

**Regional Information Report No. 4K24-03**

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# **Chignik Management Area Commercial Salmon Fishery Harvest Strategy, 2024**

by

**Carlton Burnside**

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April 2024

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Division of Commercial Fisheries



## Symbols and Abbreviations

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<b>Weights and measures (metric)</b>		<b>General</b>		<b>Mathematics, statistics</b>	
centimeter	cm	Alaska Administrative Code	AAC	<i>all standard mathematical signs, symbols and abbreviations</i>	
deciliter	dL	all commonly accepted abbreviations	e.g., Mr., Mrs., AM, PM, etc.	alternate hypothesis	$H_A$
gram	g	all commonly accepted professional titles	e.g., Dr., Ph.D., R.N., etc.	base of natural logarithm	$e$
hectare	ha	at	@	catch per unit effort	CPUE
kilogram	kg	compass directions:		coefficient of variation	CV
kilometer	km	east	E	common test statistics	(F, t, $\chi^2$ , etc.)
liter	L	north	N	confidence interval	CI
meter	m	south	S	correlation coefficient	
milliliter	mL	west	W	(multiple)	R
millimeter	mm	copyright	©	correlation coefficient	
		corporate suffixes:		(simple)	r
<b>Weights and measures (English)</b>		Company	Co.	covariance	cov
cubic feet per second	ft <sup>3</sup> /s	Corporation	Corp.	degree (angular)	°
foot	ft	Incorporated	Inc.	degrees of freedom	df
gallon	gal	Limited	Ltd.	expected value	$E$
inch	in	District of Columbia	D.C.	greater than	>
mile	mi	et alii (and others)	et al.	greater than or equal to	≥
nautical mile	nmi	et cetera (and so forth)	etc.	harvest per unit effort	HPUE
ounce	oz	exempli gratia		less than	<
pound	lb	(for example)	e.g.	less than or equal to	≤
quart	qt	Federal Information Code	FIC	logarithm (natural)	ln
yard	yd	id est (that is)	i.e.	logarithm (base 10)	log
		latitude or longitude	lat or long	logarithm (specify base)	log <sub>2</sub> , etc.
<b>Time and temperature</b>		monetary symbols		minute (angular)	'
day	d	(U.S.)	\$, ¢	not significant	NS
degrees Celsius	°C	months (tables and figures): first three letters	Jan, ..., Dec	null hypothesis	$H_0$
degrees Fahrenheit	°F	registered trademark	®	percent	%
degrees kelvin	K	trademark	™	probability	P
hour	h	United States (adjective)	U.S.	probability of a type I error	
minute	min	United States of America (noun)	USA	(rejection of the null hypothesis when true)	$\alpha$
second	s	U.S.C.	United States Code	probability of a type II error	
		U.S. state	use two-letter abbreviations (e.g., AK, WA)	(acceptance of the null hypothesis when false)	$\beta$
<b>Physics and chemistry</b>				second (angular)	"
all atomic symbols				standard deviation	SD
alternating current	AC			standard error	SE
ampere	A			variance	
calorie	cal			population	Var
direct current	DC			sample	var
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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**CHIGNIK MANAGEMENT AREA COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHERY  
HARVEST STRATEGY, 2024**

by  
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April 2024

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## ABSTRACT

This document provides stakeholders with general information regarding how the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) will manage the 2024 Chignik Management Area (CMA) commercial salmon fishery. The 2024 total sockeye salmon *Oncorhynchus nerka* forecasted run for the Chignik River watershed is 2,080,000 fish. A total of 984,000 sockeye salmon are forecast to return for the early run, and 1,096,000 are forecast to return for the late run. The projected sockeye salmon harvest in the CMA is 1,582,000 fish. The first commercial fishing period in the CMA may occur as early as June 1 after approximately 40,000 sockeye salmon have escaped or are expected to escape into the Chignik River. Fishing periods during June in all districts will be based on meeting weekly escapement objectives at Chignik River. By regulation, the Eastern District must open concurrently with the Chignik Bay and Central Districts, as well as the Inner Castle Cape Subsection of the Western District during June. Starting in June and continuing into early July, the Western District may also open concurrently with fishing periods in the Chignik Bay District, Central District, and the Inner Castle Cape Subsection of the Western District. In the Perryville District, three fishing periods of up to 48 hours in length, separated by at least 48 hours, may also occur concurrently with the Chignik Bay and Central Districts during June and early July. Fishing periods after early July in the Eastern, Western, and Perryville Districts will depend on the Chignik River sockeye salmon interim escapement objectives being met as well as the strength of the local pink and chum salmon runs. Beginning July 6 and continuing through August, inner bay fisheries may occur in the Western and Perryville Districts to target pink and chum salmon. From the end of the transition period (approximately late-June through mid-July) until the end of the fishing season, ADF&G shall manage the CMA based on its evaluation of the local pink *O. gorbuscha*, chum *O. keta*, and coho *O. kisutch* salmon runs, as well as the Chignik watershed late-run sockeye salmon escapement.

Keywords: Chignik, sockeye salmon, *Oncorhynchus nerka*, Chinook, *O. tshawytscha*, pink, *O. gorbuscha*, chum, *O. keta*, coho, *O. kisutch*, Chignik Management Area, CMA, 2023 management plan, subsistence fishing, commercial fishery, BEG, SEG, OEG, RIR

## INTRODUCTION

This document provides stakeholders with the basic framework of how the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) will manage the 2024 Chignik Management Area (CMA; Area L) commercial salmon fishery. The CMA encompasses all coastal waters and inland drainages of the northwest Gulf of Alaska between Kilokak Rocks and Kupreanof Point (Figure 1). For management purposes, the CMA is divided into five fishing districts: Eastern, Central, Chignik Bay, Western, and Perryville. Each district is further divided into sections and statistical reporting areas (Figure 2).

The 2024 CMA commercial salmon fishery will be managed by ADF&G in accordance with the guidelines established in the *Chignik Salmon Management Plan* (5 AAC 15.357). The goal of this management plan is to allow commercial fisheries on CMA salmon stocks and to achieve escapement goals for Black Lake and Chignik Lake sockeye salmon *Oncorhynchus nerka* as well as local stocks of pink *O. gorbuscha*, chum *O. keta*, coho *O. kisutch*, and Chinook salmon *O. tshawytscha*.

## GEAR DESCRIPTION

Purse and hand purse seines are the only legal commercial salmon fishing gear allowed within the CMA. No lead in the CMA may be more than 75 fathoms in length. In the Chignik Bay District, legal seine gear must be between 100 and 125 fathoms in length. In the Eastern, Central, Western, and Perryville Districts legal seine gear must be between 100 and 225 fathoms in length, and the aggregate length of seine and lead cannot be more than 225 fathoms in length. Seines may not be less than three fathoms or more than 375 meshes in depth. A maximum of 25 meshes of chafing gear may be used, with a maximum mesh size of seven inches. Complete seine specifications are listed under 5 AAC 15.332.

## **CLOSED WATERS**

Specific closed waters within the CMA are described under 5 AAC 15.350 and are determined using the global positioning system (GPS; 5 AAC 15.206). For general regulations regarding closed waters, please refer to 5 AAC 39.290. Where regulatory markers are posted, it is illegal to take salmon for commercial purposes on the streamward side of the markers (5 AAC 39.290 (b)).

## **REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

Tender and processor regulatory reporting requirements may be found under 5 AAC 15.355. Processors are required to report the previous day's commercial harvest information to ADF&G staff by 10:00 AM daily, by email, telephone, or radio (SSB or VHF). Earlier reporting is encouraged and appreciated, as it helps in the prosecution of an orderly fishery. The preferred method of catch reporting is to email a standardized catch reporting document (template provided by ADF&G) to the Chignik Area Management Biologist ([carlton.burnside@alaska.gov](mailto:carlton.burnside@alaska.gov)) or Assistant Area Management Biologist ([myra.scholze@alaska.gov](mailto:myra.scholze@alaska.gov)). Catch reports must include the estimated number and total pounds of salmon harvested by species from each statistical area. Timely and accurate catch information reported by processors allows for informed and consistent management actions. Lack of information critical to the management of the fishery may result in more conservative management approaches to guarantee sustainability of the resource. Information needs and daily reporting templates may be obtained by contacting the Chignik management staff in Kodiak office during the winter (907-486-1806), at the Chignik weir during the summer (May through September; 907-512-6731), or by email.

It is the responsibility of all parties (fishermen, tenders, processors, and buyers) to ensure that all fish tickets are filled out completely and accurately. Prior to completing a fish ticket, all parties must ensure that the correct statistical area is recorded, harvest information is complete, and all information is legible and accurate. If multiple statistical areas were fished, the correct percentage of fish harvested from each statistical area must be recorded. Fish caught and retained for personal use or for use as bait in a commercial fishery (5 AAC 39.010) must be recorded on a fish ticket; fish retained for these purposes may not be sold or bartered. It is the responsibility of the fishermen to secure a market for all catch before harvesting fish. Waste of salmon is prohibited by AS 16.05.831 and 5 AAC 93.310.

In 2023, many statistical areas in the CMA were restructured. Due to the creation of these new statistical areas as well as the reassignment of stat codes in some existing statistical areas, it is very important that the most recent and up-to-date statistical charts be used when filling out fish tickets. These statistical charts are available at ADF&G offices in Chignik and Kodiak, or online (<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fishingCommercialByFishery.statmaps>). Statistical charts can also be obtained by contacting the Chignik Area Management Biologist (Carlton Burnside).

