

June 2023 All Gear Types Schedule						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
Current Fishing Periods						
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		6 a.m.	Open 64 hours (Set Gillnet Gear Only)		10 p.m.	6 a.m.
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Open 88 hours				6 a.m.	Open 88 hours	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
10 p.m.		6 a.m.	Open 88 hours			10 p.m.
25	26	27	28	29	30	
6 a.m.	Open 88 hours					

Figure 141-2.—Current fishing times for the South Alaska Peninsula in June.

PROPOSAL 142 – Amend *South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan* and *Post-June Salmon Management Plan* to allow more fishing time for set gillnet gear only.

5 AAC 09.365. South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan. 5 AAC 09.366. Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula.

PROPOSED BY: Jim Smith.

WHAT WOULD THE PROPOSAL DO? Change the fishing windows for set gillnet gear only so that fishing starts later in June and fishing hours are shifted from June to July. The overall fishing hours currently allowed in June and July combined would remain unchanged.

WHAT ARE THE CURRENT REGULATIONS? The *South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan* (5 AAC 09.365) is in effect from June 6 through June 28. The June fishery includes the Unimak District, Bechevin Bay Section of the Northwestern District, the Southwestern District, and the West Pavlof Bay and East Pavlof Bay Sections of the South Central District and the Shumagin Islands Section of the Southeastern District (Figure 142-1). Fishing periods for the June fishery occur from 6:00 a.m. June 6 until 10:00 p.m. June 8 for 64 hours for set gillnet gear only followed by a closure of 32 hours. There are then four 88-hour fishing periods for all gear types from 6:00 a.m. June 10 until 10:00 p.m. June 13, 6:00 a.m. June 15 until 10:00 p.m. June 18, 6:00 a.m. June 20 until 10:00 p.m., June 23, and 6:00 a.m., June 25 until 10:00 p.m., June 28. Each of the fishing periods in June is separated by 32-hour closures (Figure 142-2). The June fishery currently allows 416 hours of fishing time for set gillnet gear.

The *Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula* defines fishing periods from July 6 through July 31 in all districts of the South Alaska Peninsula, excluding the Southeastern District Mainland until July 26 (Figure 142-3). The commissioner may establish by emergency order, for all gear types, one 33-hour fishing period, beginning July 6, followed by a 63-hour closure. The commercial fishery will reopen for six 36-hour fishing periods interspersed by 60-hour closures from July 10 through July 31 (Figure 142-4). This equals a total of 249 hours of fishing opportunity in July. Additional fishing time in terminal harvest areas may also be provided during the 48-hour closures based on local salmon stock strength evaluated from harvest data, escapement counts, and aerial surveys. From July 6 through July 21, terminal harvest areas are Zachary Bay, Canoe Bay, Cold Bay, Thin Point, and Morzhovoi Bay Sections and the East and West Pavlof Bay Sections north of the latitude of Black Point (Figure 142-5). Terminal areas during the July 22 through July 31 time period include those areas specified for the July 6 through July 21 period, as well as the Deer Island, Belkofski Bay, and Mino Creek-Little Coal Bay Sections (Figure 142-6).

WHAT WOULD BE THE EFFECT IF THE PROPOSAL IS ADOPTED? Fishing for set gillnet gear would shift to later in June and more fishing in July. Overall hours would remain the same. Fishing time in June would be delayed until June 10 for set gillnet gear only and the commercial fishing periods would be as follows:

6:00 a.m. June 10 until 3:00 p.m. June 13	81 hours
6:00 a.m. June 15 until 10:00 p.m. June 17	64 hours
6:00 a.m. June 20 until 10:00 p.m. June 22	64 hours
6:00 a.m. June 25 until 10:00 p.m. June 27	64 hours
6:00 a.m. June 29 until 6:00 p.m. June 30	36 hours

For the post-June fishery, fishing times would be as follows for set gillnet gear only:

6:00 a.m. July 5 until 10:00 p.m. July 7	64 hours
6:00 a.m. July 10 until 10:00 p.m. July 12	64 hours
6:00 a.m. July 15 until 10:00 p.m. July 17	64 hours
6:00 a.m. July 20 until 10:00 p.m. July 22	64 hours
6:00 a.m. July 25 until 10:00 p.m. July 27	64 hours
6:00 a.m. July 29 until 6:00 p.m. July 30	36 hours

The proposed number of hours fished for set gillnet gear would be 665 hours, which is the same number of hours currently allowed in regulation for June and July combined (Figures 142-2 and 4).

