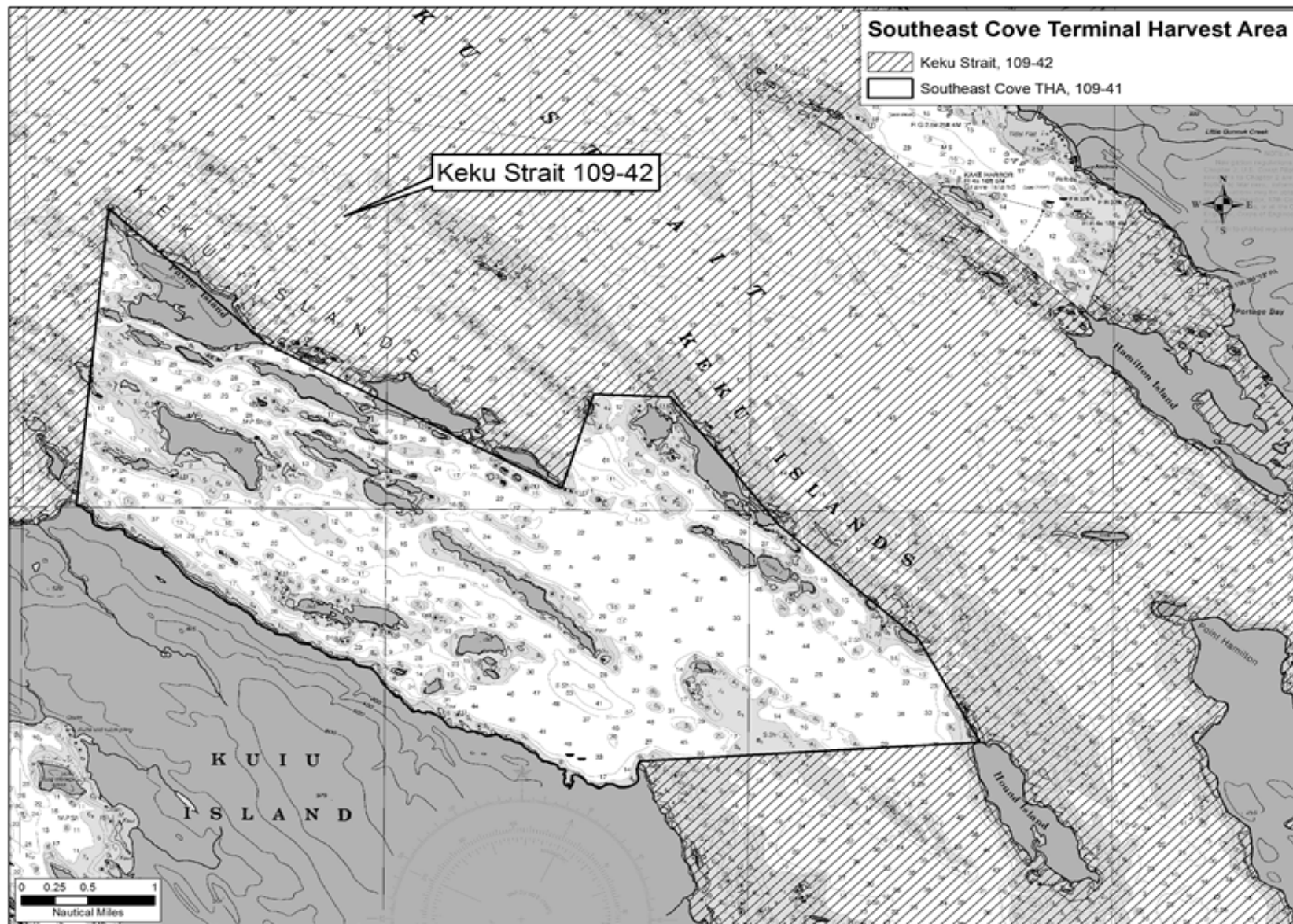


Figure 7.—Southeast Cove Terminal Harvest Area, 2019.

