

2024–2025 Winter Troll Fishery Management Plan

by

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and

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

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2024–2025 WINTER TROLL FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN

by
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ABSTRACT

This report summarizes the plan that the Alaska Department of Fish and Game will follow to manage the 2024–2025 Southeast Alaska winter commercial troll Chinook salmon fishery, according to regulations in the State of Alaska Administrative Code under 5 AAC 29.080.

Keywords: Chinook salmon, troll, winter, commercial, management plan, Alaska

INTRODUCTION

This plan summarizes the fishery regulations and management approach the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G or department) will employ to manage the Southeast Alaska and Yakutat commercial salmon winter troll fishery during the 2024–2025 season. This management plan also summarizes harvest data from the 2023–2024 winter troll season.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND METHODS

The winter troll fishery in Southeast Alaska and Yakutat is managed in accordance with the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF) winter troll management plan (5 AAC 29.080) and the Pacific Salmon Treaty (PST). By regulation, the 2024–2025 Southeast Alaska and Yakutat winter troll fishery begins October 11, 2024. As provided for under Chinook salmon stock status and action plans, adopted during the BOF meeting in March 2022, notwithstanding any remaining portion of the 45,000 fish non-Alaska hatchery-produced Chinook salmon guideline harvest level (GHL), the commercial winter troll fishery will close in all waters of Southeast Alaska and Yakutat on March 15, 2025.

During the 2022 BOF meeting held in Anchorage, action plans were adopted giving the department direction—through emergency order authority—to identify and implement actions that conserve Southeast Alaska and Yakutat (SEAK) and Transboundary River (TBR) wild Chinook salmon stocks, and to determine harvest opportunities that maintain conservation of these stocks. Based on that direction, the department identified that harvest proportions of wild SEAK and TBR stocks seen in fisheries operating on the outside waters of Southeast Alaska remained low due to the abundance of non-Alaska stocks prevalent in these areas. Accordingly, the department extended the 2023–2024 winter troll fishery through March 31, 2024, in select outer-coastal portions of the winter troll fishery area. During this fishing period, department staff collected genetic stock identification (GSI) samples and coded wire tags (CWT) to evaluate Chinook salmon stocks encountered during that time frame. Results of the CWT and GSI data from the 2023–2024 winter fishery, as well as data collected from the current year’s fishery, will determine if additional winter fishing opportunities will occur after March 15, 2025.

Hatchery-produced (treaty) Chinook salmon originating outside of Alaska that are taken in the winter troll fishery count toward the 2025 troll fishery and all-gear treaty allocations. The 2025 all-gear harvest limit and troll allocation is expected to be announced in late March. Any treaty Chinook salmon not harvested during the winter fishery will be available for harvest in the spring and summer troll fisheries. The 45,000 treaty Chinook salmon winter fishery GHL was established in 1995 and the seasonal allocation was first taken prior to the April 30 regulatory closure during the 2002–2003 winter troll season. The winter allocation was fully harvested during the next 4 seasons as well as 5 of the 6 seasons between the 2010–2011 and 2015–2016 seasons, and during the 2023–2024 season.

2023–2024 WINTER TROLL HARVEST

The 2023–2024 winter troll fishery Chinook salmon harvest was 48,117 fish, with an 6% Alaska hatchery contribution. These figures compare to the 2022–2023 season’s harvest of 27,207 fish with an Alaska hatchery contribution of 9% and the recent 5-year (2019–2023) winter troll fishery average harvest of 19,750 fish with a 10% Alaska hatchery contribution. A total of 254 permits fished during the 2023–2024 winter troll season, a 10% increase from the 231 permits fished during the 2022–2023 season and 7% below the recent 5-year average of 274 permits fished. The largest percentage of the regional harvest was taken in District 113, followed by District 183 and District 105 (Tables 1–4). Effort and harvest were greatest during statistical week 8 (February 18–24) when 99 permits harvested 4,722 Chinook salmon. The average price peaked during week 50 (December 10–16) at \$9.98 per pound (Table 5). The winter fishery was extended by emergency order March 16–31 in portions of Districts 3, 4, 5, 9, 13, 181, and 183, because the department identified these waters as areas that could provide additional harvest opportunity while conserving SEAK and TBR Chinook salmon stocks.

REGULATION SUMMARY

For current winter boundary line and closed waters regulations refer to the *Fishing Areas* section below or the troll fishery advisory announcement published October 7, 2024. For all other regulations pertaining to the troll fishery, refer to the *2022–2025 Southeast Alaska and Yakutat Commercial Salmon Fishing Regulations* booklet¹.

FISHING AREAS

The description of the winter boundary line has been modified by emergency order to provide coordinates for headlands that are not specified in regulation and to provide consistency with regulatory updates made to other salmon fishery regulations. The winter boundary line is described under 5 AAC 29.020(b) as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the “winter boundary line” for the winter season and periods established in 5 AAC 29.070 is a line across Yakutat Bay from the westernmost tip of **Point Manby** (59°41.68' N lat, 140°19.64' W long) to 59°40.02' N lat, 140°24.36' W long, to 59°31.25' N lat, 139°53.69' W long, to a point south of **Ocean Cape Light** (59°32.11' N lat, 139°51.32' W long), and a line from the southernmost tip of **Cape Spencer** (58°12.63' N lat, 136°39.85' W long), to the westernmost tip of **Yakobi Rock** (58°05.17' N lat, 136°33.82' W long), to the southernmost tip of **Cape Cross** (57°54.70' N lat, 136°33.59' W long), to the southernmost tip of **Point Theodore** (57°50.75' N lat, 136°27.57' W long), to the westernmost tip of **Cape Edward** (57°40.75' N lat, 136°15.51' W long), to the westernmost tip of **Khaz Point** (57°30.13' N lat, 136°01.44' W long), to the westernmost tip of **Point Slocum** (57°27.86' N lat, 135°58.06' W long), to the westernmost tip of **Klokachef Island** (57°24.20' N lat, 135°54.40' W long), to the westernmost tip of **Cape Georgiana** (57°19.75' N lat, 135°51.62' W long), to the westernmost tip of **Point Amelia** (57°13.40' N lat, 135°52.67' W long), to **Cape Edgecumbe** (56°59.89' N lat, 135°51.48' W long) to the southernmost tip of **Point Woodhouse** (56°50.05' N lat, 135°32.56' W long), to the

¹ ADF&G. 2024. 2022–2025 Southeast Alaska and Yakutat commercial salmon fishing regulations. Commercial Salmon Fisheries Regulations. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Juneau. https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/regulations/fishregulations/pdfs/commercial/cf_se_yakutat_salmon_regs_2022_2025.pdf (accessed October 2024)

