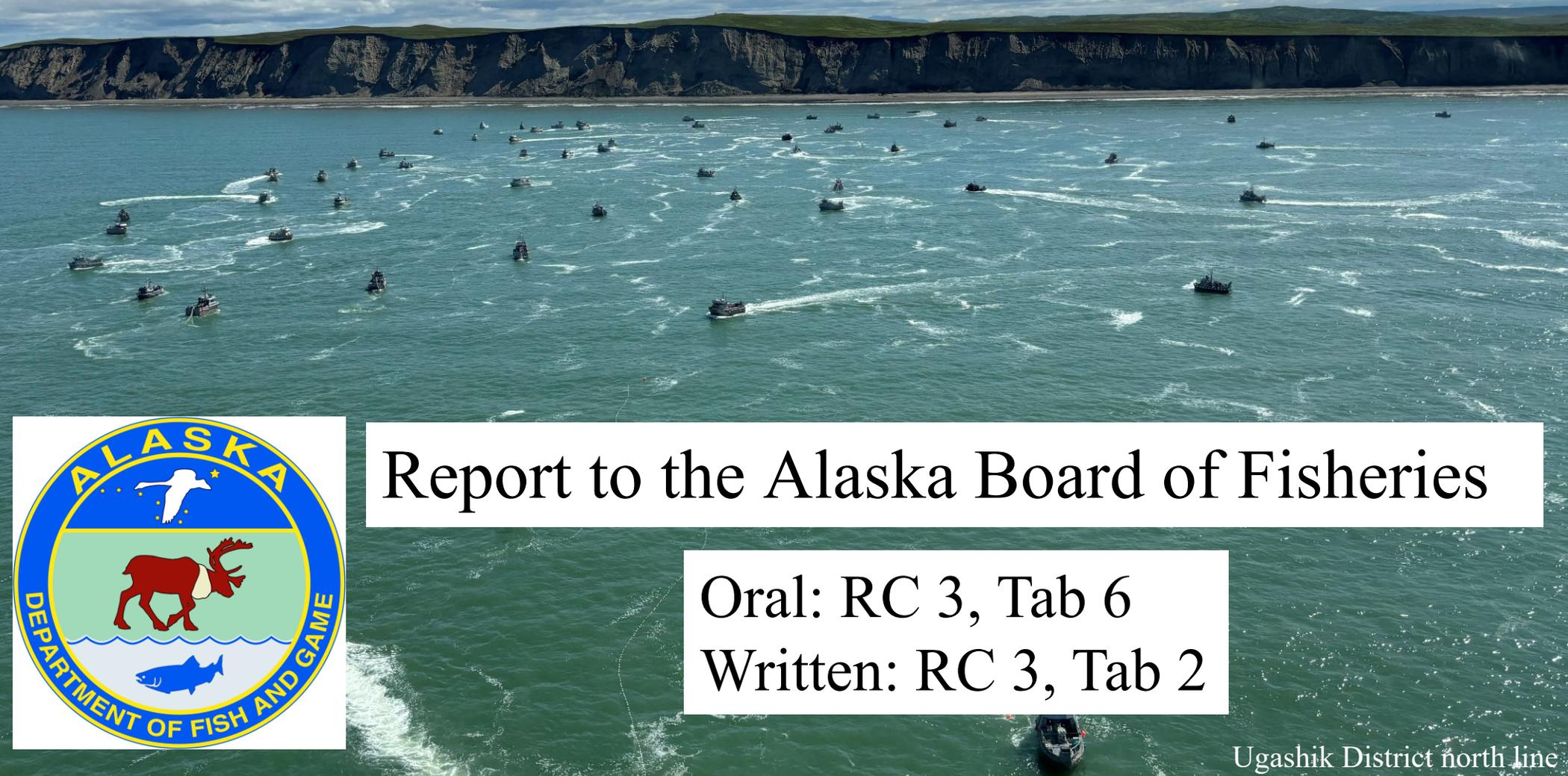


# Overview of the Bristol Bay Commercial Salmon Fishery



Report to the Alaska Board of Fisheries

Oral: RC 3, Tab 6

Written: RC 3, Tab 2

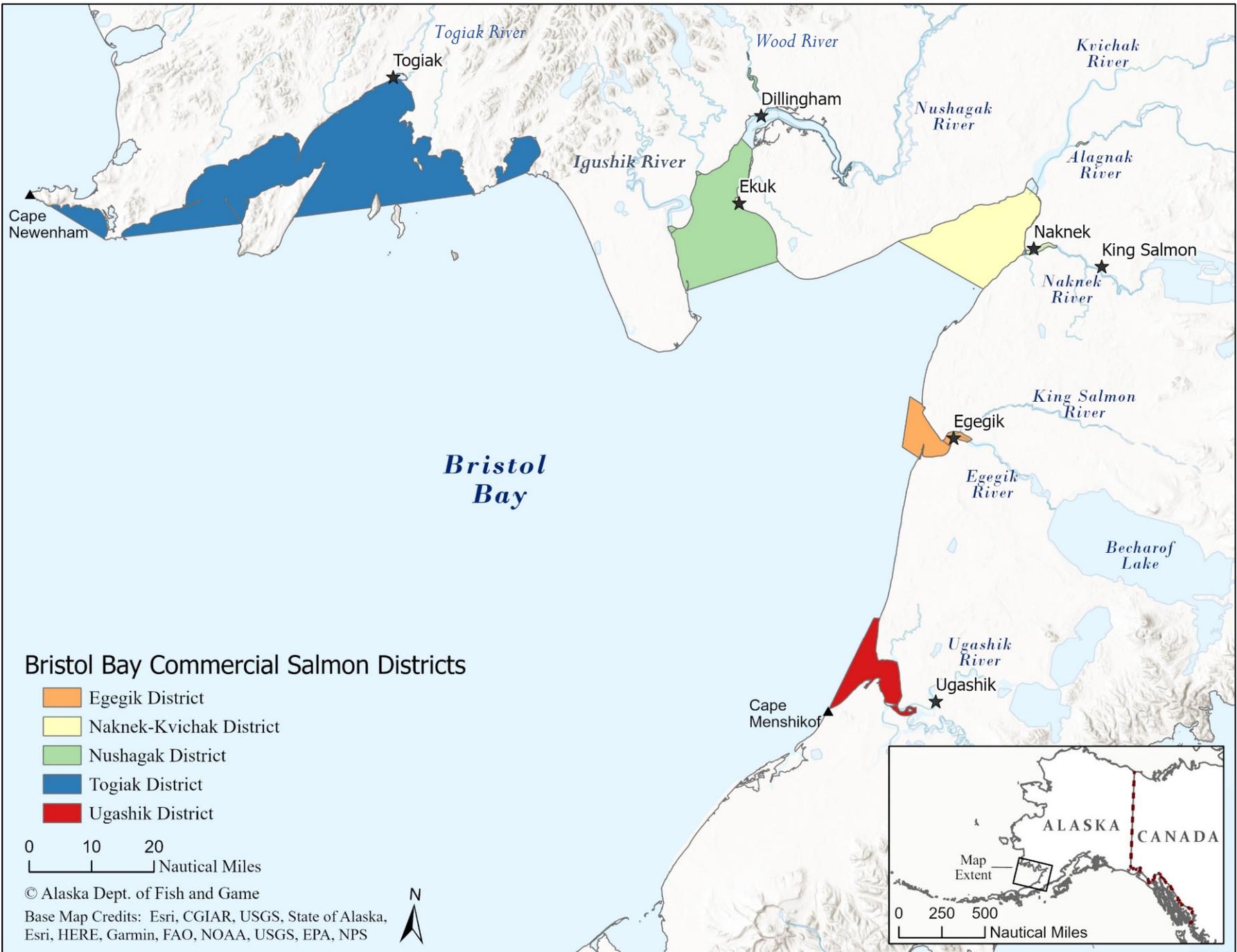
Ugashik District north line