BACKGROUND: In February 2004, a commercial salmon fishery schedule was established by the board that began on June 7 at 6:00 a.m. Fishing periods were set at 88 hours in length and separated by 32-hour closures. The board set the fishery closure at 10:00 p.m. on June 29 with the last fishing period 64 hours in duration. During the 2004 management strategy set by the board, there were concurrent fishing times for all gear types. The June fishing schedule has been modified at several board meetings, changing the length of fishery periods, and sometimes opening for different gear types at different times. The current schedule has been in effect since 2019.

The 2013 board amended the July fishing schedule (5 AAC 09.366(d)) in the *Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula* by consolidating the number of fishing periods from nine to seven, while still offering the same 249 hours of fishing time. Additional fishing time could be permitted in designated terminal harvest areas if escapements of pink and chum salmon warranted more fishing time, however terminal areas within the Southeastern District Mainland, the Stepovak Flats and Northwest Stepovak Sections, were repealed from the *Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula*.

DEPARTMENT COMMENTS: The department is **NEUTRAL** on this proposal.

COST ANALYSIS: Approval of this proposal is not expected to result in an additional direct cost for a private person to participate in this fishery. Approval of this proposal is not expected to result in additional direct cost for the department.

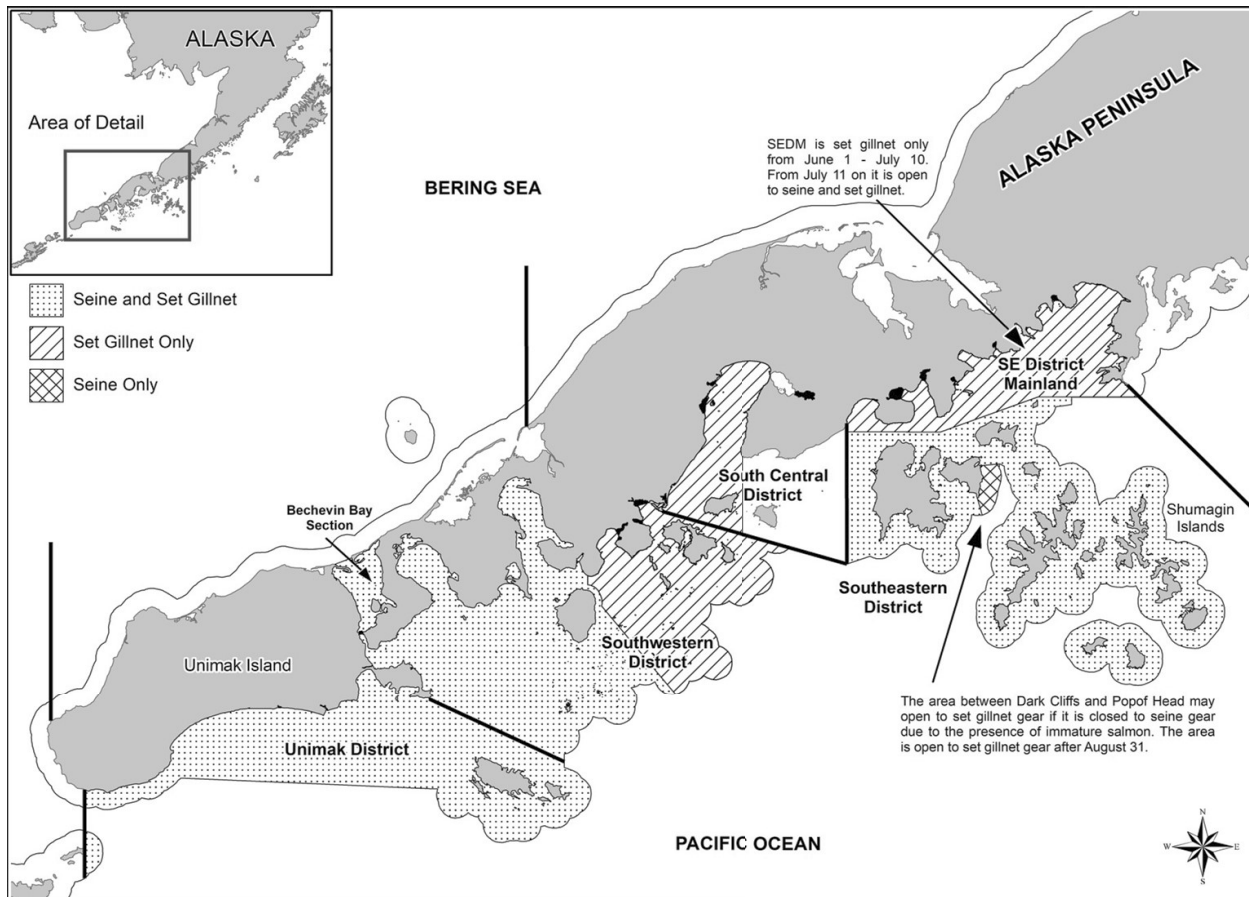


Figure 142-1.—Map of the June South Alaska Peninsula fisheries for areas allowed for set gillnet and seine gear.

