

Submitted by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game

October 27, 2022

Substitute language for Proposal 1

5 AAC 28.647 is amended to read:

5 AAC 28.647. Aleutian Islands Subdistrict Pacific Cod Management Plan.

...

(c) The commissioner shall open and close, by emergency order, a state-waters season in the Aleutian Islands Subdistrict as follows:

...

(2) all waters of the Aleutian Islands Subdistrict shall open as follows:

(A) for nonpelagic trawl gear, pot gear, longline gear, hand troll gear, and mechanical jigging machines four days after the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands parallel "A" season for the catcher-vessel greater than or equal to 60 feet in overall length pot gear fishery is closed **or at 12:00 noon Alaska time on March 15, whichever is earlier;**

(B) for vessels over 60 feet in overall length using nonpelagic trawl gear and vessels over 100 feet in overall length using pot gear, at 12:00 noon **Alaska time** on March 15;

...

(d) During a state-waters season,

...

(3) a vessel used to harvest Pacific cod when

...

(B) all waters all waters of the Aleutian Islands Subdistrict are open under (c)(2) of this section, with

...

(iii) nonpelagic trawl gear, may not be more than 60 feet in overall length prior to 12:00 noon **Alaska time** on March 15, and may not be more than 100 feet in overall length after 12:00 noon **Alaska time** on March 15;

(iv) pot gear, may not be more than 100 feet in overall length prior to 12:00 noon **Alaska time** on March 15 and may not be more than 125 feet in overall length prior to 12:00 noon **Alaska time** on March 15;

...

(6) a vessel may harvest up to 150,000 **round** pounds of Pacific cod per day and may not have more than 150,000 **round** pounds of unprocessed Pacific cod on board the vessel at any time; a vessel may not have on board the vessel more processed fish than the round weight

equivalent of the fish reported on ADF&G fish tickets; [A VALIDLY REGISTERED VESSEL MUST REPORT DAILY TO THE DEPARTMENT THE POUNDS OF PACIFIC COD TAKEN AND ON BOARD THE VESSEL;]

...

(8) once an offload begins, a vessel may not operate groundfish gear until all Pacific cod onboard the vessel has been delivered. Partial deliveries may occur as specified in 5 AAC 28.070; however, vessels may not operate groundfish gear in between partial deliveries including partial deliveries to shorebased processors, floating processors, tenders, transporters, or motherships;

(9) in the state-waters season, an owner or operator of a validly registered vessel must report, as specified by the department

(A) the amount of gear operated by the vessel during the designated period;

(B) the number of round pounds of Pacific cod retained during the designated period; and

(C) any other information that the commissioner determines is necessary for the management and conservation of the fishery.

(k) By the time of closure of the state-waters season, all fishing gear must be removed from the water, except that pot gear may be stored in the water with all bait and bait containers removed and doors secured fully open. Pot gear stored in the water after closure of the state-waters season may not be retrieved until all Pacific cod onboard the vessel has been delivered.

(l) For the purposes of this section,

(1) “day” means the 24-hour period of time between 12:00 midnight and 11:59 p.m. of the same calendar day;

(2) “harvest” means the total weight of fish or number of shellfish removed from the water by commercial fishing operations.