

Revisions in the final Herring FMP
based on California Fish and Game Commission action on October 10, 2019

Executive Summary, 4th paragraph under section titled “Changes to streamline and modernize the regulations” (page vi), is revised to read:

Recreational Regulations – Prior to this FMP, there was no limit for the recreational take of Herring. To address this, the FMP recommends a ~~range between 0 and 100 pounds, which is equivalent to up to 10 gallons (or two 5-gallon buckets), as establishing~~ a daily bag limit through regulation. ~~This~~The established bag limit is ~~should be~~ easily enforceable and provides for a satisfying and sustainable recreational experience while deterring illegal commercialization of the fishery.

Section 7.8.7 is revised to read:

This FMP establishes that a daily bag limit for recreational fishing be adopted through regulation. ~~This~~The FMP recommends a ~~range between 0 and 100 lb (45-kg) daily bag limit be established at which is equivalent to up to ten gallons, or two 5-gallon buckets of Herring, each containing approximately 260 Herring. Based on input from stakeholders this is considered to be an appropriate amount to provide a reasonable and sustainable amount of recreational harvest for participants. This~~The possession limit is also should also be designed to be clear and easily enforceable. For reference, two 5-gallon buckets of Herring are equivalent to 100 lb of herring, or, approximately 260 Herring per bucket. Currently, there are no estimates of the recreational catch available, but ~~this~~a possession limit will provide Department staff with a means of estimating recreational take via counting the number of recreational anglers observed during each spawning event.

Section 10.5.1 is removed, and remaining section renumbered:

10.5.1 A Recreational Bag Limit of 100 Pounds

~~In soliciting public comment on the proposed management strategy in the Herring FMP, many recreational participants responded that a 50 pound daily bag limit (one 5 gallon bucket) was sufficient to meet their needs, there were some recreational participants who felt that this amount of catch was too limiting because there are so few spawns during the year that are close enough to a public pier or beach where it is accessible to recreational participants. Some participants commented that they share Herring with family members and would like to see a higher bag limit of 100 pounds (two 5 gallon buckets) to facilitate this. While it is true that not all spawning events are accessible to recreational fishermen, those that are have experienced very intense fishing pressure, with reports of hundreds of fishermen on piers, jetties and in the intertidal zone, fishing with hook and line or cast nets, therefore the recreational fishing pressure on some spawning events may be significant. This alternative is not being analyzed as it is the Department’s goal to protect the sustainability of the resource while maintaining a satisfying recreational experience and based on feedback this can likely be achieved with a bag limit of 50 pounds.~~

10.5.2 10.5.1 Alternative Fishing Methods