

Brief Statement of Proposal –

Proposal to open a limited area inside CH in area 541 for Atka Mackerel for limited access fleet:

Provide access for catcher vessels less than 100' LOA in area 541 to a limited portion of CH outside 10 miles on the western portion of the Kasatochi rookery. The area would be bounded at 52 degrees 11 minutes on the north and 52 degrees 6 minutes on the south, and 175 degrees 55 minutes on the west. (see attached maps) Limit harvest from this area to 5% of the 541 Atka mackerel ABC.

Objectives of Proposal -

Currently all CH in area 541 is closed for mackerel fishing. The H&G fishery has been concentrated to the south of Seguam Pass, which is a long run from Adak where CVs would likely deliver.

The Am. 80 allocation of Atka mackerel to the limited access fleet is intended to provide opportunity to non-AFA CVs not covered by AFA sideboards. Opening a small portion of CH near Kasatochi (with trip limits) would disperse effort while providing opportunity for vessels to fish closer to their market.

Justification for Council Action -

Adjustments to Sea lion mitigation measures require council action.

Foreseeable Impacts of Proposal –

This proposal will provide some spatial dispersion of the Atka mackerel harvest in 541, while providing fishing opportunities for smaller CVs in the limited access fleet.

Possible Alternative Solutions –

An alternative would be to open the area between 1 and 5 miles around the Anagaksik haulout.

Supporting Data and Other Information –

None at this time.

Off-setting Proposals –

None.

Submitted by:

