

Regulatory Language

The opening paragraph of Section 27.20 and subsections (a) through (d) and (f) of Section 27.20 remain unchanged.

Subsection 27.20(e), Title 14, CCR, is amended to read:

§ 27.20. Groundfish Management Areas, Seasons, Depths, Exceptions, and Fishery Closure/Rule Change Process Described.

(e) Fishery closure and/or rule change: When the department determines, based on the best available scientific information, that an annual harvest limit [optimum yield (OY), annual catch limit (ACL), annual catch target (ACT), recreational harvest guideline, or recreational harvest target] established in regulation by the NOAA Fisheries (National Marine Fisheries Service) for any species of federally-managed groundfish or aggregate group of federal groundfish species has been exceeded or is projected to be exceeded prior to the end of the year or that catches are less than predicted, the following rule changes may occur:

(1) The department may modify the seasons and/or depth constraints for any species of federally-managed groundfish or aggregate group of federal groundfish species, California sheephead, ocean whitefish, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*. Season and/or depth modifications may differ by Groundfish Management Area, mode of fishing, or gear utilized.

(2) The department may adjust existing bag or sub-bag limits or establish additional bag or sub-bag limits as needed for any species of federally-managed groundfish or aggregate group of federal groundfish species, California sheephead, ocean whitefish, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*. Bag limits may differ by Groundfish Management Area, time of year, mode of fishing, or gear utilized.

(3) The department may adjust existing size limits or establish additional size limits as needed for any species of federally-managed groundfish or aggregate group of federal groundfish species, California sheephead, ocean whitefish, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*. Size limits may differ by Groundfish Management Area, time of year, mode of fishing, or gear utilized.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 200, 202, 205, 702, 7071 and 8587.1, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 200, 202, 205, 1802, 7071 and 8586, Fish and Game Code; 50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G; and 50 CFR 660.384.

Section 27.25, Title 14, CCR, is amended to read:

§ 27.25. Northern Groundfish Management Area.

This Section applies to take and possession of all 90 species of federally-managed groundfish, California sheephead, ocean whitefish, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* in the Northern Groundfish Management Area. Federal groundfish

include, but are not limited to, rockfish, cabezon, lingcod, California scorpionfish, kelp greenling, and some species of sharks, skates and flatfish. For specific definitions, applicability, and procedures, see sections 1.91 and 27.20. For size limits, possession limits, and other regulations that apply to individual species, see specific sections beginning with Section 27.60.

(a) The Northern Groundfish Management Area means ocean waters between 42° 00' N. lat. (the Oregon/California border) and 40° 10' N. lat. (near Cape Mendocino, Humboldt County).

(b) Seasons and depth constraints (except as provided in (c) below):

(1) January 1 through ~~May 14~~ the Friday preceding the second Saturday in May: Closed.

(2) ~~May 15~~ From the Second Saturday in May through September 15 ~~October 31~~: Open for all species only in waters shallower than 20 fathoms in depth as described by general depth contour lines.

(3) ~~September 16~~ November 1 through December 31: Closed.

(c) Special exceptions to subsection (b) above:

(1) "Other Flatfish" as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(10), which include Pacific sanddabs, may be taken or possessed in all depths ~~all year~~ year-round.

(2) Leopard shark may be taken or possessed in Humboldt Bay ~~all year~~ year-round.

(3) When angling from shore (includes beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks, and other man-made structures connected to the shore), all species may be taken or possessed ~~all year~~ year-round, ~~except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March and December~~. No vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) may be used to assist in taking or possessing these species while angling from shore under this provision.

(4) When diving or spearfishing, as authorized in Section 28.90, all species may be taken or possessed ~~all year~~ year-round, ~~except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March, and December~~. Except for spearfishing gear, all other types of fishing gear are prohibited to be aboard the vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) while spearfishing for the purpose of taking or possessing these species under this provision.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 200, 202, 205 and 702, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 200, 202, 205 ~~and 1802~~, 7071 and 8586 Fish and Game Code; 50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G; 50 CFR 660.384; and 14 CCR 27.20.

Section 27.30, Title 14, CCR, is amended to read:

§ 27.30. ~~North-Central North of Point Arena~~ Mendocino Groundfish Management Area.

This Section applies to take and possession of all 90 species of federally-managed groundfish, California sheephead, ocean whitefish, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* in the ~~North-Central North of Point Arena~~ Mendocino Groundfish Management Area. Federal groundfish include, but are not limited to, rockfish, cabezon, lingcod, California scorpionfish, kelp greenling, and some species of sharks, skates and flatfish. For specific definitions, applicability, and procedures, see sections 1.91 and

27.20. For size limits, possession limits, and other regulations that apply to individual species, see specific sections beginning with Section 27.60.

(a) ~~The North-Central North of Point Arena~~ Mendocino Groundfish Management Area means ocean waters between 40° 10' N. lat. (near Cape Mendocino, Humboldt County) and 38° 57.50' N. lat. (at Point Arena, Mendocino County).

(b) Seasons, depth constraints, and special closure areas (except as provided in (c) below):

(1) January 1 through ~~May 14~~ the Friday preceding the second Saturday in May: Closed.

(2) ~~May 15~~ From the second Saturday in May through August 15: Open for all species only in waters shallower than 20 fathoms in depth as described by general depth contour lines.

(3) August 16 through December 31: Closed.

(c) Special exceptions to subsection (b) above:

(1) "Other Flatfish" as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(10), which include Pacific sanddabs, may be taken or possessed in all depths ~~all year~~ year-round.

(2) When angling from shore (includes beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks, and other man-made structures connected to the shore), all species may be taken or possessed ~~all year~~ year-round, ~~except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March and December~~. No vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) may be used to assist in taking or possessing these species while angling from shore under this provision.

(3) When diving or spearfishing, as authorized in Section 28.90, all species may be taken or possessed ~~all year~~ year-round, ~~except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March, and December~~. Except for spearfishing gear, all other types of fishing gear are prohibited to be aboard the vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) while spearfishing for the purpose of taking or possessing these species under this provision.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 200, 202, 205 and 702, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 200, 202, 205, ~~and 1802, 7071 and 8586~~ Fish and Game Code; 50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G; 50 CFR 660.384; and 14 CCR 27.20.

Section 27.32, Title 14, CCR, is renumbered and is amended to read:

~~§ 27.32. North-Central South of Point Arena~~ 27.35. San Francisco Groundfish Management Area.

