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# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

## DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

### NEWS RELEASE



*Sam Cotten, Commissioner*  
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Time: 8:30 a.m.

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#### **SOUTHEAST ALASKA COMMERCIAL GROUND FISH REGULATORY ANNOUNCEMENT**

Sitka. . . . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) announced today that new regulations affecting the use of mechanical jigging machines in commercial groundfish fisheries in the Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area will become effective on May 9, 2015. These regulations were adopted by the Alaska Board of Fisheries on February 27, 2015 under 5 AAC 28.130.

A mechanical jigging machine is a device that deploys a single line with lures or baited hooks and retrieves that line with electrical, hydraulic, or mechanically powered assistance. New regulations will restrict vessels to the operation of no more than five mechanical jigging machines, with no more than 30 hooks per line. A mechanical jigging machine allows a line to be fished only in the water column, in a manner that the hooks connected to the line are fished above the seafloor; a mechanical jigging machine line may not be anchored to the seafloor or operated unattached from the vessel. In addition, a mechanical jigging machine line may not be deployed while the vessel is making way under mechanized propulsion.

For additional information on groundfish fisheries, visit the Southeast Regional Groundfish Fisheries web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareasoutheast.groundfish>.

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

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