Fishery Management Plan for the Chignik Area State-Waters Pacific Cod Season, 2024

by

Cassandra Whiteside

December 2023

Alaska Department of Fish and Game



Division of Commercial Fisheries

Symbols and Abbreviations

The following symbols and abbreviations, and others approved for the Système International d'Unités (SI), are used without definition in the following reports by the Divisions of Sport Fish and of Commercial Fisheries: Fishery Manuscripts, Fishery Data Series Reports, Fishery Management Reports, and Special Publications. All others, including deviations from definitions listed below, are noted in the text at first mention, as well as in the titles or footnotes of tables, and in figure or figure captions.

Weights and measures (metric)		General		Mathematics, statistics	
centimeter	cm	Alaska Administrative		all standard mathematical	
deciliter	dL	Code	AAC	signs, symbols and	
gram	g	all commonly accepted		abbreviations	
hectare	ha	abbreviations	e.g., Mr., Mrs.,	alternate hypothesis	H_A
kilogram	kg		AM, PM, etc.	base of natural logarithm	е
kilometer	km	all commonly accepted		catch per unit effort	CPUE
liter	L	professional titles	e.g., Dr., Ph.D.,	coefficient of variation	CV
meter	m		R.N., etc.	common test statistics	(F, t, χ^2 , etc.)
milliliter	mL	at	a	confidence interval	CI
millimeter	mm	compass directions:		correlation coefficient	
		east	E	(multiple)	R
Weights and measures (English)		north	Ν	correlation coefficient	
cubic feet per second	ft ³ /s	south	S	(simple)	r
foot	ft	west	W	covariance	cov
gallon	gal	copyright	©	degree (angular)	0
inch	in	corporate suffixes:		degrees of freedom	df
mile	mi	Company	Co.	expected value	Ε
nautical mile	nmi	Corporation	Corp.	greater than	>
ounce	oz	Incorporated	Inc.	greater than or equal to	≥
pound	lb	Limited	Ltd.	harvest per unit effort	HPUE
quart	qt	District of Columbia	D.C.	less than	<
yard	yd	et alii (and others)	et al.	less than or equal to	\leq
		et cetera (and so forth)	etc.	logarithm (natural)	ln
Time and temperature		exempli gratia		logarithm (base 10)	log
day	d	(for example)	e.g.	logarithm (specify base)	log2, etc.
degrees Celsius	°C	Federal Information		minute (angular)	'
degrees Fahrenheit	°F	Code	FIC	not significant	NS
degrees kelvin	K	id est (that is)	i.e.	null hypothesis	Ho
hour	h	latitude or longitude	lat or long	percent	%
minute	min	monetary symbols		probability	Р
second	s	(U.S.)	\$, ¢	probability of a type I error	
		months (tables and		(rejection of the null	
Physics and chemistry		figures): first three		hypothesis when true)	α
all atomic symbols		letters	Jan,,Dec	probability of a type II error	
alternating current	AC	registered trademark	®	(acceptance of the null	
ampere	Α	trademark	тм	hypothesis when false)	β
calorie	cal	United States		second (angular)	"
direct current	DC	(adjective)	U.S.	standard deviation	SD
hertz	Hz	United States of		standard error	SE
horsepower	hp	America (noun)	USA	variance	
hydrogen ion activity (negative log of)	pН	U.S.C.	United States Code	population sample	Var var
parts per million	ppm	U.S. state	use two-letter		
parts per thousand	ppt,		abbreviations		
	‰		(e.g., AK, WA)		
volts	V				
watts	W				

REGIONAL INFORMATION REPORT NO. 4K23-16

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE CHIGNIK AREA STATE-WATERS PACFIC COD SEASON, 2024

by

Cassandra Whiteside Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial Fisheries, Kodiak

> Alaska Department of Fish and Game Division of Commercial Fisheries 351 Research Court Kodiak, AK 99615

> > December 2023

The Regional Information Report Series was established in 1987 and was redefined in 2007 to meet the Division of Commercial Fisheries regional need for publishing and archiving information such as area management plans, budgetary information, staff comments and opinions to Alaska Board of Fisheries proposals, interim or preliminary data and grant agency reports, special meeting or minor workshop results and other regional information not generally reported elsewhere. Reports in this series may contain raw data and preliminary results. Reports in this series receive varying degrees of regional, biometric and editorial review; information in this series may be subsequently finalized and published in a different department reporting series or in the formal literature. Please contact the author or the Division of Commercial Fisheries if in doubt of the level of review or preliminary nature of the data reported. Regional Information Reports are available through the Alaska State Library and on the Internet at: http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/publications/.

