



Tracking Number: ( \_2023-12\_ )

To request a change to regulations under the authority of the California Fish and Game Commission (Commission), you are required to submit this completed form to: California Fish and Game Commission, (physical address) 1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1320, Sacramento, CA 95814, (mailing address) P.O. Box 944209, Sacramento, CA 94244-2090 or via email to FGC@fgc.ca.gov. Note: This form is not intended for listing petitions for threatened or endangered species (see Section 670.1 of Title 14).

Incomplete forms will not be accepted. A petition is incomplete if it is not submitted on this form or fails to contain necessary information in each of the required categories listed on this form (Section I). A petition will be rejected if it does not pertain to issues under the Commission's authority. A petition may be denied if any petition requesting a functionally equivalent regulation change was considered within the previous 12 months and no information or data is being submitted beyond what was previously submitted. If you need help with this form, please contact Commission staff at (916) 653-4899 or FGC@fgc.ca.gov.

### **SECTION I: Required Information.**

*Please be succinct. Responses for Section I should not exceed five pages*

**1. Person or organization requesting the change (Required)**

Name of primary contact person: Wayne Kotow

Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone number: [REDACTED]

Email address: [REDACTED]

**2. Rulemaking Authority (Required)** - Reference to the statutory or constitutional authority of the Commission to take the action requested: For Section 27.20 regs: **Sections 200, 205, 265, 702, 7071 and 8587.1 of Fish and Game Code** Added sections for Section 28.65 regs: **Sections 270, 275, and 7110 of Fish and Game Code**

**3. Overview (Required)** - Summarize the proposed changes to regulations: All boats in marine environment engaged in fishing activity are required to carry a descending device on board their vessel. Other wording: Require the possession of a descending device on board a vessel when harvesting fish in state waters or requires a descending device capable of returning rockfish to the depth taken be aboard any California recreational fishing vessel that is fishing for or possessing groundfish.

**4. Rationale (Required)** - Describe the problem and the reason for the proposed change: We are all stewards of our resources and need to be responsible in caring for them. Descending devices have been proven effective in returning fish suffering from barotrauma back to depths

### **SECTION II: Optional Information**

**5. Date of Petition: Sept 29, 2023**



**6. Category of Proposed Change**

X Sport Fishing

Commercial Fishing

Hunting

Other, please specify:

**7. The proposal is to:** *(To determine section number(s), see current year regulation booklet or <https://govt.westlaw.com/calregs>)*

Amend Title 14 Section(s):

X Add New Title 14 Section(s):

Repeal Title 14 Section(s):

**8. If the proposal is related to a previously submitted petition that was rejected, specify the tracking number of the previously submitted petition**

Or X Not applicable.

**9. Effective date:** If applicable, identify the desired effective date of the regulation. If the proposed change requires immediate implementation, explain the nature of the emergency: Jan 1, 2025

**10. Supporting documentation:** Identify and attach to the petition any information supporting the proposal including data, reports and other documents:

[FWC approves rule to help improve survival of released reef fish | FWC \(myfwc.com\)](#)

[Barotrauma | FWC \(myfwc.com\)](#)

[Reef Fish Gear Rules | FWC \(myfwc.com\)](#)

[Rockfish recompression | Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife \(myodfw.com\)](#)

[Sport bottomfish seasons | Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife \(myodfw.com\)](#)

[Protecting Washington's rockfish | Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife](#)

**11. Economic or Fiscal Impacts:** Identify any known impacts of the proposed regulation change on revenues to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, individuals, businesses, jobs, other state agencies, local agencies, schools, or housing: Local businesses will get increased sales from descending device sales which could lead to additional jobs for manufacturers or spur new technology.

**12. Forms:** If applicable, list any forms to be created, amended or repealed:

**SECTION 3: FGC Staff Only**

Date received:

FGC staff action:



- Accept - complete
- Reject - incomplete
- Reject - outside scope of FGC authority

Tracking Number

Date petitioner was notified of receipt of petition and pending action: \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting date for FGC consideration: \_\_\_\_\_

FGC action:

- Denied by FGC
- Denied - same as petition \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracking Number
- Granted for consideration of regulation change