

Abraham Sullivan
17710 Teklanika Dr
Eagle River, AK 99577

January 12, 2024

Board of Fisheries

I am a participant in the Area O/Dutch Harbor Subdistrict cod fishery and I am submitting this record copy to express support for the petition that has previously been submitted as follows:

1. Open the Dutch Harbor Subdistrict state waters Pacific cod season for pot gear vessels less than 60 feet 72 hours after the Federal BSAI closure for the sector. This is a change from the 7 days currently in regulation.
2. Increase the pot limit from 60 pots to 90 pots for the Dutch Harbor Subdistrict state waters Pacific cod season for vessels less than 60 feet.

I support these two changes due to unprecedented market conditions which are threatening the welfare of the cod fleet. Ex-vessel prices for Pacific cod are half of what they were a year ago and a major processing plant in King cove has announced it will not be buying cod this winter. This combination of low ex-vessel price and the closure of a major market for fishermen has reduced the number of vessels participating in the cod fishery, which will likely prevent the 2024 cod GHL from being met. This situation may negatively impact the general welfare of the cod fleet for the next several years.

These changes would go a long way to helping the fleet meet the GHL.

Sincerely,

Abraham Sullivan