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**Chignik Management Area Commercial Salmon
Fishery Harvest Strategy, 2026**

by

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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 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, χ^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 (simple)	r
		corporate suffixes:		covariance	cov
Weights and measures (English)		Company	Co.	degree (angular)	$^\circ$
cubic feet per second	ft ³ /s	Corporation	Corp.	degrees of freedom	df
foot	ft	Incorporated	Inc.	expected value	E
gallon	gal	Limited	Ltd.	greater than	>
inch	in	District of Columbia	D.C.	greater than or equal to	\geq
mile	mi	et alii (and others)	et al.	harvest per unit effort	HPUE
nautical mile	nmi	et cetera (and so forth)	etc.	less than	<
ounce	oz	exempli gratia	e.g.	less than or equal to	\leq
pound	lb	(for example)		logarithm (natural)	ln
quart	qt	Federal Information Code	FIC	logarithm (base 10)	log
yard	yd	id est (that is)	i.e.	logarithm (specify base)	log ₂ , etc.
		latitude or longitude	lat or long	minute (angular)	'
Time and temperature		monetary symbols (U.S.)	\$, ¢	not significant	NS
day	d	months (tables and figures): first three letters	Jan, ..., Dec	null hypothesis	H_0
degrees Celsius	°C	registered trademark	®	percent	%
degrees Fahrenheit	°F	trademark	™	probability	P
degrees kelvin	K	United States (adjective)	U.S.	probability of a type I error (rejection of the null hypothesis when true)	α
hour	h	United States of America (noun)	USA	probability of a type II error (acceptance of the null hypothesis when false)	β
minute	min	U.S.C.	United States Code	second (angular)	"
second	s	U.S. state	use two-letter abbreviations (e.g., AK, WA)	standard deviation	SD
Physics and chemistry				standard error	SE
all atomic symbols				variance	
alternating current	AC			population sample	Var
ampere	A			sample	var
calorie	cal				
direct current	DC				
hertz	Hz				
horsepower	hp				
hydrogen ion activity (negative log of)	pH				
parts per million	ppm				
parts per thousand	ppt, ‰				
volts	V				
watts	W				

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**CHIGNIK MANAGEMENT AREA COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHERY
HARVEST STRATEGY, 2026**

by

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The Regional Information Report Series was established in 1987 and was redefined in 2007 to meet the Division of Commercial Fisheries regional need for publishing and archiving information such as area management plans, budgetary information, staff comments and opinions to Alaska Board of Fisheries proposals, interim or preliminary data and grant agency reports, special meeting or minor workshop results and other regional information not generally reported elsewhere. Reports in this series may contain raw data and preliminary results. Reports in this series receive varying degrees of regional, biometric, and editorial review; information in this series may be subsequently finalized and published in a different department reporting series or in the formal literature. Please contact the author or the Division of Commercial Fisheries if in doubt of the level of review or preliminary nature of the data reported. Regional Information Reports are available through the Alaska State Library and on the Internet at: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/publications/>.

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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 2026 Chignik Management Area (CMA) commercial salmon fishery. The 2026 total sockeye salmon *Oncorhynchus nerka* run forecast for the Chignik River watershed is 1,735,000 fish. The projected sockeye salmon harvest in the CMA is 1,138,000 fish. Additional management measures will be in place for the 2026 season to protect Chinook salmon *O. tshawytscha*. 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 *O. gorbuscha* and chum salmon *O. keta*. From the end of the transition period until the end of the fishing season, ADF&G shall manage the CMA based on its evaluation of the local pink, chum, and coho *O. kisutch* salmon, 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, 2026 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 2026 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 2026 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*.

2026 SALMON FORECAST AND ESCAPEMENT GOALS

ADF&G publishes yearly preseason forecasts for the Chignik watershed (Gleason and Munro 2026). 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 may occur during the season to the escapement target if there is concern over the quality of the run.

Total Run

The total 2026 sockeye salmon run for the Chignik River watershed is forecast to be 1,735,000 fish (range 755 to 3,180,000 fish)¹. The total projected CMA commercial harvest for 2026 is 1,138,000 sockeye salmon. Total projected commercial harvest in the Southeastern Mainland District (SEDM) area during the allocation period (through July 25) is 56,000. Of CMA harvest, 1,085,000 is 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. 2026) 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 11 and 71% is expected to pass by July 25.

Early Run

The total early run forecast is approximately 816,000 sockeye salmon (range 342,000 to 1,776,000 fish). The Chignik River early run harvest is expected to be approximately 466,000 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 919,000 sockeye salmon (range 413,000 to 1,404,000). The Chignik River late run harvest is expected to be approximately 619,000 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 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 most recent Chignik Management Area Salmon Annual Management Report available on the Fish and Game website.

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. 2026). The Chignik River Chinook salmon run has been recognized as a stock of concern.

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

¹ Source: ADF&G advisory announcement: <https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/applications/dfnewsrelease/1749205500.pdf>

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. 2026). This SEG range was developed using 8 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 8 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. 2026). This SEG was developed using 6 index streams that have historically accounted for more than 50% of the escapement (Schaberg et al. 2015). ADF&G will survey the 6 index streams in order to obtain an escapement index and will monitor all streams (42 total) in order to assess the quality and geographic distribution of the runs.

2026 CHIGNIK SALMON MANAGEMENT

2026 BOARD OF FISHERIES REGULATORY CHANGES

At the February 2026 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 summarized and described below.

1. The Chignik Bay District is now composed of the Chignik Bay Section and the Jack Bay Section (locally known as Jacks Box). As a result, Jacks Box now requires gear consistent with the Chignik Bay District. The Jack Bay Section is also now its own statistical area (Figure 3).
2. Mitrofanina Island has been split into two statistical areas, East (273-76) and West (273-77). The East side is considered closed waters June 1 through July 31 (Figure 4).
3. The Eastern, Central, Western, and Perryville Districts gear requirements have changed.

