

## Regulatory Language

Section 27.20, Title 14 CCR, is amended to read:

### **§ 27.20. Groundfish Management Areas, Seasons, Depths, Exceptions, and Fishery Closure/Rule Change Process Described.**

Regulations that follow in sections 27.25 through 27.50 define fishing seasons and depth ~~constraints~~restrictions that are effective within each Groundfish Management Area (GMA). These sections apply to take and possession of federal groundfish species as defined in Section 1.91 and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*.

(a) Depth Restrictions: In a GMA the take, retention or possession of certain federal groundfish and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* may be authorized or prohibited in waters shallower than, or deeper than, the identified depth restriction depending on the defined areas and seasons specified in sections 27.25 through 27.50. “Depth” is defined by approximating a particular depth contour by connecting the appropriate set of waypoints adopted in Section 35.00 of these regulations for the 20-fathom boundary line, and Federal regulations (50 CFR Part 660, Subpart C) for all other depth boundary lines.

(b) General Provisions.

(1) Take or possession of federal groundfish species or species groups and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* is authorized or prohibited as provided in subsections (b)(1)(A) through (b)(1)(D) below and sections 27.25 through 27.50 of these regulations.

(A) Anchoring, drifting, or transiting in closed areas: In waters where groundfish species or species groups are closed to take or possession but authorized for take or possession in other areas, those species or species groups may be possessed aboard a vessel that is anchored, drifting, or transiting in or through that closed area. While anchoring, drifting, or transiting through an area closed to take or possession of these groundfish species or species groups, no gear may be deployed other than for the take of crustaceans with hoop nets used pursuant to subsection 29.80(b), Dungeness crab traps used pursuant to subsection 29.80(c), and dip nets used pursuant to Section 28.80.

1. Notwithstanding subsection 27.20(b)(1)(A), it is unlawful to possess a groundfish species or species group within a GMA where the take and possession of those species are prohibited in all waters of that GMA or in excess of the bag limit of that GMA, regardless of if the groundfish species or species group were taken in a different GMA where the take or possession is authorized (refer to sections 27.25 through 27.50, and specific sections beginning with Section 27.60).

(B) Federal groundfish exempt from seasons and depth ~~constraints~~restrictions: “Other Flatfish” as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(10), petrale sole, starry flounder, California scorpionfish, leopard shark, and the federal groundfish species listed in Section 28.49 may be taken or possessed in all GMAs and depths year-round except as described in subsections 28.49(a) and 28.56(a).

(C) Shore Based Angling: When angling from shore (includes beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks, and other man-made structures connected to the shore), all species, except those listed in subsection 28.55(b)(1), may be taken or possessed year-round. No vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) may be used to assist in the take, transport or possession of these species under this provision.

(D) Diving or Spearfishing: When diving or spearfishing, as authorized in Section 28.90, all species, except those listed in subsection 28.55(b)(1), may be taken or possessed year-round. When boat-based groundfish fishing is closed, all types of fishing gear, except spearfishing gear, are prohibited to be aboard the vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) when taking or possessing these species under this provision.

(2) Descending Devices: No person shall take or possess any federal groundfish as defined in Section 1.91 and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* from any boat or other floating device in ocean waters without having a descending device in possession and available for immediate use to assist in releasing rockfish to the depth of capture.

(c) Closed Season: During any closed season in any GMA, it is unlawful to take or possess all species of rockfish, lingcod, cabezon, and greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* regardless of depth except as provided in subsections (b)(1)(A) through (b)(1)(D) above and sections 27.25 through 27.50 of these regulations.

(d) California Rockfish Conservation Area: Within any GMA, waters that are closed for certain species or species groups during specified times or closed in specified depths shall be known as the California Rockfish Conservation Area. See Section 27.51.

(e) Fishery closure or rule change: When the department determines, based on the best available scientific information, that an annual harvest limit [optimum yield (OY), annual catch limit (ACL), annual catch target (ACT), recreational harvest guideline, or recreational harvest target] established in regulation by the NOAA Fisheries (National Marine Fisheries Service) for any species of federal groundfish or aggregate group of federal groundfish species has been exceeded or is projected to be exceeded prior to the end of the year or that catches are less than predicted, the following rule changes may occur:

(1) The department may modify the seasons or depth ~~constraints~~restrictions for any species of federal groundfish or aggregate group of federal groundfish species, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*. Season or depth modifications may differ by area, time of year, mode of fishing, or gear utilized.

