

Regional Information Report No. 1J09-09

**Management Plan for the Spring Commercial Troll
Fishery in Southeast Alaska, 2009**

by

Brian Lynch

and

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April 2009

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Division of Commercial Fisheries



Symbols and Abbreviations

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

REGIONAL INFORMATION REPORT NO. 1J009-09

**MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE SPRING COMMERCIAL TROLL
FISHERY IN SOUTHEAST ALASKA, 2009**

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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 project operational plans, area management plans, budgetary information, staff comments and opinions to 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.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
LIST OF TABLES.....	ii
LIST OF FIGURES.....	ii
ABSTRACT.....	1
INTRODUCTION.....	1
Changes in the 2009 Spring Troll Fisheries.....	1
Directed Chinook Salmon Fisheries in Districts 8 and 11.....	1
District 8.....	2
District 11.....	2
Yakutat Spring Troll Fishery.....	2
MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND METHODS.....	2
Spring Fisheries.....	2
Terminal Fisheries.....	4
FROZEN AT SEA REQUIREMENTS.....	4
RETENTION OF OTHER SALMON SPECIES.....	5
2008 SPRING FISHERY SUMMARY.....	5
2009 SPRING TROLL FISHERY—INITIAL OPENINGS.....	5
Spring Fisheries Update For 2009.....	5
Schedule Of Initial Troll Openings:.....	5
Terminal Troll Fisheries.....	6
REGULATION SUMMARY.....	6
Closed Waters.....	6
Sport Fishing And Chartering From A Registered Troll Vessel.....	6
Regulations Pertaining To Commercial Troll Bycatch Of Groundfish And Halibut.....	7
2009 ALASKA HATCHERY CHINOOK RETURN FORECAST.....	9
2009 SPRING FISHING AREAS AND MAPS.....	10
Ketchikan Areas.....	10
Wrangell and Prince of Wales Areas.....	12
Chatham Strait and Frederick Sound Areas.....	14
North Chatham Strait and Icy Strait Areas.....	16
Sitka Areas.....	18
FISHERY CONTACTS.....	20

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Page
Table 1.–Guideline limits of Treaty fish that may be harvested in each spring troll fishing area.....	3
Table 2.–2009 Alaska hatchery Chinook and Neck Lake coho return forecasts.	9

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure	Page
Figure 1.–Ketchikan area spring trolling areas, 2009.	11
Figure 2.–Wrangell and Prince of Wales spring trolling areas, 2009.	13
Figure 3.–Chatham Strait and Frederick Sound spring trolling areas, 2009.	15
Figure 4.–North Chatham and Icy Strait spring trolling areas, 2009.	17
Figure 5.–Sitka spring trolling areas 2009.	19

ABSTRACT

This document summarizes the plan that the Alaska Department of Fish and Game will follow to manage the 2009 Southeast Alaska spring commercial salmon troll fishery, according to the Board of Fisheries adopted guidelines listed in the State of Alaska Administrative Code under 5 AAC 29.090.

Key words: Salmon, Chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*, Troll, Spring, Commercial fishery, Management Plan, Southeast Alaska

INTRODUCTION

CHANGES IN THE 2009 SPRING TROLL FISHERIES

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) will open 26 spring troll areas and 5 terminal harvest areas this year. Seven spring troll areas and three terminal areas will open May 1 and remain open until further notice. An additional 19 spring troll areas will open initially between May 1 and May 18, according to the schedule on pages 5–6.

During its February meeting in Sitka, the Board of Fisheries (BOF) adopted new regulations that will affect the management of the 2009 spring troll fisheries.

1. The Cross Sound Area (Fishery Area 114-21) will no longer be managed as a pink and chum salmon index area with a cap of 500 king salmon. It will now be managed based on the Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon contribution and Treaty king salmon caps, under the provisions of 5 AAC 29.090(d)(1)(D), as are all other spring fisheries; and
2. As of May 1, if the preseason Abundance Index is 1.15 or above (commercial troll allocation of 120,833 king salmon) and the amount of kings remaining on the winter GHF to be harvested is between 10,000 and 15,000 fish, then an additional 250 non-Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon will be added to the Treaty caps in each tier under 29.090(d) (10) (D). If the number of king salmon remaining on the GHF is greater than 15,000 fish, then an additional 500 king salmon will be added to the Treaty caps.
3. 5 AAC 29.120 GEAR SPECIFICATIONS AND OPERATIONS was amended, with the addition of a new subsection, to allow a vessel to have both troll and drift gillnet gear aboard. This regulation will allow fishing of multiple gear types from a vessel more easily without complete removal of either gear type between fisheries, provided specific provisions are followed. One or more persons aboard must have current CFEC permits for each gear type on board, and make those permits readily available to the department employees or peace officers. Fish harvested by either gear type must be offloaded and recorded on fish tickets before operating another gear type. Gillnets must be bagged and below deck before and during operation of troll gear or when troll-caught fish are on board the vessel. Trolling cannon balls or other weights must be removed from trolling wires and stored below deck before or during operation of gillnet gear and when gillnet-caught fish are on board the vessel. ***Note: This regulation may not be in effect until June. The department will issue a News Release announcing when the new regulations will be in effect and how text of the new regulations may be obtained.***

DIRECTED CHINOOK SALMON FISHERIES IN DISTRICTS 8 AND 11

An agreement was approved between the United States and Canada during the Pacific Salmon Commission meeting held in February, 2005. This agreement allows directed commercial and sport fisheries on Chinook salmon returning to the Stikine and Taku Rivers. Management plans

were adopted by the Board of Fisheries in January, 2006 which describes fishing areas and schedules for commercial and sport fisheries in Districts 8 and 11.

District 8

The 2009 preseason terminal run forecast for large Stikine River king salmon is 32,000 fish. The resulting U.S. Allowable Catch (AC) is 390 large Stikine kings. An AC of this size **will not allow for directed fisheries** to start the first Monday in May. An inseason forecast will be produced in late May. If the first inseason forecast is similar to or greater than the preseason forecast, limited directed king salmon fisheries could occur. However, prior to that time, the **three spring troll fisheries** that were open in 2005 (see 2009 SPRING FISHING AREAS AND MAPS) **will be open** the week of May 3 and will be managed based on the composition of Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon and the catch of non-Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon, per 5 AAC 29.090(d)(1)(D).

District 11

The U.S. and Canada have agreed to a revised escapement goal range for large Taku River king salmon of **19,000 to 36,000** fish, with a point goal of **25,500** large king salmon. The prior escapement goal range was 30,000 to 55,000 fish with a point goal of 36,000 large king salmon.

As was previously announced in a news release issued December 11, 2008, the 2009 pre-season forecast for large Taku River king salmon is 50,164 fish. As a result of the revised escapement goal, the **U.S. Allowable Catch (AC) is 8,260 large Taku River king salmon**. An AC of 8,260 fish allows the **troll and gillnet commercial fisheries in District 11 to open in early May 2009**.

The revised escapement goal and the 2009 preseason forecasts allow for the third season of directed fisheries for returning Taku River king salmon to occur in District 11 since these fisheries were reestablished in 2005. Open areas in 2009 will be similar to those in 2006.

News releases announcing specific opening times and areas for directed king salmon openings for troll and gillnet fisheries in District 11 will be released in mid-April.

