

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE REPORT ON
RECREATIONAL INSEASON ACTIONS FOR 2024

Regulations currently in place for the 2023-2024 biennium resulted in catches of quillback rockfish and vermilion rockfish exceeding federally-established harvest limits off California in 2023. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) offers the following options for recreational season dates, depth limits, and sub-bag limits for all Groundfish Management Areas (GMAs) in 2024.

CDFW met remotely with stakeholders on February 15 and February 29 to discuss management measure options and to solicit input to develop these options and present modeled impacts for the 2024 season.

State Regulatory Actions

Consistency of rules in adjacent state and federal waters allows for uniformity of enforcement, minimizes confusion which promotes compliance, and allows for a comprehensive approach to resource management. CDFW provides the following summary of recent and pending changes to state regulations, and a suite of options for the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) to consider. Following the inseason actions taken by CDFW in 2023 (see [Agenda Item G.8.a. CDFW Report 1, September 2023](#) and [Agenda Item G.8.a. Supplemental CDFW Report 2, September 2023](#) for summary of those actions), additional state regulatory action taken or proposed to date includes the following:

20-fathom Boundary Line in State Waters and Commercial Trip Limit Authorization

As part of an emergency [CDFW rulemaking](#) noticed to the public on January 26, 2024 and effective Feb. 12, new regulations were added that define the [20-fathom boundary line](#) using a series of connected waypoints along the mainland coast and offshore islands. The emergency action also establishes commercial shallow nearshore and deeper nearshore rockfish trip limit authorizations inside the 20-fathom boundary line. This boundary line falls entirely within state waters and has been broadly supported by the public for use in both commercial and recreational fisheries. It allows for shallow nearshore water access and continued fishing opportunity for nearshore rockfish while largely avoiding quillback rockfish, which tend to live primarily in waters between 20 and 50 fathoms.

2024 Recreational Seasons, Depths and Sub-bag limits

The California Fish and Game Commission (CFGC) has begun the process of amending state regulations for the recreational groundfish fishery in 2024. It is anticipated the CFGC will take final action to adopt regulations for state waters on March 26, 2024. CDFW expects the changes will be consistent with and complementary to the inseason actions taken at the March 2024 Council meeting for the recreational groundfish fishery in federal waters. Modifications are expected to include changes to season dates and depths, including use of the 20-fathom boundary line described above, addition of a management line at 36° N lat. within the Central GMA, changes to sub-bag limits, and addition of a descending device requirement. The proposed CFGC action also includes state rules to mirror those recently implemented by the National Marine Fisheries Service

(NMFS) as part of the Non-Trawl action, which took effect Jan. 1 2024, and includes repeal of the Cowcod Conservation Areas and implementation of Groundfish Exclusion Areas. Lastly, the proposed state regulation changes include clarification of transit, anchoring, and drifting exemptions, and others.

Descending Device Requirement

In response to public requests and statewide interest in minimizing barotrauma mortality to rockfish that are released and not retained, the CFGC is considering requiring a descending device capable of returning rockfish to the depth taken aboard any California recreational fishing vessel that is fishing for or possessing groundfish. Regulations would universally require the device be aboard statewide when fishing for or possessing any species of federal groundfish. There would be no exceptions for species such as lingcod, scorpionfish, cabezon, sanddabs, sharks or any other federal groundfish that do not have a swim bladder and thus are not subject to mortality from barotrauma. A similar federal action is being considered for federal waters during the 2025-26 biennial process but only the California state regulation will be in place for the 2024 season once adopted by the CFGC.

Management Line at 36° N lat.

Within the Central GMA, which extends from Pigeon Point (37°11' N lat.) to Point Conception (34°27' N lat.) CDFW proposes utilizing a line at 36° N lat. (near Point Lopez) to establish different recreational management measures, including season dates and depth restrictions, north and south of that line (Figure 1). Quillback rockfish are not encountered by recreational or commercial fisheries south of 36° N lat. The recreational inseason actions taken in 2023 to limit encounters with quillback rockfish applied to the entire Central GMA and affected the ports of Morro Bay/Avila/San Luis where quillback rockfish are rarely encountered. In the proposed state regulations, the two areas will be referred to as the Central GMA – North of 36° N lat. sub-area, and the Central GMA – South of 36° N lat. sub-area.