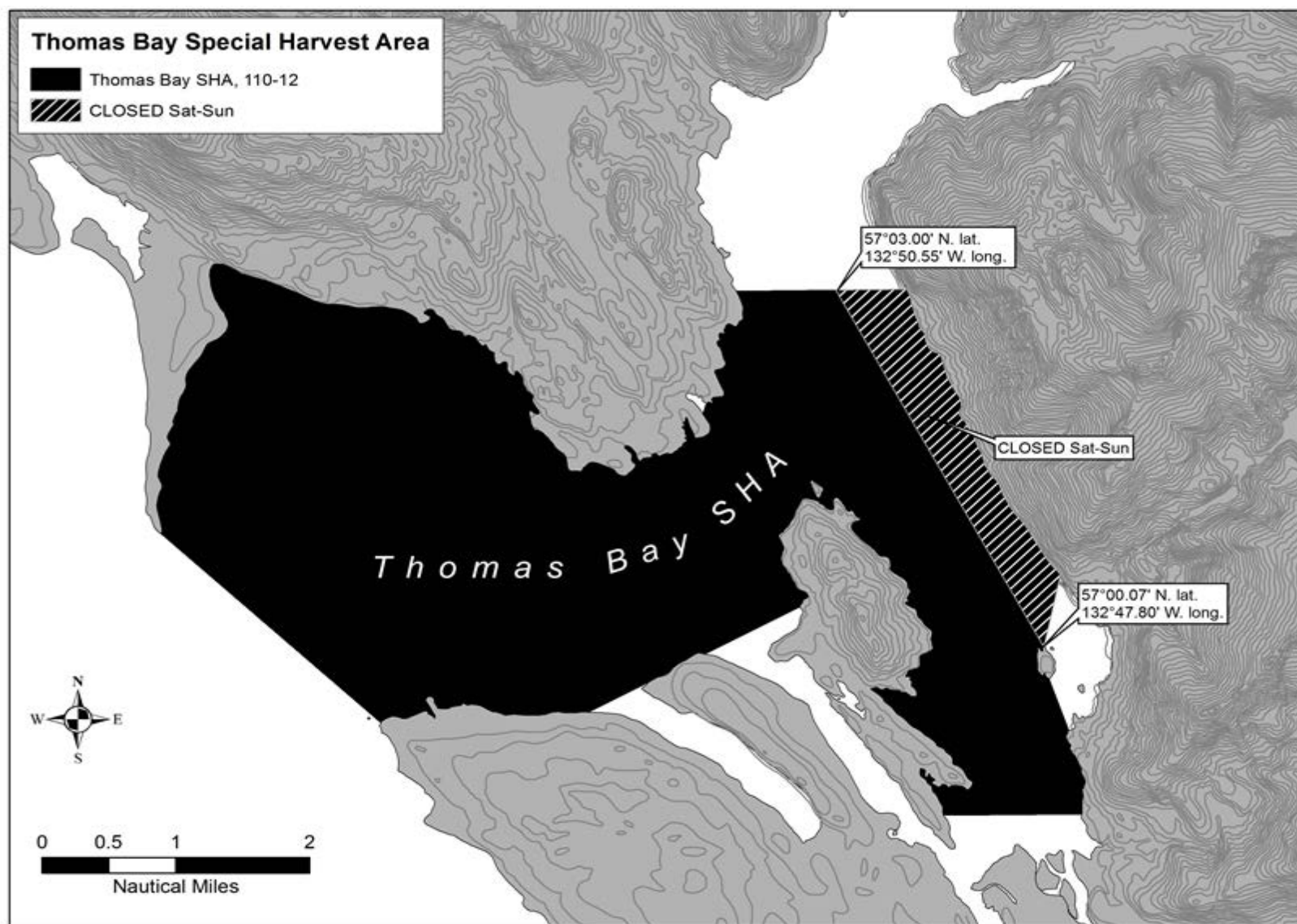


Figure 8.—Thomas Bay Special Harvest Area, 2019.

## **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°36.00' W. long., southwest 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.