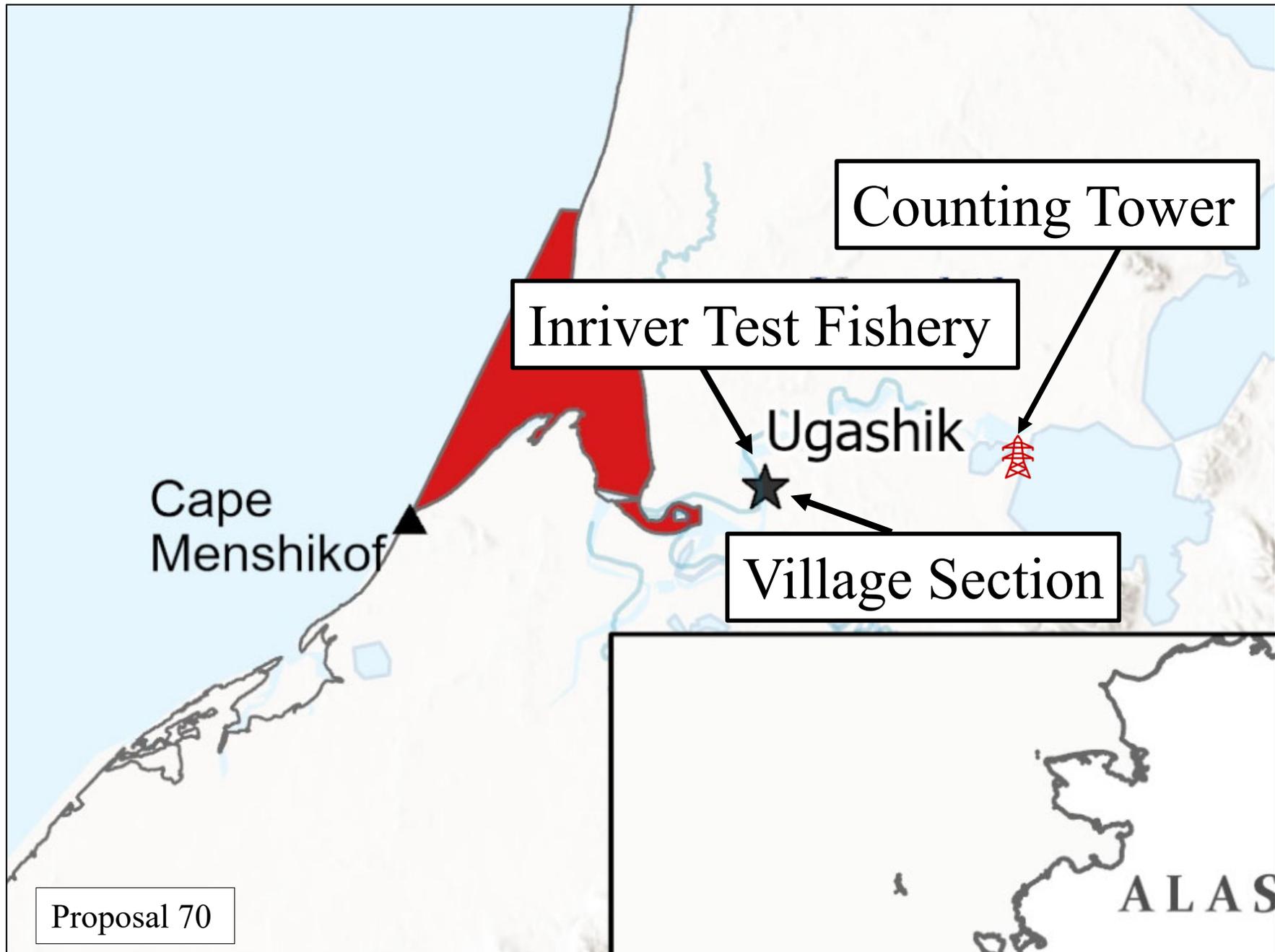


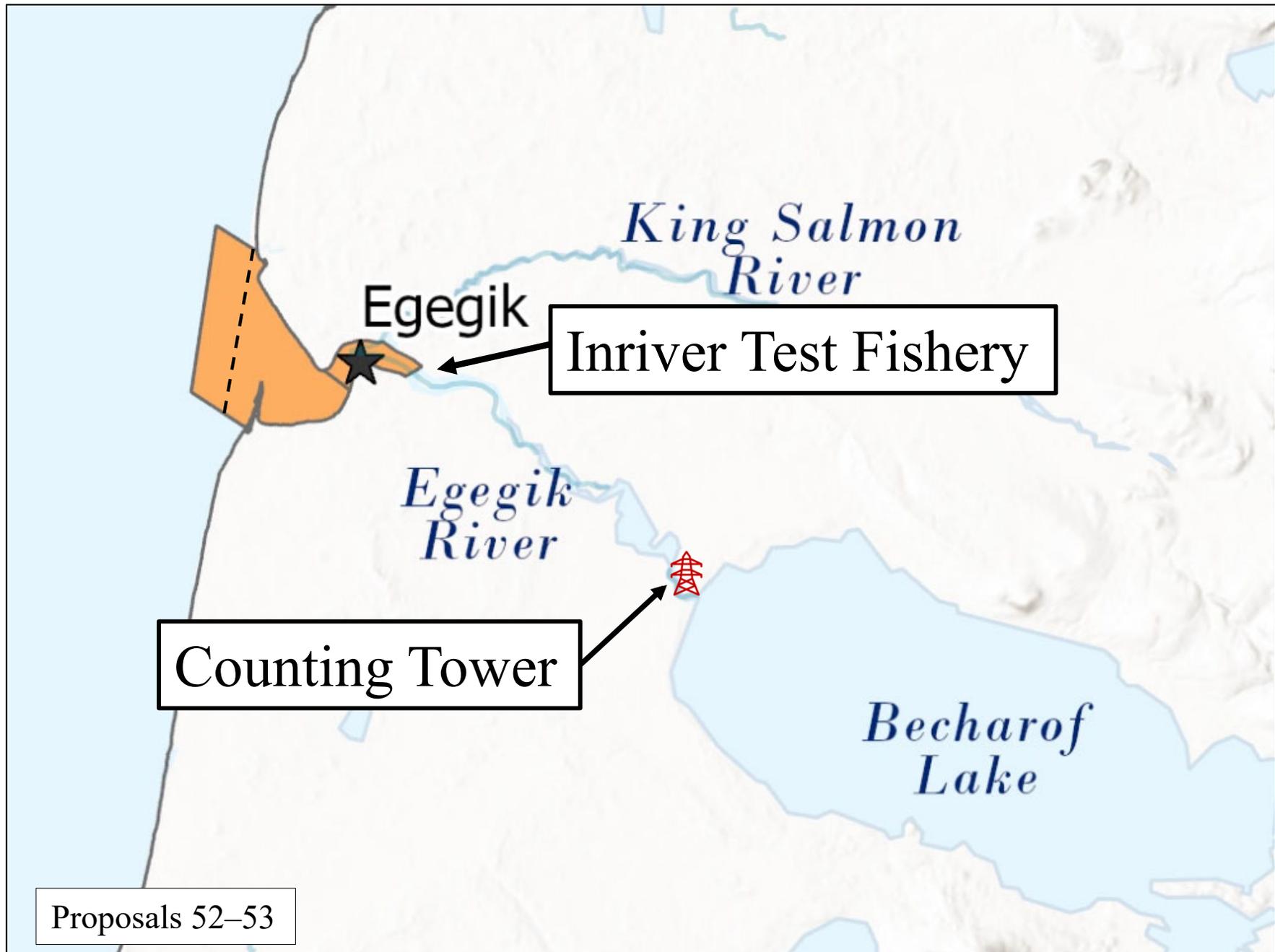
# Outline

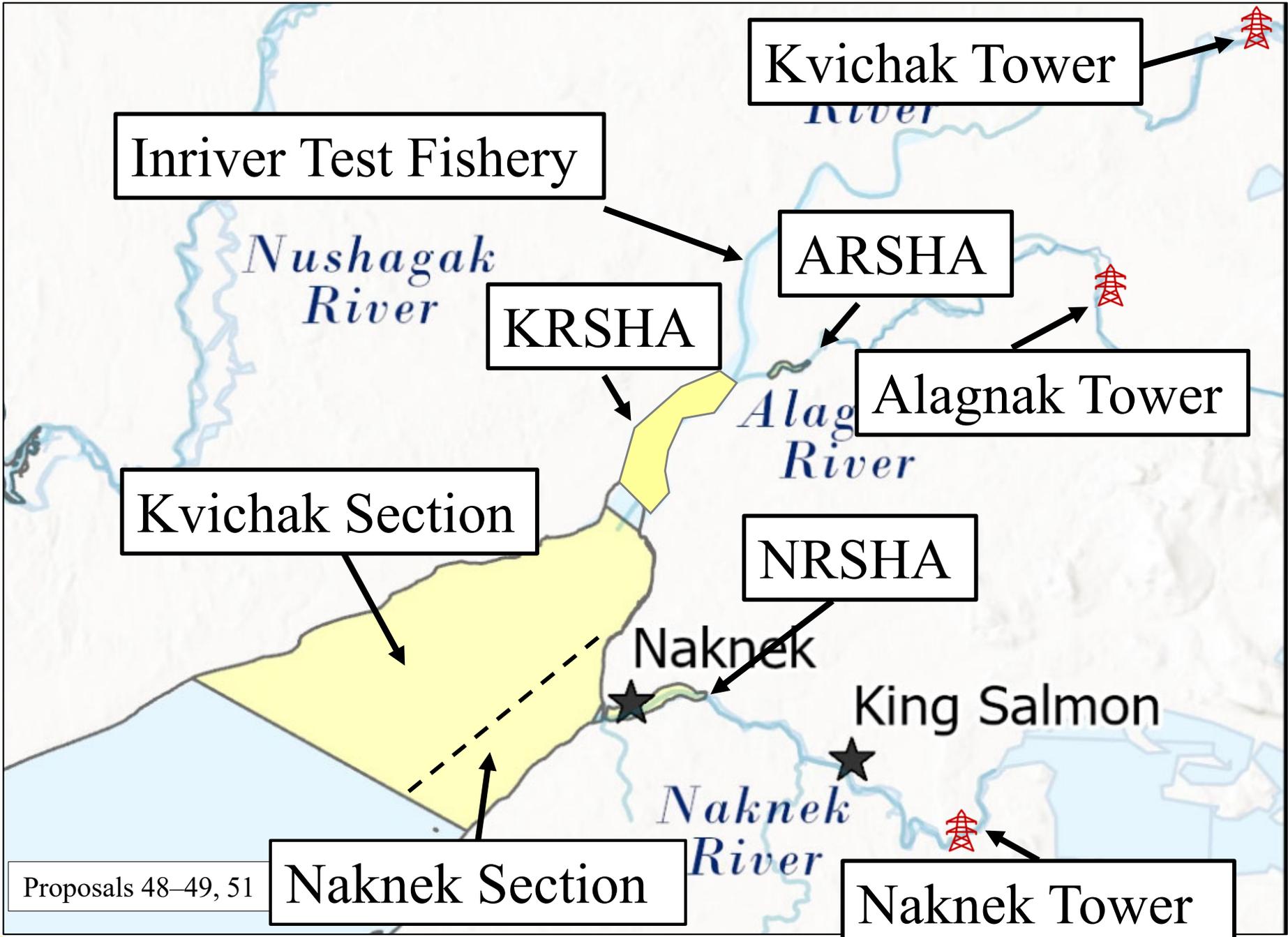
- Overview of districts
- Historical information on harvest and price
- Regulations
- Management in Bristol Bay
- Unique aspects of Bristol Bay