As described above, proposed modifications to the regulations would allow, during different months of the year, season structures and bag limits north and south of the 36° N lat. line to offer opportunities to best meet the needs of the communities while minimizing impacts to quillback in the areas north of 36° N lat.. CDFW recommends aligning the season structure for the Central GMA – North of 36° N lat. subarea with the other GMAs North of 36° N lat. and aligning the season structure in the Central GMA – South of 36° N lat. with that of the Southern GMA.



Figure 1. Map of five California recreational Groundfish Management Areas, including the proposed line at 36° N lat. (near Point Lopez, Monterey County).

Inseason Options for Council Consideration

Vermilion Rockfish Sub-Bag Limit

CDFW initially discussed the need for a vermilion rockfish sub-bag limit in the recreational fishery in 2020, when [analysis of catches compared to harvest limits](#) indicated the Annual Catch Limit (ACL) contribution and Over Fishing Limits (OFL) contributions to the Minor Shelf Rockfish complex South 40°10' N lat. had been exceeded each year since 2015. An update to this analysis to incorporate recreational and commercial fishery data through 2023 (Figure 2) indicates that despite implementation of recreational sub-bag limits and commercial sub-trip limits and reductions to those limits, mortality of vermilion rockfish continues to exceed the ACL and OFL

contributions. Changes to regulations from 2021 through 2023 to allow fishery access to deeper depths likely contributed to increases in catch of vermilion rockfish.

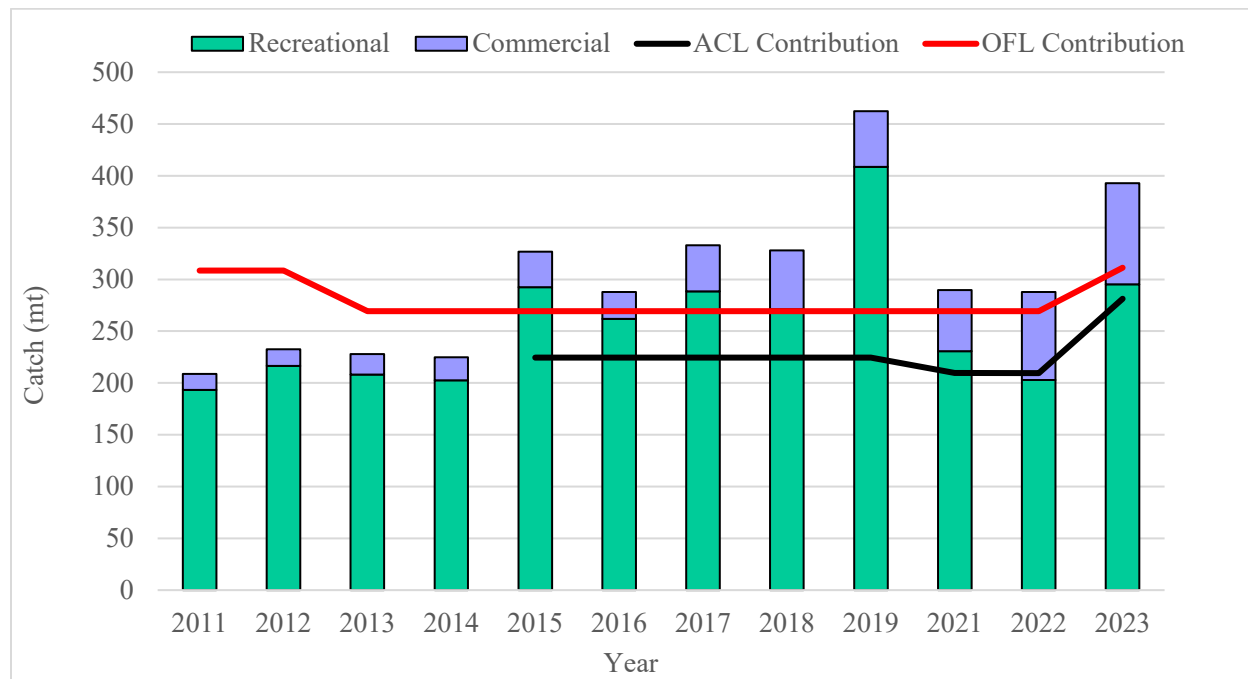


Figure 2. Recreational and commercial harvest (mt) of vermilion rockfish south of 40°10' N lat. compared to the ACL and OFL contributions from 2011-2023; prior to 2015 no ACL contribution was identified. Commercial data do not include discard mortality estimates. Data for 2020 are not included as the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in incomplete data collection for the year. Data for 2023 are preliminary and subject to change.

