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## **Advisory Announcement**

***For Immediate Release: March 22, 2023***

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### **Prince William Sound Area Pacific Cod State-Waters Season Closes to Longline Gear Emergency Order # 2-GF-E-07-23**

The Prince William Sound Area (PWS) Pacific cod state-waters season **will close to vessels using longline gear at 12:00 noon March 23.**

The PWS state-waters Pacific cod season opened to longline gear 12:00 noon March 10, concurrent with the individual fishing quota (IFQ) halibut season opening date, as provided in the Prince William Sound Pacific Cod Management Plan (5 AAC 28.267). The 2023 guideline harvest level (GHL) is 1,289,704 lb with 1,096,249 lb, or 85%, allocated to longline gear. Based on projected harvest levels, the longline allocation will be achieved. If there is GHL remaining after September 1, it may become available to all legal gear during a Pacific cod state-waters season.

Fishermen are reminded there is a 24-hour delivery time requirement following the closure of a groundfish fishery.

The PWS Pacific cod state-waters season for pot gear and the parallel season for jig gear remain open.

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