Division of Commercial Fisheries Sam Rabung, Director

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

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Advisory Announcement For Immediate Release: May 17, 2024 CONTACT: Alex McCarrel Region I Groundfish Biologist alex.mccarrel@alaska.gov (907) 747-8322

EAST YAKUTAT SECTION DIRECTED LINGCOD FISHERY CLOSURE

The directed fishery for lingcod will close in the entire East Yakutat (EYKT) management area, including the Fairweather Grounds, at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, May 18, 2024. The 2024 directed lingcod fishery guideline harvest level (GHL) for the EYKT Section is 111,000 round pounds. Based on reports from the grounds and catch rates in recent years, the department anticipates that the 13 vessels participating in the fishery will have taken the GHL by the time of the closure.

The directed lingcod fishery remains open in the Icy Bay Subdistrict (IBS), Northern Southeast Outside (NSEO) Section, Central Southeast Outside (CSEO) Section, and Southern Southeast Outer Coast (SSEOC) Sector. 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.

Updates of area closures for all lingcod fisheries are available on the Groundfish Hotline at 907-747-4882. For additional information on the directed lingcod fishery, refer to the ADF&G advisory announcement issued on April 5, 2024.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1G0324.

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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