Summary of Recreational Groundfish Regulations for 2019
MENDOCINO Management Area
Ocean waters between 40°10’ N. latitude (near Cape Mendocino) and 38°57.5’ N. latitude (Point Arena)
Includes a portion of Humboldt County and most of Mendocino County

Note: Shaded text includes regulations that have changed effective June 1, 2019. Before engaging in ocean
sportfishing for groundfish and associated species, please review one of the resources listed in Footnote 1 to
receive the most up-to-date regulations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Time Period</th>
<th>Depth Limit</th>
<th>Daily Bag Limit</th>
<th>Min. Size Limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **RCG Complex**¹ (includes all species of Rockfishes, Cabezon and Greenlings, Sections 1.91 and 28.55, 28.28, and 28.29) | **Boat-based Anglers²:**
  Open: May 1-Oct 31, and Nov 1-Dec 31
  Closed: Jan 1–Apr 30
  Divers, Shore-based Anglers²: Open year-round | **May 1 – Oct 31:** Take is prohibited seaward of 20 fathoms (120 feet) in depth
  **Nov 1 - Dec 31:** May be taken at any depth
  **SEE EXCEPTION AT END OF TABLE** | 10 fish in combination per person EXCEPT:
  Cabezon: 3 fish per person
  Canary rockfish: 3 fish per person
  Black rockfish: 4 fish per person | See individual species and groups below
  Cabezon: 15” total length
  Kelp and/or rock greenlings: 12” total length |
| **Lingcod** (Section 28.27) | Same as RCG Complex, above | 2 fish per person | 22” total length |
| **Leopard Shark** (Section 28.56) | **Boat-based Anglers²:** Same as RCG Complex, above | 3 fish per person | 36” total length |
| **California Scorpionfish** (Section 28.54) | **Divers, Shore-based Anglers²:** Same as RCG Complex, above | 5 fish per person | 10” total length |
| **Pacific Sanddabs and “Other Flatfish”³** (Section 28.48) | Open year-round | No depth limit | Pacific sanddab: No limit
  All “Other Flatfish”³: 10 fish of each species, limit 20 fish total in combination, per Section 27.60 | No size limit |
| **Petrale Sole and Starry Flounder** (Section 28.47) | Open year-round | No depth limit | No limit | No size limit |

THESE ROCKFISHES MAY NOT BE TAKEN IN CALIFORNIA:
Cowcod, Bronzespotted Rockfish and Yelloweye Rockfish (Section 28.55)
FISHING IS CLOSED year-round, at all depths NO RETENTION at any time (zero fish per person)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other Federal Groundfish (Section 28.49)</th>
<th>Same as RCG Complex, above</th>
<th>Soupfin shark: 1 fish per person</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>All Other Federal Groundfish: 10 fish of each species, limit 20 fish total in combination, per Section 27.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No size limit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Subject to in-season change. Call the Recreational Groundfish Fishing Regulations Hotline at (831) 649-2801, visit the Marine Region Web site at www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Marine, send an e-mail to AskMarine@wildlife.ca.gov, or call your nearest CDFW office for the latest information.

Some marine protected areas (MPAs) restrict or prohibit sport fishing within MPAs. Check the current ocean sport fishing regulations booklet or the CDFW website at www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Marine/MPAs/Network/Northern-California, send an e-mail to AskMPA@wildlife.ca.gov, or call your nearest CDFW office for more information.

2. Divers and shore-based anglers are exempt from season restrictions affecting the RCG complex and other federally managed groundfish. However, when spear fishing during a boat-based closure, only spear fishing gear is allowed aboard any vessel or watercraft. Also, when angling from shore during a boat-based closure, no vessel or watercraft may be used to assist in taking or possessing species included in this table. The following definitions describe boat-based and shore-based anglers, and divers:

- **Boat-based anglers** are fishermen that fish from boats or vessels of any size or any other type of floating object, including kayaks and float tubes.
- **Shore-based anglers** are fishermen that fish from beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks and other manmade structures connected to the shore.
- **Divers** are spear fishermen entering the water either from the shore or from a boat or other floating object.

3. During the closed season, Pacific sanddab, butter sole, curlfin sole, flathead sole, rex sole, rock sole, and sand sole (defined as “Other Flatfish” in subsection 1.91(a)(10)) may be taken.

4. See regulations for information on gear restrictions (Sections 28.65, 28.70, 28.90, 28.91, and 28.95) and fillet lengths (Section 27.65).

5. Total length is the longest straight-line measurement from the tip of the head with the mouth closed to the end of the longest lobe of the tail. A measurement method illustration is available in the current Ocean Sport Fishing Regulations booklet.

**EXCEPTION:** During the open season, groundfish may be possessed in closed areas and in water depths closed to fishing only aboard vessels in transit with no fishing gear in the water (Section 27.20(b)).