



State of California  
Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Ocean Salmon Project – Marine Region  
<https://wildlife.ca.gov/oceansalmon>



## 2021 Ocean Salmon Commercial Regulations

**\*\*\* NEW IN 2021: THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN THE KMZ AND FORT BRAGG IS NOW THE 40°10' LINE NEAR CAPE MENDOCINO \*\*\***

**OR/CA Border to the 40°10' Line (Klamath Management Zone/KMZ):**  
Closed

**40°10' Line to Point Arena (Fort Bragg):**

August 1-17, September 1-30

- Minimum size limit: 27 inches total length
- All salmon must be landed in California and north of Point Arena \*

**Point Arena to Pigeon Point (San Francisco):**

June 16-30; July 17-22; August 1-17; September 1-30

- Minimum size limit: 27 inches total length through August, 26 inches thereafter
- During September, all salmon must be landed south of Point Arena \*

**Point Reyes to Point San Pedro (Fall Area Target Zone):**

October 1, 4-8, 11-15

- Five days per week, open Monday through Friday
- Minimum size limit: 26 inches total length
- All salmon caught in the area must be landed between Pt. Arena and Pigeon Pt \*

**Pigeon Point to the U.S./Mexico Border (Monterey and south):**

May 1-12, 20-27; June 16-30; July 17-22; August 1-17

- Minimum size limit: 27 inches total length

### General Commercial Regulations

- **All salmon except coho; all commercial salmon must be landed in California \***
- **Single point, single shank barbless hooks are required \***
- **No more than 6 lines are allowed per vessel (CCR T-14, §182)**
- **Compliance with minimum size or other special restrictions:** All salmon on board a vessel must meet the minimum size and other special requirements for the area being fished and the area in which they are landed if that area is open or has been closed less than 48 hours. Salmon may be landed in an area that is closed more than 48 hours only if they meet the minimum size and other special requirements for the area in which they were caught AND it is not otherwise prohibited in the regulations.\*
- **Electronic Reporting Requirements:** Any fish receiver or fisherman with a fisherman's retail license shall record landing information on an electronic fish ticket, including the number of individual fish (CCR T-14, §197). Submission is required within three business days (Cal. Fish & Game Code, § 8046). Any person who lands salmon shall keep a copy of all landing receipts documenting salmon landings on board the fishing vessel that caught the salmon until 15 days after the last salmon season closure for the calendar year (CCR T-14, §182).
- **Transit through closed area with salmon on board:** It is unlawful for a vessel to have fishing gear in the water while transiting any area closed to salmon fishing while possessing salmon (CCR T-14, §182).
- **Barbless circle hooks<sup>1</sup> required when fishing with bait and fishing by any means other than trolling<sup>2\*</sup>**
  1. A *CIRCLE HOOK* is defined as a hook with a generally circular shape and a point which turns inwards, pointing directly to the shank at a 90-degree angle (CCR T-14, §182).
  2. *TROLLING* is defined as angling from a boat or floating device that is making way by means of a source of power, other than drifting by means of the prevailing water current or weather conditions (CCR T-14, §182).

**NOTE: When Pacific halibut are caught and landed incidentally in the commercial salmon troll fishery under a license issued by the IPHC, both the number of Pacific halibut landed and the number of salmon landed must be recorded on the electronic fish ticket. Please see federal regulations for incidental Pacific halibut harvest requirements and restrictions.\***

\* Federal Regulations for West Coast Salmon Fisheries per 85 FR 27317

