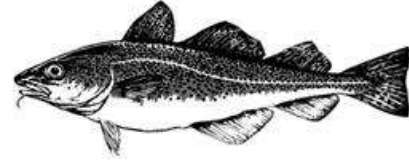


**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME  
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES  
NEWS RELEASE**



*Sam Cotten, Commissioner*

*Jeff Regnart, Director*



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Date Issued: 3/30/2015

**Dutch Harbor Subdistrict State-Waters Pacific Cod Season Closure  
and Opening of Parallel Pacific Cod Season  
Emergency Order 4-GF-02-15**

The Dutch Harbor Subdistrict state-waters Pacific cod season will close at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 31, 2015. Inseason catch reports and fish ticket data indicate the guideline harvest level (GHL) will be reached at the closure.

Pots must be unbaited with doors secured open at the time of the closure. Unbaited pots may be stored in state waters deeper than 25 fathoms for up to seven days following the closure; after seven days following the closure pots may be stored in waters not more than 25 fathoms deep.

State waters of the Dutch Harbor Subdistrict will immediately reopen to commercial fishing for Pacific cod by vessels 58 feet and under OAL using pot gear at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday March 31, 2015, under parallel Pacific cod rules. Fishermen participating in the parallel fishery must complete a parallel groundfish registration and have a functioning vessel monitoring system (VMS) onboard. Bycatch limits in the adjacent federal Pacific cod fishery will apply to the parallel Pacific cod fishery. Sector allocations in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) based on processing activity are not recognized in state waters; therefore, when the parallel season is open, both catcher vessels and catcher processors may participate in the sector opening. Current federal Steller sea lion protection measures will be in effect. Closures are listed in Tables 5 and 12 to 50 CFR part 679 posted on the National marine Fisheries Service web site at: <http://www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/regs/default.htm>.

For additional information, contact the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Dutch Harbor at (907) 581-1239.