



Advisory Announcement
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2025 FALL DIRECTED DEMERSAL SHELF ROCKFISH FISHERY

The fall directed commercial fishery for demersal shelf rockfish (DSR) will open in portions of the Northern Southeast Inside (NSEI) and Southern Southeast Inside (SSEI) Subdistricts at 9:00 a.m., Monday, December 8, 2025. These areas will remain open until the fishery quotas are taken or until 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, December 31, 2025, whichever occurs first. The DSR assemblage includes yelloweye, quillback, canary, copper, China, tiger, and rosethorn rockfish.

Directed DSR Commercial Fishery Harvest Guidelines

Groundfish Management Area	Harvest Remaining (round lb)
Northern Southeast Inside (NSEI) Subdistrict	55,000
Southern Southeast Inside (SSEI) Subdistrict	45,779

The 2025 annual directed commercial DSR harvest limit for the NSEI and SSEI Subdistricts is 55,000 round lb in each management area [5 AAC 28.160 (c)(2)]. The directed DSR winter fishery harvest in each area is subtracted from the annual directed commercial DSR harvest limit for NSEI and SSEI, with the remainder of the harvest limit, shown in the table, being available for harvest in the fall portion of the fishery.

The directed DSR fishery catches will be closely monitored, and fishers are advised that area closures may occur on short notice. Closure notices will be announced by ADF&G advisory announcement, United States Coast Guard broadcast, National Weather Service broadcast, and the Groundfish Project's telephone hotline 907-747-4882.

DSR Trip Limits (5 AAC 28.171)

Directed DSR fishery trip limit regulations prohibit the take, possession, or delivery of DSR in excess of the trip limit amount. In the Southeast District east of 137° W long, a vessel or CFEC permit holder may not take or possess on board the vessel or deliver more than 6,000 lb of DSR (whole or bled weight) in any five-day period [5 AAC 28.171(d)]. When a vessel or CFEC permit holder delivers a 6,000 lb DSR trip limit, the fisher must wait five days from the day of their last possession of fish aboard the vessel, take of fish, or delivery, before taking any additional fish. All DSR taken in excess of 6,000 lb by a vessel or CFEC permit holder in any five-day period must be weighed and reported on an ADF&G fish ticket as a trip limit overage. All proceeds from the sale of DSR in excess of 6,000 lb shall be surrendered to the State of Alaska.

Permit and Registration (5 AAC 28.106)

A Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) "Y" interim use permit is required for the directed DSR fishery and is issued specific to a gear type. This card must be obtained before registering and fishing. Fishers are required to register their vessel with the department prior to participating in the directed DSR fishery [5 AAC 28.106 (d)].

Logbooks (5 AAC 28.175)

The operator of a vessel fishing in the directed DSR fishery is required to maintain an accurate logbook of all fishing operations (5 AAC 28.175). A copy of the logbook pages detailing a landing must be attached to the fish ticket documenting the landing. Logbooks for longline gear must include vessel and CFEC permit holder information, trip details (e.g., dates, port, crew size, bait, gear specs), and set data such as gear deployment and retrieval times, start and end coordinates (latitude and longitude in degrees and decimal minutes), gear amounts, and depth. They must also include the number or weight of

all retained and released target and bycatch species, as well as any tag numbers from tagged fish [5 AAC 28.175(b)(1)]. Logbooks for dinglebar troll gear, mechanical jigging machines, or hand troll gear must include the date, the specific location of harvest by latitude and longitude, in degrees and decimal minutes, and nearest headland, the number of lines and total number of hooks used, the average depth fished, the hours fished, and the number of bycatch fish taken, by species, for each unique geographic location fished. For the target species, the number retained, and the number discarded is required [5 AAC 28.175(b)(2)]. Logbooks are available at local ADF&G offices.

Legal Gear (5 AAC 28.130)

In the Southeast District, DSR may be taken in the directed fishery by longline, hand troll, dinglebar troll, and mechanical jigging machines [5 AAC 28.130 (d)(3)(B)]. Dinglebar troll gear consists of a train made from a single line to which one or more leaders, lures, or baited hooks are attached, that is fastened to a single troll wire, and that is deployed and retrieved with a single power troll gurdy or a single hand troll gurdy with a terminally attached weight pulled through the water while a vessel is making way; only one operational unit of dinglebar troll gear may be onboard a vessel or deployed from the vessel at or below the surface of the water at a time; weights, including dinglebars, cannon balls, and other fishing weights, must be disconnected from the troll wires of all other gurdies that are mounted on the vessel: additional trains may not be trailed behind the vessel [5 AAC 28.130(h)(1)]. No more than five mechanical jigging machines may be operated from a vessel and no more than 30 hooks per line may be operated from a jigging machine. A mechanical jigging machine may not be deployed while the vessel is making way under mechanized propulsion and may not be anchored to the seafloor or operated unattached from the vessel [5 AAC 28.130 (h)(2)].