This Section applies to take and possession of all 90 species of federally-managed groundfish, California sheephead, ocean whitefish, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* in the ~~North-Central South of Point Arena~~ San Francisco Groundfish Management Area. Federal groundfish include, but are not limited to, rockfish, cabezon, lingcod, California scorpionfish, kelp greenling, and some species of sharks, skates and flatfish. For specific definitions, applicability, and procedures, see sections 1.91 and 27.20. For size limits, possession limits, and other regulations that apply to individual species, see specific sections beginning with Section 27.60.

(a) ~~The North-Central South of Point Arena-San Francisco~~ Groundfish Management Area means ocean waters between 38° 57.50' N. lat. (at Point Arena, Mendocino County) and 37° 11' N. lat. (at Pigeon Point, San Mateo County).

(b) Seasons, depth constraints, and special closure areas (except as provided in (c) below):

(1) January 1 through ~~June 12~~May 31: Closed.

(2) ~~June 13-1~~ through ~~October 31~~December 31: Open for all species only in waters shoreward of lines approximating the 30-fathom depth contour, defined by connecting the set of 30-fathom waypoints adopted in Federal regulations (50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G).

~~(3) November 1 through December 31: Closed.~~

~~(4) Farallons Closure Area: Waters shallower than 10 fathoms in depth as described by general depth contour lines around the Farallon Islands (off San Francisco and San Mateo counties), including Southeast Farallon Island, Middle Farallon Island, North Farallon Island and Noon Day Rock are closed to fishing for these species at all times. Special exceptions provided for "other flatfish" in subsection (c)(1), shore-based angling in subsection (c)(3) and spearfishing/diving in subsection (c)(4) below do not apply in this closure area.~~

~~(5)~~(3) Cordell Bank Closure Area: Waters of the Cordell Bank (off Marin County) shallower than 100 fathoms in depth as approximated by the 100-fathom depth contour that is defined by connecting the set of 100-fathom waypoints adopted in Federal regulations (50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G), are closed to fishing for these species at all times. Special exceptions provided for "other flatfish" in ~~sub-section~~subsection (c)(1) below apply in this closure area. Special exceptions provided for shore-based angling in subsection (c)(3) and spearfishing/diving in subsection (c)(4) below do not apply in this closure area.

(c) Special exceptions to subsection (b) above:

(1) "Other Flatfish" as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(10), which include Pacific sanddabs, may be taken or possessed in all depths ~~all-year~~year-round.

(2) Leopard shark may be taken or possessed in Drake's Estero Bay, Bolinas Bay, Tomales Bay, Bodega Harbor, and San Francisco Bay ~~all-year~~year-round.

(3) When angling from shore (includes beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks, and other man-made structures connected to the shore), all species may be taken or possessed ~~all-year~~year-round, ~~except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March and December.~~ No vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) may be used to assist in taking or possessing these species while angling from shore under this provision.

(4) When diving or spearfishing, as authorized in Section 28.90, all species may be taken or possessed ~~all-year~~year-round, ~~except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March, and December.~~ Except for spearfishing gear, all other types of fishing gear are prohibited to be aboard the vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) while spearfishing for the purpose of taking or possessing these species under this provision.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 200, 202, 205 and 702, Fish and Game Code.
Reference: Sections 200, 202, 205 and 1802, 7071 and 8586, Fish and Game Code; 50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G; 50 CFR 660.384; and 14 CCR 27.20.

Section 27.35, Title 14, CCR, is renumbered and is amended to read:

~~§ 27.35. Monterey South-Central~~27.40. Central Groundfish Management Area.

This Section applies to take and possession of all 90 species of federally-managed groundfish, California sheephead, ocean whitefish, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* in the ~~Monterey South-Central~~Central Groundfish Management Area. Federal groundfish include, but are not limited to, rockfish, cabezon, lingcod, California scorpionfish, kelp greenling, and some species of sharks, skates and flatfish. For specific definitions, applicability, and procedures, see sections 1.91 and 27.20. For size limits, possession limits, and other regulations that apply to individual species, see specific sections beginning with Section 27.60.

(a) The ~~Monterey South-Central~~Central Groundfish Management Area means ocean waters between 37° 11' N. lat. (at Pigeon Point, San Mateo County) and ~~36° 00' N. lat. (near Lopez Point, Monterey County)~~34° 27' N. lat (at Point Conception, Santa Barbara County).

(b) Seasons and depth constraints (except as provided in (c) below):

(1) January 1 through April 30: Closed.

(2) May 1 through ~~November 15~~December 31: Open for all species only in waters shoreward of lines approximating the 40-fathom depth contour, defined by connecting the set of 40-fathom waypoints adopted in Federal regulations (50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G).

~~(3) November 16 through December 31: Closed.~~

(c) Special exceptions to subsection (b) above:

(1) "Other Flatfish" as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(10), which include Pacific sanddabs, may be taken or possessed in all depths ~~all year~~year-round.

(2) Leopard shark may be taken or possessed in Elkhorn Slough ~~all year~~year-round.

(3) When angling from shore (includes beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks, and other man-made structures connected to the shore), all species may be taken or possessed ~~all year~~year-round, ~~except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March and December.~~ No vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) may be used to assist in taking or possessing these species while angling from shore under this provision.

(4) When diving or spearfishing, as authorized in Section 28.90, all species may be taken or possessed ~~all year~~year-round, ~~except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March, and December.~~ Except for spearfishing gear, all other types of fishing gear are prohibited to be aboard the vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) while spearfishing for the purpose of taking or possessing these species under this provision.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 200, 202 and 205, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 200, 202, 205 and 1802, 7071 and 8586, Fish and Game Code; 50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G; and 50 CFR 660.384.

Section 27.40, Title 14, CCR, is repealed:

~~§ 27.40. Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area.~~

~~This Section applies to take and possession of all 90 species of federally-managed groundfish, California sheephead, ocean whitefish, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* in the Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area. Federal groundfish include, but are not limited to, rockfish, cabezon, lingcod, California scorpionfish, kelp greenling, and some species of sharks, skates and flatfish. For specific definitions, applicability, and procedures, see sections 1.91 and 27.20. For size limits, possession limits, and other regulations that apply to individual species, see specific sections beginning with Section 27.60.~~

~~(a) The Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area means ocean waters between 36°00' N. lat. (near Lopez Point, Monterey County) and 34°27' N. lat. (at Point Conception, Santa Barbara County).~~

~~(b) Seasons and depth constraints (except as provided in (c) below):~~

~~(1) January 1 through April 30: Closed.~~

~~(2) May 1 through November 15: Open for all species only in waters shoreward of lines approximating the 40-fathom depth contour, defined by connecting the set of 40-fathom waypoints adopted in Federal regulations (50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G).~~

~~(3) November 16 through December 31: Closed.~~

~~(c) Special exceptions to subsection (b) above:~~

~~(1) "Other Flatfish" as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(10), which include Pacific sanddabs, may be taken or possessed in all depths all year.~~

~~(2) When angling from shore (includes beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks, and other man-made structures connected to the shore), all species may be taken or possessed all year, except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March and December. No vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) may be used to assist in taking or possessing these species while angling from shore under this provision.~~

~~(3) When diving or spearfishing, as authorized in Section 28.90, all species may be taken or possessed all year, except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March, and December. Except for spearfishing gear, all other types of fishing gear are prohibited to be aboard the vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) while spearfishing for the purpose of taking or possessing these species under this provision.~~

~~Note: Authority cited: Sections 200, 202 and 205, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 200, 202, 205 and 1802, Fish and Game Code; 50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G; and 50 CFR 660.384.~~

Section 27.45, Title 14, CCR, is amended to read:

§ 27.45. Southern Groundfish Management Area.