southernmost tip of **Rogers Island** (56°46.67' N lat, 135°27.99' W long), to the westernmost tip of **Aspid Cape** (56°41.14' N lat, 135°13.80' W long), to the southernmost tip of **North Cape** (56°35.68' N lat, 135°08.37' W long), to 56°22.77' N lat, 134°56.96' W long, to 56°19.50' N lat, 134°54.00' W long, to the southwesternmost tip of **Puffin Point** (56°14.12' N lat, 134°48.40' W long), to the northwesternmost tip of **Bobrovoi Point** (56°11.00' N lat, 134°42.55' W long), to the southernmost tip of **Cape Ommaney** (56°09.83' N lat, 134°40.42' W long), to **Nation Point** (55°55.66' N lat, 134°20.10' W long), to the southwest tip of **Helm Point** (55°49.43' N lat, 134°16.97' W long), to the southernmost tip of **Cape Addington** (55°26.09' N lat, 133°49.31' W long), to the westernmost tip of **Cape Chirikof** (55°18.10' N lat, 133°41.43' W long), to **Cape Bartolome Light** (55°13.84' N lat, 133°36.94' W long), to the southernmost tip of **Cape Felix** (55°12.57' N lat, 133°26.02' W long), to the westernmost tip of **Bruin Point** (55°05.08' N lat, 133°14.24' W long), to the westernmost tip of **Sakie Point** (55°03.42' N lat, 133°13.43' W long), to the westernmost tip of **Cape Augustine** (54°57.02' N lat, 133°09.95' W long), to the westernmost tip of **Rockwell Point** (54°55.90' N lat, 133°07.99' W long), to the westernmost tip of **Ritter Point** (54°51.43' N lat, 133°02.07' W long), to the westernmost tip of **Point Bazan** (54°48.32' N lat, 132°58.56' W long), to the westernmost tip of **Security Point** (54°44.43' N lat, 132°53.17' W long), to **Point Cornwallis** (54°42.10' N lat, 132°52.49' W long), to the southernmost tip of **Liscome Point** (54°41.28' N lat, 132°50.52' W long), to the westernmost tip of **Wolk Point** (54°40.32' N lat, 132°46.73' W long), to 54°39.86' N lat, 132°43.71' W long, to **Cape Muzon Light** (54°39.89' N lat, 132°41.57' W long), to the southernmost tip of **Point Nunez** (54°41.04' N lat, 132°05.61' W long), to the southernmost tip of **Cape Chacon** (54°41.40' N lat, 132°01.02' W long), to the southernmost tip of **West Rock** (54°48.70' N lat, 131°29.87' W long), to the southernmost tip of **Yellow Rocks** (54°47.32' N lat, 131°14.03' W long), to **Tree Point** (54°48.17' N lat, 130°56.07' W long), to **Lord Rock Light** (54°43.55' N lat, 130°49.22' W long), to a point on the **International Boundary** at 130°49.00' W long.

Figures 1–3 show the winter boundary line and waters east of that line that are open to commercial fishing during the 2024–2025 winter troll season. Salmon fishing districts of Southeast Alaska and Yakutat are displayed in Figure 4. Closed waters for the 2024–2025 winter troll season are described in the following section under 5 AAC 29.080(b) and in Figures 5 and 6. The winter troll fishery is exempt from the closed waters provisions of 5 AAC 29.150, as provided under section (a)(1), and waters within 500 yards of the terminus of any salmon stream are open to trolling, except as specified in 5 AAC 29.080.

CLOSED WATERS

The following areas are closed to salmon trolling during the winter troll fishery in accordance with 5 AAC 29.080(b) and by emergency order authority under provisions of the *Northern Southeast Alaska Chinook Salmon Stock Status and Action Plan, 2022*. Coordinates have been added to headland names by emergency order.

- (1) **District 1:** waters of Behm Canal in Section 1-D between a line from Nose Point at 55°48.32' N lat, 131°42.53' W long, to Snail Point at 55°49.47' N lat, 131°46.25' W long, and a line from Cactus Point at 55°33.29' N lat, 130°56.59' W long, to Point Eva at 55°33.61' N lat, 130°52.60' W long (Figure 1).
- (2) **District 8:** waters of the Stikine River north and west of a line from Babbler Point at 56°29.08' N lat, 132°17.37' W long, to Hour Point at 56°27.73' N lat, 132°16.79' W long,

north and east of a line from Point Highfield at 56°29.34' N lat, 132°23.36' W long, to the south end of Liesnoi Island at 56°29.83' N lat, 132°29.19' W long, to the southernmost tip of Greys Island at 56°30.67' N lat, 132°33.05' W long, to the small island near the eastern entrance of Blind Slough at 56°31.83' N lat, 132°40.17' W long, to the nearest point on Mitkof Island at 56°31.88' N lat, 132°40.66' W long, and south and east of a line from the prominent point on Mitkof Island nearest Coney Island at 56°40.77' N lat, 132°39.28' W long, to the western end of Coney Island at 56°41.62' N lat, 132°38.92' W long, to a point 800 yards north of Japanese Creek at 56°46.62' N lat, 132°37.11' W long, on the mainland shore (Figures 1 and 5). The northwestern boundary of the closure area is modified by emergency order.

- (3) **District 11:** waters in Section 11-A east of a line from Outer Point at 58°17.86' N lat, 134°41.18' W long, to Point Louisa at 58°22.40' N lat, 134°43.63' W long, and north and west of a line from Salisbury Point at 58°12.30' N lat, 134°13.15' W long, to Point Tantallon at 58°11.72' N lat, 134°15.55' W long (including the waters of Gastineau Channel) (Figures 1 and 6).

(4) **District 15:**

- A. Section 15-A: waters north of the latitude of Sherman Rock at 58°51.00' N lat, are closed by emergency order **through December 31, 2024** (Figures 1 and 6).
- B. Section 15-B: waters of Berners Bay east of a line from Point St. Mary at 58°43.93' N lat, 135°01.43' W long, to Point Bridget at 58°40.73' N lat, 134°59.34' W long (Figures 1 and 6).

GEAR, VESSEL IDENTIFICATION, AND REGISTRATION

Commercial troll vessels being used to take salmon must be registered prior to engaging in salmon trolling during a calendar year (5 AAC 29.115). In addition to these requirements, a registered salmon hand troll vessel must display the letters *HT* in block letters on both sides of the vessel's hull or cabin (5 AAC 29.125). The letters must be at least 8 inches high and at least one-half inch wide, in a color that contrasts with the background, and plainly visible and unobscured at all times until the end of the calendar year for which the vessel is registered for a hand troll permit, unless that registration is changed to power troll gear under 5 AAC 29.115(b). Legal gear for the commercial winter troll fishery includes power and hand troll gear types. From each power or hand troll gurdy, only 1 line to which multiple leaders and hooks may be attached. Power trollers are limited to no more than 4 lines operated by hydraulic, electrical, or mechanical gurdies (5 AAC 29.120[b][1][B]). Vessels using hand troll gear are limited to the operation of no more than 2 hand-operated gurdies or 4 fishing rods (5 AAC 29.120 [b][2]).

During the *winter fishery only*, hand-operated downriggers *may* be used in conjunction with fishing rods as follows (5 AAC 29.120 [j]):

- (1) a downrigger may not be used with a troll gurdy;
- (2) a hand troll gurdy or downrigger powered by hand or hand crank may be used in conjunction with a fishing rod, and is not considered power troll gear;
- (3) an electric, hydraulic, or power assisted downrigger is considered a power troll gurdy and may not be used in conjunction with a fishing rod;
- (4) an aggregate of 2 *rods* with the fishing lines extending from the rods and connected to 2 *downriggers or hand troll gurdies* using a quick release device designated to release the

- fishing rod line from the downrigger line may be used; and
- (5) no more than 2 troll gurdies and 4 rigged fishing rods capable of taking fish may be on board a salmon hand troll vessel; additional fishing rods may be on board the vessel but may not be rigged for taking fish.

SIZE AND LANDING REQUIREMENTS

Chinook salmon taken and retained in the winter troll fishery must measure at least 28 inches in total length (from tip of snout to tip of tail, in its natural open position) or 23 inches from the midpoint of the cleithral arch to the tip of the tail (5 AAC 29.140). Undersized Chinook salmon that are taken must be returned to the water unharmed. A person may not mutilate or otherwise disfigure a Chinook salmon in any manner that would prevent the determination of the minimum size restriction specified here. The heads of all adipose-fin-clipped salmon must remain attached to the fish until the fish are offloaded from a catcher vessel, except as authorized by permit (5 AAC 29.140[b]).

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Fish tickets issued for a commercial salmon troll landing must be submitted to the department within 7 days of offloading from the vessel (5 AAC 39.130[c]). Fish ticket requirements include an imprint of the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission salmon troll permit card, 5-digit salmon statistical area(s) of harvest for salmon and the corresponding 6-digit statistical area for groundfish bycatch reported on fish tickets, start and end date of fishing, date of landing, number of salmon recorded by species, and various other information required under 5 AAC 39.130. If multiple statistical areas were fished, the percentage of harvest by area should be included in the statistical area worksheet.

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

Sport fishing from a commercially licensed vessel while commercially caught salmon are onboard is illegal in waters closed to commercial salmon fishing (5 AAC 47.041[d]). A downrigger may be used in conjunction with a fishing rod when sport fishing.