Vessels fishing for or transporting groundfish taken with dinglebar troll gear must display the letter “D” and vessels fishing for or transporting groundfish taken with mechanical jigging machines must display the letter “M” (5 AAC 28.135). A person may not operate a vessel that is displaying more than one of these letters at any time. A vessel may not display either letter while the vessel is being used to fish for salmon.

Closed Waters (5 AAC 28.150)

Demersal shelf rockfish may not be taken in a directed fishery in the following waters (Figure 1):

- (1) In the Ketchikan vicinity: all waters of Behm Canal, Clarence Strait, Tongass Narrows, Nichols Passage, George Inlet, Carroll Inlet, Thorne Arm, Revillagigedo Channel, and all contiguous waters enclosed by the latitude of Bushy Point Light, a line from Point Alava to the southernmost tip of Ham Island, a line from Cedar Point to Dall Head, and a line from Dall Head to a point in midstream Clarence Strait at the latitude of Dall Head to Caamano Point.
- (2) In the vicinity of Craig and Klawock: all waters of Ulloa Channel north of the latitude of Waterfall Cannery, and all waters enclosed by a line from the southernmost tip of St. Philip Island to the northernmost tip of San Fernando Island, to Point Cangrejo.
- (3) In NSEI: the waters of Glacier Bay north of a line from Point Carolus at 58°22.694' N lat, 136°02.535' W long, to Point Gustavus at 58°22.748' N lat, 135°54.927' W long, and the waters of Dundas Bay north and west of a line running from 58°22.900' N lat, 136°25.300' W long, and 58°23.600' N lat, 136°24.600' W long.

Annette Islands Reserve

The Annette Islands Reserve is a federally recognized Indian reservation in Alaska. The waters within 3,000 feet of Annette Island, Ham Island, Hemlock Island, Spire Island, Walker Island, Lewis Island, and the adjacent rocks and islets are designated within the fishing reserve (Figure 1). Fisheries within the reserve are managed by the Metlakatla Indian Community for authorized fisheries participants.

Groundfish Bycatch Allowances

CFEC permit holders directed fishing for DSR must retain, weigh, and report all rockfish caught including thornyhead rockfish. All rockfish in excess of allowable bycatch limits shall be reported as bycatch overage on an ADF&G fish ticket. All proceeds from the sale of excess rockfish bycatch from state waters must be forfeited to the State of Alaska [5 AAC 28.171(a)].

Bycatch of species that do not fall under full retention requirements and are caught in excess of the allowable bycatch limit for a management area are required to be released at sea; bycatch retained in excess of the allowable bycatch limit must be forfeited to the State of Alaska and are subject to enforcement action. Additional information on bycatch harvest and calculating bycatch allowances can be found at:

<https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareasoutheast.groundfish#harvest>.

A permit holder who is directed fishing for DSR in state waters of the Southeast District may legally retain, possess, and sell the following bycatch percentages in the table below, based on the round weight of all DSR on board.

GEAR TYPE	BYCATCH SPECIES	INTERNAL WATERS (NSEI and SSEI)
LONGLINE AND JIG	Rockfish	15% in aggregate. Full retention is required for all rockfish, including thornyhead.
	Lingcod	<u>Longline fishery</u> : 35% in SSEOC*; 0% in NSEI and SSEIW <u>Jig fishery</u> : 0%
	Spiny Dogfish	<u>Longline fishery</u> : 35% <u>Jig fishery</u> : 20%
	Sablefish	0%, no retention
	Pacific cod	20%. Full retention required when directed Pacific cod fishery is open.
	Skates	Aggregated with “Other Groundfish”
	Other Groundfish	20% in aggregate

*During the 2025 fall directed DSR fishery, lingcod bycatch is only open for fishers using longline gear in the small portion of SSEI that overlaps with the Southern Southeast Outer Coast (SSEOC) Sector lingcod management area, shown in light gray in Figure 2. This specific portion of the SSEOC includes SSEI waters that are south of the latitude of 56°00.000' N lat, and west of Prince of Wales Island or south of 54°43.000' N lat, and west of 132°00.000' W long, encompassing groundfish statistical areas 345535, 335533, 335534, 335603, 325501, 325502, 325433, 325431, 325401, and portions of 335535 and 335506.