(2) The department may adjust existing bag or sub-bag limits or establish additional bag or sub-bag limits as needed for any species of federal groundfish or aggregate group of federal groundfish species, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*. Bag limits may differ by area, time of year, mode of fishing, or gear utilized.

(3) The department may adjust existing size limits or establish additional size limits as needed for any species of federal groundfish or aggregate group of federal groundfish species, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*. Size limits may differ by area, time of year, mode of fishing, or gear utilized.

(f) Notice of closure or rule change: The department shall give the public and the NOAA Fisheries no less than 10 calendar days' notice of any fishery closure or rule change implemented pursuant to this section via a department news release. Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: [wildlife.ca.gov/Fishing/Ocean](http://wildlife.ca.gov/Fishing/Ocean).

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 200, 205, 265, 702, 7071 and 8587.1, Fish and Game Code.  
Reference: Sections 200, 205, 265, 1802 and 7071, Fish and Game Code; and 50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G, Sections 660.350, 660.351, 660.352 and 660.360.

Section 27.40, Title 14 CCR, is amended to read:

**§ 27.40. Central Groundfish Management Area.**

This Section applies to take or possession of federal groundfish species and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*. For specific definitions, applicability, and procedures, see sections 1.91 and 27.20. For size limits, bag and possession limits, and other regulations that apply to individual species, see specific sections beginning with Section 27.60.

(a) The Central Groundfish Management Area means ocean waters between 37° 11' N. lat. (at Pigeon Point, San Mateo County) and 34° 27' N. lat. (at Point Conception, Santa Barbara County). Within the Central Groundfish Management Area, seasons and depth restrictions may differ north and south of a line extending west of 36° N. lat. (near Point Lopez, Monterey County). The areas north and south of this line are referred to as the Central Groundfish Management Area – North of 36° N. lat. and the Central Groundfish Management Area – South of 36° N. lat.

(b) Central Groundfish Management Area – North of 36° N. lat. Seasons and depth restrictions effective for all species of rockfish (except as specified in subsection 28.55(b)(1)), lingcod, cabezon, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*:

(1) January 1 through March 31: Closed.

(2) April 1 through April 30, October 1 through October 31 and December 1 through December 31:

(A) Take or possession of species and species groups listed in subsections 1. through 3. is authorized seaward of a line approximating ~~the~~ the 50-fathom boundary line as defined by federal waypoints along the mainland coast and along islands and offshore seamounts. Take or possession of these species is prohibited shoreward of this line, except as provided in subsection 27.20(b). The 50-fathom boundary line is defined by straight lines connecting the set of 50-fathom waypoints as adopted in Federal Regulations (50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G).

1. Shelf rockfish, as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(3), except bronzespotted rockfish, cowcod, and yelloweye rockfish which may not be taken or possessed

2. Slope rockfish, as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(4)

3. Lingcod

(B) Nearshore species closure: Notwithstanding subsection 27.20(b)(1)(A), take or possession of nearshore rockfish as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(1), cabezon, and greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* is prohibited in all waters of the Central Groundfish Management Area – North of 36° N. lat.

(3) May 1 through September 30 and November 1 through November 30: Take or possession of all species of rockfish (except as specified in subsection 28.55(b)(1)), lingcod, cabezon, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* is authorized shoreward of the 20-fathom boundary line as defined in Section 35.00. Take or possession of all species of rockfish, lingcod, cabezon, and all

greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* is prohibited seaward of this line, except as provided in subsection 27.20(b).

(c) Central Groundfish Management Area – South of 36° N. lat. Seasons and depth restrictions effective for all species of rockfish, lingcod, cabezon, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*:

(1) January 1 through March 31: Closed.

(2) April 1 through June 30: Open for all species (except as specified in subsection 28.55(b)(1)) with no depth ~~constraints~~restrictions.

