



SOUTHCENTRAL ALASKA
SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL
ADVISORY COUNCIL
Meeting Materials
Book 2

*October 12-13, 2022
Anchorage*



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Dolly Varden Char in Quartz Creek,
Kenai Peninsula



USFWS photo by V. Orange

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Partners for Fisheries Monitoring Program Notice of Funding Opportunity

The Office of Subsistence Management is seeking proposals for the Partners for Fisheries Monitoring Program to strengthen Alaska Native and rural involvement in Federal subsistence management. The Partners for Fisheries Monitoring Program is a competitive grant program that provides funding for biologist/social scientist/educator positions in Alaska Native and rural nonprofit organizations with the intent of increasing the organizations' ability to participate in Federal subsistence management. In addition, the program supports a variety of opportunities for rural students to learn about subsistence resource monitoring and management through science camps and paid internships.

More information about the Partners for Fisheries Monitoring Program Notice of Funding Opportunity can be found in *GrantSolutions.gov*, *Grants.gov*, or on the Office of Subsistence Management Website <https://www.doi.gov/subsistence/partners>, or by contacting Karen Hyer at Karen_Hyer@fws.gov, 907-786-3689.



McLees Lake Weir, Unalaska Island. Photograph by Jenny Renee.

ANNUAL REPORTS

Background

ANILCA established the Annual Reports as the way to bring regional subsistence uses and needs to the Secretaries' attention. The Secretaries delegated this responsibility to the Board. Section 805(c) deference includes matters brought forward in the Annual Report.

The Annual Report provides the Councils an opportunity to address the directors of each of the four Department of Interior agencies and the Department of Agriculture Forest Service in their capacity as members of the Federal Subsistence Board. The Board is required to discuss and reply to each issue in every Annual Report and to take action when within the Board's authority. In many cases, if the issue is outside of the Board's authority, the Board will provide information to the Council on how to contact personnel at the correct agency. As agency directors, the Board members have authority to implement most of the actions which would effect the changes recommended by the Councils, even those not covered in Section 805(c). The Councils are strongly encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity.

Report Content

Both Title VIII Section 805 and 50 CFR §100.11 (Subpart B of the regulations) describe what may be contained in an Annual Report from the councils to the Board. This description includes issues that are not generally addressed by the normal regulatory process:

- an identification of current and anticipated subsistence uses of fish and wildlife populations within the region;
- an evaluation of current and anticipated subsistence needs for fish and wildlife populations from the public lands within the region;
- a recommended strategy for the management of fish and wildlife populations within the region to accommodate such subsistence uses and needs related to the public lands; and
- recommendations concerning policies, standards, guidelines, and regulations to implement the strategy.

Please avoid filler or fluff language that does not specifically raise an issue of concern or information to the Board.

Report Clarity

In order for the Board to adequately respond to each Council's annual report, it is important for the annual report itself to state issues clearly.

- If addressing an existing Board policy, Councils should please state whether there is something unclear about the policy, if there is uncertainty about the reason for the policy, or if the Council needs information on how the policy is applied.
- Council members should discuss in detail at Council meetings the issues for the annual report and assist the Council Coordinator in understanding and stating the issues clearly.

- Council Coordinators and OSM staff should assist the Council members during the meeting in ensuring that the issue is stated clearly.

Thus, if the Councils can be clear about their issues of concern and ensure that the Council Coordinator is relaying them sufficiently, then the Board and OSM staff will endeavor to provide as concise and responsive of a reply as is possible.

Report Format

While no particular format is necessary for the Annual Reports, the report must clearly state the following for each item the Council wants the Board to address:

1. Numbering of the issues,
2. A description of each issue,
3. Whether the Council seeks Board action on the matter and, if so, what action the Council recommends, and
4. As much evidence or explanation as necessary to support the Council's request or statements relating to the item of interest.

2023 NORTH AMERICAN CARIBOU WORKSHOP & ARCTIC UNGULATE CONFERENCE

Anchorage, Alaska ■ May 8-12, 2023

Come to the conference to share your knowledge and learn from others! Join an international group of managers, biologists, Indigenous and Local Knowledge holders, and others to share knowledge of caribou, muskoxen, Dall's sheep, moose, and reindeer. The meeting will provide opportunities for exchanging viewpoints, concerns, and recommendations regarding the health, stewardship, use, and study of these important species.

The theme for the joint meeting is *Crossing Boundaries*. Arctic ungulates regularly cross landscape boundaries, connecting ecosystems and peoples, necessitating partnerships and collaboration across management and political boundaries. A critical component of such partnerships involves crossing the boundaries of Western science and Indigenous knowledges to identify creative opportunities to sustain Arctic ungulate populations in a changing world. We will explore these themes across four days of research talks, storytelling, workshops and panel discussions. Join us!

For more information visit www.nacw-auc-2023.org or e-mail info@nacw-auc-2023.org.



Partners for Fisheries Monitoring Program Report
 Copper River Salmon Monitoring Program
 Matt Piche' - Native Village of Eyak
 Department of the Environment and Natural Resources



Table 1. Copper River Chinook salmon run size, abundance, harvest, and spawning escapement.

Year	Returning Run Size Estimate	ADFG Data	NVE Data		ADFG & NPS	Spawning Escapement Estimate
		Copper River Delta Harvest (commercial, subsistence)	In-river Abundance Estimate	Standard Error (SE) of Abundance	In-river Harvest (subsistence, sport, personal use)	
2003	92,485	47,721	44,764	12,506	10,721	34,043
2004	81,098	40,534	40,564	4,650	9,919	30,645
2005	67,117	36,784	30,333	1,529	8,805	21,528
2006	100,656	32,867	67,789	4,779	9,335	58,454
2007	88,787	42,438	46,349	3,283	11,784	34,565
2008	54,417	13,074	41,343	2,166	8,858	32,485
2009	43,887	11,486	32,401	2,365	4,620	27,781
2010	33,150	10,827	22,323	2,492	5,552	16,771
2011	53,883	19,994	33,889	3,329	5,896	27,993
2012	44,306	12,854	31,452	5,242	3,541	27,911
2013	42,825	10,244	32,581	4,425	3,854	28,727
2014	35,286	11,128	24,158	2,100	3,449	20,709
2015	56,124	23,818	32,306	3,977	5,699	26,607
2016	29,157	13,148	16,009	1,193	3,524	12,485
2017	56,081	15,356	40,725	4,187	7,070	33,655
2018	61,583	9,059	52,524	4,034	10,322	42,202
2019	64,412	20,698	43,714	3,143	8,636	35,078
2020	33,055	6,762	26,293	2,863	4,693	21,600
2021	28,611	6,955	21,656	1,919	*3135	18,521
2022	tbd	*11,625	*32000 - 41000	tbd	tbd	tbd

Copper River Sustainable fisheries Escapement Goal (SEG) = 21,000-31,000 Chinook salmon
 * Point estimate or range based on preliminary data only

The 2003-2022 In-river abundance estimate is determined through a mark recapture study conducted by Native Village of Eyak Department of the Environment and Natural Resources (NVE-DENR) and LGL Alaska Environmental Research Associates, LLC. Harvest data is obtained by the Wrangell St. Elias National Park Service (Federal Subsistence) and Alaska Department of Fish and Game (Commercial, State Subsistence, Personal Use, and Sport Fishing) through harvest permit reporting and mail out harvest surveys.

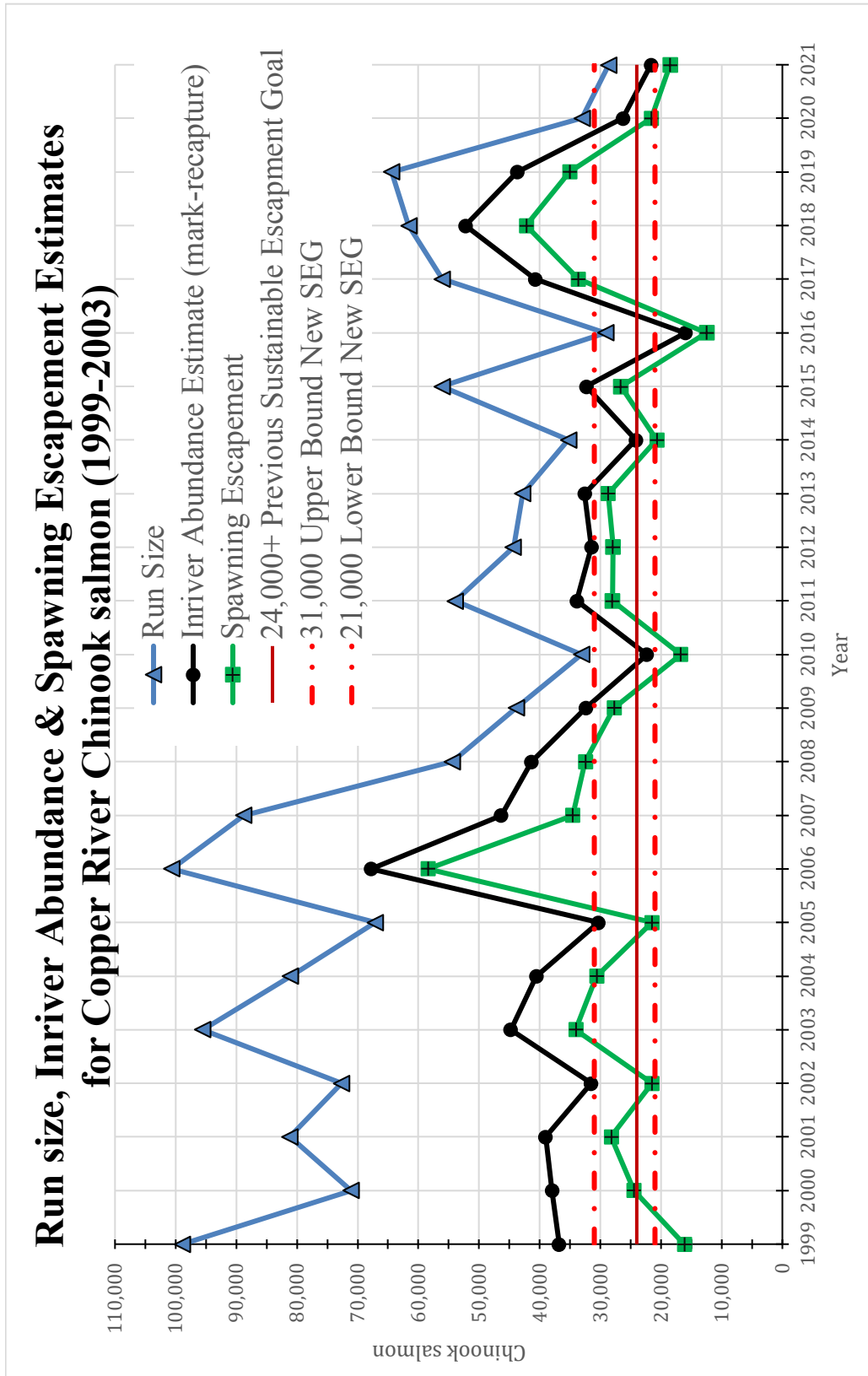


Figure 1. Estimates of Run Size, Inriver Abundance, and Spawning Escapement of Copper River Chinook salmon; 1999-2002 ADF&G Mark-recapture data; 2003-2021 NVE Mark-recapture data; 1999-2021 harvest data from NPS & ADF&G. (a, b, c) 2021 spawning escapement is based on available preliminary data and does not include sport fish harvest as mail out harvest surveys are currently being assessed.

Table 2. NVE Copper River Chinook salmon mark recapture project results summary 2003-2021 and preliminary 2022*.

Year	Period (m/d)		Length (mm FL)	Marked (M)	Examined (c)	Recaptured (r)	Abundance (N)	Standard Error (SE)	Lower 95% CL	Upper 95% CI	CV	Mark Rate
	From	To										
2003	5/17	7/1	810-1,070	1,723	1,630	97	44,764	12,506	20,490	69,040	27.9%	6.0%
2004	5/22	6/22	> 600	2,477	3,101	185	40,564	4,650	31,450	49,677	11.5%	6.0%
2005	5/9	7/14	> 600	3,379	3,150	315	30,333	1,529	27,336	33,330	5.0%	10.0%
2006	5/21	7/31	> 500	4,035	5,224	377	67,789	4,779	58,422	77,157	7.0%	7.2%
2007	5/18	8/6	> 500	4,456	4,192	459	46,349	3,283	39,914	52,784	7.1%	10.9%
2008	5/19	8/4	> 500	3,931	3,509	342	41,343	2,166	37,098	45,588	5.2%	9.7%
2009	5/13	8/2	> 500	2,484	2,224	171	32,401	2,365	27,766	37,036	7.3%	7.7%
2010	5/15	7/5	> 500	1,745	894	69	22,323	2,492	17,438	27,207	11.2%	7.7%
2011	5/15	7/9	> 500	2,135	2,832	178	33,889	3,329	27,364	40,415	9.8%	6.3%
2012	5/20	7/7	> 500	2,570	1,816	150	31,452	5,242	21,179	41,726	16.7%	8.3%
2013	6/5	7/9	> 500	1,029	1,549	48	32,581	4,425	23,907	41,254	13.6%	3.1%
2014	5/14	7/9	> 500	1,871	2,507	177	24,158	2,100	20,043	28,273	8.7%	7.1%
2015	5/15	7/10	> 500	2,504	2,082	127	32,306	3,977	24,511	40,101	12.3%	6.1%
2016	5/9	7/10	> 500	2,404	1,248	171	16,009	1,193	13,671	18,347	7.5%	13.7%
2017	5/15	7/11	> 500	3,819	1,645	180	40,725	4,187	32,520	48,931	10.3%	10.9%
2018	5/19	7/8	> 500	5,218	4,789	513	52,524	3,935	44,811	60,236	7.5%	10.7%
2019	5/12	7/2	> 500	4,685	2,646	297	43,714	3,143	37,553	49,875	7.2%	11.2%
2020	5/10	7/13	> 500	2,337	1,182	116	26,293	2,863	20,680	31,905	10.9%	9.8%
2021	5/16	7/17	> 500	1,961	1,373	116	21,656	1,919	17,894	25,417	8.9%	8.4%
2022	5/15	7/11	> 500	*3,261	*1,719	*139	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd

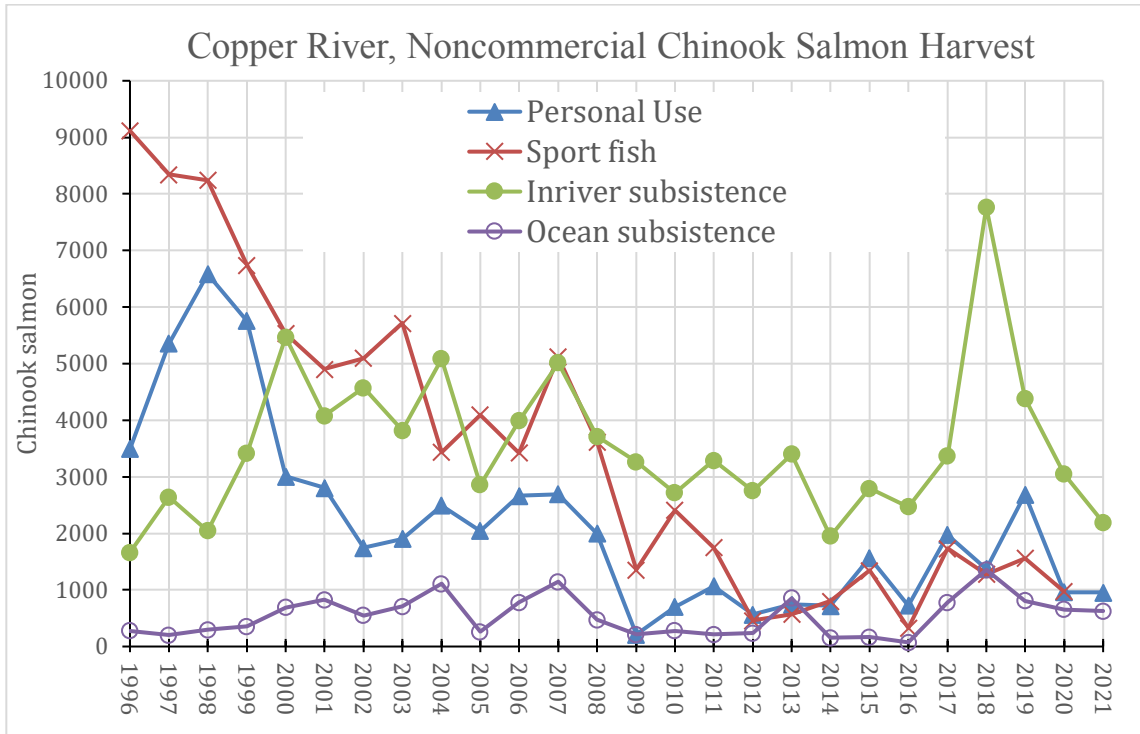


Figure 2. In-river harvest of Copper River Chinook salmon, 1996-2020. (c)

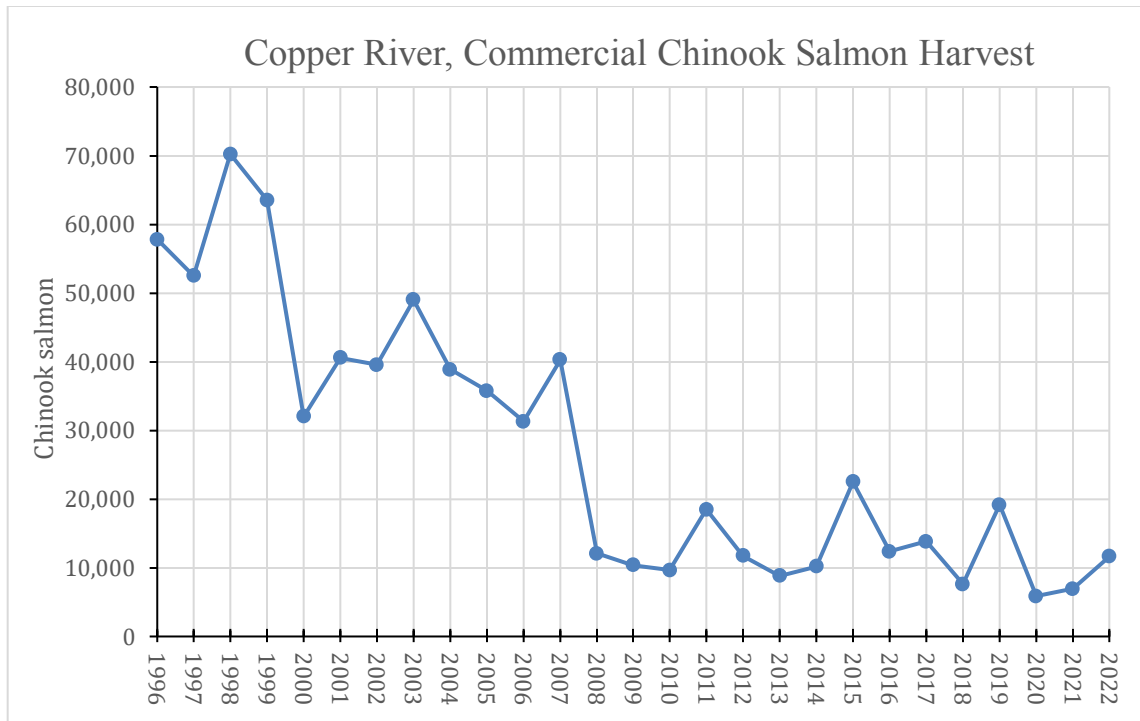


Figure 3. Commercial harvest of Copper River Chinook salmon, 1996-2021. (c)*2022-preliminary