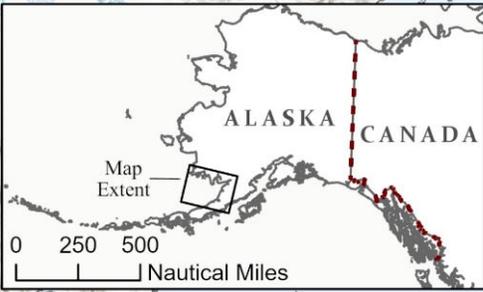
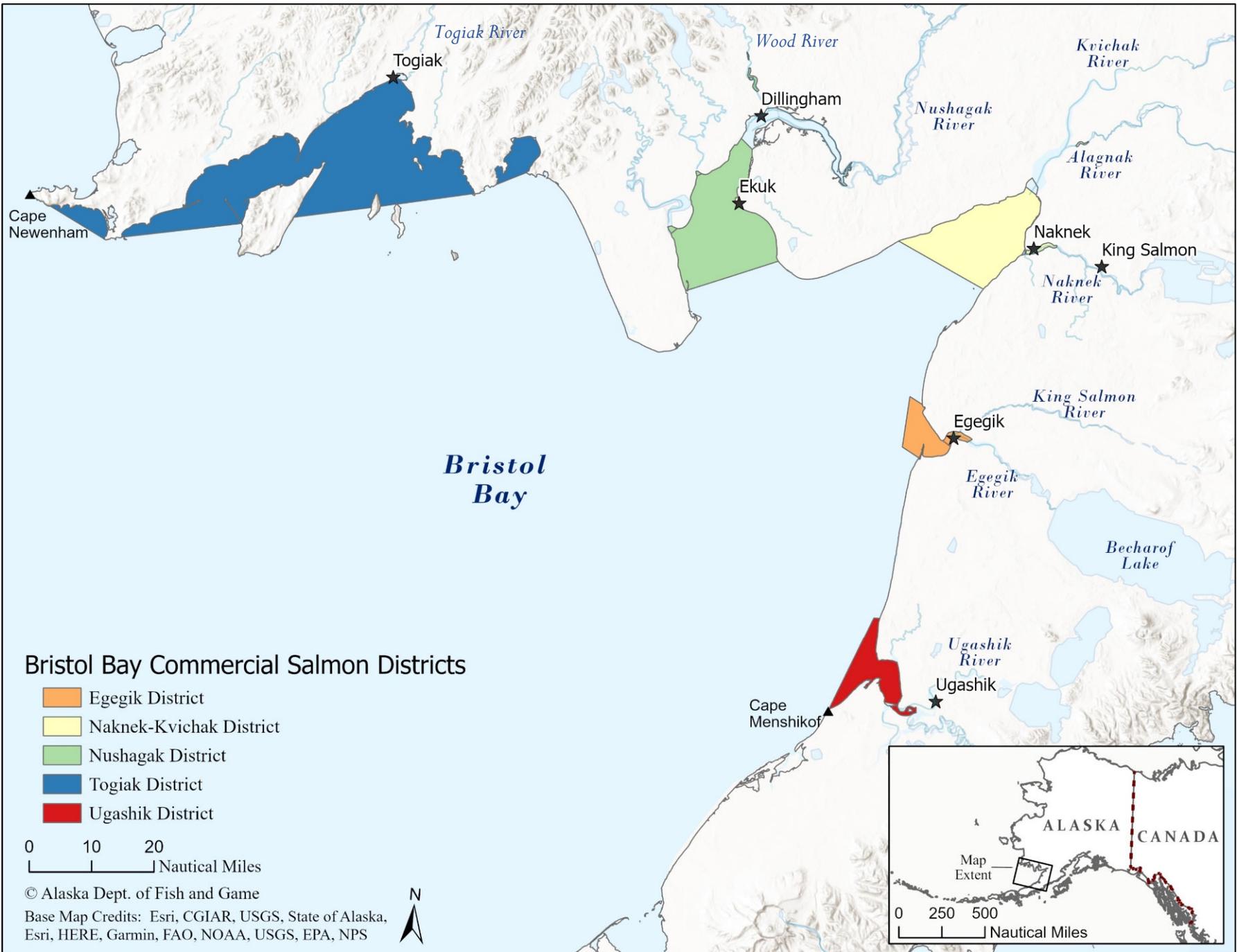