A registered troll vessel may also be registered as a charter vessel, though that vessel may not be used to commercial fish and charter on the same day (5 AAC 75.995[a][8]).

A person may possess sport-caught salmon on board a commercial vessel while that vessel is engaged in commercial salmon fishing only if the salmon is considered *preserved fish* at the time the vessel is engaged 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[a][21]).

No person may possess sport-caught halibut aboard a vessel when other fish or shellfish aboard the vessel are destined for sale, trade, or barter (5 AAC 75.070[a]).

Groundfish Bycatch Information

For information on Southeast Alaska Groundfish regulations, refer to the current *Statewide Commercial Groundfish Fishing Regulations* booklet available at ADF&G area offices or online².

STATE BYCATCH ALLOWANCES

For details on groundfish bycatch allowances in the troll fishery refer to the *Groundfish Bycatch in the 2024 Salmon Troll Fishery* advisory announcement issued on January 2, 2024³. Details on troll bycatch allowances for 2025 will be provided in a future ADF&G advisory announcement.

In the state waters portion of the Eastern Gulf of Alaska area, commercial salmon trollers operating hand or power troll gear during an open commercial salmon fishing period may legally retain and possess incidentally taken groundfish (5 AAC 28.133). The commissioner may establish groundfish bycatch limits in the salmon troll fishery if it is deemed necessary to manage groundfish bycatch harvest within total catch limits. 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. Groundfish bycatch provisions for the winter troll fishery are listed below.

Species	2024 Bycatch Allowance
Lingcod	100% IBS, CSEO, NSEI and SSEIW 50% SSEOC 5% NSEO
Demersal Shelf Rockfish (DSR)	10% in aggregate
Black, Blue, and Dark Rockfish	No Limit on incidental harvest.
Other rockfish	No limit on incidental harvest
Spiny dogfish	35%
Sablefish	0% no retention
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 number of pounds landed. Bycatch caught in excess of the allowable bycatch limit for a management area are required to be released at sea; bycatch retained and landed in excess of the allowable bycatch limit must be forfeited to the State of Alaska and are subject to enforcement action.

LINGCOD

Lingcod may be taken as bycatch in the winter troll fishery through November 30 (5 AAC 28.113[c]). Lingcod retention is prohibited in the commercial salmon troll fishery from December 1 through May 15. 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.

² ADF&G. 2024. Statewide commercial groundfish fishing regulations. Alaska Department and of Fish and Game, Juneau. https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/regulations/fishregulations/pdfs/commercial/cf_groundfish_regs_2024_2025.pdf (Accessed October 2024)

³ ADF&G. 2024. Groundfish bycatch in the 2024 salmon troll fishery. Alaska Department and of Fish and Game, Juneau. <https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/applications/dfnewsrelease/1553968372.pdf>. (accessed October 2024)

Inseason closures will be announced by ADF&G advisory announcement and recorded on the Troll Fishery — (907) 747-8765, (907) 465-8765, and (907) 225-6870— and Groundfish — (907) 747-4882— telephone hotlines. Closure announcements will be submitted for broadcast on the United States Coast Guard *Notice to Mariners* report and National Weather Service broadcast; however, the department cannot ensure the availability or functionality of these communication systems in all areas. For additional information contact groundfish project staff in Sitka at (907) 747-6688.

All lingcod management areas remain open to lingcod bycatch at the start of the 2024–2025 winter troll salmon season and are described in 5 AAC 28.105, which include: Icy Bay Subdistrict (IBS), Northern Southeast Outside (NSEO) and Central Southeast Outside (CSEO) Sections, Southern Southeast Outer Coast (SSEOC) and Southern Southeast Internal Waters (SSEIW) Sectors, and Northern Southeast Inside (NSEI) Subdistrict (Figure 7). Lingcod bycatch caught in excess of the allowable bycatch limit for a management area are required to be released at sea; lingcod bycatch retained and landed in excess of the allowable bycatch limit must be forfeited to the State of Alaska and is subject to enforcement action.

Within the waters of Sitka Sound, lingcod harvest is restricted (5 AAC 28.150[b]). Commercial salmon trollers are permitted to retain and possess up to 2 lingcod aboard a vessel while actively fishing for salmon within waters of the Sitka Sound Special Use Area during the open CSEO lingcod bycatch season; however, the amount of lingcod retained may not exceed the 100% CSEO lingcod bycatch weight 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. Heads may be removed once lingcod are weighed and reported on the ADF&G troll salmon fish ticket documenting them as personal use harvest (disposition code "95" as required under 5 AAC 28.173[a][4]).

Having taken no more than 2 lingcod outside of the Sitka Sound Special Use Area, a permit holder may fish for salmon within the Sitka Sound Special Use Area only after removing the dorsal fin of those lingcod. Vessels in possession of more than 2 lingcod may not fish for salmon in this area until those lingcod are offloaded.

The Sitka Sound Special Use Area is defined in 5 AAC 28.150(a) 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 (Figure 7).

ROCKFISH

Demersal shelf rockfish (DSR) retained 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 shall be surrendered to the state (5 AAC 28.171[a]). The 7 species in the DSR assemblage are yelloweye, quillback, canary, copper, China, tiger, and rosethorn rockfish.

Other rockfish taken while trolling for salmon in state waters (internal waters of Alaska and 0–3 nmi on the outer coast) are legally retained and possessed with no limit on incidental harvest.

HALIBUT

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 legally retained only by Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) permit holders during the open season for halibut. Trollers making an IFQ halibut landing of 500 pounds or less of IFQ weight as determined pursuant to 50 CFR 679.40(h) are exempted from the three-hour prior notice of landing if landed concurrently with a legal landing of salmon harvested using hand troll or power troll gear (50 CFR 679.5[1][1][iv][A]). Halibut taken incidentally during the troll fishery shall be reported on an ADF&G troll salmon fish ticket. Contact National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries for detailed information on regulations and landing requirements for the federal IFQ halibut fishery. The IFQ halibut season closes on December 7, 2024.

An individual aboard a commercial troll vessel operating *hand troll gear* for salmon may retain incidentally taken halibut for subsistence use only under the following conditions:

- (1) There are not any commercial or sport-caught halibut on board the vessel.
- (2) The individual possesses a Subsistence Halibut Registration Certificate and is fishing in waters designated for subsistence halibut fishing.
- (3) The vessel is not operating an amount of hooks that exceeds hook limits permitted under subsistence fishing regulations.
- (4) There is not any unused halibut IFQ held by any individual on board that vessel for that regulatory area and for the vessel category from which they are fishing.

Power troll gear is not a legal gear for subsistence halibut fishing; therefore, the retention of incidentally taken halibut for subsistence use while trolling for salmon with power troll gear is prohibited.

OTHER REGULATIONS

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]). Letters must be displayed on both sides of the hull, cabin, or mast in symbols at least 12 inches high and 1 inch wide that contrast with the background and in a manner that leaves the letter plainly visible and unobscured. A person may not operate a vessel that is displaying 1 of these letters when the vessel is being used to fish for salmon (5 AAC 28.135[c]).

FISHERY CONTACTS

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

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Troll Management Biologist
304 Lake Street, #103
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Ketchikan, Alaska 99901
(907) 228-3013

For updated information on the troll fishery, call the 24-hour information line in Douglas (907) 465-TROL (8765), Sitka (907) 747-8765, or Ketchikan (907) 225-6870.

For more information see the Southeast Alaska troll information website:⁴

⁴ ADF&G. 2024. Commercial Fisheries: Southeast Alaska and Yakutat. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Juneau. <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareasoutheast.salmon> (accessed October 2024).

TABLES AND FIGURES

Table 1.–2023–2024 winter troll fishery effort and Chinook salmon harvest in numbers of fish, Districts 101–106.

