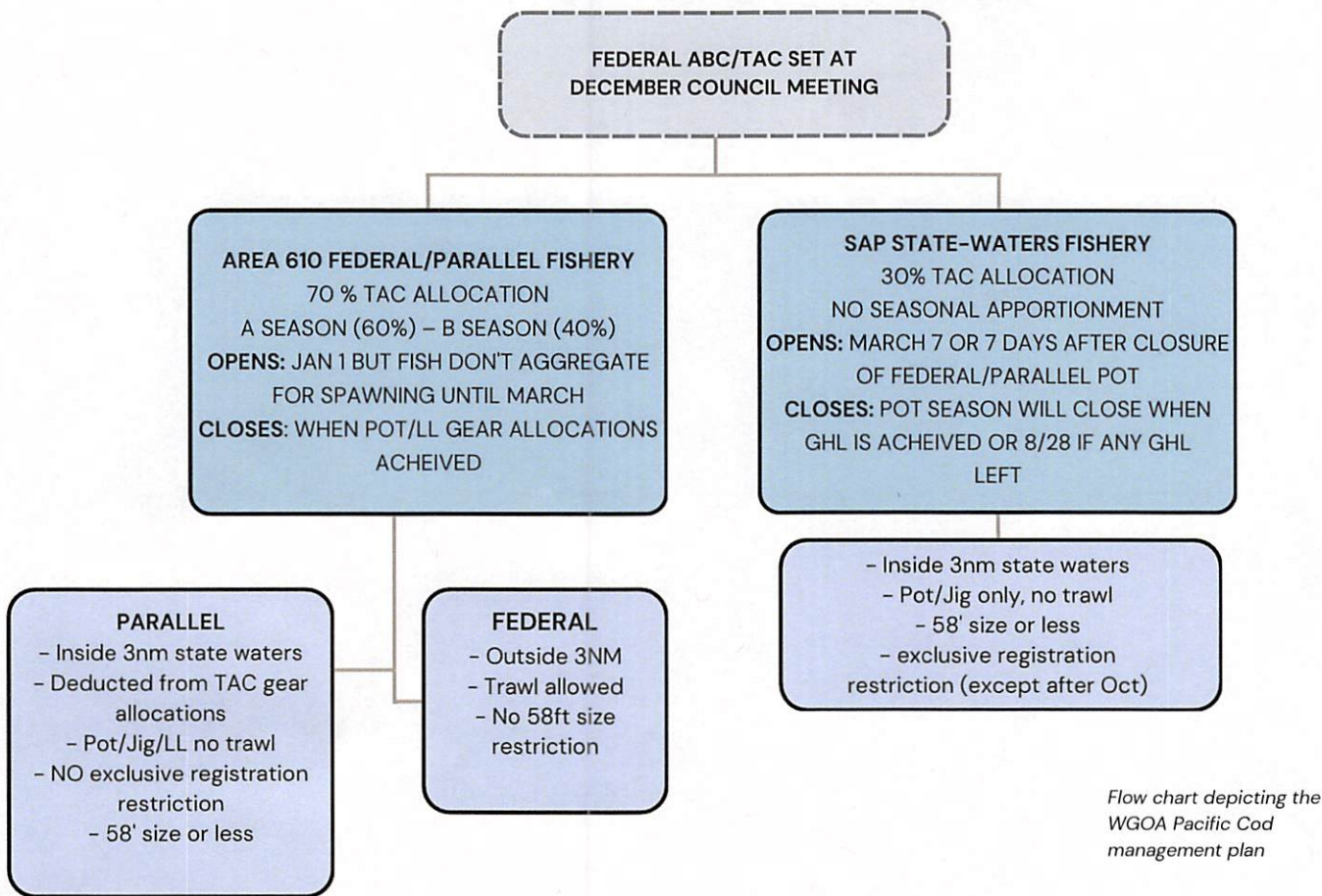


WGOA Pacific Cod Management and Concerns Overview



Local South Alaska Peninsula (SAP) fleet concerns

Area O DHS vessels can come to WGOA and fish the parallel fishery because the exclusion regulation doesn't apply to parallel fisheries.

Over 58' large vessels with much larger capacity can come into the WGOA and quickly deplete the federal TAC, especially in years where TAC is already low, leaving little to no opportunity for small local vessels.

Bering Sea CDQ owned subsidiaries have heavily invested in large HAL CP vessels that are fishing in the GOA.

Solution: an increase in the state-waters GHL allocation is responsive to all of these concerns. It moves more TAC into the exclusive SAP fishery which prevents Area O vessels from fishing cod in state waters through the parallel fishery loop hole. It also ensures the local small boat fleet isn't unfairly disadvantaged.

Area O Issue

For reference, the 5-year average between 2020 and 2024 shows that Area O DHS had an average GHL of 35,632,400 lbs and 29 vessels where as the SAP fishery had 4,940,420 lbs and 35 vessels. While the Area O GHL fishery can last throughout the year, the majority of the quota is harvested in the spring and the fleet leaves by mid-April (per the ADFG annual management report) – which aligns with the end of spawning season. In 2024 just the Area O GHL was over 44 million pounds and the entire WGOA allocation (federal and state combined) was only 13.5 million pounds.

Why are Area O vessels fishing the parallel fishery especially during times when local SAP participants are struggling?