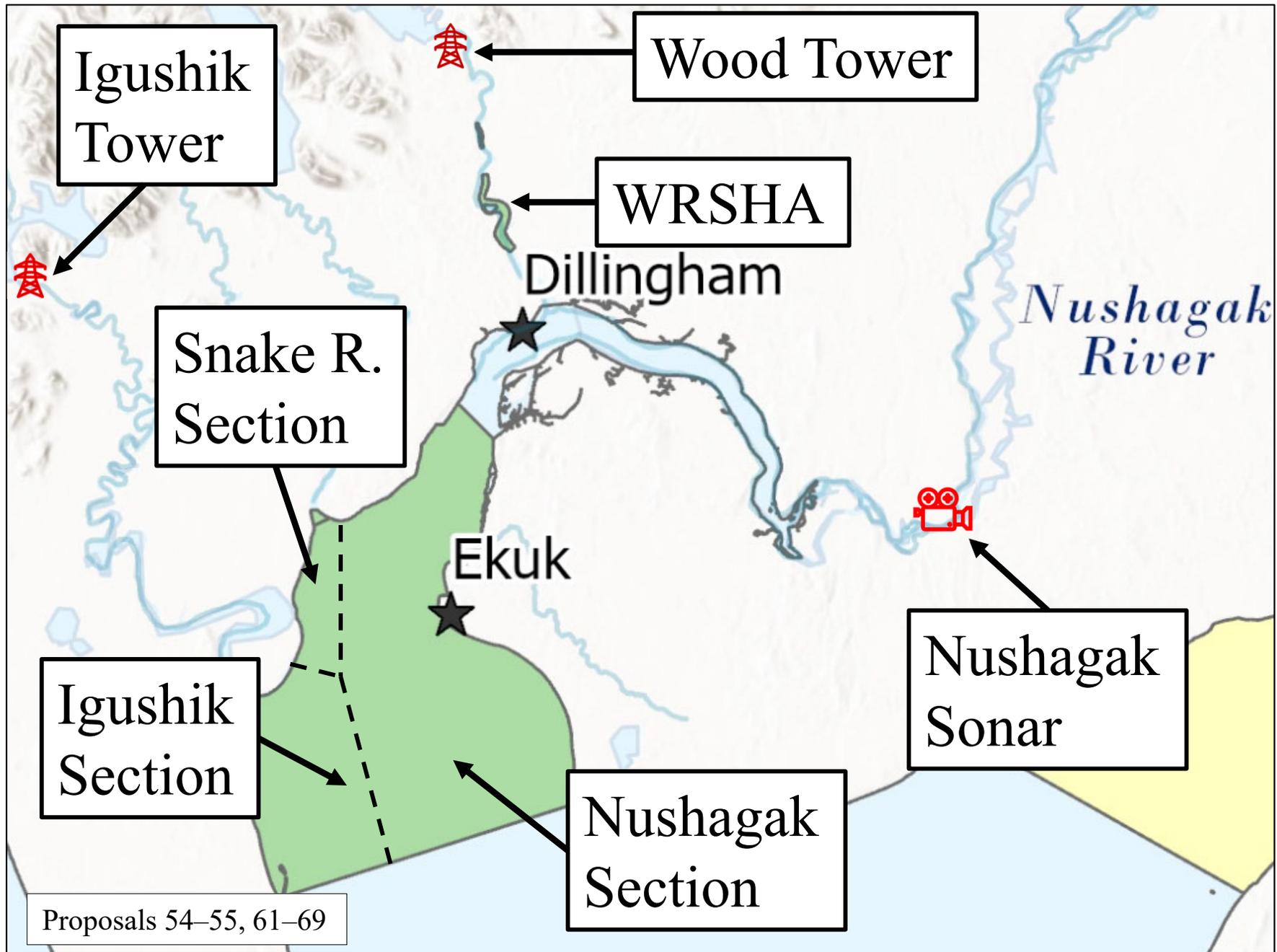


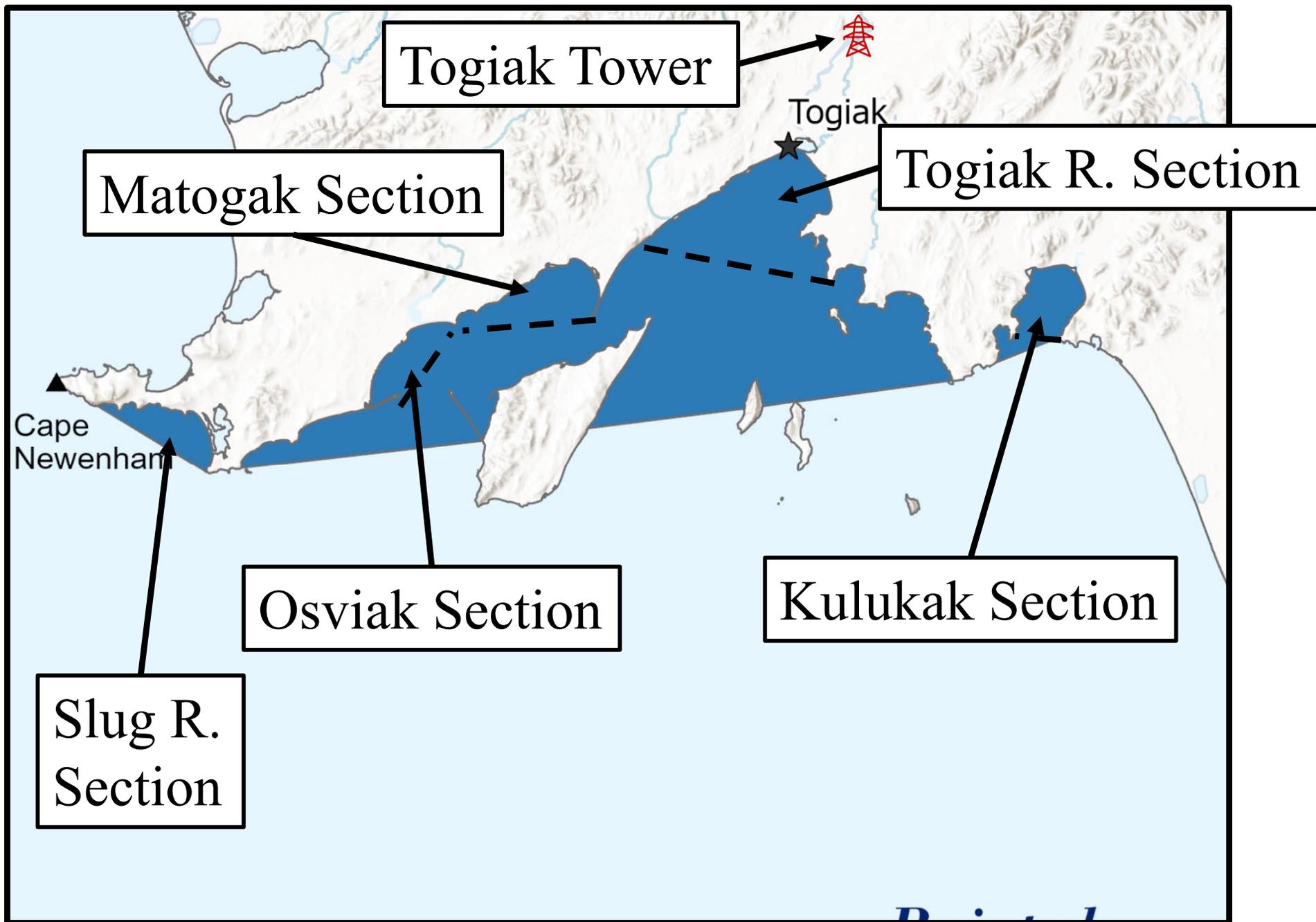


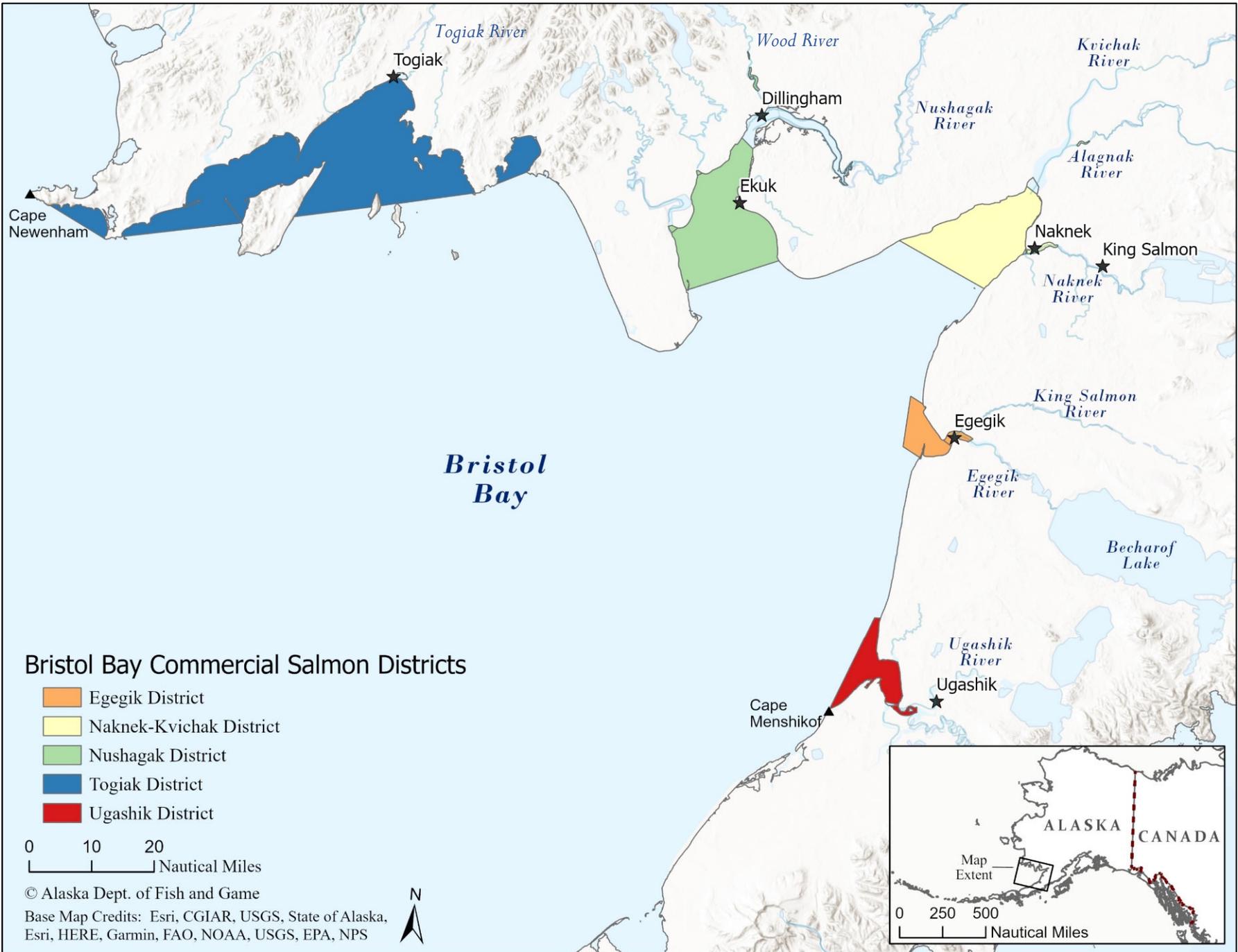










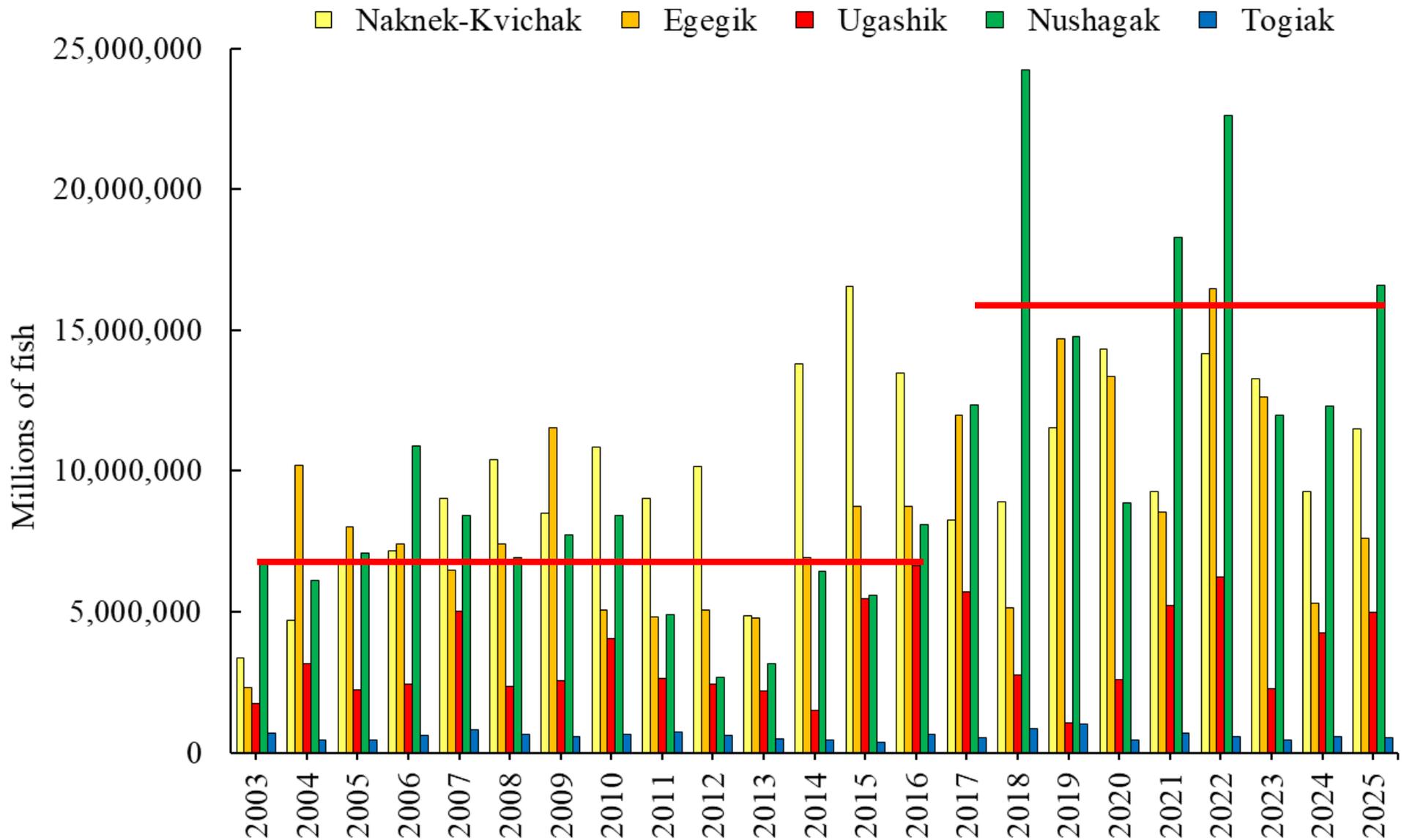


# Bristol Bay commercial salmon harvest

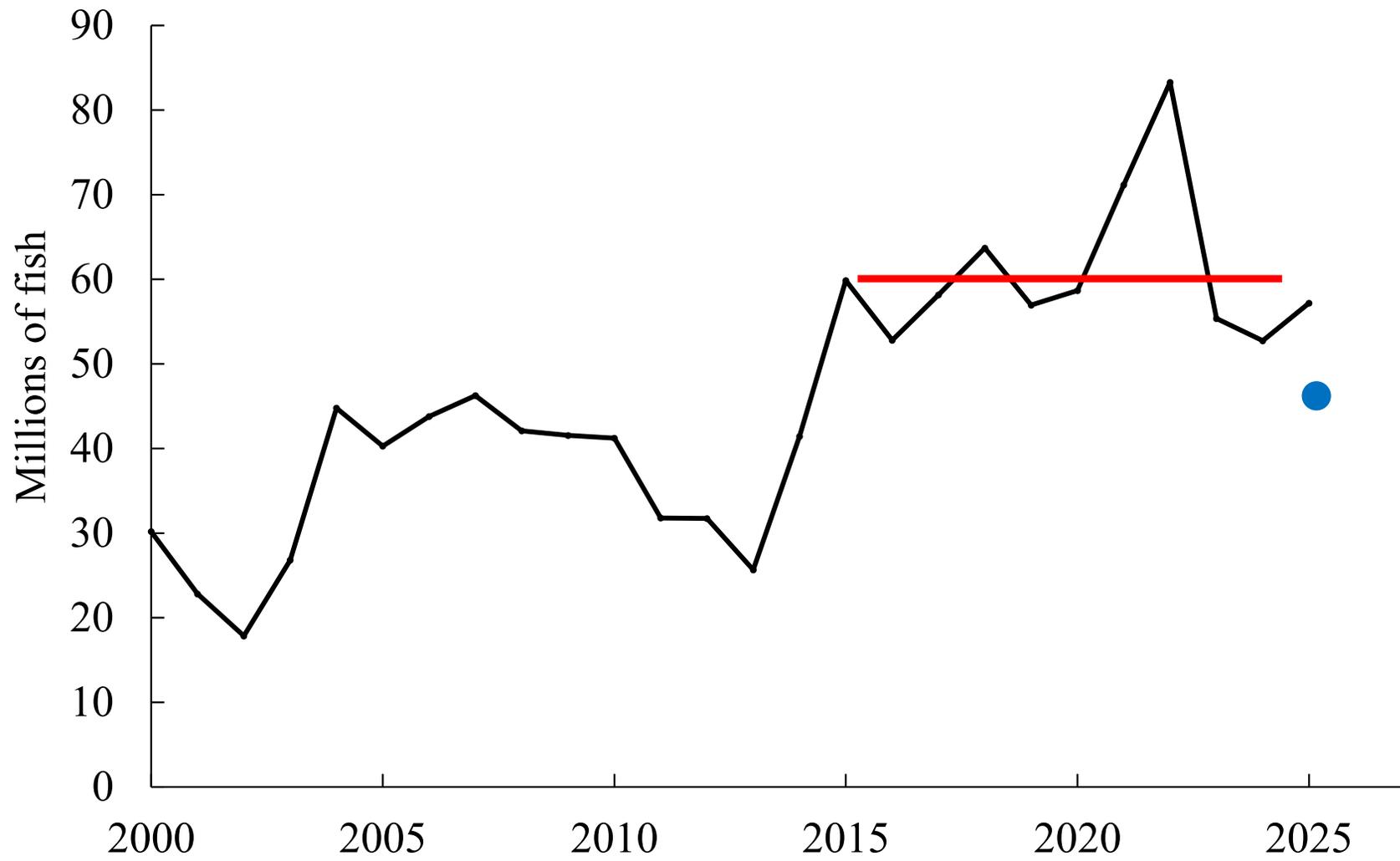
- Sockeye salmon: 95% of annual harvest; 33 million avg.
- Chum salmon: 4% of annual harvest; 1.1 million avg.
- King and coho salmon: 35,000 king and 97,000 coho salmon avg.
- Pink salmon: 523,000 avg.



# Commercial sockeye salmon harvest by district



# Bristol Bay sockeye salmon total inshore run size



# Sockeye salmon fishery trends

Years	Escapement (millions)	Harvest (millions)	Value \$/lb. (millions)	Value (millions)	Drift permits fished	Set permits fished
2023–2025	16	38	\$1.03	\$193	1,677	837
2019–2022	19	46	\$1.27	\$316	1,714	867
2016–2018	17	39	\$1.17	\$246	1,725	873
2013–2015	12	27	\$1.08	\$152	1,735	871
2010–2012	9	24	\$0.98	\$134	1,739	874
2007–2009	11	29	\$0.66	\$115	1,633	847
2004–2006	12	26	\$0.54	\$90	1,506	823



# Bristol Bay regulations

- Drift and set gillnet gear types:
  - Drift: 150 fathoms; Set: 50 fathoms
- Drift vessels register, 48-hour transfer wait period
  - Proposal 95
- Setnets register in Nushagak District only
- 32-foot limit for drift vessels
  - Proposals 82–91



# Management objectives



- Escapement Goals
- Harvest surplus fish
  - Subsistence priority
- Allocations
  - All districts except Togiak
- Tide by tide management

# Run assessment tools

- Preseason Forecasts
- Port Moller Test Fishery
- Genetic Stock Analysis
- District Test Fisheries
- Commercial Catch
- Age-Sex-Length Data
- Inriver Test Fisheries
- Aerial Surveys
- Tower Counts