Both commercial and recreational catch in 2023 increased compared to 2021-2022 and resulted in approximately a 100 mt overage to the OFL contribution to the complex. In response to this anticipated overage, inseason action for the commercial fishery for 2024 was taken by the Council on recommendation from the GAP in November 2023, and is already effective.

Based on the recent ratio of sport and commercial harvest of vermilion rockfish off California, approximately 25 percent of the vermilion rockfish ACL contribution is projected to be taken by the commercial sector in 2024, amounting to approximately 77 mt. This results in an estimated informal recreational share of approximately 210 mt for the area south of 40°10' N lat. Under status quo seasons and sub-bag limits (4-fish) projected recreational mortality of vermilion rockfish is more than 300 mt for this area, which would exceed the informal recreational portion of the ACL contribution by approximately 100 mt. Action to reduce recreational harvest is needed to remain within that informal recreational share.

Analysis has been completed exploring application of reduced bag limits of 3-fish or 2-fish (Table 1 and Table 2). The analysis indicated that most anglers were not retaining the maximum of 4-fish, or even 3-fish, in their daily bag limits, and it is not until sub-bag limits of 2 or fewer fish are applied that substantial reductions in mortality are projected. Vermilion rockfish are also a primary target of the recreational fishery off California, and reducing the sub-bag limit will result in

increased regulatory discarding and associated discard mortality, even with the use of descending devices.

Projected impacts with a 3-fish or 2-fish sub-bag limit under status quo seasons/depths for the areas south of 36° N lat., would likely result in continuing to exceed the informal recreational share of the ACL, and in some instances the entire OFL contribution for the species. Thus, a reduction to season length and/or changes to depths are analyzed to further reduce encounters with vermilion rockfish.

Table 1. Proportion of angler bags with vermilion rockfish as part of the composition and number of vermilion rockfish by Groundfish Management Area based on 2022-2023 catch data. Data are from CDFW and RecFIN.

Groundfish Management Area	1-fish in bag	2-fish in bag	3-fish in bag	4-fish in bag
Northern	89.4%	8.0%	1.2%	1.4%
Mendocino	73.0%	21.5%	4.0%	1.6%
San Francisco	75.4%	17.8%	5.2%	1.6%
Central	57.5%	16.9%	9.6%	16.1%
Southern	55.3%	20.4%	9.7%	14.6%

Table 2. Potential percent reduction to recreational catch of vermilion rockfish in each Groundfish Management Area associated with a 3- or 2- fish sub-bag limit within the 10-fish daily Rockfish Cabezon and Greenling (RCG) bag limit. Percent reductions are taken from the current 4-fish sub-bag limit and are not additive. Data informing the analysis are from 2022-2023 and are from RecFIN and CDFW.

Groundfish Management Area	3-fish sub-bag	2-fish sub-bag
Northern	1.2%	3.4%
Mendocino	1.2%	5.3%
San Francisco	1.2%	6.3%
Central	8.7%	22.7%
Southern	7.9%	21.2%

Sub-Bag Limits for Other Species

Quillback Rockfish

CDFW recommends continuing to prohibit the retention of quillback rockfish off California. Following the formal overfished status declaration by NMFS, and the recreational mortality in 2023 that exceeded the federal set harvest limits under a 1-fish sub-bag limit, continuation of prohibited status is necessary to keep mortality under the 2024 harvest limits.

Copper Rockfish

Representatives from the GAP conveyed their interest in reducing the sub-bag limit for copper rockfish, in the Southern GMA only, from 1-fish to 0-fish (prohibited status). The goal of prohibiting retention of copper rockfish in the Southern GMA is to limit mortality of this species and maximize opportunities for other species by concurrently extending season dates and depth limits. However, projected mortality for vermilion rockfish already exceeds the federal harvest limits under status quo seasons and depths, therefore restrictions to seasons and changes to depths are needed in the Southern GMA regardless of what the copper sub-bag limit is. Prohibiting retention of copper rockfish in 2024 would not result in any additional realized opportunities for

anglers. Therefore, CDFW does not support prohibiting retention of copper rockfish in the Southern GMA for 2024.

Description of Season Structure Categories

Proposed modifications to regulations would allow during different months of the year fishing seasons that would be defined as “nearshore only,” “offshore only,” or “all depth.” Combining “nearshore only,” “offshore only,” and for areas south of 36° N. lat. “all depth” fisheries in different times of the year are expected to provide maximum fishing opportunities in each GMA while minimizing impacts to quillback rockfish in the areas north of 36° N. lat. where quillback rockfish reside.

A “nearshore only” fishery authorizes take or possession of all species of rockfish, lingcod, cabezon, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* in state waters shoreward of either the 20-fathom boundary line as defined in the California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 35.00 or a Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA) boundary line as defined in federal regulations. Inclusion of “nearshore only” fisheries utilizing the new 20-fathom boundary line in state regulations in 2024 is necessary to restore fishing opportunities on healthy nearshore stocks in shallow waters in the northern areas of the state, while continuing to reduce quillback rockfish encounters and mortality. Utilizing the federal RCA lines in this method is consistent with how RCA lines were in use from initial implementation through the 2022 season and were analyzed during the [2023-24 biennial season setting process](#).

An “offshore only” fishery authorizes take or possession of shelf rockfish, slope rockfish, and lingcod seaward of a line approximating either the 50-fathom RCA boundary line (any boundary line can be chosen) as defined in federal regulations or the state waters boundary line along the mainland coast and along islands and offshore seamounts. Take and/or possession of the aforementioned species is prohibited shoreward of this line. The 50-fathom boundary line is defined by straight lines connecting the set of 50-fathom waypoints as adopted in Federal Regulations (50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G). An “offshore only” fishery also prohibits – in all areas – the take or possession of all nearshore rockfish, cabezon, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*. Offering “offshore only” fishing opportunities is necessary to restore fishing access to healthy shelf and slope rockfish stocks and lingcod while minimizing encounters and mortality with quillback rockfish which typically are found in waters shallower than 50-fathoms in depth.

An “all depth” fishery authorizes take or possession of all species of rockfish, lingcod, cabezon, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* with no depth constraints.

2024 Recreational Fishery – Options and Analysis

In February 2024, CDFW updated the catch projection analysis conducted as part of the 2023-2024 Biennial Harvest Specifications and Management Measure Process with full-year 2022 and 2023 data to develop recreational catch projections for 2024. Analysis of multiple season structure options and combinations were conducted by CDFW, with input from California recreational Groundfish Advisory Sub-Panel (GAP) members and interested stakeholders; see Appendix 1 for a summary of Options that were not considered further. Projections include impacts for quillback

rockfish as a prohibited species, copper rockfish under the status quo 1-fish sub-bag limit, and for vermilion rockfish impacts were analyzed under the status quo 4-fish sub-bag limit, a 3-fish sub-bag limit, and 2-fish sub-bag limit as described in the Vermilion Rockfish section of this document. Based on the industry input, CDFW had developed the following recreational groundfish fishery season structure Options for consideration for 2024:

CA-Rec Option 1

As recommended by industry advisors, seasons north of 36° N lat. will be aligned in all GMAs and will be closed from January – March, open for an offshore only fishery (>50 fm RCA line) in April, October, and December, and open for a nearshore fishery (<20 fm boundary line in state waters) from May 1-September 30, and November 1-30. For the areas south of 36° N lat., the Central GMA – south of 36° N lat. and the Southern GMA, the fishery is closed January – March, open in all depths from April 1 through August 15, and open for an offshore only fishery (>50 fm RCA line) from August 16 – December 31 (Table 3). Projected impacts of select constraining groundfish species (Table 4) are projected to stay within limits, except for vermilion rockfish south of 40°10' N lat., which is projected to exceed the informal recreational share of the ACL contribution unless a restrictive sub-bag limit of 2-fish is implemented.

Table 3. Season dates and depth limits by GMA under CA-Rec Option 1.

Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Northern	Closed			>50fm	<20fm				>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	
Mendocino	Closed			>50fm	<20fm				>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	
San Francisco	Closed			>50fm	<20fm				>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	
Central – N 36°	Closed			>50fm	<20fm				>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	
Central – S 36°	Closed			All Depth				>50fm				
Southern	Closed			All Depth				>50fm				

Table 4. Projected recreational total mortality (mt) and 2024 harvest limits of select groundfish species under CA-Rec Option 1. Values projected using RecFISH model and post-model adjustments. Data are from CDFW and subject to change. **Red, bold italic** text denotes projections that exceed harvest limits such as Annual Catch Targets (ACT).