**Goddard Area (Fishery area 113-32):** 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 to 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 Elovai Island at 56°49.20' 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.

**Crawfish Inlet Terminal and Special Harvest Areas (Fishery area 113-33) new area:** In waters east of a line from 56°44.16' N. lat., 135°15.80' W. long., to 56°43.30' N. lat., 135°17.81' W. long., to 56°41.93' N. lat., 135°17.54' W. long., to 56°41.14' N. lat., 135°13.80' W. long., including the waters of Jamboree Bay, Cedar Pass south of 56°47.14' N. lat., and Crawfish Inlet west of 135°11.05' W. long. Waters of the SHA, east of 135°11.05' W. longitude, are open concurrent to the THA.

**Silver Bay Terminal Harvest Area (Fishery area 113-35):** In the waters of Silver Bay east of a line from Entry Point Light at 57°01.98' N. lat., 135°15.00' W. long., to Silver Point at 57°00.82' N. lat., 135°18.10' W. long. The waters of Bear Cove are 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.

**Sitka Sound Area (Fishery area 113-41) modified area:** In the waters of Sitka Sound, 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, and Katlian Bay. **The waters of the Deep Inlet and Silver Bay THAs, as described above and below, are included in the Sitka Sound area through May 31. These areas will open as the Deep Inlet and Silver Bay THAs beginning June 1.**

**Deep Inlet Terminal Harvest Area (Fishery area 113-38):** In waters of 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 Engeten 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 June 2 through June 15, the waters of Deep Inlet west of 135°20.75' W. long., are open to continuously to troll gear as part of the THA, with waters east of 135°20.75' W. long., open to troll gear when net fisheries are closed. On June 16, all waters of the Deep Inlet THA will follow the rotational schedule with openings for troll gear when net gear is closed.**