YAKUTAT SPRING TROLL FISHERY

The BOF at its January, 2006 meeting established regulations that allow the department to open, by Emergency Order, a spring salmon troll fishery for one day per week during the months of May and June in the Yakutat Bay area east of a line from Point Manby to Ocean Cape. The maximum harvest is 1,000 king salmon and is not based on the composition of Alaska hatchery fish. This fishery may be open **only if** the projected inriver run of three-ocean age and older king salmon to the Situk River is **greater than 1,050** fish [5 AAC 30.365(c)(5)]. In 2009, a spring fishery is **not scheduled to open** in Yakutat Bay due to the return forecast of 900 large king salmon.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND METHODS

SPRING FISHERIES

Non-Alaska hatchery fish (Treaty fish) are counted towards the season Treaty quota of Chinook salmon under the Pacific Salmon Treaty, but most of the Alaska hatchery fish are not. The spring troll and terminal troll fisheries target Alaska hatchery Chinook salmon, but Treaty Chinook

salmon are also harvested. The guideline limits of Treaty fish that may be harvested in each spring fishing area as listed in Table 1.

Table 1.–Guideline limits of Treaty fish that may be harvested in each spring troll fishing area.

Alaska Hatchery Contribution To The Harvest	Treaty Fish Limit
Less than 25%	1,000
At least 25% and less than 35%	2,000
At least 35% and less than 50%	3,000
At least 50% and less than 66%	5,000
66% or more	no limit

The Board of Fisheries also adopted a regulation that established criteria where the Treaty Fish Limit may be increased as follows: As of May 1, if the preseason Abundance Index is 1.15 or above and the amount of kings remaining on the winter GHL to be harvested is between 10,000 and 15,000 fish, then an additional 250 non-Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon will be added to the Treaty caps in each tier. If the number of king salmon remaining on the GHL is greater than 15,000 fish, then an additional 500 king salmon will be added to the Treaty caps.

Each year fishery managers from ADF&G hold meetings in Southeast Alaska towns to discuss fishing plans with trollers, processors, and hatchery operators. A review of the previous fishing season is presented as well as an outlook for the upcoming year. New fishing areas or changes to existing areas may be proposed. These proposed areas are then scrutinized by department biologists for potential impacts on local wild stocks and to determine whether the area is one where a substantial portion of the harvest is likely to be of Alaska hatchery origin. The department also examines whether any newly proposed areas can be sampled adequately within the current funding levels. Once plans are finalized, the department issues a news release with descriptions of fishing areas and a schedule of initial fishing periods.

Each spring fishing area is managed individually. Fishing periods are opened by emergency order, ADF&G personnel sample fish deliveries and ship the heads of adipose fin-clipped fish to the state tag lab in Juneau for coded-wire tag (CWT) detection and decoding. Fishery openings are announced in a series of weekly news releases.

Fishing time in an area may be extended based on inseason assessment of CWT data and historic harvest timing information. Therefore, it is imperative that fishers and tender operators keep fish from different fishing areas separated until landing so if the fish are sampled at the dock, the percentage of Alaska hatchery fish can be determined for each spring area. Separate fish tickets must also be made for each area fished (5 AAC 29.130).

In 2009, seven spring areas that have had a consistently high percentage of Alaska hatchery fish, have been below the Treaty limits, or have had very low catch and effort will be opened on May 1 until further notice. These areas will be monitored for Alaska hatchery percentage and fishing time will be reduced if the Alaska hatchery percent is low or if the harvest approaches the Treaty fish limit. These fisheries are the Ketchikan Area, Clarence Strait, Frederick Sound Area, Chatham Strait Area, South Passage, Icy Strait Area, and the Sitka Sound Area. The management of the District 8 and 11 fisheries are described under “Directed Chinook Salmon Fisheries in Districts 8 and 11”.

Trollers can assist the sampling effort by notifying ADF&G personnel when delivering their harvest to points of sale normally not covered by department sampling, such as grocery stores, direct sale by the troller, or sale to small processors. The department will then attempt to obtain a sample from the harvest. Early season harvests in all areas, and harvests throughout the spring from Lisianski Inlet, Port Althorp, South Passage, Tebenkof Bay and Sumner Strait areas are of particular concern in obtaining adequate samples.

The heads of all adipose fin-clipped salmon must remain attached to the fish until the fish are sold (5 AAC 29.140 (b)). Permit holders who freeze their harvest onboard are asked to contact the department prior to fishing so that sampling and fish ticket issues can be discussed.

TERMINAL FISHERIES

Terminal fisheries are conducted in areas near a hatchery or release site. Chinook salmon caught in most terminal harvest areas are considered to be 100% Alaska hatchery fish, based on previous sampling. Terminal harvest area (THA) fisheries will occur at Deep Inlet, Hidden Falls, Anita Bay and Neets Bay.

The Chinook salmon return to the Wrangell Narrows Terminal Harvest Area (THA) is projected to be below 4,000 fish, so there will not be a troll fishery in the THA this year, in accordance with the Wrangell Narrows THA management plan (5 AAC 33.381). The return is currently projected at 2,200–2,400 fish.

FROZEN AT SEA REQUIREMENTS

Frozen at Sea (FAS) vessels participating in the spring fisheries are subject to the same landing regulations as all other vessels. Fish caught in each spring fishery must be kept separate from any other fish on board the vessel and a separate fish ticket must be issued for fish caught in each spring fishery (5 AAC 29.130). Tickets must be submitted to ADF&G within seven days of landing.

The heads of all adipose fin-clipped salmon must remain attached to the fish until the fish are sold (5 AAC 29.140(b)). Permit holders who freeze their fish onboard (FAS vessels) are asked to contact ADF&G prior to fishing so that sampling and fish ticket issues can be discussed. **A permit is required to allow the removal of heads from Chinook salmon harvested in the spring areas prior to delivery.** Additional information about the “Exemption Permit” is available on the troll website and the permits are available in area offices. Depending on which area(s) a troller intends to fish in, the department may grant a permit to allow removal of heads from adipose fin-clipped salmon. It is imperative that the department has adequate opportunity to sample all Chinook salmon landed during the spring fisheries. Since the purpose of spring fisheries is to target Alaskan hatchery fish, if adequate access to the fish for sampling purposes is not possible, then some fisheries may be closed if insufficient information is available to support keeping them open.

Reminder: FAS vessels must follow the frozen-at-sea reporting requirements passed in 2003 by the Board of Fisheries [5 AAC 29.145] and the fish ticket reporting requirements of 5 AAC 39.130. FAS vessels are defined as processors by ADF&G, the Dept. of Environmental Conservation and the Dept. of Revenue and, as such, must issue their own fish tickets imprinted with their own processor code plate. Fish tickets must be requested from the Department. It is illegal for a catcher-processor (FAS) vessel to sell processed (frozen) fish to another processor where that processor acts as the first buyer and issues fish tickets imprinted with their code plate.

RETENTION OF OTHER SALMON SPECIES

Coho salmon may be retained during open fishing periods beginning June 15. Sockeye, pink, and chum salmon may be retained at any time during open fishing periods.

If an Atlantic salmon is caught, ADF&G would like to be contacted so that biological samples can be taken. The entire fish should be saved and may be frozen, with entrails intact.

2008 SPRING FISHERY SUMMARY

A total of 575 vessels participated in the 2008 spring fisheries (non-terminal), and harvested 36,620 Chinook, 24 sockeye, 1,663 coho, 524 pink and 329 chum salmon. While the Chinook salmon harvest was approximately 11,900 fish fewer than the 2007 harvest, the Alaska hatchery contribution increased from 38% to 49%. The 2008 spring Chinook salmon total harvest was the sixth highest on record and Alaska hatchery harvest was the fourth highest on record. The largest Chinook salmon harvests were in the Sitka Sound, Tebenkof Bay, Chatham Strait, Western Channel and Ketchikan areas. A total of 24 spring fisheries and five terminal fisheries were open during 2008.

