

Proposed Regulatory Language

Section 1.74, Title 14, CCR, is amended as follows:

§ 1.74. Sport Fishing Report Card Requirements.

...

[No change to subsections (a) and (b)]

...

(c) General Report Card Requirements.

- (1) Any person fishing for or taking any of the species identified in this ~~§~~section shall have in ~~his~~their immediate possession a valid non-transferable report card issued by the department for the particular species. See special exemption regarding possession of report cards for lobster divers in ~~§~~section 29.91 of these regulations.
- (2) All entries made on any physical report card or tag shall be legible and in indelible ink.
- (3) A report card holder fishing with a one, two, or ten-day sport fishing license, may replace the expired fishing license without purchasing a new report card so long as the report card is still valid.
- (4) Report cards are not transferable and shall not be transferred to another person. No person shall possess any report card other than ~~his~~their own.
- (5) A person may only obtain one abalone report card ~~and one sturgeon report card~~ per report card period.
- (6) Any report card holder who fills in all available lines on ~~his~~their steelhead, salmon, sturgeon, or lobster report card shall return or report the card to the department pursuant to subsection 1.74(e) prior to purchasing a second card.
- (7) Data recording and tagging procedures vary between report cards and species. See specific regulations in sections:
~~5.79~~5.80 (Inland white sturgeon),
5.87 (North Coast salmon),
5.88 (Steelhead),
~~27.92~~27.90 (Ocean white sturgeon),
29.16 (Abalone),
and 29.91 (Spiny lobster) that apply in addition to the regulations of this ~~§~~section.

(d) Report Card Return and Reporting Requirements

- (1) Report card holders shall return or report their salmon, steelhead, ~~sturgeon~~, or abalone report cards to the department pursuant to subsection 1.74(e) by January 31 of the following year.

(A) Any report card holder who fails to return or report ~~his~~their salmon, steelhead, ~~sturgeon,~~ or abalone report card to the department by the deadline may be restricted from obtaining the same card in a subsequent license year or may be subject to an additional fee for the issuance of the same card in a subsequent license year.

(2) Report card holders shall return or report their lobster report cards pursuant to subsection 1.74(e) by April 30 following the close of the lobster season for which the card was issued.

(A) Any report card holder who fails to return or report ~~his or her~~their lobster report card by April 30 following the close of the lobster season specified on the card shall be subject to a nonrefundable non-return fee specified in ~~S~~section 701, in addition to the annual report card fee, for the issuance of a lobster report card in the subsequent fishing season.

(e) Report Card Return and Reporting Mechanisms:

(1) By mail or in person at the address specified on the card. A report card returned by mail shall be postmarked by the date applicable to that card as specified in subsection 1.74(d)(1), ~~or~~1.74(d)(2), 5.80(g), or 27.90(g).

(2) Online through the department's license sales service website by the date applicable to that card as specified in subsection 1.74(d)(1), ~~or~~1.74(d)(2), 5.80(g), or 27.90(g).

Report card holders reporting online will be provided a confirmation number upon successful submission. The report card holder must record the provided confirmation number in the space provided on the report card and retain the report card for 90 days after the reporting deadline. Report cards submitted online must be surrendered to the department upon demand.

(3) If a report card is submitted by mail and not received by the department, it is considered not returned unless the report card holder reports ~~his or her~~their report card as lost pursuant to subsection 1.74(f).

(f) Lost report cards.

(1) Lobster, salmon, sturgeon, and steelhead. