

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE REPORT ON 2019
GROUNDFISH HARVEST IN CALIFORNIA

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) provides the following informational report on harvest of select groundfish species for 2019. The following tables provide estimated harvest compared to federally designated harvest specifications (Table 1), estimated mortality of select species by month for the recreational sector (Table 2), and landings of select species by month for the commercial sector (Table 3). There were no species or complexes limits exceeded in 2019.

California's groundfish fishery regulations in 2019 included several new or expanded opportunities. For California scorpionfish, recreational opportunities returned to a year-round fishery. Inseason adjustments were implemented June 1 allowing for a return to the two fish bag limit for lingcod south of 40°10' N. lat., and increased sub-bag limits for black rockfish (from three to four fish) and canary rockfish (two to three fish) statewide. The increased yelloweye rockfish Harvest Guideline (HG) allowed the recreational fishery to maintain RCA depth limits throughout the season. It also afforded the opportunity for the all depth fishery in the Northern and Mendocino Management Areas (north of 38°57.5' N lat.) to occur which resulted in small increases to nearshore, lingcod and shelf rockfish catch in those months (Table 2). The recreational RCA depth boundary was extended to 75 fm in the Southern Management Area which provided increased opportunity for shelf rockfish and lingcod. Additionally, the non-trawl commercial fishery saw relief with sector specific trip limit increases for lingcod, nearshore rockfish, and blackgill rockfish.

This is the final update on the status of the 2019 fishing season relative to sector allocations, Annual Catch Limits (ACLs), Annual Catch Targets (ACTs), and HGs in effect for the 2019-2020 biennium.

Table 1. Estimated take (mt) of select groundfish species in California in 2019 compared to corresponding 2019 harvest limits (all non-trawl sectors).

	Reference point description	Estimated take (mt) ^f	Management reference points	
			Tracking Limit (mt)	% of Tracking Limit
Rebuilding Stocks				
Cowcod S 40°10' N lat.	Non-Trawl HG.	2.5	3.8	64.5%
Yelloweye rockfish	ACT (CA rec)	6.1	9.1	67.4%
Non-Rebuilding Stocks				
Black rockfish (CA)	ACL	157.9	327.7	48.2%
Blackgill rockfish S 40°10' N lat. ^a	HG	33.7	159.0	21.2%
Bocaccio S 40°10' N lat.	HG (rec)	143.0	863.4	16.6%
Cabezon (CA)	ACL	48.2	146.7	32.9%
California scorpionfish	ACL	114.1	310.6	36.7%
Canary rockfish	HG (rec)	71.7	127.3	56.3%
Kelp Greenling (CA)	^b	6.3	99.2	6.4%
Lingcod S 40°10' N lat.	Non-Trawl Alloc.	303.9	565.2	53.8%
Nearshore rockfish N 40°10' N lat. ^c	HG	29.5	37.9	77.8%
Nearshore rockfish S 40°10' N lat. ^c	ACL	694.1	1137.9	61.0%
Shelf rockfish N 40°10' N lat. ^d	Non-Trawl Alloc.	11.6	786.9	1.5%
Shelf rockfish S 40°10' N lat. ^d	Non-Trawl Alloc.	728.7	1357.3	53.7%
Slope rockfish N 40°10' N lat.	Non-Trawl Alloc.	11.3	316.4	3.6%
Slope rockfish S 40°10' N lat. ^e	Non-Trawl Alloc.	6.4	267.8	2.4%

a) Blackgill rockfish landings include both IFQ and non-IFQ sectors.

b) Reference point denotes the CA kelp greenling contribution to the Other Fisher complex ACL

c) Does not include black rockfish mortality estimates

d) Does not include cowcod, yelloweye, bocaccio, or canary rockfish estimates.

e) Does not include blackgill rockfish estimates

f) Take includes total mortality estimates for the recreational fishery and landings without discard mortality estimates for the non-trawl commercial fishery (except for blackgill rockfish)