CHINOOK SALMON PROTECTION MEASURES

The Chinook salmon stock of concern action plan has been updated, and new management measures will be in place for throughout 2026 and in future Chignik commercial salmon seasons. Nonretention of Chinook salmon greater than 28-inches will be in effect throughout the CMA. However, all permit holders must retain all visibly injured or dead king salmon and they must be recorded on a fish ticket. The CMA will also have a cap on Chinook harvest. If more than 1,000 Chinook salmon are harvested within a commercial fishing period, the statistical areas primarily responsible will be immediately closed for seven days. If more than 5,000 Chinook salmon are

harvested within a commercial fishing period, the statistical areas primarily responsible will be immediately closed through August 10.

Throughout the month of July, commercial salmon fishing in the Chignik Bay Section will be limited to openers of no more than 48-hours, followed by closures of a minimum of 72 hours when Chignik Chinook salmon are not projecting to reach their escapement goal. These closures will reduce to a minimum of 48 hours when Chignik Chinook salmon are projecting to meet the low end of the escapement goal (1,300 fish), and a minimum of 24 hours when projecting to meet the mid point of the escapement goal (2,000 fish). Throughout July, closed waters will also be in effect withing the Chignik Lagoon inside of a line from Oly's Point (Figure 5).

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 opportunities prior to the commercial fishing season.

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 aforementioned areas. 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 early-run sockeye salmon management objectives. The first commercial fishing period will likely be approximately 48-hours and will occur after initially reaching a lower interim management objective if escapement is also projecting to hit midpoint goals in order to provide early fishing opportunity and gage run and fleet strength.

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

Within Chignik Lagoon, ADF&G will primarily use the Hume Point and Mensis Point markers to designate closed waters (Figure 6). Alternating between Hume 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 6). 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.

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 2026 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 to 2024 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 a mix of freshwater age-1 and -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 management objectives during the transition period. If run timing for either run appears to be abnormal, management action may be taken to aim for the lower or upper end of the objectives to avoid escapement above or below each runs escapement goals. 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 and Chinook salmon run strength. Throughout the month of July, commercial salmon fishing openers within the Chignik Bay District will be limited to 48-hours a week in order to protect the Chignik Chinook salmon run. If the Department is confident the Chinook salmon BEG will be met, restrictions will be lifted.

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 EO 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. Fishing periods beginning around mid-July will also depend on pink and chum salmon harvest as compared to historical records and local pink and chum salmon escapements.

If surplus Chignik River sockeye salmon are not expected to be available for harvest after July 5, 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 7). 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 2–4), 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 2026 commercial salmon season.

Beginning August 1 and through September 15, 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. After September 15, 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 if a market is available.

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)). Fishing times and areas will be based on ADF&G's inseason assessment of the run strength. During the month of August, fisheries may occur concurrently with the Western and Perryville Districts in areas with adequate pink and chum salmon abundance to warrant fisheries, 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 management objectives are expected to be met and overall pink and chum salmon abundance is sufficient to meet Eastern District escapement objectives.

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 occurring in the Inner Kuikta/Portage Bay, Windy Bay, Dorner Bay, Mitrofanina Bay, Fishrack Bay, Ivan Bay, Coal Cape, Inner Perryville, Inner Humpback Bay, and Ivanoff Bay (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.

2026 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).

All state subsistence salmon fishermen must obtain a Chignik Area subsistence salmon permit issued by the ADF&G for the 2026 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. Subsistence fishing regulations can be found in the *2024–2026 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. User's may also email the Chignik Area Management Biologist, Teresa Fish, Teresa.fish@alaska.gov.

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 2026 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 the Area Management Biologist, Teresa Fish 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, 2026. The adipose fin must be removed from all subsistence-caught salmon immediately after harvest.

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- 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. <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/FedAidPDFs/FMS15-02.pdf>

TABLES AND FIGURES

Table 1.–Chignik River sockeye salmon optimal escapement objectives.

Date	Early-run OEG		Late-run OEG		Combined OEG's	
	Lower	Upper	Lower	Upper	Lower	Upper
5-Jun	1,300	6,900	0	0	1,300	6,900
10-Jun	10,000	38,000	0	0	10,000	38,000
15-Jun	26,000	88,300	0	200	26,000	88,500
20-Jun	60,900	171,500	200	900	61,100	172,400
25-Jun	115,900	257,900	800	3,900	116,700	261,800
30-Jun	165,100	322,100	2,600	10,800	167,700	332,900
5-Jul	218,700	364,500	8,200	22,900	226,900	387,400
10-Jul	254,200	385,500	20,600	48,600	274,800	434,100
15-Jul	277,500	395,100	42,300	92,800	319,800	487,900
20-Jul	290,700	398,800	74,100	146,100	364,800	544,900
25-Jul	296,500	399,700	105,900	191,700	402,400	591,400
30-Jul	299,000	399,900	136,800	224,800	435,800	624,700
4-Aug	299,700	400,000	158,400	254,200	458,100	654,200
9-Aug	299,900	400,000	178,200	278,600	478,100	678,600
14-Aug	300,000	400,000	192,900	298,500	492,900	698,500
19-Aug	300,000	400,000	204,800	317,400	504,800	717,400
24-Aug	300,000	400,000	215,900	328,500	515,900	728,500
29-Aug	300,000	400,000	224,600	337,300	524,600	737,300
31-Aug	300,000	400,000	227,900	340,500	527,900	740,500
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	Post 2025
<u>Perryville District</u>				
Ivanof Bay Section				
Inner Ivanof Bay	N/A	275-41	275-41	275-41
Ivanof Bay	275-40	275-42	275-42	275-42
Humpback Bay Section				
Inner Humpback Bay	N/A	275-51	275-51	275-51
Humpback Bay ^a	275-50	275-52	275-53	275-53
Outer Humpback Bay ^a	N/A	N/A	275-54	275-54
Perryville Section				
Perryville Area	275-60	275-60	N/A	N/A
Inner Perryville Area ^a	N/A	N/A	275-61	275-61
Outer Perryville Area ^a	N/A	N/A	275-62	275-62
<u>Western District</u>				
Mitrofanina Section				
Coal Cape Area	273-70	273-70	273-70	273-70
Ivan Bay	N/A	273-71	273-71	273-71
Fishrack Bay	N/A	273-73	273-73	273-73
Mitrofanina Island	273-74	273-74	273-74	N/A
Mitrofanina Bay	273-72	273-75	273-75	273-75
West Mitrofanina Island ^b	N/A	N/A	N/A	273-76
East Mitrofanina Island ^b	N/A	N/A	N/A	273-77
Dorner Bay Section				
Dorner Bay	N/A	273-81	273-81	273-81
Windy Bay	273-82	273-82	273-82	273-82
Inner Kuiuukta/Portage Bay	273-84	273-84	273-84	273-84
Outer Kuiuukta Bay ^a	273-80	273-85	273-86	273-86
Castle Cape Section				
Castle Cape/Cape Itki	273-90	273-90	N/A	N/A
Devil's Bay ^a	N/A	N/A	273-91	273-91
Chankliut Island ^a	N/A	N/A	273-92	273-92
Inner Castle Cape	273-93	273-93	273-93	273-93
Outer Castle Cape	273-95	273-95	273-95	273-95