(3) July 1 through September 30: Take or possession of all species of rockfish (except as specified in subsection 28.55(b)(1)), lingcod, cabezon, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* is authorized shoreward of the 50-fathom boundary line as defined by federal waypoints along the mainland coast and along islands and offshore seamounts. The 50-fathom boundary line is defined by straight lines connecting the set of 50-fathom waypoints as adopted in Federal Regulations (50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G). Take or possession of all species of rockfish, lingcod, cabezon, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* is prohibited seaward of this line, except as provided in subsection 27.20(b).

(4) October 1 through December 31:

(A) Take or possession of species and species groups listed in subsections 1. through 3. is authorized seaward of a line approximating the 50-fathom boundary line as defined by federal waypoints along the mainland coast and along islands and offshore seamounts. Take or possession of these species is prohibited shoreward of this line, except as provided in subsection 27.20(b). The 50-fathom boundary line is defined by straight lines connecting the set of 50-fathom waypoints as adopted in Federal Regulations (50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G).

1. Shelf rockfish, as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(3), except bronzespotted rockfish, cowcod, and yelloweye rockfish which may not be taken or possessed

2. Slope rockfish, as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(4) 12

3. Lingcod

(B) Nearshore species closure: Notwithstanding subsection 27.20(b)(1)(A), take or possession of nearshore rockfish as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(1), cabezon, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* is prohibited in all waters of the Central Groundfish Management Area – South of 36° N. lat.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 200, 205 and 265, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 200, 205, 265, 1802 and 7071, Fish and Game Code; and 50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G, Sections 660.350, 660.351, 660.352 and 660.360.

Section 27.45, Title 14 CCR, is amended to read:

#### **§ 27.45. Southern Groundfish Management Area.**

This Section applies to take or possession of federal groundfish species and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*. For specific definitions, applicability, and procedures, see sections 1.91 and 27.20. For size limits, bag and possession limits, and other regulations that apply to individual species, see specific sections beginning with Section 27.60.

(a) The Southern Groundfish Management Area means ocean waters between 34° 27' N. lat. (at Point Conception, Santa Barbara County) and the U.S./Mexico border. The Groundfish Exclusion Areas are special closure areas within the Southern Groundfish Management Area, where take or possession of all federal groundfish is prohibited year-round. See Section 27.50.

(b) Seasons and depth restrictions effective for all species of rockfish (except as specified in subsection 28.55(b)(1)), lingcod, cabezon and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*:

(1) January 1 through March 31: Closed.

(2) April 1 through June 30: Open for all species (except as specified in subsection 28.55(b)(1)) with no depth ~~constraints~~restrictions.

(3) July 1 through September 30: Take or possession of all species of rockfish (except as specified in subsection 28.55(b)(1)), lingcod, cabezon, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* is authorized shoreward of the 50-fathom boundary line as defined by federal waypoints along the mainland coast and along islands and offshore seamounts. The 50-fathom boundary line is defined by straight lines connecting the set of 50-fathom waypoints as adopted in Federal Regulations (50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G). Take or possession of all species of rockfish, lingcod, cabezon, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* is prohibited seaward of this line, except as provided in subsection 27.20(b).

(4) October 1 through December 31:

(A) Take or possession of species and species groups listed in 1. through 3. is authorized seaward of a line approximating ~~the~~ the 50-fathom boundary line as defined by federal waypoints along the mainland coast and along islands and offshore seamounts. Take or possession of these species is prohibited shoreward of this line, except as provided in subsection 27.20(b). The 50-fathom boundary line is defined by straight lines connecting the set of 50-fathom waypoints as adopted in Federal Regulations (50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G).

1. Shelf rockfish, as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(3), except bronzespotted rockfish, cowcod, and yelloweye rockfish which may not be taken or possessed

2. Slope rockfish, as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(4)

3. Lingcod

(B) Nearshore species closure: Notwithstanding subsection 27.20(b)(1)(A), take or possession of nearshore rockfish as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(1), cabezon, and greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* is prohibited in all waters of the Southern Groundfish Management Area.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 200, 205 and 265, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 200, 205, 265, 1802 and 7071, Fish and Game Code; and 50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G, Sections 660.350, 660.351, 660.352 and 660.360.