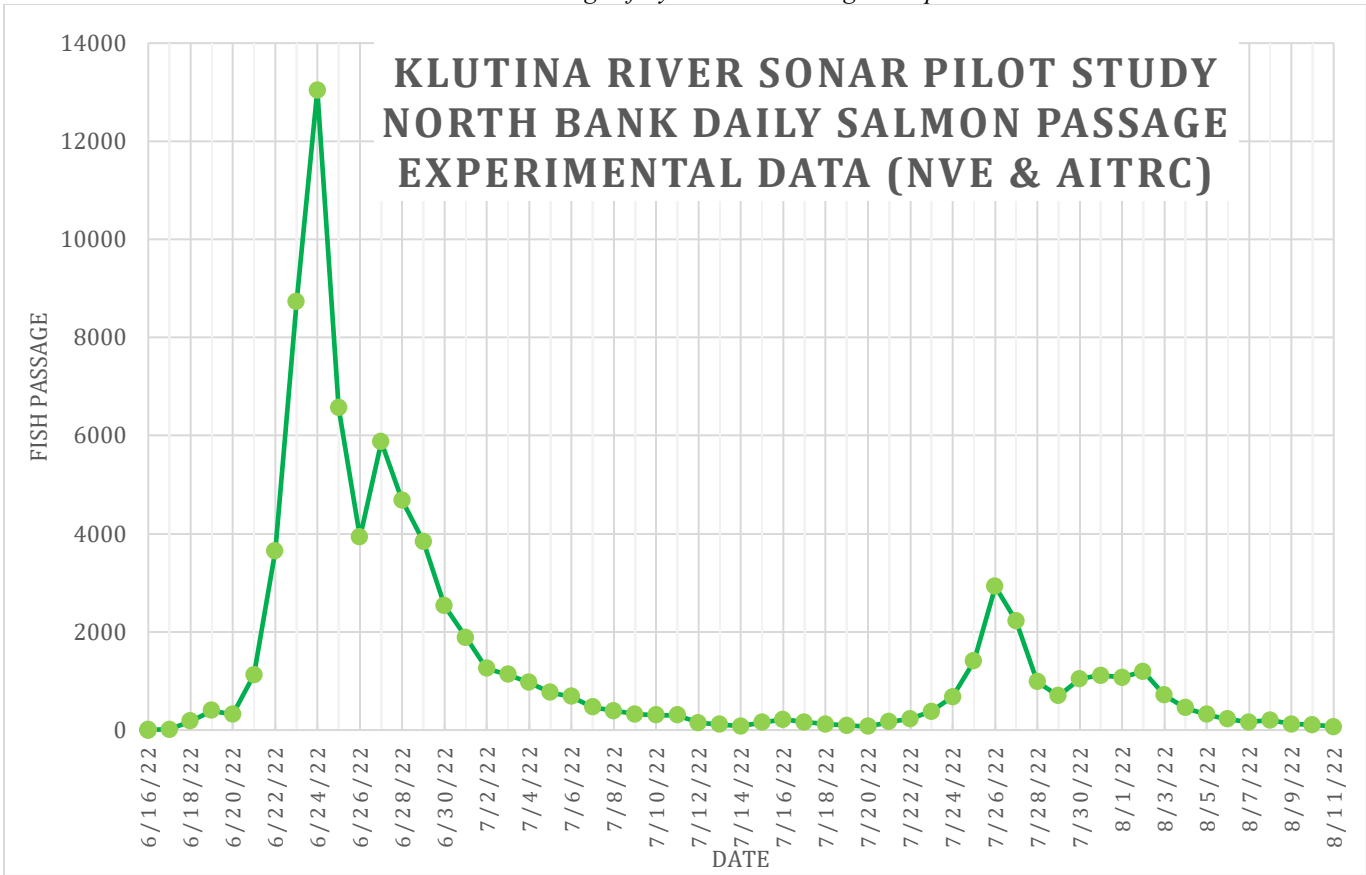


Figure 4. Klutina River daily salmon passage for north bank sonar at 5-mile (experimental data), 2022.

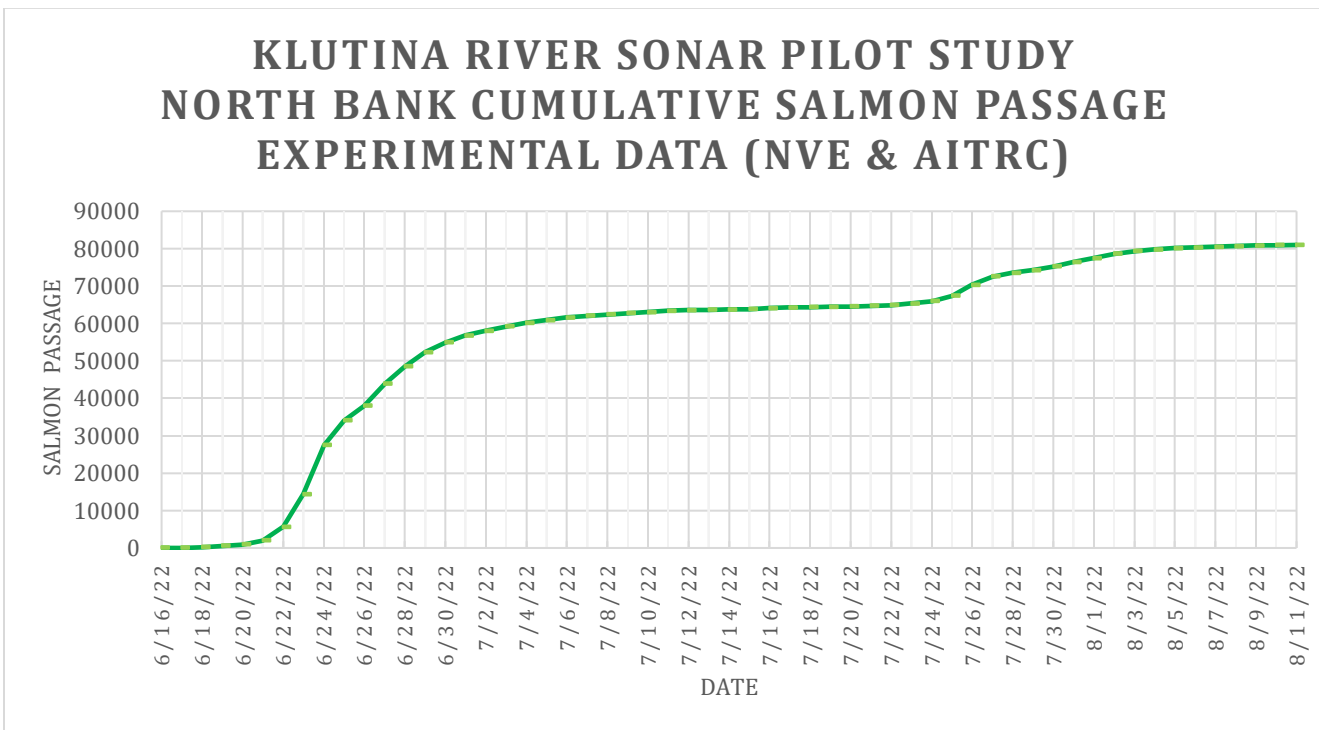


Figure 5. Klutina River cumulative salmon passage for north bank sonar at 5-mile (experimental data), 2022.

Data source (Tables and Figures):

Botz, J., C.W. Russell, J. Morella, and S. Haught. 2021. 2020 Prince William Sound area finfish management report. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fishery Management Report No. 21-18, Anchorage.

Piche, M.J., J.C. Whissel, and J.J. Smith. 2021. Estimating the in-river abundance of Copper River Chinook salmon, 2020 Annual Report. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Office of Subsistence Management, Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program (Study No. 18-504), Anchorage, Alaska.

Somerville, M.A. and T.R. Hansen 2021. Fishery management report for the recreational fisheries of the Upper Copper/Upper Susitna River management area, 2019. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fishery Management Report No. 21-07, Anchorage.

Funding for the 2022 Copper River Salmon Monitoring Program has been generously provided by the USFWS-Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program & Partners for Fisheries Monitoring Program; USFWS-Tribal Wildlife Grant; The Alaska Sustainable Salmon Fund; U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, The Alaska Department of Fish and Game, The Copper River Prince William Sound Marketing Association; and the Native Village of Eyak.

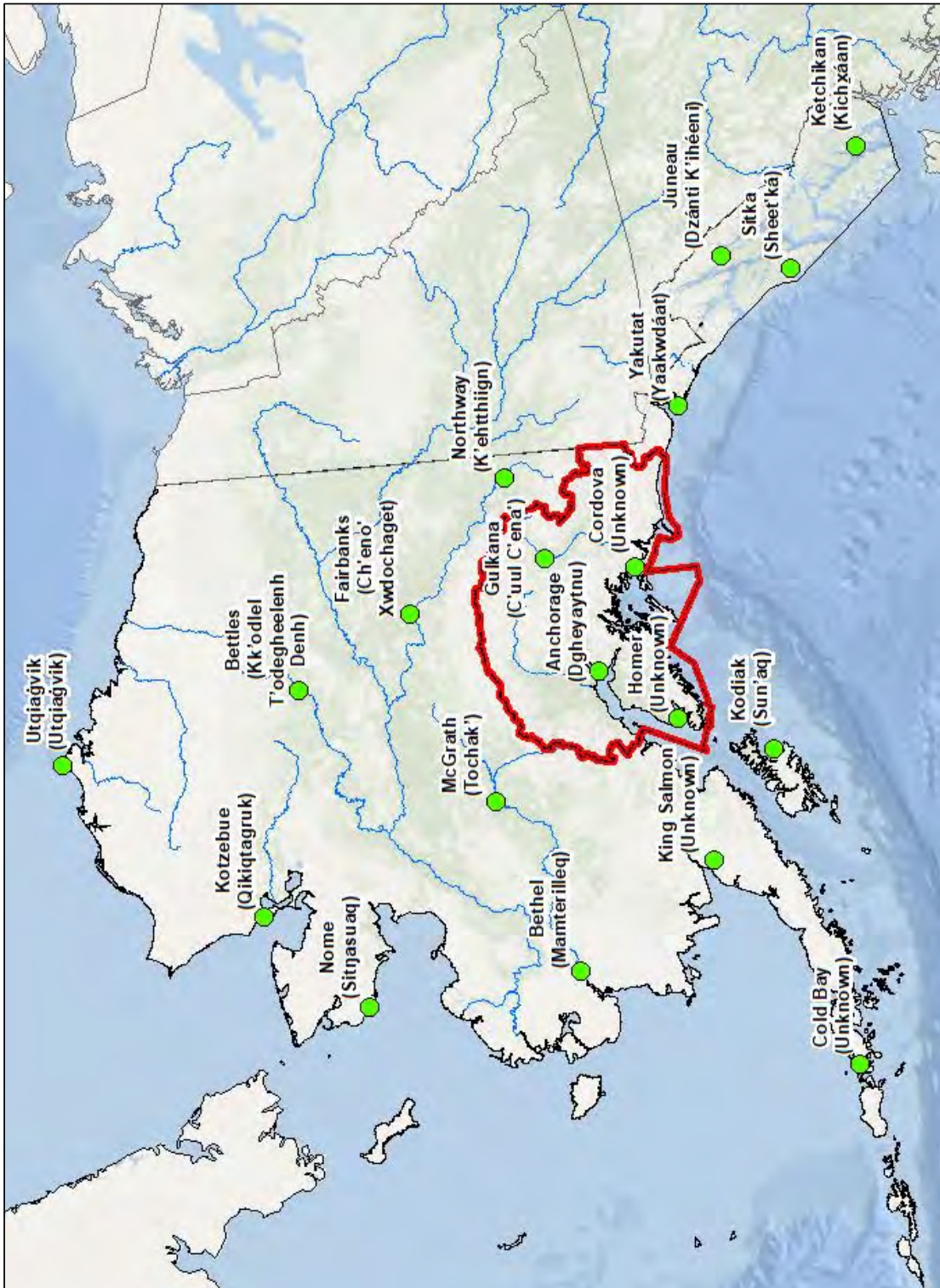


Southcentral Regional Advisory Council Fall/Winter Climate Outlook

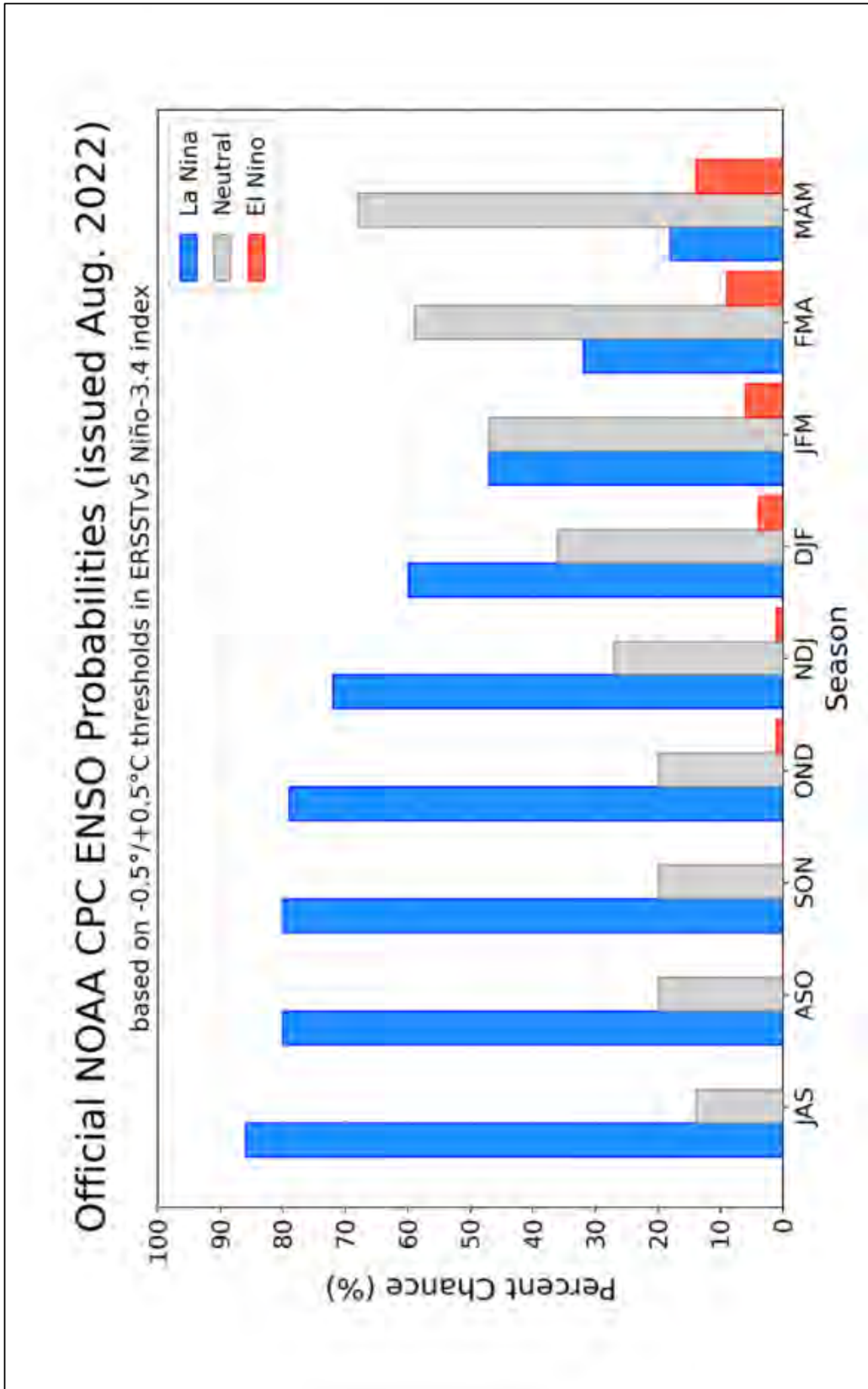
Brian Brettschneider, PhD
National Weather Service – Alaska Region