District	Week	Dates	Permits	Landings	Number	Harvest per landing	Harvest per permit	Avg weight (lb)
101	42	Oct 15–21, 2023	3	3	33	11	11	10.0
101 Total			10	36	187	5	19	9.7
102	41	Oct 11–14, 2023	3	3	22	7	7	11.5
102	43	Oct 22–28, 2023	3	3	39	13	13	10.1
102 Total			8	15	144	10	18	9.6
103	46	Nov 12–18, 2023	3	3	19	6	6	11.1
103	7	Feb 11–17, 2024	4	5	41	8	10	11.7
103	9	Feb 25–Mar 2, 2024	3	3	27	9	9	8.8
103	10	Mar 3–9, 2024	3	3	21	7	7	8.5
103	12	Mar 17–23, 2024	6	6	65	11	11	9.2
103	13	Mar 24–30, 2024	5	5	80	16	16	9.6
103	14	Mar 31–Apr 6, 2024	4	4	61	15	15	9.9
103 Total			19	48	479	10	25	9.8
104	10	Mar 3–9, 2024	3	3	15	5	5	8.6
104	12	Mar 17–23, 2024	10	14	462	33	46	8.4
104	13	Mar 24–30, 2024	8	9	294	33	37	8.8
104	14	Mar 31–Apr 6, 2024	4	4	142	36	36	9.1
104 Total			18	36	1,009	28	56	8.8
105	6	Feb 4–10, 2024	3	3	104	35	35	8.9
105	8	Feb 18–24, 2024	6	6	142	24	24	8.7
105	10	Mar 3–9, 2024	4	4	183	46	46	9.0
105	11	Mar 10–16, 2024	3	3	117	39	39	8.7
105	12	Mar 17–23, 2024	11	12	456	38	41	8.8
105	13	Mar 24–30, 2024	9	10	403	40	45	8.5
105 Total			20	50	1,796	36	90	8.8
106	42	Oct 15–21, 2023	4	4	14	4	4	16.0
106	43	Oct 22–28, 2023	4	4	17	4	4	12.7
106	44	Oct 29–Nov 4, 2023	4	5	6	1	2	13.0
106	45	Nov 5–11, 2023	6	8	31	4	5	12.6
106	46	Nov 12–18, 2023	4	5	12	2	3	12.3
106	47	Nov 19–25, 2023	3	4	11	3	4	11.5
106	48	Nov 26–Dec 2, 2023	6	9	17	2	3	12.2
106	49	Dec 3–9, 2023	5	12	32	3	6	13.8
106	50	Dec 10–16, 2023	5	6	13	2	3	13.7
106	51	Dec 17–23, 2023	6	13	41	3	7	13.7
106	1	Jan 1–6, 2024	4	5	10	2	3	13.0
106	3	Jan 14–20, 2024	3	5	19	4	6	11.7
106	4	Jan 21–27, 2024	4	6	26	4	7	13.7
106	6	Feb 4–10, 2024	4	5	35	7	9	13.5
106	7	Feb 11–17, 2024	3	6	10	2	3	11.3
106	8	Feb 18–24, 2024	7	8	36	5	5	12.6
106 Total			20	117	422	4	21	12.7

Note: Weeks and districts with fewer than 3 permits fished are omitted due to confidentiality considerations. Therefore, the totals may not reflect the sum of the weekly harvests shown.

Table 2.–2023–2024 winter troll fishery effort and Chinook salmon harvest in numbers of fish, Districts 107–111.

District	Week	Dates	Permits	Landings	Number	Harvest per landing	Harvest per permit	Avg weight (lb)
107	41	Oct 11–14, 2023	6	6	95	16	16	12.0
107	42	Oct 15–21, 2023	6	6	60	10	10	13.2
107	43	Oct 22–28, 2023	4	4	58	15	15	12.5
107	7	Feb 11–17, 2024	3	4	28	7	9	10.5
107 total			11	23	253	11	23	12.2
108	41	Oct 11–14, 2023	11	13	115	9	10	11.4
108	42	Oct 15–21, 2023	9	12	91	8	10	10.9
108	43	Oct 22–28, 2023	7	8	83	10	12	11.1
108	44	Oct 29–Nov 4, 2023	5	5	43	9	9	11.3
108	45	Nov 5–11, 2023	3	3	28	9	9	11.5
108	46	Nov 12–18, 2023	5	6	48	8	10	12.7
108	47	Nov 19–25, 2023	4	5	42	8	11	11.6
108	48	Nov 26–Dec 2, 2023	8	10	75	8	9	11.0
108	49	Dec 3–9, 2023	4	5	35	7	9	11.8
108	50	Dec 10–16, 2023	6	6	25	4	4	10.9
108	51	Dec 17–23, 2023	4	6	56	9	14	11.3
108	52	Dec 24–30, 2023	3	3	6	2	2	12.8
108	8	Feb 18–24, 2024	4	4	13	3	3	14.0
108 total			28	93	706	8	25	11.4
109	43	Oct 22–28, 2023	3	3	329	110	110	11.0
109	45	Nov 5–11, 2023	3	4	132	33	44	10.7
109	8	Feb 18–24, 2024	3	3	87	29	29	9.0
109	10	Mar 3–9, 2024	4	4	105	26	26	9.2
109 total			11	35	1,132	32	103	9.9
110	41	Oct 11–14, 2023	7	8	226	28	32	11.1
110	42	Oct 15–21, 2023	9	10	648	65	72	11.3
110	43	Oct 22–28, 2023	3	3	149	50	50	10.3
110	44	Oct 29–Nov 4, 2023	6	6	244	41	41	11.3
110	45	Nov 5–11, 2023	6	6	84	14	14	10.9
110	47	Nov 19–25, 2023	3	3	58	19	19	11.6
110	48	Nov 26–Dec 2, 2023	3	3	26	9	9	10.7
110	49	Dec 3–9, 2023	3	3	96	32	32	10.4
110	50	Dec 10–16, 2023	3	3	16	5	5	12.8
110	51	Dec 17–23, 2023	3	3	17	6	6	10.8
110	1	Jan 1–6, 2024	3	3	15	5	5	12.6
110	6	Feb 4–10, 2024	3	4	33	8	11	11.2
110	7	Feb 11–17, 2024	4	4	28	7	7	11.6
110	8	Feb 18–24, 2024	6	6	72	12	12	10.8
110 total			17	48	936	20	55	11.0
111	51	Dec 17–23, 2023	3	4	9	2	3	12.6
111	8	Feb 18–24, 2024	4	6	15	3	4	13.0
111 total			5	29	63	2	13	13.3

Note: Weeks and districts with fewer than 3 permits fished are omitted due to confidentiality considerations. Therefore, the totals may not reflect the sum of the weekly harvests shown.

Table 3.—2023–2024 winter troll fishery effort and Chinook salmon harvest in numbers of fish, Districts 112–114.

District	Week	Dates	Permits	Landings	Number	Harvest per landing	Harvest per permit	Avg weight (lb)
112	41	Oct 11–14, 2023	3	4	38	10	13	11.6
112	42	Oct 15–21, 2023	3	3	31	10	10	10.9
112	44	Oct 29–Nov 4, 2023	3	3	20	7	7	10.3
112 total			9	16	98	6	11	11.1
113	41	Oct 11–14, 2023	50	53	2,417	46	48	9.9
113	42	Oct 15–21, 2023	60	82	3,247	40	54	9.5
113	43	Oct 22–28, 2023	42	49	1,746	36	42	9.7
113	44	Oct 29–Nov 4, 2023	40	57	1,367	24	34	9.8
113	45	Nov 5–11, 2023	36	45	1,176	26	33	9.9
113	46	Nov 12–18, 2023	18	25	436	17	24	9.6
113	47	Nov 19–25, 2023	10	11	326	30	33	9.9
113	48	Nov 26–Dec 2, 2023	22	31	335	11	15	9.9
113	49	Dec 3–9, 2023	11	12	126	11	11	10.0
113	50	Dec 10–16, 2023	8	10	283	28	35	9.7
113	51	Dec 17–23, 2023	17	20	251	13	15	9.8
113	52	Dec 24–30, 2023	5	5	127	25	25	10.3
113	1	Jan 1–6, 2024	20	26	876	34	44	10.1
113	2	Jan 7–13, 2024	31	46	1,471	32	47	9.8
113	3	Jan 14–20, 2024	23	31	1,047	34	46	9.5
113	4	Jan 21–27, 2024	41	70	3,145	45	77	9.5
113	5	Jan 28–Feb 3, 2024	20	26	755	29	38	9.9
113	6	Feb 4–10, 2024	51	70	2,177	31	43	9.5
113	7	Feb 11–17, 2024	56	78	1,806	23	32	9.7
113	8	Feb 18–24, 2024	60	98	4,043	41	67	9.6
113	9	Feb 25–Mar 2, 2024	37	52	1,870	36	51	9.7
113	10	Mar 3–9, 2024	55	63	1,888	30	34	9.8
113	11	Mar 10–16, 2024	38	47	899	19	24	10.0
113	12	Mar 17–23, 2024	51	64	1,697	27	33	9.7
113	13	Mar 24–30, 2024	60	91	2,940	32	49	9.7
113	14	Mar 31–Apr 6, 2024	5	5	210	42	42	10.2
113	41	Oct 11–14, 2023	50	53	2,417	46	48	9.9
113 total			127	1,168	36,685	31	289	9.7
114			All weeks confidential					
114 total			5	14	44	3	9	15.2