Table 2. Estimated take (mt) of select groundfish species in the California recreational sector for 2019, by month.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total ^a
Rebuilding Stocks													
Cowcod S 40°10' N lat.	-	-	0.2	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.3	2.5
Yelloweye Rockfish	-	-	0.0	0.5	0.5	0.7	1.2	1.2	0.3	0.5	0.9	0.3	6.1
Non-Rebuilding Stocks													
Black Rockfish	-	0.0	-	1.0	11.1	16.7	28.9	31.7	9.6	4.3	4.9	1.0	109.3
Blackgill rockfish S 40°10' N lat.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bocaccio S 40°10' N lat.	0.0	0.0	10.5	21.9	14.9	17.2	7.4	16.3	14.3	17.8	14.5	8.3	143.0
Cabazon	0.1	0.0	0.2	1.3	2.8	2.5	4.0	4.6	2.4	1.8	2.9	0.5	23.0
CA Scorpionfish	3.2	2.1	4.2	10.1	21.3	23.6	20.4	10.1	4.3	6.7	4.0	2.8	112.6
Canary Rockfish	0.0	0.0	0.1	7.9	10.7	8.6	8.5	12.4	5.3	6.0	8.8	3.3	71.7
Kelp Greenling (CA)	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	3.2
Lingcod S 40°10' N lat.	0.1	0.2	1.9	18.4	26.9	32.8	29.3	54.3	15.7	29.0	43.9	12.3	264.8
Nearshore RF N 40°10' N lat. ^b	-	-	0.0	-	2.3	2.8	4.4	6.3	2.4	0.7	1.6	0.2	20.7
Nearshore RF S 40°10' N lat. ^b	0.3	0.3	11.3	38.9	51.3	89.7	66.7	98.0	59.1	53.5	87.4	34.4	590.9
Shelf rockfish N 40°10' N lat. ^c	-	-	-	-	1.1	1.3	1.8	3.5	0.8	0.3	0.7	0.0	9.5
Shelf rockfish S 40°10' N lat. ^c	0.1	0.0	33.4	62.1	65.5	74.8	69.1	104.9	56.6	60.0	76.2	45.2	648.1
Slope rockfish N 40°10' N lat.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0	0.0
Slope rockfish S 40°10' N lat. ^d	-	-	0.1	0.0	-	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	-	0.0	-	0.3

Note: 0.0 indicates trace mortality; a dash (-) indicates no mortality

Data are preliminary and includes total mortality estimates

a\ Discrepancies in the total are due to rounding

b\ Does not include black rockfish mortality estimates.

c\ Does not include cowcod, yelloweye, bocaccio, or canary rockfish estimates.

d\ Does not include blackgill rockfish estimates

Table 3. Estimated take (mt) of select groundfish species in the California commercial sector for 2019, by month.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total ^a
Rebuilding Stocks													
Cowcod S 40°10' N lat.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yelloweye rockfish	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Rebuilding Stocks													
Black rockfish (CA)	1.7	0.2	0.6	2.5	6.9	5.5	10.4	6.5	4.9	4.7	3.5	1.2	48.6
Blackgill rockfish S 40°10' N lat. ^a	1.6	0.7	2.8	2.3	2.8	3.2	1.7	2.4	4.0	5.4	5.6	1.2	33.7
Bocaccio S 40°10' N lat.	1.0	1.3	1.3	0.1	2.0	2.2	1.0	2.0	1.1	2.8	2.3	0.7	17.8
Cabazon (CA)	2.0	0.8	--	--	5.6	2.5	2.4	3.3	2.0	2.8	3.1	0.7	25.2
California scorpionfish	--	0.1	--	--	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	1.5
Canary rockfish	0.6	0.4	0.1	0.1	1.0	1.5	1.1	1.1	0.7	0.8	1.0	0.2	8.6
Kelp Greenling (CA)	0.4	0.2	--	--	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	2.5
Lingcod S 40°10' N lat.	3.3	1.8	--	--	3.3	5.3	3.0	6.0	3.2	7.0	4.4	1.8	39.1
Nearshore rockfish N 40°10' N lat. ^c	0.7	0.1	0.7	0.2	0.9	1.0	0.7	0.9	0.7	0.7	1.5	0.7	8.8
Nearshore rockfish S 40°10' N lat. ^c	9.8	4.7	--	0.0	9.4	14.2	11.1	15.8	10.1	13.4	11.3	3.4	103.2
Shelf rockfish N 40°10' N lat. ^d	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	2.1
Shelf rockfish S 40°10' N lat. ^d	6.7	6.1	0.1	0.1	8.5	10.0	8.0	10.1	8.4	8.4	8.8	5.4	80.6
Slope rockfish N 40°10' N lat.	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.7	6.0	1.3	0.4	1.2	0.8	0.1	0.0	11.3
Slope rockfish S 40°10' N lat. ^e	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.5	1.2	1.3	0.2	1.4	0.5	0.1	0.1	6.1

Note: Landings include non-trawl, non-IFQ fixed-gears for limited entry and open access sectors.

Data are preliminary and mortality estimates do not include discard mortality.

0.0 indicates trace mortality; a dash (-) indicates no mortality.

a) Discrepancies in the total are due to rounding

b) Blackgill rockfish landings include both IFQ and non-IFQ sectors.

c) Does not include black rockfish mortality estimates.

d) Does not include cowcod, yelloweye, bocaccio, or canary rockfish estimates.

e) Does not include blackgill rockfish estimates