-continued-

Table 2.–Page 2 of 2.

Area	Statistical area			
	Prior to 2016	Post 2016	Post 2023	Post 2025
<u>Chignik Bay District</u>				
Chignik Bay Section ^b				
Chignik Lagoon ^{b,c}	271-10	271-10	271-10	271-11
Inner Chignik Bay ^{b,c}	N/A	N/A	N/A	271-13
Jack Bay Section ^b				
Jack Bay ^b	N/A	N/A	N/A	271-14
<u>Central District</u>				
Outer Chignik Bay Section				
Chignik Bay ^b	272-20	272-20	272-20	272-21
Hook Bay ^b	272-30	272-30	272-30	272-31
Nakchamik Island ^b	272-40	272-40	272-40	272-41
Kujulik Section				
Inner Kujulik Bay	N/A	272-51	272-51	272-51
Kujulik Bay	272-50	272-53	272-53	272-53
Kumlik Section				
Cape Kumlik	272-62	272-62	272-62	272-62
Sutwik Island	272-64	272-64	272-64	272-64
<u>Eastern District</u>				
Big River Section				
Aniakchak Bay	272-60	272-60	272-60	272-60
Inner Amber Bay	N/A	272-71	272-71	272-71
Amber Bay	272-70	272-74	272-74	272-74
Nakalilok/ Yantarni Bay Section				
Inner Yantarni Bay	N/A	272-73	272-73	272-73
Yantarni Bay	272-72	272-75	272-75	272-75
Inner Nakalilok Bay	N/A	272-81	272-81	272-81
Nakalilok Bay	272-80	272-82	272-82	272-82
Chiganagak Section				
Inner Chiganagak Bay	N/A	272-91	272-91	272-91
Chiganagak Bay	272-90	272-93	272-93	272-93
Agripina Section				
Port Wrangell	272-92	272-92	272-92	272-92
Inner Agripina Bay	N/A	272-95	272-95	272-95
Agripina to Kilokak	272-96	272-97	272-97	272-97

^a New or altered statistical area effective in 2023.

^b New or altered statistical area effective in 2026.

^c New or altered statistical area effective in 2025. In 2025 Chignik Lagoon 271-11 and Chignik Bay 271-12 were created out of board cycle.