2009 SPRING TROLL FISHERY—INITIAL OPENINGS

SPRING FISHERIES UPDATE FOR 2009

Following is a preliminary schedule for anticipated initial opening weeks for each area. Areas are described in detail in a later section of this report and corresponding maps are presented in Figures 1–5. Fishing periods will be opened by emergency order, with some areas open for two days per week and other areas open for longer periods, based on inseason and historical timing of hatchery contributions in each area. Trollers should consult department news releases for weekly fishing periods and inseason adjustments. News releases will be issued each Friday with the fishing schedule for the following week. News releases may also be issued throughout the week when extensions or early closures are announced. News releases can be found on the department's web site at, <http://documents.cfl.adfg.state.ak.us/TopicContents.po>

SCHEDULE OF INITIAL TROLL OPENINGS:

Areas open on May 1 until further notice:

Ketchikan	Clarence Strait	Ernest Sound
Deer Island	Zimovia Strait	Frederick Sound
Chatham Strait	Sitka Sound	Stag Bay
South Passage	Icy Strait	

Areas open the week of May 3:

West Behm Canal	Sumner Strait	Steamer Point
Chichagof Pass	Craig Point	Baht Harbor
Little Port Walter	Tebenkof Bay	Redoubt Bay
Lisianski Inlet	Cross Sound	Port Althorp

Area open the week of May 10:

Salisbury Sound

Areas open the week of May 17:

Western Channel	Biorka Island
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TERMINAL TROLL FISHERIES

- **Hidden Falls:** opens on May 1 and will remain open until closed by emergency order. (5 AAC 33.374(b)).
- **Neets Bay:** opens on May 1 and will remain open until closed by emergency order (5 AAC 33.370(b)(1)).
- **Wrangell Narrows:** not open in 2009 (5 AAC 33.381(b)(4)).
- **Anita Bay:** opens as a THA on June 1 by regulation with some area closures within the THA beginning June 15 (5 AAC 33.383(b)). From May 1 through May 31 Anita Bay is part of the Zimovia Strait spring Fishery Area 107-30.
- **Deep Inlet:** open to trolling according to the rotational gear schedule on Saturdays beginning on June 6. Any schedule changes are made by E.O. and announced by News Release.

Terminal Harvest Areas may be managed for the harvest of multiple species by different gear types. Refer to management plans in regulation as listed after each THA.

REGULATION SUMMARY

CLOSED WATERS

Trollers are reminded that closed waters in effect during the summer fishery are exempted during the spring fishery. [5 AAC 29.150(a)(2)]. Waters within 3,000 feet of Annette Island (Annette Island Reserve) are closed.

SPORT FISHING AND CHARTERING FROM A REGISTERED TROLL VESSEL

1. A person may sport fish from a registered commercial salmon hand troll or power troll vessel [5 AAC 47.041 (a)]. A troll gurdy may be used as a downrigger in conjunction with a sport fishing rod to sport fish for salmon. A person who sport fishes from a vessel licensed for commercial fishing, other than a charter vessel, in waters closed to commercial salmon fishing shall, immediately upon bringing a salmon onboard, mark the salmon by removing its dorsal fin [5 AAC 47.041 (c)]. This regulation also applies when a person is sport fishing for a species closed to commercial trolling. Sport fishing from a commercially licensed vessel while commercially-caught salmon are in possession is illegal in waters closed to commercial fishing [5 AAC 47.041(d)]. No person may possess sport-caught halibut aboard a vessel when other fish or shellfish on the vessel are destined for sale, trade or barter [5 AAC 75.070(a)].
2. A registered troll vessel may also be registered as a charter vessel. Charter boat registration applications are available at Fish and Game offices. A vessel registered both as a commercial troller and as a charter vessel may not be used to troll commercially and charter in the same day [5 AAC 75.995(8)].

REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO COMMERCIAL TROLL BYCATCH OF GROUND FISH AND HALIBUT

For information on Southeast Alaska Groundfish regulations, refer to the 2008–2009 Statewide Commercial Groundfish Fishing Regulations books available at all Southeast ADF&G area offices.

Halibut incidentally taken during an open commercial halibut season by power and handtroll gear being operated for salmon consistent with applicable state laws and regulations are legally taken and possessed (5AAC 28.133 (c)). Commercial halibut may be legally retained only by IFQ permit holders during the open season for halibut, March 21–November 15, 2009. Trollers making an IFQ halibut landing of 500 lbs or less of IFQ weight as determined pursuant to 50 CFR 679.42(h) are exempted from the 3 hour Prior Notice of Landing (PNOL) if landed concurrently with a legal landing of salmon (50 CFR 679.5(L)(1)(G)(iv)(A)). Halibut taken incidentally during the troll fishery shall be landed on a fish ticket using the CFEC salmon permit. For information on regulations and landing requirements for the federal IFQ halibut fishery contact the National Marine Fisheries Service at 586-7225 (Juneau), 747-6940 (Sitka), 772-2285 (Petersburg), or 247-5804 (Ketchikan).

Lingcod may be taken as bycatch in the commercial salmon troll fishery only from May 16 through November 30 (5AAC 28.113 (c)). Lingcod harvest allocations for the troll fishery are set by Lingcod Management Area and area closures will occur as allocations are taken. Closures will be announced by news release and marine radio broadcast by the U.S. Coast Guard and National Weather Service. For updates on area closures for lingcod, call the Groundfish Hotline at 747-4882 or contact the Groundfish staff in Sitka at 747-6688.

Lingcod may be taken as salmon bycatch in the spring troll fishery in unlimited amounts with the following exceptions:

1. Lingcod must measure at least 27 inches from the tip of the snout to the tip of the tail, or 20.5 inches from the front of the dorsal fin to the tip of the tail.
2. Lingcod bycatch in the NSEO management area is limited to 5% (round weight) of the round weight of salmon on board.
3. In the Sitka vicinity, the retention of lingcod is prohibited in the waters of Sitka Sound as defined by 5AAC 28.150(a). There is a small portion of the Biorka Island and Salisbury Sound spring troll areas where troll bycatch of lingcod will be allowed beginning on May 16, when those areas are open to trolling. Trollers who have lingcod onboard may not fish in areas closed to lingcod retention. Black rockfish taken by trollers within the waters of Sitka Sound may not be sold as bycatch (5AAC 28.150(e)).

The Department has been involved in a lingcod tagging program and trollers are requested to retain tagged lingcod of any size and to notify the nearest ADF&G office at the time of delivery so the fish may be sampled. Tagged lingcod may be retained at any time however tags must remain attached to any tagged lingcod that are undersized, taken out of season, or from a closed area. Tagged lingcod should be dressed, with the head left attached. The date, capture location (latitude and longitude) and depth taken should be recorded. A hat will be issued as a reward, and fishermen providing all of the recovery information will be entered into a cash drawing.

The new groundfish regulations, passed at the February 2009 Board of Fisheries meeting, are scheduled to go into effect by June 1. The new information on bycatch allowances of groundfish in the salmon troll fishery will be available in a News Release to be issued at that time.

