



## Summary of Northern California Hoop Net Regulations, From Section 29.80(b), Title 14, CCR

### North of Point Arguello

- **Hoop Net Allowance:** unlimited
  - **On public piers** you cannot use more than two rods and lines, two hand lines, or two net, traps or other legal devices (including hoop nets) to take crabs
- **Service Interval: Hoop nets must be serviced** every 2 hours; Any hoop net abandoned or left unchecked for more than 2 hours shall be considered abandoned and may be seized.
- **Marking Requirements:** none

### Legal Hoop Net Configuration - Type A (see Figure 1)

- Fishing gear that is comprised of one to three rigid ring(s), with each ring measuring no greater than 36 inches in inside diameter nor less than 10 inches in inside diameter, which is/are connected to soft mesh thereby forming a circular-shaped net with an enclosed bottom.
- Lift lines shall be attached only to the top ring.
- A second and third rigid ring(s) may be connected by soft mesh to the top ring; however, each ring must be equal in size to or smaller than the ring above it.
- When the net is being raised the top ring shall be above and parallel to all other rings, with the enclosed bottom portion of the soft mesh even with or hanging below all other rings.
- All parts of the hoop net shall collapse and lie flat when resting on the ocean floor in such a manner that the gear does not entrap or restrict the free movement of crustaceans until lifted.
- When suspended from lift lines, the entire hoop net shall measure no taller than 36 inches.
- The ring material shall not be thicker than one inch in any dimension.

### Legal Hoop Net Configuration - Type B (see Figure 1)

- Fishing gear that is comprised of two to three rigid rings (not including the bait ring), with each ring measuring no greater than 36 inches in inside diameter and the top ring measuring no less than 15 inches in inside diameter.
- The upper ring or rings shall be connected to the bottom ring and supported by no more than six rigid support arms, and the assembled frame shall measure no more than 10 inches tall.
- The rings and support material shall not be thicker than one inch in any dimension.
- All rings shall be connected by soft mesh, thereby forming a net with an enclosed bottom, and lift lines shall be attached only to the top ring.
- When suspended from lift lines the enclosed bottom portion of the net shall be even with or hanging below all other rings, and the entire net shall measure no taller than 30 inches.
- A bait ring may be attached to the net as long as the ring is not part of the rigid frame.



Figure 1. Examples of commercially available hoop nets. The net on the left (blue line) is an example of a Type B hoop net. The net on the right (red/orange line) is an example of a Type A hoop net.