**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.



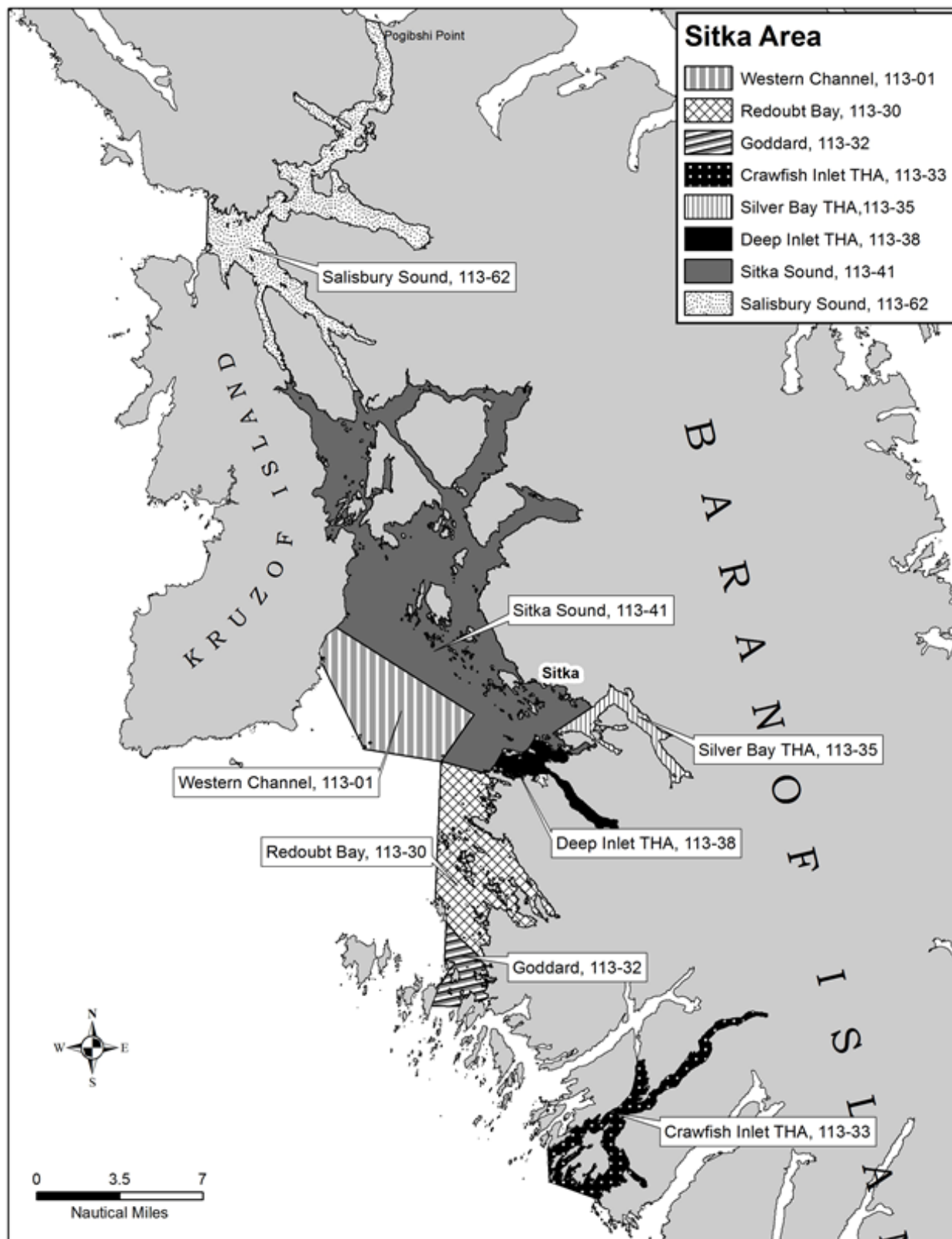


Figure 9.—Sitka spring troll areas, 2019.