Product names used in this publication are included for completeness and do not constitute product endorsement. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game does not endorse or recommend any specific company or their products.

Cassandra Whiteside Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial Fisheries, 351 Research Court, Kodiak, AK 99615, USA

This document should be cited as follows:

Whiteside, C. 2023. Fishery management plan for the Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod season, 2024. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial Fisheries, Regional Information Report No. 4K23-16, Kodiak.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) administers all programs and activities free from discrimination based on race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, marital status, pregnancy, parenthood, or disability. The department administers all programs and activities in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.

If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility please write: ADF&G ADA Coordinator, P.O. Box 115526, Juneau, AK 99811-5526

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, MS 2042, Arlington, VA 22203

Office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street NW MS 5230, Washington DC 20240

The department's ADA Coordinator can be reached via phone at the following numbers:

(VOICE) 907-465-6077, (Statewide Telecommunication Device for the Deaf) 1-800-478-3648, (Juneau TDD) 907-465-3646, or (FAX) 907-465-6078

For information on alternative formats and questions on this publication, please contact: ADF&G, Division of Sport Fish, Research and Technical Services, 333 Raspberry Rd, Anchorage AK 99518 (907) 267-2375

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page

LIST OF FIGURESii
LIST OF APPENDICESii
ABSTRACT1
INTRODUCTION
Area Description1
Overview
PARALLEL PACIFIC COD FISHERY1
STATE-WATERS PACIFIC COD FISHERY2
Overview
2024 Guideline Harvest Level
Season Dates and Guideline Harvest Level Rollover Provisions
Pot Gear
Jig Gear
Vessel Registration Requirements and Size Restrictions
Legal Gear, Gear Limits, and Pot Buoy Tags4
Pot Buoy Marking Requirements4
Pot Storage and Gear Configuration
Landing Requirements
Bycatch
Catch Reporting
Concurrent Fisheries
Inseason Announcements
FIGURES7
APPENDIX A. SUMMARY OF DATES AND STATE-WATERS GUIDELINE HARVEST LEVELS11
APPENDIX B. LIST OF FISHERY CONTACTS BY AGENCY AND LOCATION

LIST OF FIGURES

Figur	e	Page
1.	Chignik Area for state-waters Pacific cod.	8
2.	Steller sea lion restrictions for pot and longline gear during the parallel Pacific cod season in the	
	Chignik Area.	9

LIST OF APPENDICES

A	ppen	ndix	Page
	A1.	Summary of Westward Region parallel and state-waters Pacific cod season dates and state-waters	
		guideline harvest levels for pot gear, 2024	12
	A2.	Summary of Westward Region parallel and state-waters Pacific cod season dates and state-waters	
		guideline harvest levels for jig gear, 2024	13
	B1.	List of fishery contacts, by agency and location	

ABSTRACT

This document provides an overview of regulations effective for the 2024 Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod *Gadus macrocephalus* season. The 2024 Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod season for pot gear is scheduled to open 7 days after closure of the Central Gulf of Alaska federal/parallel Pacific cod pot sector A season or March 1, whichever is later. The 2024 Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod season for jig gear is scheduled to open by regulation on March 15. Vessels participating in the state-waters Pacific cod seasons may not exceed 58 feet in length, and legal gear is limited to pot, mechanical jigging machine, and hand troll. No more than 60 groundfish pots or 5 mechanical jigging machines may be operated from a vessel. The 2024 Chignik Area state-waters season Pacific cod guideline harvest level (GHL) is 3,971,862 pounds. Pot gear vessels are allocated 90% of the total GHL (3,574,676 pounds); jig gear vessels are allocated 10% of the total GHL (397,186 pounds).

Keywords: Pacific cod, *Gadus macrocephalus*, Chignik Area, management plan, regulations, jigging machine, pot, guideline harvest level, parallel season, state-waters season

INTRODUCTION

AREA DESCRIPTION

The Chignik groundfish registration area consists of all waters on the south side of the Alaska Peninsula enclosed by a line extending south from the Alaska Peninsula near Kilokak Rocks at long 156°20.22′W and a line extending 135° southeast from Kupreanof Point (lat 55°33.98′N, long 159°35.88′W; Figure 1).