Aleut Enterprise Corporation and Adak Fisheries

SOUNDINGS IN FATHOMS

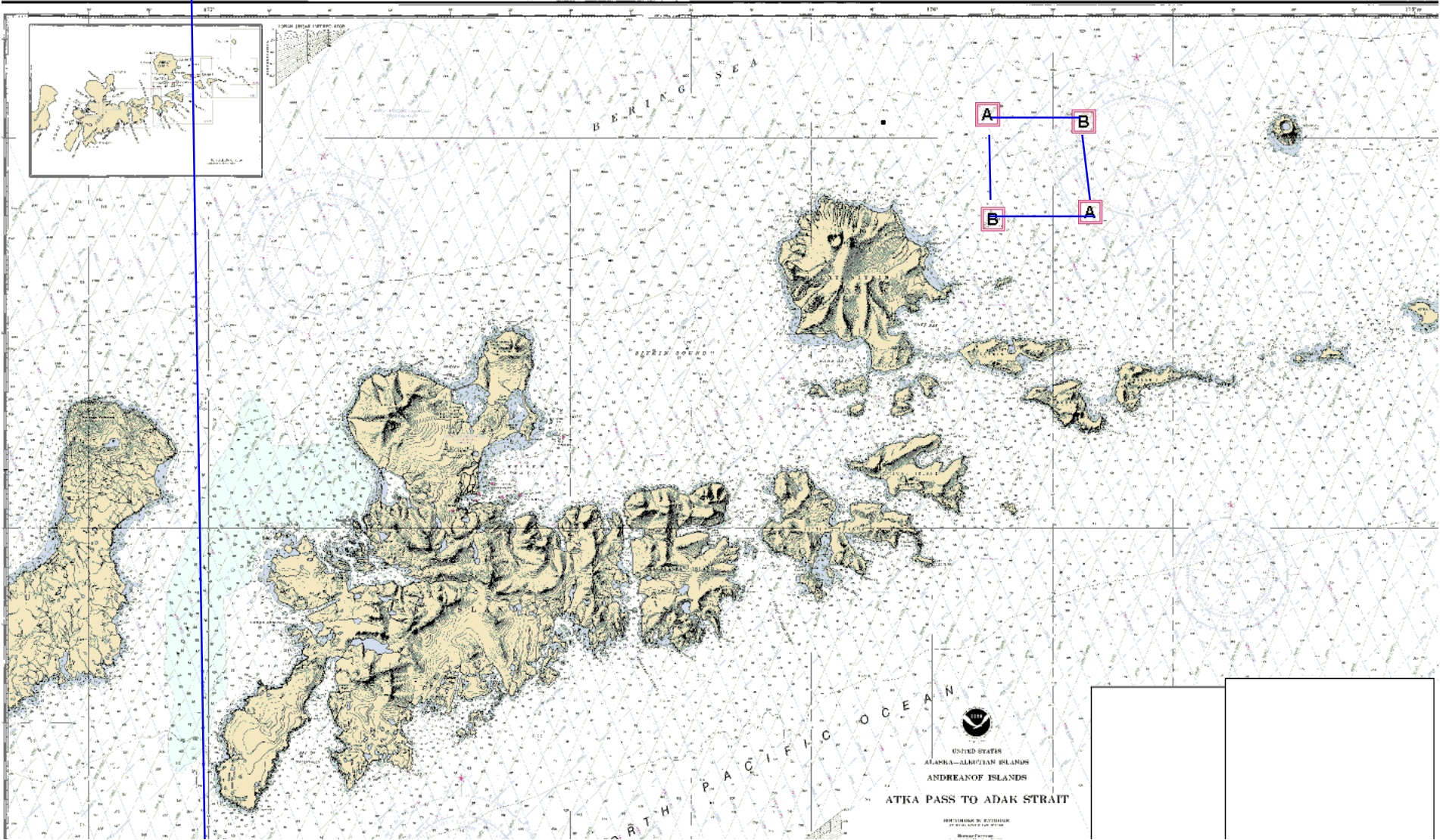


Chart Name: ATKA PASS TO ADAK STRAIT
Chart ID: 16471_1
Top Left: 52° 23' 53" N 177° 17' 14" W
Bottom Right: 51° 34' 1" N 175° 17' 59" W

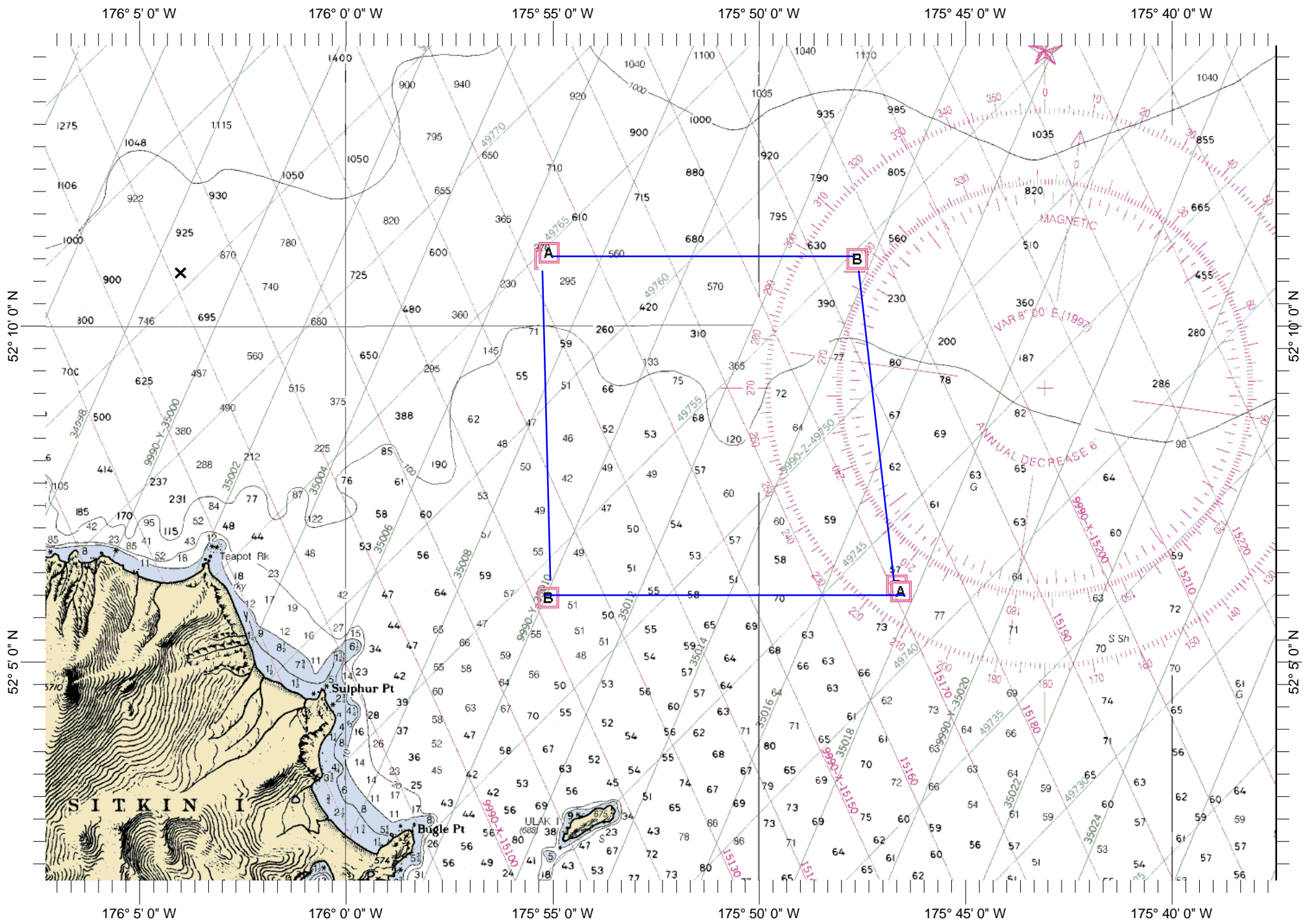


Chart Name: ATKA PASS TO ADAK STRAIT
 Chart ID: 16471_1
 Top Left: 52° 14' 10" N 176° 7' 17" W
 Bottom Right: 52° 1' 45" N 175° 37' 28" W