Other regulations:

1. Trollers are allowed to longline for groundfish and troll for salmon on the same trip as long as fish are not onboard the vessel in an area closed to trolling or closed to retention of that species and the fisher has both a commercial salmon permit and a commercial longline permit.
2. A vessel may not directed fish for groundfish with dinglebar troll or mechanical jig gear if they have commercial caught salmon on board. A vessel fishing for groundfish with dinglebar troll gear must display the letter “D” and a vessel fishing for groundfish with mechanical jigging machines must display the letter “M” at all times when fishing with or transporting fish taken with dinglebar troll gear or mechanical jigging machines (5AAC 28.135 (a)(4)). A person may not operate a vessel that is displaying one of these letters when the vessel is being used to fish for salmon (5AAC 28.135 (c)).
3. All DSR in excess of 10% round weight, of all salmon species on board the vessel must be weighed and reported as bycatch overage on an ADF&G fish ticket. All proceeds from the sale of excess DSR bycatch shall be surrendered to the state (5 AAC 28.171 (a)). The seven species of rockfish in the DSR assemblage are yelloweye, quillback, canary, rosethorn, copper, china, and tiger rockfish. DSR bycatch overages must be reported on fish tickets but may be kept for personal use.

2009 ALASKA HATCHERY CHINOOK RETURN FORECAST

Hatchery facility managers are predicting total returns of approximately 124,134 Chinook salmon for 2009, as compared to estimated 2008 returns of 127,673 fish (Table 2). The largest returns for 2009 are expected to Medvejie Creek, Anita Bay, Whitman Lake and Neets Bay.

Table 2.—2009 Alaska hatchery Chinook and Neck Lake coho return forecasts.

Release Site	2008 Total Return Projection	2008 Total Return	2009 Total Return Projection
Ketchikan Area			
Whitman Lake	14,400	20,734	17,200
Neets Bay	15,400	14,996	15,000
Deer Mountain	983	462	410
Tamgas Creek	3,714	3,800	3,714
Total	34,497	39,992	36,324
Chatham Strait			
Little Port Walter	4,000	5,688	2,100
Hidden Falls	21,600	12,277	7,600
Port Armstrong	2,650	1,557	2,510
Total	28,250	19,522	12,210
Juneau Area			
Macaulay	2,100	6,303	4,300
Wrangell/Petersburg			
Anita Bay	11,300	10,070	21,700
Crystal Lake	8,400	5,893	7,500
Total	19,700	15,963	29,200
Sitka Area			
Medvejie Creek	43,000	45,893	42,100
Southeast Alaska Chinook Hatchery Totals	129,247	127,673	124,134
Neck Lake Coho	51,100	40,800	52,000

2009 SPRING FISHING AREAS AND MAPS

Maps show the approximate fishing area boundaries. Refer to the area descriptions below for a legal description of area boundaries. Refer to the regulation book for descriptions of district and section boundaries (5 AAC 33.200).

KETCHIKAN AREAS

Ketchikan Area (Fishery area 101-29): Waters of Clarence Strait and Nichols Passage north of a line from Prince of Wales Island to Duke Island at 54°54.06' N. latitude (the northern entrance to Kendrick Bay) and south of the District 2/6 boundary (a line from the easternmost tip of Narrow Point to the northernmost tip of Lemesurier Point); Tongass Narrows north of the latitude of Rosa Reef light and south of a line from Point Higgins (55°27.47' N. lat., 131°50' W. long.) to the southernmost point on the peninsula at the eastern entrance to Bond Bay (55°31.5' N. lat.); in Revillagigedo Channel and George Inlet south of the latitude of the George Inlet cannery site at 55°23' N. latitude; and north of a line from 55°13.60' N. latitude, 131°17.30' W. longitude (approximately 1-mile south of Cone Point) to Harbor Point (55°13' N. lat., 131°25' W. long.). Waters of Carroll Inlet and Thorne Arm are open. Waters within 3,000 feet of Annette Island (Annette Island Reserve) are closed.

Neets Bay Terminal Harvest Area (Fishery area 101-95): In Neets Bay, east of a longitude of the easternmost tip of Bug Island to the closed waters area at the head of the bay. From the second Sunday in June through August 1, the area will be expanded to waters of Neets Bay east of the longitude of Chin Point to the closed waters at the head of the bay (5 AAC 33.370(b)(5)).

West Behm Canal (Fishery area 101-90): In waters of W. Behm Canal within one nautical mile of the western shore of Revillagigedo Island south of the latitude of Brow Point, 55°50.13' N. latitude and north of the latitude of the northernmost tip of Grant Island including all waters of Naha and Mosher Bays and waters of Neets Bay west of the easternmost tip of Bug Island through June 7. Beginning on June 8, waters east of the longitude of Chin Point will be managed as part of the Neets Bay terminal area and harvest from this area should be reported as Neets Bay Terminal Area (101-95).

Clarence Strait (Fishery area 106-20): Only those waters of Section 6D south of a line from Luck Pt. to Pt. Stanhope and including the waters of Rocky Bay Cooney Cove, Mosman Inlet, Burnett Inlet, and McHenry Inlet.

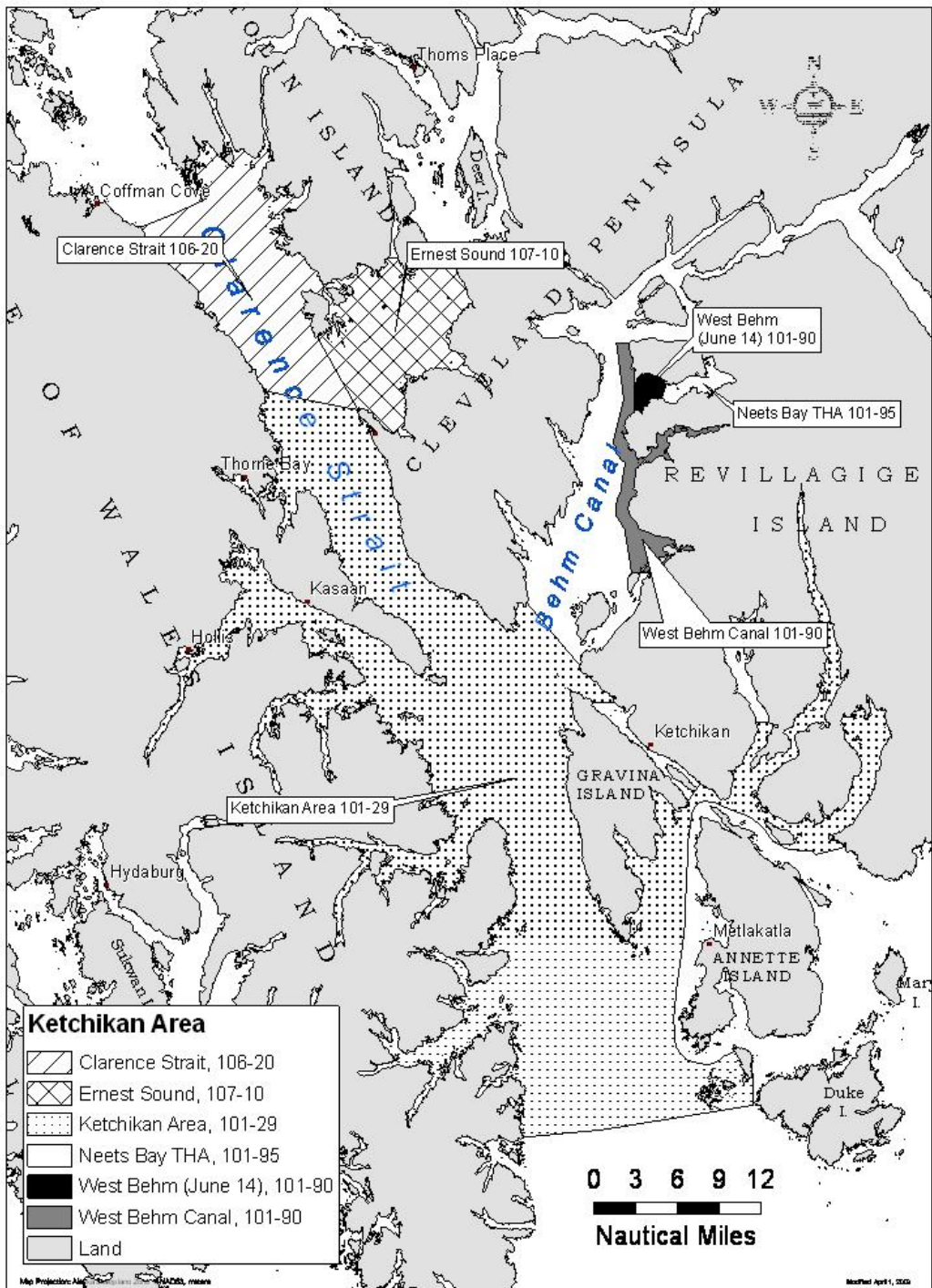


Figure 1.—Ketchikan area spring trolling areas, 2009.

