

Kake, Alaska

2009



During the week of 20-25 July most of shoreline of Frederick Sound was flown and imaged during a coastal habitat survey (Fig. 1). This was all part of the **ShoreZone** project and the high-resolution, low-tide imagery will first be web-posted on to a website and later mapped for features of coastal habitat. The overflights use a low-flying helicopter to collect video and photo images of the intertidal zone; Fig. 2 shows detail of the flight track within the complex Kootznahoo Inlet near Angoon. Field program coordinator John Harper said: *We use a helicopter to collect the imagery as it is much less weather dependent. Sometimes the cloud ceiling was less 200 feet during the survey – fixed wing planes could not fly for several days. And it is very difficult for satellites to collect appropriate imagery because tides are low early in the morning and they cannot see through the clouds.* In all, the team surveyed 1,130 miles (1,819 km) of shoreline, collected 17.3 hr of HD videography and shot over 14,000 high-resolution photos. The survey was funded by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS/NOAA) of Juneau.



Fig. 1 Surveyed shoreline shown in red – 1,130 miles

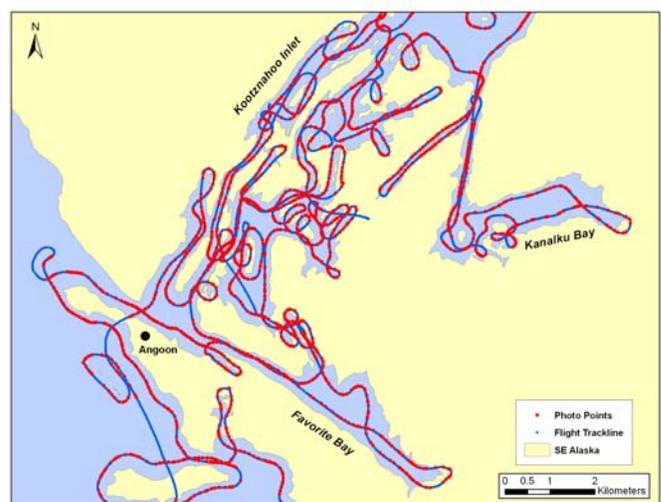


Fig. 2 Complex trackline at Kootznahoo Inlet at Angoon

Where to Find Stuff:

Imagery and Data, and all Reports
<http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/maps/szintro.htm>

Flight Reports, Survey Protocol, Other Reports
www.coastalandoceans.com

NMFS/NOAA Technical Representative
Cindy Hartmann Moore, NMFS/NOAA Juneau,
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Kake ShoreZone crew (from left): Jim Wilson (pilot), Colin Shanley (guest navigator from *The Nature Conservancy*), John Harper (geologist/videographer), Kalen Morrow (navigator/videographer) and Mary Morris (ecologist)

2009 Favorites:

John's: Estuaries – you think of SE as steep rock coastline, but there are huge, lush wetlands everywhere.

Mary's: the big tidal platforms and complex islets, tidal channels and shallow passes of Rocky Pass (between Kupreanof and Kuiu Islands)

Kalen's: Kootznahoo Inlet...and the friendly people of Kake

Jim's: the grizzly and cub standing as we flew by in Ford's Terror.

Colin's: the friendly crew and dogs at Five Finger Lighthouse.



Five Finger Lighthouse on a beautiful sunny day, surrounded by dozens of humpback whales.

Compiled by the 2009 Kake ShoreZone team.

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Survey Blog

19 July – the team arrived in Kake, tested all the navigation and camera gear and installed it in the helicopter.

20 July – the 4:45am lift off seemed early and the ceiling was low – a few times <100'. We surveyed from Chaik Bay to Herring Bay on SW Admiralty Is. Many humpback whales were seen while crossing Frederick Sound.

21 July – a "late" start of 5:10am put us at Angoon pretty early surveying the outer parts of Kootznahoo Inlet, Angoon and Hood Bay before sprinting to a refuel at False Island in Peril Strait. The later part of the morning allowed us to finish the inner portion of Kootznahoo Inlet, where tides are delayed several hours through the narrow passages. A little bit of sun was peaking through late in the flight. Back in Kake by 10am.

22 July – this day found us departing Kake about 6 and working the southern Admiralty Is shoreline, east to Gambier Bay. We stopped briefly to visit

Peter Wright, who had positioned some fuel for us at the old cannery site in Gambier Bay (Peter has a brand-new Armstrong Marine catamaran for field support). The team saw a HELP sign on a beach of the Brothers Islands and stopped shortly to investigate – we found no one, and notified the Coast Guard and a local boater who cleared up the situation.

23 July – a big day as we finished surveying Gambier Bay, topped up at our fuel cache and then surveyed Endicott Arm with the tide-water Dawes Glacier.

24 July – fog was everywhere at this 7am departure. We tried to the north but turned back towards the Kuiu Island, where we mostly dodged the fog and picked up an additional 192 mi of shoreline. Colin Shanley, was our *guest navigator* from TNC.

25 July – our first sunny day with a few patches of fog. We stopped at Five Finger Lighthouse to set up our fuel and then raced off to Windham Bay and Hobart Bay with a quick refuel about 9am at Five Fingers, then dashing off to Port Houghton where we finished. Our surveyed ended with a real treat – coffee on the balcony of Five Finger Lighthouse on a sunny day ! A big thanks to Ed, Justine, Josh and Wendy for your hospitality. We spent the afternoon at the Kake Dog Salmon Festival eating salmon and halibut and having a great time with the canoe and tote races. A big thank you to Mike Jackson for making us feel at home.

(Gunalchéesh ax'ée at yilatóowu).



War canoes paddling as part of the Kake Dog Salmon Festival – Mike Jackson is with the steering paddle.