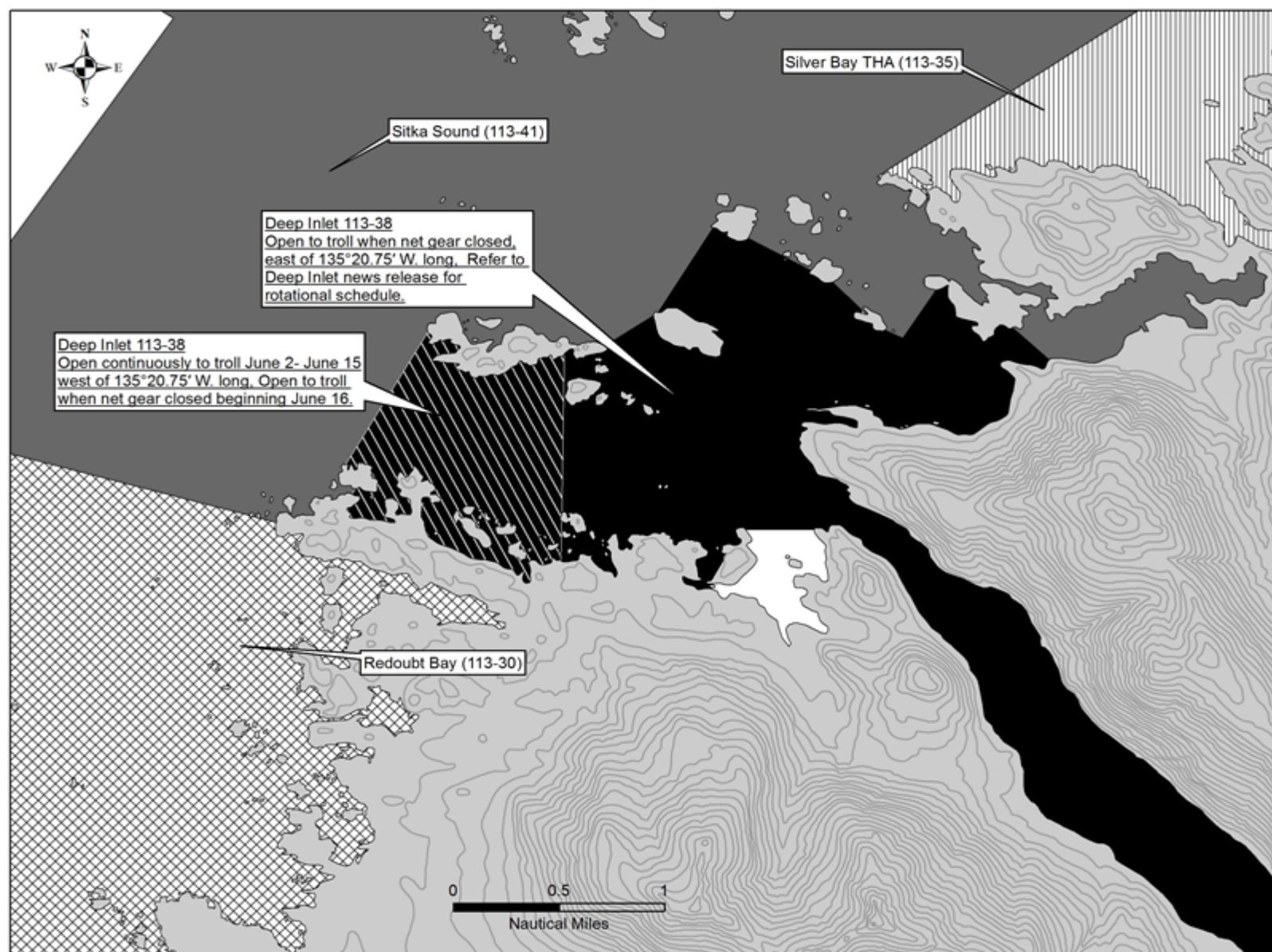


Figure 10.—Deep Inlet Terminal Harvest Area.



