



National Marine Fisheries Service, Northwest Region
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PUBLIC NOTICE

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NMFS-SEA-12-3
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 1, 2012

PACIFIC COAST GROUND FISH FISHERY **Changes to recreational fishery management measures**

On December 21, 2011, NMFS issued an inseason adjustment (76 FR 79122) to designate a new recreational lingcod closure area. However, the regulations unintentionally allowed lingcod fishing between a boundary line approximating the 30-fm (55-m) depth contour and the new lingcod closure area from March 15 through June 15. This is inconsistent with the intent of the Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) recommendations, which was to close both the area seaward of the 30-fm (50-m) boundary line and the area seaward of the new lingcod closure line. This March 1, 2012 inseason action (77 FR 12503), implements a clarification to Federal regulations for Washington state lingcod recreational management measures to ensure that Federal regulations properly conform to the lingcod closure area implemented in Washington state law, consistent with the Council's recommendation. For more information please refer to public notice NMFS-SEA-11-22.

**Trip limit tables, effective January 1, 2012,
are not included at the end of this public notice as they have not been altered by this inseason
action.**

For more information contact: NMFS Northwest Region at 206-526-6117 or visit our website at <http://www.nwr.noaa.gov>, click on "Groundfish & Halibut"; Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife at 360-249-4628; Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife at 541-867-4741; or the California Department of Fish and Game at 707-441-5797 (Eureka), 650-631-6789 (Belmont), 831-649-2804 (Monterey), 562-342-7111 (Los Alamitos).

Any discrepancies between this public notice and the *Federal Register* will be resolved in favor of the *Federal Register*.