# Run assessment tools

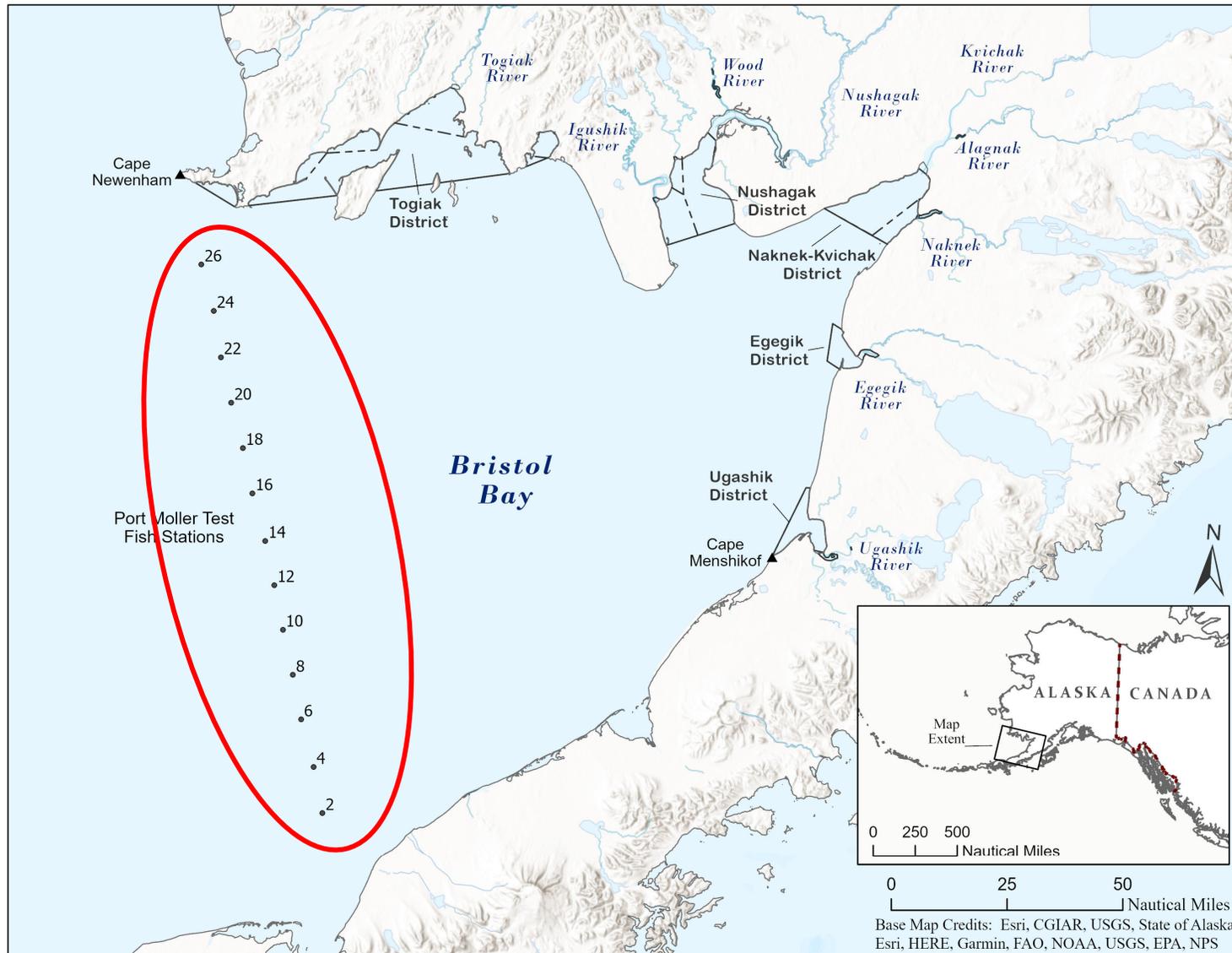
- Preseason Forecasts- 2025 example

DISTRICT	River	Millions of Sockeye Salmon								
		Forecasted Production by Age Class				Total	Forecasted		South Peninsula	BB Inshore
		1.2	2.2	1.3	2.3		Escapement	Surplus		
NAKNEK-KVICHAK										
	Kvichak	2.12	0.78	4.14	0.34	7.38	4.00	3.16	0.22	7.16
	Alagnak	1.68	0.23	2.88	0.18	4.97	2.70	2.13	0.15	4.82
	Naknek	0.78	0.31	2.19	0.37	3.66	1.10	2.45	0.11	3.55
	Total	4.58	1.32	9.22	0.89	16.01	7.80	7.73	0.48	15.53
EGEGIK										
		1.00	2.42	2.20	0.83	6.46	1.10	5.16	0.20	6.26
UGASHIK										
		1.62	0.52	4.54	0.23	6.90	1.18	5.52	0.21	6.70
NUSHAGAK										
	Wood	3.95	0.28	3.24	0.16	7.63	2.38	5.01	0.23	7.40
	Igushik	0.73	0.02	2.02	0.01	2.79	0.34	2.37	0.08	2.70
	Nushagak	2.23	0.13	8.15	0.05	10.58	1.96	8.31	0.32	10.26
	Total	6.91	0.42	13.42	0.22	21.00	4.68	15.68	0.63	20.36
TOGLAK										
		0.31	0.01	0.68	0.01	1.01	0.23	0.75	0.03	0.98
BRISTOL BAY										
		14.43	4.69	30.06	2.18	51.38	14.98	34.84	1.55	49.83
		28%	9%	59%	4%	100%				



