

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE ON COPPER ROCKFISH
RECREATIONAL MANAGEMENT AND CATCH HISTORY IN CALIFORNIA FROM 2012-2021

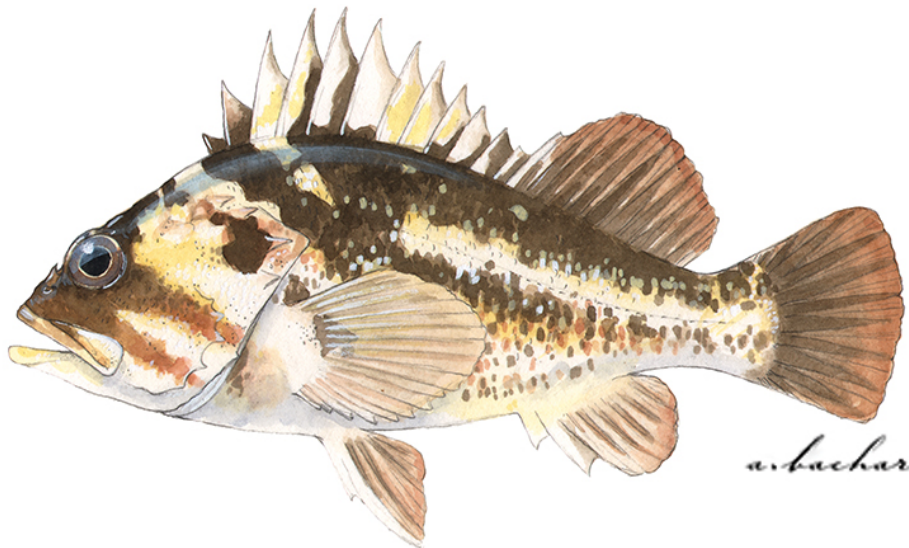
Notes:

This handout was prepared for the March 23, 2022, Groundfish SPEX Discussion Meeting and is not intended to provide an exhaustive review of groundfish management or regulations history.

Groundfish management area boundaries and names have changed throughout the years.

CRFS catch estimate areas do not always align with the groundfish management areas. To help with comparing catches across years with different management area definitions, catch estimates are listed by CRFS estimate area and current management area.

Catch estimates are in metric tons. A (0.00) indicates a trace amount of fish was encountered; a (-) indicates no fish were encountered. Discrepancies in totals are due to unreported rounding. All estimate data are from RecFIN, except for Apr-Jun 2020 which are proxy average values calculated by CDFW Groundfish Project staff due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Estimate data from 2021 are preliminary and incomplete.



Copper Rockfish - Seasons and Depths

2021

Season Structure

Table 1. Recreational groundfish season dates and depth restrictions by management area for 2021.

Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Northern	Closed				May 1 – Oct 31, <30fm							All Depth
Mendocino	Closed				May 1 – Oct 31, <30fm							All Depth
San Francisco	Closed			Apr 1 – Dec 31, <50 fm								
Central	Closed			Apr 1 – Dec 31, <50 fm								
Southern	Closed		Mar 1 – Dec 31, <100 fm									

Catch Estimates

Table 2. Copper rockfish catch estimates by estimate and management area and month for 2021.

Estimate Area	Current Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Northern	Northern	-	0.07	0.00	0.06	0.07	0.64	1.01	0.64	0.40	0.23	0.38	0.02	3.53
Mendocino	Mendocino	-	-	-	-	0.84	2.27	2.40	3.97	1.46	0.11	0.91	0.52	12.48
San Francisco	San Francisco	0.10	0.02	-	1.19	0.65	1.17	2.08	3.73	3.29	2.86	3.41	3.12	21.61
Central	Central	-	-	0.07	2.55	2.07	3.08	4.61	5.49	4.58	1.90	1.38	1.40	27.11
Southern	Southern	-	-	0.72	0.49	1.46	1.48	1.15	1.82	2.49	2.13	5.59	1.12	18.46
Total Estimate													83.18	

2020

Season Structure

Table 3. Recreational groundfish season dates and depth restrictions by management area for 2020.

Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Northern	Closed				May 1 – Oct 31, <30fm							All Depth
Mendocino	Closed				May 1 – Oct 31, <20fm							All Depth
San Francisco	Closed			Apr 1 – Dec 31, <40 fm								
Central	Closed			Apr 1 – Dec 31, <50 fm								
Southern	Closed		Mar 1 – Dec 31, <75 fm									

Catch Estimates

Table 4. Copper rockfish catch estimates by estimate and management area and month for 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, CRFS catch estimates are not available for April-June. Proxy catch values (*in italics*) were calculated using the average monthly catch from 2017-2019 and reducing those values to approximate expected reductions to fishing effort during those months

Estimate Area	Current Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	<i>Apr</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>Jun</i>	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Northern	Northern	-	-	-	-	<i>0.43</i>	<i>0.49</i>	1.67	2.31	1.74	0.13	0.08	0.03	6.87
Mendocino	Mendocino	-	-	-	-	<i>0.60</i>	<i>0.77</i>	1.50	2.09	1.05	1.10	0.36	0.33	7.81
San Francisco	San Francisco	0.00	-	-	<i>0.56</i>	<i>1.27</i>	<i>3.03</i>	1.93	3.80	1.46	2.90	1.61	0.37	16.92
Central	Central	0.01	0.01	0.02	<i>1.30</i>	<i>2.72</i>	<i>3.81</i>	6.70	7.40	4.55	4.66	3.37	1.27	35.82
Southern	Southern	0.00	0.00	6.45	<i>3.10</i>	<i>7.65</i>	<i>8.14</i>	1.34	1.35	0.90	0.92	0.99	1.88	32.72
Total Estimate													100.14	

2019

Season Structure

Table 5. Recreational groundfish season dates and depth restrictions by management area for 2019.

Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Northern	Closed				May 1 – Oct 31, <30fm							All Depth
Mendocino	Closed				May 1 – Oct 31, <20fm							All Depth
San Francisco	Closed			Apr 1 – Dec 31, <40 fm								
Central	Closed			Apr 1 – Dec 31, <50 fm								
Southern	Closed		Mar 1 – Dec 31, <75 fm									

Catch Estimates

Table 6. Copper rockfish catch estimates by estimate and management area and month for 2019.

Estimate Area	Current Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Northern	Northern	-	-	0.01	-	0.90	1.27	1.52	2.56	0.56	0.14	0.50	0.03	7.49
Mendocino	Mendocino	-	-	0.00	-	1.42	2.44	1.55	1.94	2.00	1.71	1.77	0.24	13.06
San Francisco	San Francisco	-	-	-	3.31	2.75	3.61	2.69	5.42	2.15	2.32	4.54	1.20	27.98
Central	Central	-	-	0.03	6.94	3.82	6.39	3.91	5.56	3.60	5.22	6.96	1.88	44.30
Southern	Southern	0.02	0.00	5.02	6.95	9.90	13.61	4.57	17.06	4.70	2.35	6.25	4.53	74.94
Total Estimate													167.77	

2018

Season Structure

Table 7. Recreational groundfish season dates and depth restrictions by management area for 2018. Inseason changes are denoted by *italics* and were made in response to high yelloweye rockfish catches.

Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Northern	Closed				May 1 – <i>Aug 24</i> , <30 fm			<i>Aug 25 – Dec 31</i> , <20 fm				
Mendocino	Closed				May 1 – <i>Aug 24</i> , <20 fm			<i>Aug 25 – Dec 31</i> , <20 fm				
San Francisco	Closed				Apr 15 – <i>Aug 24</i> , <40 fm			<i>Aug 25 – Dec 31</i> , <30 fm				
Central	Closed				Apr 1 – <i>Aug 24</i> , <50 fm			<i>Aug 25 – Dec 31</i> , <40 fm				
Southern	Closed		Mar 1 – Dec 31, <60 fm									

Catch Estimates

Table 8. Copper rockfish catch estimates by estimate and management area and month for 2018.