This Section applies to take and possession of all 90 species of federally-managed groundfish, California sheephead, ocean whitefish, and all greenlings of the genus

Hexagrammos in the Southern Groundfish Management Area. Federal groundfish include, but are not limited to, rockfish, cabezon, lingcod, California scorpionfish, kelp greenling, and some species of sharks, skates and flatfish. For specific definitions, applicability, and procedures, see sections 1.91 and 27.20. For size limits, possession limits, and other regulations that apply to individual species, see specific sections beginning with Section 27.60.

(a) The Southern Groundfish Management Area means ocean waters between 34° 27' N. lat. (at Point Conception, Santa Barbara County) and the U.S./Mexico border, except for waters of the Cowcod Conservation Areas, which are specified in Section 27.50. The Cowcod Conservation Areas are not part of the Southern Groundfish Management Area.

(b) Seasons and depth constraints (except as provided in (c) below):

(1) January 1 through the last day in February: Closed, except California scorpionfish may be taken or possessed only in waters shoreward of lines approximating the ~~40-fathom~~ 60-fathom depth contour, defined by connecting the set of ~~40-fathom~~ 60-fathom waypoints adopted in Federal regulations (50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G).

(2) March 1 through ~~March~~ December 31: Open for all species, ~~except for lingcod~~, only in waters shoreward of lines approximating the 60-fathom depth contour, defined by connecting the set of 60-fathom waypoints adopted in Federal regulations (50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G). ~~Lingcod may not be taken or possessed.~~

~~(3) April 1 through November 30: Open for all species only in waters shoreward of lines approximating the 60-fathom depth contour, defined by connecting the set of 60-fathom waypoints adopted in Federal regulations (50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G).~~

~~(4) December 1 through December 31: Open for all species, except for lingcod, only in waters shoreward of lines approximating the 60-fathom depth contour, defined by connecting the set of 60-fathom waypoints adopted in Federal regulations (50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G). Lingcod may not be taken or possessed.~~

(c) Special exceptions to subsection (b) above:

(1) "Other Flatfish" as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(10), which include Pacific sanddabs, may be taken or possessed in all depths ~~all-year~~ year-round.

(2) Leopard shark may be taken or possessed in Newport Bay, Alamitos Bay, Mission Bay, and San Diego Bay ~~all-year~~ year-round.

(3) When angling from shore (includes beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks, and other man-made structures connected to the shore), all species may be taken or possessed ~~all-year~~ year-round, ~~except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March and December.~~ No vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) may be used to assist in taking or possessing these species while angling from shore under this provision.

(4) When diving or spearfishing, as authorized in Section 28.90, all species may be taken or possessed ~~all-year~~ year-round, ~~except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March, and December.~~ Except for spearfishing gear, all other types of fishing gear are prohibited to be aboard the vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) while spearfishing for the purpose of taking or possessing these species under this provision.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 200, 202 and 205, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 200, 202, 205, ~~and 1802, 7071 and 8586,~~ Fish and Game Code; 50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G; and 50 CFR 660.384.

Section 27.50, Title 14, CCR is amended to read:

§ 27.50. Cowcod Conservation Areas.

This Section applies to take and possession of all 90 species of federally-managed groundfish, California sheephead, ocean whitefish, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* in the Cowcod Conservation Areas. The Cowcod Conservation Areas are special Groundfish Management Areas where sport fishing regulations for these species are designed to minimize interaction with cowcod. Federal groundfish include, but are not limited to, rockfish, cabezon, lingcod, California scorpionfish, kelp greenling, and some species of sharks, skates and flatfish. For specific definitions, applicability, and procedures, see sections 1.91 and 27.20. For size limits, possession limits, and other regulations that apply to individual species, see specific sections beginning with Section 27.60.

(a) The Cowcod Conservation Areas are defined as ocean waters off southern California within each of the following two areas. Area 1 is an area south of Point Conception that is bound by straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed:

33° 50' N. lat., 119° 30' W. long.;

33° 50' N. lat., 118° 50' W. long.;

32° 20' N. lat., 118° 50' W. long.;

32° 20' N. lat., 119° 37' W. long.;

33° 00' N. lat., 119° 37' W. long.;

33° 00' N. lat., 119° 53' W. long.;

33° 33' N. lat., 119° 53' W. long.;

33° 33' N. lat., 119° 30' W. long.;

33° 50' N. lat., 119° 30' W. long.; and Area 2 is a smaller area west of San Diego that is bound by straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed:

32° 42' N. lat., 118° 02' W. long.;

32° 42' N. lat., 117° 50' W. long.;

32° 36' 42" N. lat., 117° 50' W. long.;

32° 30' N. lat., 117° 53' 30" W. long.;

32° 30' N. lat., 118° 02' W. long.;

32° 42' N. lat., 118° 02' W. long.

(b) Seasons and depth constraints (except as provided in (c) below):

(1) January 1 through the last day in February: Closed, except California scorpionfish may be taken or possessed only in waters shallower than ~~20 fathoms~~30 fathoms in depth, ~~as described by general depth contour lines~~as defined by connecting the set of 30-fathom waypoints adopted in Federal regulations (50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G).

(2) March 1 through ~~March 31~~December 31: Open for only the species or species groups listed in (A) through ~~(F)~~(H) below, and only in waters shallower than ~~20 fathoms~~30 fathoms in depth, ~~as described by general depth contour lines~~as defined by

connecting the set of 30-fathom waypoints adopted in Federal regulations (50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G).