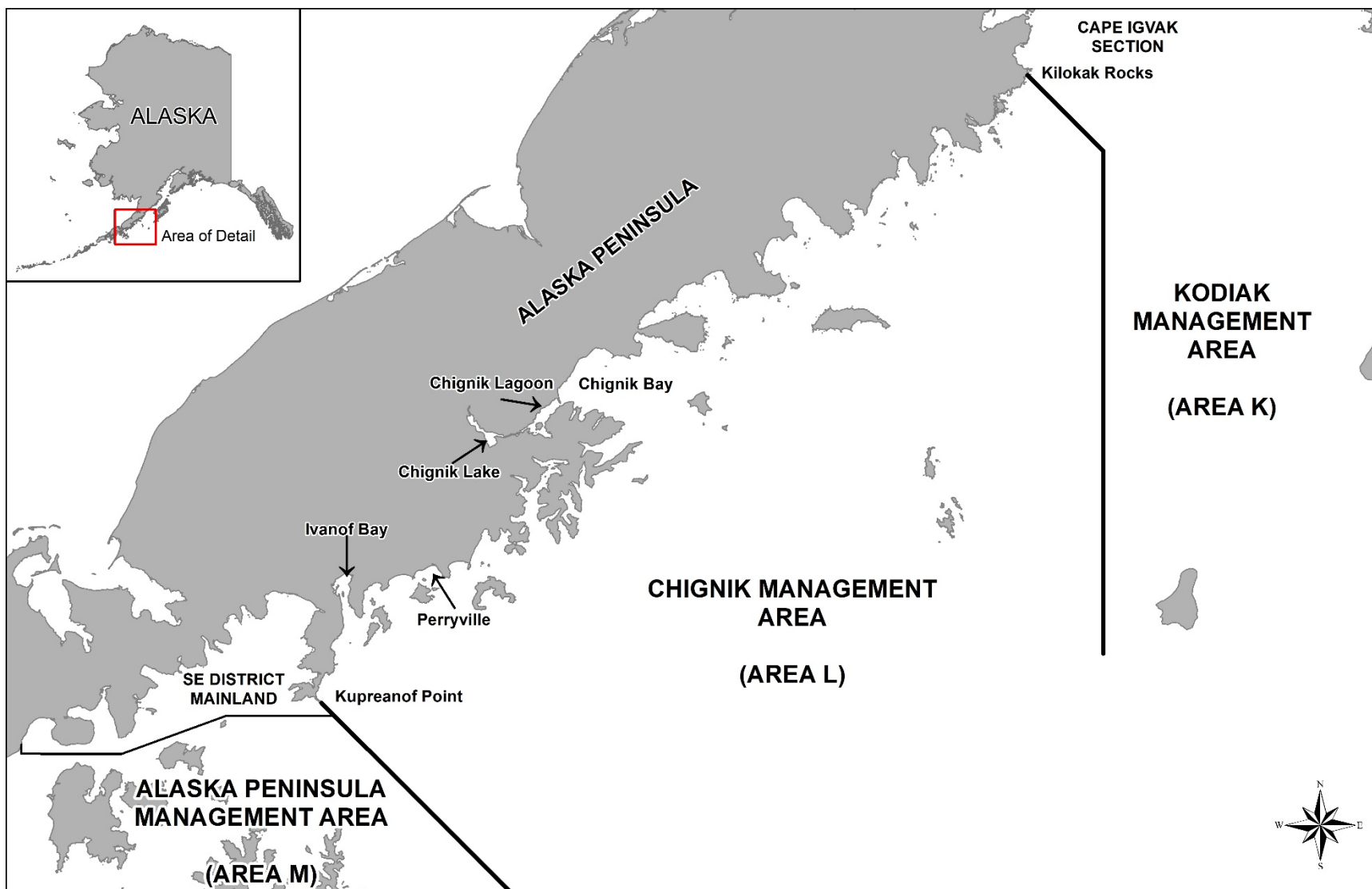


Figure 1.– Map of the Alaska Peninsula and the relative locations of the Chignik, Kodiak, and Alaska Peninsula Management areas.

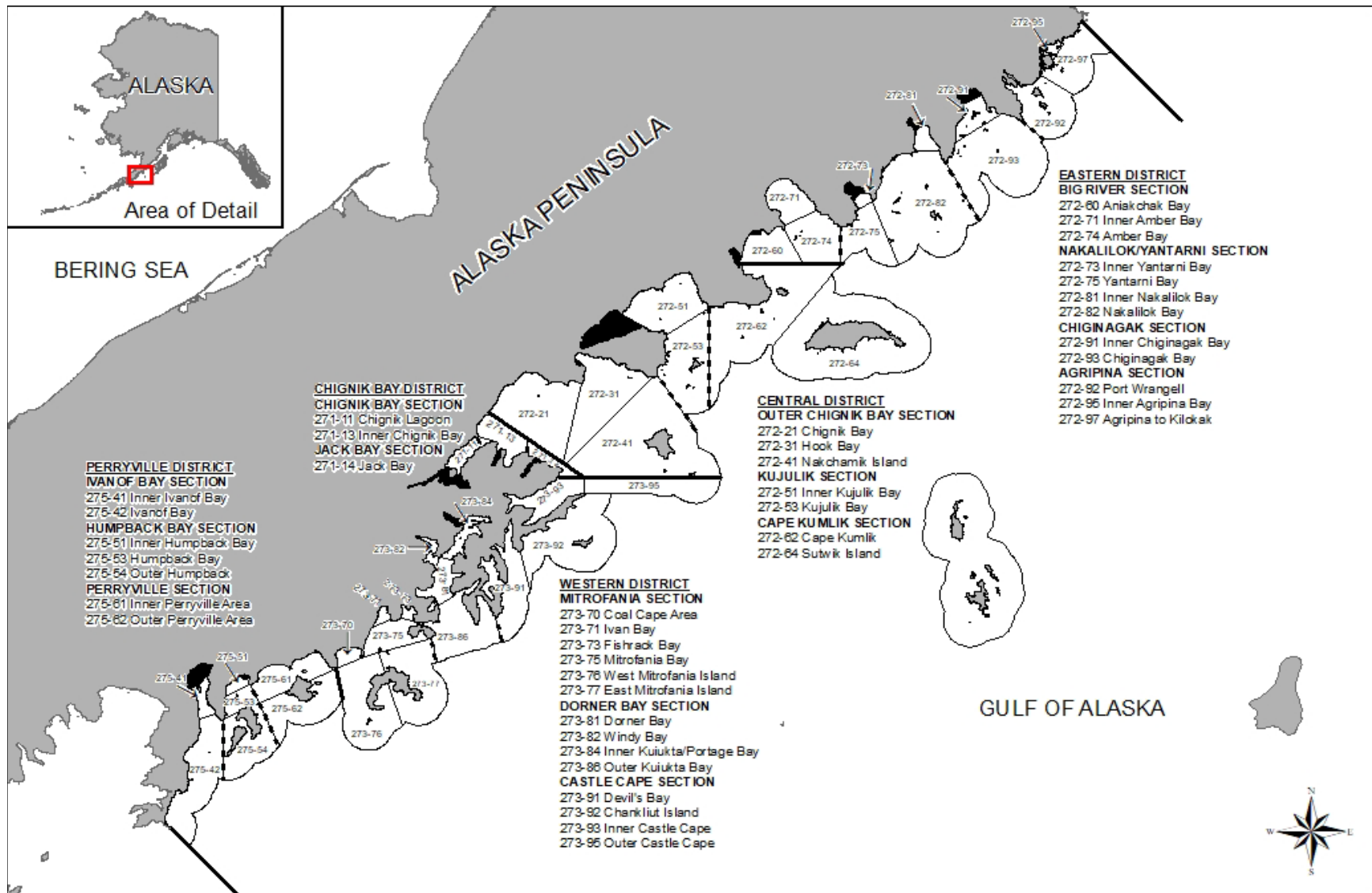


Figure 2.—Map of the Chignik Management Area commercial fishing district boundaries and statistical areas.