WRANGELL AND PRINCE OF WALES AREAS

Sumner Strait (Fishery area 105-41): In District 106, the waters of Sumner Strait west of a line from Point Colpoys (56°20' N. lat., 133°12' W. long.) to Mitchell Point (56°27' N. lat., 133°12' W. long) and in District 105, the waters of Sumner Strait north of a line at the latitude of the northernmost tip of the northern Barrier Island at 56° 13.4' N. Latitude.

Steamer Point (Fishery area 106-30): In Stikine Strait, only in those waters of Sections 6C and 6D north and east of a line from Point Nesbitt (56°14.00' N. lat., 132°52.00' W. long.) to Key Reef Light to Point Harrington (56°10.17' N. lat., 132°43.5' W. long.). **Same lines as in 2005.**

Wrangell Narrows Terminal Harvest Area (Fishery area 106-44): The waters of Section 6A south of 56°46' N. latitude (Martinsen's Dock), west of a line between Blind Point (56°39' N. lat., 132°54.83' W. long.) and Anchor Point (56°38.25' N. lat., 132°55.58' W. long.) and north of the latitude and east of the longitude of the northern tip of Woewodski Island.

Ernest Sound (Fishery Area 107-10): The waters of Ernest Sound in Section 7B east of a line from Lemesurier Point to Ernest Point to the southernmost point of Etolin Island and south of the latitude of Eaton Point at 55°56.30' N. latitude.

Deer Island (Fishery Area 107-20): The waters of Ernest Sound in Section 7A north of the latitude of Eaton Point at 55°56.30' N. latitude, and east of 132°07' W. longitude, west of 131°56' W. longitude and south of the southernmost tip of Wrangell Island.

Zimovia Strait (Fishery Area 107-30): The waters of Section 7A north of the southernmost tip of Wrangell Island. From June 1 through June 30, the waters of Anita Bay THA are excluded.

Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area (Fishery area 107-35): includes those waters of Anita Bay west of a line from Anita Point to a point on Etolin Island at 56°14.26' N. latitude, 132°23.92' W. longitude.

NOTE: (1) From June 15 through June 25, the waters of the Anita Bay THA west of 132°26.22' W. long. are closed to the harvest of salmon; (2) From June 26 through July 1, the waters of Anita Bay THA west of 132°26.98 W. long. are closed to the harvest of salmon.

Chichagof Pass (108-10): The waters of Chichagof Pass and Zimovia in Section 8B south of 56°24.5' N. latitude, and east of a line from Reef Point to a point on Etolin Island at 56°20.10' N. latitude, 132°32' W. longitude

Baht Harbor (Fishery area 108-30): In Sumner Strait, waters of Section 8B east of a line (the District 8 western boundary) from Point Alexander (56°30.58' N. lat., 132°56.92' W. long.) to Low Point (56°27' N. lat., 132°57' W. long.) and west of a line from the eastern entrance of Blind Slough to the light at Craig Point.

Craig Point (Fishery area 108-40): Waters of Section 8B in Sumner and Stikine Straits south and east of a line from Craig Point Light to Neal Point Light to Wedge Point and west of a line from Reef Point to a point on Etolin Island at 56°20.10' N. latitude, 132°32' W. longitude. **Same lines as in 2005.**

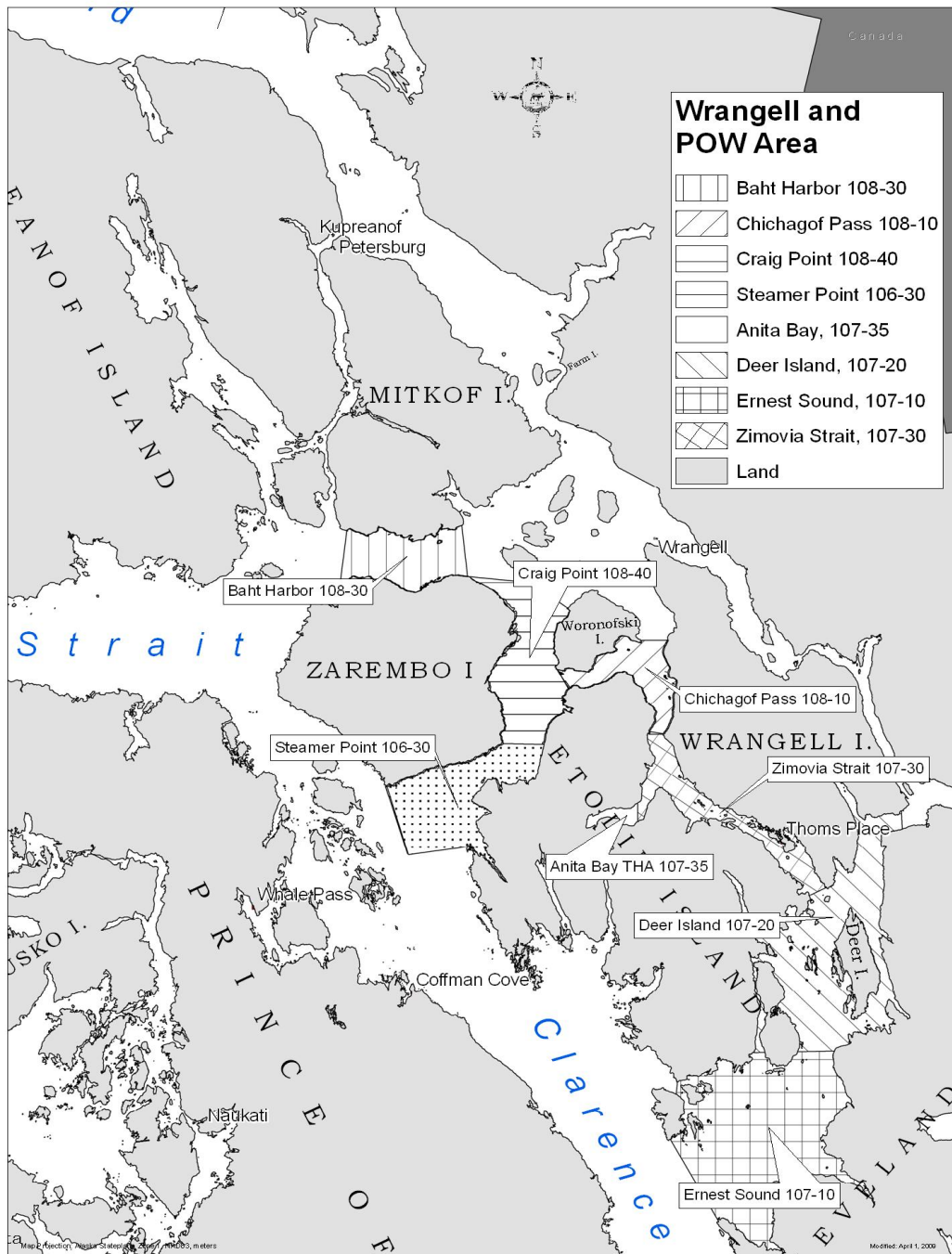


Figure 2.—Wrangell and Prince of Wales spring troling areas, 2009.