(A) Nearshore rockfish, as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(1)

(B) Shelf rockfish, as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(3)

~~(B)~~(C) Cabezon

~~(C)~~(D) California scorpionfish

~~(D)~~(E) Greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*

~~(E)~~(F) California sheephead

~~(F)~~(G) Ocean whitefish

(H) Lingcod

~~(3) April 1 through November 30: Open for only the species or species groups listed in (A) through (G) below, and only in waters shallower than 20 fathoms in depth as described by general depth contour lines.~~

~~(A) Nearshore rockfish, as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(1)~~

~~(B) Cabezon~~

~~(C) California scorpionfish~~

~~(D) Greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*~~

~~(E) California sheephead~~

~~(F) Ocean whitefish~~

~~(G) Lingcod~~

~~(4) December 1 through December 31: Open for only the species or species groups listed in (A) through (F) below, and only in waters shallower than 20 fathoms in depth as described by general depth contour lines.~~

~~(A) Nearshore rockfish, as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(1)~~

~~(B) Cabezon~~

~~(C) California scorpionfish~~

~~(D) Greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*~~

~~(E) California sheephead~~

~~(F) Ocean whitefish~~

(c) Special exceptions to subsection (b) above:

(1) "Other Flatfish" as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(10), which include Pacific sanddabs, may be taken or possessed in all depths all year-round.

(2) When angling from shore (includes beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks, and other man-made structures connected to the shore), only the species identified in ~~(b)(3)~~ (b)(2) above may be taken or possessed all year-round, ~~except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March and December.~~ No vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) may be used to assist in taking or possessing these species while angling from shore under this provision.

(3) When diving or spearfishing, as authorized in Section 28.90, only the species identified in ~~(b)(3)~~ (b)(2) above may be taken or possessed all year-round, ~~except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March, and December.~~ Except for spearfishing gear, all other types of fishing gear are prohibited to be aboard the vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) while spearfishing for the purpose of taking or possessing these species under this provision.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 200, 202 and 205, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 200, 202, 205, ~~and 1802,~~ and 7071, Fish and Game Code; 50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G; 50 CFR 660.384; and 14 CCR 27.20.

Subsections (a), (b)(1), (b)(2), (b)(4) through (b)(7), (b)(10) and (c) of Section 27.65 remain unchanged.

Subsections (b)(3), (b)(8), and (b)(9) of Section 27.65, Title 14, CCR are amended to read:

§ 27.65. Filleting of Fish on Vessels.

(b) Fish That May be Filleted: No person shall fillet on any boat or bring ashore as fillets any fish, except in accordance with the following requirements:

(3) Lingcod. Lingcod fillets must be a minimum of ~~16 inches~~ 14 inches in length. Each fillet shall bear intact a one-inch square patch of skin. The minimum size and minimum fillet size for lingcod may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 days in advance of a change to the minimum size and minimum fillet size for lingcod made under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/, www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

(8) Rockfish: Fillets must have the entire skin attached. Bocaccio fillets must be a minimum of five inches in length. The minimum size and minimum fillet size for rockfish may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change to the minimum size and minimum fillet size for rockfish made under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/, www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

(9) California scorpionfish (commonly termed "sculpin"): Fillets must be a minimum of 5 inches. Each fillet shall bear intact a one-inch square patch of skin. The minimum size and minimum fillet size for California scorpionfish may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 days in advance of a change to the minimum size and minimum fillet size for California scorpionfish made under the

authority of subsection 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: ~~www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/~~, www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 200 and 202, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 200, 202, 205, 206, 220, 240, 5508 and 5509, Fish and Game Code.

Section 28.26, Title 14, CCR, is amended to read:

§ 28.26. California Sheephead.

(a) Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints: See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) Northern Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~May 15~~from the second Saturday in May through ~~September 15~~October 31, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(2) ~~North-Central North of Point Arena~~Mendocino Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~May 15~~from the second Saturday in May through August 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) ~~North-Central South of Point Arena~~San Francisco Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~June 13 through October 31~~1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 30 fathoms.

(4) ~~Monterey South-Central~~Central Groundfish Management Area: Open May 1 through ~~November 15~~December 31, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(5) ~~Morro Bay South-Central~~ Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~May 1 through November 15~~, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(6)(5) Southern Groundfish Management Area: Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

(7)(6) Cowcod Conservation Areas: Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than ~~20 fathoms~~30 fathoms.

(b) Limit: Five.

(c) Minimum size: 12 inches total length.

(d) Fishing rules for California sheephead may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for this species made under the authority of subsection 27.20(e) or Section 52.10. Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 200, 202, 205, 702, 7071 and 8587.1, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 200, 202, 205, 1802, 7071 and 8586, Fish and Game Code; 50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G; 50 CFR 660.384; and 14 CCR 27.20.

Section 28.27, Title 14, CCR, is amended to read:

§ 28.27. Lingcod.

(a) Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints: See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) Northern Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~May 15~~ from the second Saturday in May through September 15 ~~October 31~~, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(2) ~~North-Central North of Point Arena~~ Mendocino Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~May 15~~ from the second Saturday in May through August 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) ~~North-Central South of Point Arena~~ San Francisco Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~June 13 through October 31~~ 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 30 fathoms.

(4) ~~Monterey South-Central~~ Central Groundfish Management Area: Open May 1 through ~~November 15~~ December 31, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

~~(5) Morro Bay South-Central~~ Groundfish Management Area: Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

~~(6)~~ (5) Southern Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~April~~ March 1 through ~~November 30~~ December 31, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

~~(7)~~ (6) Cowcod Conservation Areas: Open ~~April~~ March 1 through ~~November 30~~ December 31, in waters shallower than ~~20 fathoms~~ 30 fathoms.

(b) Limit: Two.

(c) Minimum size: ~~24~~ 22 inches total length.

(d) Method of take: When angling, gear is restricted to not ~~Net~~ more than two hooks and one line. For purposes of this section, a hook is a single hook, or double or treble hook with multiple points connected to a common shank.

(e) Fishing rules for lingcod may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for this species made under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 200, 202, 205, 220, 702 and 8587.1, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 200, 202, 205, 1802 and 8586, Fish and Game Code; 50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G; 50 CFR 660.384; and 14 CCR 27.20.

Section 28.28, Title 14, CCR, is amended to read:

§ 28.28. Cabezon.

(a) Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints: See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) Northern Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~May 15~~ from the second Saturday in May through September 15 ~~October 31~~, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(2) ~~North-Central North of Point Arena~~ Mendocino Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~May 15~~ from the second Saturday in May through August 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) ~~North-Central South of Point Arena~~ San Francisco Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~June 13 through October 31~~ 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 30 fathoms.

(4) ~~Monterey South-Central~~ Central Groundfish Management Area: Open May 1 through ~~November 15~~ December 31, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

~~(5) Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area: Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.~~

~~(6)~~ (5) Southern Groundfish Management Area: Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

~~(7)~~ (6) Cowcod Conservation Areas: Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than ~~20 fathoms~~ 30 fathoms.

