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Advisory Announcement

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Cook Inlet Area Pelagic Rockfish Jig Season Opens

The commercial directed pelagic shelf rockfish (PSR) jig fishery will open in the Cook Inlet Area (CI) July 1, 2026 at midnight 12:00 a.m. (Figure 1). Only PSR species may be targeted in the directed rockfish fishery which includes black, dark, dusky, widow, yellowtail, and deacon rockfish. Five-day trip limits for all rockfish combined are 4,000 pounds in the North Gulf District and 1,000 pounds in the Cook Inlet District. The guideline harvest level for all rockfish species combined is 150,000 pounds for directed and bycatch rockfish harvest in CI. Legal gear types for the directed PSR fishery are mechanical jig and hand troll. Only legal gear types may be aboard a vessel while participating in the directed PSR jig fishery.

There is a 6-hour prior notice of landing (PNOL) requirement. Participants must contact ADF&G after each trip by telephoning (907) 226-2121 at least 6 hours prior to landing and reporting the following: 1) vessel name/ADF&G number, 2) date and location of landing, including estimated time of arrival, 3) buyer or processor, and 4) estimated pounds of rockfish onboard.

Log sheets are required while participating in the PSR fishery. Log sheets must: 1) include the date, the specific location of harvest by latitude and longitude, the number of hooks fished, the average depth of each set fished, and the time gear is deployed and hauled, for each set; 2) include for the target species, and for each bycatch species, the number of fish retained and discarded, 3) be updated within 24 hours after midnight local time on the day of operation; 4) be made available to a local representative of the department upon request. Completed log sheets must be submitted within 7 days of landing, preferably accompanying corresponding fish tickets.

Allowable non-pelagic rockfish bycatch levels in this fishery are 20% combined round weight of all PSR on board the vessel. All rockfish caught must be retained, including those considered bycatch species. Rockfish in excess of allowable bycatch levels must be reported as an overage on the fish ticket and any proceeds surrendered to the State of Alaska.

ADF&G management authority for black and dark rockfish extends into federal waters of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). In addition to state requirements of a gear-appropriate permit card and area registration, fishers targeting black rockfish or dark rockfish in federal waters are also required to have a Federal Fisheries Permit (FFP). FFP application forms are available online at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/permit/alaska-federal-fisheries-permit-and-federal-processor-permit-applications> and at National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) offices in Homer, Anchorage, or Seward.

Required groundfish registrations and logbook pages may be obtained at ADF&G offices in Homer, Soldotna, and Anchorage or online at [Cook Inlet Groundfish, Alaska Department of Fish and Game](#). Registrations are not valid until signed by ADF&G. For further questions or to register by phone please contact the Homer ADF&G office at 907-235-8191.

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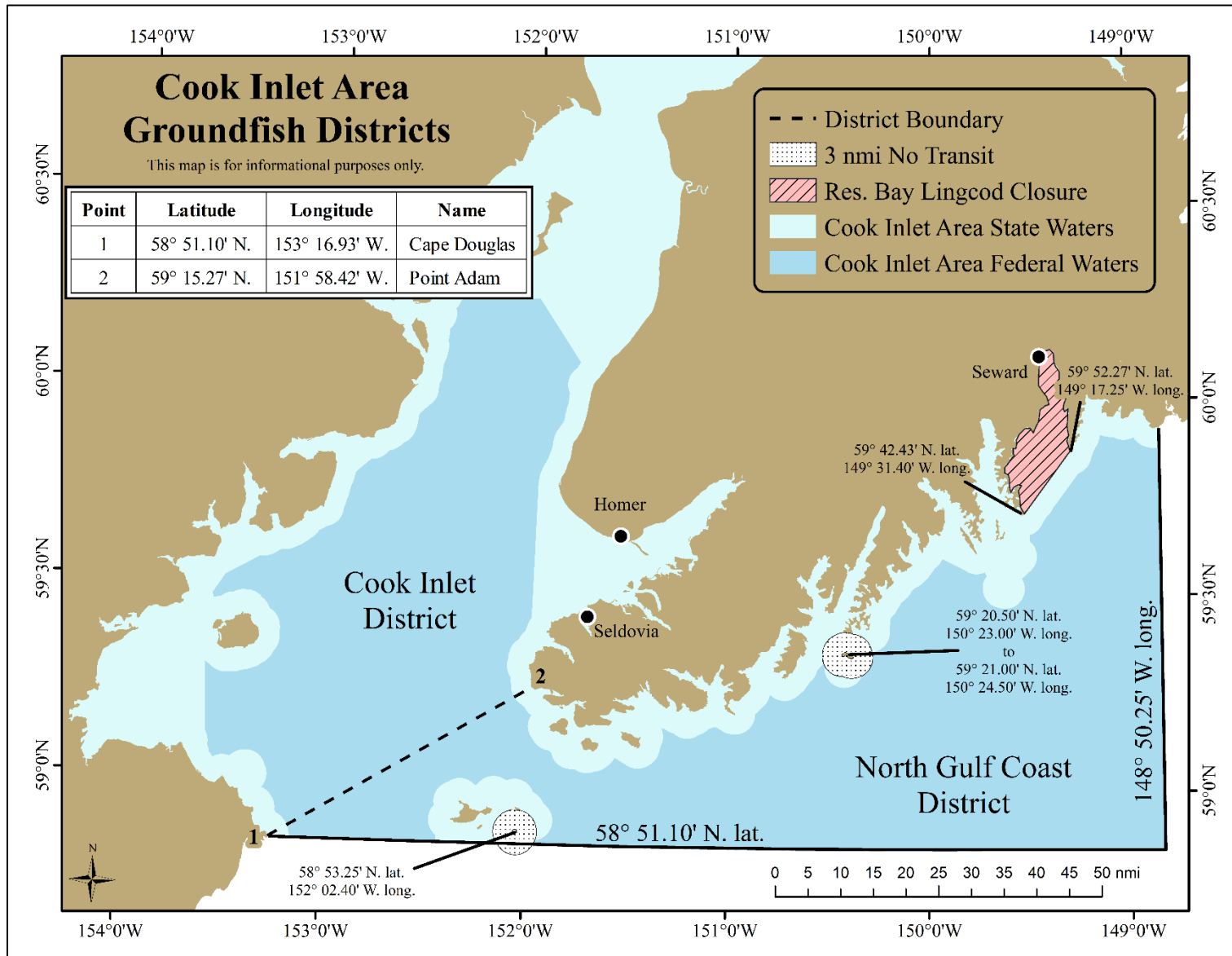


Figure 1. Cook Inlet Area and districts open to the directed pelagic shelf rockfish fishery.