## **EMERGENCY ORDERS AND ADVISORY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Fishing periods established by emergency order will be based on both ADF&G's assessment of the strength and health of the salmon runs as well as the availability of a harvestable surplus of fish. Advisory announcements will be issued prior to fishery openings to notify fishermen and processors. When possible, a 24-hour notice will be given before opening or closing a commercial



fishing period. Advisory announcements will be broadcast over VHF channel 6. Those who wish to receive advisory announcements by e-mail or fax may do so by accessing the ADF&G Advisory Announcement System at <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.search> (accessed February 2024) and subscribing to the Chignik seine fishery. Detailed instructions are located in Appendix A of this document. Catch, escapement, and other fishery information will be announced over VHF radio channel 6 at 9:15 AM and 5:15 PM daily. The Chignik Weir Report e-mail (catch, escapement, and other fishery data) will be sent out daily during the commercial salmon fishing season. People interested in receiving the daily email may do so by contacting ADF&G staff over phone (907-512-6731) or email ([carlton.burnside@alaska.gov](mailto:carlton.burnside@alaska.gov)) and requesting to have their email added to the distribution list.

Starting June 1, an automated information phone line (907-486-1839) will be activated to provide callers with recent escapement and harvest information, as well as any current news releases.

## **2024 SALMON FORECAST AND ESCAPEMENT GOALS**

ADF&G publishes yearly preseason forecasts for the Chignik watershed. The preseason forecast provides fishermen and processors with projected run strength for planning purposes. ADF&G also uses the forecasts to formulate a preseason management strategy; however, the fishery is primarily managed based off inseason escapement data that is evaluated daily. Inseason escapement data provides the most up-to-date indicators of actual run strength and health. This also includes information from weir counts/sampling, aerial surveys, test fisheries, total catch, and fishery performance trends over time. ADF&G will aim to achieve escapement within the range of established goals; however, adjustments to management objectives may occur during the season if there is concern over the quality of the run.

### **TOTAL RUN**

The total 2024 sockeye salmon run for the Chignik River watershed is forecast to be 2,080,000 fish (range 873,000 to 4,869,000 fish). The total projected CMA commercial harvest for 2024 is 1,582,000 sockeye salmon. Total projected commercial harvest in the South Eastern District Mainland (SEDM) area of Registration Area M during the allocation period (through July 25) is 65,000 fish. Of the CMA and SEDM harvest, 1,430,000 fish are considered Chignik River watershed bound (Appendix B1). The biological escapement goal (BEG) for the Chignik River system is 450,000 to 800,000 sockeye salmon (Finkle et al. 2022) and the combined optimal escapement goal (OEG) is 540,000 to 760,000 sockeye salmon. Approximately 50% of the total run is expected to pass by July 10 and 69% is expected to pass by July 25.

### **EARLY RUN**

The total early run forecast is approximately 984,000 sockeye salmon (range 417,000 to 2,332,000 fish). The Chignik River early run harvest is expected to be approximately 634,000 fish (Appendix B1). The early run OEG range is 300,000 to 400,000 sockeye salmon (Table 1). The early run typically peaks in late June and returns primarily to Black Lake and its tributaries.

### **LATE RUN**

The total late run forecast is approximately 1,096,000 sockeye salmon (range 456,000 to 2,537,000 fish). The Chignik River late run harvest is expected to be approximately 796,000 fish (Appendix B1). The late-run OEG range is 240,000 to 360,000 sockeye salmon (Table 1). The late

run typically begins in late June, peaks in mid to late July, and runs through August. The late run primarily returns to Chignik Lake and its tributaries.

## **OTHER SALMON SPECIES**

There are no forecasts produced for other salmon species in the CMA. For historical harvest information, please refer to the Chignik Management Area Salmon Annual Management Report, 2023 (Burnside and Scholze *in prep*).

### **Chinook Salmon**

Commercial harvest of Chinook salmon in the CMA is largely incidental to targeted sockeye salmon fishing effort occurring in July. There is not a targeted Chinook salmon harvest in the CMA. The Chignik River Chinook salmon biological escapement goal is 1,300 to 2,700 fish (Finkle et al. 2022). The Chignik River Chinook salmon run has been recognized as a stock of management concern. Nonretention of Chinook salmon is enforced in the Chignik Bay District, Central District, and Castle Cape Section of the Western District until the department determines the Chinook salmon BEG will be achieved.

### **Coho Salmon**

The commercial coho salmon harvest may vary depending on commercial fishing effort targeting local pink and chum salmon runs in the Eastern, Central, Western, and Perryville Districts. Market conditions late in the season may also limit commercial salmon harvest effort targeting coho salmon during the months when coho salmon are prevalent in Chignik Lagoon. There is no established escapement goal for coho salmon in the CMA.

### **Pink Salmon**

In past years, the Western District has provided the largest proportion of the annual pink salmon commercial harvest.

The CMA even-year escapement goal for pink salmon is an areawide SEG of 170,000 to 280,000 fish (Finkle et al. 2022). This SEG range was developed using eight index streams that have historically accounted for most pink salmon enumerated in the CMA (more than 50%; Schaberg et al. 2015). ADF&G will survey the eight index streams in order to obtain an escapement index and will monitor all streams (49 streams total) to assess the quality and geographic distribution of the runs.

### **Chum Salmon**

Historically, the Central and Western Districts have provided the largest proportion of the annual chum salmon commercial harvest.

The CMA chum salmon escapement goal is an areawide SEG of 45,000 to 110,000 fish (Finkle et al. 2022). This SEG was developed using six index streams that have historically accounted for more than 50% of the escapement (Schaberg et al. 2015). ADF&G will survey the six index streams in order to obtain an escapement index and will monitor all streams (42 streams total) in order to assess the quality and geographic distribution of the runs.

# 2024 CHIGNIK SALMON MANAGEMENT

## 2023 BOARD OF FISHERIES REGULATORY CHANGES

At the February 2023 Alaska Peninsula/Aleutian Island/Chignik Finfish Board of Fisheries (BOF) meeting, regulations were adopted that altered the *Fishing districts, sections, and subsections* (5 AAC 15.200) and *Chignik Area Salmon Management Plan* (5 AAC 15.357). The changes that occurred are described below.

1. An optimal escapement goal of 300,000–400,000 fish for the early sockeye salmon run, and 240,000–360,000 thousand fish for the late sockeye salmon run was instated.
2. The number of sockeye salmon required to escape through the Chignik weir prior to the first commercial fish opening was increased from 20,000 to 40,000 sockeye salmon.
3. Sections and subsections of the Western and Perryville Districts have been altered and new subsections have been added.
4. Management of the following Western and Perryville District Sections and Subsections are now based on the evaluation of local pink, and chum salmon runs after July 31: Inner Kuikta/Portage Bay Subsection, Windy Bay Subsection, Dorner Bay Subsection, Mitrofanina Bay Subsection, Fishrack Bay Subsection, Ivan Bay Subsection, Coal Cape Subsection, Inner Perryville Subsection, Inner Humpback Bay Subsection, and the Ivanoff Bay Section. Previously these locations were managed based on the evaluation of local pink, chum, and coho salmon, or Chignik Lake sockeye salmon.
5. After August 31, fishing periods in the Western and Perryville Districts are based on the department’s evaluation of coho, pink, and chum salmon stocks.
6. The IRRG of 20,000 sockeye salmon (10,000 in August and 10,000 in September) has been removed.
7. Beginning August 1 and ending September 15, a 56-hour closure from 10:00 p.m. Friday to 6:00 a.m. Monday will occur each week in the Chignik Bay District, Central District, and Inner Castle Cape Subsection of the Western District. Fishing periods in these areas will occur the rest of the week so long as escapement is being met.
8. The 48-hour maximum weekly fishing period restriction starting September 15 in the Chignik Bay District, Central District, and Inner Castle Cape Subsection of the Western District has been removed.
9. In accordance with the Chinook salmon stock of concern action plan, the Chignik Bay District, Central District, and the Castle Cape Section of the Western District are restricted to nonretention of Chinook salmon greater than 28 inches until the department determines that the Chinook salmon BEG will be achieved. Fishermen are required to return Chinook salmon greater than 28 inches to the water quickly and with minimal handling.

## JUNE AND EARLY JULY MANAGEMENT

Commercial salmon fishing may occur as early as June 1 if at least 40,000 sockeye salmon have escaped into Chignik River, or if it is determined that a large buildup of sockeye salmon exists in the Chignik Lagoon and at least 40,000 sockeye salmon are expected to escape into the Chignik River (5 AAC 15.357(b)(1)). The purpose of allowing at least 40,000 sockeye salmon into the Chignik River system is to allow subsistence fishing opportunity prior to the commercial fishing

season. Nonretention of Chinook salmon greater than 28 inches will be in effect within the Chignik Bay District, Central District, and Castle Cape Section.

During June and early July, commercial salmon fishing may occur in all five districts of the CMA (Figure 2). The Chignik Bay, Central, and Eastern Districts, as well as the Inner Castle Cape subsection of the Western District, must all open and close concurrently by regulation during the month of June (5 AAC 15.357(c)(1); Figure 3). From June 1 through July 5, the Western District may also open and close concurrently with the Chignik Bay, Central, and Eastern Districts, as well as the Inner Castle Cape Subsection of the Western District. From June 1 through July 5, the Perryville District may also open and close concurrently with the aforementioned areas; however, fishing time will be limited to a maximum of three 48-hour fishing periods, each of which must be separated by a closure of at least 48 hours. Fishing periods during June will primarily be based upon achieving the Black Lake sockeye salmon management objectives. The first commercial fishing period will likely occur after initially reaching a lower interim escapement objective and will likely be approximately 48 hours in length in order to provide early fishing opportunity, gage run and fleet strength, and prevent rapid over escapement.