OVERVIEW

Two distinct Pacific cod *Gadus macrocephalus* fisheries occur within state waters (0–3 nmi) of the Chignik Area. The parallel fishery is prosecuted concurrent to the federal Central Gulf of Alaska (CGOA) Pacific cod fishery and is managed by adopting most National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) regulations and management actions. The Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod fishery is prosecuted independent of the federal/parallel fishery and is managed exclusively by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) under guidelines developed by the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

PARALLEL PACIFIC COD FISHERY

When the federal (3–200 nmi) CGOA area is open to directed Pacific cod fishing, ADF&G opens a concurrent parallel fishery inside state waters (0–3 nmi). Unless specifically prohibited, the same gear types in the federal Pacific cod fishery are allowed in the parallel fishery, although nonpelagic trawl vessels are prohibited from fishing inside most state waters in the Chignik Area (5 AAC 39.164(b)(3)). Vessels targeting Pacific cod during the Chignik Area parallel fishery may not exceed 58 feet in overall length (5 AAC 28.537(b)).

Except for vessels using jig gear, all vessels that participate in the parallel Pacific cod fishery must have an activated vessel monitoring system (VMS; 5 AAC 28.087(c)). Vessels that fish exclusively in the Chignik Area parallel Pacific cod fishery are not required to possess a federal fishing permit (FFP) or a Pacific cod gear endorsement administered through the federal License Limitation Program (LLP). Vessels with an FFP should be aware of federal regulations regarding observer coverage, catch reporting, Steller sea lion *Eumetopias jubatus* closures, and LLP requirements prior to participating in the Chignik Area parallel Pacific cod fishery.

In 2017, the Alaska Board of Fisheries adopted a regulation that reduced the waters closed for the protection of Steller sea lions during the Chignik Area Pacific cod parallel fishery. Closed waters

for pot gear vessels participating in the Chignik Area parallel Pacific cod fishery were reduced from 20 nmi to 3 nmi in state waters around the Sutwik Island haul out (5 AAC 28.087(b)(4); Figure 2). Only pot gear vessels that *do not* possess an FFP are permitted to fish within this area; pot gear vessels that *do* possess an FFP are still required to observe the federal 20 nmi closure in state waters. All other Steller sea lion restrictions during the Chignik Area parallel fishery match federal management measures.

The parallel Pacific cod fishery is divided into 2 seasons: the A season and B season. The parallel Pacific cod A season opens January 1 for pot, longline, and jig gear sectors. Parallel Pacific cod seasons for pot and longline sectors close when their respective sector harvest allocations are achieved. The parallel Pacific cod A season for the jig gear sector closes when the jig gear sector harvest allocation is achieved, or March 15, whichever is earlier. The parallel Pacific cod jig gear sector B season opens June 10. The parallel Pacific cod pot gear sector B season opens September 1 if the state-waters GHL has been caught. If the state-waters GHL has not been caught, the parallel Pacific cod pot gear sector B season will open 48 hours after the state-waters GHL is caught or on October 30, whichever occurs first. The B season for longline gear opens September 1. Pacific cod harvested during the parallel fishery is deducted from the federal gear-specific sector harvest allocation. Summaries of federal/parallel season dates by gear type are located in Appendices A1 and A2.

For additional information regarding federal Pacific cod regulations and harvest updates, contact NMFS Sustainable Fisheries Division (907-586-7228), NMFS Office of Law Enforcement (907-486-3298), or the NMFS Observer Program (206-526-4195). For other information regarding the parallel fishery, contact ADF&G in Kodiak (907-486-1840; Appendix B1).

STATE-WATERS PACIFIC COD FISHERY

OVERVIEW

State-waters (0–3 nmi) Pacific cod fisheries are open access fisheries and are prosecuted independent of federal/parallel fisheries. Regulations pertaining to the Chignik Area Pacific cod fisheries begin on page 64 in the 2023–2024 Statewide Commercial Groundfish Fishing Regulations booklet.¹ ADF&G manages the Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod season in accordance with the Chignik Area Pacific Cod Management Plan (5 AAC 28.537). The following is a summary of important regulations that will govern the 2024 season.

2024 Guideline Harvest Level

The guideline harvest level (GHL) for the Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod season is based on 8.75% of the CGOA Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) for Pacific cod. The 2024 GHL for the Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod fishery is 3,971,862 pounds. By regulation, 90% of the total GHL (3,574,676 pounds) is allocated to pot gear vessels and 10% of the total GHL (397,186 pounds) is allocated to jig gear vessels.

¹ <u>https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/regulations/fishregulations/pdfs/commercial/cf_groundfish_regs_2023_2024.pdf</u> (accessed 8/11/2023)

SEASON DATES AND GUIDELINE HARVEST LEVEL ROLLOVER PROVISIONS

Pot Gear

The 2024 Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod season for pot gear will open at 12:01 AM March 1, or 7 days after closure of the CGOA federal/parallel Pacific cod pot gear sector A season, whichever is later. The state-waters season for pot gear will close when the Chignik Area Pacific cod pot gear GHL allocation has been harvested.

