

**California Department of Fish and Game
Practical Range of Management Specifications for California's 2009-2010 Commercial
and Recreational Groundfish Fisheries**

The California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) has developed a draft range of management options for the 2009-2010 commercial and recreational fishing seasons. The options described below were developed with input received from the Fish and Game Commission at their November 2007 meeting and a Groundfish Taskforce meeting held to solicit recommendations from industry and environmental representatives. The CDFG is proposing the following possible changes to existing management measures with the intent of remaining within harvest guidelines (HGs), particularly for species under rebuilding plans.

COMMERCIAL AND RECREATIONAL

Specific Fishing Area Prohibitions:

Proposals for incorporating specific groundfish closed areas ("hot spots") into the management specifications are still being developed.

COMMERCIAL

The management options below are the proposed possible changes to the current commercial management measures to be considered and analyzed for inclusion in the 2009-2010 Management Specifications:

- *Range of trip limits for scorpionfish with higher limits than 2007-08 EIS.*
- *Range of trip limits for minor nearshore north of 40°10' with lower limits than 2007-08 EIS.*
- *Revise RCA lines to more closely approximate depth contours.*
- *Revise the EFH designation boundaries for the Eel River area.*

RECREATIONAL

The proposed management options below represent possible changes to the current recreational management measures to be considered and analyzed for inclusion in the 2009-2010 Management Specifications:

- *Changes in Management Area Season Lengths.*
- *Make the timing of the lingcod closure period in the Rockfish Lingcod Management Areas consistent with Rockfish Cabezon Greenling (RCG) season.*
- *Changes in Depth Restrictions in Management Areas.*
- *Inclusion of 2-fish lingcod bag limit as a sublimit within the 10-fish RCG bag limit.*
- *Change bag sublimits for some species in the 10-fish RCG bag limit.*
- *Consider retention of 1 canary rockfish within the 10-fish RCG bag limit in Management Areas where they are uncommon.*
- *Require possession and use of a "descending assistance device" to minimize barotrauma-induced mortality.*
- *Elimination of gear restrictions for "Other flatfish".*
- *Inclusion of additional recreational management lines within Management Areas.*
- *Changes to Management Area Boundaries.*
- *Addition or removal of Management Areas.*