Chignik Lake sockeye salmon will be incorporated into management at the start of the transition period. The transition from Black Lake to Chignik Lake sockeye salmon has historically occurred from late June through mid-July. Management decisions will consider opportunity to harvest surplus Black Lake fish without jeopardizing Chignik Lake escapement (Table 1).

Within Chignik Lagoon, ADF&G will primarily use the Humes Point and Mensis Point markers to designate closed waters (Figure 4). Alternating between Humes Point and Mensis Point allows ADF&G to control escapement of sockeye salmon entering the Chignik River. The Pillar Rock and Chignik River weir markers may be used during periods of high escapement and/or limited harvest capacity by the fleet (Figure 4). If estimated cumulative sockeye salmon escapement is projected to exceed the upper bound of the early-run OEG, closed waters may be reduced in the Mallard Duck Bay and Schooner Bay areas of Chignik Lagoon during the month of June to provide additional opportunities to target sockeye salmon.

ADF&G test fishing may begin in early June to assess the salmon buildup in Chignik Lagoon. Test fishing may occur on several days in early June depending on vessel catch rates and escapement levels. Subsequent commercial fishing periods during June will be based on the evaluation of interim escapement objectives (Table 1). Additional test fisheries may also occur in the Chignik Lagoon or other areas of the CMA, if necessary, to generate revenue to fund management operations in the CMA. Details of these test fisheries will be released via the ADF&G advisory announcement system.

## **TRANSITION PERIOD**

The transition timing from early-run sockeye salmon to late-run sockeye salmon is variable. Historically the transition starts in late-June and continues through mid-July. During this period, ADF&G pays very close attention to scale ages, harvest, escapement, spatial distribution, and other indicating variables of the transition between runs.

Over the years many different methods have been used to track the transition from early-run sockeye salmon to late-run sockeye salmon. During the 2024 transition period, the daily stock composition will be estimated in season primarily by applying the average stock proportion curve developed from genetics data collected during the 2010 to 2021 seasons, and an expectation

maximization algorithm for the 2022 and 2023 seasons. Age classes are also a strong indicator of stock composition during the transition period. Chignik River sockeye salmon runs are predominantly made up of freshwater age-1 fish during the early run and freshwater age-2 fish during the late run. The proportional shift in ages and the timing of that shift is a very strong indicator of transition timing. Comparisons of historical escapement and harvest information to real time escapement and harvest information also provide further run timing information. Typically, during a normal run with normal strength, management will aim for the midpoint of the escapement objectives during the transition period. If run timing appears to be abnormal, management action may be taken to aim for the lower or upper end of the objectives to avoid over- or underescaping the run. Management actions may include restricting or liberalizing fishing time and/or area.

## **JULY**

During July, the Chignik Bay and Central Districts will be managed primarily on the Chignik River watershed sockeye salmon run strength. Additionally, if the department is confident that the Chinook salmon BEG will be met, restrictions requiring nonretention may be removed.

During July, the Eastern District will be primarily managed on Chignik River watershed sockeye salmon run strength alongside the Chignik Bay and Central Districts. Starting approximately mid-July, additional consideration will be given to pink and chum salmon based on pink and chum salmon harvest as compared to historical records, as well as local pink and chum salmon escapements.

If the Chignik River late-run sockeye salmon escapement is lower than expected, then fishing periods in terminal areas in the Eastern District may be announced via emergency order to target pink and chum salmon. If such an opener occurs, the Eastern District may close on short notice if substantial numbers of sockeye salmon are harvested. Closed waters may be expanded around individual streams if pink and chum salmon escapements are not sufficient in those areas, or closed waters may be reduced if escapement is substantial and a large harvestable surplus exists.

Commercial fishing periods throughout the Western and Perryville Districts (Figure 2) may continue to be allowed after July 5 if Chignik River interim escapement objectives are expected to be met and surplus Chignik River sockeye salmon are available for harvest. Depending on expected Chignik River sockeye salmon run strength, those portions of the Chignik Bay and Central Districts known as “Jack’s Box” may also open concurrently with the Western and Perryville Districts (Figure 5). Fishing periods beginning around mid-July will also depend on pink and chum salmon harvest as compared to historical records, local pink and chum salmon escapements, in addition to Chignik watershed sockeye salmon escapement levels.

Prior to 2016, several new inner bay statistical areas were created in the Eastern, Central, Western, and Perryville Districts (Table 2; Figure 2). One purpose of these new statistical areas was to provide more detailed harvest and fishing effort information from selected bays. New statistical areas in the Western and Perryville Districts have also been created following the 2023 BOF meeting in response to regulation changes (Table 2, Figure 2). If surplus Chignik River sockeye salmon are not expected to be available for harvest after July 5, in an attempt to provide more early harvest opportunity on pink and chum salmon, ADF&G may conduct an inner bay fishery as early as July 6 in inner bay statistical areas in the Western and Perryville Districts. Fishing in the Western and Perryville Districts may occur north of the Cape Itki line to target local pink and chum salmon while avoiding Chignik River-bound sockeye salmon (Figure 6). If escapement is adequate in

Ivanof Bay, the Inner Ivanof Bay statistical area will likely open as well (Figure 2). In the case of substantial numbers of sockeye salmon being harvested while fishing north of the Cape Itki line, ADF&G will restrict fishing further into the remaining inner bay statistical areas. Specific areas may be closed if pink and chum salmon escapements are not sufficient. If a large harvestable surplus of fish is available and escapement is adequate, closed waters may be reduced.

## **AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER**

In August and September, the Chignik Bay and Central Districts, as well as the Inner Castle Cape Subsection of the Western District (Figures 2 and 3), will be managed based on the Chignik River watershed sockeye salmon run strength. ADF&G plans to operate the Chignik River weir through August 15 for the 2024 commercial salmon season.

Beginning August 1, commercial salmon fishing periods in the Chignik Bay and Central Districts, as well as the Inner Castle Cape Subsection, will run from 6:00 a.m. Monday to 10:00 p.m. Friday if escapement of Chignik sockeye salmon is being met until September 15. After September 15, if a market is available fishing periods in the Chignik Bay and Central Districts will be based on the evaluation of the sockeye salmon run strength and late-season subsistence needs.

During August and September, the Eastern District (Figure 2) will be managed based on local pink, chum, and coho salmon runs or the strength of the Chignik Lake sockeye salmon run (5 AAC 15.357(c)(4)). Fisheries may occur in areas with adequate pink and chum salmon abundance, with possible extensions of fishing time depending on escapement and harvest levels. District-wide openings will not be allowed unless Chignik River sockeye salmon interim escapement objectives are expected to be met and overall pink and chum salmon abundance is sufficient to meet Eastern District escapement objectives.

During August and September in the majority of the Western and Perryville Districts, fishing periods will be based on Chignik River sockeye salmon escapement or local pink, coho, and chum salmon abundance (5 AAC 15.357(d)(3)). Fisheries in the Inner Kuikta/Portage Bay Subsection, Windery Bay Subsection, Dorner Bay Subsection, Mitrofanina Bay Subsection, Fishrack Bay Subsection, Ivan Bay Subsection, Coal Cape Subsection, Inner Perryville Subsection, Inner Humpback Bay Subsection, and Ivanoff Bay Section (Figure 2) may occur in August in areas with adequate pink and chum salmon abundance to warrant fisheries with the possibility of extended fishing time. District-wide openers will not occur unless the Chignik River is meeting interim sockeye salmon escapement objectives and overall pink and chum salmon abundance is sufficient to meet Western and Perryville Districts escapement objectives.

## **2024 SUBSISTENCE SALMON FISHERY**

This section of the document briefly covers state subsistence regulations only. For more information on federal subsistence fishing regulations, contact the federal subsistence management biologist (Jon Gerken) by phone (907-271-2776) or email ([jonathon\\_gerken@fws.gov](mailto:jonathon_gerken@fws.gov)).

All state subsistence salmon fishermen must obtain a Chignik Area subsistence salmon permit issued by the ADF&G for the 2024 season (5 AAC 01.015; Appendix C1). The permits will be available at the Chignik Weir Field Office and from several local vendors. Catch information obtained from subsistence permits is compiled annually and used to assess regional subsistence salmon fisheries. State subsistence fishing regulations can be found in the *2022–2023 Statewide Subsistence and Personal Use Fishing Regulation* which is available online at

(<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fishregulations.Subsistence>). To obtain a subsistence permit from ADF&G please contact the Chignik weir at 907-512-6731. Users may also email the Area Management Biologist, Carlton Burnside, or the Assistant Area Management Biologist, Myra Scholze.

An Alaska resident who obtains a state subsistence permit and who does not hold a commercial salmon fishing license (CFEC permit) may subsistence fish for salmon at any time. Commercial salmon license holders may subsistence fish for salmon during the commercial fishing season at any time except for 12 hours preceding and 12 hours following a commercial salmon fishing period (5 AAC 01.485).

Subsistence salmon fishing is permitted in the Chignik River. The Chignik River, beginning 100 yards below the weir, is open to subsistence salmon fishing year-round. However, salmon may not be taken upstream from the weir to the outlet of Chignik Lake from July 1 to August 31 (5 AAC 01.475(1)). Subsistence fishing in this area is prohibited to protect spawning Chinook salmon. All fishing is prohibited 100 yards upstream and downstream of the weir while it is operational. Due to poor returns over recent years, subsistence salmon fishing for Chinook salmon is likely to be restricted for a majority of the 2024 season.

