

I am the author of Proposal #15 and RC 15 and the purpose is to create an entry level fishery that is safer and more viable for smaller local boats. The basic idea is to create separate pools of cod that Chignik cod fishermen can elect to fish on.

After listening to objections and issues I request that the board amend proposal #15 to...

Jig and Hand Troll Quota 5%

Small Boat 48ft and under 10% 30 pot max

Large Boat 48ft to 58ft 85% 60 pot max

To accomplish this take 5% from the jig quota while keeping the graduating scale up to 25% and 5% from the large boat 48 ft or larger, giving 10% to an entry level small boat fishery with a graduating scale the same as the jig quota. Giving the area three different pools of cod for fisherman to fish on and add a registration mechanism making smaller boats choose to fish one or the other but not both of the pot fisheries in the same year, providing entry level local viable access and ability to compete for the resource and preventing what is now becoming a derby style fishery. In addition

- Put a 300,000 lbs max per boat in the small boat pot fishery.
- The combined jig and small boat pot quota could only be 25%, potentially squeezing out the small boat pot fishery if the jig participation rises to its maximum.
- Open jig and small boat pot fishery to the same as the current pot opening date to give tender availability to all groups equally.

**PROPOSAL 15 - 5 AAC 28.537. Chignik Area Pacific Cod Management Plan.** Change state-waters Pacific cod jig season opening date and limit jig vessel size, as follows:

(c) Each year the commissioner shall open and close, by emergency order, a state-waters season in the Chignik Area for mechanical jigging machine and hand troll gear and for pot gear. For purposes of this section, when a state-waters season for Pacific cod is opened to mechanical jigging machine and hand troll gear or pot gear, the parallel season for the applicable gear type is closed. During a state-waters season,

(1) mechanical jigging machine, [AND] hand troll and **small boat pot** gear is allocated 10 percent of the annual Chignik Area guideline harvest level; and

**(aa) Small boat pot gear is defined as boats 48" and under in length and only fishing a 30 pot maximum.**

**(bb) A small boat must register for either the Jig, hand troll and small boat pot fishery or the large boat pot gear fishery season and only can participate in the fishery that they registered for and not the other.**

(2) **Large Boat** pot gear is allocated 90 percent of the annual Chignik Area guideline harvest level.

(d) The seasons for mechanical jigging machine, [AND] hand troll and **small boat pot** gear are as follows:

(1) the state-waters season shall open on **March 7** [MARCH 15]

ISSUE: The Area L Pacific cod Fishery in the Chignik area has no local participation in the current jig fishery. If the jig quota could be opened to a congruent small boat pot fishery during the jig and hand troll season it would providing locals viable access and ability to compete for the resource.

**WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE?** The Area will continue to move to a derby style fishery, stopping the intended purpose of the boards initial decision in 1996. Citing discussion on page 6 of the 1996 Statewide Groundfish Summary of actions. Noting #'s 2. [the

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action taken was deemed as a fair and moral thing to do and it would benefit both the local and state governments. 6. This will give local residents access to this resource which is at their front door. 7. This will help in regaining pride and stability to some of these communities which have lost their population due to other alternative resources not being available in some of these areas. 9. This would allow lost cost jig and pot fishing while providing locals viable access and ability to compete for the resource.

**WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR THE PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?** No significant change should occur.

**WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT?** Locals and local communities will regain viable access to a unused local resource out of their front door. It will give more equal opportunity to local boats and potentially give more income and reduction of costs to all participates.

**WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER?** No one is likely to suffer if this is adopted.

**OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?**

- 1. Allocate the GHL based on length.
- 2. Allocate the GHL based on width.
- 3. Allocate the GHL based on depth.
- 4. Allocate the GHL based on tonnage.

(1-4 were rejected due to not wanting to exclude any user group.)

- 5. Give allowable pot numbers bases on available GHL.

(Example - When GHL is at 10 million or less, pot limit would be at 30. When GHL is at 10 m illion or more, pot limit would be at 45. W hen GHL is at 15 million or more, pot limit would be at 60.)

- . Allow in combination with daylight hour fishing.

(5&6 were not rejected but given for discussion by the board.)

**PROPOSED BY:** City of Chignik (HQ-F13-306)

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