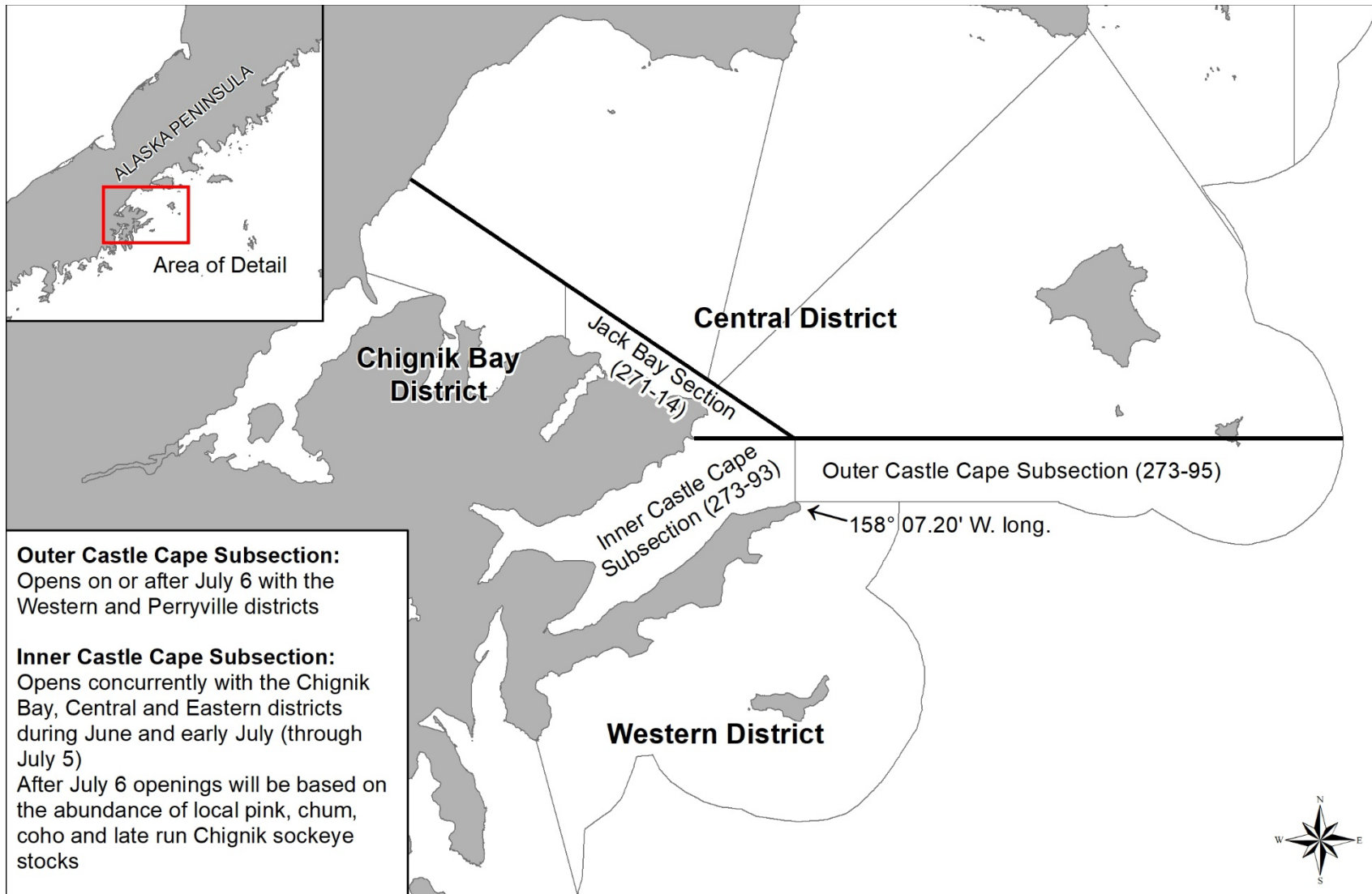


Figure 3.—Map of the Inner (273-93) and Outer Castle Cape (273-95) subsections of the Western District.

