

### **3. Historic Properties**

The subarea contains a multitude of known and unidentified archaeological and historic sites. These sites are not identified here, in order to protect them from scavenging. Oil spills and hazardous substance releases may result in direct and/or indirect impacts to those sites. On-Scene Coordinators are responsible for ensuring that response actions take the protection of historic properties into account and that the statutory requirements for protecting them are met. Annex M of the Unified Plan outlines Federal On-Scene Coordinator responsibilities for protecting historic properties and provides an expedited process for compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act during the emergency phase of a response.

### **4. Subsistence and Personal Use Harvests**

Subsistence-related uses of natural resources play an important role in the economy and culture of many communities in Southeast Alaska. A subsistence economy may be defined as follows:

...an economy in which the customary and traditional uses of fish, wildlife and plant resources contribute substantially to the social, cultural and economic welfare of families in the form of food, clothing, transportation and handicrafts. Sharing of resources, kinship-based production, small scale technology and the dissemination of information about subsistence across generational lines are additional characteristics.

Before 1990, the State of Alaska made all decisions regarding the management of fish and wildlife resources and harvest opportunities. In 1990, however, Federal agencies became responsible for assuring a Federal subsistence priority on Federal public lands, and in 1999 on Federal reserved waters. The Federal Subsistence Board adopts subsistence regulations that are administered by various Federal agencies on Federal public lands. State regulations still apply on all lands, and the State is still the manager of fish and wildlife on all lands and waters in Alaska. As a consequence, the number of agencies involved in regulating subsistence uses has increased. Therefore, in the event of a spill, more extensive coordination will be required in order to address subsistence resources. Regulations regarding subsistence harvest can also be expected to undergo regular modification. Current information on harvest regulations can be obtained from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Subsistence Division in Anchorage: 267-2353; or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Office of Subsistence Management in Anchorage: 786-3888.

The National Marine Fisheries Service and the Alaska Native Harbor Seal Commission entered into a co-management agreement in 1999 to cooperatively manage harbor seal populations in Alaska. The purpose of the agreement was to set forth an operational structure for the conservation and management of harbor seals to maintain population levels that allow for sustainable subsistence use by Alaska Natives, while carrying out the goals of the Marine Mammal Protection Act to maintain harbor seals a significant functioning element of the ecosystem upon which they depend. This partnership and management structure relies on shared decision-making based on consensus to promote the sustained health of harbor seals, and to promote scientific research, identify and resolve conflicts, and provide information to harvesters and the public. During 1995-97, 3,750 harbor seals were harvested in Southeast Alaska. In 2000, 1,361 were taken, which was about 61% of the statewide total harvest. Harvest occurs year-round, with peaks during February-March and September-December.

The following charts showing seasonal rounds of activity, are included for several of the many rural subsistence-using communities in order to illustrate the species harvested and the times of

year when harvesting occurs. This information can be used during a spill event in order to determine the communities threatened or impacted by the discharge, and the specific food sources at risk of contamination. Contacts for many potentially affected communities are identified in the Response Section, Part One.

### **Southeast Personal Use Harvest**

Personal use harvests in Southeast Alaska may potentially\* occur as follows:

Shrimp fishery	all year
Dungeness crab fishery	all year
Brown king crab fishery	all year
Red & blue king crab fishery	all year (west of Cape Spencer) July 1-March 31 (east of Cape Spencer)
Tanner crab fishery	all year
Clam fishery	all year
Abalone fishery	all year
Herring fishery	all year
Bottomfish fishery	all year
Halibut fishery	February 1-December 31
Smelt fishery	all year
Salmon fishery	all year (in most waters)

**\*NOTE:** All personal use fisheries occur under sport fishing regulations and may be opened or closed by emergency order, if Alaska Department of Fish and Game ascertains that conditions warrant such actions. Also, harvest regulations and seasons can change from year to year. The dates given above indicate periods when fisheries are commonly, but not always, open.

### **Yakutat Personal Use Harvest**

Personal use harvests in the Yakutat region may potentially\* occur as follows:

Shrimp fishery	all year
Dungeness crab fishery	all year
King crab fishery	all year
Tanner crab fishery	all year
Clam fishery	all year
Herring fishery	all year
Bottomfish fishery	all year
Halibut fishery	February 1-December 31
Smelt fishery	all year
Salmon set gill net fishery	July 1-September 30

**\*NOTE:** All personal use fisheries occur under sport fishing regulations and may be opened or closed by emergency order, if the Alaska Department of Fish and Game ascertains that conditions warrant such actions. Also, harvest regulations and seasons can

change from year to year. The dates given above indicate periods when fisheries are commonly, but not always, open.

