



Advisory Announcement
For Immediate Release: May 13, 2026

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**2026 SOUTHEAST ALASKA DIRECTED LINGCOD FISHERY SEASON OPENING
WEATHER DELAY**

The opening for the directed lingcod fishery will be delayed 48 hours and will now open at 12:01 a.m., May 18, 2026, for the East Yakutat (EYKT) Section, Northern Southeast Outside (NSEO) Section, Central Southeast Outside (CSEO) Section, and Southern Southeast Outer Coast (SSEOC) Sector because of weather delay regulations.

Regulations adopted at the 2025 Southeast Board of Fisheries meeting became effective June 27, 2025, and included a new weather delay provision for the directed lingcod fishery. The season opening for the directed lingcod fishery in the Eastern Gulf of Alaska, excluding the Icy Bay Subdistrict (IBS) superexclusive registration area, will be delayed in all management areas if the National Weather Service (NWS) marine forecast contains gale force winds of 35 knots or higher in the forecast for May 15, 16, or 17 [5 AAC 28.113(e)]. The opening will be delayed for:

- 24 hours if the forecast issued by 8:00 a.m., May 13 contains gale force winds of 35 knots or higher for May 15–16;
- 48 hours if the forecast issued by 8:00 a.m., May 13 contains gale force winds of 35 knots or higher for May 17.

The NWS marine forecast as of 8:00 a.m. on May 13 includes gale force winds of 35 knots or higher for May 17 in the following marine forecast areas: Dixon Entrance to Cape Decision, Cape Spencer to Cape Fairweather, and Cape Fairweather to Icy Cape, resulting in a 48-hour delay to the season opening.

If gale force winds of 35 knots or higher continue after the initial delay, the season opening will be delayed an additional 24 hours and may continue on a rolling 24-hour basis as necessary for up to five days after the scheduled opening date [5 AAC 28.113(f)].

The IBS superexclusive registration area is not affected by the delay and will open by regulation at 12:01 a.m., May 16, 2026. Fishers are reminded that a permit holder participating in the directed commercial taking of lingcod in IBS may not participate in the directed commercial taking of lingcod in any other registration area or portion of a registration area during that calendar year.

The department will continue to monitor weather forecasts in the event that further delays are required.

The emergency order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1G0626.

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

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