Species	Total Mortality (mt)	Harvest Limit (mt)	Type of Harvest Limit
Yelloweye rockfish (prohibited)	2.3	9.3	CA Rec ACT
Quillback rockfish N of 40°10' N lat. (prohibited)	0.51	0.96	ACT
Quillback rockfish S of 40°10' N lat. (prohibited)	0.66	0.97	ACT
Copper rockfish S of 40°10' N lat.	49.5	87.32	ACT
Vermilion rockfish S of 40°10' N lat. 4-fish bag (3-fish bag) [2-fish bag]	252.9 (247.1) [202.6]	281.3 (210.7 informal rec share)	ACL Contribution

CA-Rec Option 2

Under Season Structure Option 2 seasons north of 36° N lat. will be the same as presented in Option 1. For the areas south of 36° N lat., the Central GMA – south of 36° N lat. and the Southern

GMA, the fishery is closed January – March, open in all depths from April 1 through June 30, open shoreward (towards land) of the 50-fathom RCA line from July 1 through September 30, and open for an offshore only fishery (>50 fm RCA line, seaward of the line) from October 1 – December 31 (Table 5). Projected impacts of select constraining groundfish species (Table 6) are projected to stay within limits, except for vermilion rockfish south of 40°10' N lat., which is projected to exceed the informal recreational share of the ACL contribution unless a restrictive sub-bag limit of 2-fish is implemented (Table 6). Compared to projected vermilion rockfish impacts under Option 1, Option 2 further reduces vermilion rockfish impacts.

Table 5. Season dates and depth limits by GMA under CA-Rec Option 2.

Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Northern	Closed			>50fm	<20fm			>50fm		<20fm	>50fm	
Mendocino	Closed			>50fm	<20fm			>50fm		<20fm	>50fm	
San Francisco	Closed			>50fm	<20fm			>50fm		<20fm	>50fm	
Central – N 36°	Closed			>50fm	<20fm			>50fm		<20fm	>50fm	
Central – S 36°	Closed			All Depth			<50fm		>50fm			
Southern	Closed			All Depth			<50fm		>50fm			

Table 6. Projected recreational total mortality (mt) and 2024 harvest limits of select groundfish species under CA-Rec Option 2. Values projected using RecFISH model and post-model adjustments. Data are from CDFW and subject to change. **Red, bold italic** text denotes projections that exceed harvest limits.

Species	Total Mortality (mt)	Harvest Limit (mt)	Type of Harvest Limit
Yelloweye rockfish (prohibited)	2.5	9.3	CA Rec ACT
Quillback rockfish N of 40°10' N lat. (prohibited)	0.51	0.96	ACT
Quillback rockfish S of 40°10' N lat. (prohibited)	0.66	0.97	ACT
Copper rockfish S of 40°10' N lat.	48.03	87.32	ACT
Vermilion rockfish S of 40°10' N lat.-36° N lat. 4-fish bag (3-fish bag) [2-fish bag]	243.5 (238.0) [195.4]	281.3 (210.7 informal rec share)	ACL Contribution

CA-Rec Option 3a

Under CA-Rec Option 3a seasons north of 36° N lat. are as described in Option 1. For the areas south of 36° N lat., the Central GMA – south of 36° N lat. and the Southern GMA, the fishery is closed January – March, open in all depths from April 1 through June 30, open shoreward of the 20-fathom boundary line in state waters from July 1 through September 30, and open for an offshore only fishery (>50 fm RCA line) from October 1 – December 31 (Table 7). This season structure is projected to reduce mortality of vermilion rockfish to within the informal recreational share of the ACL contribution south of 40°10' N lat. without a need to reduce the sub-bag limit, which may be beneficial as vermilion rockfish is one of the major targets of the recreational fishery off California (Table 8).

Table 7. Proposed season dates and depths by GMA under CA-Rec Option 3a.

Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Northern	Closed		>50fm	<20fm			>50fm	<20fm	>50fm			
Mendocino	Closed		>50fm	<20fm			>50fm	<20fm	>50fm			
San Francisco	Closed		>50fm	<20fm			>50fm	<20fm	>50fm			
Central – N 36°	Closed		>50fm	<20fm			>50fm	<20fm	>50fm			
Central – S 36°	Closed		All Depth			<20fm		>50fm				
Southern	Closed		All Depth			<20fm		>50fm				

Table 8. Projected recreational total mortality (mt) and 2024 harvest limits of select groundfish species under CA-Rec Option 3a. Values projected using RecFISH model and post-model adjustments. Data are from CDFW and subject to change. **Red, bold italic** text denotes projections that exceed harvest limits.

