

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME MOTION ON THE ADOPTION OF
THE 2007-2008 GROUND FISH FISHERY SPECIFICATIONS/ MANAGEMENT
MEASURES

For the 2007-2008, CDFG recommends that the Council adopt the following management measures for 2007-2008 that will keep harvests within recreational harvest targets for rebuilding and target species. California proposes maintaining the five regions described under the No Action Alternative to manage California recreational groundfish fisheries provided in Agenda Item F.6.b Supplemental CDFG Report on "Corrections to California Recreational Alternatives in Chapter 2.0 of the 2007-2008 Groundfish Management Specifications Draft EIS".

The status quo (No Action) California recreational management measures that continue to apply include the following:

- Regulations apply to groundfish (with sanddab fishery exception) and associated state-managed species (rock greenling, California sheephead, and ocean whitefish).
- The sport fishery for sanddabs, using gear specified in federal and state regulations (size #2 hooks or smaller), is exempt from the season closures and depth restrictions placed on other federally-managed groundfish.
- Retention of species in the Other Flatfish complex is allowed when fishing with size #2 hooks or smaller (≤ 11 mm from point to shank) for Pacific sanddabs.
- A two-fish bag limit for bocaccio in the northern RLMA (north of 40°10' N latitude to the Oregon/California border at 42° N latitude) and a one-fish bag limit south of 40°10' N latitude to the U.S./Mexico border within the 10-fish RCG daily bag limit.
- No retention of cowcod, canary, or yelloweye rockfish.
- Lingcod size limit of 24 inches with a daily bag limit of two fish.
- Notwithstanding other fishing opportunities for groundfish, lingcod may not be retained during January, February, March, and December.
- Waters of Cordell Bank less than 100 fm in depth are closed to fishing at all times.
- Recreational fishing for groundfish prohibited between the shoreline and the 10 fm (18 m) depth contour around the Farallon Islands and Noonday Rock.
- All divers (boats permitted while diving for rockfish or other closed species during closed periods provided no hook and line gear on board or in possession while diving to catch rockfish) and shore-based anglers would be exempt from the seasonal closures and depth restrictions for rockfish, greenlings, California scorpionfish, California sheephead, and ocean whitefish.
- Fishing is allowed within the Cowcod Conservation Areas shoreward of the 20 fm line when fishing is open for groundfish other than California scorpionfish, but including select non-groundfish species (California sheephead and ocean whitefish).

California recreational groundfish management measures that differ from status quo include the following:

- Combined rockfish + cabezon + greenling (RCG) complex daily bag limit of 10 fish, of which one can be a cabezon and two can be a greenling of the genus *Hexagrammos*.
- In the South Region, CA scorpionfish is open 12 months: 0-40 fm January-February, 0-60 fm in March-December.

The CDFG recommended recreational seasons and depth restrictions by region are summarized below.

2007-2008 CA Option H11=3

RCG SEASON BY REGION

Region	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
North region	---	---	---	---	> 30 fm Closed							
North Central	---	---	---	---	---	> 30 fm Closed						---
South Central - Monterey	---	---	---	---	---	> 40 fm Closed						---
South Central - Morro Bay	---	---	---	---	---	> 40 fm Closed						---
South Region	---	---	> 60 fm Closed									

NOTES AND KEY:

RCG = Rockfish, cabezon, greenlings

--- = Closed to boat-based fishing for RCG

ESTIMATED IMPACTS FROM OPTION:

Region	Estimated Impacts (mt)									
	Yelloweye	Canary	Cowcod	Bocaccio	Widow	Minor NS RF North	Minor NS RF South	CA Scorpionfish	Lingcod	
North region	0.9	0.7	N/A	N/A	0	17.3	N/A	0	51	
North Central	0.6	5.5	0	0.2	2.2	N/A	165	0	152	
South Central - Monterey	0	0.4	0	6.5	0.8	N/A	93	0	26	
South Central - Morro Bay	0	1.1	0	2.2	0.1	N/A	82	0	21	
South Region	0	0.3	0.3	57.4	5.2	N/A	61	75	26	
TOTAL CALIFORNIA	1.5	8	0.3	66.3	8.3	17.3	401	75	276	

Adopt nearshore commercial recommendations and trip limits contained in Agenda Item F.6.c Supplemental CDFG Report 2.