The Chignik Lake tributaries of Clark River and Home Creek, starting from their confluence with Chignik Lake upstream one mile, are open to subsistence salmon fishing (5 AAC 01.475(2)). The BOF amended the subsistence regulations to include these tributaries for the purposes of providing additional harvest opportunities for subsistence users.

Subsistence users are reminded that purse seine gear is not allowed for taking of subsistence salmon in Chignik Lake (5 AAC 01.470(a)). Additionally, any set gillnet may not obstruct more than one-half of the width of any stream open to subsistence fishing. All subsistence salmon fishing gear must be marked with a buoy listing the first initial, last name, and address of the person operating the gear (5 AAC 01.010(h)). Due to the potential delay in issuing subsistence permits by mail, subsistence users in the Chignik area are permitted to subsistence fish without a permit as long as they have contacted and received permission by the Area Management Biologist, Carlton Burnside, or the Assistant Area Management Biologist, Myra Scholze, prior to subsistence fishing. Subsistence users will still be required to record all fish harvested for the entirety of the season and return permits to the address listed on the permit by December 31, 2024. The adipose fin must be removed from all subsistence-caught salmon immediately after harvest.

## REFERENCES CITED

- Burnside, C., and M. Scholze. *In prep.* Chignik Management Area salmon annual management report, 2023. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fishery Management Report, Anchorage.
- Schaberg, K. L., D. A. Tracy, M. B. Foster, and M. Loewen. 2015. Review of salmon escapement goals in the Chignik Management Area, 2015. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fishery Manuscript Series No. 15-02, Anchorage
- Finkle, H., K. L. Schaberg, M. B. Foster, and T. Polum. 2022. Review of salmon escapement goals in the Chignik Management Area, 2020. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fishery Manuscript No. 22-05, Anchorage



## **TABLES AND FIGURES**

Table 1.–Chignik River sockeye salmon interim optimal escapement objectives, in numbers of fish.

Date	Black Lake OEG		Chignik Lake OEG		Combined	
	Lower	Upper	Lower	Upper	Lower	Upper
5-Jun	3,100	8,500	0	0	3,100	8,500
10-Jun	11,200	45,800	0	100	11,200	45,900
15-Jun	37,200	101,400	0	300	37,200	101,700
20-Jun	83,200	186,500	200	1,500	83,400	188,000
25-Jun	140,100	269,500	600	6,100	140,700	275,600
30-Jun	193,400	334,300	2,400	15,800	195,800	350,100
5-Jul	234,500	369,300	7,600	31,400	242,100	400,700
10-Jul	262,900	387,400	19,800	62,300	282,700	449,700
15-Jul	282,900	395,600	38,500	108,500	321,400	504,100
20-Jul	292,900	398,900	68,400	168,500	361,300	567,400
25-Jul	297,500	399,700	99,900	210,100	397,400	609,800
30-Jul	299,200	399,900	129,800	236,700	429,000	636,600
4-Aug	299,800	400,000	151,600	262,800	451,400	662,800
9-Aug	300,000	400,000	172,100	281,400	472,100	681,400
14-Aug	300,000	400,000	186,500	297,300	486,500	697,300
19-Aug	300,000	400,000	199,700	311,400	499,700	711,400
24-Aug	300,000	400,000	211,600	321,100	511,600	721,100
29-Aug	300,000	400,000	222,100	330,000	522,100	730,000
31-Aug	300,000	400,000	226,000	333,900	526,000	733,900
September	300,000	400,000	240,000	360,000	540,000	760,000
Optimal Escapement Goals						
Black Lake	300,000	400,000				
Chignik Lake	240,000	360,000				

Table 2.–Chignik Management Area statistical areas prior to 2016 and current statistical areas.

Area	Statistical area		
	Prior to 2016	Post 2016	Post 2023
<u>Perryville District</u>			
Ivanof Bay Section			
Inner Ivanof Bay	N/A	275-41	275-41
Ivanof Bay <sup>a</sup>	275-40	275-42	275-42
Humpback Bay Section			
Inner Humpback Bay	N/A	275-51	275-51
Humpback Bay <sup>a</sup>	275-50	275-52	275-53
Outer Humpback Bay <sup>a</sup>	N/A	N/A	275-54
Perryville Section			
Perryville Area <sup>a</sup>	275-60	275-60	N/A
Inner Perryville Area <sup>a</sup>	N/A	N/A	275-61
Outer Perryville Area <sup>a</sup>	N/A	N/A	275-62
<u>Western District</u>			
Mitrofanina Section			
Coal Cape Area	273-70	273-70	273-70
Ivan Bay	N/A	273-71	273-71
Fishrack Bay	N/A	273-73	273-73
Mitrofanina Island	273-74	273-74	273-74
Mitrofanina Bay	273-72	273-75	273-75
Dorner Bay Section			
Dorner Bay	N/A	273-81	273-81
Outer Kuiukta Bay <sup>a</sup>	273-80	273-85	273-86
Windy Bay	273-82	273-82	273-82
Inner Kuiukta/Portage Bay	273-84	273-84	273-84
Castle Cape Section			
Castle Cape/Cape Itki <sup>a</sup>	273-90	273-90	N/A
Chankliut Island <sup>a</sup>	N/A	N/A	273-92
Devil's Bay <sup>a</sup>	N/A	N/A	273-91
Inner Castle Cape	273-93	273-93	273-93
Outer Castle Cape	273-95	273-95	273-95
<u>Chignik Bay District</u>			
Chignik Lagoon	271-10	271-10	271-10

-continued-

Table 2.–Page 2 of 2.

Area	Statistical area		
	Prior to 2016	Prior to 2023	Post 2023
<u>Central District</u>			
Outer Chignik Bay Section			
Chignik Bay	272-20	272-20	272-20
Hook Bay	272-30	272-30	272-30
Nakchamik Island	272-40	272-40	272-40
Kujulik Section			
Inner Kujulik Bay	N/A	272-51	272-51
Kujulik Bay	272-50	272-53	272-53
Kumlik Section			
Cape Kumlik	272-62	272-62	272-62
Sutwik Island	272-64	272-64	272-64
<u>Eastern District</u>			
Big River Section			
Aniakchak Bay	272-60	272-60	272-60
Inner Amber Bay	N/A	272-71	272-71
Amber Bay	272-70	272-74	272-74
Nakalilok/ Yantarni Bay Section			
Inner Yantarni Bay	N/A	272-73	272-73
Yantarni Bay	272-72	272-75	272-75
Inner Nakalilok Bay	N/A	272-82	272-82
Nakalilok Bay	272-80	272-81	272-81
Chiganagak Section			
Inner Chiganagak Bay	N/A	272-91	272-91
Chiganagak Bay	272-90	272-93	272-93
Agripina Section			
Port Wrangell	272-92	272-92	272-92
Inner Agripina Bay	N/A	272-95	272-95
Agripina to Kilokak	272-96	272-97	272-97

<sup>a</sup> New or altered statistical area effective in 2023.

