

Figure 9—OCS High Sea Fisheries and Oil and Gas Provinces in the Region

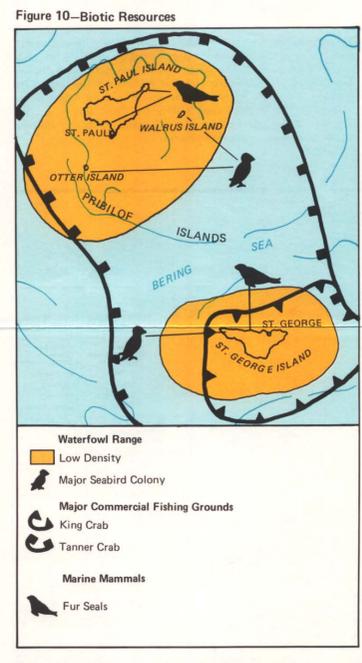
Natural Resources
The rich and prolific marine fauna of the region has always been the subsistence and economic mainstay of the Pribilof Aleuts.

Biotic—The Pribilof Islands lie within the richest marine biological area in the Northern Hemisphere. The area supports large and diverse resident populations of native birds, mammals, fishes, and invertebrates as well as thousands of migratory marine birds and mammals that use the islands for breeding and rearing of young. Present information indicates that the waters of the eastern Bering shelf can produce at least 3 billion pounds of harvestable marine products, making it the number one fisheries area of the Northern Hemisphere. The Pribilofs are the world's main breeding and rearing grounds for northern fur seals. Between 1.3 and 1.4 million seals (about two thirds of the known world population) migrate yearly to the Pribilofs for breeding and pupping.

More than a quarter of a million seabirds nest on St. Paul every year, mainly along the coastal cliffs west and south of the island. The uplands surrounding St. Paul are inhabited by a diverse population of songbirds, white and blue foxes, and about 250 reindeer, descendants of the four bucks and 21 does introduced in 1911.

The island is treeless but covered with various grasses, sedges, and a large variety of wild flowers. Luxuriant wet tundra grows in boggy depressions. The shallow subtidal waters surrounding the island support a rich assemblage of attached marine algae, the most conspicuous being the brown Laminaria, Alaria, and Fucus, which provide the habitat for diverse populations of benthic invertebrates and fishes.

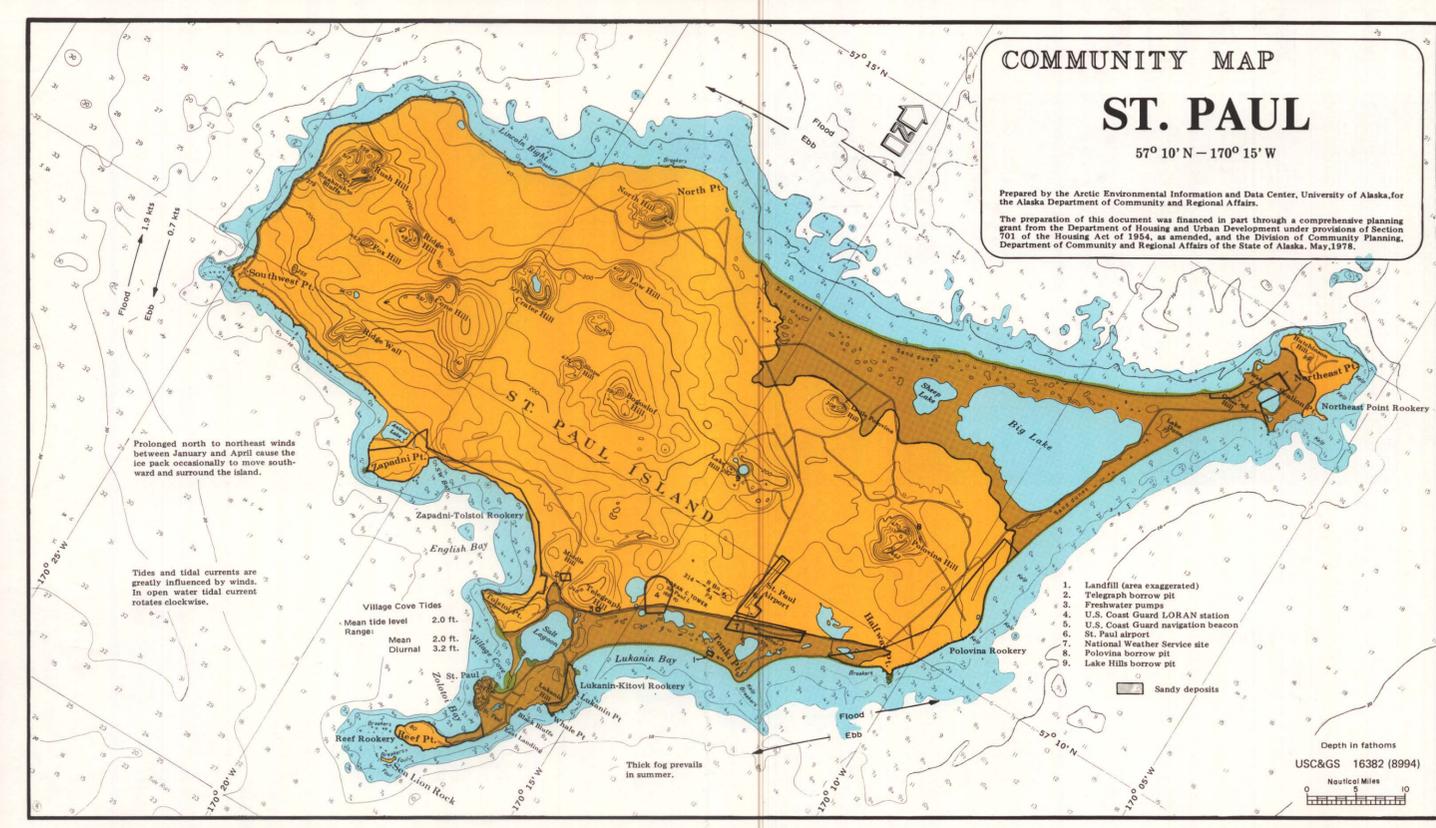
Minerals—St. Paul Island has no economically valuable minerals, although some crystals of olivine or rutile may reach semiprecious gem size and quality. Tourists are encouraged to visit Black Diamond Hill, where they may find shiny crystals of augite. The offshore St. George Basin, on the continental shelf south and east of the island, is believed to contain oil and gas deposits.



The information displayed on this map was provided by the National Marine Fisheries Service, Pribilof Islands Program, Seattle; the Alaska State Housing Authority; and the U.S. Bureau of Land Management.

Community Base Map—Maps are needed to show land use, ownership, location of utilities, and to plan for future village improvements. These maps can be prepared by either surveying the land on the ground or through enlargement of aerial photos or by a combination of both. Air photos can be taken at various heights. The height determines the extent of the area covered by the photograph.

The Community Base Map was prepared from a BLM photograph taken in 1977 at a height of 8,400 feet and enlarged to a scale of 1:2,400 (1 in. = 200 ft.). This map was used to locate the present utilities, residential development, and various community services and can be used in the future to evaluate the area for village expansion and to locate new construction.



Note: This community base map has been prepared from low altitude aerial photographs which contain unavoidable distortions in scale. Property and utility information has been generalized from many sources and may contain minor inconsistencies. This map should not be construed as a survey.

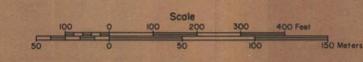


Photo by BLM, 1977