Estimate Area	Current Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Northern	Northern	-	-	0.00	-	1.34	0.44	1.78	1.30	0.61	0.06	0.449	0.143	6.12
Mendocino	Mendocino	-	-	-	-	1.49	0.55	1.64	1.89	1.29	0.17	0.64	-	7.66
San Francisco	San Francisco	-	0.00	-	4.12	3.05	0.89	5.85	6.59	2.75	2.58	3.38	0.90	30.11
Central	Central	0.03	-	0.02	3.60	5.53	4.87	3.60	14.13	7.54	4.37	2.97	2.71	49.36
Southern	Southern	0.06	0.00	12.87	4.80	13.73	3.81	19.99	7.73	6.10	12.43	6.81	7.87	96.18
Total Estimate													189.44	

2017

Season Structure

Table 9. Recreational groundfish season dates and depth restrictions by management area for 2017. Inseason changes are denoted by *italics* and were made in response to high catches of yelloweye rockfish

Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Northern	Closed			May 1 – Oct 15, <30 fm						<i>Oct 16-Dec 31, <20 fm</i>		
Mendocino	Closed			May 1 – Oct 15, <20 fm						<i>Oct 16-Dec 31, <20 fm</i>		
San Francisco	Closed			April 15 – Oct 15, <40 fm						<i>Oct 16-Dec 31, <30 fm</i>		
Central	Closed			April 1 – Oct 15, <50 fm						<i>Oct 16-Dec 31, <40 fm</i>		
Southern	Closed		Mar 1 – Dec 31, <60 fm									

Catch Estimates

Table 10. Copper rockfish catch estimates by estimate and management area and month for 2017.

Estimate Area	Current Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Northern	Northern	0.02	-	-	-	0.33	0.54	1.59	2.20	1.19	0.12	0.035	0.319	6.34
Mendocino	Mendocino	-	-	-	-	0.69	0.58	1.48	2.20	1.09	0.95	0.80	0.627	8.42
San Francisco	San Francisco	-	-	-	1.02	3.73	7.61	7.56	14.65	13.94	3.06	4.65	4.51	60.73
Central	Central	-	0.02	0.03	8.94	11.06	3.98	6.01	7.65	6.40	5.81	3.58	3.81	57.30
Southern	Southern	0.01	0.01	8.17	6.85	9.18	11.31	9.35	9.92	4.88	4.09	9.27	9.32	82.36
Total Estimate													215.14	

2015-2016

Season Structure

Table 9. Recreational groundfish season dates and depth restrictions by management area for 2015 and 2016. No inseason actions occurred during this time.

Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Northern	Closed					May 15-Oct 31, <20 fm					Closed	
Mendocino	Closed					May 15-Oct 31, <20 fm					Closed	
San Francisco	Closed				Apr 15-Dec 31, <30 fm							
Central	Closed			Apr 1-Dec 31, <40 fm								
Southern	Closed		Mar 1-Dec 31, <60 fm									

Catch Estimates

Table 10. Copper rockfish catch estimates by estimate and management area and month for 2016.

Estimate Area	Current Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Northern	Northern	-	-	-	0.06	0.14	0.55	0.38	1.84	0.74	0.10	-	-	3.81
Mendocino	Mendocino	-	-	-	-	0.32	0.71	0.85	1.18	0.96	0.33	-	-	4.34
San Francisco	San Francisco	-	-	-	0.64	2.15	2.31	2.89	4.88	5.70	2.52	1.7	0.9	23.68
Central	Central	0.01	-	-	2.43	4.11	4.69	3.40	6.80	4.61	1.51	1.0	2.7	31.30
Southern	Southern	0.00	0.01	8.77	20.65	8.45	5.15	2.57	9.12	10.17	20.84	5.24	2.32	93.28
Total Estimate														156.40

Table 13. Copper rockfish catch estimates by estimate and management area and month for 2015.