If a rollover season opens on August 15 (see Guideline Harvest Level Rollover Provisions section below), the state-waters season will remain open until the GHL is achieved or October 30, whichever occurs first. Under this scenario, the CGOA parallel Pacific cod pot gear B season will not open concurrent to the federal pot gear B season on September 1. A summary of state-waters and parallel pot gear season dates is located in Appendix A1. Fishery openings and closures may occur at times other than those specified to provide for orderly fisheries.

Jig Gear

The Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod season for jig gear will open on March 15 and will close when the mechanical jigging machine and hand troll gear allocation has been harvested. If the CGOA federal/parallel jig gear sector A season has not closed by March 15, ADF&G will close the parallel (0–3 nmi) jig gear season and open the Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod season for jig gear. A summary of state-waters and parallel jig gear season dates is located in Appendix A2.

If the state-waters jig gear season opens prior to closure of the federal jig gear sector season, the Chignik Area state-waters jig gear season (0-3 nmi) will be prosecuted concurrent to the federal (3-200 nmi) CGOA jig gear sector Pacific cod season. Vessels that participate in the Chignik Area state-waters season will be subject to state fisheries regulations, and all Pacific cod harvested will be deducted from the Chignik Area state-waters jig gear sector season will be subject to federal fisheries regulations, and all Pacific cod harvested will be deducted from the federal CGOA jig gear sector season will be subject to federal fisheries regulations, and all Pacific cod harvested will be deducted from the federal CGOA jig gear sector harvest allocation.

Guideline Harvest Level Rollover Provisions

If a substantial portion of the total state-waters GHL remains unharvested after August 14, the state-waters Pacific cod season may reopen to both pot and jig gear, and gear limit restrictions may be removed. If a substantial portion of the state-waters season GHL remains unharvested after October 30, vessel size restrictions may be removed to facilitate full harvest of the GHL. All actions regarding GHL rollover provisions will be announced by ADF&G advisory announcement. A summary of rollover provisions is located in Appendices A1 and A2.

VESSEL REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS AND SIZE RESTRICTIONS

The Chignik Area is a superexclusive registration area for Pacific cod. Once a vessel is validly registered for the 2024 Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod season, that vessel may not be used to take Pacific cod in any other state-waters Pacific cod management area during 2024. Conversely, a vessel validly registered for any state-waters Pacific cod season outside of the Chignik Area may not participate in the 2024 Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod season. The Chignik Area superexclusive registration requirements do not apply to any parallel Pacific cod fishery. A 2024 Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) interim-use miscellaneous finfish permit card

for the appropriate gear type must be obtained prior to registration. Contact information is provided in Appendix B1.

Tender vessel operators must obtain a tender vessel registration for the state-waters Pacific cod fishery. Tender operators may target Pacific cod with either pot or jig gear while operating as a tender vessel. Separate fish tickets must be completed for fish landed by the tender vessel and for fish taken from other fishing vessels. Tender vessels must use the tLandings application for all groundfish delivered to that tender (5 AAC 39.130(b)).

Pacific cod may not be taken by vessels greater than 58 feet in overall length during the Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod fishery unless the vessel size restriction is removed by ADF&G after October 30.

LEGAL GEAR, GEAR LIMITS, AND POT BUOY TAGS

Pot, mechanical jigging machine, and hand troll gear are the only legal gear types during the statewaters Pacific cod fishery. Vessels may not use pot and jig gear at the same time; however, vessel operators may change gear registration by contacting the Kodiak ADF&G office (Appendix B1).

During the state-waters season, groundfish pots of any size may be used to take Pacific cod, although individual tunnel eye openings on pot gear must be 36 inches in perimeter or less. All pots must be equipped with a biodegradable escape mechanism (5 AAC 39.145). The biodegradable escape mechanism is an opening 18 inches or greater in length placed within 6 inches of the bottom of the pot and secured closed by a single length of untreated, 100% cotton twine no larger than 30 thread count. No more than 60 groundfish pots may be operated from a vessel unless the pot limit has been rescinded by ADF&G emergency order after August 14.

Buoy tags are required for pot gear when the 60-pot limit is in effect (5 AAC 28.050(f)). Tags must be placed on the main or trailer buoy, and buoy tags can be purchased at a cost of \$1.50 per tag at the ADF&G office in Kodiak or via phone or fax (Appendix B1). After purchase, buoy tags may be mailed through the U.S. Postal Service. A valid 2024 CFEC interim-use miscellaneous finfish permit card for pot gear is required to receive tags. If buoy tags are lost during the season, replacement tags may be obtained by contacting ADF&G in Kodiak. The vessel owner, operator, or agent must complete and submit an affidavit form to ADF&G detailing the unique number of each lost tag. Pots with lost tags may remain in the water, but those pots must be secured open with bait and bait containers removed until replacement tags are attached.

