

Division of Commercial Fisheries
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Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release:

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Contact:

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Closure of the South Alaska Peninsula Area Parallel Pacific Cod Jig Gear Season and Opening of the State-Waters Pacific Cod Jig Gear Season

Emergency Order 4-GF-07-23

The South Alaska Peninsula Area parallel Pacific cod jig gear season will close, and the South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters Pacific cod jig gear season will immediately open at 12:00 noon March 15, 2023. By regulation, if the Western Gulf of Alaska (WGOA) federal/parallel A season for jig gear has not closed by March 15, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) may close the parallel (0–3 nmi) WGOA jig gear season in the South Alaska Peninsula Area and open the South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters jig gear season to facilitate harvest of the state-waters Pacific cod guideline harvest level (GHL). The 2023 South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters Pacific cod GHL allocation for jig gear vessels is 740,000 pounds.

Vessels participating in the South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters Pacific cod fishery may not exceed 58 feet in overall length. Vessel operators must obtain a miscellaneous finfish jig gear interim-use permit card from the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission and an exclusive state-waters vessel registration from ADF&G prior to participating in the state-waters fishery. Vessel registrations are available from the ADF&G office in Kodiak.

While the South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters (0–3 nmi) jig gear season and the federal (3–200 nmi) WGOA jig gear seasons are open concurrently:

- A vessel may not participate in the South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters jig gear season and the WGOA federal jig gear season at the same time.
- A vessel's registration for the South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters season must be invalidated before that vessel may participate in any other Pacific cod season.
- All Pacific cod must be delivered before a vessel may validate or invalidate a state-waters vessel registration.
- A state-waters vessel registration may be validated or invalidated by contacting ADF&G in Kodiak during normal business hours (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday–Friday).

For more information on federal Pacific cod jig gear fisheries, contact the National Marine Fisheries Service in Juneau at (907) 586-7202. For more information on state-waters Pacific cod jig gear fisheries, contact ADF&G in Kodiak at (907) 486-1840.

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