



Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: January 2, 2026

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2026 SOUTHEAST ALASKA DIRECTED PACIFIC COD FISHERY

The directed Pacific cod season is open from January 1 through December 31, 2026, unless closed by emergency order. The 2026 Pacific cod guideline harvest range is 750,000–1,250,000 pounds round weight for the Northern Southeast Inside (NSEI) and Southern Southeast Inside (SSEI) subdistricts (Figure 1) combined [5 AAC 28.160 (f)]. The department will monitor Pacific cod harvest by geographic area which includes Frederick Sound, Icy Strait, Lynn Canal, Stephens Passage, and Chatham Strait to prevent localized depletion and overharvest of spawning aggregations.

The department will manage this resource by closing specific areas as necessary to distribute effort and harvest throughout NSEI and SSEI. Area closures will be based on a seasonal harvest period of July 1 through June 30 of the following year; this protects the winter spawning aggregations which usually occur fall through spring. Areas closed during one harvest period will automatically reopen on July 1 unless otherwise specified by emergency order.

The directed Pacific cod fishery in state waters on the outer coast (0–3 nautical miles; nmi), is federally managed along with the Gulf of Alaska Pacific cod fishery which takes place in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ, 3–200 nmi offshore). For information on the federal Pacific cod fishery, contact the Sustainable Fisheries Division of NOAA Fisheries at 800-304-4846 (#3) or 907-586-7228.

Registration and Logbooks

Fishers are required to register their vessel with the department at local ADF&G offices prior to participating in the directed Pacific cod fishery [5 AAC 28.106 (a)]. Logbooks are required for this fishery and a copy of the logbook pages detailing a landing must be attached to the fish ticket at the time of that landing (5 AAC 28.175). For each trip fishers are required to report on logbooks: the target species, port of landing, date the vessel left port and the date the vessel landed, bait used, and gear specifications. For each set, fishers are required to report on logbooks: the target species, date, latitude and longitude (degrees and decimal minutes) for start and end positions of each set, hook spacing, amount of gear (skates and hooks), the number of skates or pots lost, if applicable, depth of each set, and estimated catch per set by species. Logbooks are available at ADF&G area offices.

Legal Gear

Pacific cod may be taken in the directed Pacific cod fishery by longline, jig gear (dinglebar troll, hand troll, mechanical jigging machines), and pots. Pot gear may be single pots or longlined. The Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) interim use permit for the directed Pacific cod fishery is the Miscellaneous Saltwater Finfish permit (M card), and it is issued specific to a gear type; this card must be obtained before registering and participating in the Pacific cod fishery.

Closed Waters

The waters of Glacier Bay north of a line from Point Carolus at 58°22.694' N lat, 136°02.535' W long to Point Gustavus at 58°22.748' N lat, 135°54.927' W long (Figure 1). The waters of Dundas Bay north and west of a line from 58°22.900' N lat, 136°25.300' W long to 58°23.600' N lat, 136°24.600' W long. For more information contact Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve at 907-697-2230.

Annette Islands Reserve

The Annette Islands Reserve is a federally recognized Indian reservation in Alaska. The waters within 3,000 feet of Annette Island, Ham Island, Hemlock Island, Spire Island, Walker Island, Lewis Island, and the adjacent rocks and islets are

designated within the fishing reserve (Figure 1). Fisheries within the reserve are managed by the Metlakatla Indian Community for authorized fisheries participants.

Groundfish Bycatch Allowances

CFEC permit holders directed fishing for Pacific cod in state waters may legally retain and sell the following bycatch percentages in the table below, based on the round weight of Pacific cod on board. Bycatch allowances are the same for longline and jig gear types unless noted. The bycatch allowances show the maximum percentage that a permit holder may legally retain, possess, and sell.

CFEC permit holders directed fishing for Pacific cod in state waters **must retain, weigh, and report all rockfish caught including thornyhead rockfish** [5 AAC 28.171 (a)]. All rockfish exceeding allowable bycatch limits shall be reported as bycatch overage on an ADF&G fish ticket. All proceeds from the sale of rockfish taken in excess of legal bycatch limits shall be forfeited to the State of Alaska. Demersal shelf rockfish (DSR) includes: yelloweye, quillback, canary, copper, tiger, China, and rosethorn rockfish.