The waters of the NSEI Subdistrict and Southern Southeast Internal Waters (SSEIW) Sector are closed to lingcod bycatch for all gear types during the 2025 fall directed DSR fishery. The SSEIW area is defined as the waters of SSEI not included in SSEOC. 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.

The emergency order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1G1725.

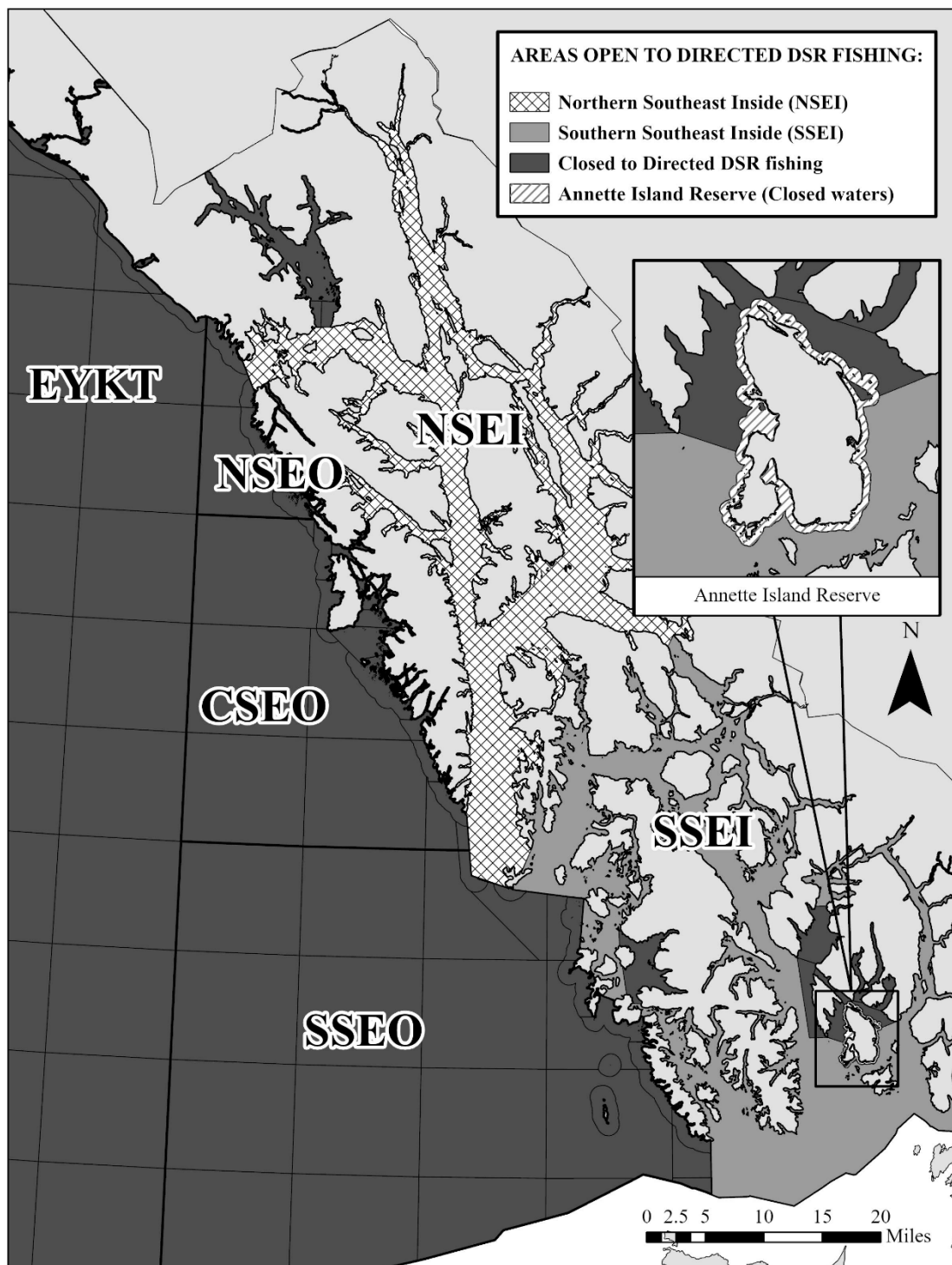


Figure 1.—Southeast Alaska groundfish management areas open and closed to the 2025 fall directed demersal shelf rockfish fishery. This map is for general reference only. For descriptions of management area boundaries, refer to 5 AAC 28.105.

