



Advisory Announcement

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2025 SOUTHEAST ALASKA DIRECTED LINGCOD FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

At 12:01 a.m., Friday, May 16, 2025, the directed lingcod fishery will open in outside waters of the Southeast District, east of 144° W longitude. Lingcod management areas will remain open to directed lingcod fishing until harvest allocations are taken or until 11:59 p.m., November 30, 2025, whichever occurs first.

Directed lingcod fishery allocations, in round pounds:

Lingcod Management Areas (Figure 1)	Allocation (round pounds)
Icy Bay Subdistrict (IBS)	46,000
East Yakutat (EYKT) Section	111,000
Central Southeast Outside (CSEO) Section	86,400
Northern Southeast Outside (NSEO) Section	17,200
Southern Southeast Outer Coast (SSEOC) Sector	50,100
Northern Southeast Inside (NSEI) Subdistrict	0
Southern Southeast Internal Waters (SSEIW) Sector	0

2025 Alaska Board of Fisheries Decisions

Regulations that were adopted at the Board of Fisheries (BOF) meeting in January 2025 are **NOT currently in effect** but may go into effect during the 2025 directed commercial lingcod fishery season in the Eastern Gulf of Alaska. An advisory announcement will be issued at a later date with more information. The regulations that the BOF passed include:

- Weather delay provision for the directed commercial lingcod fishery for gale force winds.
- Requiring effort and harvest reporting in the directed commercial lingcod fishery.
- Defining dinglebar troll gear and legal operation of that gear in the directed lingcod fishery.

Lingcod size limits [5 AAC 28.173 (e)]

All lingcod retained must measure at least 27" in length from the tip of snout to the tip of the tail, or 20.5" from the front of the dorsal fin to the tip of the tail. Undersized lingcod must be returned to the water immediately.

Legal gear (5 AAC 28.130 and 5 AAC 28.135)

A Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) "I" interim use permit is required for the directed fishery. Lingcod may be taken in a directed lingcod fishery only by mechanical jigging machines (I26B), dinglebar troll gear (I25B), and hand troll gear (I05B). Vessels fishing for or transporting groundfish taken with dinglebar troll gear must display the letter "D" and vessels fishing for or transporting groundfish taken with mechanical jigging machines must display the letter "M" on both sides of the hull, cabin, or mast (5 AAC 28.135). A person may not operate a vessel that is displaying more than one of these letters at any time. A vessel may not display either letter while the vessel is being used to fish for salmon.

In the Eastern Gulf of Alaska (EGOA) Area, dinglebar troll gear consists of a single line that is set and retrieved with a troll gurdy with a terminally attached weight from which one or more leaders with one or more lures or baited hooks are pulled through the water while a vessel is making way. Only one troll gurdy line may be deployed in the water at any time [5 AAC 28.130 (h)(1)].

Vessel registration (5 AAC 28.106)

Logbooks (5 AAC 28.175)

Closed waters (5 AAC 28.150)

Gulf of Alaska Coral Protection Areas: there is one HAPC (Habitat Areas of Particular Concern) near Cape Ommaney and four HAPCs on the Fairweather Grounds that are closed to all fishing with bottom contact gear, including dinglebar troll gear. For additional information on HAPC areas, contact NOAA Fisheries at 907-586-7228. Locations of the GOA Coral Habitat Protection Areas are detailed in Table 26 to Part 679 at: https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/textidx?SID=867c7ff7af2fe6649ecd2965a60a0a5d&mc=true&node=pt50.13.679&rgn=div5#ap50.13.679.0000_0nbpsnbpsnbps.60.

A vessel must have a Federal Fisheries Permit (FFP) if the vessel is used to fish in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) in the Gulf of Alaska and is required to retain groundfish caught in the EEZ. Full retention of all rockfish is required in EEZ waters. If a vessel catches and retains any groundfish in the EEZ, the vessel is fishing for groundfish and must possess an FFP. FFPs are not required for vessels fishing lingcod in state waters. For information on FFPs contact NOAA Fisheries at 907-586-7202, 800-304-4846, or refer to: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/permit/alaska-federal-fisheries-permit-and-federal-processor-permit-applications>.