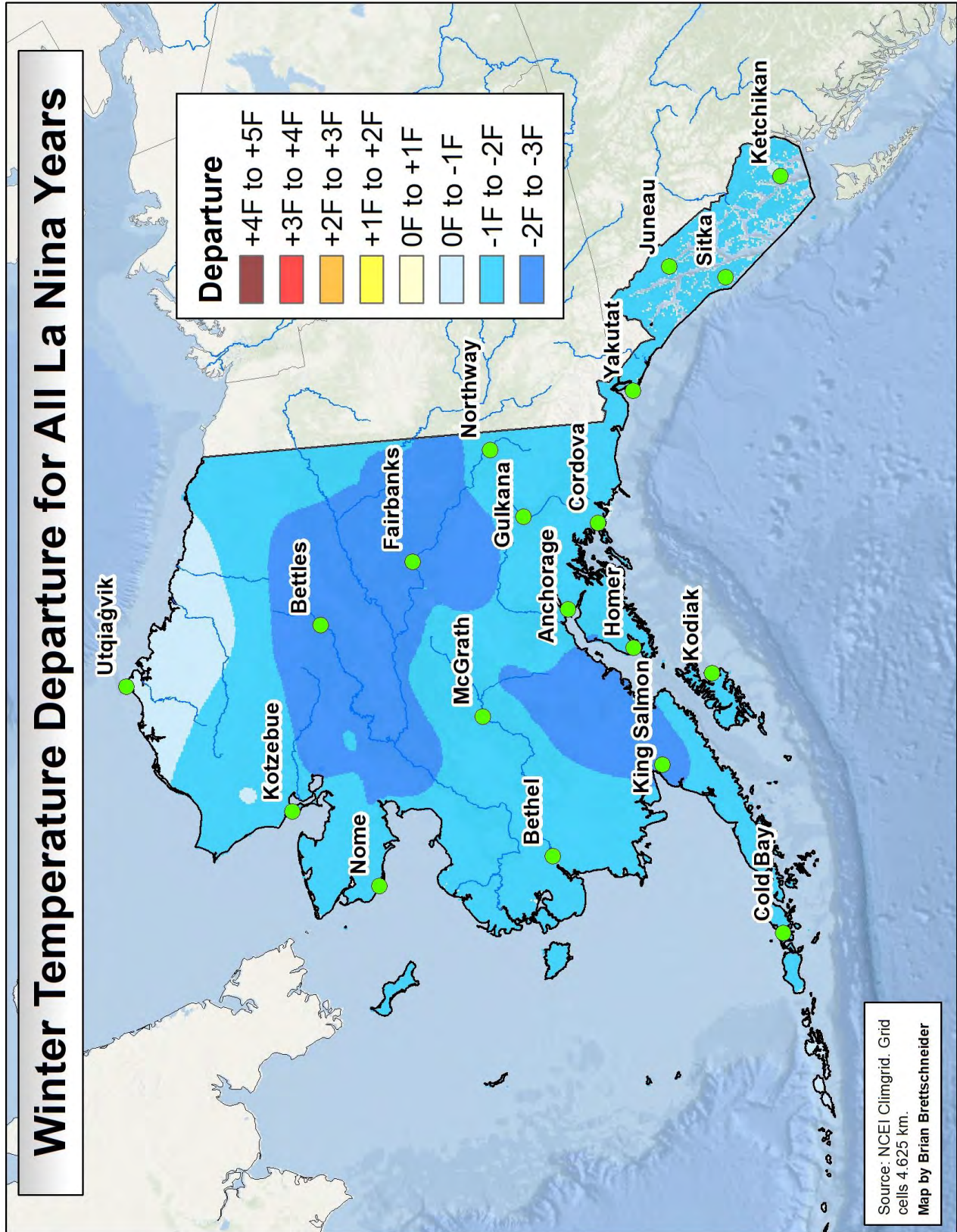


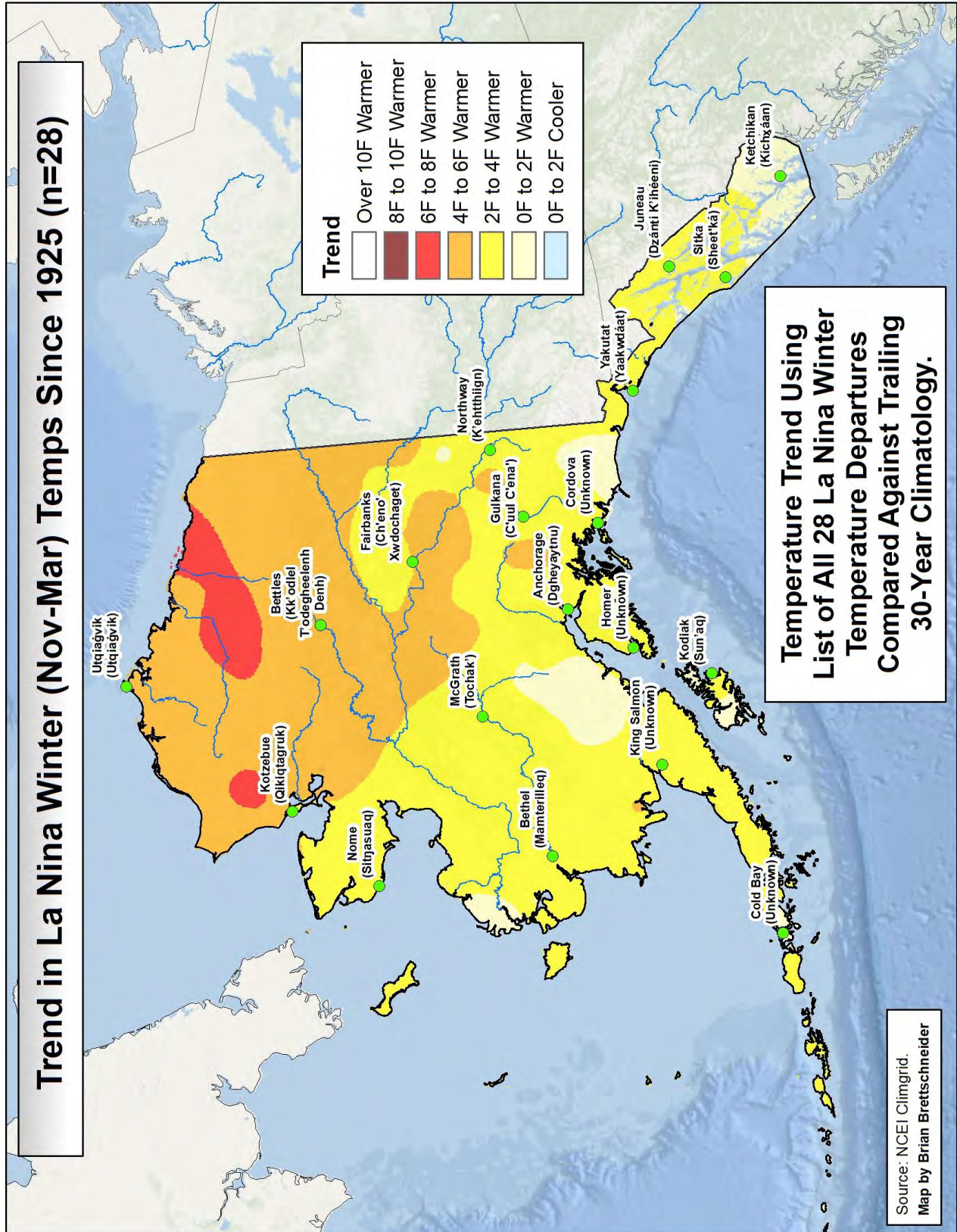
Southcentral RAC Region



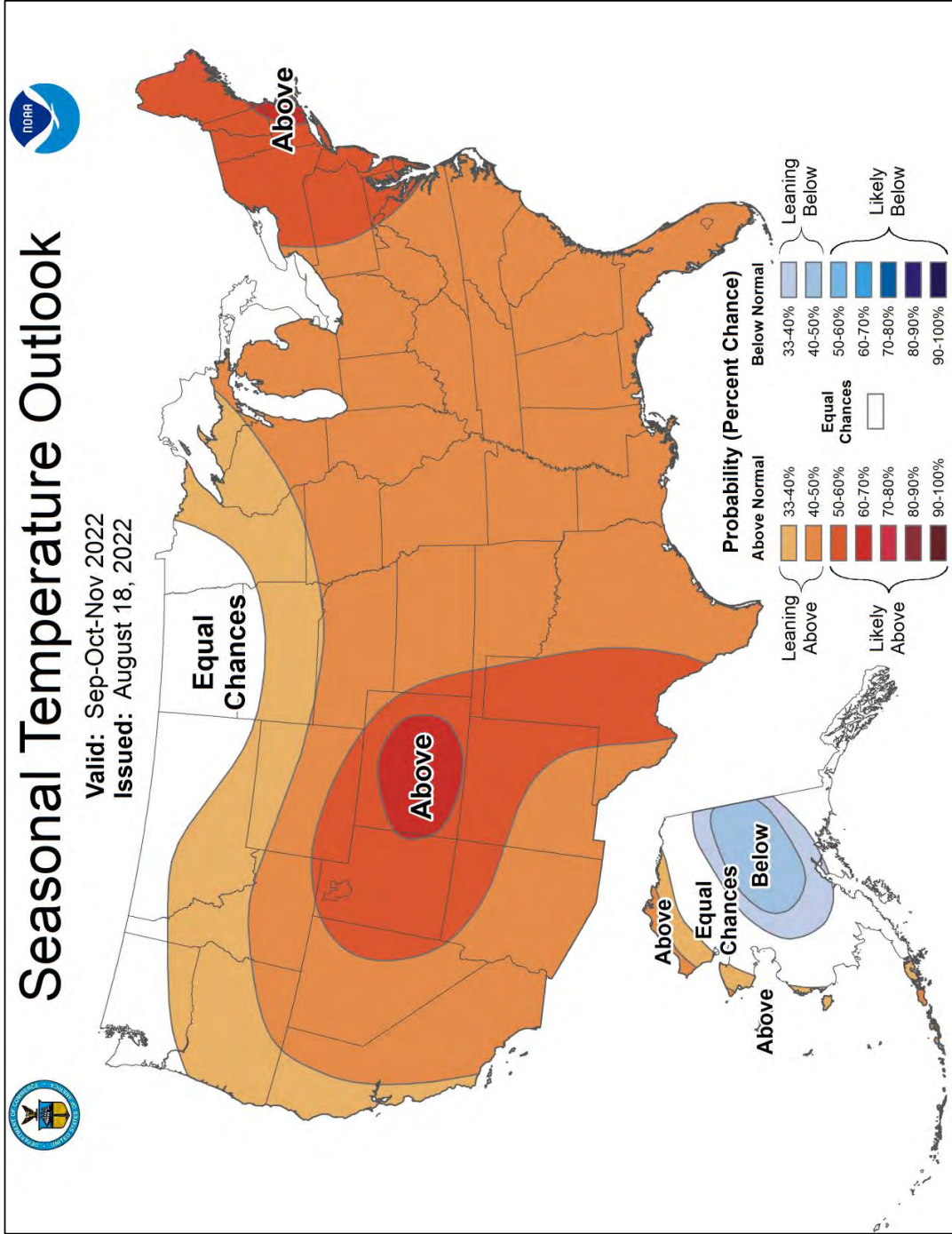
La Nina is Driving the Seasonal Outlooks





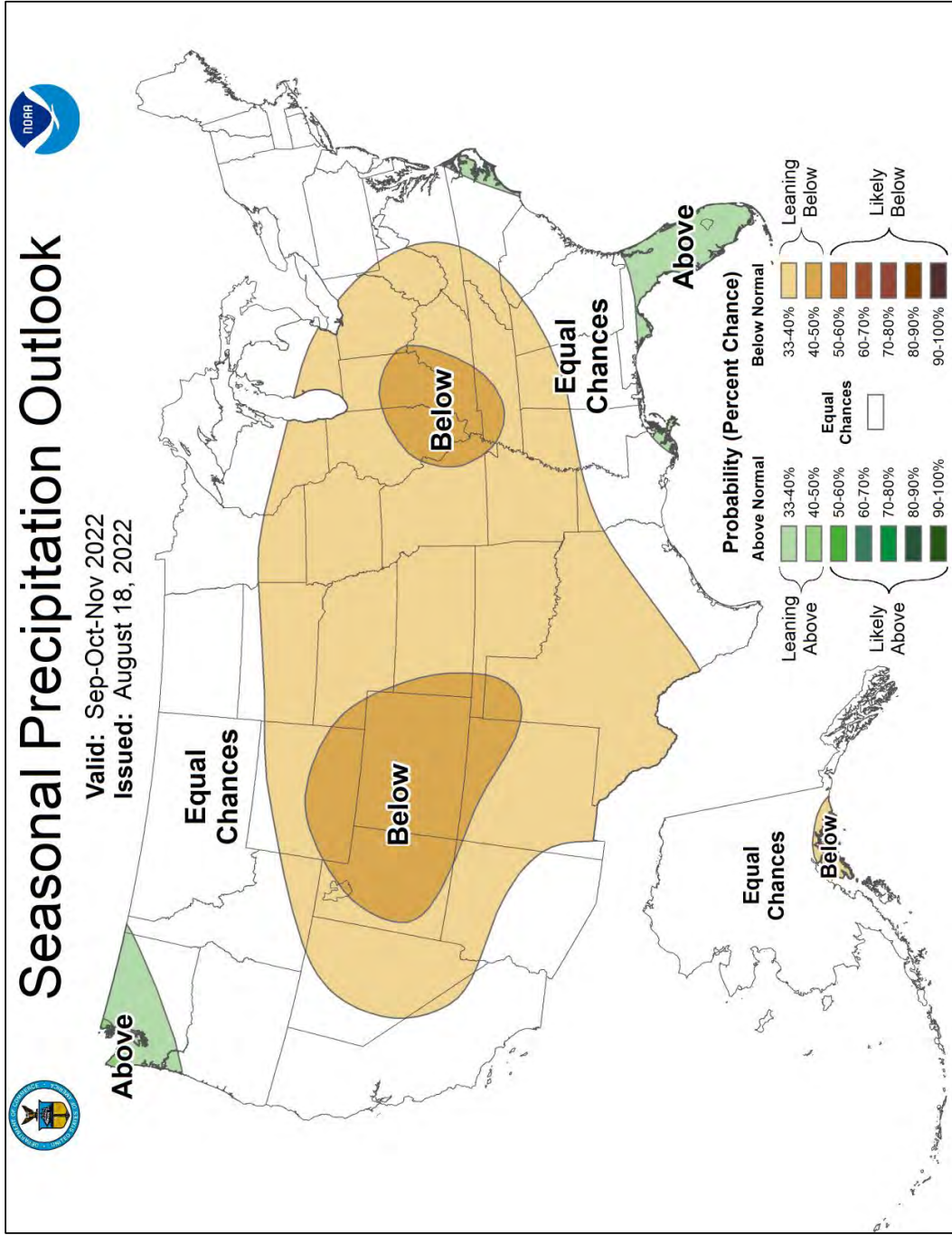


CPC Fall Temp Outlook Issued August 18, 2022



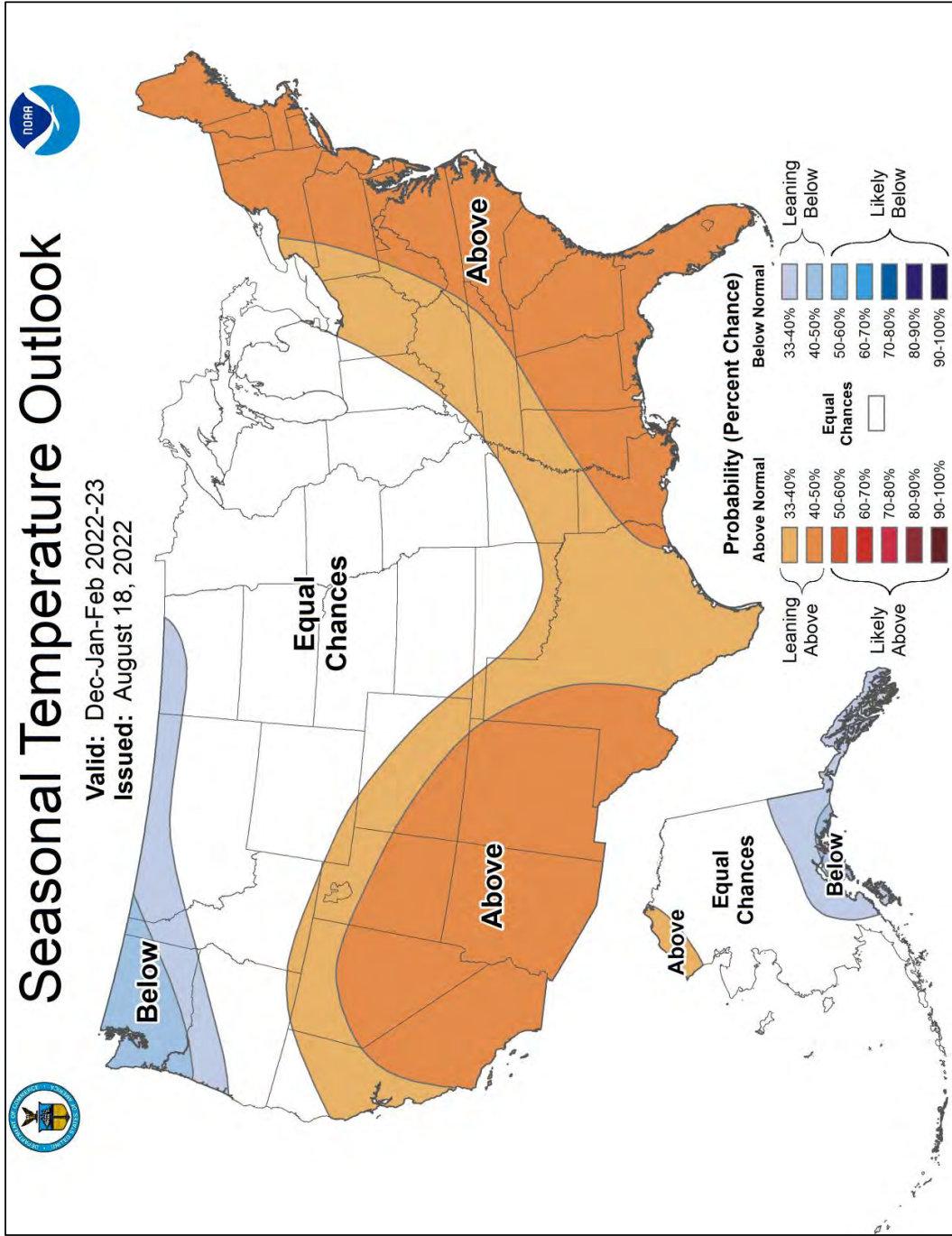
Newer Outlooks here: https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long_range/

CPC Fall Precip Outlook Issued August 18, 2022



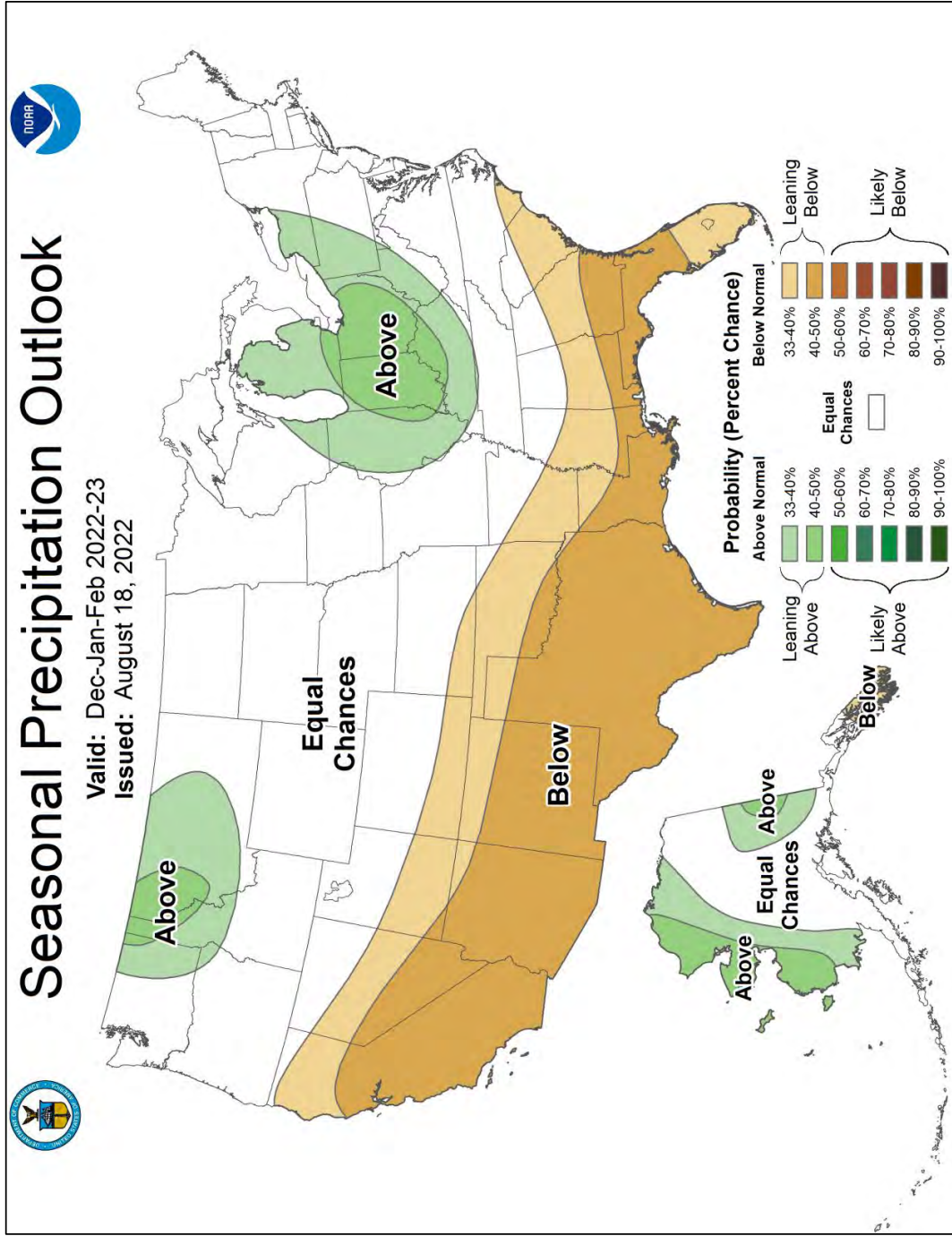
Newer Outlooks here: https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long_range/

CPC Winter Temp Outlook Issued August 18, 2022



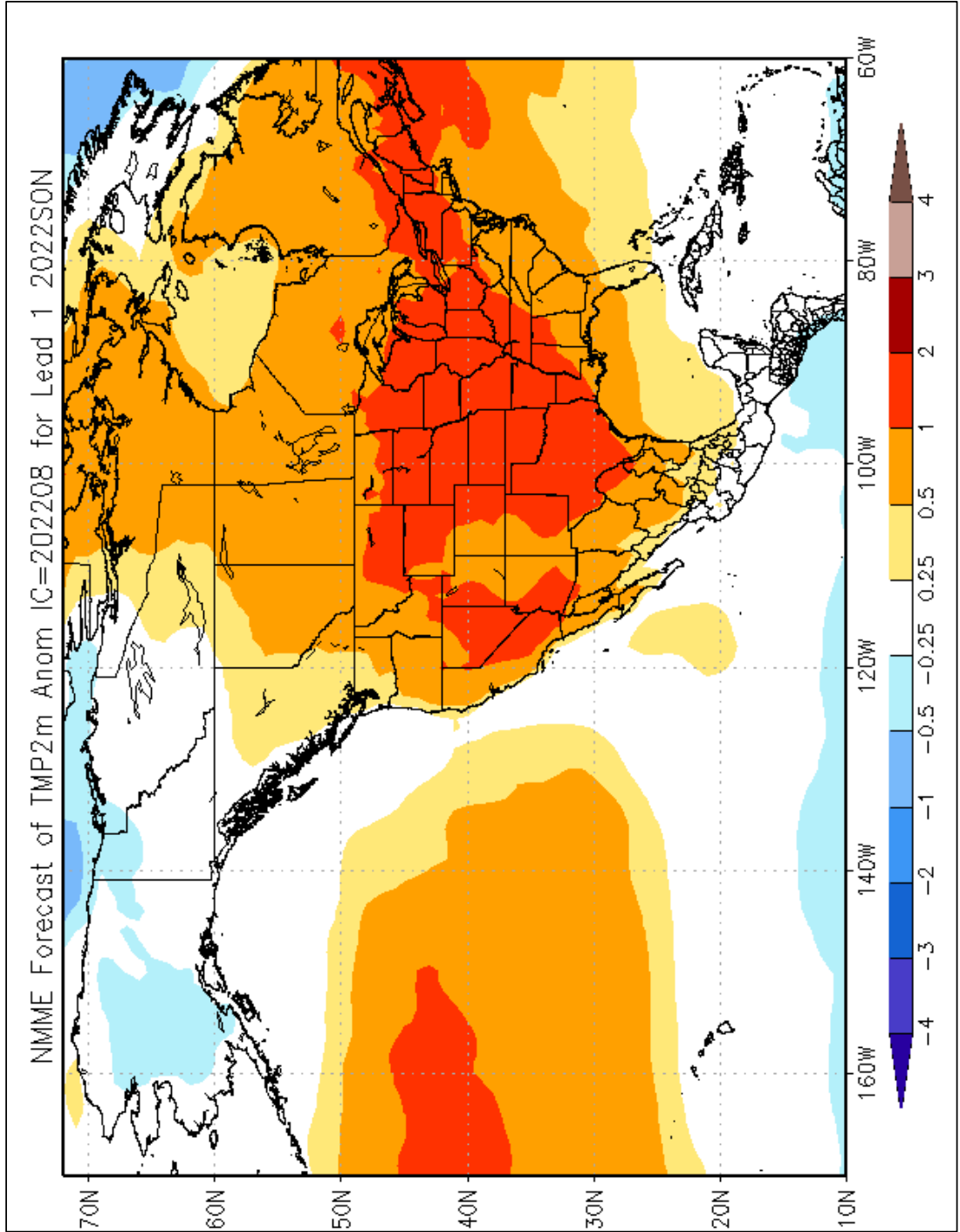
Newer Outlooks here: https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long_range/