Note: Weeks and districts with fewer than 3 permits fished are omitted due to confidentiality considerations. Therefore, the totals may not reflect the sum of the weekly harvests shown.

Table 4.–2023–2024 winter troll fishery effort and Chinook salmon harvest in numbers of fish, District 183.

District	Week	Dates	Permits	Landings	Number	Harvest per landing	Harvest per permit	Avg weight (lb)
183	41	Oct 11–14, 2023	4	5	12	2	3	9.5
183	42	Oct 15–21, 2023	3	5	24	5	8	10.2
183	43	Oct 22–28, 2023	5	10	55	6	11	9.1
183	44	Oct 29–Nov 4, 2023	6	15	141	9	24	10.1
183	52	Dec 24–30, 2023	4	8	33	4	8	10.5
183	3	Jan 14–20, 2024	4	9	41	5	10	9.9
183	4	Jan 21–27, 2024	4	13	63	5	16	10.5
183	6	Feb 4–10, 2024	5	10	125	13	25	9.2
183	7	Feb 11–17, 2024	10	28	373	13	37	9.4
183	8	Feb 18–24, 2024	9	18	241	13	27	8.7
183	9	Feb 25–Mar 2, 2024	7	16	188	12	27	9.3
183	10	Mar 3–9, 2024	12	25	326	13	27	9.1
183	11	Mar 10–16, 2024	10	19	189	10	19	9.1
183	12	Mar 17–23, 2024	12	39	806	21	67	8.7
183	13	Mar 24–30, 2024	13	39	574	15	44	9.1
183 total			20	306	3,324	11	166	9.2

Note: Weeks and districts with fewer than 3 permits fished are omitted due to confidentiality considerations. Therefore, the totals may not reflect the sum of the weekly harvests shown.

Table 5.—Weekly effort, harvest, average price, and average weight of Chinook salmon in the 2023–2024 winter troll fishery.

Week	Permits	Landings	Number of Chinook	Pounds	Average price per lb	Average weight (lb)
41	89	100	2,957	30,011	\$8.32	10.2
42	100	132	4,200	41,394	\$8.27	10.0
43	74	87	2,505	25,103	\$7.92	10.0
44	71	98	1,886	18,839	\$7.39	10.1
45	55	68	1,484	14,970	\$7.43	10.1
46	36	48	553	5,606	\$7.50	10.1
47	23	30	457	4,676	\$7.03	10.3
48	45	64	481	4,836	\$8.35	10.3
49	31	45	321	3,411	\$9.02	10.7
50	28	35	368	3,707	\$9.98	10.1
51	38	61	434	4,431	\$9.15	10.4
52	14	19	175	1,861	\$7.86	10.6
53	8	8	60	658	\$8.96	11.0
1	34	48	971	9,798	\$9.02	10.1
2	40	61	1,538	14,963	\$8.79	9.8
3	36	51	1,215	11,565	\$8.32	9.6
4	59	100	3,458	32,931	\$8.72	9.5
5	26	33	786	7,756	\$8.71	9.9
6	75	102	2,579	24,368	\$8.80	9.5
7	85	132	2,453	23,597	\$8.47	9.7
8	99	155	4,722	45,289	\$7.94	9.6
9	52	76	2,134	20,521	\$7.52	9.7
10	84	105	2,612	24,980	\$7.56	9.6
11	61	81	1,356	13,015	\$7.87	9.8
12	86	136	3,565	32,615	\$7.86	9.2
13	94	156	4,376	41,038	\$7.87	9.4
14	15	15	471	4,494	\$8.25	9.6
Regional	254	2,046	48,117	466,432	\$8.11	9.7

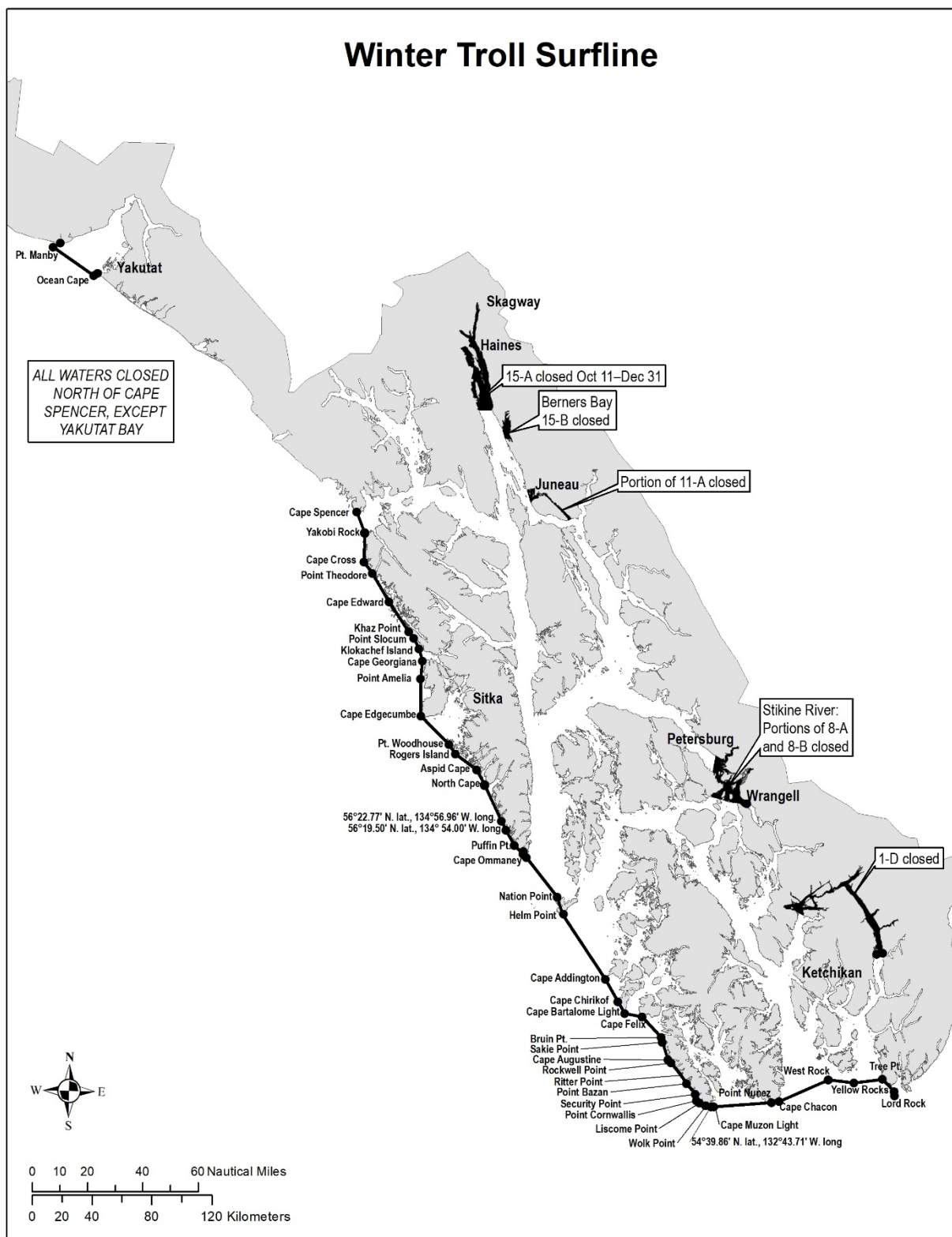


Figure 1.—Southeast Alaska and Yakutat winter troll fishery area.