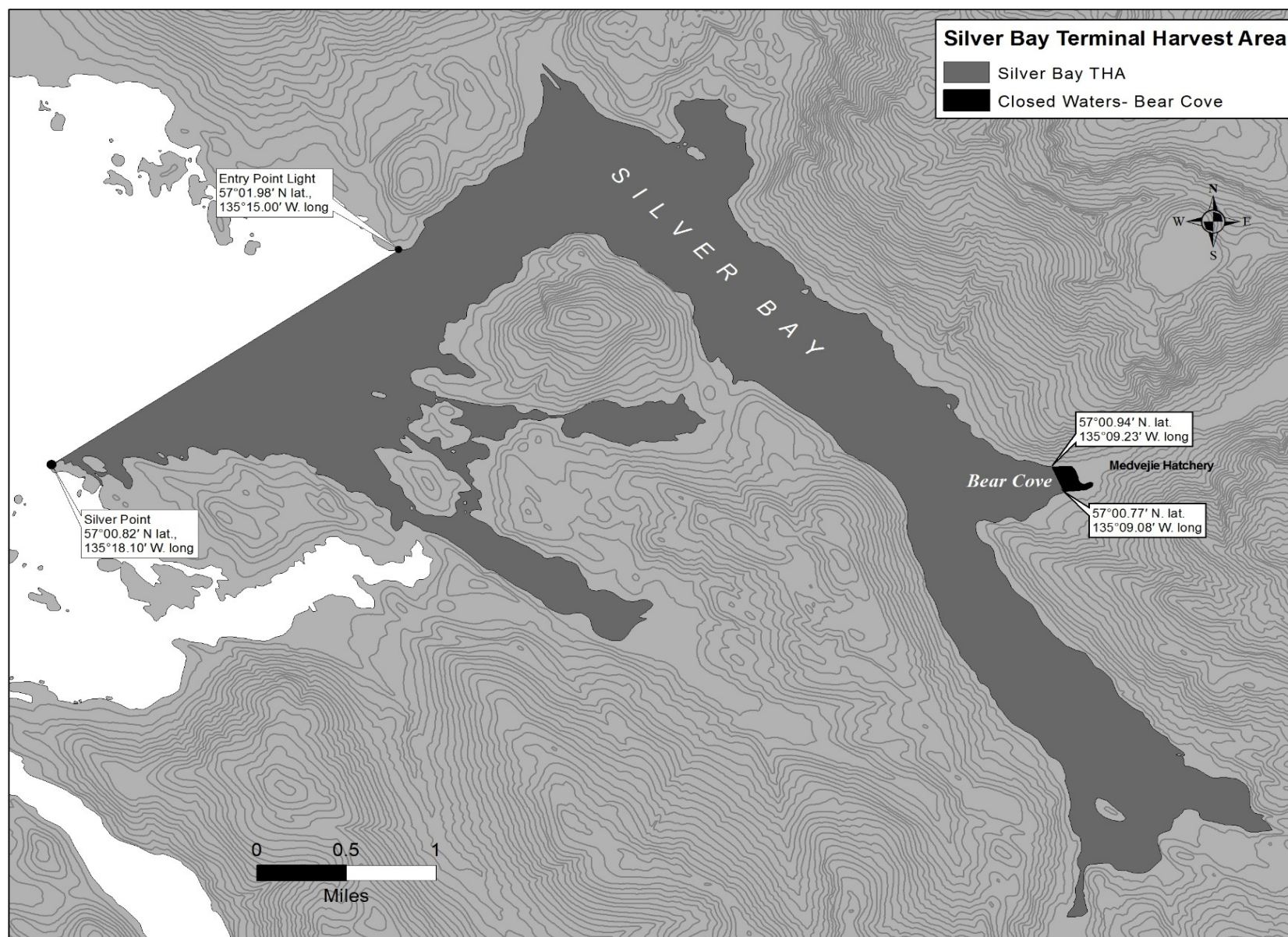


Figure 11.—Silver Bay Terminal Harvest Area.