June 2023 All Gear Types Schedule						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
Proposed fishing times for set gillnet gear						
Current Fishing Periods						
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
						6 a.m.
		6 a.m.	Open 64 hours (Set Gillnet Gear Only)		10 p.m.	6 a.m.
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Open 81 hours	3 p.m.			6 a.m.	Open 64 hours	
Open 88 hours	10 p.m.			6 a.m.	Open 88 hours	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		6 a.m.	Open 64 hours			6 a.m.
10 p.m.		6 a.m.	Open 88 hours			10 p.m.
25	26	27	28	29	30	
6 a.m.	Open 64 hours			6 a.m.	Open 36 hours	
6 a.m.	Open 88 hours				6 p.m.	

Figure 142-2.—Current and proposed fishing times for the South Alaska Peninsula in June.

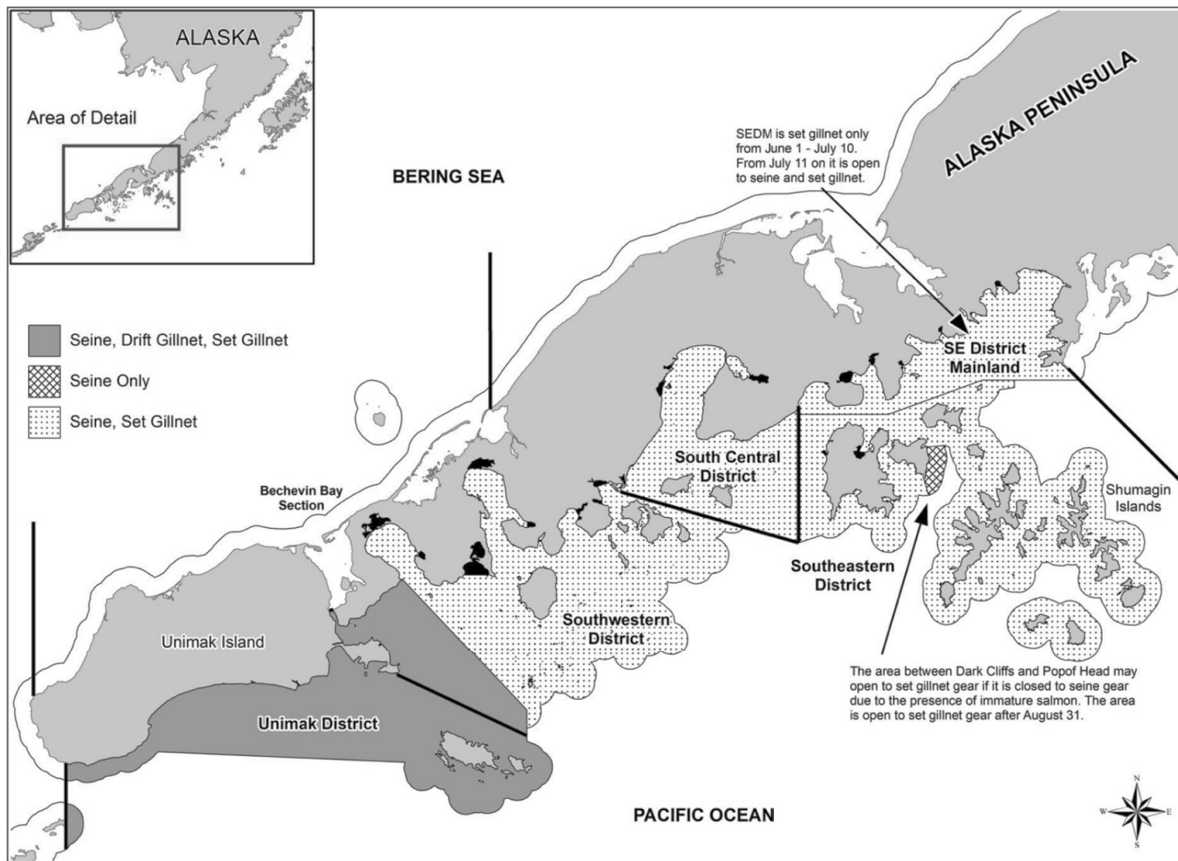


Figure 142-3.—Map of the post-June South Alaska Peninsula fisheries and permitted gear types.

