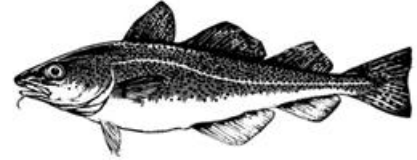


**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE**



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director*



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**2012 SOUTH ALASKA PENINSULA AREA
STATE-WATERS PACIFIC COD POT GEAR SEASON OPENING**

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) previously announced the South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters Pacific cod pot gear season opening at 12:01 a.m. (midnight) March 7, 2012. ADF&G has determined the previously announced opening time of 12:01 a.m. on March 7 conflicts with the regulation that delays the start of the season based on marine weather. Therefore, the South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters Pacific cod season for pot gear will open 12 hours later than previously announced at **12:00 NOON on Wednesday, March 7, 2012** unless delayed by weather.

WEATHER DELAY

The state-waters season opening for pot vessels will be delayed for 24-hours if the National Weather Service (NWS) 48-hour marine weather forecast for Area 155 issued at 4 a.m. on the scheduled opening day contains gale force wind warnings (35 knots or higher). If the pot gear season opening is delayed and the following day's 4 a.m. 48-hour forecast again contains gale warnings, the season opening will be delayed an additional 24-hours. Season opening delays may continue on a rolling 24-hour basis for up to seven days beyond the initial opening date. After seven days, the pot season will open regardless of the NWS marine weather forecast for Area 155.

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