CHATHAM STRAIT AND FREDERICK SOUND AREAS

Chatham Strait (Fishery Area 112-12): The waters of Chatham Strait and Frederick Sound south of the latitude of Point Hepburn, including the waters of Freshwater Bay, Tenakee Inlet, and Kelp Bay, and excluding the waters of the Hidden Falls Terminal Area (112-22); waters north of Point Ellis (56°33.12' N. lat.), including Keku Strait and Port Camden and west of the District 9/10 boundary (the southernmost tip of Elliot Island to Pt. McCartney); waters of Peril Strait and Hoonah Sound north of Pogibshi Point. The waters of Tebenkof Bay east of Pt. Ellis (134°19.00' W. long.) are excluded.

Hidden Falls Terminal Harvest Area (Fishery area 112-22): In Chatham Strait, only those waters of Section 12A within two nautical miles of the Baranof Island shoreline south of the latitude of South Point (57°20' N. lat.) and north of 57°06.83' N. latitude (south of Takatz Bay) excluding waters of Kelp Bay (5 AAC 33.374(a)).

Frederick Sound (Fishery area 110-31): In Frederick Sound, those waters north and east of a line from the westernmost tip of Point Macartney to 57°06' N. latitude, 134°03.35' W. longitude; south and east of a line from 57°06' N. latitude., 134°03.35' W. longitude to McDonald Rock buoy; south of the line from McDonald Rock buoy to the point of land on the mainland east of Entrance Island at 57°25.32' N. latitude, 133°25.63' W. longitude; and north and west of a line from Boulder Point (57°00.83' N. lat., 133°18.92' W. long.) to Point Highland (57°09' N. lat., 133°27.75' W. long.). Waters of Port Houghton east of 133°11' W. longitude are closed to protect the run of wild Chinook salmon at the head of Port Houghton.

NOTE: Beginning June 1, the Frederick Sound area will be extended to include those waters of District 10 that are north and west of a line from Wood Point (56°59.75' N. lat., 132°56.95' W. long.) to Beacon Point (56°56.25' N. lat., 132°59.50' W. long.), excluding waters of Farragut Bay north and east of a line from Bay Point (57°06.50' N. lat., 133°19' W. long.) to Grand Point (57°05' N. lat., 133°11' W. long.), and also excluding those waters of Thomas Bay that are north and east of a line from Point Vandeput (57°01.25' N. lat., 133°00' W. long.) to Wood Point.

Little Port Walter (Fishery area 109-10): In Chatham Strait, only in those waters of Section 9-A south of the latitude of Patterson Point (56°32.50' N. lat., 134°38.33' W. long.) and north of 56°15.83' N. latitude (located immediately south of Graveyard Cove), including all waters of Patterson Bay, Deep Cove, Port Herbert, Port Walter, Port Lucy, and Port Conclusion.

Tebenkof Bay (Fishery Area 109-62): In Section 9-B, the waters of Tebenkof Bay south of the latitude of Point Ellis (56°33.12' N. lat.), north of the latitude of Point Harris (56°17.50' N. lat.), and east of 134°24' W. longitude;

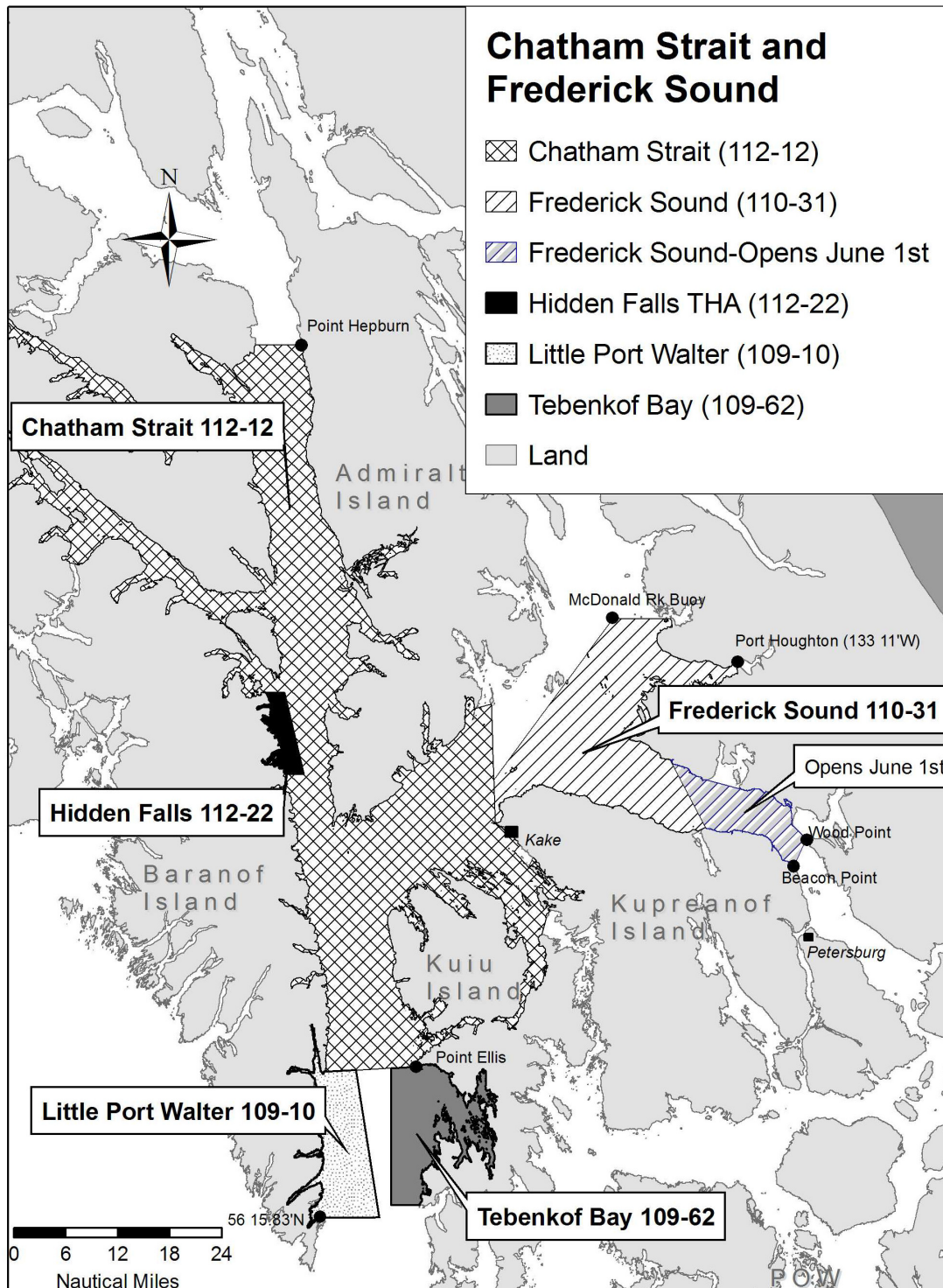


Figure 3.—Chatham Strait and Frederick Sound spring trolling areas, 2009.

