



Advisory Announcement
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2020 SOUTHEAST ALASKA DIRECTED PACIFIC COD FISHERY UPDATE

Sitka . . . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) announced today the following information regarding the Southeast Alaska directed Pacific cod fishery.

Groundfish bycatch allowances for state waters directed Pacific cod longline and jig fisheries

A CFEC permit holder fishing for groundfish in the Northern Southeast Inside (NSEI) and Southern Southeast Inside (SSEI) Subdistricts must retain, weigh, and report all rockfish taken on fish tickets (5 AAC 28.171). Full retention is not required for thornyheads.

Allowable bycatch limits for rockfish have been adjusted to facilitate consistency between state and federal regulations and are **effective for state waters and state managed groundfish taken in federal waters on March 14, 2020** (5 AAC 28.070 (b)). All rockfish in excess of allowable bycatch limits shall be reported as bycatch overage on an ADF&G fish ticket. Rockfish bycatch overage from state waters, in excess of legal limits, may be retained for personal use or sold; however, all proceeds from the sale of excess rockfish bycatch must be forfeited to the State of Alaska.

A permit holder who is directed fishing for Pacific cod in the internal waters of Alaska (NSEI and SSEI) may retain and sell the following bycatch percentages, based on the round weight of Pacific cod on board. Bycatch allowances are the same for longline and jig gear types unless otherwise noted. The demersal shelf rockfish (DSR) assemblage includes yelloweye, quillback, canary, copper, tiger, China, and rosethorn rockfish.

BYCATCH SPECIES	BYCATCH ALLOWANCE FOR INTERNAL WATERS
	NSEI and SSEI
Rockfish, including thornyheads	15% in aggregate, of which up to 10% may be DSR Full retention is required for all rockfish, excluding thornyheads
Lingcod ¹	<u>Longline fishery</u> : 35%; bycatch permitted until GHL taken <u>Jig fishery</u> : 20% in SSEOC; May 16–November 30, or until GHL taken; Mechanical jig and hand troll gear only; 0% in NSEI and SSEIW
Spiny Dogfish	<u>Longline fishery</u> : 35% <u>Jig fishery</u> : 20%
Sablefish	0%, no retention
Other Groundfish, including skates	20% in aggregate

¹ 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 NSEI, 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).

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

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