ICY BAY SUBDISTRICT DIRECTED LINGCOD FISHERY CLOSURE ANNOUNCEMENT

Sitka… The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) announced today the directed fishery for lingcod will close in the entire Icy Bay Subdistrict (IBS) at 11:59 p.m., Tuesday, June 16, 2020. The 2020 directed lingcod fishery guideline harvest level (GHL) for the IBS area is 46,000 round pounds. Based on reports from the grounds and harvest data to date, the department anticipates that the GHL will be taken by the time of the closure.

The directed lingcod fishery remains open in the Central Southeast Outside (CSEO) Section and Southern Southeast Outer Coast (SSEOC) Sector. Lingcod catches will be closely monitored, and fishermen should expect additional area closures on short notice. Closure notices will be announced by ADF&G advisory announcement, United States Coast Guard “Notice to Mariners” report, and the National Weather Service marine broadcast.

Updates of area closures for all lingcod fisheries are available on the Groundfish Hotline at 907-747-4882. For additional information on the directed lingcod fishery, refer to the ADF&G advisory announcement issued on March 23, 2020.

Under Alaska’s Health Mandates 10, 17, and 18, commercial fishing is an Essential Business and is part of Alaska’s Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Mandates. COVID-19 Health Mandates may be found here: https://gov.alaska.gov/home/covid19-healthmandates/.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1G0920.