Note: For a full description of the winter troll boundary line, refer to 5 AAC 29.020 on page 2 and 3 of this management plan.

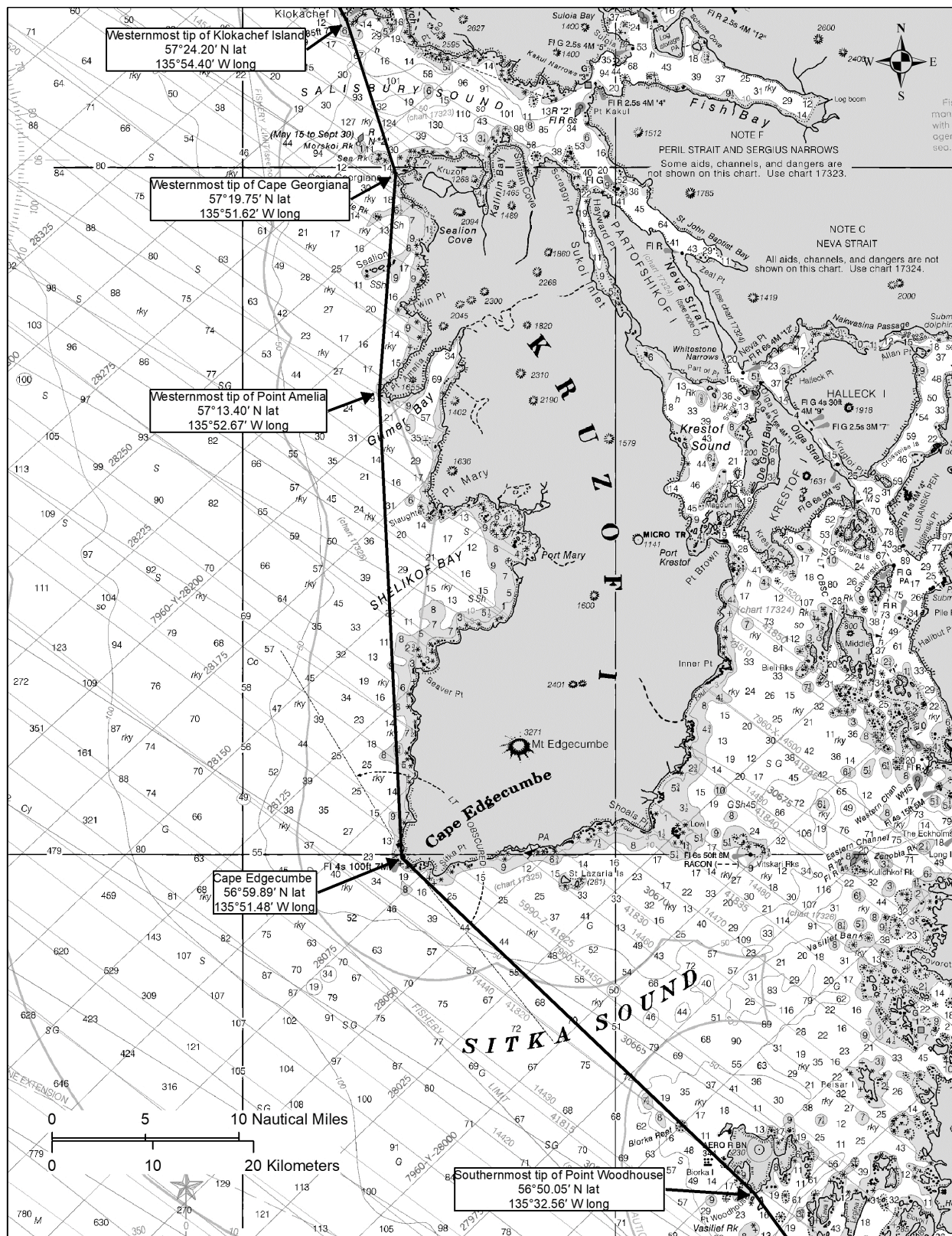


Figure 2.—Sitka area winter troll boundary line (surflin).

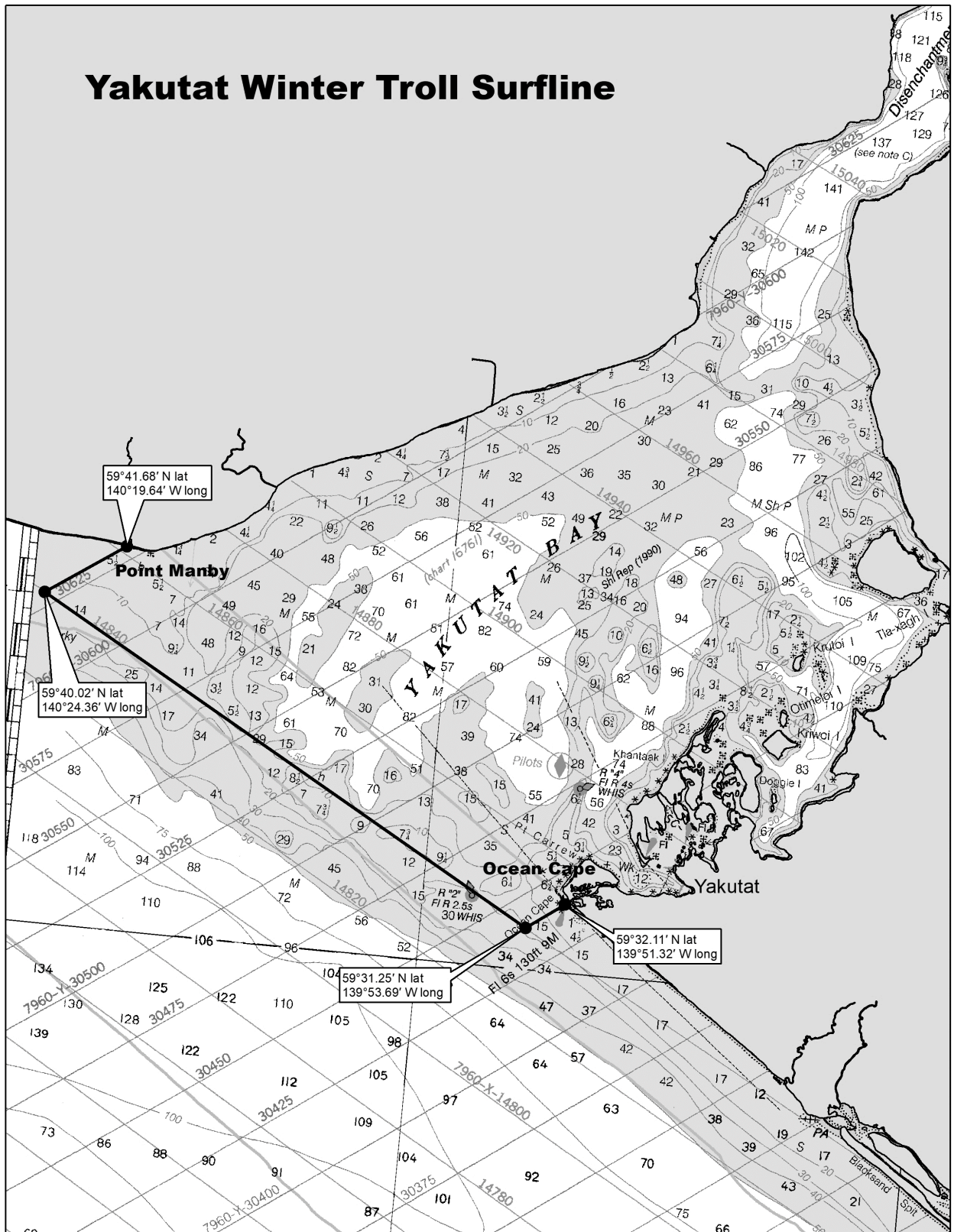


Figure 3.—Yakutat Bay winter troll boundary line (surfline).