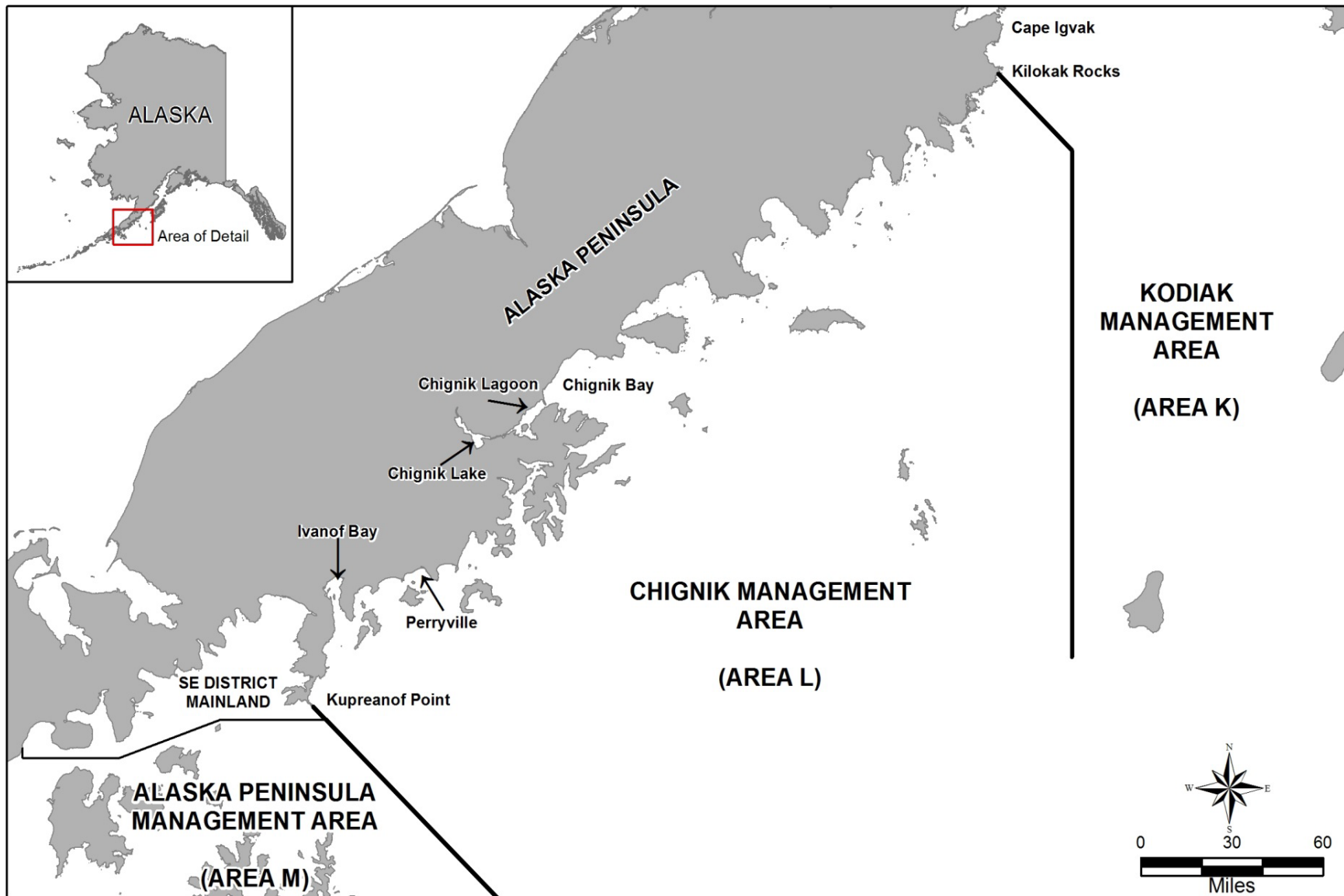


Figure 1.—Map of the Alaska Peninsula and the relative locations of the Chignik, Kodiak, and Alaska Peninsula Management areas.

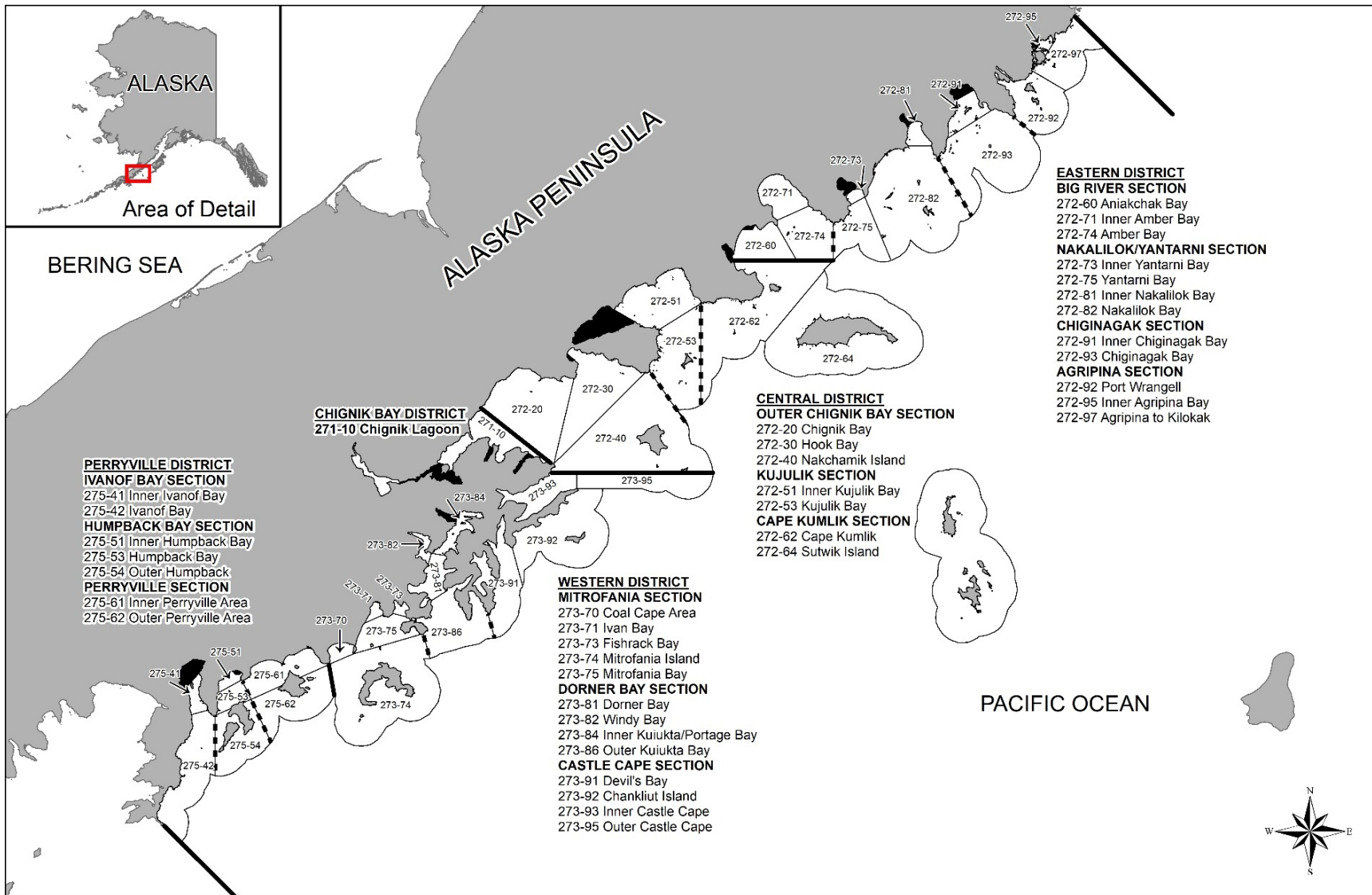


Figure 2.—Map of the Chignik Management Area commercial fishing district boundaries and statistical areas.

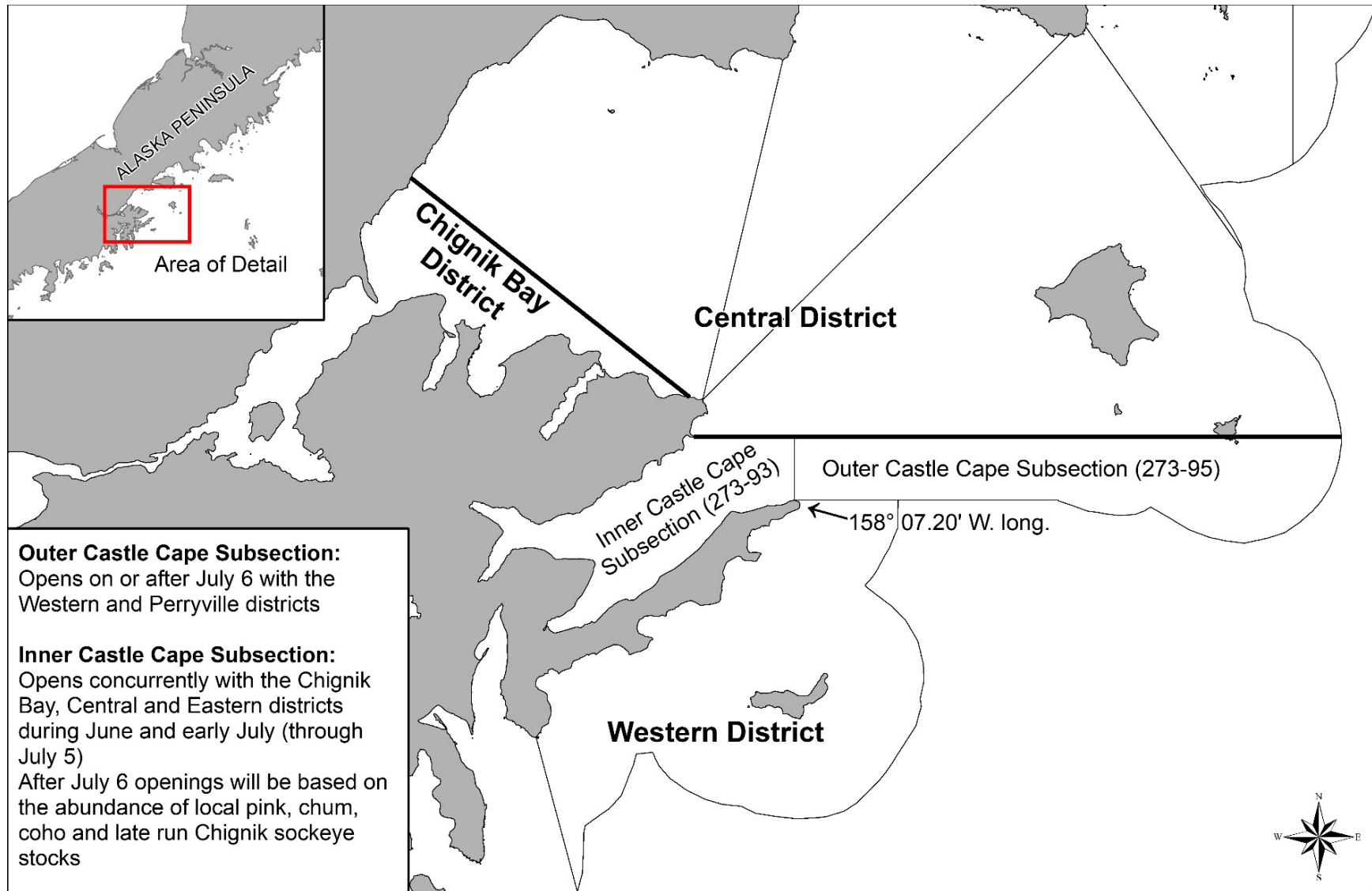


Figure 3.—Map of the Inner (273-93) and Outer Castle Cape (273-95) subsections of the Western District.