Vessels using mechanical jigging machines are restricted to using no more than 5 machines unless the gear limits have been rescinded by ADF&G after August 14. Each of the 5 permissible lines may have no more than 30 hooks. There are no limits on the amount of hand troll gear that may be operated from a vessel. Jig gear vessel operators may use both hand troll and mechanical jigging gear at the same time; however, separate CFEC permit cards and fish tickets are required for each gear type at the time of landing.

POT BUOY MARKING REQUIREMENTS

Buoys attached to groundfish pots must be marked with the permanent ADF&G vessel number of the vessel operating that gear (5 AAC 28.050). The buoy containing the permanent ADF&G number may not be marked with any additional numbers; however, symbols and letters are acceptable. Trailer buoys used to mark ownership or string sequence may be marked with any desired numbers, symbols, or letters.

POT STORAGE AND GEAR CONFIGURATION

All pot gear must be open and unbaited at the time of a parallel or state-waters pot gear season closure. Open and unbaited pots may be stored at any depth for a maximum of 7 days following the closure date. After 7 days, pots must be removed from the water or stored opened and unbaited in waters 25 fathoms or less. During the 7 days immediately prior to the Chignik Area state-waters season opening, open and unbaited pot gear may be stored at any depth.

When the state-waters season opens, the 60-pot limit is in effect. During the 7 days after the statewaters season opening, a vessel may store or transport pots in excess of the 60-pot limit only if those pots are stored open and unbaited in waters 25 fathoms or less or being transported onboard a vessel. After the 7-day period, registered vessels may not operate more than the maximum allowable 60 pots for the remainder of the state-waters season. Following closure of the statewaters season, vessel operators may not stack out or move gear into storage while Pacific cod is on board the vessel (5 AAC 28.070(c)(1)).

Contact NMFS Enforcement regarding gear storage in federal waters (Appendix B1).

LANDING REQUIREMENTS

Vessels participating in the state-waters Pacific cod season are required to deliver their catch within 48 hours after a closure unless 1) cod were harvested as allowable bycatch in another directed fishery, or 2) the vessel is delayed due to extraordinary circumstances and the vessel operator has contacted an ADF&G representative within 48 hours following the closure and has been granted additional time to reach the port of landing (5 AAC 28.541).

Вусатсн

In state waters (0–3 nmi), ADF&G adopts the NMFS maximum retainable bycatch percentages applicable in federal waters (3–200 nmi) for groundfish species that are not actively managed by the State of Alaska. Federal retainable bycatch status is subject to change and may differ between species. Contact NMFS Enforcement in Kodiak for current bycatch percentages and status (Appendix B1).

While targeting Pacific cod, vessels may retain lingcod *Ophiodon elongatus* and dark rockfish *Sebastes ciliatus* up to 20% by weight of Pacific cod on board the vessel, and black rockfish *S. melanops* up to 5% by weight of Pacific cod on board the vessel, unless modified by emergency order. Lingcod *Ophiodon elongatus* may only be retained from July 1 to December 31 and must be 35 inches or greater in length from tip of the snout to the tip of the tail. Octopus may be retained as bycatch up to 20% by weight of Pacific cod on board the vessel and must be landed on the same miscellaneous finfish card used to deliver Pacific cod (5 AAC 38.417). Jig gear vessels concurrently registered for a Chignik Area Pacific cod season and the Chignik Area directed black rockfish season is open to commercial fishing. Contact the ADF&G office in Kodiak (907-486-1840) regarding retainable bycatch percentages for state managed species.

CATCH REPORTING

ADF&G will manage the Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod season using inseason catch reports provided by vessel operators. Vessel operators using pot gear are encouraged to report daily the harvest location, number of pot lifts, and pounds of Pacific cod retained in the previous

24-hour period (midnight to midnight). Inseason catch reports allow ADF&G to consider how changes in effort, fleet behavior, tides, and weather influence harvest rates. Catch reports will be taken by phone (907-486-1840), text/inReach/WhatsApp (907-512-5423), satellite dispatch (7894), or email (<u>cassandra.whiteside@alaska.gov</u>). Reporting worksheets will be issued to vessel operators during registration.

Reports will be taken between 10:00 AM and 11:00 AM daily.