(b) Limit: ~~Two~~ Three Fish, within a Rockfish, Cabezon, and Greenling complex (RCG complex, as defined in Section 1.91) bag limit of 10 fish.

(c) Minimum size: 15 inches total length.

(d) Method of take: When angling, gear is restricted to not more than two hooks and one line. For purposes of this section, a hook is a single hook, or double or treble hook with multiple points connected to a common shank.

~~(d)~~ (e) Fishing rules for cabezon may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e) or Section 52.10. The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for this species made under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 200, 202, 205, 220, 702 and 8587.1, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 200, 202, 205, 1802, 7071 and 8586, Fish and Game Code; 50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G; 50 CFR 660.384; and 14 CCR 27.20.

Section 28.29, Title 14, CCR, is amended to read:

§ 28.29. Kelp Greenling. Rock Greenling.

(a) Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints for greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* (including kelp and rock greenlings): See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) Northern Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~May 15~~ from the second Saturday in May through September 15 ~~October 31~~, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(2) ~~North-Central North of Point Arena~~ Mendocino Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~May 15~~ from the second Saturday in May through August 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

~~(3) North-Central South of Point Arena~~San Francisco Groundfish Management Area: Open June 13 through ~~October 31~~ 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 30 fathoms.

~~(4) Monterey South-Central~~Central Groundfish Management Area: Open May 1 through ~~November 15~~December 31, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

~~(5) Morro Bay South-Central~~ Groundfish Management Area: Open May 1 through ~~November 15~~, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

~~(6)~~(5) Southern Groundfish Management Area: Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

~~(7)~~(6) Cowcod Conservation Areas: Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than ~~20 fathoms~~30 fathoms.

(b) Limit: For greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*, two fish within a Rockfish, Cabezon, and Greenling complex (RCG complex, as defined in Section 1.91) bag limit of 10 fish, ~~two fish~~.

(c) Minimum size: 12 inches total length.

(d) Method of take: When angling, gear is restricted to not more than two hooks and one line. For purposes of this section, a hook is a single hook, or double or treble hook with multiple points connected to a common shank.

~~(d)~~(e) Fishing rules for greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e) or Section 52.10. The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for these species made under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 200, 202, 205, 702, 7071 and 8587.1, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 200, 202, 205, ~~210~~, 1802, 7071 and 8586, Fish and Game Code; 50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G; 50 CFR 660.384; and 14 CCR 27.20.

Section 28.48, Title 14, CCR, is amended to read:

§ 28.48. Pacific Sanddab, Rock Sole, Sand Sole, Butter Sole, Curlfin Sole, Rex Sole, and Flathead Sole.

Pacific sanddab, rock sole, sand sole, butter sole, curlfin sole, rex sole, and flathead sole are federal groundfish, also known in the aggregate as "other flatfish" pursuant to subsection 1.91(a)(10)~~as defined in Section 1.91~~, and thus are subject to special regulations as follows. ~~These species are also known in the aggregate as "other flatfish" pursuant to subsection 1.91(a)(10).~~ Regulations of this Section do not apply to other species of sanddabs, flounders, or sole.

(a) Open year-round.

(b) Fishing rules for Pacific sanddab, rock sole, sand sole, butter sole, curlfin sole, rex sole, and flathead sole may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for these species made

under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

(c) Limit: There is no limit on Pacific sanddab. The general bag limit of not more than 20 finfish in combination of all species with not more than 10 of any one species applies to rock sole, sand sole, butter sole, curlfin sole, rex sole, and flathead sole.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 200, 202, 205 and 702, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 200, 202, 205 and 1802, Fish and Game Code; 50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G; 50 CFR 660.384; and 14 CCR 27.20.

Section 28.49, Title 14, CCR, is amended to read:

§ 28.49. Petrale Sole, Starry Flounder, Soupfin Shark, Dover Sole, English Sole, Petrale Sole, Arrowtooth Flounder, and Starry Flounder, Spiny Dogfish, Big Skate, California Skate, Longnose Skate, Ratfish, Rattails, Codlings, Pacific Cod, Pacific Whiting, Sablefish and Thornyheads.

Petracle sole, starry flounder, soupfin shark, Dover sole, English sole, Petrale sole, arrowtooth flounder and starry flounder, spiny dogfish, big skate, California skate, longnose skate, ratfish, Pacific rattail, finescale codling, Pacific cod, Pacific whiting, sablefish, longspine thornyhead, and shortspine thornyhead are federal groundfish, as defined in Section subsection 1.91(a), and thus are subject to special regulations as follows. Regulations of this Section do not apply to other species of flounders or sole, sharks, skates, rattails, or codlings unless otherwise specified.

(a) Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints: See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) Northern Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~May 15~~ from the second Saturday in May through September 15 ~~October 31~~, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(2) ~~North-Central North of Point Arena~~ Mendocino Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~May 15~~ from the second Saturday in May through August 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) ~~North-Central South of Point Arena~~ San Francisco Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~June 13 through October 31~~ 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 30 fathoms.

(4) ~~Monterey South-Central~~ Central Groundfish Management Area: Open May 1 through ~~November 15~~ December 31, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(5) ~~Morro Bay South-Central~~ Groundfish Management Area: Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

~~(6)~~ (5) Southern Groundfish Management Area: Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

~~(7)~~ (6) Cowcod Conservation Areas: Closed.

(b) Fishing rules for Petracle sole, starry flounder, soupfin shark, Dover sole, English sole, Petrale sole, arrowtooth flounder, and starry flounder, spiny dogfish, big skate, California skate, longnose skate, ratfish, Pacific rattail, finescale codling, Pacific cod,

Pacific whiting, sablefish, longspine thornyhead and shortspine thornyhead may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for these species made under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

(c) Limit:

(1) There is no limit on Petrale sole or starry flounder.

(2) The limit on soupfin shark is one fish.

(3) The general bag limit of not more than 20 finfish in combination of all species with not more than 10 of any one species applies to Dover sole, English sole, ~~and arrowtooth flounder~~, spiny dogfish, big skate, California skate, longnose skate, ratfish, Pacific rattail, finescale codling, Pacific cod, Pacific whiting, sablefish, longspine thornyhead and shortspine thornyhead.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 200, 202, 205 and 702, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 200, 202, 205 and 1802, Fish and Game Code; 50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G; 50 CFR 660.384; and 14 CCR 27.20.