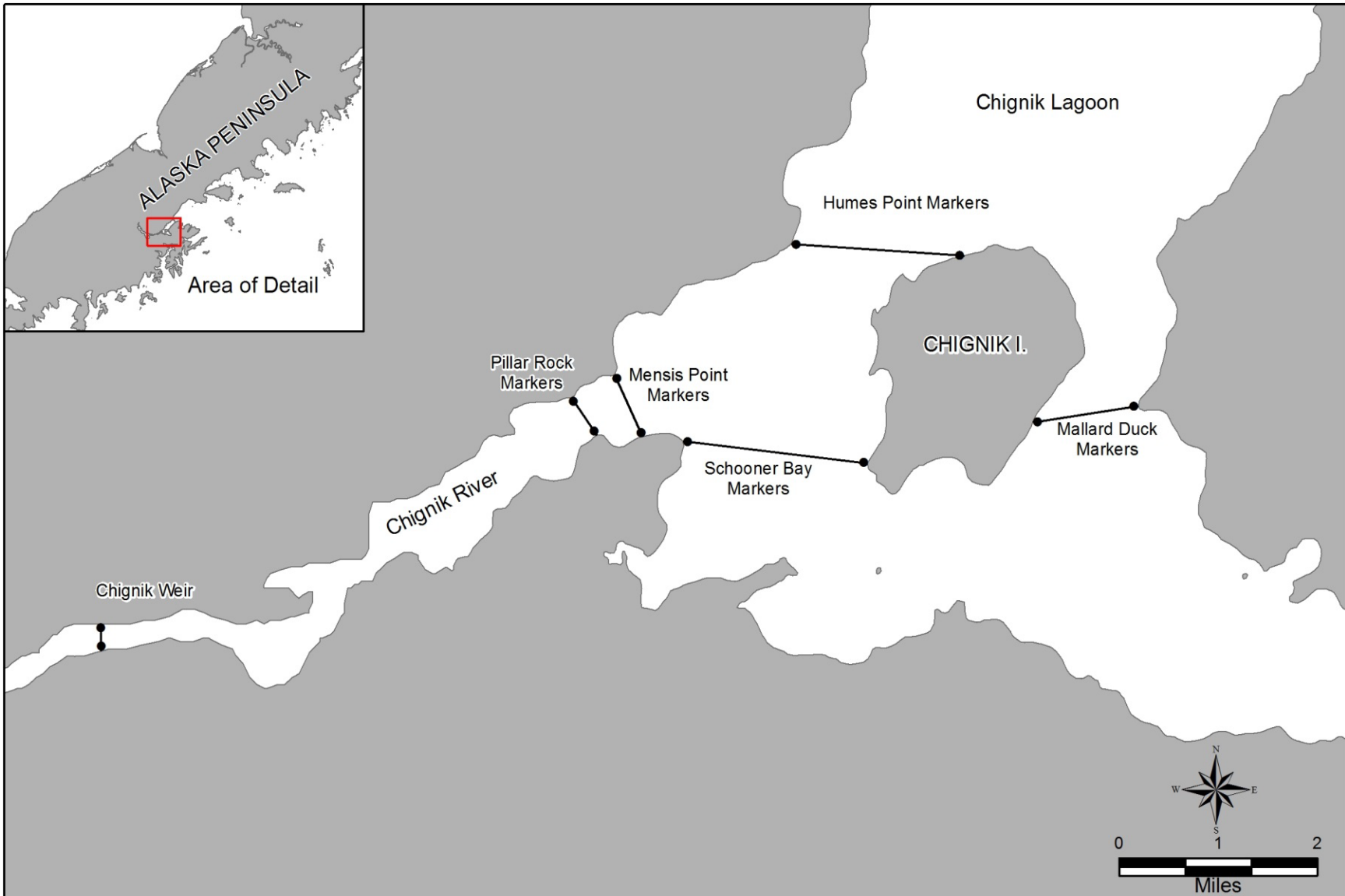


Figure 4.—Map of upper Chignik Lagoon and the location of Pillar Rock, Mensis Point, Humes Point, Mallard Duck, and Schooner Bay marker locations and the location of the Chignik weir.



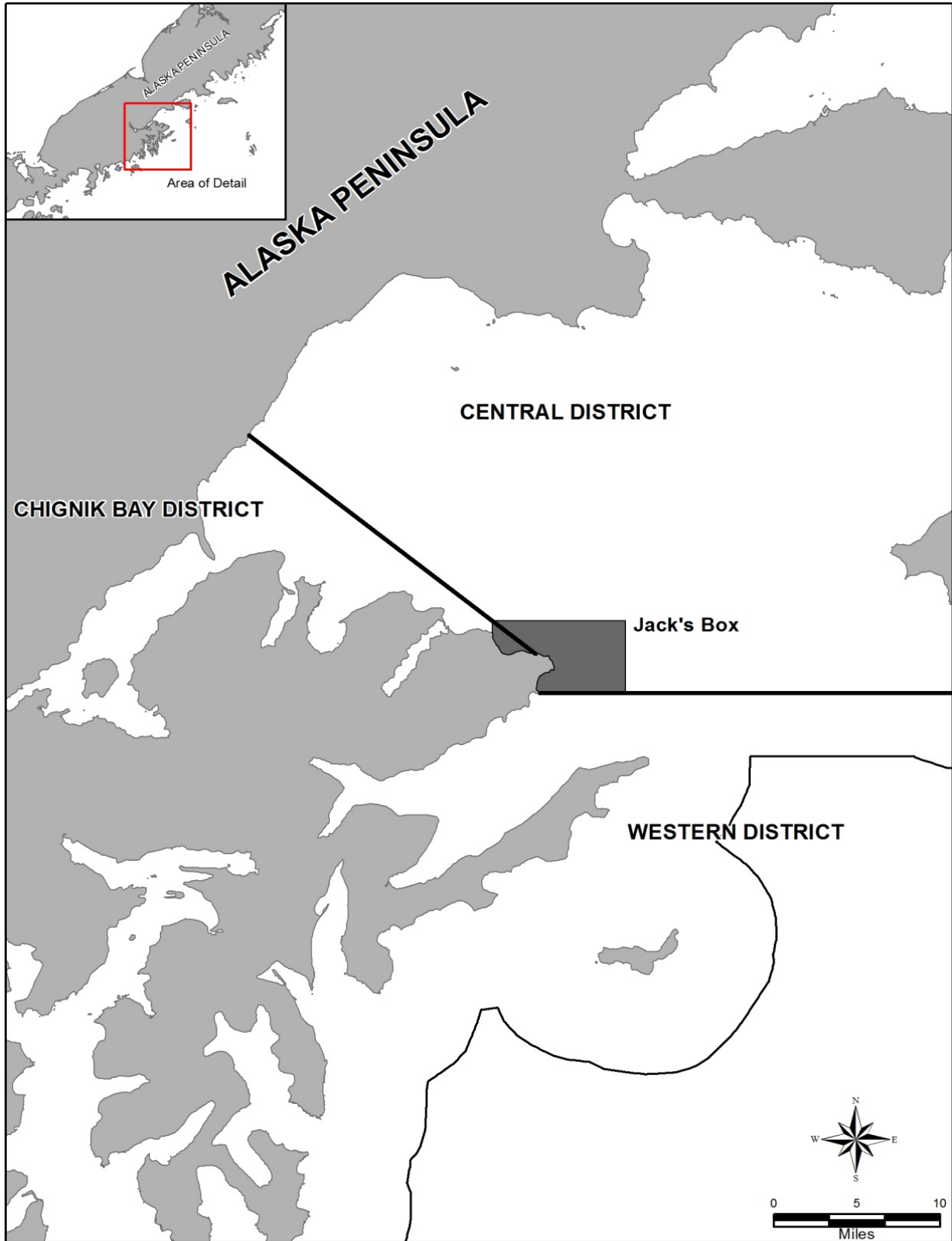


Figure 5.—Map of “Jack’s Box” in the Chignik Bay and Central Districts.

