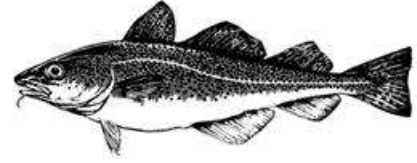


**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE**



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director*



Contact:
Trent Hartill
Groundfish Area Management Biologist
Phone: (907) 486-1840
Fax: (907) 486-1824

Kodiak Area Office
351 Research Court
Kodiak Alaska, 99615

Date Issued: 3/12/14

**Closure of the South Alaska Peninsula Area Parallel Pacific Cod Jig Gear Season
and Opening of the State-Waters Pacific Cod Jig Gear Season**

Emergency Order 4-GF-07-14

By regulation, if the Western Gulf of Alaska (WGOA) federal/parallel A-season for jig gear has not closed by March 15, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) may close the parallel (0 to 3 nautical miles) WGOA jig gear season in the South Alaska Peninsula Area and open the South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters jig gear season to facilitate harvest of the state-waters Pacific cod guideline harvest level (GHL). Through March 11, 2014 approximately 85 percent of the federal/parallel WGOA A-season jig gear allocation remains unharvested. Therefore, the South Alaska Peninsula Area parallel Pacific cod jig gear season will close and the South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters Pacific cod jig gear season will immediately reopen at NOON Saturday March 15, 2014.

Vessel operators currently participating in the parallel WGOA Pacific cod jig season must deliver all catch prior to targeting Pacific cod during the state-waters season. While the South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters (0 to 3 nmi) jig gear season and the federal (3 to 200 nmi) WGOA jig gear seasons are open concurrently:

- A vessel may not participate in the South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters Pacific cod jig season and any other Pacific cod season at the same time.
- Vessel operators must invalidate their state-waters vessel registration if switching from the South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters jig fishery to any other Pacific cod fishery.
- Vessel operators must deliver all catch prior to changing a state-waters Pacific cod vessel registration.
- A state-waters vessel registration may be validated or invalidated by contacting ADF&G in Kodiak during normal business hours (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday – Friday).

The 2014 South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters jig gear GHL allocation is 3.24 million pounds. Prior to participating in the state-waters jig fishery, vessel operators are required to obtain an exclusive state-waters Pacific cod vessel registration from ADF&G.

For additional information on federal Pacific cod jig gear seasons, contact the National Marine Fisheries Service in Dutch Harbor at (907) 581-2062, or in Juneau at (800) 304-4846 #3. For information on state-waters Pacific cod jig gear seasons, contact ADF&G in Kodiak at (907) 486-1840.

-end-