Estimate Area	Current Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Northern	Northern	-	-	0.02	-	0.15	0.40	0.75	0.72	0.27	0.21	-	-	2.52
Mendocino	Mendocino	-	-	-	0.00	0.63	0.59	1.12	1.52	0.52	0.42	0.04	-	4.83
San Francisco	San Francisco	-	-	-	0.40	1.08	3.34	7.68	5.92	4.67	2.14	2.8	2.5	30.49
Central	Central	-	-	0.00	1.98	3.08	2.90	3.80	3.38	2.54	2.61	2.9	1.2	24.35
Southern	Southern	0.03	0.03	7.38	11.59	4.13	8.70	9.60	13.18	3.24	5.22	7.99	4.91	75.98
Total Estimate														138.18

2013-2014

Season Structure

Table 14. Recreational groundfish season dates and depth restrictions by management area for 2013 and 2014. No inseason actions occurred during this time.

Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Northern	Closed				May 15-Oct 31, <20 fm						Closed	
Mendocino	Closed				May 15-Sep 1, ¹ <20 fm				Closed			
San Francisco	Closed					Jun 1-Dec 31, <30 fm						
Central	Closed				May 1-Dec 31, < 40 fm							
Southern	Closed		Mar 1-Dec 31, <50 fm									

¹ The fishery closed on September 1 in 2013 and September 2 in 2014 in the Mendocino Management Area.

Catch Estimates

Table 15. Copper rockfish catch estimates by estimate and management area and month for 2014.

Estimate Area	Current Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Northern	Northern	-	-	-	0.01	0.16	0.13	0.51	0.37	0.23	0.06	0.0	-	1.45
Mendocino	Mendocino	-	-	-	-	0.27	0.20	0.79	0.53	0.11	0.01	0.03	-	1.94
San Francisco	San Francisco	-	-	-	0.11	-	0.54	2.94	2.71	3.60	0.72	2.1	0.9	13.62
Central	Central	-	-	-	-	1.95	2.16	3.17	2.54	1.83	1.83	2.2	1.1	16.78
Southern	Southern	0.01	0.02	7.54	5.71	10.64	3.15	8.82	5.14	1.82	5.78	5.56	3.46	57.66
Total Estimate														91.46

Table 16. Copper rockfish catch estimates by estimate and management area and month for 2013.

Estimate Area	Current Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Northern	Northern	-	-	-	-	0.07	0.09	0.25	1.33	0.17	0.43	-	-	2.34
Mendocino	Mendocino	-	-	-	-	0.54	0.37	0.24	0.29	0.15	0.14	-	-	1.71
San Francisco	San Francisco	-	-	-	-	-	0.73	0.95	1.15	0.61	0.74	1.5	0.5	6.21
Central	Central	0.00	-	-	-	1.84	1.08	1.97	1.50	1.12	1.94	2.0	1.6	12.98
Southern	Southern	0.02	0.20	8.70	7.71	8.80	3.07	6.37	10.49	6.55	8.28	7.61	7.99	75.79
Total Estimate														99.03

2012

Season Structure

Table 11. Recreational groundfish season dates and depth restrictions by management area for 2012. Inseason changes in the Southern Management Area are denoted by *italics* and were made in response to high cowcod catches.

Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Northern	Closed				May 15 – Oct 31, <20 fm						Closed	
Mendocino	Closed				May 15 – Aug 15, <20 fm			Closed				
San Francisco	Closed					Jun 13 - Dec 31, <30 fm						
Central	Closed				May 1 - Dec 31, <40 fm							
Southern	Closed		Mar 1 – Oct 31, <60 fm								<i>Nov 1- Dec 31, <50 fm</i>	

Catch Estimates

Table 12. Copper rockfish catch estimates by estimate and management area and month for 2012.

Estimate Area	Current Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Northern	Northern	-	-	-	-	0.22	0.08	0.23	0.45	0.05	0.42	-	-	1.45
Mendocino	Mendocino	-	-	-	-	0.40	0.60	1.26	2.08	0.54	0.09	-	-	4.98
San Francisco	San Francisco	-	-	-	-	0.01	0.28	1.33	1.93	1.06	0.99	0.2	0.5	6.28
Central	Central	-	0.00	-	0.01	7.86	1.03	1.83	1.71	2.19	1.75	2.0	0.7	19.03
Southern	Southern	0.01	0.00	2.97	2.30	5.07	2.85	5.59	5.56	4.36	5.68	4.67	9.17	48.22
Total Estimate													79.96	