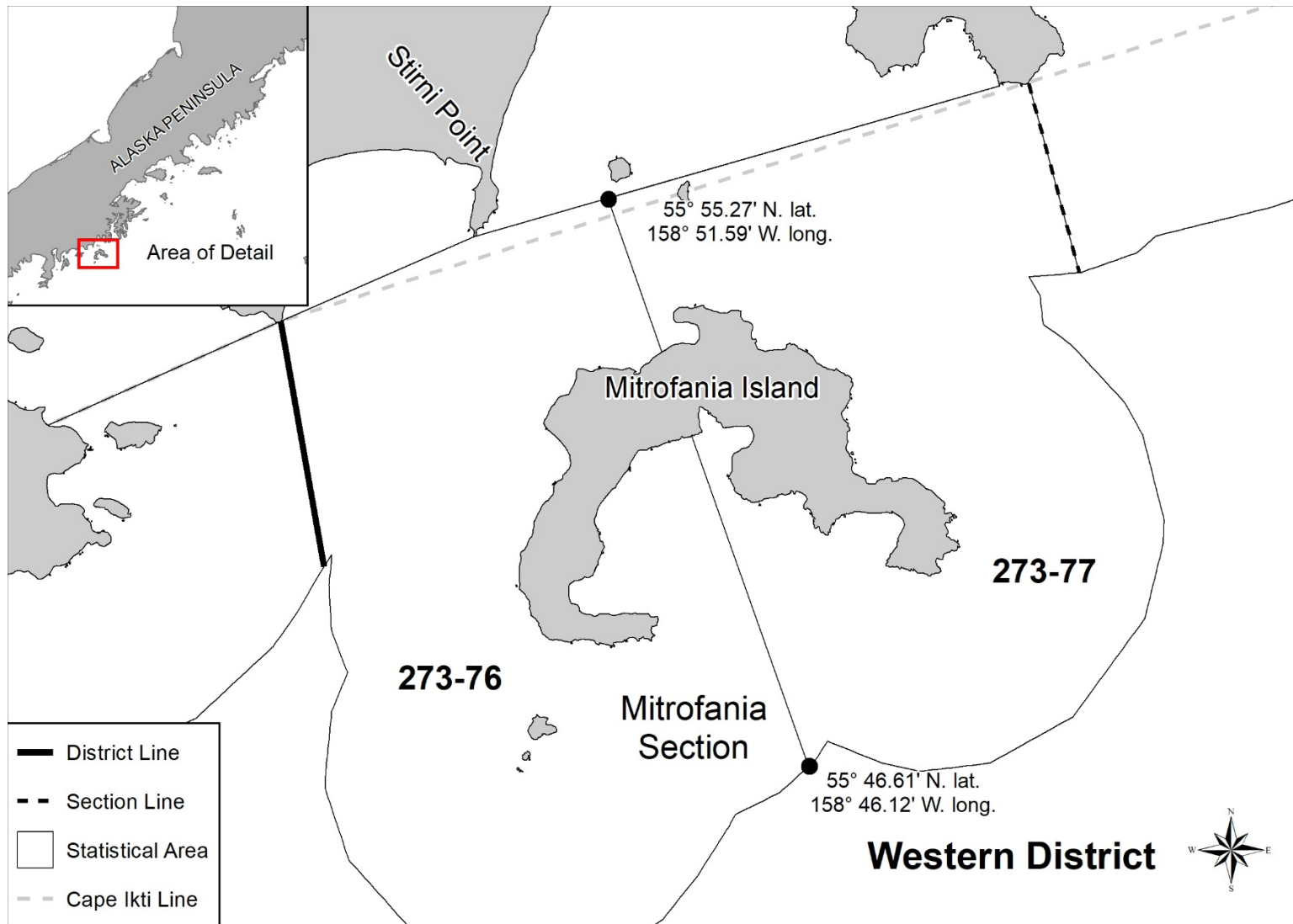


Figure 4.—Map of the Mitrofanía Island subsections of the Western District.

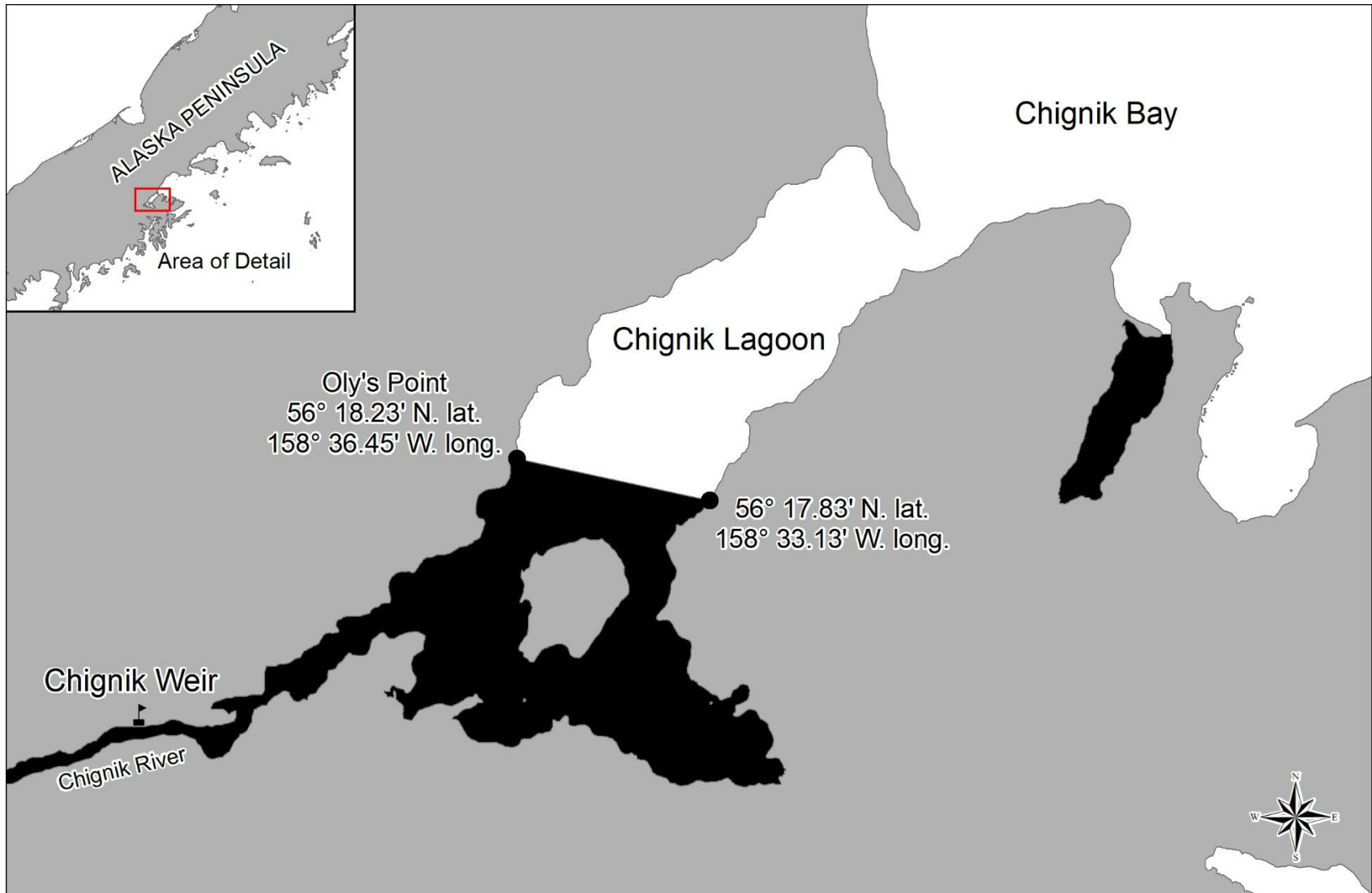


Figure 5.—Map of the July closed waters in Chignik Lagoon of the Chignik Bay District.