CPC Winter Precip Outlook Issued August 18, 2022

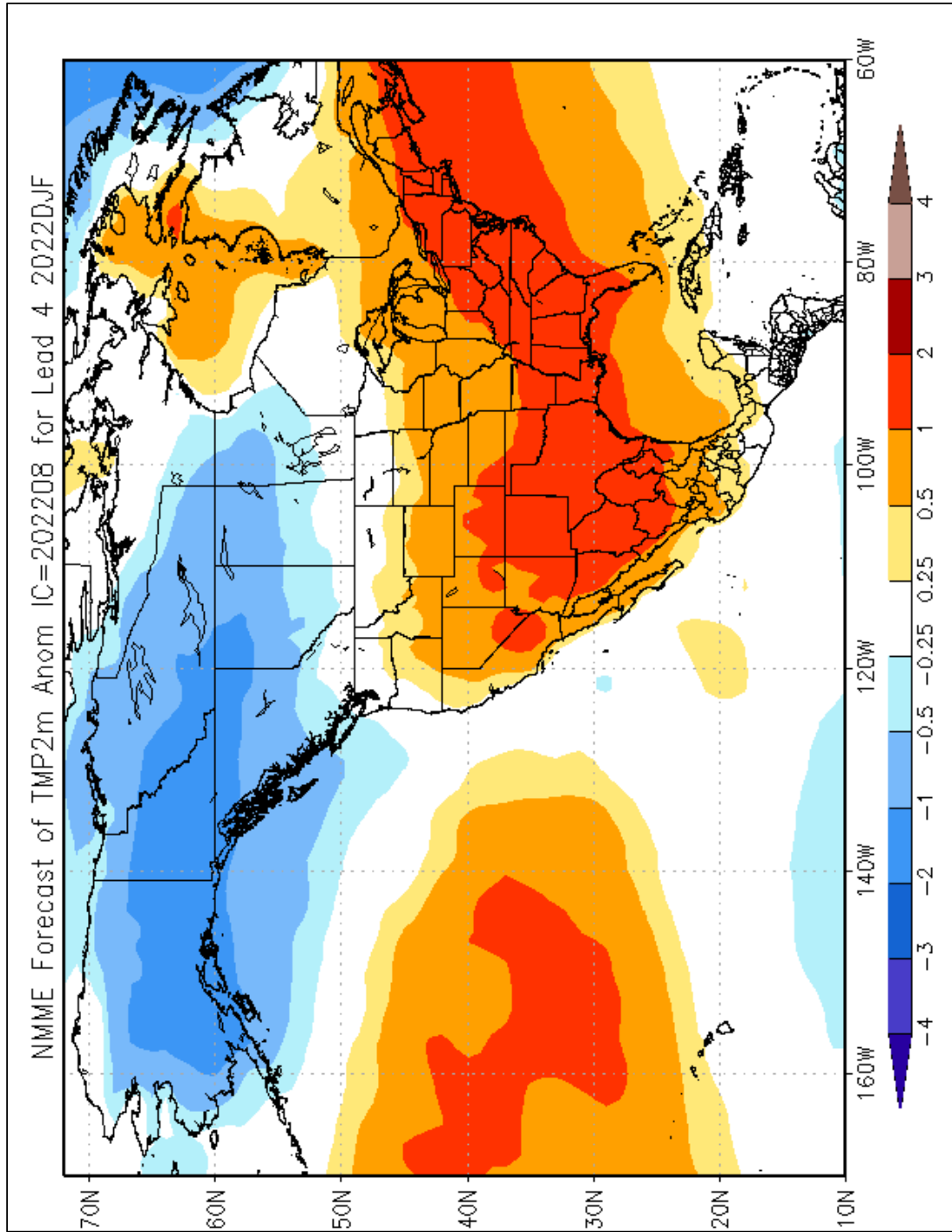


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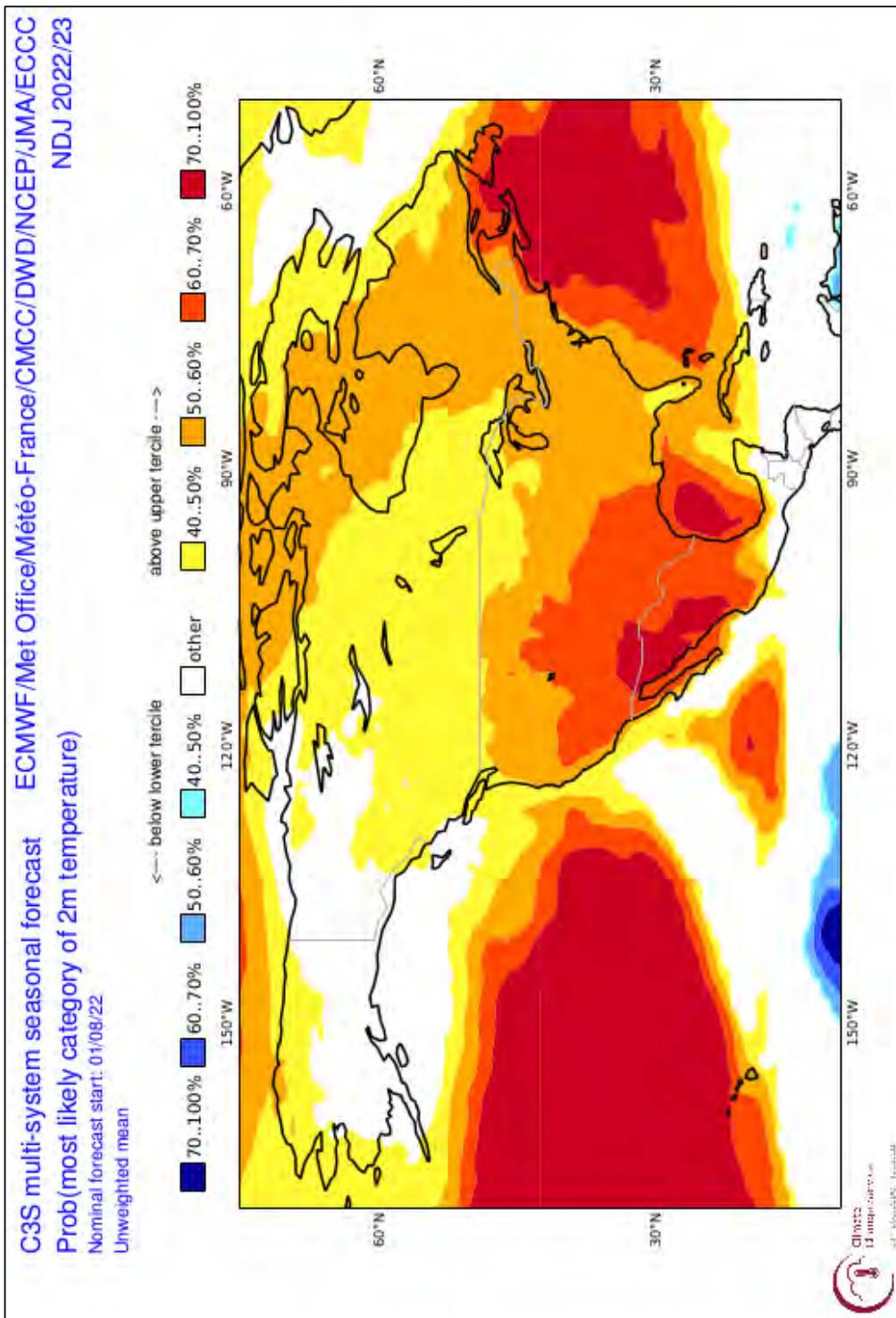
NMME Fall Temp Outlook Issued August 8, 2022

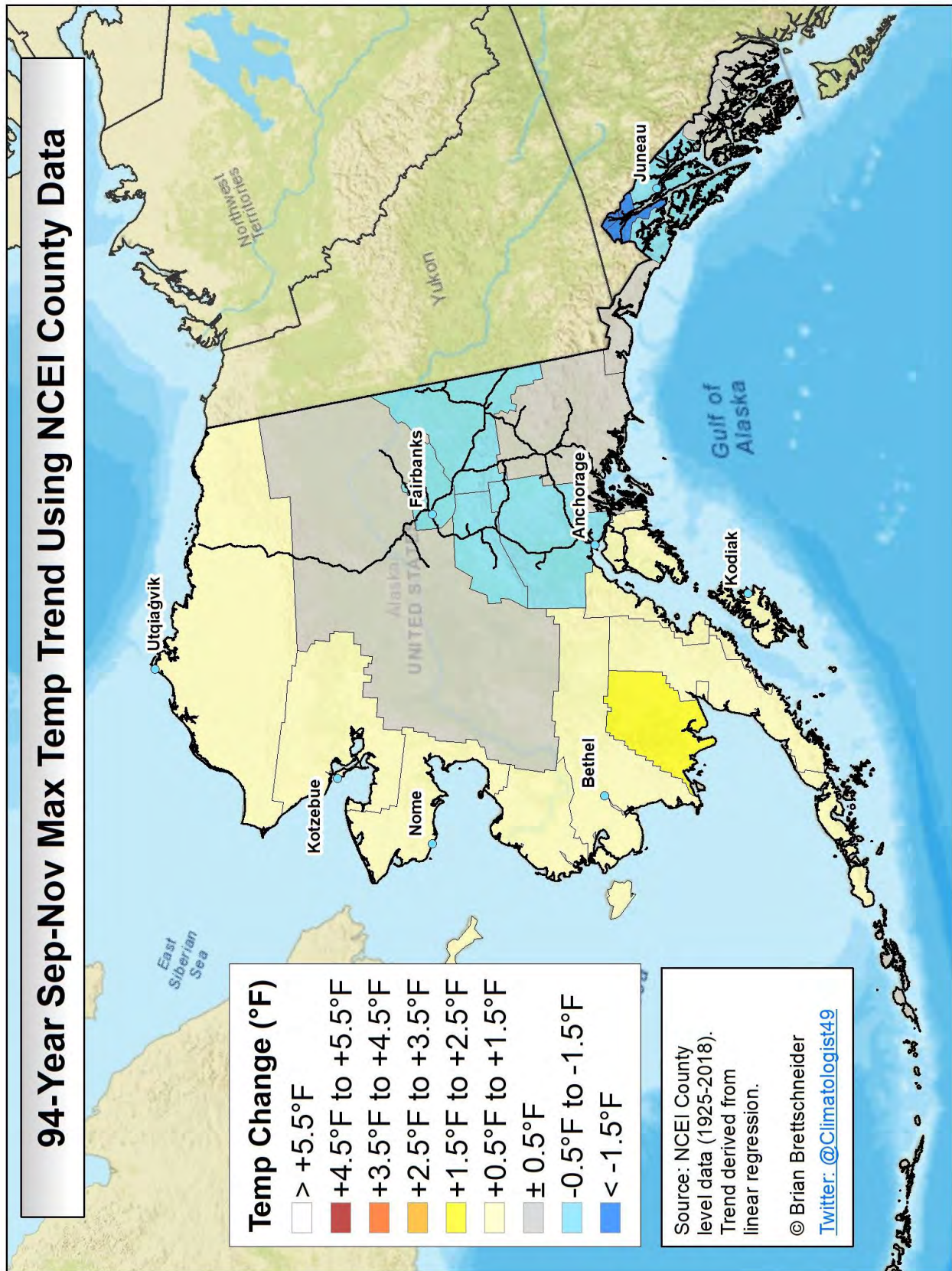


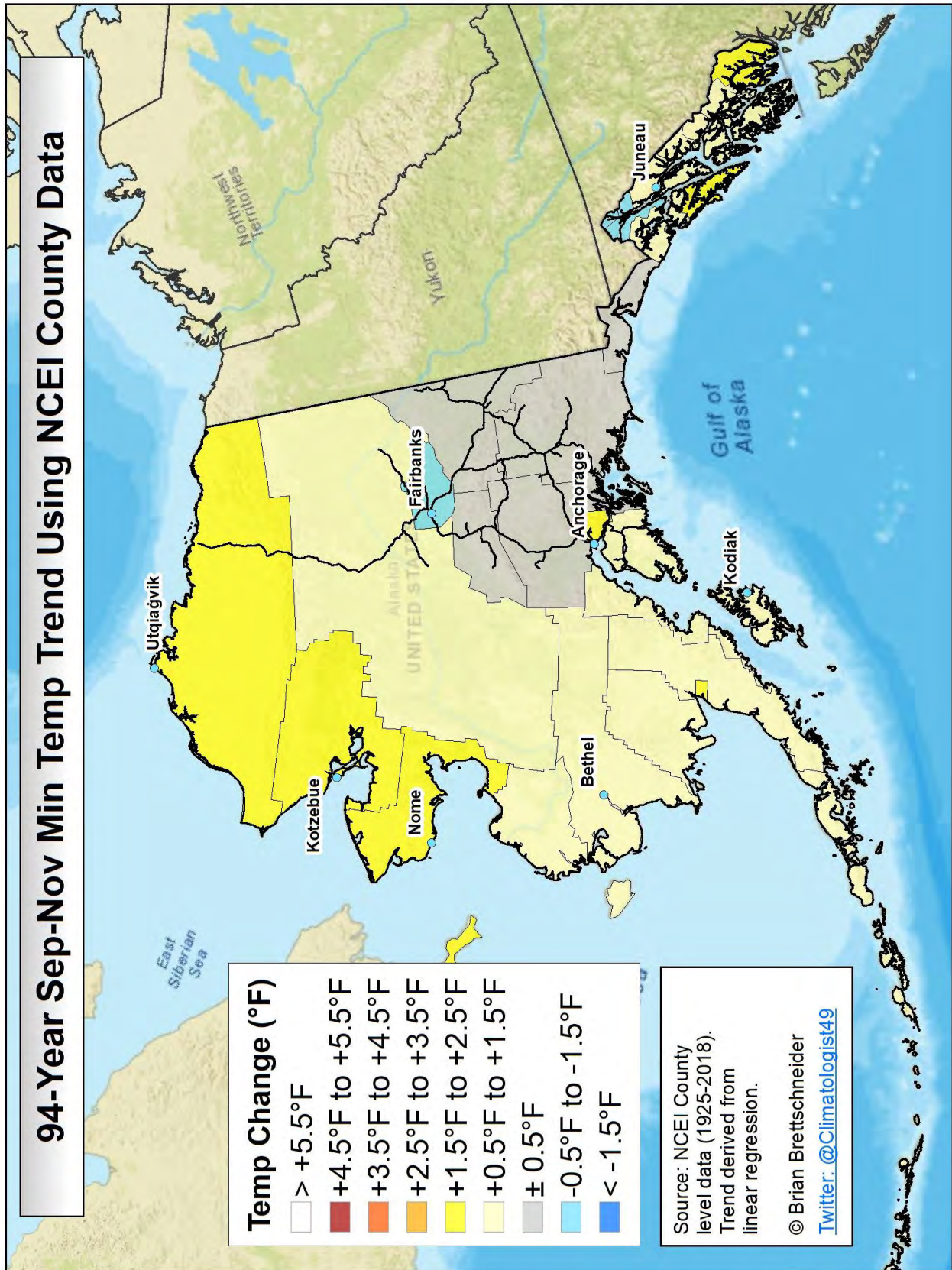
NMME Winter Temp Outlook Issued August 8, 2022