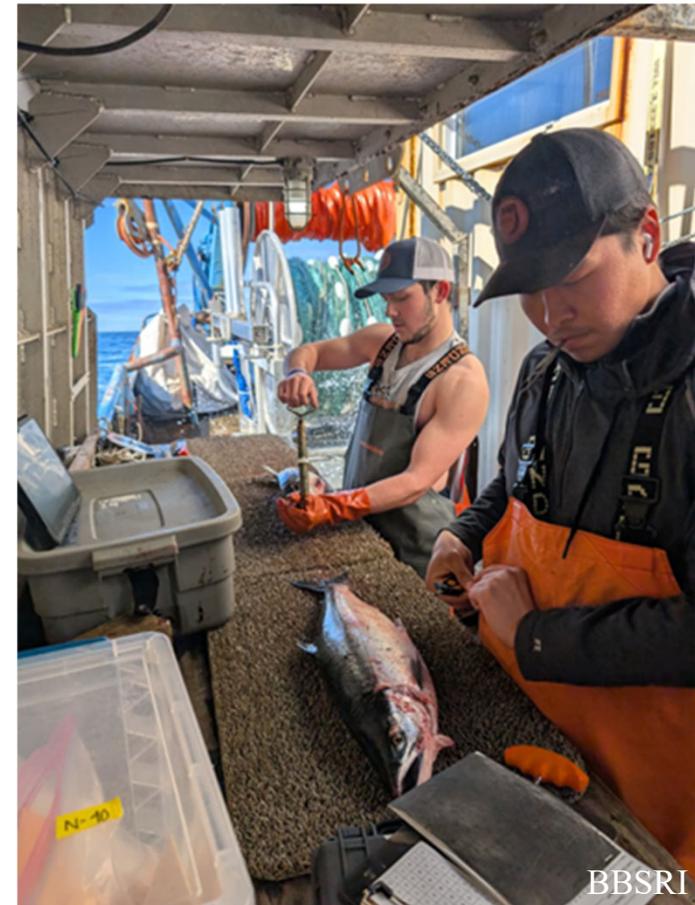
# Run Assessment Tools

- Port Moller Test Fishery



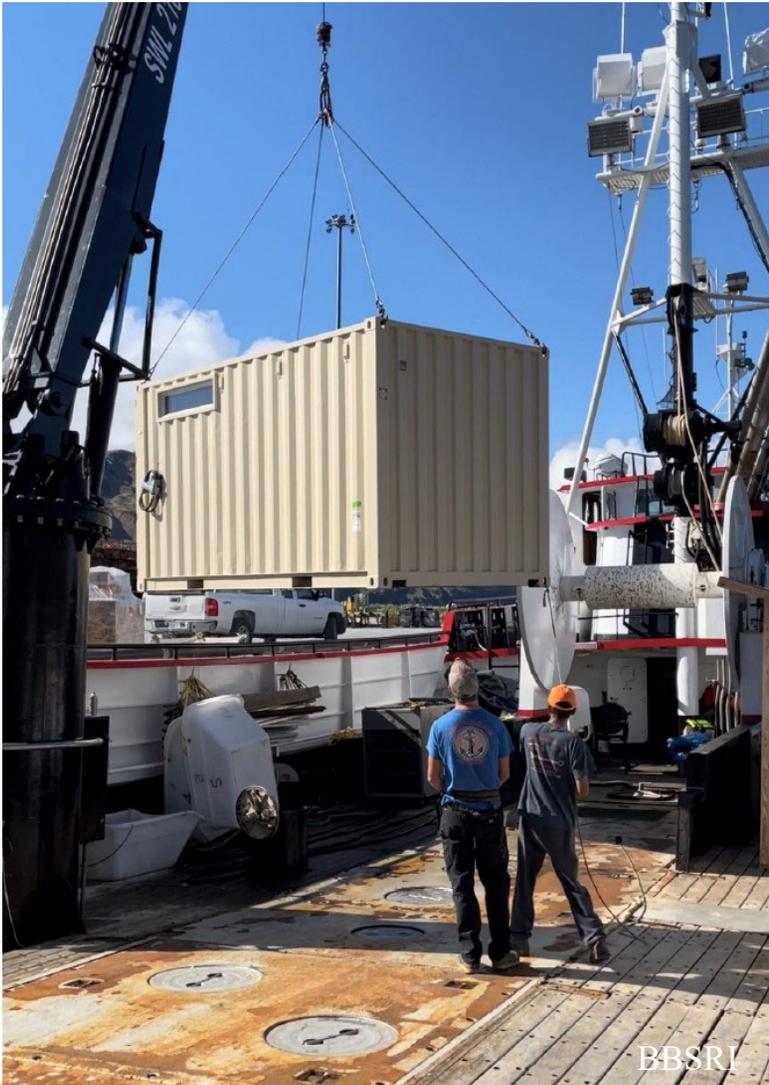
# Run assessment tools

- Port Moller Test Fishery



# Run assessment tools

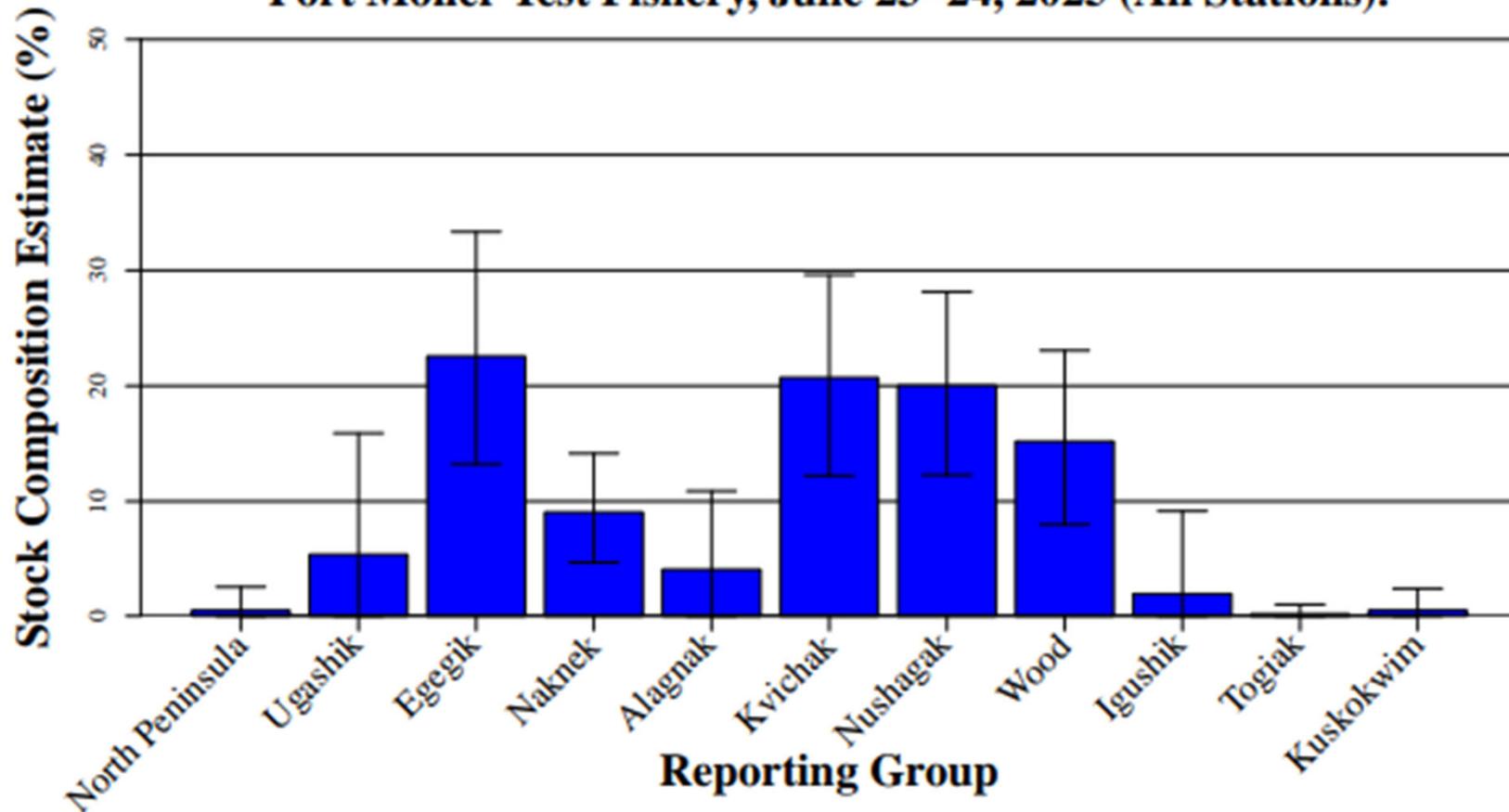
- Port Moller Test Fishery



# Run assessment tools

- Genetic Stock Analysis

**Genetic Stock Composition Estimates for Sockeye Salmon Captured in the Port Moller Test Fishery, June 23–24, 2025 (All Stations).**



The genetic analysis was completed by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial Fisheries, Gene Conservation Laboratory.



# Run assessment tools

- District Test Fisheries
- Commercial Catch

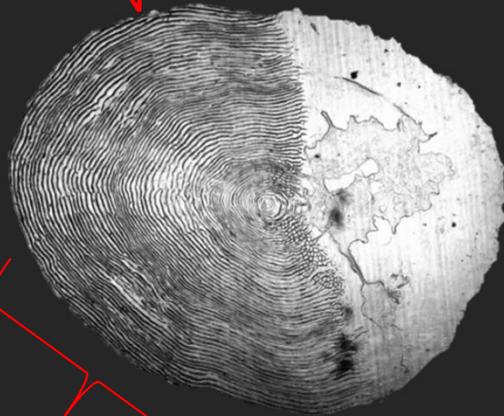


N-K District



# Run assessment tools

- Age-Sex-Length Data



Age Data



# Run assessment tools

- Inriver Test Fisheries



Kvichak River



# Run assessment tools

- Aerial Surveys



# Run assessment tools

- Tower Counts/Escapement



# Allocation

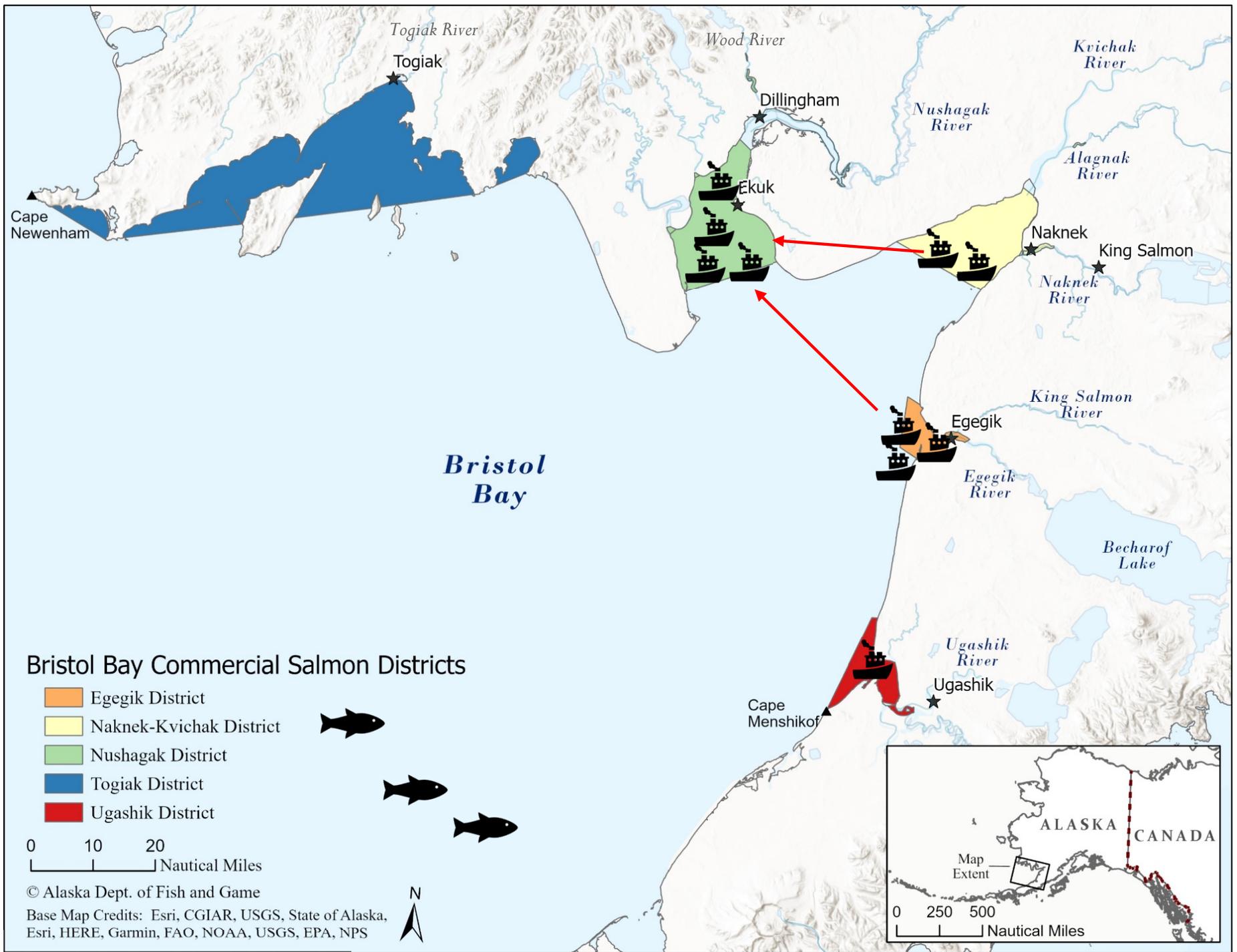
- Allocation plans for all districts except Togiak
- June 1 to July 17 allocation period
- Separate gear openings and differential timing are main tools for achieving allocations
- Naknek, Alagnak, and Kvichak special harvest areas are separate from district allocation plans
  - Proposals 46–47
- Wood River special harvest area has differences
  - Proposals 59 & 65