NORTH CHATHAM STRAIT AND ICY STRAIT AREAS

Cross Sound (Fishery area 114-21): In the waters of Section 14A west of the longitude of Point Dundas (136°16.75' W. long.), south of the latitude of Point Dundas (58°19' N. lat.), and east of the longitude of the southern tip of Taylor Island (136°29.01' W. long.) to 58°10' N. latitude, then east to Althorp Rock Light, then north to the light at the entrance to Elfin Cove.

Lisianski Inlet (Fishery area 113-95): In Section 13A, in waters of Lisianski Inlet south of a line from Ewe Pt. (58°04.06' N. lat., 136°27.44' W. long.) to Dace Rock (58°05.48' N. lat., 136°26.17 W. long.) and east of the longitude of the navigational marker at Rock Point at approximately 58°00.17' N. latitude, 136°21.15' W. longitude

Port Althorp (Fishery area 114-50): In waters of Section 14A in Lisianski Inlet north of a line from Ewe Pt. (58°04.06' N. lat., 136°27.44' W. long.) to Dace Rock (58°05.48' N. lat., 136°26.17 W. long.) and in Cross Sound and Lisianski Inlet bounded by a line from on the west from Soapstone Point (58°06.36' N. lat., 136°29.96' W. long.), to the Cape Spencer lighthouse at 58°11.93 N. latitude, 136°38.43' W. longitude then east to Althorp Rock Light, then north to the light at the entrance to Elfin Cove.

Icy Strait (Fishery area 114-25): In the waters of Icy Strait and Chatham Strait, east of the longitude of Noon Pt. (135°32.2' W. long.), west of 135°09.6' W. longitude, and the waters bounded by a line from Point Adolphus (58°17.25' N. lat., 135°47' W. long.) to a point one-mile due north of Point Adolphus to the northern tip of the northernmost island of the Sisters Islands at 58°10.90' N. latitude, 135°15.58' W. longitude to Hanus Reef Light to the southernmost tip of Hawk Point (at the entrance to Hawk Inlet), and north of the latitude of Point Hepburn (58°56.42' N. lat.), including waters of Port Frederick and Hawk Inlet.

South Passage (Fishery area 114-23): In waters of Icy Strait south and east of a line extending from the prominent point on northeastern side of the Inian Peninsula at 58°13.43' N. latitude, 136°16.75' W. longitude to the westernmost tip of Lemesurier Island to the northernmost tip of Lemesurier Island to Point Gustavus and north and west of the northern and western boundaries of the new Icy Strait area (see above), including the waters of Icy Passage.

Stag Bay (Fishery area 113-97): In waters of Lisianski Strait north of a line from Point Theodore through Point Urey and south and west of the navigational marker at Rock Point at approximately 136°21.15' W. longitude, including the waters of Stag Bay.

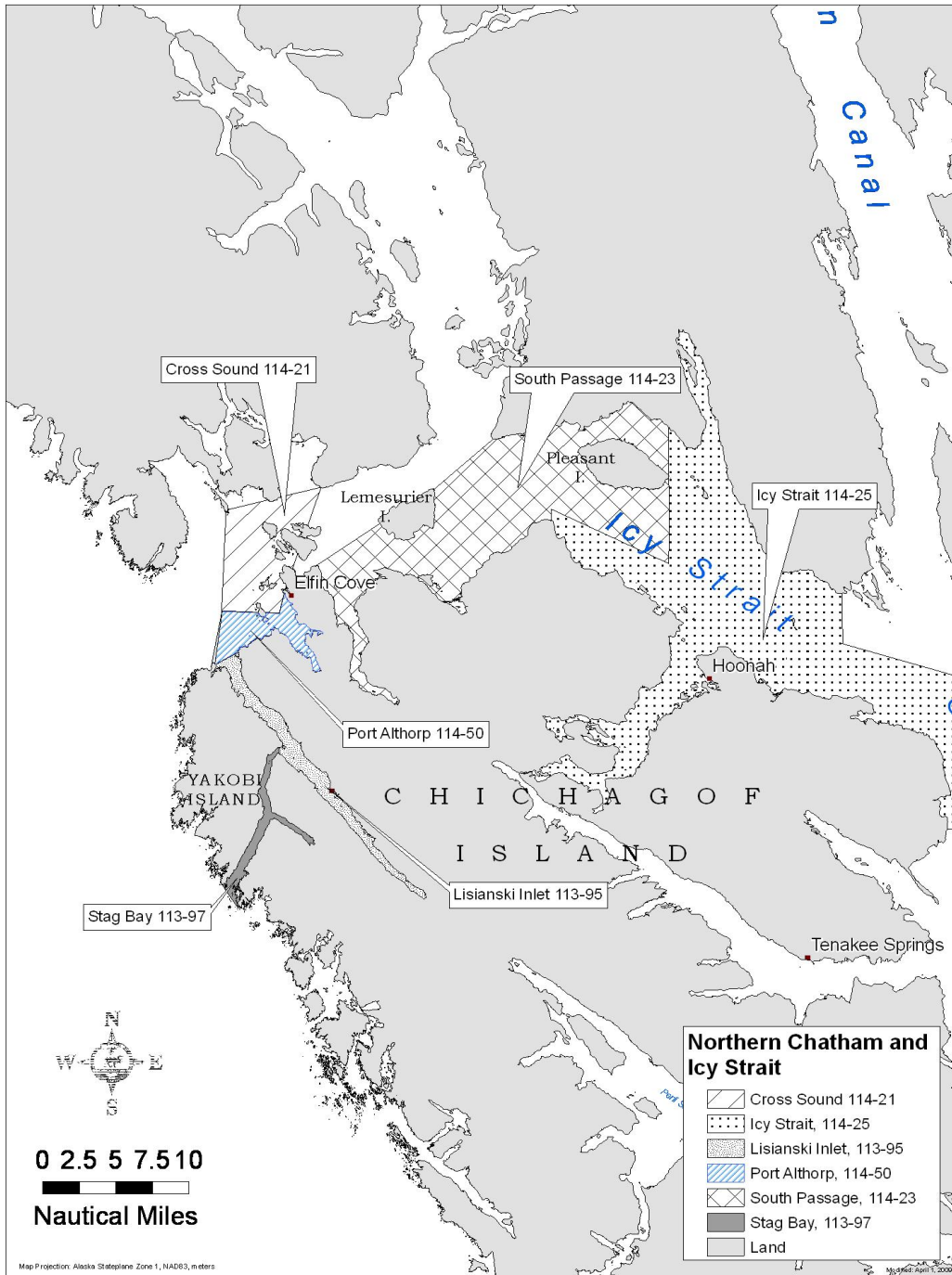


Figure 4.—North Chatham and Icy Strait spring trolling areas, 2009.

SITKA AREAS

Western Channel (Fishery area 113-01): In waters of Sitka Sound northeast of a line from Kulichkof Rock (56°59.5' N. lat., 135°26.5' W. long.) to Vitskari Island Light to a point on Kruzof Island at 57°03.42' N. latitude, 135°36' W. longitude, south of a line from a point on Kruzof Island at 57°05' N. latitude, 135°35' W. longitude to 57°01.50' N. lat., 135°24.25' W. long. (the intersection of a line from a point on Kruzof Island at 57°05' N. latitude, 135°35' W. longitude through The Eckholms Light with a line from the southernmost tip of Makhnati Island to Kulichof Rock) to Kulichof Rock.