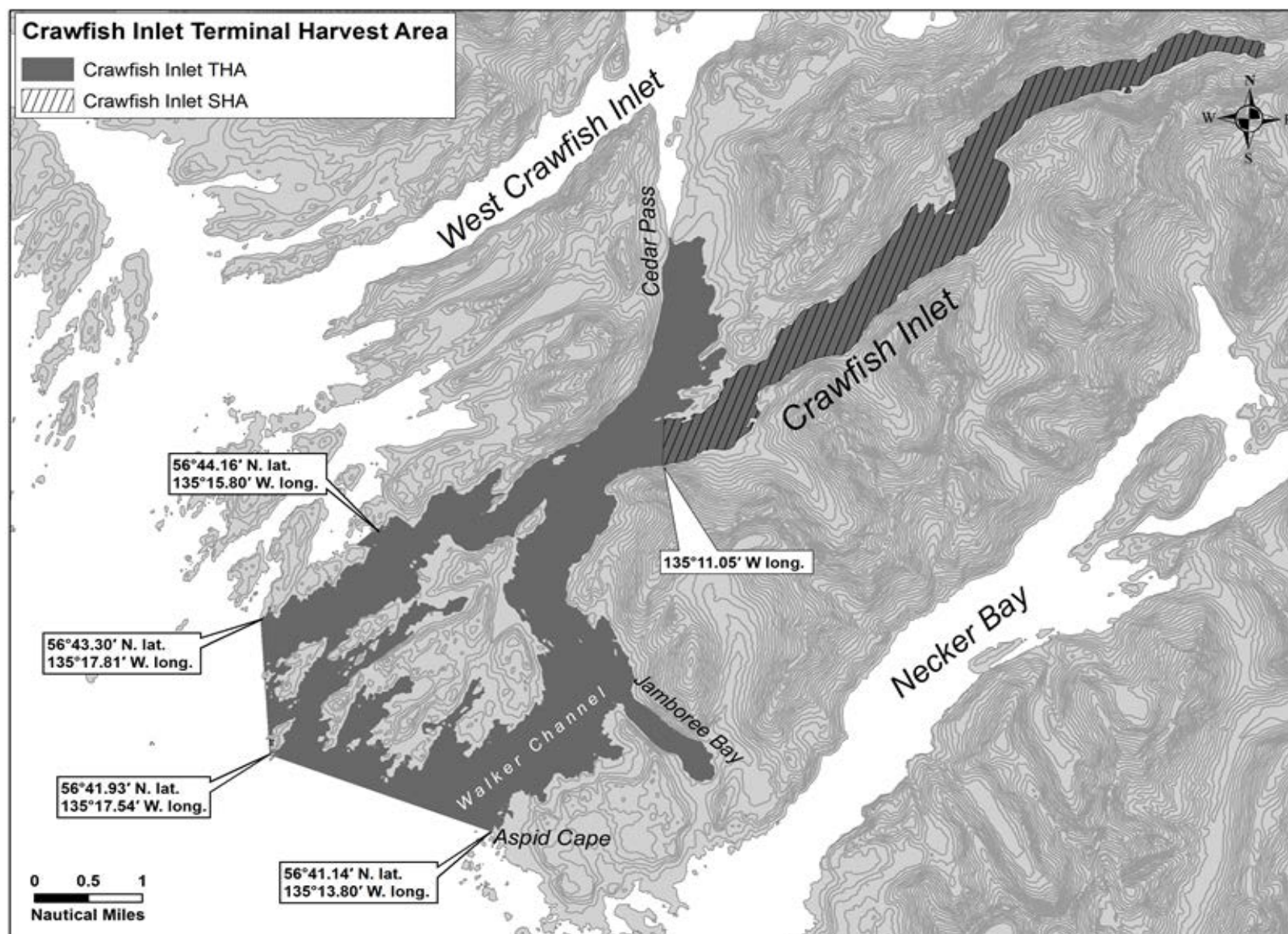


Figure 12.—Crawfish Inlet Terminal and Special Harvest Areas.

## **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.

**Cross Sound (Fishery area 114-21):** In 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 the northeastern side of 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 of a line from Point Adolphus (58°17.25' N. lat., 135°47.00' W. long.) to a point 1.0 nmi north of Point Adolphus at 58°18.04' N. lat., 135°47.00' W. long., to 58°14.65' N. lat., 135°32.20' W. long., and west of the western boundary of the Homeshore area, including the waters of Icy Passage.

**Homeshore (Fishery area 114-25):** In waters of Icy Strait east of the longitude of Noon Point (135°32.20' W. long.) west of 135°09.60' W. long., and north of a line from 58°09.58' N. lat., 135°09.60' 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 58°14.65' N. lat., 135°32.20' W. long.

**Point Couverden (Fishery area 114-26):** In waters enclosed by a line from 58°11.63' N. lat., 135°09.60' W. long., to 58°09.58' N. lat., 135°09.60' W. long., to 58°07.78' N. lat., 135°00.78' W. long., to 58°10.00' N. lat., 135°02.35' W. long., to 58°10.00' N. lat., 135°06.24' W. long., to 58°11.63' N. lat., 135°09.60' W. long.

