



California Fishing Passport Ocean Fishing Awards and Recognition

Sport anglers come from all over the world to fish off California's coast, because nowhere else will you find such a variety of ocean game fish or diversity of saltwater angling adventures! From salmon and Pacific halibut off northern and central California, to the warmer water species such as yellowtail and marlin found down south, California is an unbeatable playground for saltwater anglers.



**California Fishing Passport
Ocean Angler Awards**

Ocean Anglers may qualify for three different awards:

- California Fishing Passport **Ocean Angler**
Catch at least 10 different qualifying fish.
- California Fishing Passport **Accomplished Ocean Angler**
Catch at least 25 different qualifying fish.
- **California Master Ocean Angler**
Catch at least 50 different qualifying fish.

Which ocean fish qualify?

- Any species from the Ocean Fishes section of the California Fishing Passport
- Any saltwater-caught species from the Anadromous Fishes section of the California Fishing Passport **EXCEPT shad or steelhead** (*the latter may not be legally caught in the ocean*)

Specifically:

Blue shark	Spotfin surfperch	Quillback rockfish
Sevengill shark	Striped surfperch	Starry rockfish
Brown smoothhound shark	Walleye surfperch	Treefish
Leopard shark	Monkeyface prickleback	Vermilion rockfish
Striped bass (saltwater-caught)	Kelp or Rock greenling (counts as one stamp)	White sturgeon (saltwater-caught)
Chinook salmon (saltwater-caught)	Jacksmelt or Topsmelt (counts as one stamp)	Surf smelt or Night smelt (counts as one stamp)
Yellowtail rockfish	California corbina	Lingcod
Shortfin mako shark	Spotfin croaker	Barred sand bass
Shovelnose guitarfish	White croaker	Kelp bass
Soupin shark	Yellowfin croaker	Spotted sand bass
Spiny dogfish	California halibut	Sargo
Swell shark	Diamond turbot	White seabass
Thresher shark	Fantail sole	Ocean whitefish
Bat ray	Pacific halibut	Blacksmith
Round stingray	Sand sole	Halfmoon
Thornback	Sanddab	Opaleye
California grunion	Wolf-eel	California sheephead
Black croaker	Starry flounder	Albacore tuna
Cabazon	Bocaccio	Bigeye tuna
Jack mackerel	Black rockfish	Bluefin tuna
Pacific chub mackerel	Black-and-yellow rockfish	Dolphinfish (<i>dorado</i>)
Barred surfperch	Blue rockfish	Opah
Black perch	Brown rockfish	Pacific barracuda
Calico surfperch	California scorpionfish	Pacific bonito
Pile perch	Chilipepper	Skipjack tuna

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Rainbow seaperch	Copper rockfish	Striped marlin
Redtail surfperch	Gopher rockfish	Swordfish
Rubberlip seaperch	Grass rockfish	Yellowfin tuna
Shiner perch	Kelp rockfish	Yellowtail
Silver surfperch	Olive rockfish	

Only species listed in the California Fishing Passport as defined above and caught in California during 2006 or afterwards qualify for Ocean Fishing awards.

What California Fishing Passport awards will I receive?

- California Fishing Passport **Ocean Angler**
 - Ocean Angler award pin
 - Certificate of Recognition suitable for framing
- California Fishing Passport **Accomplished Ocean Angler**
 - Accomplished Ocean Angler award pin
 - Certificate of Recognition suitable for framing
- **California Master Ocean Angler**
 - California Master Ocean Angler pin
 - Certificate of Recognition suitable for framing
 - CDFW Director's Letter of Congratulations

How to apply for recognition:

1. Get your Passport book stamped at one of our offices or independent stamping agents. Each qualifying species must be fully documented and stamped in your California Fishing Passport
2. Make clear photocopies of your passport showing all the stamps earned towards your current level of achievement
3. Complete and sign a California Fishing Passport Angler Award application.
4. Send the photocopies and the application to CDFW at:

*California Department of Fish and Wildlife
California Fishing Passport Program
P.O. Box 944209
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090*

What is the ultimate level of achievement?

Become a **California Supreme Master Angler** by earning two or more of the following:

- California Master Warmwater Angler status
- California Master Coldwater Angler status
- California Master Ocean Angler status
- California Shellfish Master status

Visit the California Fishing Passport awards web page at <http://tinyurl.com/suprememaster> for more information about achieving California Supreme Master Angler status.

Questions? E-mail passport@wildlife.ca.gov or call us at (916) 322-8911.

All decisions of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife are final.

Visit the California Fishing Passport website at www.wildlife.ca.gov/Fishing/Passport