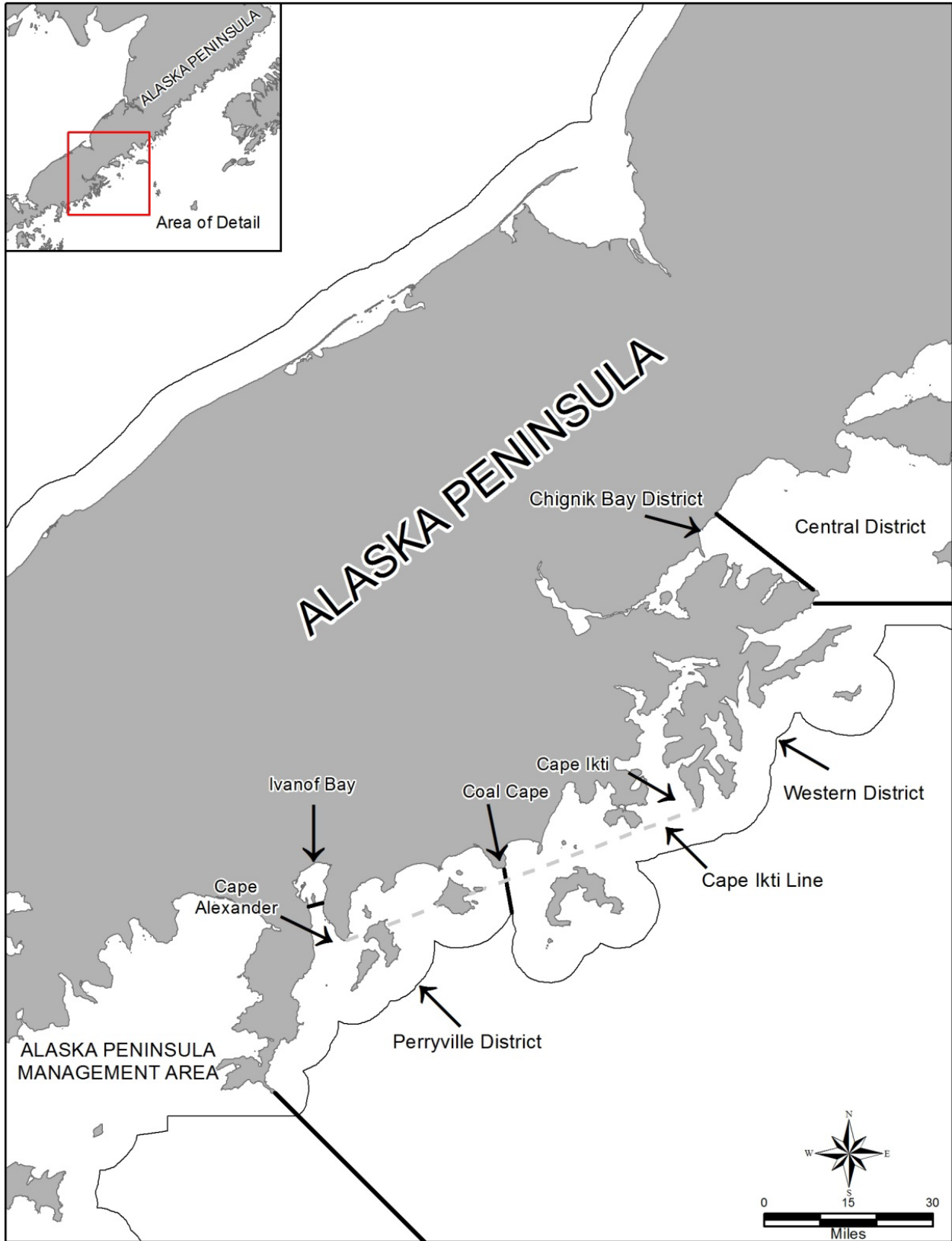


Figure 6.—Map of the “Cape Ikti Line” in the Western and Perryville Districts.

**APPENDIX A. ADVISORY ANNOUNCEMENT  
INSTRUCTIONS**

Appendix A1.–User instructions for the Division of Commercial Fisheries advisory announcement system.

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All advisory announcements are issued through this single system. The public may subscribe to electronic notification via e-mail for specific fisheries that may be of interest. All fishery advisory announcements will appear in the system as they are issued. If the public has subscribed to any specific fishery those advisory announcements are delivered to the user’s e-mail inbox as they are issued.

This system can be located on the Alaska Department of Fish and Game website, a visitor to the site should look for the “News and Events” icon which can be found by clicking on the “Home” or “Fishing” menus at the top of any webpage on the site. A “News and Events” icon is located on these pages and clicking on this icon takes the user to the “News and Events” page. By clicking “Regulation Announcements, News Releases, Emergency Orders” and then the “Search and Subscribe” button, the user will bring up the application for finding advisory announcements, emergency orders, and fishery updates. The user can also go directly to this application by copying the following link into their browser. It might be a good idea to bookmark this link for ease of returning to the site for subsequent visits.

<https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.search>

## Commercial Fishery Announcements

(Includes Subsistence and Personal Use)



### Search Form

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Management Area:*	<input type="text" value="Alaska Peninsula"/>
District:	<input type="text" value="All Districts"/>
Species:	<input type="text" value="All Species"/>
Gear:	<input type="text" value="All Gear Classes"/>
Fishery Type:	<input type="text" value="All Activities"/>
Effective Year (Search Only):	<input type="text" value="2021"/>

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### Subscribe

Create the type of broad or narrow news coverage you would like to receive with the form selections above, then tap the **Subscribe** button.

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### Searching for Advisory Announcements:

The Commercial Fishing Regulation Announcements, News Release, and Updates web page allows you to select the advisory announcements of interest by using the search screen. Drop down menus are available for all selection categories, to assist in filtering the search of advisory announcements. Using the drop down menus, you can narrow your search and the results of that search.

It is possible to view a list of all announcements issued by the commercial fisheries division in an entire year or, as is usually the case, search for a specific fishery, like the Bristol Bay salmon fishery or Kodiak black rockfish fishery. To select the Chignik set of announcements, the management area should be set to “Chignik” and every drop-down menu should have “all” selected, except for year, which should be set for the current year, 2024. Press the “Search” button and the results will be displayed within the “Search Results” box. The following screen shot shows the selection criteria and search results for all announcements and updates from Chignik for 2020.

The screenshot shows a web page titled "Commercial Fishery Announcements" with a subtitle "(Includes Subsistence and Personal Use)". Below the title is a "PDF Search Results" section. At the top right of this section is an information icon. Below the title are two buttons: "Modify Search or Subscribe" and "New Search". The main content is a list of 14 search results, each consisting of a blue hyperlink and a timestamp. The results are as follows:

- [2020 Chignik Salmon Season Summary](#)  
– 11/30/2020 9:00 AM
- [2021 Commercial Tanner Crab Fisheries In The Kodiak, Chignik, And South Peninsula Districts](#)  
– 10/30/2020 3:00 PM
- [Dungeness Crab Season Closure Reminder For Kodiak, Chignik, And Alaska Peninsula Districts](#)  
– 09/30/2020 9:30 AM
- [2020/21 Kodiak, Chignik, And South Peninsula District Red Sea Cucumber Guideline Harvest Levels And Fishery Information](#)  
– 09/04/2020 3:15 PM
- [Chignik Weir Sockeye Salmon Stock Composition Summary #6](#)  
– 08/06/2020 5:15 PM
- [Chignik Area State-Waters Pacific Cod Season Guideline Harvest Level Allocation Rollover](#)  
– 08/04/2020 12:15 PM
- [Chignik Weir Sockeye Salmon Stock Composition Summary #5](#)  
– 07/25/2020 5:15 PM
- [Chignik Weir Sockeye Salmon Stock Composition Summary #4](#)  
– 07/20/2020 5:15 PM
- [2020 Chignik Subsistence News Release #02 Revised](#)  
– 07/16/2020 4:00 PM
- [2020 Chignik Subsistence News Release #02](#)  
– 07/16/2020 9:15 AM
- [Chignik Weir Sockeye Salmon Stock Composition Summary #3](#)

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To view a particular news release that is displayed in the Search Results section, the user will click on that item in the list, and it will open as a PDF document. The user will need to have Acrobat Reader installed on their computer to display and print the document.

### Subscribing to News Releases:

After making a news release selection, it is possible to subscribe and receive, via e-mail, future news releases for the specific fishery selected, by pushing the “Subscribe” button at the left lower corner of the search screen. The subscription web page will display, as shown below.

[ADF&G Home](#) » [News & Events](#) » [Advisory Announcements](#) » [Commercial, Subsistence, & Personal Use Fishing](#) [Sign in](#) [my](#)

## Commercial Fishery Announcements

(Includes Subsistence and Personal Use)

### Email Subscription

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You are about to subscribe to **All Activities** news releases for

- All Species Groups
- All Gear Classes
- in Chignik / All Districts

Tap the **Subscribe** button to confirm, or tap **Cancel** to return to the search screen.

Email address

Text-only

*(emails will not include PDF document of news release, charts, or other graphics)*

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Simply type in an e-mail address in the box provided and then confirm this e-mail address in the box provided for confirming e-mail addresses, push the “Subscribe” button, and the subscription process is finished. News releases for the fisheries selected by the user will begin to appear in the user’s mailbox as they are published by ADF&G staff.

A user may unsubscribe to any subscription by clicking on the link “Unsubscribe” that is included within each e-mail sent to a subscriber.

**APPENDIX B. 2024 CHIGNIK SOCKEYE  
SALMON FORECAST**

Appendix B1.–2024 Chignik sockeye salmon forecast.

Total Production		Forecast Estimate (thousands)	Forecast Range (thousands)
Early run	Total Run Estimate	984	417–2,332
	Optimal Escapement Goal <sup>a</sup>	350	300–400
	Harvest Estimate <sup>b</sup>	634	
Late run	Total Run Estimate	1,096	456–2,537
	Optimal Escapement Goal <sup>a</sup>	300	240–360
	Harvest Estimate <sup>b</sup>	796	
Total Chignik System	Total Run Estimate	2,080	873–4,869
	Biological Escapement Goal <sup>c</sup>	625	450–800
	Combined OEG	650	540–760
	Chignik Area <sup>b</sup>	1,365	
	SEDM <sup>d</sup>	65	
	Cape Igvak <sup>d</sup>	0	
	CMA harvest <sup>e</sup>	1,582	
	Harvest Category	<i>Strong</i>	

*Note:* Column numbers may not total or correspond exactly with numbers in text due to rounding.

<sup>a</sup> During the February 2023 Board of Fisheries, board instituted optimal escapement goals (OEGs) for the early run (300,000 to 400,000 sockeye salmon) and late run (240,000 to 360,000 sockeye salmon).

<sup>b</sup> Harvest represents the surplus Chignik bound sockeye salmon achieved beyond the midpoint of the escapement goal.

<sup>c</sup> The biological escapement goal is for the single, total run goal. Targeting the midpoints of the early- and late-run OEGs is estimated to reduce the harvest by 25,000 fish.