Bycatch of species that do not fall under full retention requirements and are caught in excess of the allowable bycatch limit for a management area are required to be released at sea; bycatch retained in excess of the allowable bycatch limit must be forfeited to the State of Alaska.

Additional information on lingcod bycatch harvest and calculating bycatch allowances can be found at:

<https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareasoutheast.groundfish#harvest>.

GEAR TYPE	BYCATCH SPECIES	INTERNAL WATERS (NSEI and SSEI)	STATE OUTSIDE WATERS (0–3 MILES)
LONGLINE AND JIG	Rockfish	15% in aggregate, of which up to 10% may be DSR. Full retention is required for all rockfish, including thornyhead.	15% in aggregate, of which up to 10% may be DSR. Full retention is required for all rockfish, including thornyhead.
	Lingcod*	<u>Longline fishery</u> : 35%; bycatch permitted until GHL taken. <u>Jig fishery</u> : 20% SSEOC portion of internal waters; May 16–November 30, or until GHL taken. Mechanical jig and hand troll gear only. 0% in NSEI and SSEIW	<u>Longline fishery</u> : 35%; bycatch permitted until GHL taken. <u>Jig fishery</u> : 20% in CSEO & SSEOC; May 16–November 30, or until GHL taken. Mechanical jig and hand troll gear only. 0% in IBS, EYKT, and NSEO.
	Spiny Dogfish	<u>Longline fishery</u> : 35% <u>Jig fishery</u> : 20%	<u>Longline fishery</u> : 35% <u>Jig fishery</u> : 20%
	Sablefish	0%, no retention	0%, no retention
	Skates	Aggregated with “Other Groundfish”	5%
	Other Groundfish	20% in aggregate	20% in aggregate
POTS	Rockfish	15% in aggregate, of which up to 10% may be DSR. Full retention is required for all rockfish, including thornyhead.	15% in aggregate, of which up to 10% may be DSR. Full retention is required for all rockfish, including thornyhead.
	Lingcod	0%, no retention	0%, no retention
	Spiny Dogfish	20%	20%
	Sablefish	0%, no retention	0%, no retention
	Skates	Aggregated with "Other Groundfish"	5%
	Other Groundfish	20% in aggregate	20% in aggregate

*The minimum size limit for lingcod is 27” from tip of snout to tip of tail or 20.5” from front of the dorsal fin to tip of tail. Lingcod Management Areas include Northern Southeast Inside (NSEI) Subdistrict, Southern Southeast Internal Waters (SSEIW) and Southern Southeast Outer Coast (SSEOC) Sectors, Icy Bay Subdistrict (IBS), and the East Yakutat (EYKT), Northern Southeast Outside (NSEO) and Central Southeast Outside (CSEO) Sections (5 AAC 28.105).

General Provisions

A CFEC permit holder operating a vessel fishing for groundfish shall retain the maximum retainable bycatch (20%) of pollock when the directed fishery for pollock is closed [5 AAC 28.070 (e)(2)]. There is no directed pollock fishery in NSEI or SSEI therefore the directed pollock fishery is closed.

Vessels operating as catcher–sellers and delivering Pacific cod on the grounds as bait shall complete a fish ticket documenting the sale at the time of each transaction. Fish tickets shall be assigned and attached to the appropriate logbook page(s) documenting the effort and harvest for that delivery. If the harvest documented on a logbook page involves multiple delivery transactions, the partial delivery box on each fish ticket shall be completed and fishers shall list the preprinted fish ticket numbers on the corresponding logbook page(s). A disposition code of “61” (sold for bait) and the appropriate delivery code shall be documented on each fish ticket.

Pacific cod area closures may occur on short notice. Closure notices will be announced by ADF&G advisory announcement, United States Coast Guard broadcast, National Weather Service broadcast, and on the Groundfish Project’s telephone hotline: 907-747-4882.