Redoubt Bay (Fishery area 113-30): In waters of Sitka Sound south of a line from Cape Burunof (56°59' N. lat., 135°23' W. long.) to Kulichof Rock (56°59.5' N. lat., 135°26.5' W. long.) and east and north of a line from Kulichof Rock to the northwesternmost point on Peisar Island to the southernmost point on Peisar Island to the southernmost point on Viesokoi Rock to a point on Baranof Island at 56°51.42' N. lat., 135°23.50' W. long.

Biorika Island (Fishery area 113-31): In waters of Sitka Sound south and east of a line from the northernmost tip of Biorika Island to the northwesternmost point on Peisar Island, south and west of a line from the northwesternmost point on Peisar Island to the southernmost point on Peisar Island to the southernmost point on Viesokoi Rock to a point on Baranof Island at 56°51.42' N. lat., 135°23.5' W. long. to the southernmost point on Torsar Island to the northernmost point on Legma Island to the southernmost point on Legma Island, and north and east of a line from the southernmost point on Legma Island to the southernmost point on Liesnoi Island to Point Woodhouse.

Sitka Sound Area (Fishery area 113-41): The waters of Sitka Sound, including Krestof Sound and Neva Strait south of 57°15' N. latitude, and north and east of a line from Cape Burunof (56°59' N. lat., 135°23' W. long.) to Kulichkof Rock (56°59.5' N. lat., 135°26.5' W. long.) to 57°01.50' N. lat., 135°24.25' W. long. **(the intersection of a line from a point on Kruzof Island at 57°05' N. latitude, 135°35' W. longitude through The Eckholms Light with a line from the southernmost tip of Makhnati Island to Kulichof Rock)** to a point on Kruzof Island at 57°05' N. latitude, 135°35' W. longitude, including the waters of Nakwasina Passage, Nakwasina Sound, Katlian Bay and Silver Bay will be open. **The waters of the Deep Inlet THA, as described below, are included through May 30:**

Deep Inlet THA: Deep Inlet, Aleutkina Bay, and contiguous waters south of a line from a point west of Pirates Cove at 135°22.63' W. longitude, 56°59.35' N. latitude to the westernmost tip of Long Island to the easternmost tip of Long Island to the westernmost tip of Emgeten Island to the westernmost tip of Error Island to the westernmost tip of Berry Island to the southernmost tip of Berry Island to the westernmost tip of the southernmost island in the Kutchuma Island group to the easternmost tip of the southernmost island in the Kutchuma Island group to the westernmost tip of an unnamed island at 135°17.67' W. longitude, 57°00.30' N. latitude to a point on the southern side of the unnamed island at 135°16.78' W. longitude, 57°00.08' N. latitude and then to a point on the Baranof Island Shore at 135°16.53' W. longitude 56°59.93' N. latitude. Waters of Sandy Cove will be closed. Waters of Deep Inlet THA west of 135°21.52' W. long. will be closed May 1–21.

From May 31 through June 30, the waters of the Deep Inlet THA described above will be managed on a rotational gear fishing schedule which will be announced in a future news release.

Salisbury Sound (Fishery area 113-62): In waters of Peril Strait south of the latitude of Pogibshi Point at 57°30.5' N. latitude, waters of Salisbury Sound east of 135°46' W. longitude, and waters of Sukoi Strait and Neva Strait north of 57°15' N. latitude.

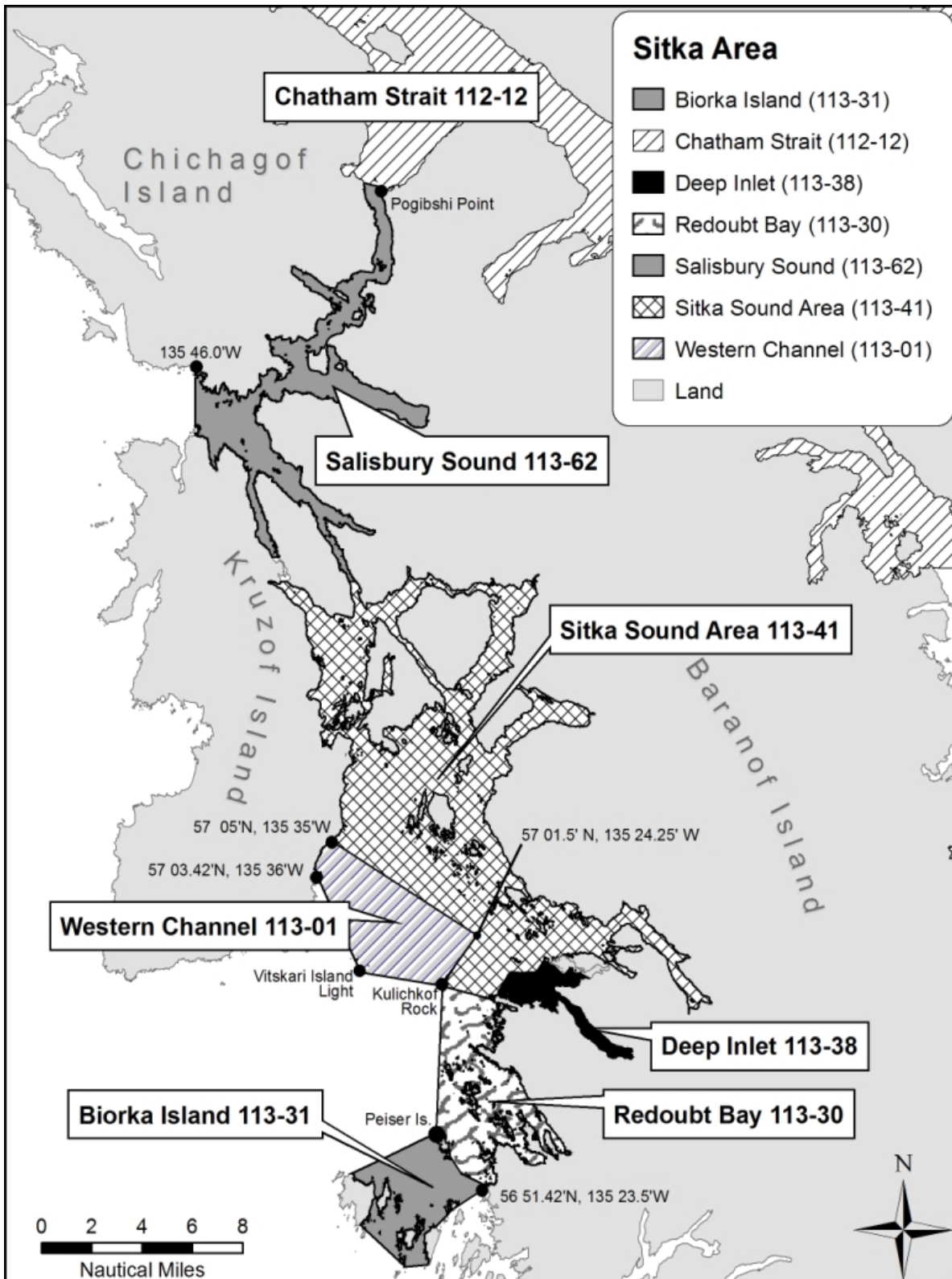


Figure 5.—Sitka spring trolling areas 2009.

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For up-to-date troll information, call the 24-hour information line in the Douglas Office at 465-TROL (8765). In addition, the following telephone numbers may be called during the troll fishing season to obtain recorded announcements concerning areas open to trolling.

Ketchikan-(907) 225-6870

Sitka-(907) 747-8765

Petersburg-(907) 772-3700