Area closures

Catch and effort will be closely monitored, and fishers should expect area closures on short notice. Lingcod closures will be announced by ADF&G advisory announcement, United States Coast Guard broadcast, and the National Weather Service broadcast. Area closures will also be announced on the Groundfish Hotline at 907-747-4882.

For information on lingcod fishery status and closures, contact the Sitka Area Office at 907-747-6688, the Groundfish Hotline at 907-747-4882, or visit the following webpage for lingcod harvest information by fishery and area: https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareasoutheast.lingcod_fishery_update.

Federal rockfish landing requirements

Federal regulations require that the operator of a federally permitted catcher vessel using hook and line, pot, or jig gear in the EEZ of the Gulf of Alaska retain and land all rockfish caught while fishing for groundfish or halibut. The maximum commerce allowance (MCA) for rockfish is 15% in aggregate, of which 5% can be yelloweye rockfish in all areas, except in the Southeast Outside District of the Gulf of Alaska (SEO) where the MCA for demersal shelf rockfish (DSR) species is limited to 10% of the aggregate round weight of the target species. The DSR assemblage includes yelloweye, quillback, canary, copper, tiger, China, and rosethorn rockfish [5 AAC 39.975 (34)].

Rockfish taken in federal waters must be reported on an ADF&G fish ticket, and rockfish in excess of bycatch allowances must be reported as bycatch overage. Rockfish overage from federal waters may be retained for personal use or donated but cannot be sold or enter commerce. For more information, refer to: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/action/amendment-119-fmp-groundfish-bering-sea-and-aleutian-islands-and-amendment-107-fmp>.

Rockfish possession and landing requirements (5 AAC 28.171)

In state waters, a vessel or CFEC permit holder fishing for groundfish or halibut must retain, weigh, and report all rockfish taken, including thornyheads. All rockfish retained in excess of allowable bycatch limits shall be reported as bycatch overage on an ADF&G fish ticket. All proceeds from the sale of rockfish in excess of bycatch limits taken in state waters shall be surrendered to the state.

Groundfish bycatch allowances for the directed lingcod fishery (5 AAC 28.070)

A vessel or CFEC permit holder who is directed fishing for lingcod may retain and sell the bycatch according to the percentages shown in the table below. The amount of bycatch that may be sold is based on the round weight of lingcod and bycatch species or species group. For information on bycatch allowances in federal waters contact NOAA enforcement at 907-747-6940 (Sitka), 907-586-7225 (Juneau), 907-772-2285 (Petersburg), or 907-247-5804 (Ketchikan).

BYCATCH SPECIES	BYCATCH ALLOWANCE
Rockfish, including thornyheads	15% in aggregate, of which up to 10% may be DSR ¹ in aggregate
Pacific cod	20%
Spiny Dogfish	20%
Skates	5% in aggregate
Sablefish	0%, no retention
Other Groundfish	20% in aggregate

¹ State and federal waters of Southeast Outside Subdistrict: EYKT, NSEO, CSEO, SSEOC; also IBS state waters (0-3 nm). In federal waters (3-200 nm) of IBS, the MCA for rockfish is 15% in aggregate, of which 5% can be yelloweye.

