Division of Commercial Fisheries Sam Rabung, Director

Sitka Area Office 304 Lake St., Room 103 Sitka, AK 99835



Alaska Department of Fish and Game Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner

> PO Box 115526 Juneau, AK 99811-5526 www.adfg.alaska.gov

Advisory Announcement For Immediate Release: September 15, 2022 CONTACT: Rhea Ehresmann Groundfish Project Leader rhea.ehresmann@alaska.gov (907) 747-6688

REGULATORY UPDATES FOR THE SOUTHEAST ALASKA DIRECTED PACIFIC COD FISHERY

Regulations adopted at the 2022 Southeast Board of Fisheries meeting will become effective **September 25, 2022**, (<u>https://aws.state.ak.us/OnlinePublicNotices/Notices/View.aspx?id=207942</u>) and are summarized as follows for the Southeast Alaska directed Pacific cod fishery:

Registration

• **Fishermen are required to register their vessel with the department** prior to participating in the directed Pacific cod fishery [5 AAC 28.106(a)]. Registration forms are available at local ADF&G offices.

Bycatch Allowances

- Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) permit holders directed fishing for Pacific cod in state waters **must retain, weigh, and report all rockfish caught including thornyhead rockfish** [5 AAC 28.171(a)].
- The allowable bycatch percentage by species or species group is the percent of bycatch based on the round weight of Pacific cod on board the vessel [5 AAC 28.130(d)(3) and 5 AAC 28.171(a)]. See Table 1 on the following page.

The demersal shelf rockfish (DSR) assemblage includes yelloweye, quillback, canary, copper, tiger, China, and rosethorn rockfish [5 AAC 39.975(34)]. All rockfish exceeding allowable bycatch limits shall be reported as bycatch overage on an ADF&G fish ticket. Rockfish bycatch overage from state waters exceeding legal limits may be retained for personal use or sold. All proceeds from the sale of rockfish taken in excess of legal bycatch limits shall be forfeited to the State of Alaska. A permit holder may retain excess full retention rockfish bycatch for personal use; however, the pounds must be documented as overage on the fish ticket.

A CFEC permit holder operating a vessel fishing for groundfish shall retain the maximum retainable bycatch (20%) of pollock when the directed fishery for pollock is closed [5 AAC 28.070 (e)(2)]. There is not a directed pollock fishery in NSEI or SSEI therefore the directed pollock fishery is closed.

Table 1.–Allowable bycatch limits in the directed Pacific cod fishery. Bycatch allowances are the same for longline and jig gear types unless noted.

GEAR TYPE	BYCATCH SPECIES	INTERNAL WATERS (NSEI and SSEI)	STATE OUTSIDE WATERS (0-3 MILES)	
LONGLINE AND JIG	Rockfish	15% in aggregate, of which up to 10% may be DSR. Full retention is required for all rockfish, including thornyhead.	15% in aggregate, of which up to 10% may be DSR. Full retention is required for all rockfish, including thornyhead.	
		Longline fishery: 35%; bycatch permitted until GHL taken.	Longline fishery: 35%; bycatch permitted until GHL taken.	
	Lingcod*	Jig fishery: 20% SSEOC portion of internal waters; May 16–November 30, or until GHL taken. Mechanical jig and hand troll gear only. 0% in NSEI and SSEIW	Jig fishery: 20% in CSEO & SSEOC; May 16–November 30, or until GHL taken. Mechanical jig and hand troll gear only. 0% in IBS, EYKT, and NSEO.	
	Spiny Dogfish	Longline fishery: 35% Jig fishery: 20%	Longline fishery: 35% Jig fishery: 20%	
	Sablefish	0%, no retention	0%, no retention	
	Skates	Aggregated with "Other Groundfish"	5%	
	Other Groundfish	20% in aggregate	20% in aggregate	
POTS (may not be longlined)	Rockfish	15% in aggregate, of which up to 10% may be DSR.Full retention is required for all rockfish, including thornyhead.	15% in aggregate, of which up to 10% may be DSR.Full retention is required for all rockfish, including thornyhead.	
	Lingcod	0%, no retention	0%, no retention	
	Spiny Dogfish	20%	20%	
	Sablefish	0%, no retention	0%, no retention	
	Skates	Aggregated with "Other Groundfish"	5%	
	Other Groundfish	20% in aggregate	20% in aggregate	

*The minimum size limit for lingcod is 27" from tip of snout to tip of tail or 20.5" from front of the dorsal fin to tip of tail. Lingcod Management Areas include Northern Southeast Inside (NSEI) Subdistrict, Southern Southeast Internal Waters (SSEIW) and Southern Southeast Outer Coast (SSEOC) Sectors, Icy Bay Subdistrict (IBS), and the East Yakutat (EYKT), Northern Southeast Outside (NSEO) and Central Southeast Outside (CSEO) Sections (5 AAC 28.105).



Figure 1.–Northern Southeast Inside (NSEI) and Southern Southeast Inside (SSEI) Subdistricts including restricted waters of Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve and Annette Islands Reserve. For detailed descriptions of Management Area boundaries, refer to 5 AAC 28.105. This map is for general reference only.

Advisory Announcement web site: http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cf	fm?adfg=cfnews.main.
---	----------------------

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Yakutat
ADF&G	225-5195	772-3801		747-6688	465-4250	766-2830	784-3255
AWT	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	784-3220