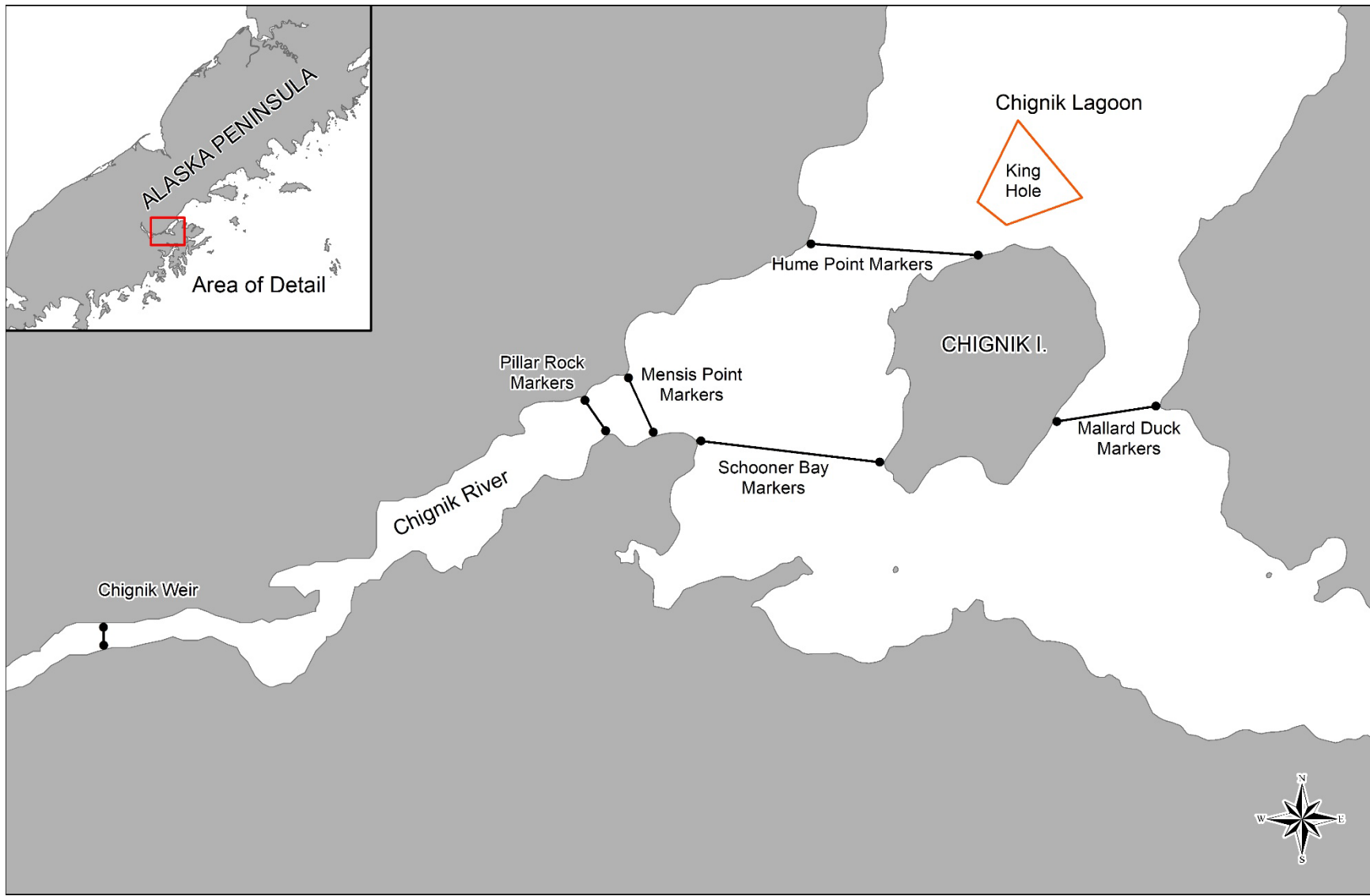


Figure 6.—Map of upper Chignik Lagoon and the location of Pillar Rock, Mensis Point, Hume Point, Mallard Duck, and Schooner Bay marker locations and the location of the Chignik weir.