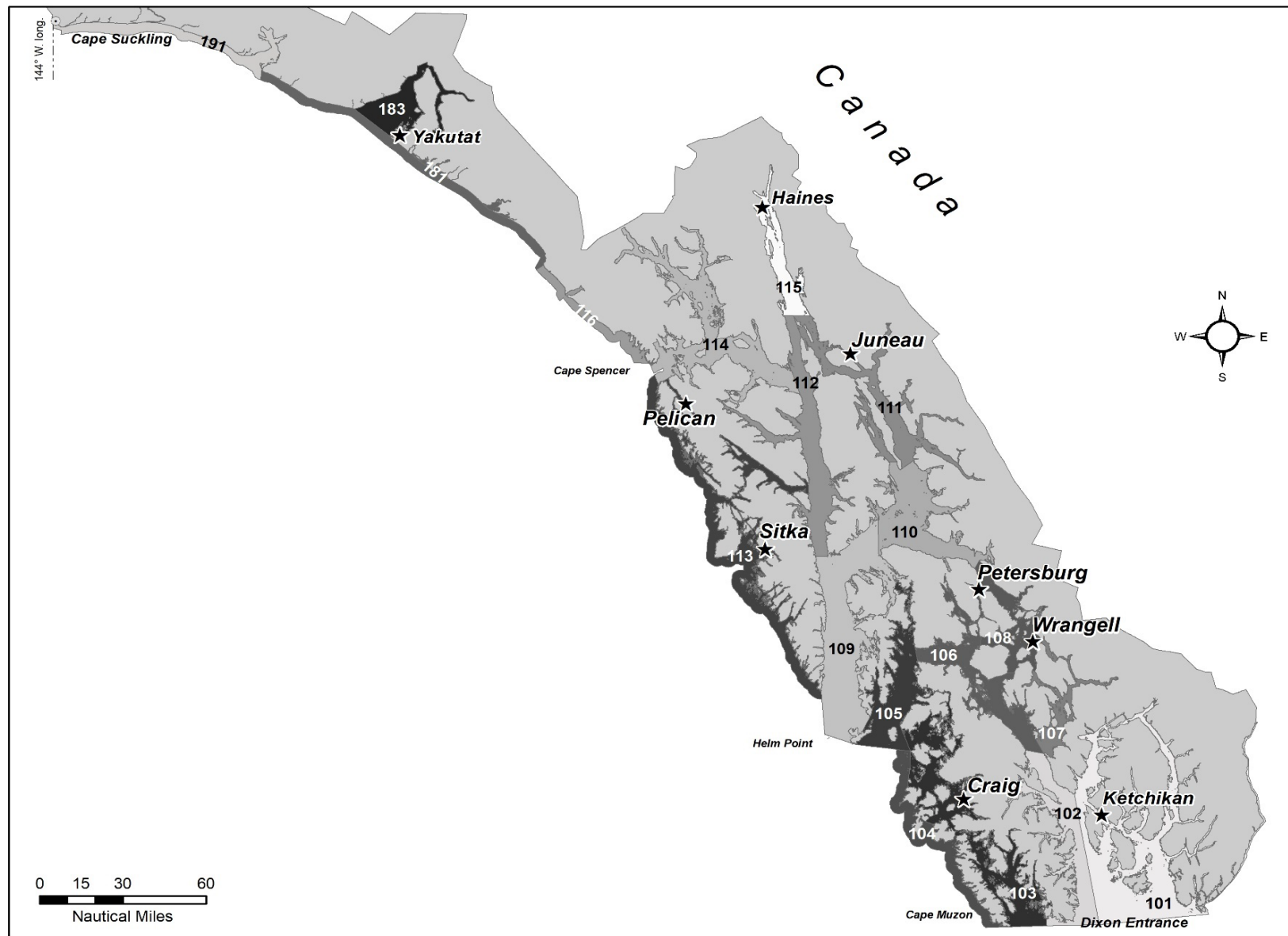


Figure 4.—Southeast Alaska and Yakutat salmon fishing districts.

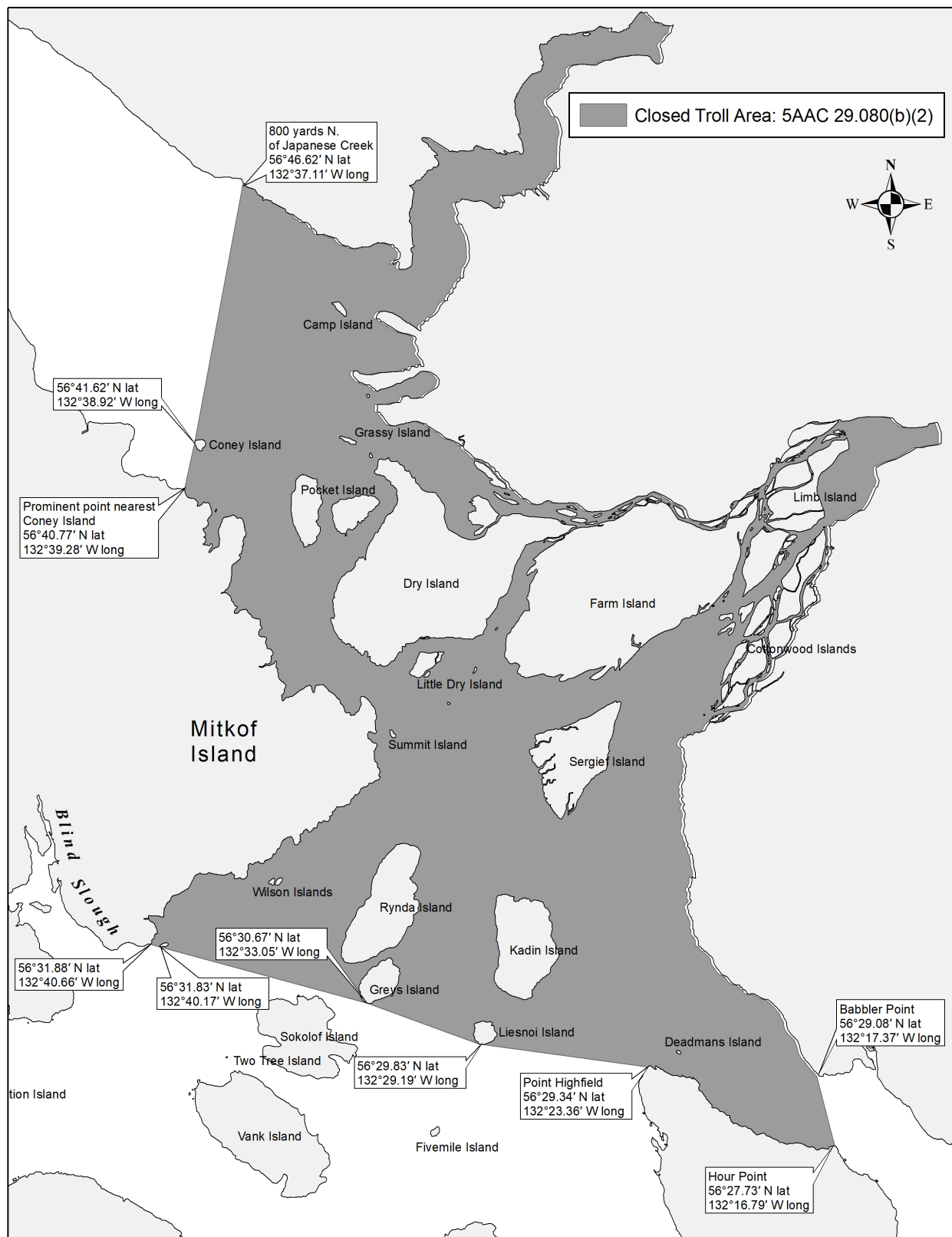


Figure 5.—District 8 winter troll fishery closed waters.

