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Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release:

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Contact:

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2026 Chignik Area Parallel Pacific Cod Season Closure for Pot Gear

Emergency Order 4-GF-07-26

The Chignik Area parallel Pacific cod pot gear season will close at 11:59 p.m. February 26, 2026. All pots in state waters (0–3 nmi) must be open and unbaited at the time of the closure. Vessel operators may store open and unbaited groundfish pots at any depth during the 48 hours between the closure of the Chignik Area parallel Pacific cod pot gear fishery and the start of the Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod pot gear fishery on March 1, 2026.

As previously announced:

The Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod pot gear season will open at 12:01 a.m. March 1, 2026. Pot vessels may not operate more than 60 groundfish pots and buoy tags are required. Once the state-waters season opens, only 60 groundfish pots with buoy tags attached may be fished; untagged pots in excess of the 60-pot limit may be stored in waters less than 25 fathoms in depth or be on board the vessel for up to seven days after the state-waters season opening. After seven days, only 60 tagged groundfish pots may be in the water or on board a vessel participating in the state-waters fishery.

If a state-waters (0–3 nmi) Pacific cod fishery and a federal (3–200 nmi) Pacific cod fishery are open concurrently:

- Only vessels registered for the state-waters fishery may target Pacific cod in state waters.
- A vessel may not participate in a state-waters Pacific cod fishery and a federal Pacific cod fishery at the same time.
- A vessel's state-waters Pacific cod vessel registration must be invalidated before that vessel may participate in federal Pacific cod fishery.
- All Pacific cod must be delivered before a vessel may validate or invalidate a state-waters Pacific cod vessel registration.
- A state-waters Pacific cod 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 pot gear fisheries, contact the National Marine Fisheries Service in Juneau at (907) 586-7228. For more information on state-waters Pacific cod pot gear fisheries, contact ADF&G in Kodiak at (907) 486-1840.

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