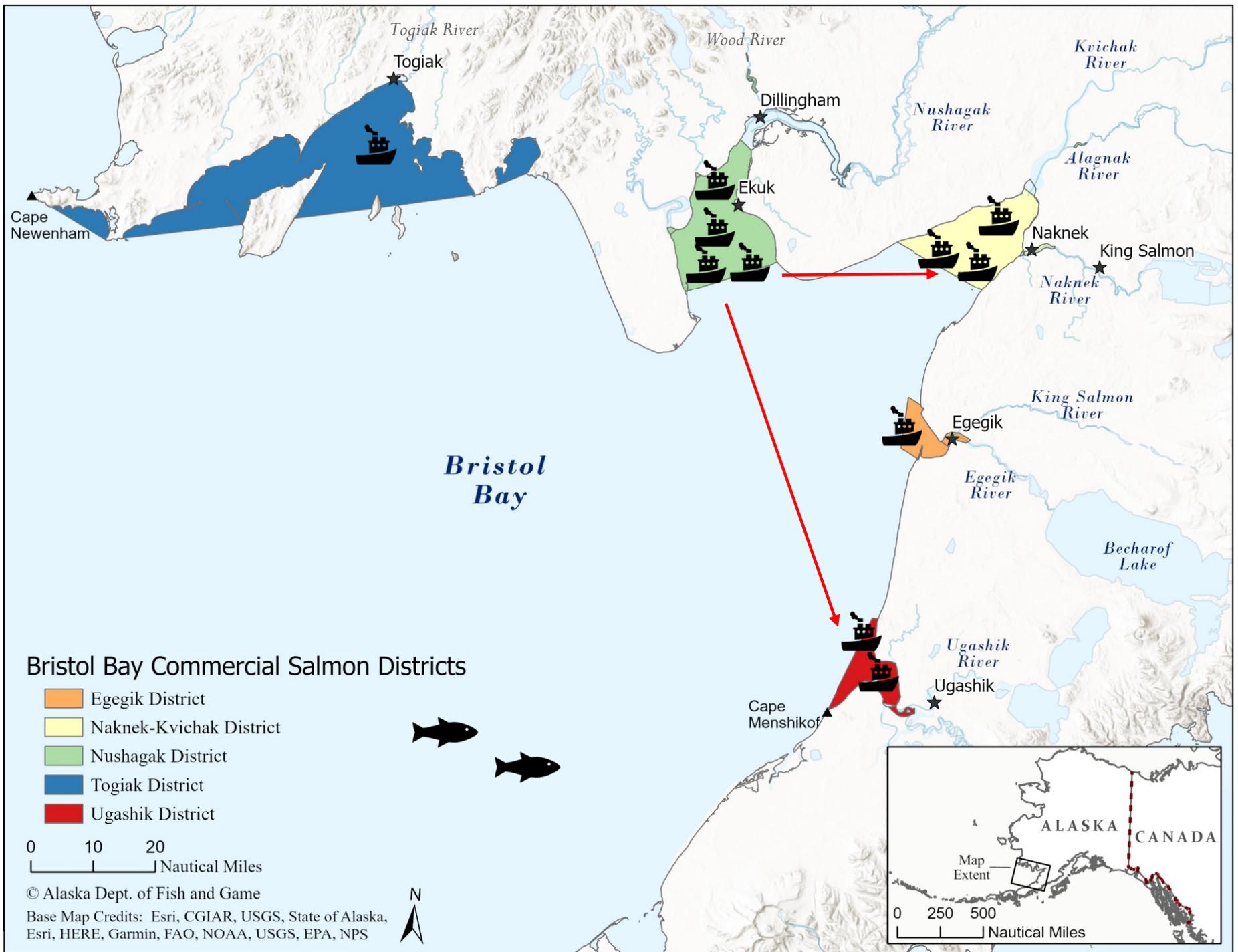


# Allocation

- Escapement is highest priority
- Allocations made in a time with more boats/nets
- Large runs to Nushagak in recent years
- Decreased boats in east side districts early season
- Processing capacity
- Run timing, compression, entry patterns, fish size







# Dual drift & permit stacking

- Dual Drift Gillnet Operations, a.k.a. D-Boats
  - 2 permit holders; Allowed a total of 200 fathoms of gear
  - 28% in 2025
- All districts except Togiak
- Permit Stackings
  - 1 permit holder with 2 permits
  - Proposals 75–78
- Set net stacking 2010–2012
- Proposal 80

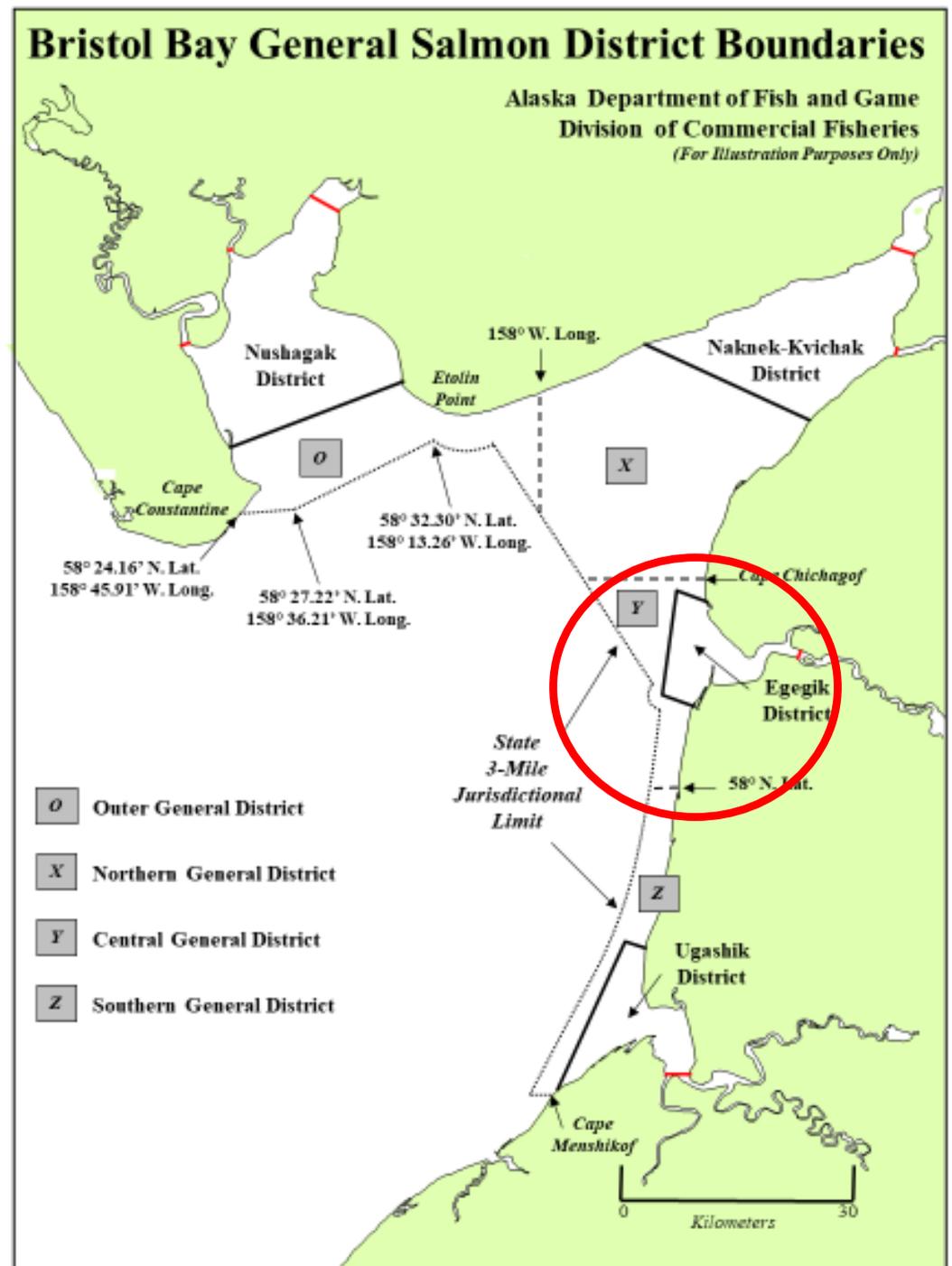


# Line fisheries



# General District

- Used in 2004, early season
  - 1.7 million catch
- Proposals 71–74
  - Eastside GD
  - Late season



# Erosion



- Ekuk Beach  
Proposal 56
- Ugashik Village  
Proposal 79

# Questions?