CONCURRENT FISHERIES

When the Chignik Area state-waters and federal Pacific cod seasons are open concurrently for the same gear type:

- vessels may not simultaneously participate in the Chignik Area state-waters season and any other Pacific cod season;
- vessel operators registered for the state-waters season must invalidate their ADF&G Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod registration prior to participating in a federal Pacific cod season;
- vessel operators participating in a federal Pacific cod season must register with ADF&G prior to participating in the Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod season;
- all Pacific cod must be delivered prior to validating or invalidating a Chignik Area statewaters Pacific cod registration; and
- vessel operators may validate or invalidate vessel registrations by contacting an ADF&G representative in Kodiak (907-486-1840) during normal state business hours (Monday–Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM).

INSEASON ANNOUNCEMENTS

All actions pertaining to regulatory changes in the state-waters season will be communicated to the fleet by satellite dispatch, distributed via the ADF&G advisory announcement email subscription service (<u>http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main</u>), and relayed through participating processors. ADF&G will make every effort to provide sufficient advance notice prior to a closure; however, the potential exists for a short advance notice closure.

A weekly harvest update will be distributed each Monday while the state-waters season is open. Weekly harvest updates are available on the ADF&G website at <u>http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareachignik.groundfish#harvest</u> or from the ADF&G groundfish management office in Kodiak.

FIGURES

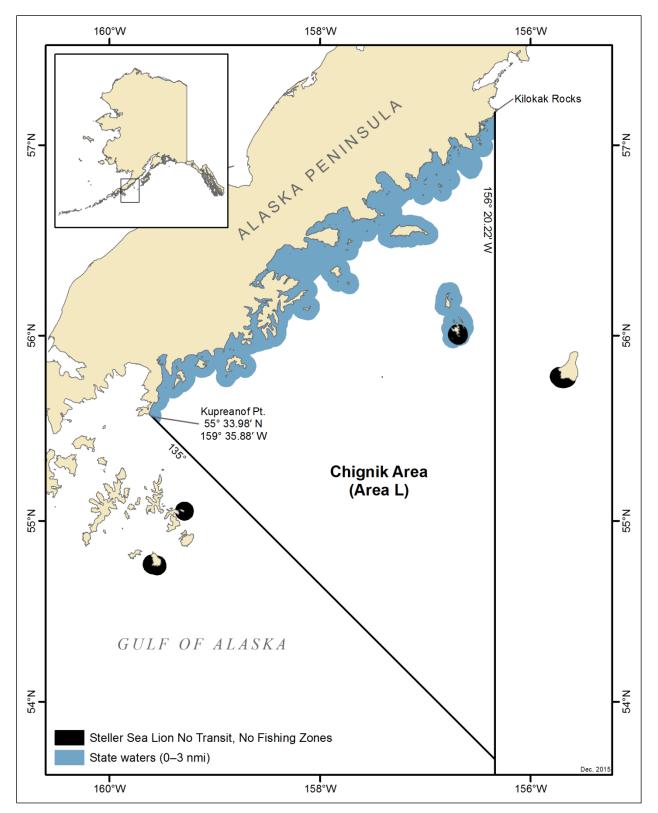


Figure 1.-Chignik Area for state-waters Pacific cod.

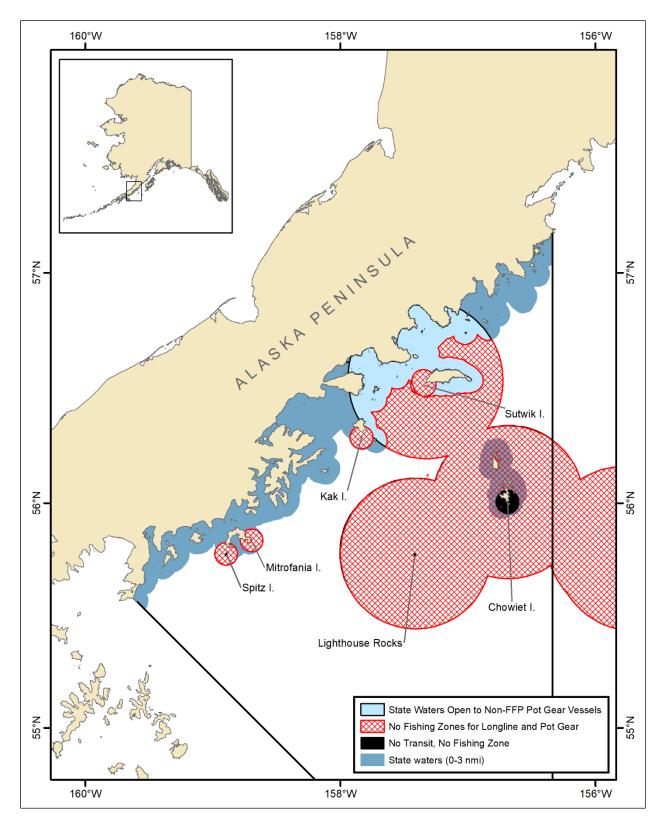


Figure 2.–Steller sea lion restrictions for pot and longline gear during the parallel Pacific cod season in the Chignik Area.