Advisory Announcement web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

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

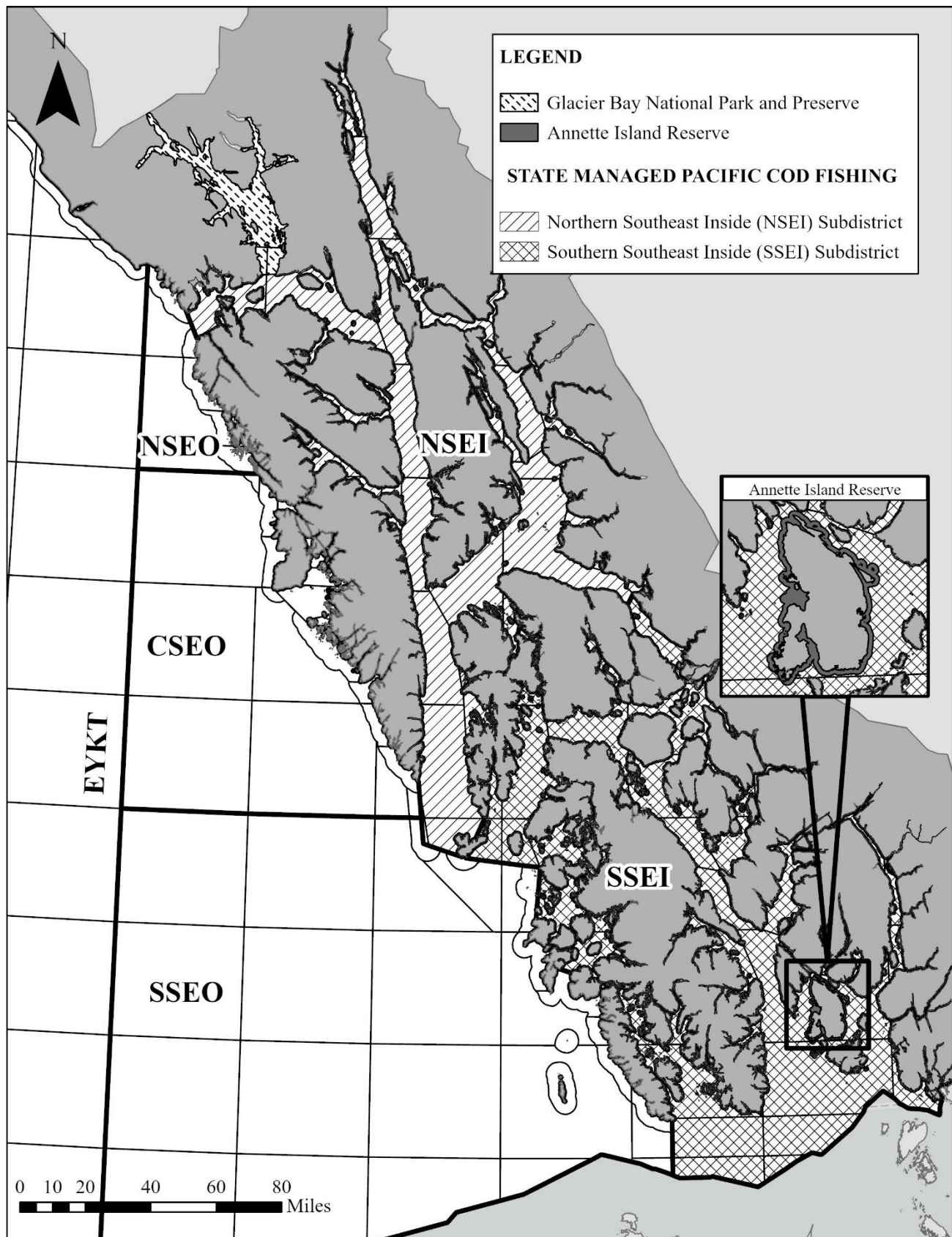


Figure 1.—Northern Southeast Inside (NSEI) and Southern Southeast Inside (SSEI) Subdistricts including restricted waters of Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve and Annette Islands Reserve. This map is for general reference only. For detailed descriptions of Management Area boundaries, refer to 5 AAC 28.105.