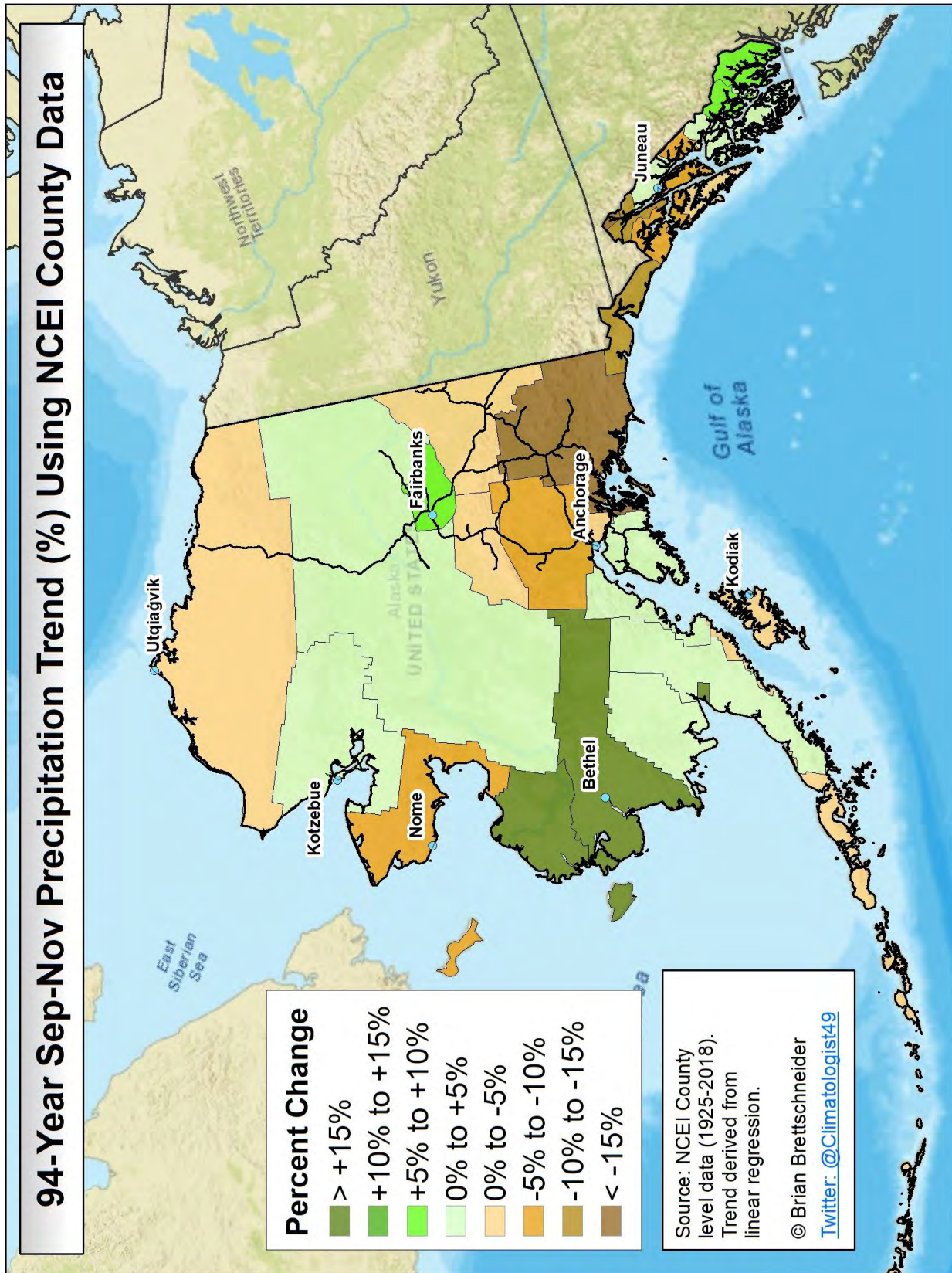


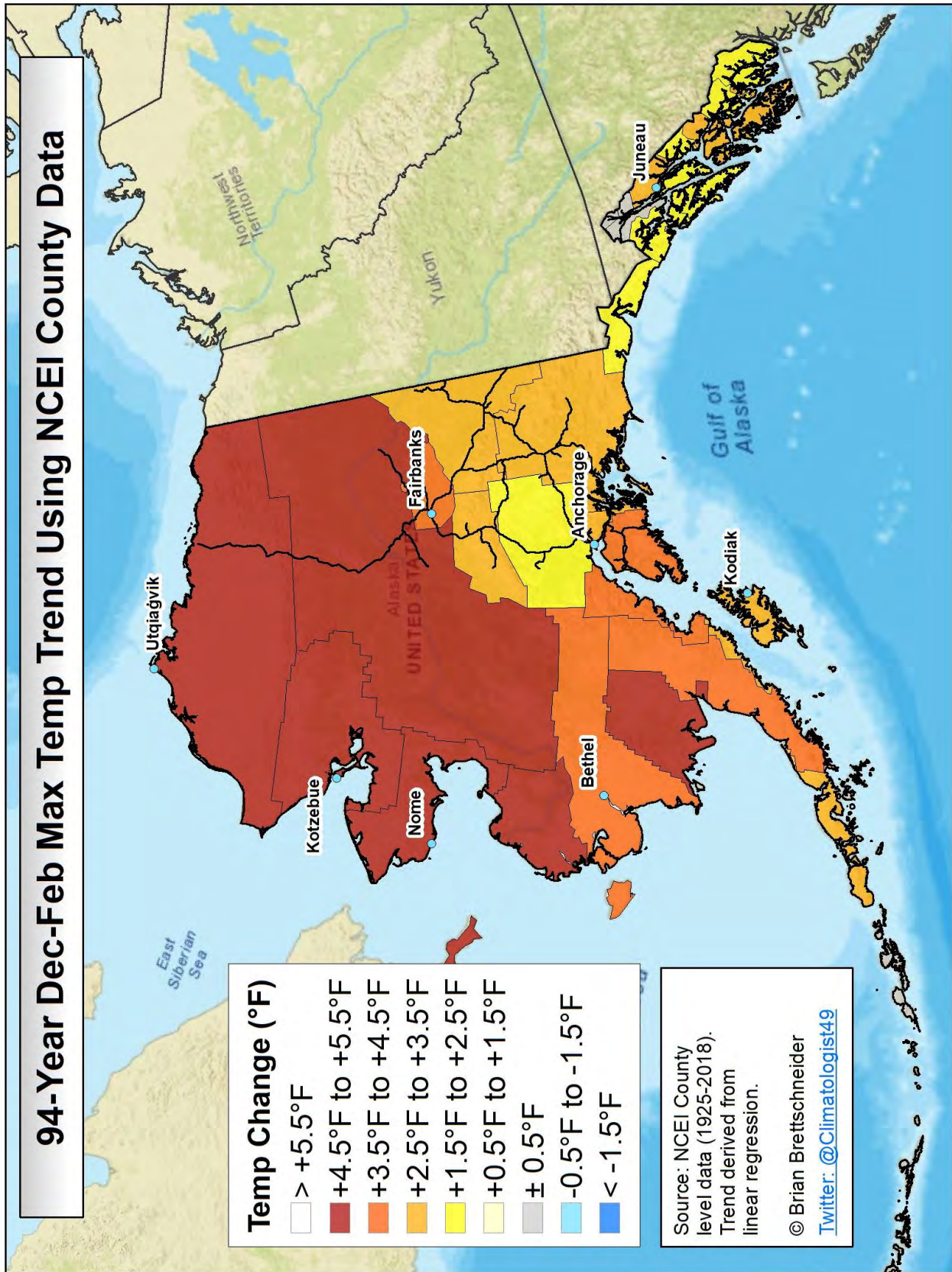
CS3 Early Winter Temp Outlook Issued August 1, 2022

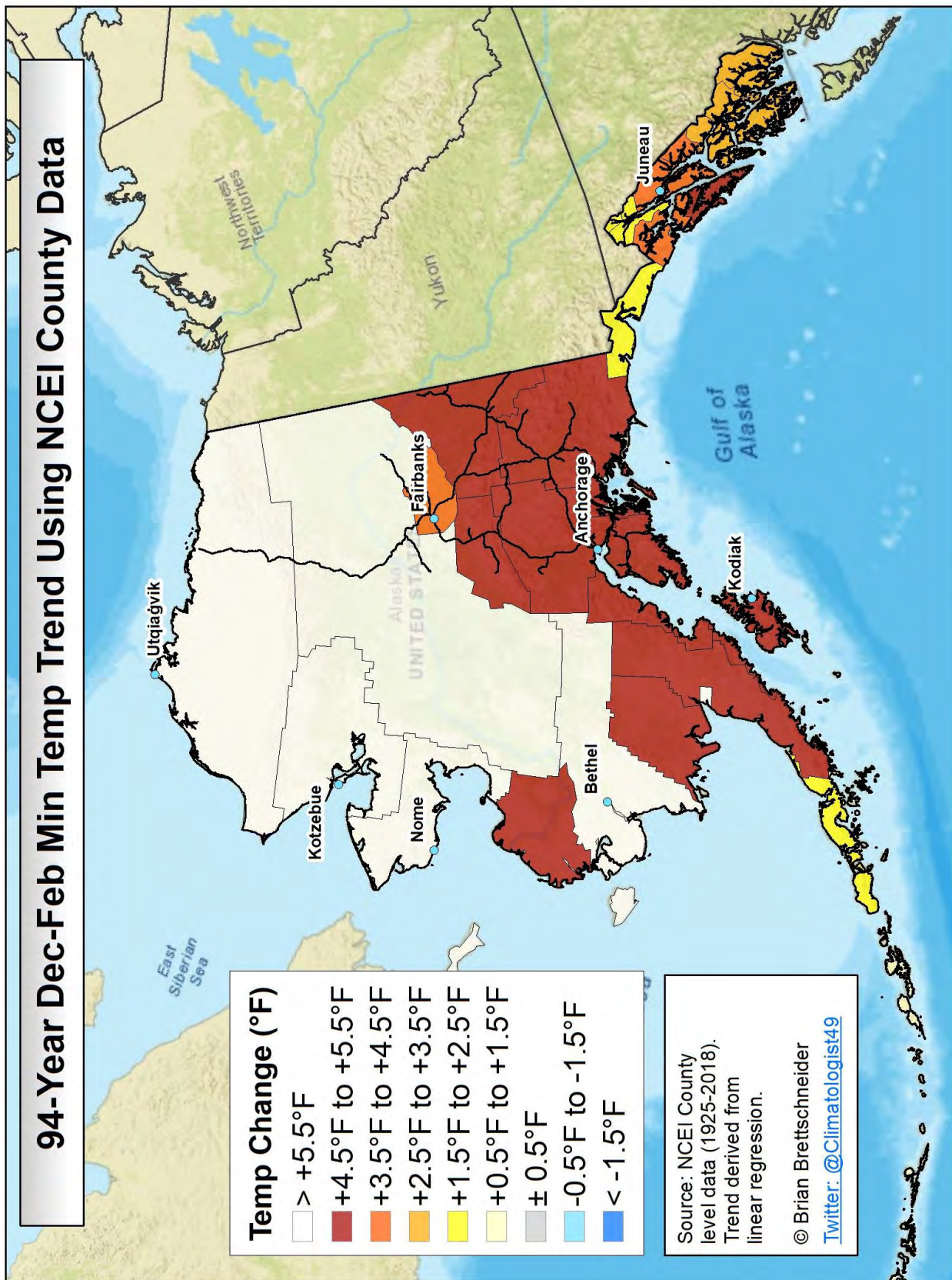


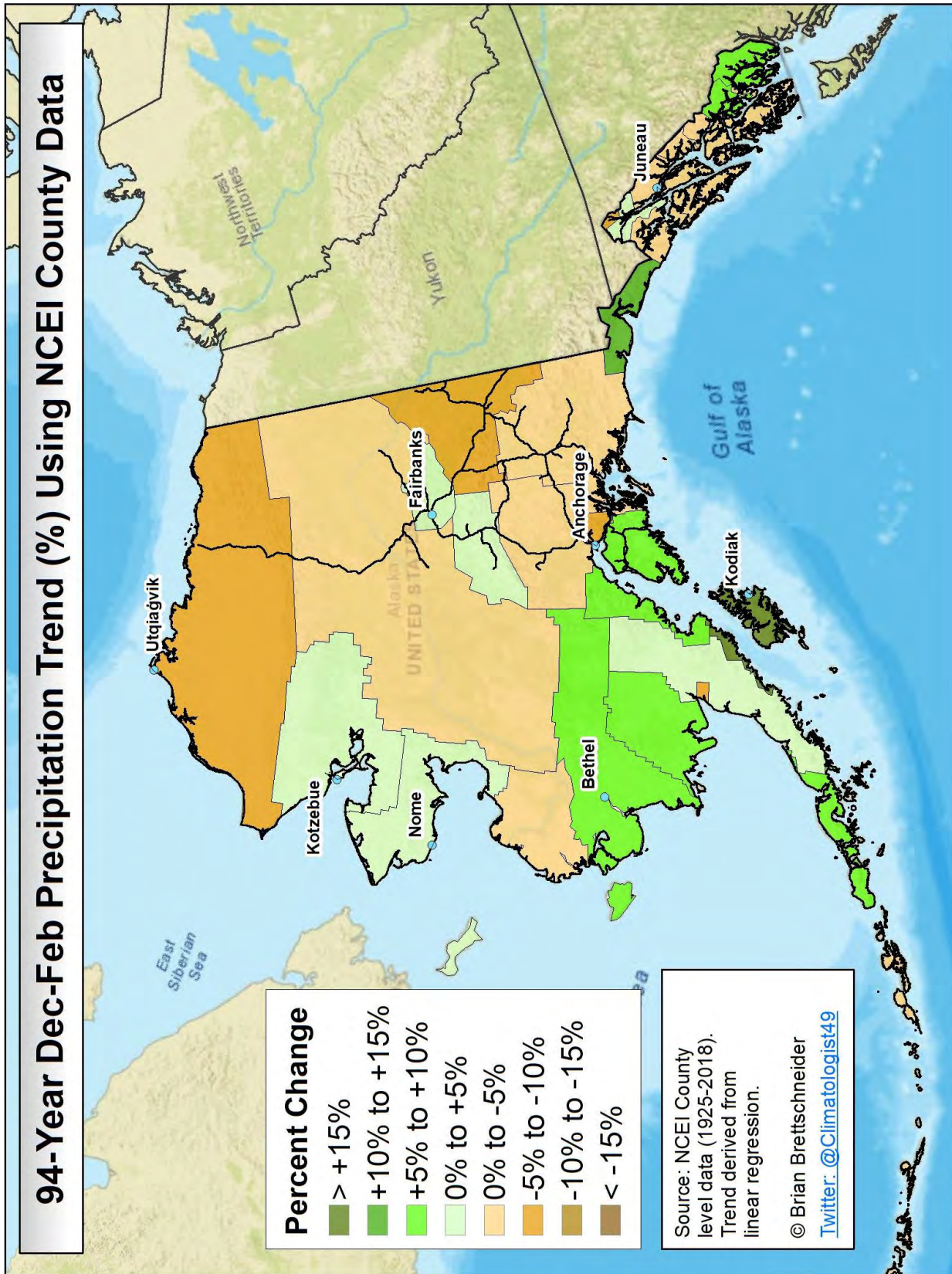


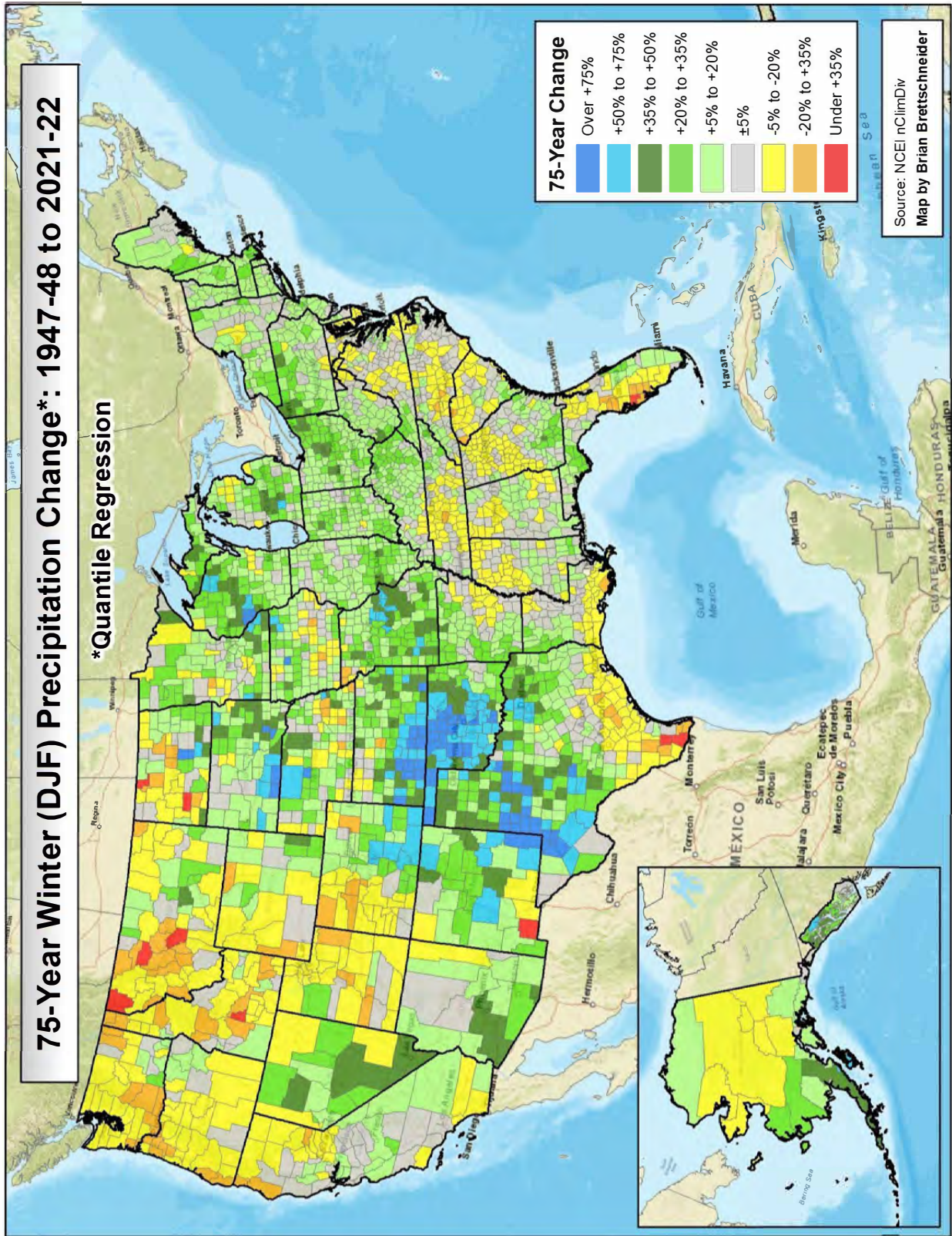














U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Land Management
National Park Service
Bureau of Indian Affairs

Federal Subsistence Board

1011 East Tudor Road, MS 121
Anchorage, AK 99503-6199



Forest Service

Portion of Unit 12 Closed to the Harvest of the Chisana Caribou Herd

EMERGENCY SPECIAL ACTION

Under Authority of: 36 CFR 242.10 and .19
50 CFR 100.10 and .19

Emergency Special Action No 12-CCH-01-22 Issued at: Copper Center, AK, July 22, 2022

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, August 10, 2022

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Friday, September 30, 2022, unless superseded by subsequent special action

EXPLANATION: This Emergency Special Action sets a harvest quota of zero and closes a portion of Unit 12 to the harvest of caribou for the 2022 season. The closure is for the purposes of conserving the population of the Chisana Caribou Herd, and the closed area is that portion of the unit that lies east of the Nabesna River and Glacier and south of the Winter Trail.

REGULATION: 36 CFR §242.26 and 50 CFR §100.26 are temporarily modified to read:

Unit 12—Caribou

Unit 12, that portion east of the Nabesna River and the Nabesna Glacier and south of the Winter Trail running southeast from Pickerel Lake to the Canadian border —1 bull by Federal registration permit (FC1205) only.

No Federal Open Season

JUSTIFICATION:

The Federal subsistence harvest of the Chisana Caribou Herd in a portion of Unit 12 is managed consistent with the 2012 *Management Plan for the Chisana Caribou Herd*. The management objectives for the herd focus on population indicators rather than a target herd size. Specific indicators used to determine whether harvest is sustainable are sex ratio and calf recruitment. If the population indicators fall below the set thresholds of a minimum sex ratio of 35 bulls to 100 cows and average three-year recruitment of 15 calves per 100 cows, the plan states that harvest will cease, and the management authorities will meet to discuss management options.

On June 9, 2022, representatives from the National Park Service (Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve), the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge), and Yukon Department of Environment met to discuss the 2022 harvest of the herd in light of the fact that the most recent three-year rolling average recruitment had fallen to 14 calves per 100 cows, which is below the minimum threshold identified in the management plan for sustainable harvest. After a robust discussion, the group agreed that the plan should be followed and that no harvest should take place in 2022.

Consequently, the Wrangell-St. Elias Superintendent, under authority delegated by the Federal Subsistence Board, is issuing this Emergency Special Action to set the 2022 harvest quota at zero and close the hunt for the 2022 season in order to conserve caribou populations. A population census is planned for October 2022, after which the management authorities will meet to discuss the results and make recommendations about whether to re-open harvest for the 2023 season.

In addition to the discussion with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge, and Yukon Environment described above, the National Park Service staff consulted with the Chairs of the Eastern Interior and Southcentral Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils prior to issuing this Emergency Special Action.

Federal Subsistence Board by delegation to:



Ben Bobowski
Superintendent
Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve
July 22, 2022

DISTRIBUTION:

GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS

Anthony Christianson, Chair, Federal Subsistence Board; Eastern Interior Alaska RAC; Southcentral Alaska RAC; Wrangell-St. Elias National Park Subsistence Resource Commission; Jeff Gross and Jeff Wells, ADF&G Wildlife Conservation Division, Tok; Lincoln Parrett, ADF&G Wildlife Conservation Division, Fairbanks; Shawn Bayless and Tim Lorenzini, Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge, US Fish and Wildlife Service; Sue Detwiler, Jessica Gill; Lisa Grediagin, Brooke McDavid, Kayla McKinney, George Pappas, and Katerina Wessels, Office of Subsistence Management; Eva Patton, National Park Service, Alaska Regional Office; Alaska Public Safety Department-Fish & Wildlife Protection Division; and Ben Mulligan, Deputy Commissioner, ADF&G.

Denali National Park and Preserve Wildlife Updates August 2022

Bear Monitoring – The long running bear movements study is winding down. There are currently no functioning collars deployed on bears at this time. Data will continue to be analyzed and work on the final report will begin.

The park road will be closed for at least the next two years due to a landslide at approximately mile 45. In an effort to determine the effect of no traffic/traffic on bears, a project has been proposed to radio collar up to 20 bears along the closed portion of the park road corridor for the next four years. The project is currently pending final plans and scheduled to begin in Spring 2023.

Bear Management - Denali's Wildlife Management program strives to educate visitors about how to recreate in areas where bears are present. Tracking interactions between bears and people is organized in the Bear Human Incident Management System (BHIMS). This system provides a way for people to report their interactions with bears and for wildlife staff to rate the severity of those interactions and track patterns. Interactions are divided into back- and front-country locations and fall into three basic categories: observation (seeing a bear), encounter (close proximity, bear aware of people), and incident (bear charge, physical contact with person or property, bear getting human food).

During the 2021 season, Denali's wildlife management team responded to many human-wildlife conflict situations. Although the wildlife management team spends time working on human conflict with all wildlife, much like the primary focus of the wildlife management team the primary focus of this report is human-bear conflict. During the 2021 season, 121 BHIMS forms were collected and analyzed. BHIMS reports were collected from both backcountry and frontcountry users. Reports were used to determine bear behavior in human-bear interaction events, and management ratings were assigned to each report. The wildlife management team spent a significant amount of time during the 2021 season working on specific human-bear conflict situations with bears that were habituated to humans both in and around developed areas. The wildlife management team recommended and marked area closures around kill sites and in areas where human-bear conflict was actively occurring. The first bear-caused human injury in five years occurred during the 2021 season.

The full 2021 Denali National Park & Preserve Wildlife Management Report 2021 is available upon request.