APPENDIX A. SUMMARY OF DATES AND STATE-WATERS GUIDELINE HARVEST LEVELS

Appendix A1.–Summary of Westward Region parallel and state-waters Pacific cod season dates and state-waters guideline harvest levels for pot gear, 2024.

Pacific Cod Season Dates	Kodiak Area	Chignik Area	South Alaska Peninsula Area	Dutch Harbor Subdistrict	Aleutian Islands Subdistrict
Federal/Parallel A Season	January 1	January 1	January 1	January 1	January 1 (outside Adak Section)
State-Waters GHL Season	7 days after CGOA pot gear A-season closure	March 1 or 7 days after CGOA pot gear A-season closure, whichever is later	March 7 or 7 days after WGOA pot gear A-season closure, whichever is later	7 days after BSAI HAL/pot gear CV <60ft A-season closure	<u>Adak Section</u> : January 1 <u>Entire AIS</u> : 4 days after BSAI pot gear CV >60 ft A-season closure or February 1, whichever occurs first
Federal/Parallel B Season	September 1	September 1ª	September 1	N/A ^b	N/A ^b
State-Waters GHL Rollover	After CGOA pot gear B-season closure ^c	August 14 ^d	After WGOA pot gear B-season closure	N/A	N/A
Vessel Size Limit ^d	N/A	October 30	October 30	October 1	N/A
Gear Limit ^d	September 1	August 14	October 30	October 1	N/A
Exclusivity ^d	October 30	N/A	October 30	October 1	March 15
State-Waters Pot Gear GHL Allocation	2,837,045	3,574,676	4,916,203	44,431,000	9,591,800°

Notes: CGOA = Federal Central Gulf of Alaska Management Area; WGOA = Federal Western Gulf of Alaska Management Area; AIS = Aleutian Islands Subdistrict; DHS = Dutch Harbor Subdistrict; BSAI = Bering Sea Aleutian Islands; HAL = hook and line; CV = catcher vessel; GHL = Guideline Harvest Level

^a If the state-waters GHL has not been achieved by September 1, the parallel B season will open 48 hours after the state-waters GHL is achieved or on October 30, whichever occurs first, and depending on ADF&G's ability to provide for orderly fisheries based on inseason assessment of effort, harvest rate, or remaining state-waters pot gear GHL.

^b The BSAI HAL/pot gear CV <60 ft sector does not have a B season allowance; however, federal quota is frequently reallocated to this sector for additional fishing opportunity.

^c 50% of the unharvested jig gear GHL allocation (as of March 25) may be made available to pot gear vessels on or after April 1.

^d A management action may occur after this date to change a GHL allocation or remove vessel size limit, gear limit, harvest cap, or exclusivity restriction, as applicable.

^e There are no GHL allocations by gear type in AIS; however, harvest by pot gear vessels greater than 60 ft are capped at 25% of the total GHL.

This document is for general information purposes only; it is not intended to be a complete list of fishery regulations, nor does it replace or supersede existing regulations. Vessel owners and operators are responsible for understanding all state and federal regulations. For additional information, contact ADF&G in Kodiak at (907) 486-1840 or NMFS Sustainable Fisheries Division at (907) 586-7228.

Appendix A2.–Summary of Westward Region parallel and state-waters Pacific cod season dates and state-waters guideline harvest levels for jig gear, 2024.

Pacific Cod Season Dates	Kodiak Area	Chignik Area	South Alaska Peninsula Area	Dutch Harbor Subdistrict	Aleutian Islands Subdistrict
Federal/Parallel A Season	48 hours after state- waters jig gear season closure	January 1	January 1	January 1	January 1 (outside Adak Section)
State-Waters GHL Season	January 1	March 15	48 hours after WGOA jig gear A-season closure ^a	May 1	<u>Adak Section:</u> January 1 <u>Entire AIS</u> : 4 days after BSAI pot gear CV >60 ft A-season closure or February 1, whichever occurs first
Federal/Parallel B Season	June 10	June 10	June 10	April 30 ^b	April 30 ^b
State-Waters GHL Rollover	After CGOA pot gear B-season closure ^c	August 14 ^d	After WGOA pot gear B-season closure	N/A	N/A
Vessel Size Limit ^d	N/A	October 30	October 30	October 1	N/A
Gear Limit ^d	September 1	August 14	October 30	October 1	N/A
Exclusivity ^d	October 30	N/A	October 30	October 1	March 15
State-Waters Jig Gear GHL Allocation	2,837,045	397,186	867,565	100,000	9,591,800°

