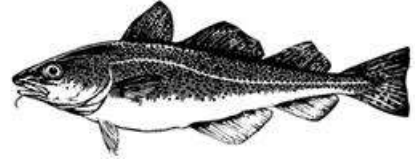


**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE**



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Date Issued: March 8, 2016

**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-06-16

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 8, 2016, approximately 96 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 open at noon March 15, 2016, unless delayed by weather as specified in 5 AAC 28.577(l). The 2016 South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters jig gear GHL allocation is 4,018,222 pounds.

A vessel may not participate in the South Alaska Peninsula state-waters jig gear season and the WGOA federal jig gear season at the same time. 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's registration for the South Alaska Peninsula state-waters season must be invalidated before that vessel may participate in any other Pacific cod season.
- All Pacific cod must be delivered before a vessel may validate or invalidate a state-waters vessel registration.

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- 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).

Vessels participating in the South Alaska Peninsula state-waters Pacific cod season may not exceed 58 feet in overall length. Vessel operators must obtain a miscellaneous finfish interim-use permit card for jig gear from the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission and an exclusive area vessel registration from ADF&G prior to participating in the state-waters season.

For additional information on federal Pacific cod jig gear fisheries, contact the National Marine Fisheries Service in Juneau at (907) 586-7202. For additional information on state-waters Pacific cod jig gear fisheries, contact ADF&G in Kodiak at (907) 486-1840.

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