Moose Monitoring - Moose monitoring surveys are on hold indefinitely. Evaluation of protocol is ongoing.

Due to extraordinary snow and rain fall in the area in late December, over-winter mortality seemed high and spring calf survival seemed low.

Caribou Monitoring –

Highlights from 2022 research on caribou include:

- 13 caribou collared/re-collared
- Pregnancy rate for adult cows was 83.7%, slightly above the 35-year average of 78%
- Post-calving ratio of calves to cows was 23:100, below the 35-year average of 29:100

Composition surveys will be conducted in late September and provide final calf survival estimates and fall population size estimates.

Sheep Surveys –Ground based surveys were conducted in June as was an informal aerial overflight assessing lamb:ewe ratios. Data from the overflight counted 141 ewes and 13 lambs for a lamb:ewe ratio of 9 lambs:100 ewes. Data from the ground-based survey counted 12 groups with 34 ewe-like and 10 lambs for a lamb:ewe ratio of 29 lambs:100 ewes. There is considerable variation between these two estimates and a more rigorous aerial survey will be conducted starting August 12th, 2022 and provide a more reliable estimate of productivity.

Wolf Monitoring – Den activity and pup productivity have been monitored through radio tracking flights as well as data received remotely from Iridium radio collars all season. As pups are beginning to become more active and move away from den sites, pup numbers will be determined.

Highlights from 2022 research on wolves on include:

- 11 wolves collared and re-collared
- Spring count of 97 wolves in 13 packs, with a mean pack size of 7. The largest pack was Grant Creek pack with 18 wolves. It appears that all 13 packs denned.

Alpine Wildlife Project - Field work continued in 2022 with a graduate student and 3 technicians. The Denali Alpine Wildlife Crew conducted field research in the eastern section of the park between June 1st and August 12th, hiking over 250 km in the backcountry. Researchers placed 10 motion-triggered cameras and 20 temperature loggers in talus patches to record collared pika activity patterns. Additionally, they visited 30 sites, conducted 23 field surveys (9 in tundra and 14 in talus), and recorded 233 additional visual and acoustic observations of key alpine wildlife- Arctic ground squirrels, collared pika, and hoary marmots- throughout Denali National Park and Preserve. Graduate student, Jennifer Wall, presented on the project for the Denali Summer Speaker Series at the Murie Science and Learning Center on August 5th, 2022.

Researchers also continued the Denali Alpine Wildlife citizen science project this year, maintaining the Denali Alpine Wildlife Instagram account (@denalialpinewildlife, >65 posts, >140 followers, started in November 2020) and posting over 20 posters throughout Denali National Park and Preserve (i.e. Denali Visitor Center, Backcountry Information Desk, and the Murie Science and Learning Center, among others). To date, 53 people submitted observations in 2022, including a total of 84 submissions through iNaturalist: 45 Arctic ground squirrel, 11 collared pika, 11 hoary marmots, and 17 Dall sheep.

Avian Projects –

- Golden eagles – Nest occupancy surveys were conducted in April and productivity surveys were conducted in July. Occupancy of known nesting territories was high. Reproductive success in terms of females that laid eggs or pairs that raised young was low. This is a factor of low prey abundance and lack of snowshoe hares due to a low in their cycle.
- On-road Breeding Bird surveys were conducted in June. The number of bird species as well as number of individuals detected was as expected. Anecdotal reports from areas to the south indicate an influx of woodpecker species, nuthatches, and brown creepers. This is very likely due to the spread of spruce bark beetles.
- A nest predation study was conducted by a crew from USGS. Camera traps and site visits were utilized to detect nest predation rates and document nest predation events in a wide variety of avian species. Preliminary results are expected to be presented in September.

Please contact Carol McIntyre, Denali wildlife biologist, if you have any questions about any avian programs, projects, or studies. carol_mcintyre@nps.gov, 907-455-0671.

Please contact Pat Owen, Denali wildlife biologist, if you have any questions about any wildlife programs, projects, or studies. pat_owen@nps.gov, 907-683-9547.

Southcentral Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council
October 12-13, 2022

Bureau of Land Management, Glennallen Field Office Agency Report

Caroline Ketron, Anthropologist/Subsistence Coordinator

LeeAnn McDonald, Wildlife Biologist

I. General Updates

- Bureau of Land Management (BLM) continues to work collaboratively with Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) to monitor subsistence resource populations among BLM and State lands within Game Management Unit 13.
- The BLM Glennallen Field Office (GFO) continues to work with Ahtna Intertribal Resource Commission (AITRC) as they continue the Community Harvest System for caribou and moose. GFO is receiving regular updates from AITRC.

II. Subsistence Permitting Updates

- The Glennallen Field Office has been open to the public in 2022 but with periodic mask protocols in place as COVID 19 rates in the community fluctuate. Hunters could come in and get their permits in person. Or, apply over the phone if they had been issued permits previously and receive permits by mail or pick them up. In Delta Junction, hunters stayed outside to request their permits and documents were ferried back and forth by staff. The BLM continues to take these precautions to limit exposure to staff and the public.

III. Wildlife Updates

- The Bureau of Land Management and Alaska Department of Fish and Game continue a multi-year cooperative agreement. The objective is to actively cooperate and monitor subsistence resource populations among BLM and State of Alaska lands within GMU13. For 2022, the BLM urged Federal Subsistence hunters to take only bull caribou in subunits 13B and 13A considering ADF&G Emergency Order 04-02-2022 Nelchina Caribou Hunt Quotas and Bag Limits.

Federal Subsistence Moose Harvest GMU13

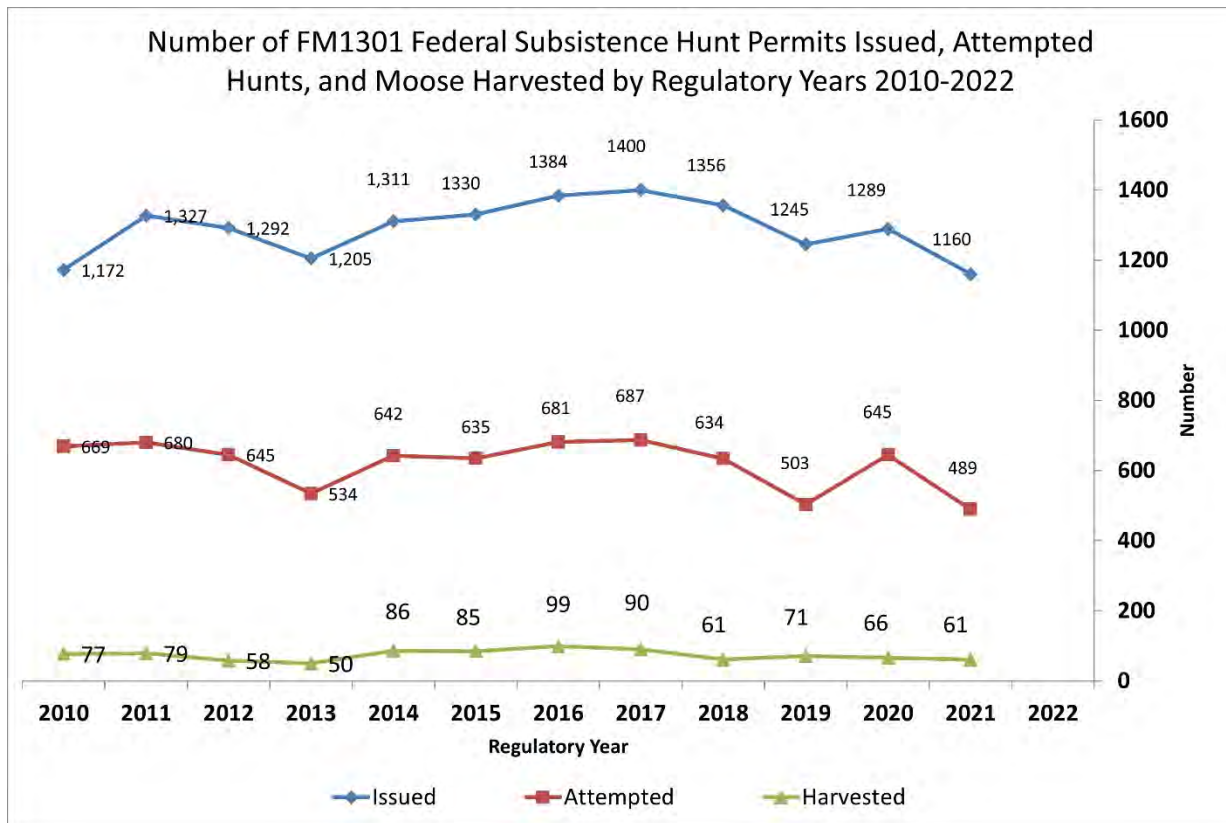
Table 1. FM1301 harvest for the 2022 moose season in GMU13

Time Frame	Permits Issued	Permits Attempted	Bulls Harvested	Hunter Success Rate
2022*				
5 Year Average**	1,290	591	69	11.9%

* Prepared Aug. 2022, updates provided at RAC

**2017-2021

Figure 1. Federal Subsistence Moose Harvest Pattern (FM1301) from 2010 to 2022*



*Prepared August 2022. Updates provided October 2022 at the RAC meeting.

Federal Subsistence Caribou Harvest GMU13

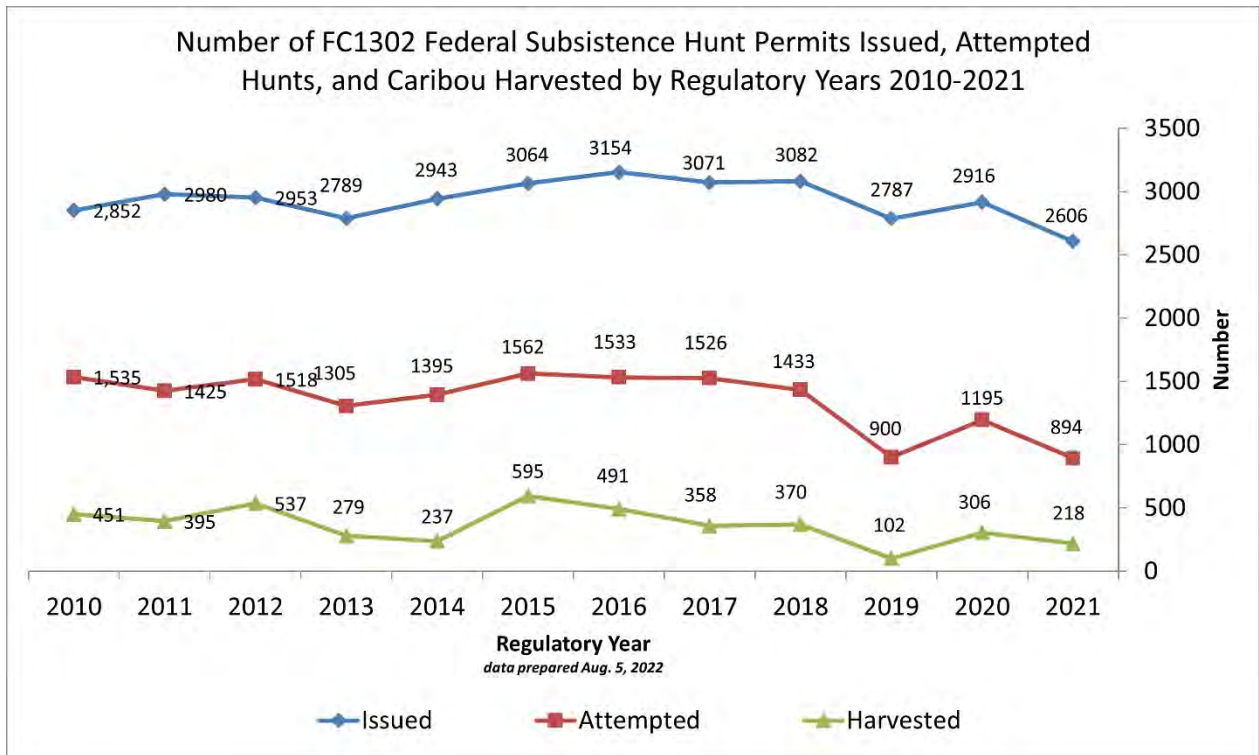
Table 2. FC1302 caribou harvest in GMU13.

	Permits Issued*	Permits Attempted*	Bulls Harvested*	Cows Harvested*	Total Harvest*	Success Rate*
2022/23*						
5 Year Average**	2,892	1,190	173	97	270	22.1%

*Updates provided at RAC October 2022 on harvest for the fall portion of the hunt season, Aug. 1-Sept. 30. Final harvest numbers, hunter success rate, and total permits issued for regulatory year 2022 will be calculated after the season ends March 31, 2023.

**2017-2021

Figure 2. Federal Subsistence Caribou Harvest Pattern (FC1302) from 2010 to 2021.



* Data prepared August 5, 2022; season ends March 31, 2023. Harvest estimate for fall portion of the Unit 13 Federal caribou hunt (Aug.1-Sept. 30) will be given at the RAC meeting.

Winter 2023 Regional Advisory Council Meeting Calendar

Last updated 03/28/2022

Due to travel budget limitations placed by Department of the Interior on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Office of Subsistence Management, the dates and locations of these meetings will be subject to change

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday-	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>Feb. 19</i>	Feb. 20 PRESIDENTS DAY HOLIDAY	<i>Feb. 21</i> <i>Window Opens</i>	<i>Feb. 22</i>	<i>Feb. 23</i> NSRAC (Kaktovik)	<i>Feb. 24</i>	<i>Feb. 25</i>
			KARAC (TBD)			
<i>Feb. 26</i>	<i>Feb. 27</i>	<i>Feb. 28</i>	<i>Mar. 1</i>	<i>Mar. 2</i>	<i>Mar. 3</i>	<i>Mar. 4</i>
		SEARAC (Juneau)				
			EIRAC (Arctic Village or Fairbanks)			
<i>Mar. 5</i>	<i>Mar. 6</i>	<i>Mar. 7</i>	<i>Mar. 8</i>	<i>Mar. 9</i>	<i>Mar. 10</i>	<i>Mar. 11</i>
	NWARAC (TBD)					
<i>Mar. 12</i>	<i>Mar. 13</i>	<i>Mar. 14</i>	<i>Mar. 15</i>	<i>Mar. 16</i>	<i>Mar. 17</i>	<i>Mar. 18</i>
		BBRAC (Dillingham)		SCRAC (Anchorage)		
<i>Mar. 19</i>	<i>Mar. 20</i>	<i>Mar. 21</i>	<i>Mar. 22</i>	<i>Mar. 23</i>	<i>Mar. 24</i>	<i>Mar. 25</i>
			SPRAC (Nome)			
<i>Mar. 26</i>	<i>Mar. 27</i>	<i>Mar. 28</i>	<i>Mar. 29</i>	<i>Mar. 30</i>	<i>Mar. 31</i>	<i>Apr. 1</i>
<i>Apr. 2</i>	<i>Apr. 3</i>	<i>Apr. 4</i>	<i>Apr. 5</i>	<i>Apr. 6</i>	<i>Apr. 7</i> <i>Window Closes</i>	<i>Apr. 8</i>
	YKDRAC (Alakanuk)					
		WIRAC (Aniak)				

Fall 2023 Regional Advisory Council Meeting Calendar

Last updated 08/1/2022

Due to travel budget limitations placed by Department of the Interior on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Office of Subsistence Management, the dates and locations of these meetings will be subject to change

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Aug. 13	Aug. 14 Window Opens	Aug. 15	Aug. 16	Aug. 17	Aug. 18	Aug. 19
Aug. 20	Aug. 21	Aug. 22	Aug. 23	Aug. 24	Aug. 25	Aug. 26
Aug. 27	Aug. 28	Aug. 29	Aug. 30	Aug. 31	Sep. 1	Sep. 2
Sep. 3	Sep. 4 Labor Day Holiday	Sep. 5	Sep. 6	Sep. 7	Sep. 8	Sep. 9
Sep. 10	Sep. 11	Sep. 12	Sep. 13	Sep. 14	Sep. 15	Sep. 16
Sep. 17	Sep. 18	Sep. 19	Sep. 20	Sep. 21	Sep. 22	Sep. 23
Sep. 24	Sep. 25	Sep. 26	Sep. 27	Sep. 28	Sep. 29	Sep. 30
Oct. 1	Oct. 2	Oct. 3	Oct. 4	Oct. 5	Oct. 6	Oct. 7
Oct. 8	Oct. 9 Columbus Day Holiday	Oct. 10	Oct. 11	Oct. 12	Oct. 13	Oct. 14
Oct. 15	Oct. 16	Oct. 17	Oct. 18	Oct. 19	Oct. 20	Oct. 21
Oct. 22	Oct. 23	Oct. 24	Oct. 25	Oct. 26	Oct. 27	Oct. 28
Oct. 29	Oct. 30	Oct. 31	Nov. 1	Nov. 2	Nov. 3 Window Closes	Nov. 4

Subsistence Regional Advisory Council Correspondence Policy

The Federal Subsistence Board (Board) recognizes the value of the Regional Advisory Councils' role in the Federal Subsistence Management Program. The Board realizes that the Councils must interact with fish and wildlife resource agencies, organizations, and the public as part of their official duties, and that this interaction may include correspondence. Since the beginning of the Federal Subsistence Program, Regional Advisory Councils have prepared correspondence to entities other than the Board. Informally, Councils were asked to provide drafts of correspondence to the Office of Subsistence Management (OSM) for review prior to mailing. Recently, the Board was asked to clarify its position regarding Council correspondence. This policy is intended to formalize guidance from the Board to the Regional Advisory Councils in preparing correspondence.

The Board is mindful of its obligation to provide the Regional Advisory Councils with clear operating guidelines and policies, and has approved the correspondence policy set out below. The intent of the Regional Advisory Council correspondence policy is to ensure that Councils are able to correspond appropriately with other entities. In addition, the correspondence policy will assist Councils in directing their concerns to others most effectively and forestall any breach of department policy.

The Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, Title VIII required the creation of Alaska's Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils to serve as advisors to the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture and to provide meaningful local participation in the management of fish and wildlife resources on Federal public lands. Within the framework of Title VIII and the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Congress assigned specific powers and duties to the Regional Advisory Councils. These are also reflected in the Councils' charters. (*Reference: ANILCA Title VIII §805, §808, and §810; Implementing regulations for Title VIII, 50 CFR 100 __.11 and 36 CFR 242 __.11; Implementing regulations for FACA, 41 CFR Part 102-3.70 and 3.75*)

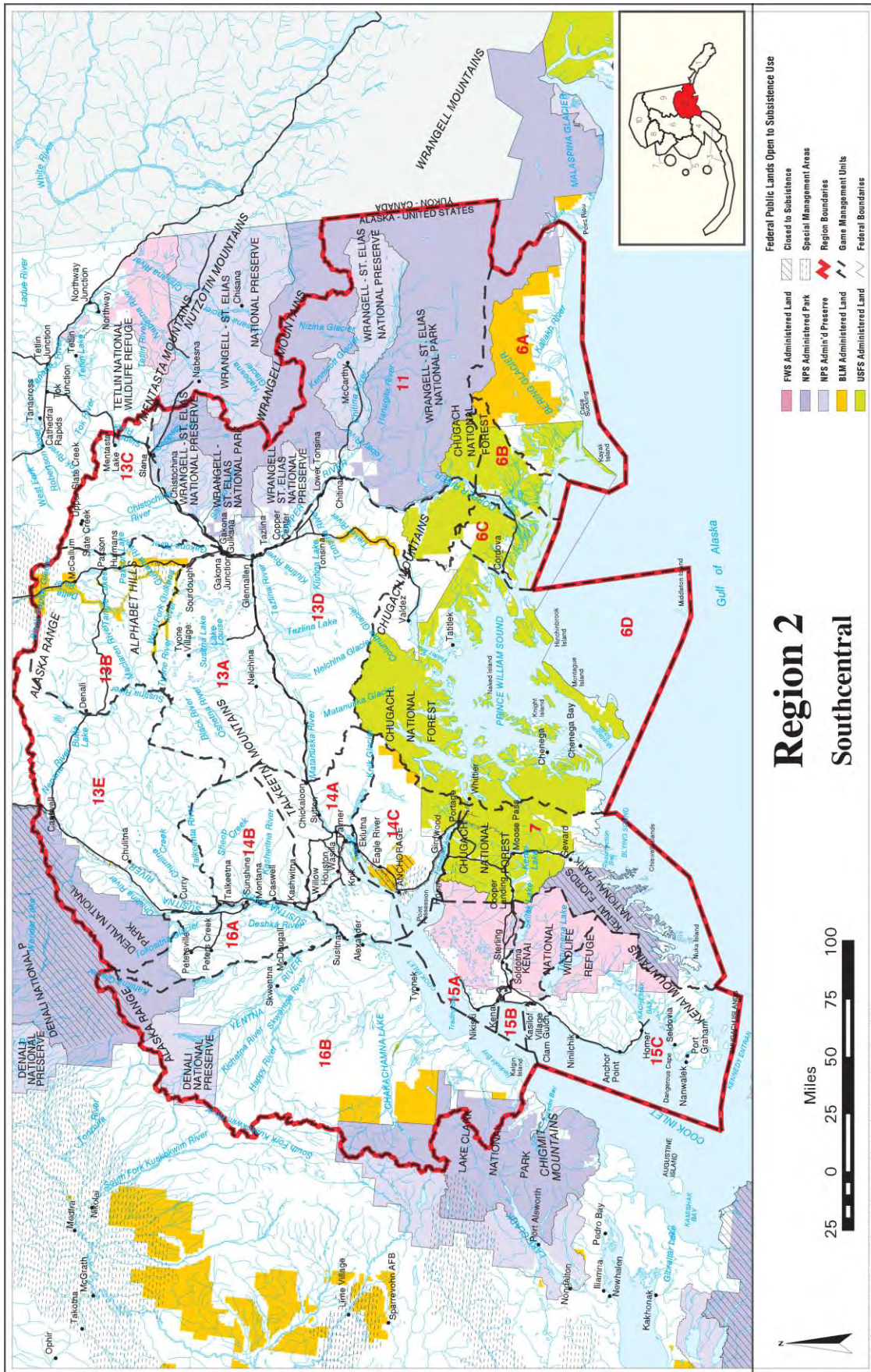
The Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture created the Federal Subsistence Board and delegated to it the responsibility for managing fish and wildlife resources on Federal public lands. The Board was also given the duty of establishing rules and procedures for the operation of the Regional Advisory Councils. The Office of Subsistence Management was established within the Federal Subsistence Management Program's lead agency, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, to administer the Program. (*Reference: 36 CFR Part 242 and 50 CFR Part 100 Subparts C and D*)

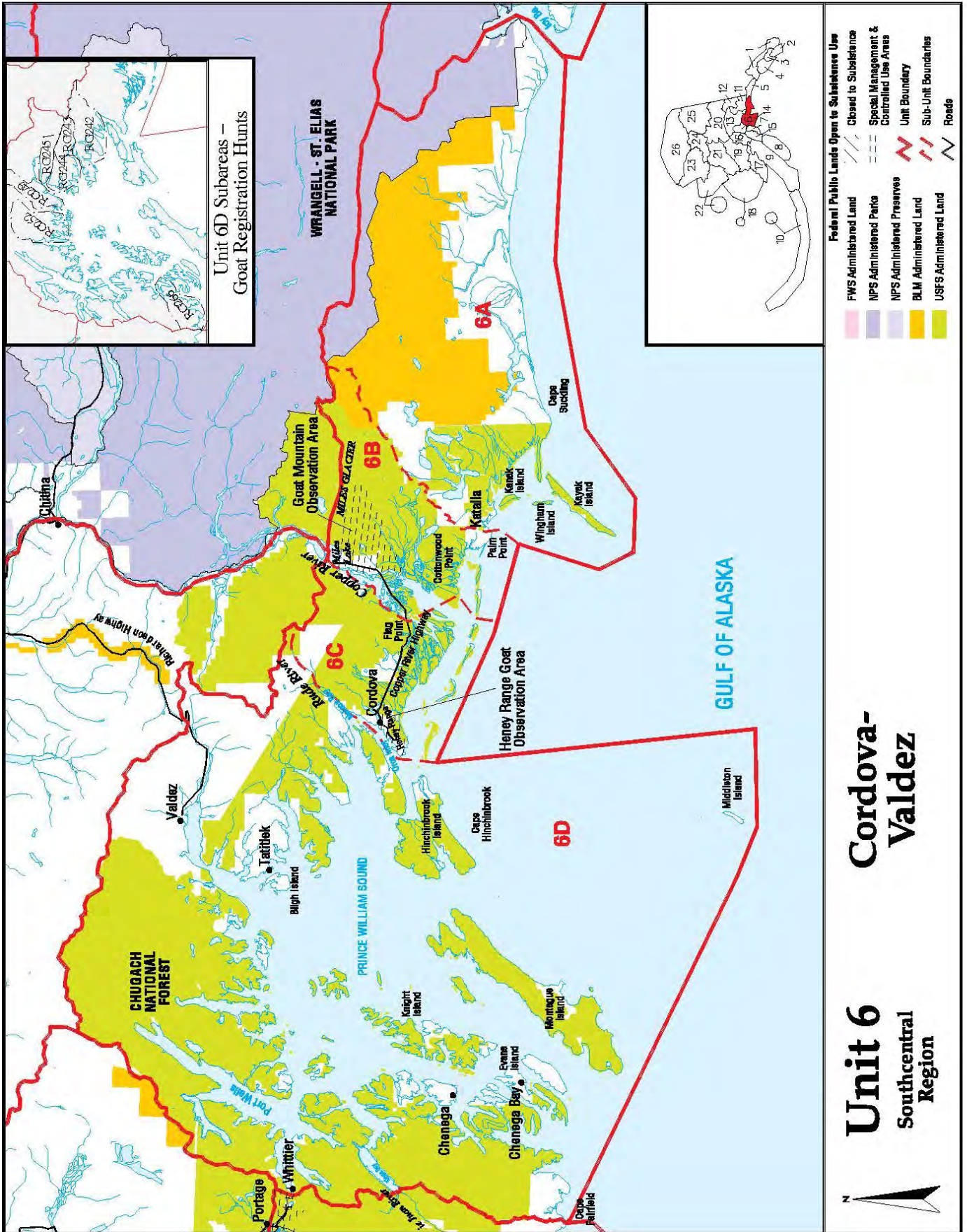
Policy

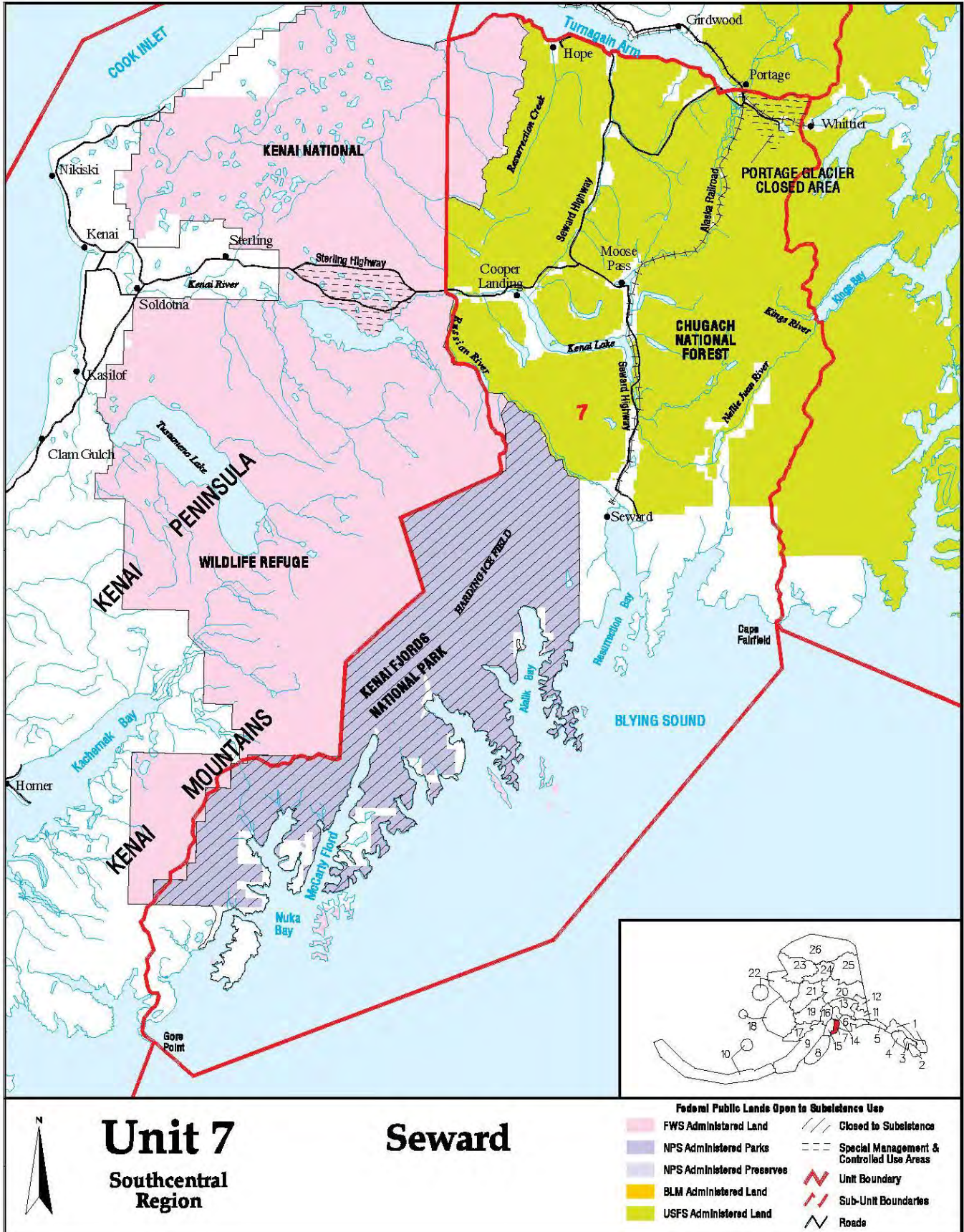
1. The subject matter of Council correspondence shall be limited to matters over which the Council has authority under §805(a)(3), §808, §810 of Title VIII, Subpart B §___.11(c) of regulation, and as described in the Council charters.
2. Councils may, and are encouraged to, correspond directly with the Board. The Councils are advisors to the Board.
3. Councils are urged to also make use of the annual report process to bring matters to the Board's attention.

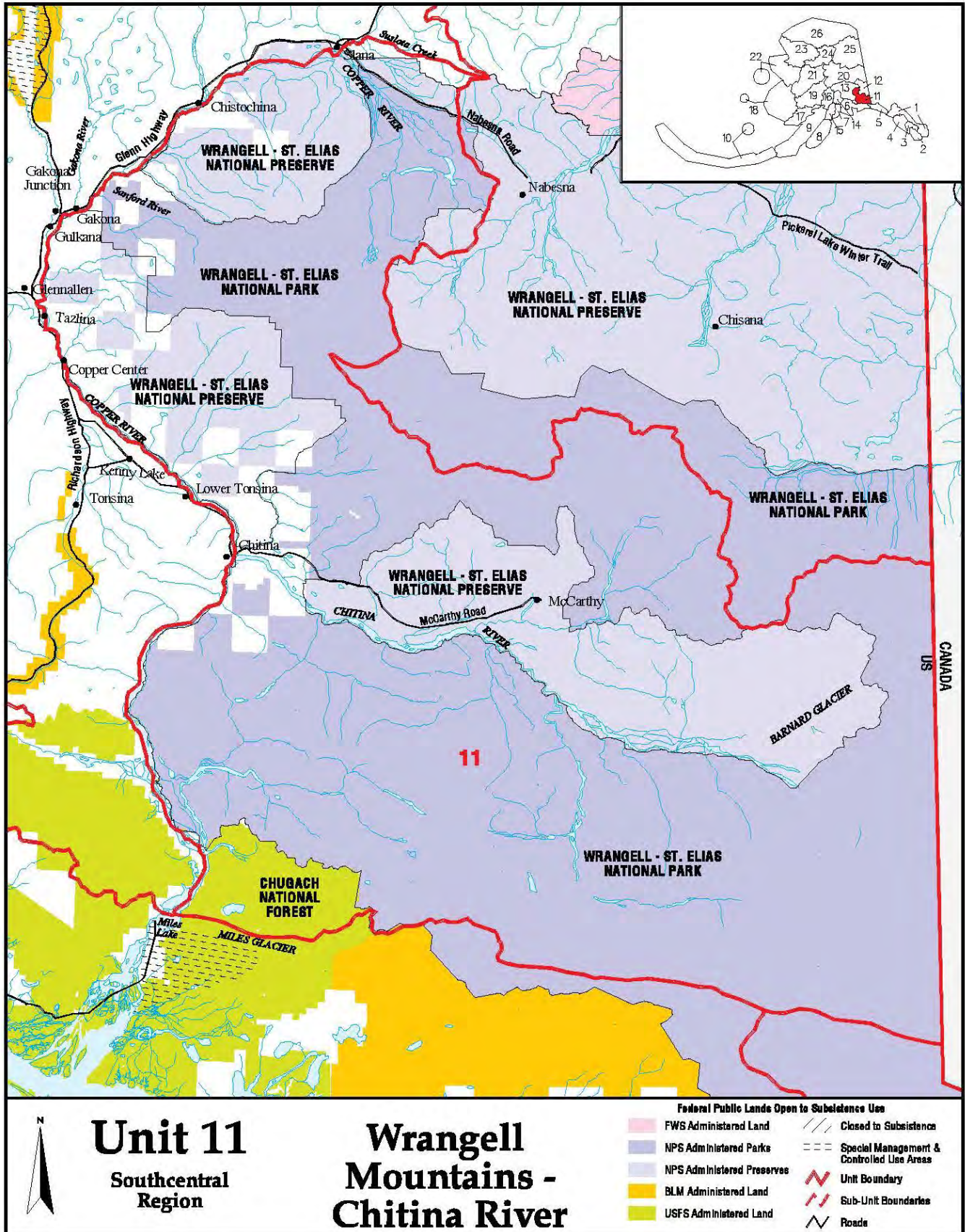
4. As a general rule, Councils discuss and agree upon proposed correspondence during a public meeting. Occasionally, a Council chair may be requested to write a letter when it is not feasible to wait until a public Council meeting. In such cases, the content of the letter shall be limited to the known position of the Council as discussed in previous Council meetings.
5. Except as noted in Items 6, 7, and 8 of this policy, Councils will transmit all correspondence to the Assistant Regional Director (ARD) of OSM for review prior to mailing. This includes, but is not limited to, letters of support, resolutions, letters offering comment or recommendations, and any other correspondence to any government agency or any tribal or private organization or individual.
 - a. Recognizing that such correspondence is the result of an official Council action and may be urgent, the ARD will respond in a timely manner.
 - b. Modifications identified as necessary by the ARD will be discussed with the Council chair. Councils will make the modifications before sending out the correspondence.
6. Councils may submit written comments requested by Federal land management agencies under ANILCA §810 or requested by regional Subsistence Resource Commissions (SRC) under §808 directly to the requesting agency. Section 808 correspondence includes comments and information solicited by the SRCs and notification of appointment by the Council to an SRC.
7. Councils may submit proposed regulatory changes or written comments regarding proposed regulatory changes affecting subsistence uses within their regions to the Alaska Board of Fisheries or the Alaska Board of Game directly. A copy of any comments or proposals will be forwarded to the ARD when the original is submitted.
8. Administrative correspondence such as letters of appreciation, requests for agency reports at Council meetings, and cover letters for meeting agendas will go through the Council's regional coordinator to the appropriate OSM division chief for review.
9. Councils will submit copies of all correspondence generated by and received by them to OSM to be filed in the administrative record system.
10. Except as noted in Items 6, 7, and 8, Councils or individual Council members acting on behalf of or as representative of the Council may not, through correspondence or any other means of communication, attempt to persuade any elected or appointed political officials, any government agency, or any tribal or private organization or individual to take a particular action on an issue. This does not prohibit Council members from acting in their capacity as private citizens or through other organizations with which they are affiliated.

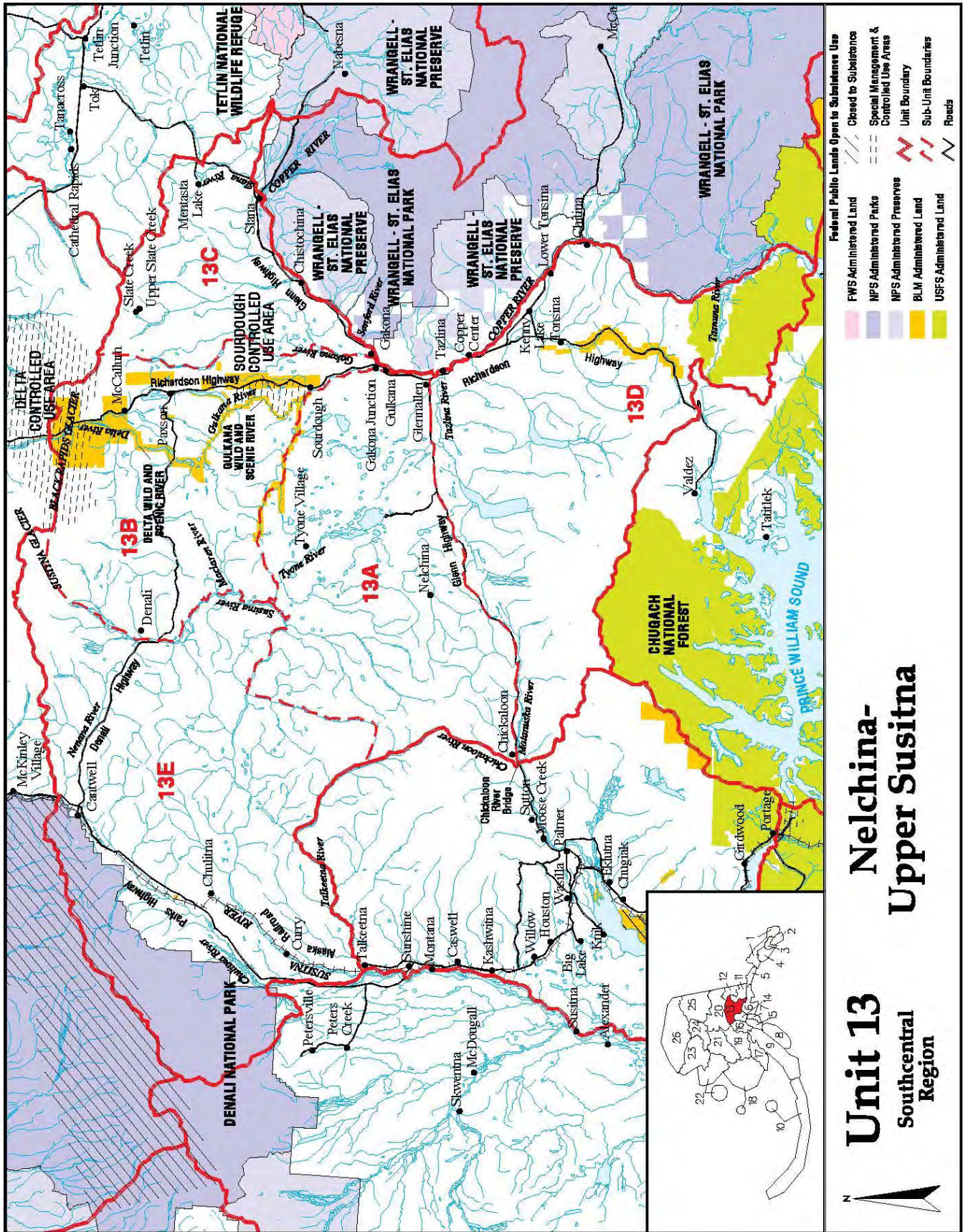
Approved by the Federal Subsistence Board on June 15, 2004.

