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



Sam Cotten, Commissioner Jeff Regnart, Director



Contact: Mark Stichert Groundfish Management Biologist

Phone: (907) 486-1840 Fax: (907) 486-1824 Kodiak Regional Office 351 Research Court Kodiak, Alaska 99615

Date Issued: 08/07/15

Chignik Area State-Waters Pacific Cod Season Guideline Harvest Level Allocation Rollover E.O. # 4-GF-16-15

The Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod fishery management plan allows unharvested Pacific cod to be taken on or after August 15 by either pot or jig gear. The 2015 Chignik Area state-waters pot season closed March 23, 2015 when the guideline harvest level (GHL) for pot gear was achieved. Through August 6, 2015 minimal state-waters Pacific cod jig harvest has occurred. Approximately 1.58 million pounds of Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod GHL remains available for harvest.

Effective August 15, pot or jig gear may be used to harvest the remaining Chignik Area statewaters Pacific cod GHL. The state-waters season will remain open until the GHL is achieved or until the fishery closes on December 31, 2015. However, ADF&G may close the state-waters season on or after September 1, 2015 based on inseason assessment of effort, harvest rate, or remaining GHL to allow the Chignik Area parallel Pacific cod season to open concurrent with the Central and Western Gulf of Alaska Pacific cod B seasons for pot gear.

Fishermen are reminded the Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod fishery is a superexclusive registration area fishery. Vessel size is restricted to a maximum of 58 feet in overall length and gear is limited to no more than 60 pots or five jig machines.

For more information, contact the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Kodiak at 486-1840.