

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



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**CHIGNIK MANAGEMENT AREA
2012 STATE-WATERS PACIFIC COD GUIDELINE HARVEST LEVEL**

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) has established the guideline harvest level (GHL) for the 2012 Chignik Management Area state-waters Pacific cod season at 10.98 million pounds. By regulation, 90 percent or 9.88 million pounds of the total GHL is allocated to vessels using pot gear. Vessels using mechanical jigging and hand troll gear are allocated 10 percent or 1.10 million pounds of the total GHL.

The 2012 Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod season for pot vessels will open seven days after closure of the federal Central Gulf of Alaska Pacific cod pot gear sector A-season or on March 7 whichever is later. The 2012 Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod season for jig vessels will open at 12:01 a.m. on March 15.

Vessels participating in the Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod fishery may not exceed 58 feet in overall length. Legal gear is limited to pot, mechanical jigging, and hand troll gear. Vessels may not operate more than 60 pots or 5 mechanical jigging machines. Buoy identification tags are required for all pot gear when pot limits are in effect. Vessel operators must obtain a state-waters Pacific cod vessel registration prior to participating in the state-waters fishery. Vessel registration and buoy tags can be obtained at ADF&G offices in Kodiak and Dutch Harbor and from local processors in Sand Point.

The Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod fishery is a superexclusive registration area fishery. Once a vessel is registered for the Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod fishery that vessel may not register for any other state-waters Pacific cod fishery during 2012. Alternatively, if a vessel has registered for a state-waters Pacific cod fishery outside of the Chignik Area during 2012, that vessel may not register for the Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod fishery during 2012.

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