Section 27.50, Title 14 CCR, is amended to read:

### **§ 27.50. Groundfish Exclusion Areas.**

This Section applies to take or possession of federal groundfish species and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*. For specific definitions, applicability, and procedures, see sections 1.91

and 27.20. For size limits, bag and possession limits, and other regulations that apply to individual species, see specific sections beginning with Section 27.60.

(a) The Groundfish Exclusion Areas are defined as ocean waters off southern California within each of the following eight areas:

(1) Hidden Reef is an area that is bound by straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed:

- 33°46.14' N lat., 119°10.45' W long.;
- 33°46.14' N lat., 119°05.96' W long.;
- 33°41.40' N lat., 119°05.96' W long.;
- 33°41.40' N lat., 119°10.45' W long.; and
- 33°46.14' N lat., 119°10.45' W long.

(2) West of Santa Barbara Island is an area that is bound by straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed:

- 33°33.64' N lat., 119°18.54' W long.;
- 33°33.64' N lat., 119°07.57' W long.;
- 33°27.90' N lat., 119°07.57' W long.;
- 33°27.90' N lat., 119°18.54' W long.; and
- 33°33.64' N lat., 119°18.54' W long.

(3) Potato Bank is an area that is bound by straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed:

- 33°21.00' N lat., 119°53.00' W long.;
- 33°21.00' N lat., 119°45.67' W long.;
- 33°11.00' N lat., 119°45.67' W long.;
- 33°11.00' N lat., 119°53.00' W long.; and
- 33°21.00' N lat., 119°53.00' W long.

(4) 107/118 Bank is an area that is bound by straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed:

- 33°05.51' N lat., 119°41.29' W long.;
- 33°08.64' N lat., 119°36.71' W long.;
- 33°03.50' N lat., 119°31.69' W long.;
- 33°00.36' N lat., 119°36.27' W long.; and
- 33°05.51' N lat., 119°41.29' W long.

(5) Cherry Bank is an area that is bound by straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed:

- 32°50.86' N lat., 119°29.40' W long.;
- 32°56.96' N lat., 119°19.82' W long.;
- 32°54.69' N lat., 119°17.78' W long.;
- 32°48.59' N lat., 119°27.35' W long.; and
- 32°50.86' N lat., 119°29.40' W long.

(6) Seamount 109 is an area that is bound by straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed:

- 32°43.75' N lat., 119°37.00' W long.;
- 32°43.75' N lat., 119°34.29' W long.;
- 32°31.95' N lat., 119°26.94' W long.;
- 32°30.47' N lat., 119°29.71' W long.;
- 32°39.54' N lat., 119°37.00' W long.; and
- 32°43.75' N lat., 119°37.00' W long.

(7) 43-Fathom Spot is an area that is bound by straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed:

- 32°42.00' N lat., 118°00.05' W long.;
- 32°42.00' N lat., 117°50.00' W long.;
- 32°36.70' N lat., 117°50.00' W long.;
- 32°36.18' N lat., 117°50.27' W long.;
- 32°36.18' N lat., 118°00.05' W long.; and
- 32°42.00' N lat., 118°00.05' W long.

(8) Northeast Bank is an area that is bound by straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed:

- 32°27.39' N lat., 119°37.00' W long.;
- 32°27.39' N lat., 119°31.60' W long.;
- 32°20.00' N lat., 119°31.60' W long.;
- 32°20.00' N lat., 119°37.00' W long.; and
- 32°27.39' N lat., 119°37.00' W long.

(b) ~~Notwithstanding subsection 27.20(b)(1)(A), take~~ Take or possession of all federal groundfish species or species groups as defined in Section 1.91 are prohibited year-round in the

Groundfish Exclusion Areas, except for the purpose of transit as provided in subsection 27.20(b)(1)(A).

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 200, 205 and 265, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 200, 205, 265, 1802 and 7071, Fish and Game Code; and 50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G, Sections 660.350, 660.351, 660.352 and 660.360.