<sup>d</sup> Based on historical run size and timing, a harvestable surplus of Chignik River system sockeye salmon is not forecast to exceed 600,000 fish by July 5 in the Chignik Management Area, therefore, as outlined in regulation, no commercial fisheries were forecasted in Cape Igvak during the regulatory timeframe thru July 5, thus the harvest of Chignik-bound sockeye salmon in the Cape Igvak section is expected to be zero. A harvestable surplus of 300,00 fish by July 8 and 600,000 fish greater than the early- and late-run OEGs after July 8 were forecast to be achieved for Chignik River sockeye salmon, thus a harvest of ~65,000 fish was estimated for SEDM up to the July 25 regulatory time frame.

<sup>e</sup> To approximate for the mixed-stock nature of the CMA fishery, the total Chignik River sockeye salmon harvest is expanded to project the total CMA harvest (20-year average estimate of Chignik-bound sockeye harvest in Chignik area is approximately 90.4%) less the Chignik sockeye harvested at SEDM and Cape Igvak. Of the CMA harvest, 1,365,000 sockeye salmon are estimated to be Chignik bound and 217,000 fish are estimated to be fish harvested while transiting through the CMA.

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## Forecast Methods

Simple linear regressions models using age class relationships were used to forecast the 2024 Chignik River sockeye salmon total run. Each regression model was assessed with standard regression diagnostic procedures. Data were log transformed to address non-normality or unequal variance. Prediction intervals (80%) for the regression estimates were calculated using the variances of the regression models. Age class returns not estimated with statistical models utilized pooled medians with data from 2000 to the present; median prediction intervals were calculated from the 10<sup>th</sup> and 90<sup>th</sup> percentiles of the data.

The 2024 total Chignik River sockeye salmon run was forecasted by modeling returns of stock components and summing those results by age. Early-run prior year log transformed ocean-age-2 returns predicted early-run log transformed ocean-age-3 returns using data from the 2000 outmigration year to the present. Prior year early-run ocean-age-1 returns predicted log transformed ocean-age-2 returns (outmigration years 2000 to present). Late-run age-2.2 returns predicted late-run age-2.3 returns using data from the 2000 brood year to the present.

The early- and late-run regression and median estimates were summed to estimate the total Chignik River sockeye salmon run for 2024. The total run 80% prediction interval was calculated by summing the lower and upper prediction bounds of the two runs.

*Forecast Discussion:* The 2024 Chignik River sockeye salmon total run is forecasted to be 2.08 million fish, which is 752,000 fish more than the 10-year average run of 1.33 million fish and almost 114,000 fish more than the 2023 total run of 1.96 million fish. The Chignik River sockeye salmon total run is predicted to be composed of approximately 83% ocean-age-3 and 17% ocean-age-2 fish with the early and late runs comprising 47% and 53% of the total run, respectively.

The projected 2024 harvest estimate of almost 1.43 million Chignik-bound fish is based on achievement of the midpoints of the optimal escapement goal ranges. The harvest estimate does not include other stocks caught while transiting through the Chignik Management Area (CMA), which is estimated to be an additional 217,000 fish. Harvestable surplus of Chignik-bound sockeye salmon in the CMA was forecast to not exceed 600,000 fish by July 5, which would preclude a commercial fishery in the Cape Igvak Section of the Kodiak Management Area. A harvestable surplus of Chignik-bound sockeye salmon in the CMA was forecast to exceed 600,000 fish after July 8 and by July 25; sockeye salmon harvest estimates for both runs include Chignik-bound sockeye salmon harvested in the Southeastern District Mainland of the Alaska Peninsula Management Area.

The wide confidence intervals around the point estimate of the 2024 forecasts reflect the uncertainty inherent in the forecast models. Given the sibling relationships used for forecasting the run and the variability in returns, the 2024 forecast may over- or underestimate returns if environmental variables, which are unknown at this time, remain spurious. Due to the range of variation in the relationships used in these forecasts and their historical accuracy, our confidence in the forecast is fair.

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Forecast by Heather Finkle, Finfish Research Biologist, Westward Region.



## **APPENDIX C. CHIGNIK SALMON SUBSISTENCE PERMIT**

Appendix C1.–Chignik salmon subsistence permit.

**2024 CHIGNIK AREA SUBSISTENCE SALMON FISHING PERMIT**

Permit expires December 31, 2024



This permit is valid in the Chignik Management Area Only.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that I am an Alaska resident, and any fish taken will be used for subsistence purposes only.

Permittee signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ Renew permit for next year:

The catch report table below must be filled out (even if the permit was not used) and returned to a local Alaska Department of Fish and Game office prior to December 31, 2024. Failure to return the permit could result in future permits being denied (5 AAC 01.015 (C)).

**SUBSISTENCE SALMON HARVEST REPORT**

Number of salmon by species:

DATE	SPECIFIC LOCATION	KING	SOCKEYE	COHO	PINK	CHUM

- ALL PERSONS MUST HAVE A VALID SUBSISTENCE PERMIT IN POSSESSION WHILE TAKING OR ATTEMPTING TO TAKE SUBSISTENCE SALMON.
- COMPLETE THE SUBSISTENCE HARVEST REPORTS IMMEDIATELY UPON LANDING SALMON. UNSUCCESSFUL TRIPS SHOULD ALSO BE RECORDED.
- THE LIMIT IS **250** SALMON PER PERMIT. ADDITIONAL PERMITS MAY BE ISSUED IF ADDITIONAL SALMON ARE NEED FOR SUBSISTENCE.

**REFER TO THE CURRENT SUBSISTENCE REGULATION BOOK FOR COMPLETE REGULATIONS**

Return permit to: Chignik Salmon Management, ADF&G, 351 Research Court, Kodiak, AK 99615 by December 31, 2024.

Department representative \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

(SEE OPPOSITE SIDE FOR SUBSISTENCE REGULATIONS)

**SELECTED SUBSISTENCE REGULATIONS**

These listed regulations are not inclusive of all the regulations that apply to subsistence salmon fishing in the Chignik Area.

**5 AAC 01.015. SUBSISTENCE FISHING PERMITS AND REPORTS.** (b)(3) Permits must be retained in the possession of the permittee and be readily available for inspection while taking fish. A person who transports subsistence-taken fish shall have a subsistence fishing permit in their possession.

**5 AAC 01.460. FISHING SEASONS.** Fish, other than rainbow trout and steelhead trout, may be taken at any time, except as may be specified by a subsistence fishing permit. Rainbow trout and steelhead trout, taken incidental in other subsistence finfish net fisheries, are lawfully taken and may be retained for subsistence purposes.

**5 AAC 01.470. LAWFUL GEAR AND GEAR SPECIFICATIONS.** (a) Salmon may be taken by seines and gillnets, or with gear specified by a subsistence fishing permit, except that salmon in Chignik Lake may not be taken with purse seines. A gillnet may not be set while staked, anchored, or otherwise fixed in a stream while it obstructs more than one-half of the width of the waterway.

**5 AAC 01.475. WATERS CLOSED TO SUBSISTENCE FISHING.** Salmon may not be taken (1) from July 1 through August 31, in the Chignik River from a point 300 feet upstream from the Chignik weir to Chignik Lake; (2) in Black Lake or any tributary to Black Lake or tributary to Chignik Lake except in the Clark River and Home Creek from their confluence with Chignik Lake upstream one mile.

**AAC 01.480. SUBSISTENCE FISHING PERMITS.**

- a. Salmon, trout and char may only be taken under the authority of a subsistence fishing permit.
- b. Not more than 250 salmon may be taken for subsistence purposes unless otherwise specified on the subsistence fishing permit.
- c. A record of subsistence-caught fish must be kept on this permit. The record must be completed immediately upon taking subsistence-caught fish and must be returned to the local representative of the department no later than December 31 of the year issued.

**5 AAC 01.485. RESTRICTIONS ON COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN.** (a) In the Chignik Area, a commercial salmon fishing license holder may not subsistence fish for salmon during the 12 hours before the first commercial salmon fishing period and the 12 hours following the closure of a commercial salmon fishing period. However, a commercial salmon fishing license holder may subsistence fish for salmon during a commercial salmon fishing period.

**SPECIAL PERMIT PROVISIONS**

1. The adipose fin must be removed from all subsistence-caught salmon immediately upon capture.
2. A commercial license holder may not fish for both subsistence and commercial salmon at the same time. Further, a commercial salmon vessel may not carry both the subsistence and commercially caught salmon at the same time.
3. A commercial fishing vessel may not simultaneously carry both commercial seine and subsistence gillnet gear.
4. Commercial fisherman may always remove salmon from their commercial catch for home pack. Record the number of salmon taken by species for home pack use on your fish ticket.
5. This permit can be withdrawn at any time.

**NOTICE TO FISHERMAN:**

Before you fish, be sure you know whose land you are on and check the regulations. State regulations apply on all state, private, and federal lands where authorized. Private landowners may restrict entry on their land. Federal lands may be closed to fishing except by certain rural residents. Persons standing on state or private lands should be sure their fishing activities are legal under state regulations. If you have questions regarding the federal subsistence fisheries, please contact the Federal Office of Subsistence Management at 1-800 478-1456.

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Return permit by December 31, 2024 to: Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Chignik Salmon Management, 351 Research Court, Kodiak AK 99615. Questions or concerns please contact your local Fish and Game Office: Chignik (907) 845-2243 (May 15 to September 15) or Kodiak (907) 486-1830.