Notes: CGOA = Federal Central Gulf of Alaska Management Area; WGOA = Federal Western Gulf of Alaska Management Area; AIS = Aleutian Islands Subdistrict; DHS = Dutch Harbor Subdistrict; BSAI = Bering Sea Aleutian Islands; HAL = hook and line; CV = catcher vessel; GHL = Guideline Harvest Level

^a If the WGOA federal/parallel A-season jig sector harvest allocation has not been achieved by March 15, the parallel (0–3 nmi) jig gear sector A season may close and the South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters season for jig gear may open on March 15 or later depending on ADF&G's ability to provide for orderly fisheries based on inseason assessment of effort, harvest rate, or remaining federal jig quota.

^b The BSAI also has a federal/parallel C season for jig gear which opens August 31.

^c 50% of the unharvested jig gear GHL allocation (as of March 25) may be made available to pot gear vessels on or after April 1.

^d A management action may occur after this date to change a GHL allocation or remove vessel size limit, gear limit, harvest cap, or exclusivity restriction, as applicable.

^e There are no GHL allocations by gear type in AIS; however, harvest by pot gear vessels greater than 60 ft are capped at 25% of the total GHL.

This document is for general information purposes only; it is not intended to be a complete list of fishery regulations, nor does it replace or supersede existing regulations. Vessel owners and operators are responsible for understanding all state and federal regulations. For additional information, contact ADF&G in Kodiak at (907) 486-1840 or NMFS Sustainable Fisheries Division at (907) 586-7228.

APPENDIX B. LIST OF FISHERY CONTACTS BY AGENCY AND LOCATION

Appendix B1.-List of fishery contacts, by agency and location.

ALASKA DEP	PARTMENT OF FISH AND GA	ME website: htt	p://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?a	adfg=fishingCommercialByArea.southwest
Kodiak Office				
Mail address:	351 Research Court	Physical address:	351 Research Court	Phone: (907) 486-1840
	Kodiak, Alaska 99615		2nd floor, Kodiak, Alaska	Text/inReach/WhatsApp: (907) 512-5423
				Fax: (907) 486-1824
Nat Nichols	Kodiak, Chignik, Alasl	ka Peninsula Area She	llfish/Groundfish Biologist	nathaniel.nichols@alaska.gov
Cassie Whitesic	le Kodiak, Chignik, Alasl	ka Peninsula Assistant	Area Shellfish/Groundfish Biologist	cassandra.whiteside@alaska.gov
Mark Stichert	Westward Region Shel	lfish/Groundfish Mana	agement Coordinator	mark.stichert@alaska.gov
<u>Dutch Harbor</u>	<u>Office</u>			
Mail address:	P.O. Box 920587	Physical address:	F.T.S. building, 2nd floor	Phone: (907) 581-1239
	Dutch Harbor, Alaska 99692		Airport Beach Road, Dutch Harbor	Fax: (907) 581-1572
DIVISION OF	ALASKA WILDLIFE TROOP	ERS	V	website: https://dps.alaska.gov/AWT/Home
Kodiak Office				
Mail address:	2921 A Mill Bay Road	Physical address:	2921 A Mill Bay Road	Phone: (907) 486-4762
	Kodiak, Alaska 99615		Kodiak, Alaska	Fax: (907) 486-5480
Joshua Boyle, S	Sergeant			joshua.boyle@alaska.gov
COMMERCIA	AL FISHERIES ENTRY COMM	IISSION	W	ebsite: <u>http://www.cfec.state.ak.us/</u>
Mail address:	P.O. Box 110302	Physical address:	8800 Glacier Highway #109	Phone: (907) 789-6150
	Juneau, Alaska 99811-0302		Juneau, Alaska	Fax: (907) 789-6170
NATIONAL N	IARINE FISHERIES SERVICE	- ALASKA REGIO	N w	ebsite: http://www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/
Sustainable Fig	sheries Division			
Juneau Office				Phone: (907) 586-7228
Dutch Harbor C	Office			Phone: (907) 581-2062
NOAA Fisheri	<u>es Enforcement</u>			
Dutch Harbor C	Office			Phone: (907) 581-2061
Kodiak Office				Phone: (907) 486-3298
NOAA Observ	er Program			Phone: (206) 526-4795