Section 27.65, Title 14 CCR, is amended to read:

**§ 27.65. Filleting of Fish on Vessels.**

(a) Definition of Fillet: For the purpose of this section a fillet is the flesh from one side of a fish extending from the head to the tail which has been removed from the body (head, tail and backbone) in a single continuous piece.

(b) Fish That May be Filleted: No person shall fillet on any boat or bring ashore as fillets any fish, except in accordance with the following requirements:

(1) Kelp bass, barred sand bass, and spotted sand bass: All fillets shall be a minimum of seven and one half inches in length. Each fillet shall bear intact a one-inch square patch of skin.

(2) Barracuda: Fillets must be a minimum of 17 inches in length. Each fillet shall bear intact a one-inch square patch of silver skin.

(3) Lingcod. Lingcod fillets must be a minimum of 14 inches in length. ~~Each fillet shall bear intact a one-inch square patch of skin.~~ Fillets must have the entire skin attached. The minimum size and minimum fillet size for lingcod may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). See subsection 27.20(f) for additional information.

(4) White sea bass: Fillets must be a minimum of 19 inches in length. Each fillet shall bear intact a one-inch square patch of silver skin.

(5) Pacific bonito: No more than 10 fillets of any length may be possessed. All bonito fillets possessed shall be considered a part of the allowable undersized tolerance of five bonito per day less than 24 inches fork length or weighing less than five pounds as provided in Section 28.32 of these regulations. All fillets shall bear intact a one-inch square patch of skin.

(6) California halibut taken from or possessed aboard a vessel south of Point Arena (Mendocino County): Fillets must be a minimum of 16 and three-quarter inches in length and shall bear the entire skin intact. A fillet from a California halibut (flesh from one entire side of the fish with the entire skin intact) may not be cut in half fillets. However, a fillet may be cut lengthwise in a straight line along the midline of the fillet where the fillet was attached to the vertebra (backbone) of the fish only if the two pieces of a fillet remain joined along their midline for a length of at least two inches at one end of the fillet.

(7) Yellowtail: Fillets must be a minimum of 17 inches in length, except not more than 10 fillets may be less than 17 inches. Each fillet shall bear intact a one-inch square patch of skin.

(8) Rockfish, cabezon, and greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*: Fillets must have the entire skin attached. The minimum size and minimum fillet size for rockfish, cabezon, and greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). See subsection 27.20(f) for additional information.

(9) California scorpionfish (commonly termed “sculpin”): ~~Filletts must be a minimum of 5 inches. Each fillet shall bear intact a one-inch square patch of skin.~~ Filletts must have the entire skin attached. The minimum size and minimum fillet size for California scorpionfish may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). See subsection 27.20(f) for additional information.

(10) Ocean whitefish: Fillets must be a minimum of 6 and one half inches in length and shall bear the entire skin intact.

(11) For all species of tuna filleted on any boat or brought ashore as fillets south of a line running due west true from Point Conception, Santa Barbara County (34° 27' N. lat.) each fish must be individually bagged as follows:

(A) The bag must be marked with the species' common name.

(B) The fish must be cut into six pieces with all skin attached. These pieces are the four loins, the collar removed as one piece with both pectoral fins attached and intact, and the belly fillet cut to include the vent and with both pelvic fins attached and intact.

(12) California sheephead: Fillets must be a minimum of 6 and three-quarter inches in length and shall bear the entire skin intact.

(13) All other species except those listed in subsection (c) of this section: Each fillet shall bear intact a one-inch square patch of skin. The fillets may be of any size.

(c) Fish That May Not be Filleted, Steaked or Chunked: No person shall fillet, steak or cut into chunks on any boat or bring ashore as fillets, steaks or chunks the following: any species with a size limit unless a fillet size is otherwise specified in these regulations. California halibut may be filleted or brought ashore as fillets south of Point Arena (Mendocino County).

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 200, 205, 265, 313, 5508 and 5509, Fish and Game Code.  
Reference: Sections 200, 205, 265, 313, 399, 5508 and 5509, Fish and Game Code.