Section 28.51, Title 14, CCR, is repealed:

~~§ 28.51. Spiny Dogfish, Soupfin Shark.~~

~~Spiny dogfish and soupfin shark are federal groundfish, as defined in Section 1.91, and thus are subject to special regulations as follows:~~

~~(a) Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints: See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:~~

~~(1) Northern Groundfish Management Area: Open May 15 through September 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.~~

~~(2) North-Central North of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area: Open May 15 through August 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.~~

~~(3) North-Central South of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area: Open June 13 through October 31, in waters shallower than 30 fathoms.~~

~~(4) Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area: Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.~~

~~(5) Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area: Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.~~

~~(6) Southern Groundfish Management Area: Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.~~

~~(7) Cowcod Conservation Areas: Closed.~~

~~(b) Fishing rules for spiny dogfish and soupfin shark may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for these species made under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). Anglers~~

and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

~~(c) Limit: Soupfin shark – one. The general bag limit of not more than 20 finfish in combination of all species with not more than 10 of any one species applies to spiny dogfish.~~

Note: Authority cited: Sections 200, 202, 205 and 702, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 200, 202, 205 and 1802, Fish and Game Code; 50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G; 50 CFR 660.384; and 14 CCR 27.20.

Section 28.52, Title 14, CCR, is repealed:

~~§ 28.52. Big Skates, California Skates, and Longnose Skates.~~

~~Big skates, California skates, and longnose skates are federal groundfish, as defined in Section 1.91, and thus are subject to special regulations as follows. Regulations in this Section do not apply to other skate species.~~

~~(a) Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints: See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:~~

~~(1) Northern Groundfish Management Area: Open May 15 through September 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.~~

~~(2) North-Central North of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area: Open May 15 through August 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.~~

~~(3) North-Central South of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area: Open June 13 through October 31, in waters shallower than 30 fathoms.~~

~~(4) Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area: Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.~~

~~(5) Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area: Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.~~

~~(6) Southern Groundfish Management Area: Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.~~

~~(7) Cowcod Conservation Areas: Closed.~~

~~(b) Fishing rules for big skates, California skates, and longnose skates may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar~~

~~days in advance of a change for these species made under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The~~

~~latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at:~~

~~www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.~~

~~(c) Limit: The general bag limit of not more than 20 finfish in combination of all species with not more than 10 of any one species applies to big skates, California skates, and longnose skates.~~

Note: Authority cited: Sections 200, 202, 205 and 702, Fish and Game Code.
Reference: Sections 200, 202, 205 and 1802, Fish and Game Code; 50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G; 50 CFR 660.384; and 14 CCR 27.20.

Section 28.53, Title 14, CCR, is repealed:

~~§ 28.53. Ratfish, Rattails and Codlings.~~

~~Ratfish, Pacific rattail and finescale codling are federal groundfish, as defined in Section 1.91, and thus are subject to special regulations as follows. Regulations in this Section do not apply to other rattail or codling species.~~

~~(a) Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints: See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:~~

~~(1) Northern Groundfish Management Area: Open May 15 through September 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.~~

~~(2) North-Central North of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area: Open May 15 through August 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.~~

~~(3) North-Central South of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area: Open June 13 through October 31, in waters shallower than 30 fathoms.~~

~~(4) Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area: Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.~~

~~(5) Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area: Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.~~

~~(6) Southern Groundfish Management Area: Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.~~

~~(7) Cowcod Conservation Areas: Closed.~~

~~(b) Fishing rules for ratfish, Pacific rattail and finescale codling may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for these species made under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.~~

~~(c) Limit: The general bag limit of not more than 20 finfish in combination of all species with not more than 10 of any one species applies to ratfish, Pacific rattail and finescale codling.~~

Note: Authority cited: Sections 200, 202, 205 and 702, Fish and Game Code.
Reference: Sections 200, 202, 205 and 1802, Fish and Game Code; 50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G; 50 CFR 660.384; and 14 CCR 27.20.

Section 28.54, Title 14, CCR, is amended to read:

§ 28.54. California Scorpionfish (Sculpin).

(a) Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints: See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) Northern Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~May 15~~from the second Saturday in May through ~~September 15~~October 31, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(2) ~~North-Central North of Point Arena~~ Mendocino Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~May 15~~from the second Saturday in May through August 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) ~~North-Central South of Point Arena~~ San Francisco Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~June 13~~ through ~~October 31~~ 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 30 fathoms.

(4) ~~Monterey South-Central~~ Central Groundfish Management Area: Open May 1 through ~~November 15~~December 31, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

~~(5) Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area: Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.~~

~~(6)~~(5) Southern Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~January 1 through the last day in February~~ in waters shallower than 40 fathoms, and ~~March 1 through December 31~~year-round in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

~~(7)~~(6) Cowcod Conservation Areas: Open ~~January 1 through December 31~~year-round in waters shallower than ~~20 fathoms~~30 fathoms.

(b) Limit: Five.

(c) Minimum size: 10 inches total length.

(d) Fishing rules for California scorpionfish may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for this species made under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 200, 202, 205, 702, 7071 and 8587.1, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 200, 202, 205, ~~210~~, 220, 1802, 7071 and 8586, Fish and Game Code; 50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G; 50 CFR 660.384; and 14 CCR 27.20.

Section 28.55, Title 14, CCR, is amended to read:

§ 28.55. Rockfish (Sebastes).

(a) Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints: See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) Northern Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~May 15~~from the second Saturday in May through ~~September 15~~October 31, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

~~(2) North-Central North of Point Arena-Mendocino~~ Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~May 15 from the second Saturday in May~~ through August 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

~~(3) North-Central South of Point Arena-San Francisco~~ Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~June 13 through October 31~~ 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 30 fathoms.

~~(4) Monterey South-Central~~Central Groundfish Management Area: Open May 1 through ~~November 15~~December 31, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

~~(5) Morro Bay South-Central~~ Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~May 1 through November 15~~, in waters shallower than ~~40 fathoms~~.

~~(6)~~(5) Southern Groundfish Management Area: Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

~~(7)~~(6) Cowcod Conservation Areas: Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than ~~20 fathoms~~30 fathoms, except that only Nearshore Rockfish, as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(1) and Shelf Rockfish, as defined in 1.91(a)(3) may be taken and possessed.

(b) Limit: Ten, within the Rockfish, Cabezon, and Greenling complex (RCG complex, as defined in Section 1.91) ~~bag~~-limit of 10 fish, in any combination of species, except as provided below.

(1) The limit on bronzespotted rockfish, canary rockfish, cowcod, and yelloweye rockfish is zero. These species shall not be taken or possessed as part of the RCG limit.

(2) The limit on bocaccio rockfish is two fish, within the RCG limit.

