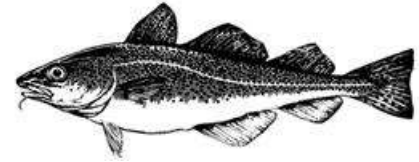


ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES NEWS RELEASE



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Kodiak, Chignik and South Alaska Peninsula State-Waters Pacific Cod Guideline Harvest Levels and Season Dates

The Kodiak, Chignik and South Alaska Peninsula 2016 state-waters Pacific cod guideline harvest levels (GHL) are as follows:

Management Area	Gear Type	Guideline Harvest Level (Pounds)
<i>Kodiak</i>	Pot	6,794,647
	Jig	6,794,647
	Total	13,589,294
<i>Chignik</i>	Pot	8,561,255
	Jig	951,251
	Total	9,512,506
<i>South Alaska Peninsula</i>	Pot	22,769,927
	Jig	4,018,222
	Total	26,788,149

Kodiak Area: The Kodiak Area state-waters Pacific cod pot gear season will open seven days after closure of the Central Gulf of Alaska (CGOA) federal/parallel Pacific cod pot gear sector A-season. The Kodiak Area state-waters Pacific cod jig gear season will open 48-hours after closure of the CGOA federal/parallel Pacific cod jig gear sector A-season. However, if the federal/parallel jig gear sector has not closed by March 15, 2016 the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) may close the parallel (0–3 nmi) jig gear sector A-season and open the Kodiak Area state-waters Pacific cod jig gear season based on assessment of federal jig effort and harvest rate, or remaining federal jig quota.

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Vessels of any size may participate in the Kodiak Area state-waters Pacific cod season. Pot gear vessels greater than 58 feet in overall length are limited to harvesting no more than 25% of the total guideline harvest level or 3.4 million pounds of Pacific cod.

Chignik Area: The Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod pot gear season will open at 12:01 a.m. March 1, 2016 or seven days after closure of the CGOA federal/parallel Pacific cod pot gear sector A-season, whichever is later. The Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod jig gear season will open by regulation on March 15, 2016. Vessels participating in the Chignik state-waters Pacific cod season may not exceed 58 feet in overall length.

South Alaska Peninsula Area: The South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters Pacific cod pot gear season will open at noon March 7, 2016 or seven days after closure of the Western Gulf of Alaska (WGOA) federal/parallel Pacific cod pot gear sector A-season, whichever is later. The South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters jig gear season will open 48 hours after the WGOA federal/parallel jig gear sector A-season closes. However, if the federal/parallel jig sector has not closed by March 15, 2016 ADF&G may close the parallel (0–3 nmi) jig gear sector A-season and open the South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters Pacific cod jig gear season based on assessment of federal jig effort and harvest rate, or remaining federal jig quota. The season opening date for both gear types may be delayed due to weather based on criteria found in (5 AAC 28.577(l)). Vessels participating in the South Alaska Peninsula state-waters Pacific cod season may not exceed 58 feet in overall length.

For additional information, contact ADF&G in Kodiak at 486-1840.

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