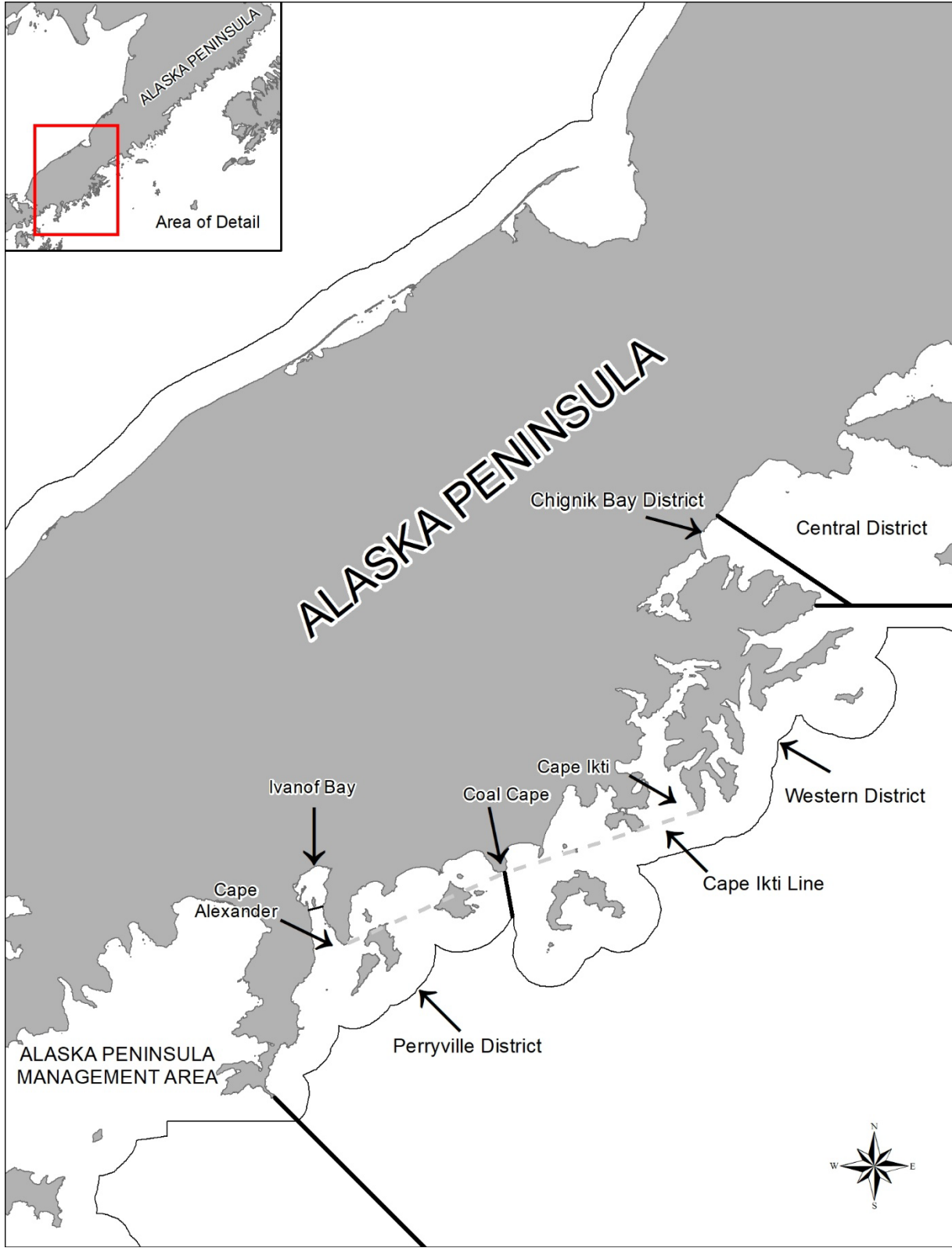


Figure 7.—Map of the “Cape Ikti Line” in the Western and Perryville Districts.

**APPENDIX A. ADVISORY ANNOUNCEMENT
INSTRUCTIONS**

Appendix A1.–Advisory Announcement Instructions

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



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"/>

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.

-continued-

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.

Commercial Fishery Announcements

(Includes Subsistence and Personal Use)

PDF Search Results



Modify Search or Subscribe

New Search

- [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

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)

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. 2026 CHIGNIK SOCKEYE
SALMON FORECAST**

Appendix B1.–2026 Chignik sockeye salmon forecast.

Total Production		Forecast Estimate (thousands)	Forecast Range (thousands)
Early run	Total Run Estimate	816	342–1,776
	Optimal Escapement Goal ^a	350	300–400
	Harvest Estimate ^b	466	
Late run	Total Run Estimate	919	413–1,404
	Optimal Escapement Goal ^a	300	240–360
	Harvest Estimate ^b	619	
Total Chignik System	Total Run Estimate	1,735	755–3,180
	Biological Escapement Goal ^c	625	450–800
	Combined OEG	650	540–760
Harvest	Chignik Area ^b	1,029	
	SEDM ^d	56	
	Cape Igvak ^d	0	
	CMA harvest ^e	1,138,00	
	Harvest Category	<i>average</i>	

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

^a 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).

^b Harvest represents the surplus Chignik bound sockeye salmon achieved beyond the midpoint of the escapement goal.

^c 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.

^d 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 forecast 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 ~56,000 fish was estimated for SEDM up to the July 25 regulatory time frame.

^e 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, 1,029,000 sockeye salmon are estimated to be Chignik bound and an additional 109,000 fish are estimated to be fish harvested while transiting through the CMA for a total of 1,138,000 sockeye salmon harvested in the CMA.

-continued-

Forecast Methods

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 the last 15 years; median prediction intervals were calculated from the 10th and 90th percentiles of the data.

The 2026 total Chignik River sockeye salmon run was forecast by modeling returns of stock components and summing those results by age. Early-run 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. Late-run ocean-age 3 returns were predicted from ocean-age-2 returns using data from brood year 2000 to the present.

The regression and median estimates were summed to estimate the total Chignik River sockeye salmon run for 2026. The total run 80% prediction interval was calculated by summing the lower and upper prediction bounds of the two runs.

Forecast Discussion: The 2026 Chignik River sockeye salmon total run is forecast to be 1.74 million fish, which is 430,000 fish more than the 10-year average run of 1.31 million fish and almost 238,000 fish less than the 2025 total run of 1.97 million fish. The Chignik River sockeye salmon total run is predicted to be composed of approximately 79% ocean-age-3 and 20% ocean-age-2 fish with the early and late runs comprising 47% and 53% of the total run, respectively.

The projected 2026 harvest estimate of almost 1.09 million Chignik-bound fish is based on achievement of the midpoints of the optimal escapement goal ranges. The harvest estimate of 1.02 million fish captured in the Chignik Management Area (CMA) does not include other stocks caught while transiting through the CMA, which is estimated to be an additional 109,000 fish. Because a harvestable surplus of Chignik-bound sockeye salmon in the CMA is forecast to exceed 600,000, commercial fisheries and the Southeastern District Mainland of the Alaska Peninsula Management Area is forecast to harvest 56,000 sockeye salmon. The Cape Igvak Section of the Kodiak Management Area is not anticipated to fish as 600,000 fish are not forecast to be harvested in the CMA prior to July 5.

The wide confidence intervals around the point estimate of the 2026 forecasts reflect the uncertainty inherent in the forecast models. Given the unreliability of sibling relationships used for forecasting the run and the variability in returns, the 2026 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.

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

APPENDIX C. CHIGNIK SALMON SUBSISTENCE PERMIT

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.

Return permit by December 31, 2026 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.