(3) In the Cowcod Conservation Areas (see Section 27.50), the limit on ~~bocaccio and other shelf and slope rockfish~~, as defined in subsections ~~1.91(a)(3) and 1.91(a)(4)~~, is zero. ~~These species~~ Slope rockfish shall not be taken or possessed as part of the RCG limit in the Cowcod Conservation Areas.

(c) Size limit: None, except no bocaccio may be taken or possessed that is less than 10 inches in total length.

(d) Method of take: When angling, gear is restricted to not ~~Not~~ more than two hooks and one line. For purposes of this section, a hook is a single hook, or a double or treble hook with multiple points connected to a common shank.

(e) Fishing rules for rockfish may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for these species made under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 200, 202, 205, 215, 220, 702, 7071 and 8587.1, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 200, 202, 205, 215, 220, 1802, 7071, and 8585.5, and 8586, Fish and Game Code; 50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G; 50 CFR 660.384; and 14 CCR 27.20.

Section 28.56, Title 14, CCR, is amended to read:

§ 28.56. Leopard Shark.

(a) Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints: See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) Northern Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~May 15 from the second Saturday in May through September 15~~October 31, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms, except that take and possession is authorized year-round in Humboldt Bay.

(2) ~~North-Central North of Point Arena~~Mendocino Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~May 15 from the second Saturday in May~~ through August 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) ~~North-Central South of Point Arena~~San Francisco Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~June 13 through October 31~~ 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 30 fathoms, except that take and possession is authorized year-round in Drake's Estero Bay, Bolinas Bay, Tomales Bay, Bodega Harbor, and San Francisco Bay.

(4) ~~Monterey South-Central~~Central Groundfish Management Area: Open May 1 through ~~November 15~~December 31, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms, except that take and possession is authorized year-round in Elkhorn Slough.

~~(5) Morro Bay South-Central~~ Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~May 1 through November 15~~, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

~~(6)~~(5) Southern Groundfish Management Area: Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms, except that take and possession is authorized year-round in Newport Bay, Alamitos Bay, Mission Bay, and San Diego Bay.

~~(7)~~(6) Cowcod Conservation Areas: Closed.

(b) Limit: three.

(c) Minimum size: 36 inches total length.

(d) Fishing rules for leopard shark may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for this species made under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 200, 202, 205, ~~210~~ and 702, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 200, 202, 205, 206, ~~210~~ and 1802, Fish and Game Code; 50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G; 50 CFR 660.384; and 14 CCR 27.20.

Section 28.57, Title 14, CCR, is repealed:

~~§ 28.57. Pacific Cod, Pacific Whiting, Sablefish, and Thornyheads.~~

~~Pacific cod, Pacific whiting, sablefish, longspine thornyhead, and shortspine thornyhead are federal groundfish, as defined in Section 1.91, and thus are subject to special regulations as follows:~~

~~(a) Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints: See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:~~

~~(1) Northern Groundfish Management Area: Open May 15 through September 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.~~

~~(2) North-Central North of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area: Open May 15 through August 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.~~

~~(3) North-Central South of Point Arena Groundfish Management Area: Open June 13 through October 31, in waters shallower than 30 fathoms.~~

~~(4) Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area: Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.~~

~~(5) Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area: Open May 1 through November 15, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.~~

~~(6) Southern Groundfish Management Area: Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.~~

~~(7) Cowcod Conservation Areas: Closed.~~

~~(b) Fishing rules for Pacific cod, Pacific whiting, sablefish, longspine thornyhead, and shortspine thornyhead may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for these species made under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.~~

~~(c) Limit: The general bag limit of not more than 20 finfish in combination of all species with not more than 10 of any one species applies to Pacific cod, Pacific whiting, sablefish, longspine thornyhead, and shortspine thornyhead.~~

Note: Authority cited: Sections 200, 202, 205 and 702, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 200, 202, 205 and 1802, Fish and Game Code; 50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G; 50 CFR 660.384; and 14 CCR 27.20.

Section 28.58, Title 14, CCR, is amended to read:

§ 28.58. Ocean Whitefish.

(a) Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints: See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) Northern Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~May 15~~ from the second Saturday in May through September 15 ~~October 31~~, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(2) ~~North-Central North of Point Arena-Mendocino~~ Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~May 15 from the second Saturday in May~~ through August 15, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) ~~North-Central South of Point Arena-San Francisco~~ Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~June 13 through October 31~~ 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 30 fathoms.

(4) ~~Monterey South-Central~~Central Groundfish Management Area: Open May 1 through ~~November 15~~December 31, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(5) ~~Morro Bay South-Central~~ Groundfish Management Area: Open ~~May 1 through November 15~~, in waters shallower than ~~40 fathoms~~.

(6)(5) Southern Groundfish Management Area: Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

(7)(6) Cowcod Conservation Areas: Open March 1 through December 31, in waters shallower than ~~20 fathoms~~30 fathoms.

(b) Fishing rules for ocean whitefish may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for this species made under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

(c) Limit: The general bag limit of not more than 20 finfish in combination of all species with not more than 10 of any one species applies to ocean whitefish.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 200, 202, 205, ~~240~~, 215, 220 and 702, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 200, 202, 205, 206, 215, 220 and 1802, Fish and Game Code; 50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G; 50 CFR 660.384; and 14 CCR 27.20.

Subsections (a), (b), and (d) through (g) of Section 28.65 remain unchanged.

Subsection 28.65(c), Title 14, CCR, is amended to read:

§ 28.65. General.

Except as provided in this article, fin fish may be taken only on hook and line or by hand. Any number of hooks and lines may be used in all ocean waters and bays except:

(c) When rockfish (genus *Sebastes*), ~~or~~ lingcod (*Ophiodon elongatus*), cabezon (*Scorpaenichthys marmoratus*), or kelp or rock greenlings (*Hexagrammos decagrammus* and *Hexagrammos lagocephalus*) are aboard or in possession, where only one line with not more than two hooks may be used pursuant to sections 28.55, ~~or~~ 28.27, 28.28 or 28.29, respectively.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 200, 202, 205, 215, 220, 240 and 7071, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 200, 202, 205, 206, 215, 220, 240 and 8585.5, Fish and Game Code.

Section 52.10, Title 14, CCR, is amended to read:

§ 52.10. Take of Sheephead, Cabezon and Greenling.

(a) Total Allowable Catches (TACs) and Allocations. Based on total allowable catches specified for each calendar year, catch may not exceed the following amounts:

(1) California sheephead. The statewide allowable catch of sheephead is 205,500 pounds, allocated as follows:

(A) The commercial fishery is allocated 75,200 pounds.

(B) The recreational fishery is allocated 130,300 pounds.

