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Advisory Announcement For Immediate Release: September 6, 2023 CONTACT: Laura Coleman Region I Groundfish Project Biologist Laura.coleman@alaska.gov (907) 228-3036

SOUTHERN SOUTHEAST INTERNAL WATERS (SSEIW) SECTOR LINGCOD LONGLINE BYCATCH CLOSURE

The retention of lingcod bycatch in the commercial longline fisheries will close in the entire Southern Southeast Internal Waters (SSEIW) Sector at 11:59 p.m., Friday, September 8, 2023. The 2,080 lb lingcod guideline harvest level (GHL) for SSEIW longline fisheries is estimated to be taken at the time of closure.

The lingcod bycatch season remains open for longline fisheries (excluding sablefish) of the Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area in the East Yakutat (EYKT) Section, Central Southeast Outside (CSEO) Section, Southern Southeast Outer Coast (SSEOC) Sector, and the Northern Southeast Inside (NSEI) Subdistrict.

Updates of area closures for all bycatch lingcod fisheries are available on the Groundfish Hotline at 907-747-4882. Lingcod catches will be closely monitored, and fishermen should expect additional area closures on short notice. Closure notices will be announced by ADF&G advisory announcement, United States Coast Guard marine broadcast, and the National Weather Service marine broadcast.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1G1323.

Advisory Announcement website: <u>http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main</u>.

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Yakutat
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