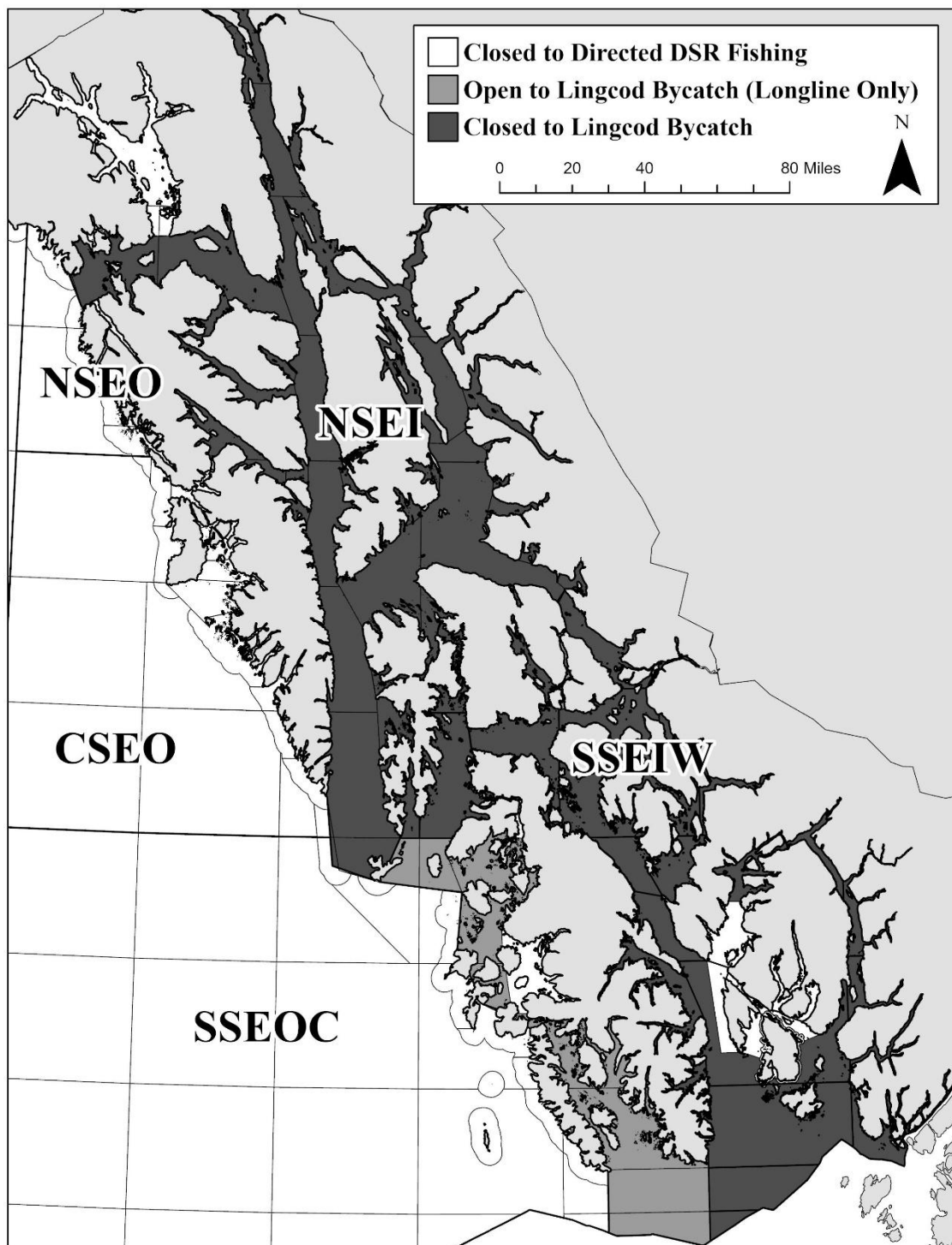


Figure 2.—Southeast Alaska groundfish management areas open and closed to lingcod bycatch retention in the 2025 fall directed demersal shelf rockfish fishery. This map is for general reference only.

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

<i>Office</i>	<i>Ketchikan</i>	<i>Petersburg</i>	<i>Wrangell</i>	<i>Sitka</i>	<i>Juneau</i>	<i>Haines</i>	<i>Yakutat</i>
<i>ADF&G</i>	225-5195	772-3801		747-6688	465-4250	766-2830	784-3255
<i>AWT</i>	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	784-3220
<i>Groundfish Hotline</i>				747-4882			