

TABLE 26 TO PARAGRAPH (n)(26)—Continued

Harvest limits	Open season
Units 26B, remainder and 26C—1 moose by Federal registration permit by residents of Kaktovik only. Federal public lands are closed to the taking of moose except by a Kaktovik resident holding a Federal registration permit and hunting under these regulations.	May be announced.
Musk ox:	
Unit 26A, that portion west of the eastern shore of Admiralty Bay where the Alaktak River enters, following the Alaktak River to 155°00' W longitude south to the Unit 26A border—1 musk ox by Federal drawing permit.	Aug. 1–Mar. 15.
Units 26A remainder and 26B	No open Federal season.
Unit 26C—1 musk ox by Federal registration permit only	May be announced between July 15–Mar. 31.
Federal public lands are closed to the taking of musk ox, except by federally qualified subsistence users hunting under these regulations.	
Coyote: 2 coyotes	Sep. 1–Apr. 30.
Fox, Arctic (blue and white phases): 2 foxes	Sep. 1–Apr. 30.
Fox, red (including cross, black, and silver phases):	
Units 26A and 26B—10 foxes; however, no more than 2 foxes may be taken prior to Oct. 1	Sep. 1–Mar. 15.
Unit 26C—10 foxes	Nov. 1–Apr. 15.
Hare (snowshoe and tundra): No limit	July 1–June 30.
Lynx: 2 lynx	Nov. 1–Apr. 15.
Wolf: 15 wolves	Aug. 10–Apr. 30.
Wolverine: 5 wolverine	Sep. 1–Mar. 31.
Ptarmigan (rock and willow): 20 per day, 40 in possession	Aug. 10–Apr. 30.
Trapping	
Coyote: No limit	Nov. 1–Apr. 15.
Fox, Arctic (blue and white phases): No limit	Nov. 1–Apr. 15.
Fox, red (including cross, black, and silver phases): No limit	Nov. 1–Apr. 15.
Lynx: No limit	Nov. 1–Apr. 15.
Marten: No limit	Nov. 1–Apr. 15.
Mink and Weasel: No limit	Nov. 1–Jan. 31.
Muskrat: No limit	Nov. 1–June 10.
Otter: No limit	Nov. 1–Apr. 15.
Wolf: No limit	Nov. 1–Apr. 30.
Wolverine: No limit	Nov. 1–Apr. 15.

■ 5. Amend § _____.27 by adding paragraph (e)(13)(xxiii) to read as follows:

§ _____.27 Subsistence taking of fish.

* * * * *

(e) * * *

(13) * * *

(xxiii) Federal public waters throughout District 1 are closed to the harvest of Eulachon except by federally qualified subsistence users harvesting in the Unuk River.

Troy Finnegan,

Deputy Assistant Secretary, Exercising the Delegated Authority of the Assistant Secretary—Policy, Management and Budget.

Michael K. Boren,

Under Secretary, Natural Resources and Environment.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 260305–0067; RTID 0648–XG008]

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Vessels Using Pot Gear in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Temporary rule; closure.

SUMMARY: NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for Pacific cod by vessels using pot gear in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska (GOA). This action is necessary to prevent exceeding the 2026 total allowable catch (TAC) of Pacific cod allocated to vessels using pot gear in the Western Regulatory Area of the GOA.

DATES: Effective 1200 hours, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), October 23, 2026,

through 2400 hours, A.l.t., December 31, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Adam Zaleski, 907–586–7228.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NMFS manages the groundfish fishery in the GOA exclusive economic zone according to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska (FMP) prepared and recommended by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council under authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act). Regulations governing fishing by U.S. vessels in accordance with the FMP appear at subpart H of 50 CFR part 600 and 50 CFR part 679.

The 2026 Pacific cod TAC allocated to vessels using pot gear in the Western Regulatory Area of the GOA is 3,080 metric tons (mt) as established by the final 2026 and 2027 harvest specifications for groundfish in the GOA (91 FR 11902, March 11, 2026) and reallocations (91 FR 64807, October 13, 2026 and 91 FR 66531, October 21, 2026).

The Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS (Regional Administrator) has determined that the 2026 Pacific cod TAC allocated to vessels using pot gear in the Western Regulatory Area of the GOA will be or has been reached. Therefore, in accordance with § 679.20(d)(1)(i) and 679.20(d)(1)(ii)(B), the Regional Administrator is establishing a directed fishing allowance of 2,480 mt and is setting aside 0 mt as incidental catch because it is not necessary to support other anticipated groundfish fisheries. The Regional Administrator finds that this directed fishing allowance will be or has been reached. Consequently, in accordance with § 679.20(d)(1)(iii), NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for Pacific cod by vessels using pot gear in the Western Regulatory Area of the GOA to prevent exceeding this sector's annual allocation of Pacific cod TAC.

While this closure is effective the maximum retainable amounts at § 679.20(e) and (f) apply at any time during a trip.

Classification

NMFS issues this action pursuant to section 305(d) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. This action is required by 50 CFR part 679, which was issued pursuant to section 304(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, and is exempt from review under Executive Order 12866.

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), there is good cause to waive prior notice and an opportunity for public comment on this action, as notice and comment would be impracticable and contrary to the public interest, as it would prevent NMFS from responding to the most recent fisheries data on Pacific cod catch in a timely fashion and would delay the closure of directed fishing for Pacific cod by vessels using pot gear in

the Western Regulatory Area of the GOA. NMFS was unable to publish a notice providing time for public comment because the most recent, relevant data on Pacific cod catch by vessels using pot gear in the Western Regulatory Area of the GOA only became available as of October 22, 2026.

There is good cause under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3) to establish an effective date less than 30 days after the date of publication. This finding is based upon the reasons provided above for waiver of prior notice and opportunity for public comment.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: October 23, 2026.

Shannon Bettridge,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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