## **5. Commercial Fishing**

The following tables provide seasonal information on the major commercial fisheries in the subarea. It must be remembered, however, that all fishing seasons are subject to emergency openings and closures. Most seasons are only open for a portion of the seasons specified in the regulations. Also, fishing regulations and seasons can change from year to year. Specific information on which species are currently being harvested may be obtained from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's Division of Commercial Fisheries office in Juneau at 465-4250.

Maps of key commercial fishing areas are available in the following publications:

Alaska Department of Fish and Game. 1986. Alaska Habitat Management Guide Reference Maps, Southeast Region, Vols. 1 and 2.

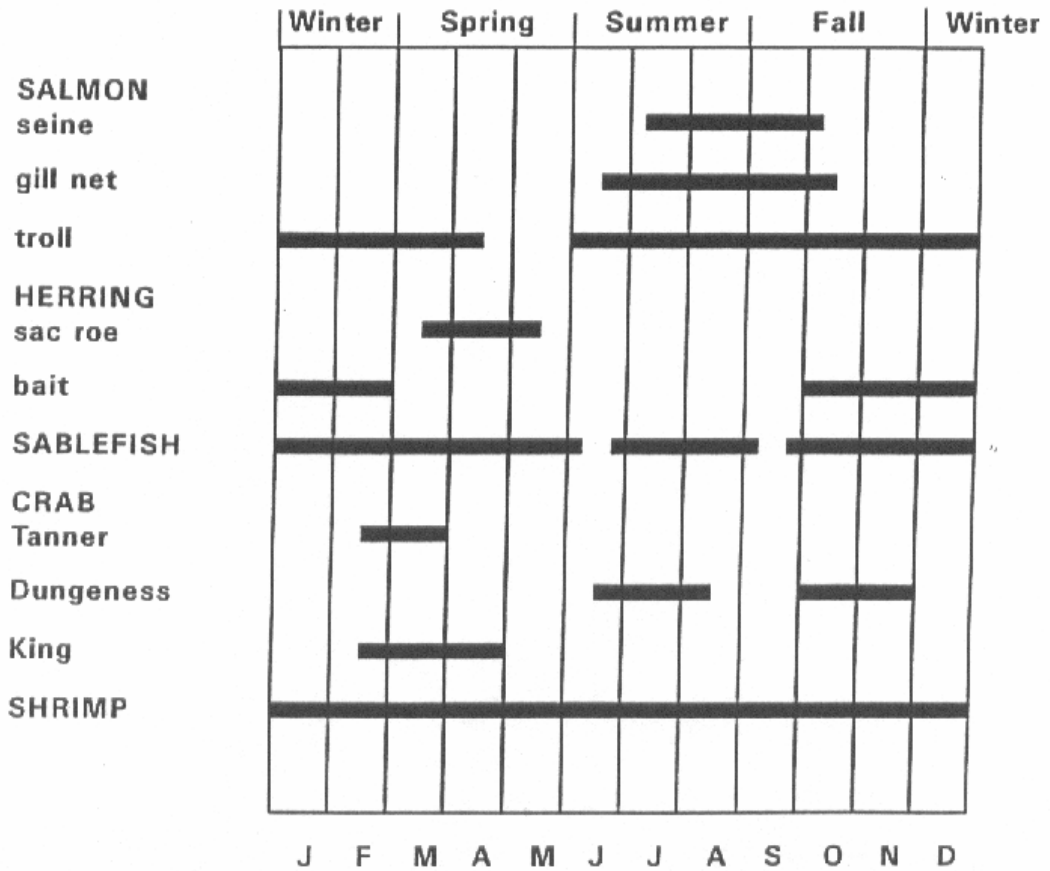
Research Planning Institute, Inc. 1993. Sensitivity of Coastal Environments and Wildlife to Spilled oil: Southeast Alaska. Vol. I and II.

Research Planning Institute, Inc. 1993. Geographic Information System database provided to NOAA's Seattle and Anchorage HAZMAT offices, which show species targeted in each mapped fishing area.

Salmon are the most important commercial species in the subarea, with pink salmon comprising the majority of the catch. Other profitable fisheries target herring; sablefish; Tanner, Dungeness and brown king crab; shrimp; and sea cucumbers.

