



ELWHA FISHERIES OFFICE

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January 11, 2018

LOWER ELWHA KLALLAM TRIBE Bottomfish Regulations F18-002

The following regulations are promulgated by the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe and shall govern the conduct of commercial and subsistence Bottomfish fisheries by members of the Lower Elwha Klallam tribe in the areas and times as outlined below. All areas not specifically opened by these regulations shall remain closed to commercial fishing. Only gear specifically authorized by these regulations may be lawfully used. It shall be unlawful to harvest for commercial purposes, species of fish not included in this or other Tribal regulations specifically authorizing such harvest.

1. SPECIES

Pacific cod, Walleye pollock, Pacific tomcod, whiting, flounders, dabs and soles (excluding Pacific Halibut), greenlings (including lingcod), ratfish, sablefish, cabezon, spiny dogfish, all species of sharks, all species of rockfish, and all surf perches, Sardines, anchovies, and smelt. Pacific halibut and herring are covered under separate regulations.

2. AREAS

WDF Marine Fish and Shellfish Areas 22A, 23A, 23B, 23C 23D, 25A 25B, 25C, (except Port Gamble Bay) 25D, 25E, 27A, 27B (north of Ayock) and 29.

3. SEASON

These regulations shall be effective for the period of January 1, 2018, through December 31, 2018

4. DAYS AND TIMES

Open 7 days a week, 24 hours a day, except as restricted in Sections 6 through 11 of these regulations.

5. GEAR

a) Commercial

Set lines Maximum 500 hooks/skate, maximum 3,000 hooks/vessel.

Bottomfish troll (max. 2 lines/boat: max. 4 spreads/line: topspread must be less than 24 ft from the end of the line).

Hand line, Bottomfish jigs.

Hand Held dipnets (3 ft. max. diameter).

Ringnet (6ft. maximum diameter).

Rake.

Beach seines (max. length 165 fms., min. mesh 5"). Thread size (multifilament only) no finer than seine #12.

Bottomfish set/drift gillnets (max. length 165 fms., min. mesh 5". Thread size no finer than seine #12).

Bottomfish pots (must have one wall made of cotton fiber or a vertical wall attached with cotton hangings).

b) Personal Use

Hand lines.

Bottomfish Jigs (max. 2 hooks per line/2 lines per fisher).

Baitfish jigs (3 treble or 9 single hooks max.).

Hand held dipnets (3 ft. max. diameter).

Rake.

6. SPECIAL RESTRICTION ON SET NETS

Dogfish Season: Areas 23C, 23D, 25A, 25B, 25C (west of a line from Twin Spits to the Pope & Talbot stack), 27A, 27B; open all year. No more than four dogfish nets may be used at one time.

Pacific Cod Season: Areas 23A (west of a line 335 degrees true from Dungeness Light), 23C, 23D, 29. Open all year, until the Treaty share is taken.

7. SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS ON BEACH SEINE FISHING

a) Surf Perches: Beach seines may not be used for capture between May 1 and August 31.

b) Species other than surf perches listed in Section 1: Beach seines may not be used for capture between May 1 and September 30.

8. SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS ON TROLL GEAR FISHING

Troll gear may be used for the commercial harvest of species mentioned in Section 1, except Pacific Cod, only as follows:

- a) Areas 23A, 23B: open May 1 through November 30. For Pacific Cod, Area 23A (west of a line 335 degrees true from Dungeness Light) open all year until the Treaty share is taken.
- b) Area 23D: open January 1 through April 30 and December 1 through December 31. For Pacific Cod, Area 23D open all year, until the Treaty share is taken.
- c) Area 23C, 29: open all year.

9. SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS ON BOTTOMFISH POTS AND JIG (HANDLINE) GEAR

Jigs and pots may be used for the commercial harvest of species mentioned in Section 1 only as follows:

- a) Areas 23A, 23B, 23D, 26A: open May 1 through November 30. In Area 23A (west of a line 335 degrees true from Dungeness Light) and in Area 23D, jigs and pots may be used for Pacific Cod all year, until the Treaty share is taken.
- b) Areas 27A, 27B: open January 1 through April 30.
- c) Areas 23C, 29: open all year.

10. SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS ON VARIOUS SPECIES IN COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

- a) All anadromous fish (salmon, trout, and sturgeon) when captured incidentally when fishing commercially for any of the species listed in Section 1, must be released unharmed unless their retention is authorized by Tribal regulations.
- b) All starry flounder measuring less than 14" must be released unharmed.
- c) All English sole measuring less than 12" must be released unharmed.
- d) All halibut must be released unharmed unless their retention is authorized by Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe halibut regulations.
- e) Lingcod may not be harvested commercially at any time in Areas 25B, 25C, 25D, 27A, 27B. All incidentally caught lingcod, in these areas, must be released unharmed.
- f) Lingcod may be harvested commercially between May 1 and July 15 in Areas 22A, 23A, 23B, 23C, 23D, 25A, 25E, 29. All lingcod captured at other times, must be released unharmed.
- g) All lingcod measuring less than 24", or more than 40", must be released unharmed.
- h) All Pacific Cod, in Areas 25A, 25B, 25C, 25D, 25E, 27A, 27B, must be released unharmed.

- i) In Areas 25A and 25E, smelt fishing shall be prohibited between May 1 and October 31.
- j) In Area 27B, smelt fishing shall be prohibited between May 1 and September 30.

11. PERSONAL USE FISHERIES

Harvest of bottomfish for personal use shall be subject to the following daily bag limits and area restrictions:

Area 29: No limit on bottomfish other than rockfish and lingcod. Rockfish daily bag limit 15: lingcod daily bag limit 4. Lingcod may be harvested only from April 15 through September 30.

Areas 23A, 23C, 23D: 15 fish daily bag limit with no more than 5 rockfish and/or 1 lingcod, 2 cabezon, and/or 15 surf perches, pacific cod, or walleye pollock included. Lingcod may be harvested only from May 1 through September 30.

Areas 22A, 23B, 25A, 25B, 25C, 25D, 25E, 27A, 27B: 15 fish daily bag limit with no more than 5 rockfish and/or 4 lingcod, 2 cabezon, and/or 10 surf perches, pacific cod, or walleye pollock included. Lingcod may be harvested only from May 1 through September 30.

No lingcod measuring less than 24 “, nor more than 40”, may be kept.

Smelt/sardines/anchovies: bag limit or 20 lbs. combined.

12. EMERGENCY REGULATIONS

The regulations promulgated herein may be modified at any time by emergency regulations.

13. AUTHORITY

These regulations are promulgated by the Lower Elwha Klallam Fisheries Manager under authority specified by the Lower Elwha Klallam Fishing Ordinance Third Edition.

Robert Elofson
Fisheries Manager
Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe

