

FINAL ACTION ON UPDATED COORDINATES FOR THE 125 FATHOM ROCKFISH  
CONSERVATION AREA LINE IN CALIFORNIA

On February 7, 2017, the seaward boundary of the non-trawl Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA) was changed from 150 fathoms (fm) to 125 fm in the area 40° 10' N. latitude to 34° 27' N. latitude ([82FR9634](#)). The RCA adjustment was based on a Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) recommendation as part of the 2017-2018 harvest specifications and management measures process.

At the March 2017 Council meeting, the Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) identified several locations where the 125 fm line crosses over the 150 fm line ([Agenda Item C.5.a, Supplemental GAP Report, March 2017](#)). Additionally, the GAP stated that the 125 fm line is limiting access to canyons that were previously open when the 150 fm line was in place.

In April 2017, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) provided updated coordinates for the 125 fm line for Council consideration ([Agenda Item F.7.a, CDFW Report, April 2017](#)). The Council adopted revised coordinates for the 125 fm line at Usal and Noyo canyons in California for public review, as shown in Table 1 of Agenda Item F.9.a, CDFW Report. These modifications are intended to provide access to canyons that were previously open when the 150 fm line was in effect (2003-2016). The modifications for Delgada Canyon, Point Ano Nuevo, and Cordell Banks (Table 1; [Agenda Item F.7.a, CDFW Report, April 2017](#)) were forwarded for consideration in the 2019-2020 harvest specifications and management measures process at the September 2017 Council meeting.

Under this agenda item, the Council should adopt final coordinates for the 125 fm RCA line in California, as appropriate.

**Council Action:**

**Adopt final coordinates for the 125 fm RCA line in California, as appropriate.**

**Reference Materials:**

1. Agenda Item F.9.a, CDFW Report: California Department of Fish and Wildlife Report on Corrections to the 125 fm RCA line between 40° 10' and 34° 27' N. Latitude.

**Agenda Order:**

- F.9 Final Action on Updated Coordinates for the 125 Fathom Rockfish Conservation Area Line in California Kelly Ames
- a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
  - b. Public Comment
  - c. **Council Action:** Adopt Final Revised RCA Coordinates