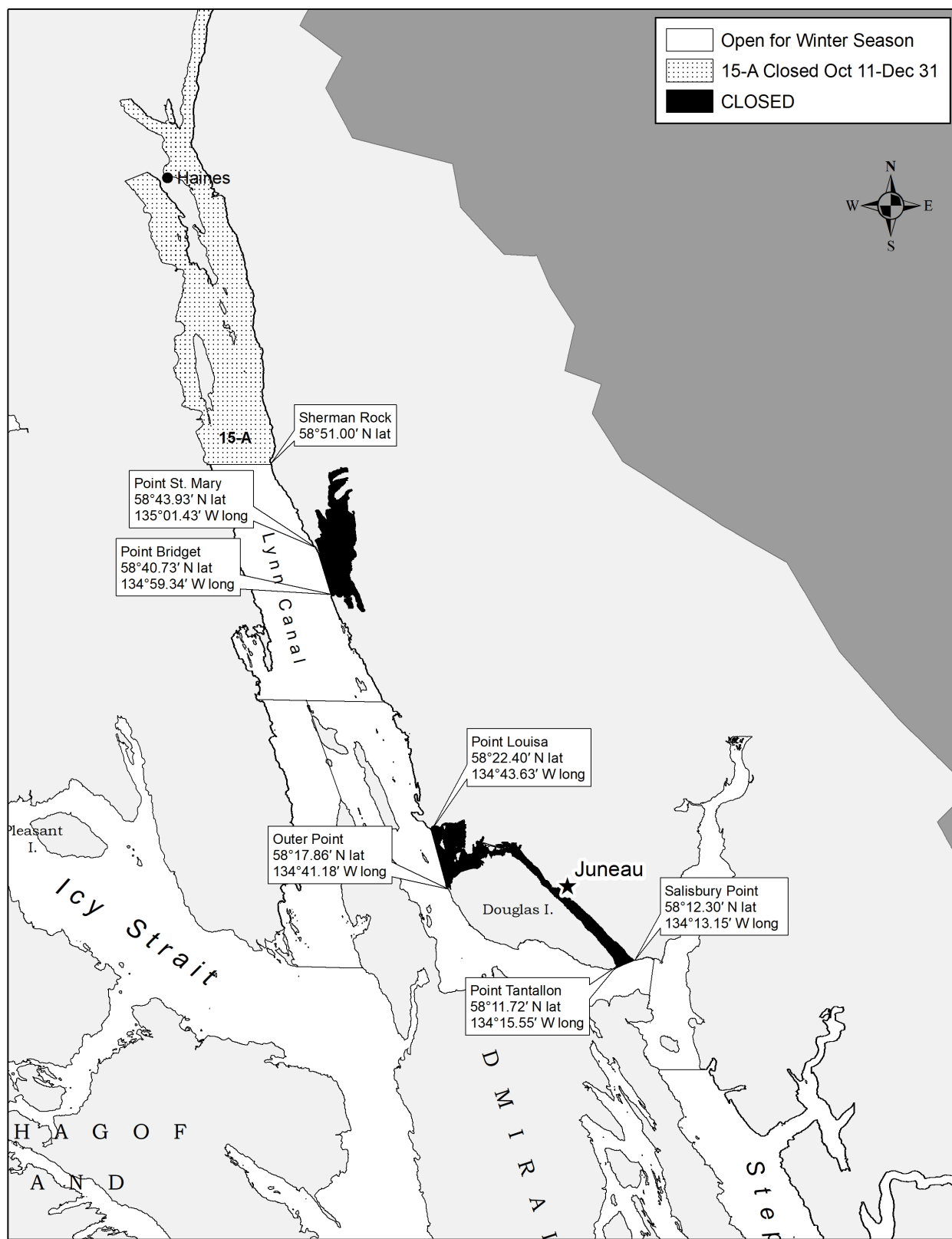


Figure 6.—Districts 11 and 15 winter troll fishery closed waters.

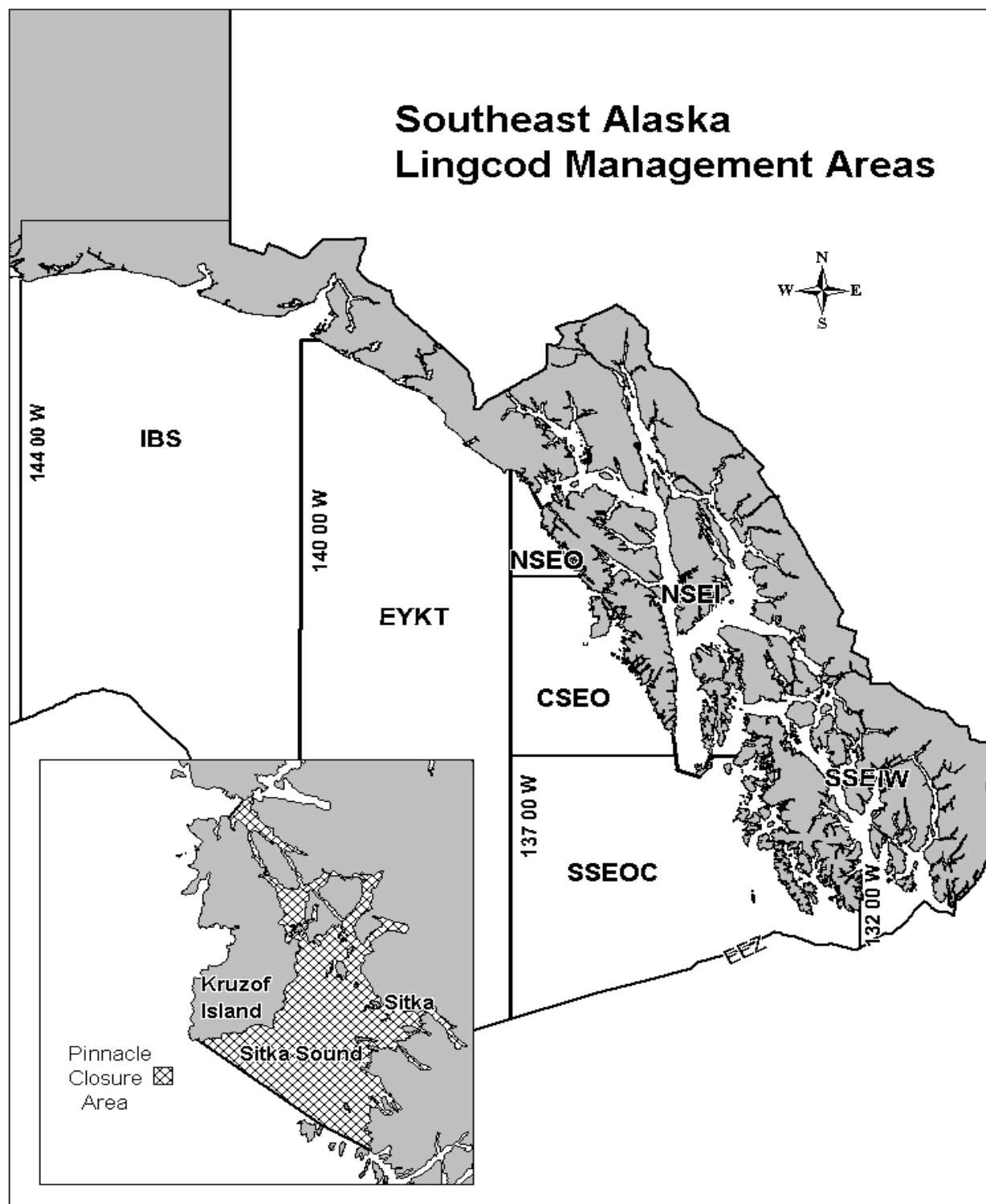


Figure 7.—Southeast Alaska lingcod management areas.