Section 28.27, Title 14 CCR, is amended to read:

**§ 28.27. Lingcod.**

(a) Open areas, seasons, and depth restrictions: See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take or possession is authorized as follows:

(1) Northern Groundfish Management Area: Open and closed dates and depth restrictions as defined by Section 27.25.

(2) Mendocino Groundfish Management Area: Open and closed dates and depth restrictions as defined by Section 27.30.

(3) San Francisco Groundfish Management Area: Open and closed dates and depth restrictions as defined by Section 27.35.

(4) Central Groundfish Management Area: Open and closed dates and depth restrictions as defined by Section 27.40.

(5) Southern Groundfish Management Area: Open and closed dates and depth restrictions as defined by Section 27.45.

(6) Groundfish Exclusion Areas: Closed to take of lingcod year-round as specified by Section 27.50.

(b) Limit: Two.

(c) Minimum size: 22 inches total length. See subsection 27.65(b) for fillet size limit and other fillet regulations.

(d) Method of take: When angling, gear is restricted to not more than two hooks and one line. For purposes of this section, a hook is a single hook, or double or treble hook with multiple points connected to a common shank. See subsection 27.20(b)(2) for descending device regulations.

(e) Fishing rules for lingcod may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). See subsection 27.20(f) for additional information.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 200, 205, 265, 275, 702 and 8587.1, Fish and Game Code.  
Reference: Sections 200, 205, 265 and 1802, Fish and Game Code; and 50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G, Sections 660.350, 660.351, 660.352 and 660.360.

Section 28.28, Title 14 CCR, is amended to read:

**§ 28.28. Cabezon.**

(a) Open areas, seasons, and depth restrictions: See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take or possession is authorized as follows:

(1) Northern Groundfish Management Area: Open and closed dates and depth restrictions as defined by Section 27.25.

(2) Mendocino Groundfish Management Area: Open and closed dates and depth restrictions as defined by Section 27.30.

(3) San Francisco Groundfish Management Area: Open and closed dates and depth restrictions as defined by Section 27.35.

(4) Central Groundfish Management Area: Open and closed dates and depth restrictions as defined by Section 27.40.

(5) Southern Groundfish Management Area: Open and closed dates and depth restrictions as defined by Section 27.45.

(6) Groundfish Exclusion Areas: Closed to take of cabezon year-round as specified by Section 27.50.

(b) Limit: 10 fish, within a Rockfish, Cabezon, and Greenling complex (RCG complex, as defined in Section 1.91) limit of 10 fish.

(c) Minimum size: ~~15 inches total length~~ None. See subsection ~~27.65(c)~~ 27.65(b) for fillet regulations.

(d) Method of take: When angling, gear is restricted to not more than two hooks and one line. For purposes of this section, a hook is a single hook, or double or treble hook with multiple points connected to a common shank. See subsection 27.20(b)(2) for descending device regulations.

(e) Fishing rules for cabezon may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e) or Section 52.10. See subsection 27.20(f) for additional information.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 200, 205, 265, 702 and 8587.1, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 200, 205, 265, 1802 and 7071, Fish and Game Code; and 50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G, Sections 660.350, 660.351, 660.352 and 660.360.

Section 28.29, Title 14 CCR, is amended to read:

**§ 28.29. Kelp Greenling. Rock Greenling. (Genus *Hexagrammos*).**

(a) Open areas, seasons, and depth restrictions for greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* (including kelp and rock greenlings): See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take or possession is authorized as follows:

(1) Northern Groundfish Management Area: Open and closed dates and depth restrictions as defined by Section 27.25.

(2) Mendocino Groundfish Management Area: Open and closed dates and depth restrictions as defined by Section 27.30.

(3) San Francisco Groundfish Management Area: Open and closed dates and depth restrictions as defined by Section 27.35.

(4) Central Groundfish Management Area: Open and closed dates and depth restrictions as defined by Section 27.40.

(5) Southern Groundfish Management Area: Open and closed dates and depth restrictions as defined by Section 27.45.

(6) Groundfish Exclusion Areas: Closed to take of greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* year-round as specified by Section 27.50.