(2) Cabezon. The total statewide allowable catch of cabezon is ~~152,100~~326,200 pounds, allocated as follows:

(A) The commercial fishery is allocated ~~59,300~~127,200 pounds.

(B) The recreational fishery is allocated ~~92,800~~199,000 pounds.

(3) Greenlings of the genus Hexagrammos. The total statewide allowable catch of greenlings is 37,600 pounds, allocated as follows:

(A) The commercial fishery is allocated 3,400 pounds.

(B) The recreational fishery is allocated 34,200 pounds.

(b) Mechanism for Fishery Closures. The department will estimate from the current trends in catch and using the best available scientific information the time at which any commercial or recreational fishery allocation or total allowable catch for sheephead, cabezon, or greenlings specified in subsection (a) will be reached. The department will close the fishery at the time the allocation or total allowable catch is reached or is projected to be reached prior to the end of the calendar year.

(c) The department shall give the public and the commission no less than 10 days notice of any recreational fishery closure pursuant to this Section via a department news release.

(d) The department shall give holders of nearshore fishery permits no less than 10 days notice of any commercial fishery closure pursuant to this Section via a notification letter sent to the permittee's address on file with the department. The department shall give the public and the commission no less than 10 days notice of any commercial fishery closure pursuant to this Section via a department news release.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 200, 202, ~~205~~, 7071 and 8587.1, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 97, 7056, 7071, 8585.5, 8586, 8587 and 8587.1, Fish and Game Code.

Section 150.16, Title 14, CCR, is amended to read:

§ 150.16. Commercial Take of Nearshore Fishes.

(a) Notwithstanding Section 8588(b) of the Fish and Game Code, minimum size limits (total length) are as follows:

- (1) black-and-yellow rockfish (*Sebastes chrysomelas*) 10 in.
- (2) cabezon (*Scorpaenichthys marmoratus*) 15 in.
- (3) California scorpionfish or sculpin (*Scorpaena guttata*) 10 in.
- (4) California sheephead (*Semicossyphus pulcher*) 13 in.

- (5) China rockfish (*Sebastes nebulosus*) 12 in.
- (6) gopher rockfish (*Sebastes carnatus*) 10 in.
- (7) grass rockfish (*Sebastes rastrelliger*) 12 in.
- (8) greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* (*Hexagrammos* spp.) 12 in.
- (9) kelp rockfish (*Sebastes atrovirens*) 10 in.

(b) Species of nearshore fish stocks as defined in Section 1.90, Title 14, CCR, must be sorted by species prior to weighing and the weight reported separately on the Fish and Game receipt.

(c) Any nearshore fish listed under this section that are taken in a nearshore fishery shall be measured immediately upon being brought aboard the vessel and released immediately if not in compliance with the size limits specified.

(d) Regulations adopted to modify the minimum size limits or to specify maximum size limits shall be based on the best available scientific information and adopted pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act following public notice and not less than one public hearing.

(e) Cumulative trip limits for sheephead, cabezon, greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*, California scorpionfish, and subgroups of rockfish.

(1) A cumulative trip limit is the total number of pounds of a species or a species group that may be taken and retained, possessed, or landed by an individual commercial licensee in a cumulative trip limit period without a limit on the number of landings or trips.

(2) Cumulative trip limit periods start at 0001 hours local time, end at 2400 hours local time, and are in two month periods as follows:

- (A) January 1 through the last day of February,
- (B) March 1-April 30,
- (C) May 1-June 30,
- (D) July 1-August 31,
- (E) September 1-October 31,
- (F) November 1-December 31.

(3) Landings toward a cumulative trip limit value for a defined cumulative trip limit period provided in this subsection are summed by an individual's California commercial license number listed on fish receipts submitted to the department pursuant to Section 8043, Fish and Game Code.

(4) Any person landing species for which there is a cumulative trip limit established pursuant to this Section shall keep in their immediate possession copies of any and all reports of landings required by state laws or regulations throughout the cumulative limit period during which a landing occurred and for 15 days thereafter.

(5) Cumulative trip limit values noticed in the Federal Register by the National Marine Fisheries Service for the cumulative trip limit periods for shallow nearshore rockfish, deeper nearshore rockfish, and California scorpionfish apply to each individual California commercial licensee in addition to the federally-defined vessel-based limits. Landings are summed by an individual's California commercial license number listed on fish receipts submitted to the department pursuant to Section 8043, Fish and Game Code.

(6) Cumulative trip limits for sheephead, cabezon and greenlings.

(A) The cumulative trip limit per individual per two-month limit period when fishing is

allowed pursuant to Section 150.06, Title 14, CCR, is as follows:

	<i>Sheephead</i>	<i>Cabazon</i>	<i>Greenlings</i>
January-February	2,000 pounds	300 [0-1,000] pounds	25 pounds
March-April	2,000 pounds	400 [0-1,000] pounds	25 pounds
May-June	2,400 pounds	250 [0-1,000] pounds	25 pounds
July-August	2,400 pounds	450 [0-1,000] pounds	25 pounds
September-October	2,400 pounds	900 [0-1,000] pounds	25 pounds
November-December	2,400 pounds	400 [0-1,000] pounds	25 pounds

(B) The department will evaluate year-to-date catch levels against total allowable catch limits defined in Section 52.10. Based on these data, when the department determines that cumulative trip limits defined in this Section need significant adjustment upward or downward (by 50 percent or more) in order to spread the allowable catches through the open season to the extent possible and prevent early attainment of the annual total allowable commercial catch, the cumulative trip limits defined in this Section may become inoperative and may be replaced with alternative limits as determined by the department. The department may perform these in-season analyses between May and September of each year; and provide notification of changes by October 15 of each year, as described in subsection (e)(6)(C).

(C) The department shall give holders of nearshore fishery permits no less than 10 days notice of any cumulative trip limit change pursuant to this Section via a notification letter sent to the permittee's address on file with the department.

(D) When ~~optimum yields~~, allocations, total allowable catches or other catch limits defined in Section 52.10 are reached, and action to close the fishery is taken pursuant to Section 52.10 subsection (b), cumulative trip limits defined in this Section become inoperative.

(f) All other trip limits (including daily, weekly and cumulative trip limits) established for commercial rockfish, a subgroup of rockfish, or California scorpionfish noticed in the Federal Register by the National Marine Fisheries Service shall apply in state waters within the geographic boundary areas defined in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Parts 600 and 660. See also Section 189, Title 14, California Code of Regulations for additional requirements regarding fishing for federal groundfish in state waters.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 240, 7071, 8587.1 and 8588, Fish and Game Code.
Reference: Sections 97, 240, 8585.5, 8586, 8587.1 and 8588, Fish and Game Code.