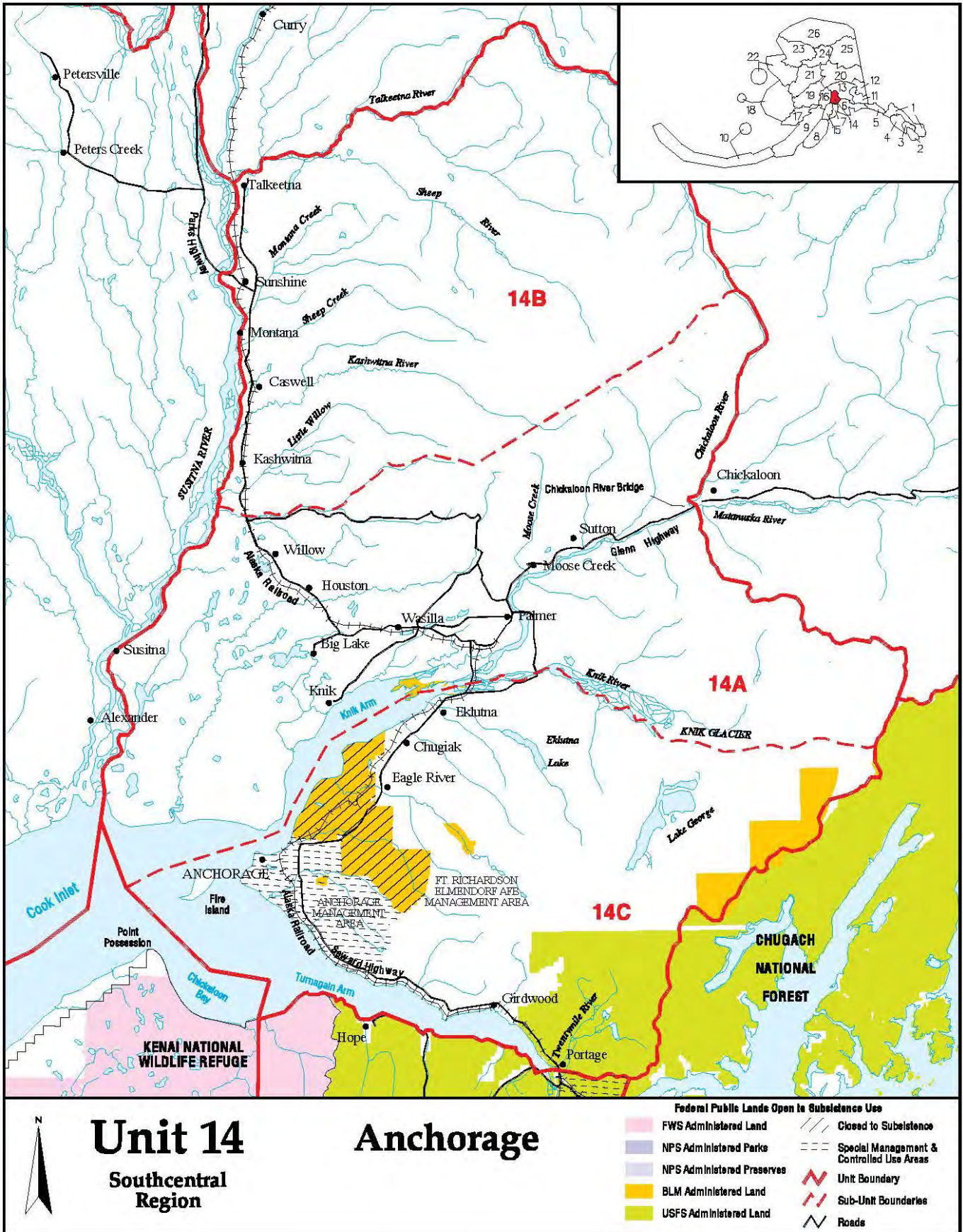


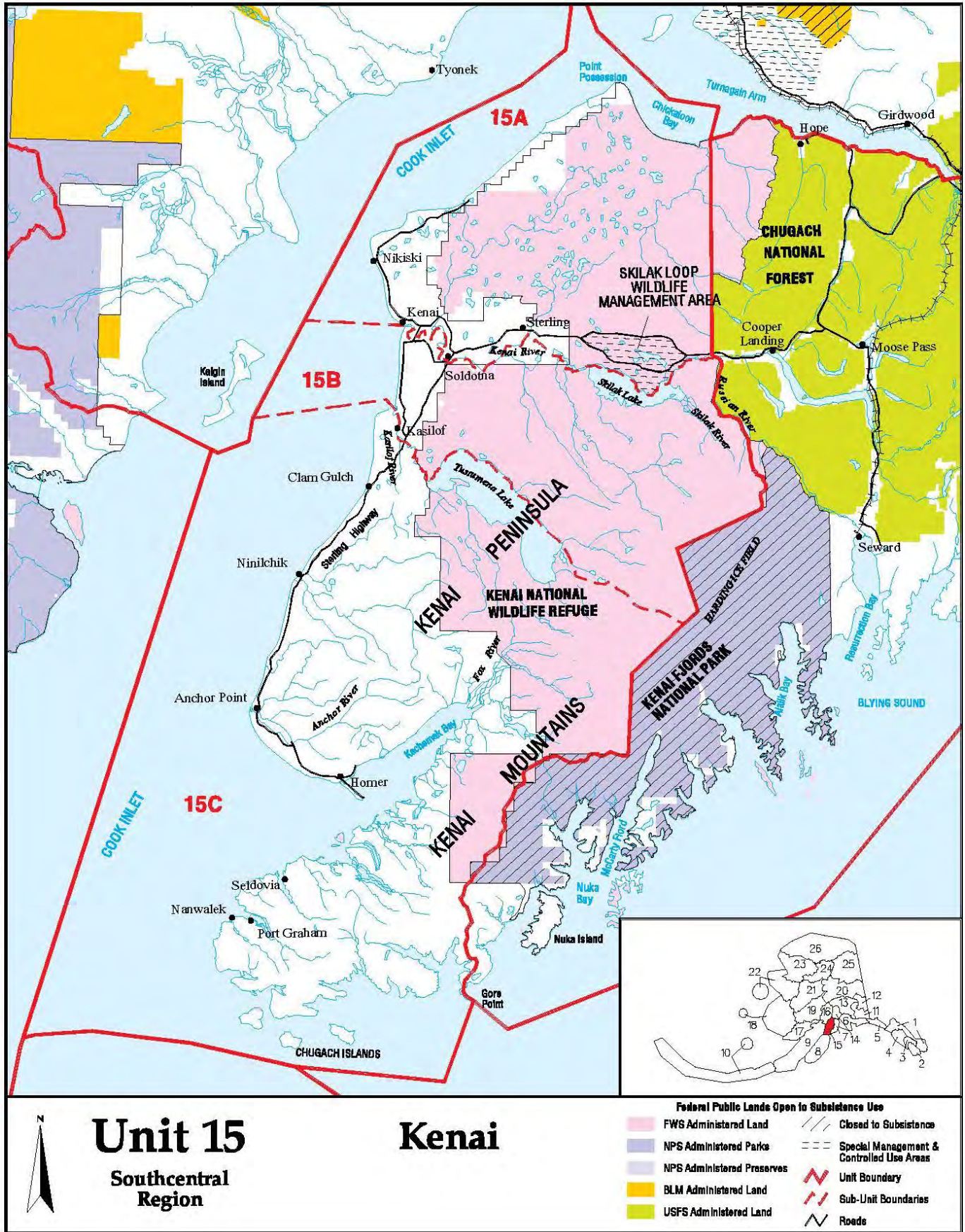


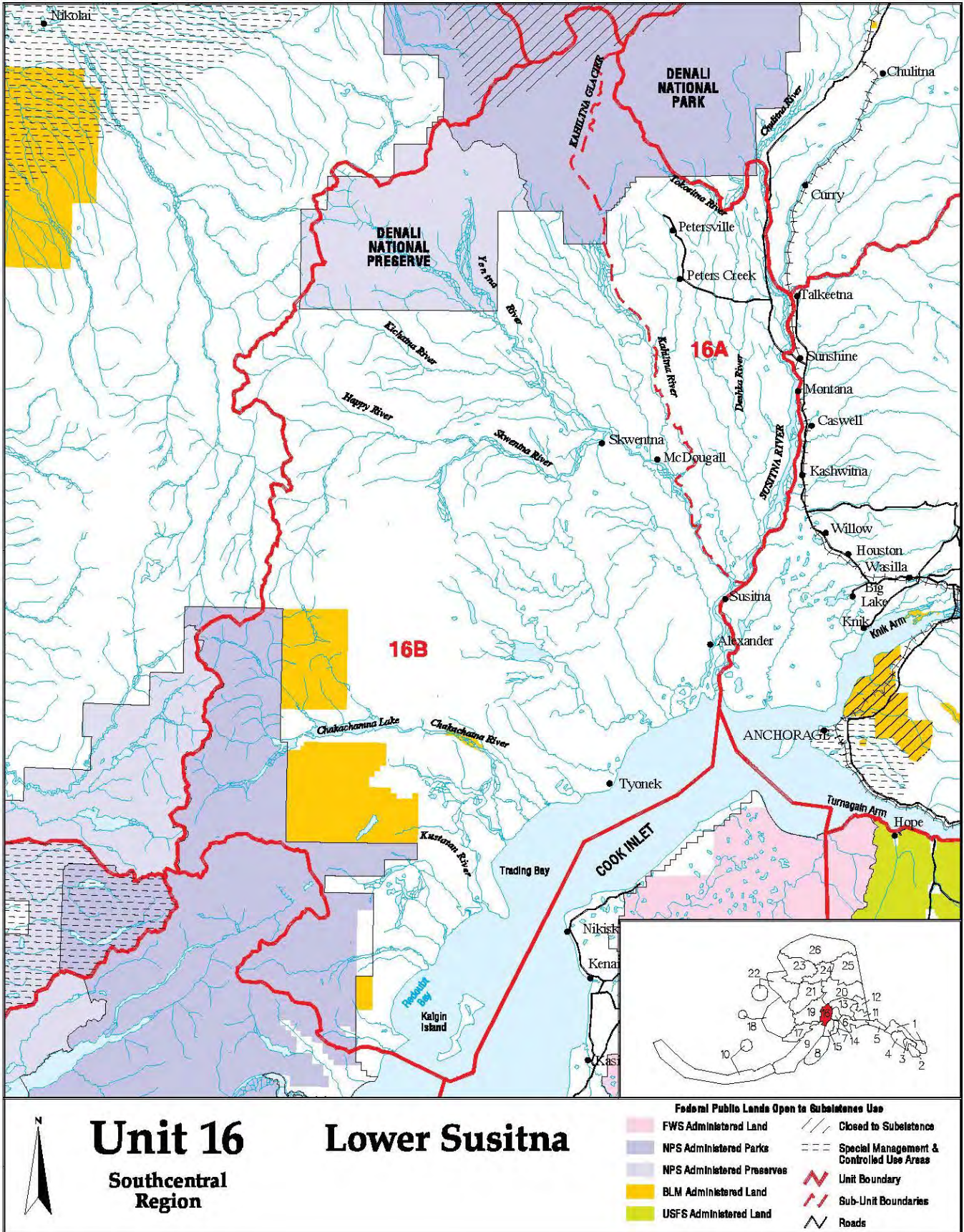


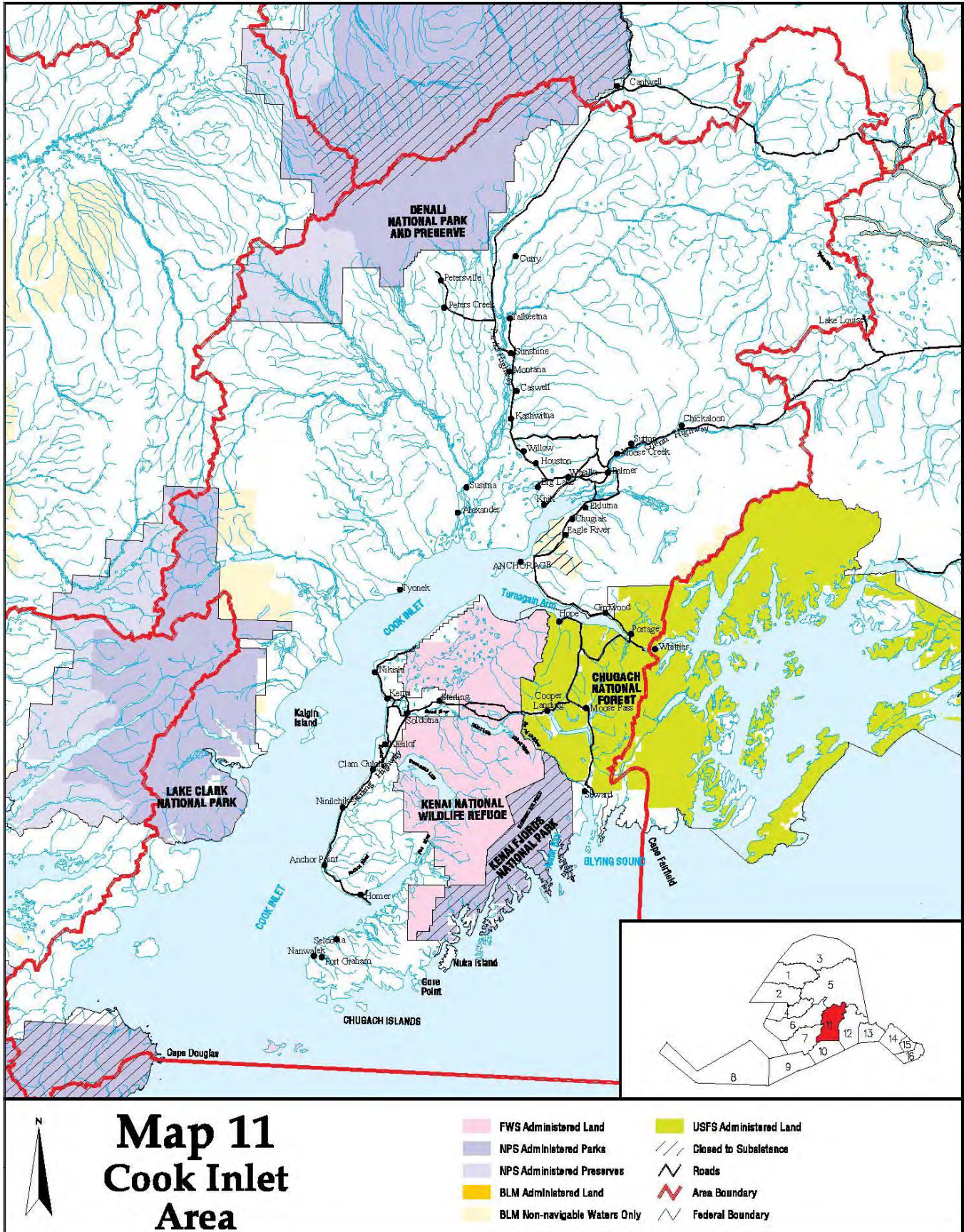














**Department of the Interior
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service**

Southcentral Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council

Charter

1. **Committee's Official Designation.** The Council's official designation is the Southcentral Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council (Council).
2. **Authority.** The Council is renewed by virtue of the authority set out in the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) (16 U.S.C. 3115 (1988)) Title VIII, and under the authority of the Secretary of the Interior, in furtherance of 16 U.S.C. 410hh-2. The Council is regulated by the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, (5 U.S.C., Appendix 2).
3. **Objectives and Scope of Activities.** The objective of the Council is to provide a forum for the residents of the Region with personal knowledge of local conditions and resource requirements to have a meaningful role in the subsistence management of fish and wildlife on Federal lands and waters in the Region.
4. **Description of Duties.** Council duties and responsibilities, where applicable, are as follows:
 - a. Recommend the initiation, review, and evaluate of proposals for regulations, policies, management plans, and other matters relating to subsistence uses of fish and wildlife on public lands within the region.
 - b. Provide a forum for the expression of opinions and recommendations by persons interested in any matter related to the subsistence uses of fish and wildlife on public lands within the Region.
 - c. Encourage local and regional participation in the decision-making process affecting the taking of fish and wildlife on the public lands within the region for subsistence uses.
 - d. Prepare an annual report to the Secretary containing the following:
 - (1) An identification of current and anticipated subsistence uses of fish and wildlife populations within the Region;
 - (2) An evaluation of current and anticipated subsistence needs for fish and wildlife populations within the Region;

- (3) A recommended strategy for the management of fish and wildlife populations within the Region to accommodate such subsistence uses and needs; and
 - (4) Recommendations concerning policies, standards, guidelines, and regulations to implement the strategy.
 - e. Appoint one member to the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park Subsistence Resource Commission and two members to the Denali National Park Subsistence Resource Commission in accordance with section 808 of the ANILCA.
 - f. Make recommendations on determinations of customary and traditional use of subsistence resources.
 - g. Make recommendations on determinations of rural status.
 - h. Provide recommendations on the establishment and membership of Federal local advisory committees.
5. **Agency or Official to Whom the Council Reports.** The Council reports to the Federal Subsistence Board Chair, who is appointed by the Secretary of the Interior with the concurrence of the Secretary of Agriculture.
6. **Support.** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will provide administrative support for the activities of the Council through the Office of Subsistence Management.
7. **Estimated Annual Operating Costs and Staff Years.** The annual operating costs associated with supporting the Council’s functions are estimated to be \$170,000, including all direct and indirect expenses and 1.15 Federal staff years.
8. **Designated Federal Officer.** The DFO is the Subsistence Council Coordinator for the Region or such other Federal employee as may be designated by the Assistant Regional Director – Subsistence, Region 11, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The DFO is a full-time Federal employee appointed in accordance with Agency procedures. The DFO will:
- (a) Approve or call all Council and subcommittee meetings;
 - (b) Prepare and approve all meeting agendas;
 - (c) Attend all committee and subcommittee meetings;
 - (d) Adjourn any meeting when the DFO determines adjournment to be in the public interest; and

(e) Chair meetings when directed to do so by the official to whom the advisory committee reports.

9. Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings. The Council will meet 1-2 times per year, and at such times as designated by the Federal Subsistence Board Chair or the DFO.

10. Duration. Continuing.

11. Termination. The Council will be inactive 2 years from the date the charter is filed, unless prior to that date, the charter is renewed in accordance with provisions of section 14 of the FACA. The Council will not meet or take any action without a valid current charter.

12. Membership and Designation. The Council's membership is composed of representative members as follows:

Thirteen members who are knowledgeable and experienced in matters relating to subsistence uses of fish and wildlife and who are residents of the region represented by the Council.

To ensure that each Council represents a diversity of interests, the Federal Subsistence Board in their nomination recommendations to the Secretary will strive to ensure that nine of the members (70 percent) represent subsistence interests within the region and four of the members (30 percent) represent commercial and sport interests within the region. The portion of membership representing commercial and sport interests must include, where possible, at least one representative from the sport community and one representative from the commercial community.

The Secretary of the Interior will appoint members based on the recommendations from the Federal Subsistence Board and with the concurrence of the Secretary of Agriculture.

Members will be appointed for 3-year terms. Members serve at the discretion of the Secretary.

If appointments for a given year have not yet been announced, a member may continue to serve on the Council following the expiration of his or her term until such appointments have been made. Unless reappointed, the member's service ends on the date of announcement even if that member's specific seat remains unfilled.

Alternate members may be appointed to the Council to fill vacancies if they occur out of cycle. An alternate member must be approved and appointed by the Secretary before attending the meeting as a representative. The term for an appointed alternate member will be the same as the term of the member whose vacancy is being filled.

Council members will elect a Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary for a 1-year term.

Members of the Council will serve without compensation. However, while away from their homes or regular places of business, Council and subcommittee members engaged in Council, or subcommittee business, approved by the DFO, may be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in the same manner as persons employed intermittently in Government service under Section 5703 of title 5 of the United States Code.

- 13. Ethics Responsibilities of Members.** No Council or subcommittee member will participate in any Council or subcommittee deliberations or votes relating to a specific party matter before the Department or its bureaus and offices including a lease, license, permit, contract, grant, claim, agreement, or litigation in which the member or the entity the member represents has a direct financial interest.
- 14. Subcommittees.** Subject to the DFO’s approval, subcommittees may be formed for the purpose of compiling information or conducting research. However, such subcommittees must act only under the direction of the DFO and must report their recommendations to the full Council for consideration. Subcommittees must not provide advice or work products directly to the Agency. Subcommittees will meet as necessary to accomplish their assignments, subject to the approval of the DFO and the availability of resources.
- 15. Recordkeeping.** The Records of the Council, and formally and informally established subcommittees or other subgroups of the Council, must be handled in accordance with General Records Schedule 6.2, and other approved Agency records disposition schedules. These records must be available for public inspection and copying, subject to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552).

 /signature of the filed original/
Secretary of the Interior

 Dec. 10, 2021
Date Signed

 Dec. 13, 2021
Date Filed

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