(b) Limit: For greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*, ten fish within a Rockfish, Cabezon, and Greenling complex (RCG complex, as defined in Section 1.91) limit of 10 fish.

(c) Minimum size: ~~12 inches total length~~ None. See subsection 27.65(b) for fillet regulations.

(d) Method of take: When angling, gear is restricted to not more than two hooks and one line. For purposes of this section, a hook is a single hook, or double or treble hook with multiple points connected to a common shank. See subsection 27.20(b)(2) for descending device regulations.

(e) Fishing rules for greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e) or Section 52.10. See subsection 27.20(f) for additional information.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 200, 205, 265, 702, 7071 and 8587.1, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 200, 205, 265, 1802 and 7071, Fish and Game Code; and 50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G, Sections 660.350, 660.351, 660.352 and 660.360.

Section 28.54, Title 14 CCR, is amended to read:

**§ 28.54. California Scorpionfish (Sculpin).**

(a) Open year-round in all depths, except in the Groundfish Exclusion Areas where these species may not be taken or possessed at any time. See section 27.50.

(b) Limit: Five.

(c) Minimum size: ~~10 inches total length~~ None. See subsection 27.65(b) for fillet size ~~limit~~ regulations.

(d) Method of take: When angling, gear is restricted to not more than two hooks and one line. For purposes of this section, a hook is a single hook, or double or treble hook with multiple points connected to a common shank. See subsection 27.20(b)(2) for descending device regulations.

(e) Fishing rules for California scorpionfish may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). See subsection 27.20(f) for additional information.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 200, 205, 265, 702, 7071 and 8587.1, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 200, 205, 265, 275, 1802 and 7071, Fish and Game Code; and 50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G, Sections 660.350, 660.351, 660.352 and 660.360.

Section 28.65, Title 14 CCR, is amended to read:

**§ 28.65. General.**

Except as provided in this article, fin fish may be taken only on hook and line or by hand. Any number of hooks and lines may be used in all ocean waters and bays except:

(a) San Francisco Bay, as described in Section 27.00, where only one line with not more than three hooks may be used.

(b) On public piers, no person shall use more than two rods and lines, two hand lines, or two nets, traps or other appliances used to take crabs.

(c) When rockfish (genus *Sebastes*), California scorpionfish (*Scorpaena guttata*), lingcod (*Ophiodon elongatus*), cabezon (*Scorpaenichthys marmoratus*), ~~kelp or rock greenlings~~ (~~*Hexagrammos decagrammus* and *Hexagrammos lagocephalus*~~) greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*, or species listed in Section 28.49 are aboard or in possession, only one line with not more than two hooks may be used pursuant to sections 28.55, 28.54, 28.27, 28.28 28.29, or 28.49, respectively.

(d) No gaff hook shall be used to take or assist in landing any fin fish shorter than the minimum size limit. For the purpose of this section a gaff hook is any hook with or without a handle used to assist in landing fish or to take fish in such a manner that the fish does not take the hook voluntarily in its mouth. No person shall take fin fish from any boat or other floating device in ocean waters without having a landing net in possession or available for immediate use to assist in landing undersize fish of species having minimum size limits; the opening of any such landing net shall be not less than eighteen inches in diameter.

(e) North of Point Conception (34°27'00" N. lat.), where only one rod and line may be used by each angler fishing for salmon, or fishing from any boat or floating device with salmon on board.

(f) Mousetrap gear prohibited: It is unlawful to use, assist in using, or to possess aboard any vessel, hook-and-line gear commonly termed "mouse traps" constructed of a hook(s) or lure(s), attached to one end of a line that is attached to a float, or floats at the other end, and that when fished, is not attached directly to a person or vessel. Possession of such gear aboard a vessel shall be prima facie evidence that the gear is being used in violation of this regulation.

(g) North of Point Conception to 40°10'00" N. lat. (near Cape Mendocino), subsection 27.80(a)(3) applies to each angler fishing for salmon or fishing from any boat or floating device with salmon on board.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 200, 205, 265, 270, 275, 7071 and 7110, Fish and Game Code.  
Reference: Sections 200, 205, 265, 270, 275, 7110 and 8585.5, Fish and Game Code.