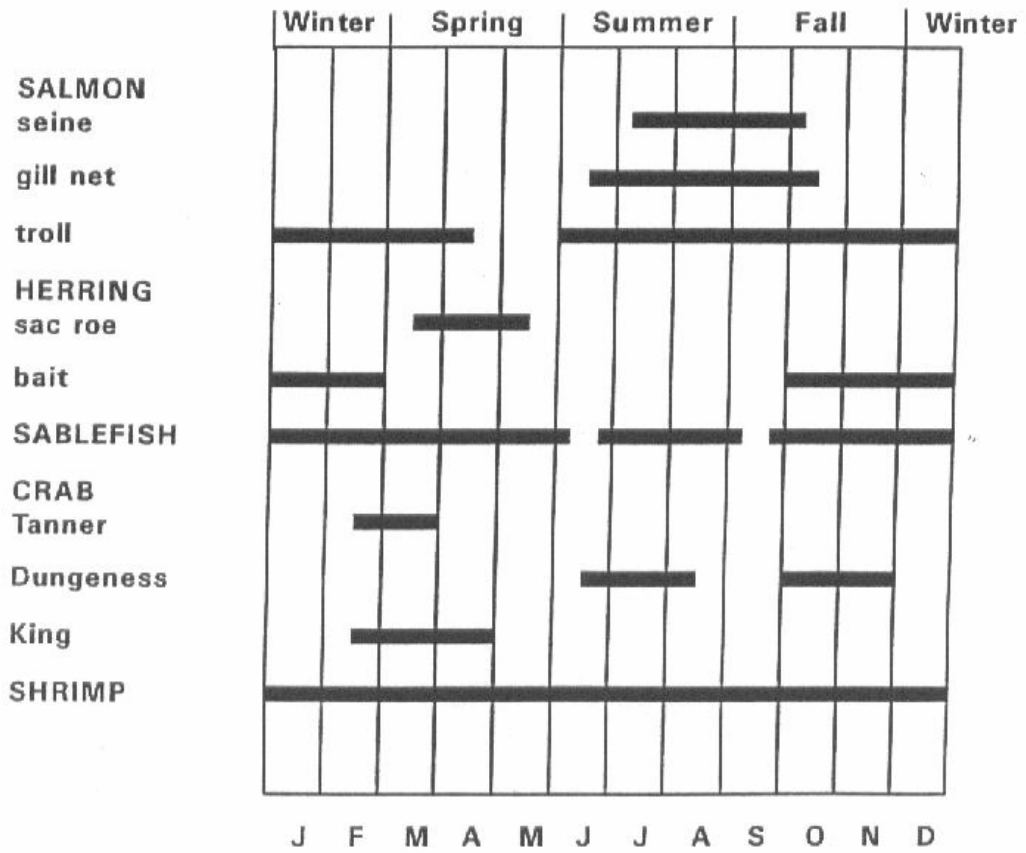
# COMMERCIAL FISHING SEASONS

## SOUTHEAST ALASKA



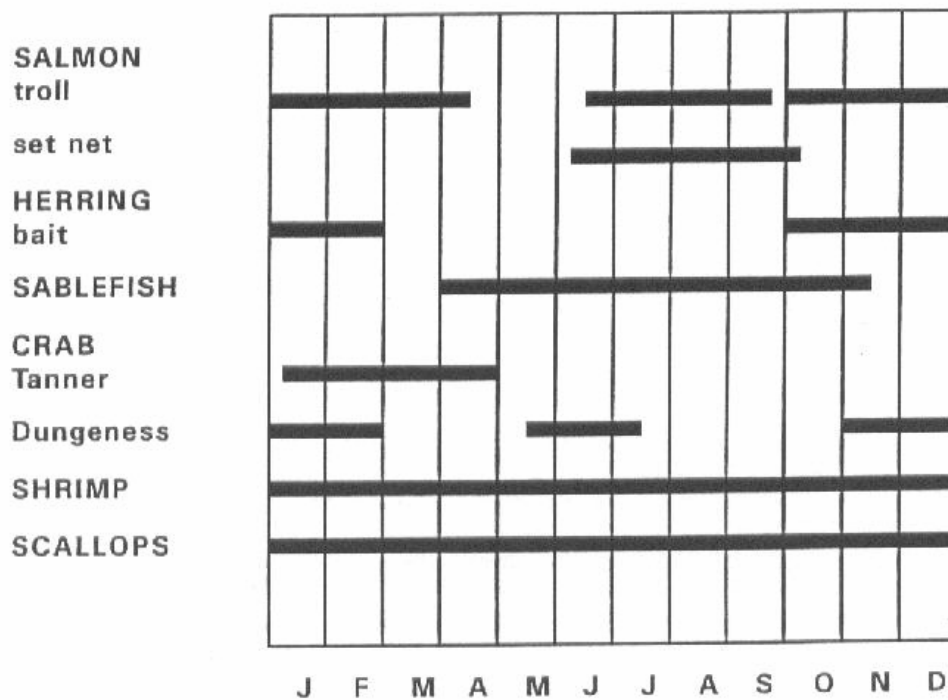
Times are approximate

## COMMERCIAL FISHING SEASONS SOUTHEAST ALASKA



Times are approximate

## COMMERCIAL FISHING SEASONS YAKUTAT AREA



Times are approximate