Note: All fishing periods start at 6:00 AM						
July 2023 All Gear Types Schedule						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
Proposed fishing times for set gillnet gear						
Current fishing periods						
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			6 a.m. Open 64 hours 10 p.m.	6 a.m. 33 Hours 3 p.m.		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	6 a.m. Open 64 hours 10 p.m.	6 a.m. 36 Hours 6 p.m.			6 a.m. 36 Hours 6 p.m.	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Open 64 hours 10 p.m.		6 a.m. 36 Hours 6 p.m.		6 a.m. Open 64 hours 10 p.m.		6 a.m. 36 6 p.m.
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
hours 6 p.m.		6 a.m. Open 64 hours 10 p.m.	6 a.m. 36 Hours 6 p.m.			6 a.m. 36 hours 6 p.m.
30	31					
6 a.m. 36 Hours 6 p.m.						

Figure 142-4.—Calendar of the current and proposed fishing times in the post-June fishery for the South Alaska Peninsula.

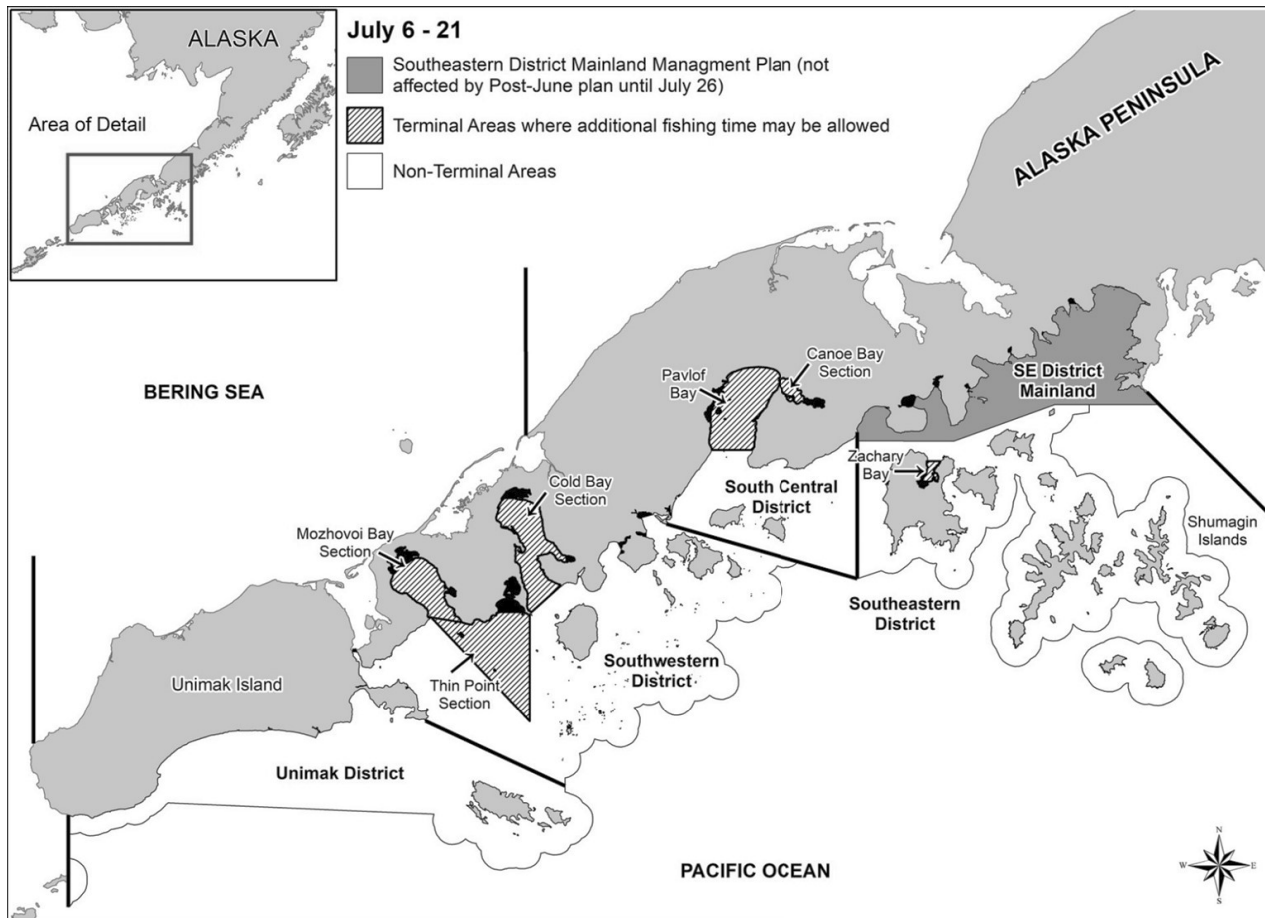


Figure 142-5.—Map of the post-June terminal harvest areas from July 6 through July 21.

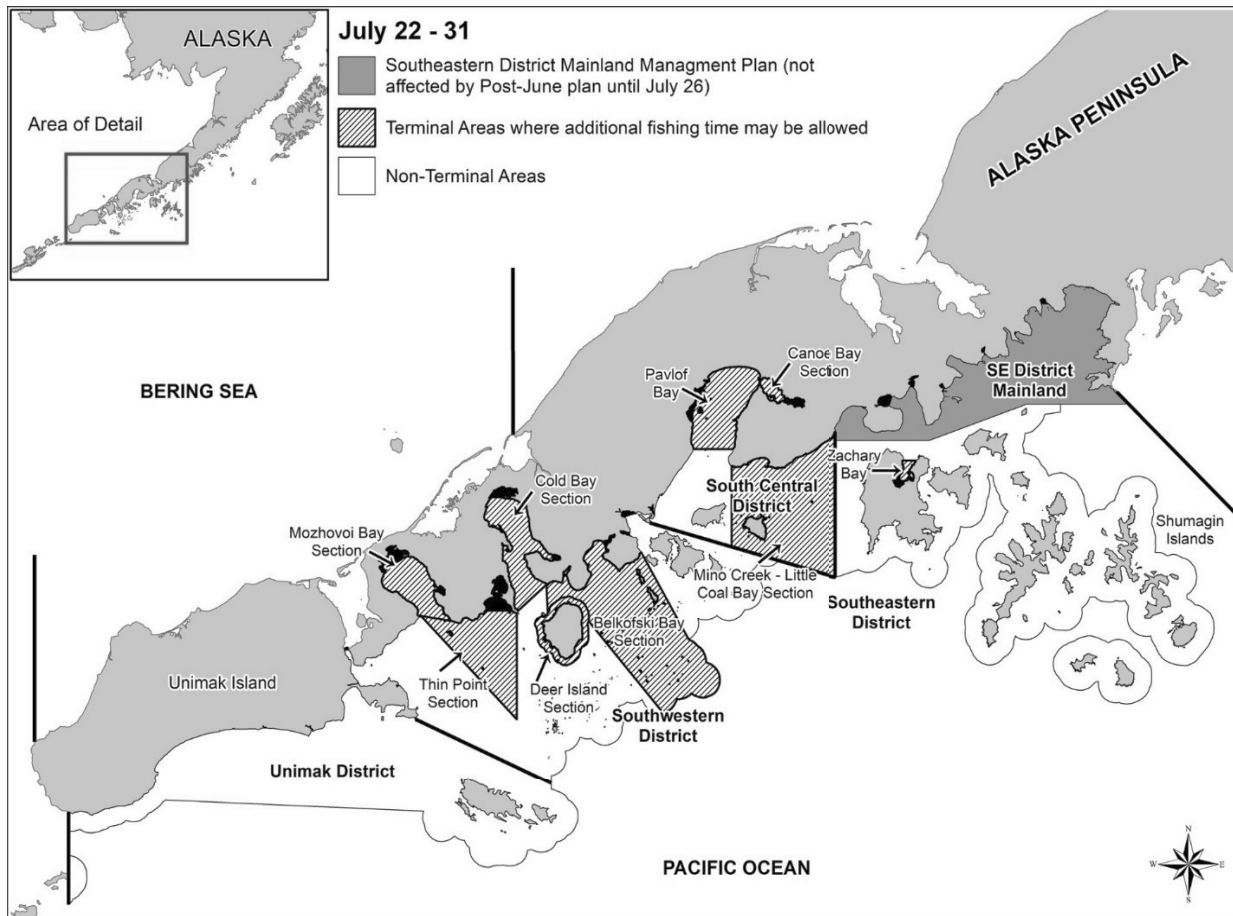


Figure 142-6.—Map of the additional post-June terminal harvest areas from July 22 through July 31.