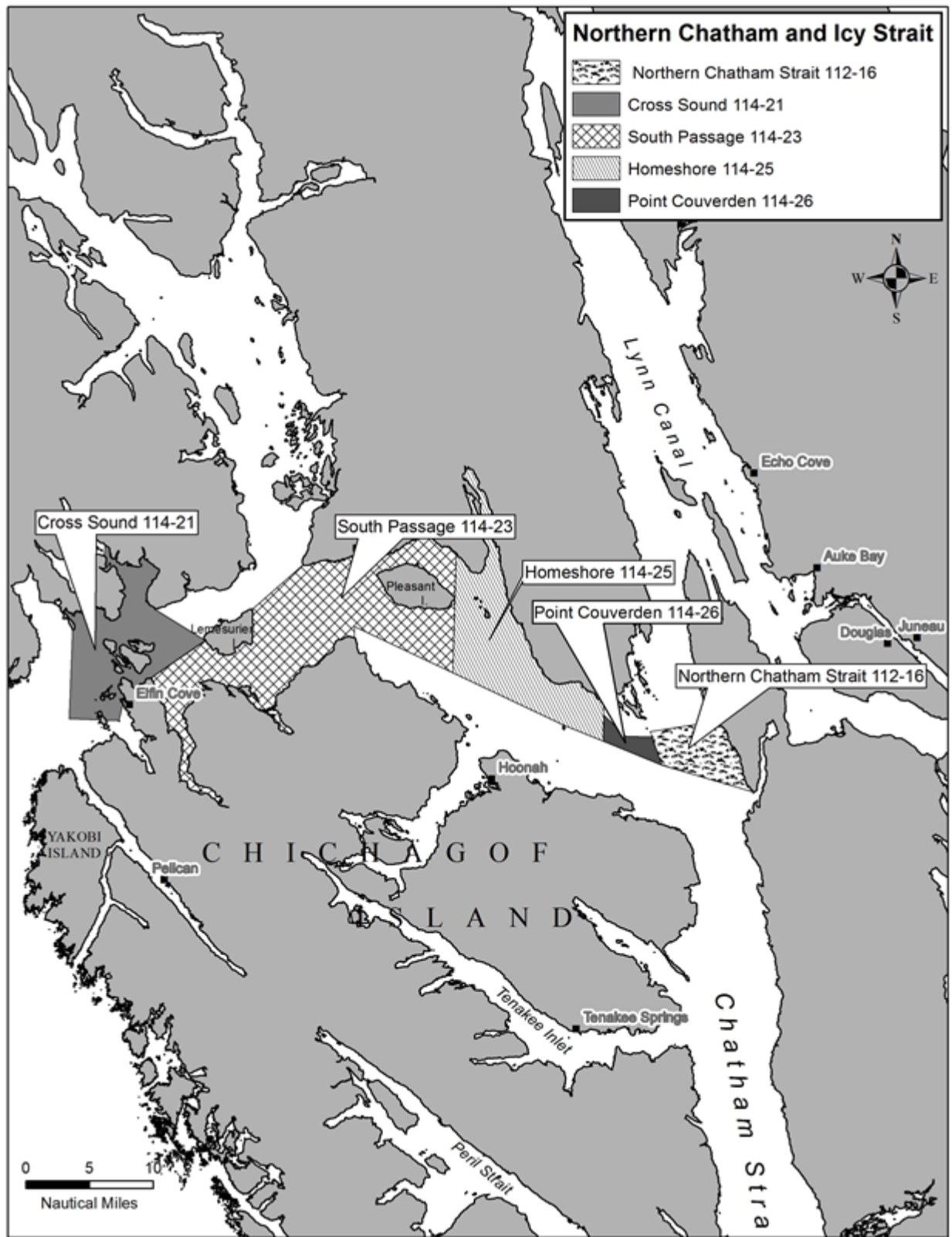


Figure 13.—North Chatham Strait and Icy Strait spring fishery areas, 2019.

## 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 14.—Yakutat Bay spring troll fishery area.

## FISHERY CONTACTS

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

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Vacant Regional Management Biologist 304 Lake Street, room #103 Sitka, Alaska 99835-7653 (907) 465-4250	Lowell Fair Southeast Alaska Regional Supervisor PO Box 110024 Douglas, Alaska 99811-0024 (907) 465-4250
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Thomas Kowalske Area Management Biologist Kadin Building 215 Front Street Wrangell, Alaska 99689 (907) 874-3822	Troy Thynes and Kevin Clark Area Management Biologists 16 Sing Lee Alley Petersburg, Alaska 99833 (907) 772-3801
Bo Meredith and Justin Breese Area Management Biologists 2030 Sea Level Drive, Suite, 205 Ketchikan, Alaska 99901 (907) 225-5195	Nicole Zeiser and Shane Ransbury Area Management Biologists Mile 1 Haines Highway Haines, Alaska 99827-0330 (907) 766-2830 or 3124
Rick Hoffman Area Management Biologist 1 Fish and Game Plaza Yakutat, Alaska 99689-0049 (907) 784-3255	Vacant Assistant Area Management Biologist 1 Fish and Game Plaza Yakutat, Alaska 99689-0049 (907) 784-3255
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For up-to-date troll information 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

Juneau (907) 465-8765