Species	Total Mortality (mt)	Harvest Limit (mt)	Type of Harvest Limit
Yelloweye rockfish (prohibited)	2.0	9.3	CA Rec ACT
Quillback rockfish N of 40°10' N lat. (prohibited)	0.51	0.96	ACT
Quillback rockfish S of 40°10' N lat. (prohibited)	0.66	0.97	ACT
Copper rockfish S of 40°10' N lat.	34.1	87.32	ACT
Vermilion rockfish S of 40°10' N lat.-36° N lat. 4-fish bag (3-fish bag) [2-fish bag]	199.3 (194.9) [160.7]	281.3 (210.7 informal rec share)	ACL Contribution

CA-Rec Option 3b

Under CA-Rec Option 3b seasons north of 36° N lat. are as described in Option 1. For the areas south of 36° N lat., the Central GMA – south of 36° N lat. and the Southern GMA, the seasons are the same as described in Option 3a, except for the months of July 1 through September 30 which would be open shoreward of the 30-fathom boundary line in state waters (Table 9). This season structure is projected to reduce mortality of vermilion rockfish (Table 10) more than projected under Options 1 and 2, but projected mortality would be greater than under Option 3a.

Table 9. Proposed season dates and depths by GMA under CA-Rec Option 3b.

Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Northern	Closed		>50fm	<20fm			>50fm	<20fm	>50fm			
Mendocino	Closed		>50fm	<20fm			>50fm	<20fm	>50fm			
San Francisco	Closed		>50fm	<20fm			>50fm	<20fm	>50fm			
Central – N 36°	Closed		>50fm	<20fm			>50fm	<20fm	>50fm			
Central – S 36°	Closed		All Depth			<30fm		>50fm				
Southern	Closed		All Depth			<30fm		>50fm				

Table 10. Projected recreational total mortality (mt) and 2024 harvest limits of select groundfish species under CA-Rec Option 3b. Values projected using RecFISH model and post-model adjustments. Data are from CDFW and subject to change. *Red, bold italic* text denotes projections that exceed harvest limits.

Species	Total Mortality (mt)	Harvest Limit (mt)	Type of Harvest Limit
Yelloweye rockfish (prohibited)	2.2	9.3	CA Rec ACT
Quillback rockfish N of 40°10' N lat. (prohibited)	0.51	0.96	ACT
Quillback rockfish S of 40°10' N lat. (prohibited)	0.66	0.97	ACT
Copper rockfish S of 40°10' N lat.	44.4	87.32	ACT
Vermilion rockfish S of 40°10' N lat.-36° N lat. 4-fish bag (3-fish bag) [2-fish bag]	222.9 (218.0) [179.2]	281.3 (210.7 informal rec share)	ACL Contribution

Appendix 1. Season Structures Analyzed but Not Considered Further

Additional season structure Options were presented to, developed by, and discussed with California GAP representatives and other interested California stakeholders but were not considered further due to the projected fishery impacts being exceeded for one or more sensitive species such as quillback rockfish, vermilion rockfish, and copper rockfish. Below in tables 11 through 22 are summary descriptions of season structures developed and considered between February 15 and February 29.

Table 11. Season structure analysis requested on Feb 29 by California delegation but not considered further as projected vermilion rockfish impacts exceed harvest limits.

Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Northern	Closed			>50fm	<20fm					>50fm	<20fm	>50fm
Mendocino	Closed			>50fm	<20fm					>50fm	<20fm	>50fm
San Francisco	Closed			>50fm	<20fm					>50fm	<20fm	>50fm
Central – N 36°	Closed			>50fm	<20fm					>50fm	<20fm	>50fm
Central – S 36°	Closed			All Depth						>50fm		
Southern	Closed			All Depth						>50fm		

Table 12. GAP requested season structure on February 21 for areas north of 36° N lat. not considered further as season structure in Oct-Dec would be unenforceable, difficult for the public to remember, and introduce additional complications to the catch monitoring programs.

Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Northern	Closed			>50fm	<20fm					<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm
Mendocino	Closed			>50fm	<20fm					<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm
San Francisco	Closed			>50fm	<20fm					<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm
Central – N 36°	Closed			>50fm	<20fm					<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm

Table 13. GAP requested season structure on February 21 for areas south of 36° N lat. not considered further as projected vermilion rockfish mortality exceeds harvest limit.

Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Central – S 36°	Closed			>50fm	All Depth						>50fm	
Southern	Closed			>50fm	All Depth						>50fm	

Table 14. GAP requested season structure on February 21 for areas south of 36° N lat., in combination with a 0-fish bag limit for copper rockfish. Option not considered further as projected vermilion rockfish mortality exceeds harvest limits.

Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Central – S 36°	Closed			All Depth								
Southern	Closed			All Depth								

Table 15. GAP requested season structure on February 21 for areas south of 36° N lat. Option not considered further as projected vermilion rockfish mortality exceeds harvest limits.

Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Central – S 36°	Closed			All Depth							>50fm	
Southern	Closed			All Depth							>50fm	

Table 16. CDFW generated season structure discussed on February 29 California delegation call for areas south of 36° N lat. Option not considered further as projected vermilion rockfish mortality exceeds harvest limits.

Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Central – S 36°	Closed			All Depth				>50fm				
Southern	Closed			All Depth				>50fm				

Table 17. CDFW generated season structure discussed with GAP representatives on Feb 15 and utilized when refining requested further analyses.

Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Northern	Closed			>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	
Mendocino	Closed			>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	
San Francisco	Closed			>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	
Central – N 36°	Closed			>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	
Central – S 36°	Closed			>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	
Southern	Closed			>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	

Table 18. CDFW generated season structure discussed with GAP representatives on Feb 15 and utilized when refining requested further analyses.

Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Northern	Closed			>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	
Mendocino	Closed			>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	
San Francisco	Closed			>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	
Central – N 36°	Closed			>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	
Central – S 36°	Closed			All Depth								
Southern	Closed			All Depth								

Table 19. CDFW generated season structure discussed with GAP representatives on Feb 15 and utilized when refining requested further analyses.

Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Northern	Closed			>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm		
Mendocino	Closed			>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm		
San Francisco	Closed			>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm		
Central – N 36°	Closed			>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm	>50fm	<20fm		
Central – S 36°	Closed			All Depth					>50fm				
Southern	Closed			All Depth					>50fm				

Table 20. CDFW generated season structure discussed with GAP representatives on Feb 15 and utilized when refining requested further analyses. For areas north of 36° N lat. this season structure is very similar to one requested by the GAP on February 21 and shown above in the CDFW Options 1-3.

Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Northern	Closed			>50fm	<20fm				>50fm	<20fm		

Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Mendocino	Closed		>50fm	<20fm				>50fm	<20fm			
San Francisco	Closed		>50fm	<20fm				>50fm	<20fm			
Central – N 36°	Closed		>50fm	<20fm				>50fm	<20fm			
Central – S 36°	Closed		>50fm	<20fm				>50fm	<20fm			
Southern	Closed		>50fm	<20fm				>50fm	<20fm			

Table 21. CDFW generated season structure discussed with GAP representatives on Feb 15 and utilized when refining requested further analyses. For areas north of 36° N lat. this season structure is very similar to one requested by the GAP on February 21 and shown above in the CDFW Options 1-3.

Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Northern	Closed		>50fm	<20fm				>50fm	<20fm			
Mendocino	Closed		>50fm	<20fm				>50fm	<20fm			
San Francisco	Closed		>50fm	<20fm				>50fm	<20fm			
Central – N 36°	Closed		>50fm	<20fm				>50fm	<20fm			
Central – S 36°	Closed		All Depth									
Southern	Closed		All Depth									

Table 22. CDFW generated season structure discussed with GAP representatives on Feb 15 and utilized when refining requested further analyses. For areas north of 36° N lat. this season structure is very similar to one requested by the GAP on February 21 and shown above in the CDFW Options 1-3.

Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Northern	Closed		>50fm	<20fm				>50fm	<20fm			
Mendocino	Closed		>50fm	<20fm				>50fm	<20fm			
San Francisco	Closed		>50fm	<20fm				>50fm	<20fm			
Central – N 36°	Closed		>50fm	<20fm				>50fm	<20fm			
Central – S 36°	Closed		All Depth						>50fm			
Southern	Closed		All Depth						>50fm			