Lingcod Management Areas

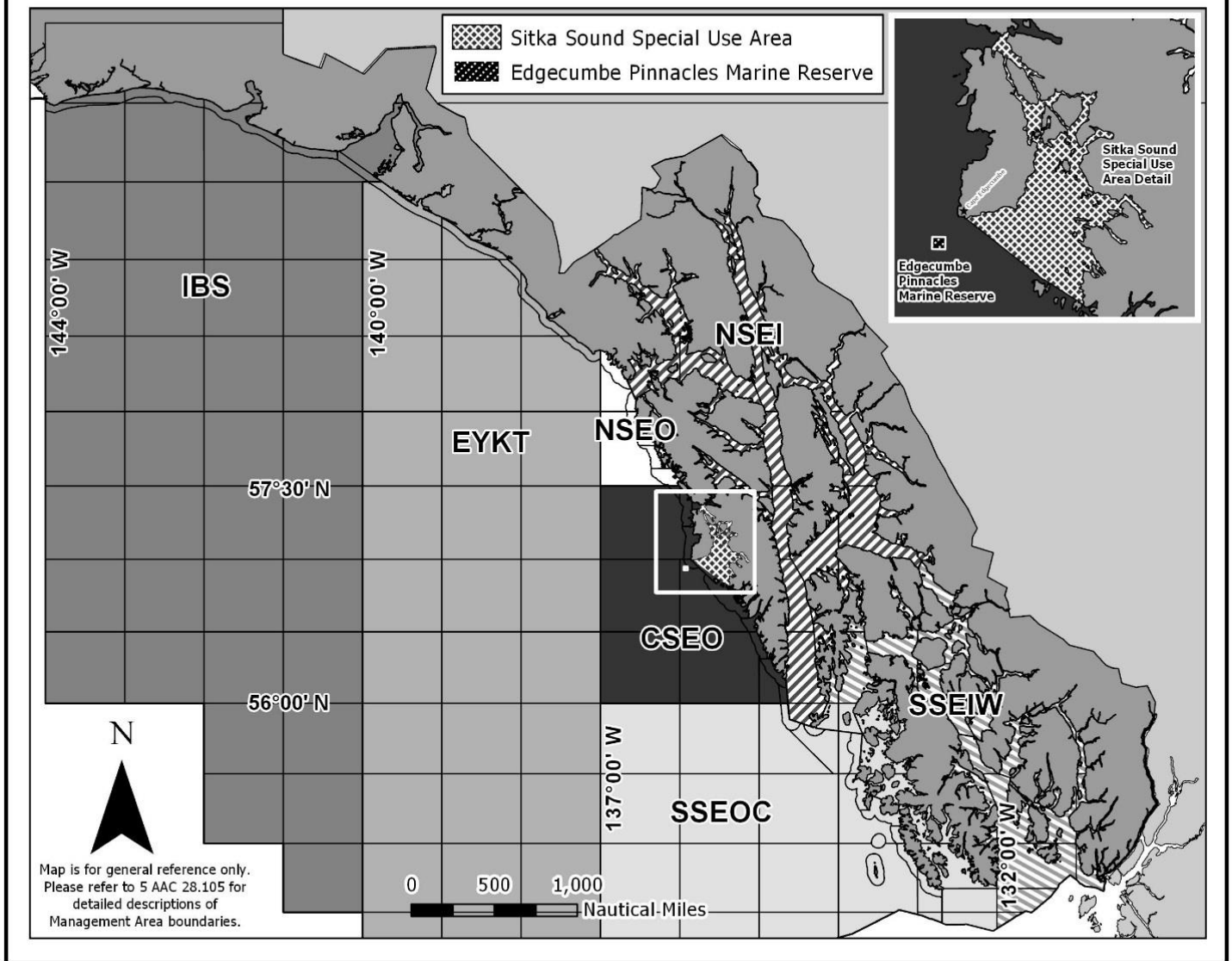


Figure 1.—Southeast Alaska commercial lingcod management areas. For detailed descriptions of Lingcod Management Area boundaries, refer to 5 AAC 28.105. This map is for general information purposes only.

Advisory announcement website: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Yakutat
ADF&G	225-5195	772-3801		747-6688	465-4250	766-2830	784-3255
AWT	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	784-3220
Groundfish Hotline				747-4882			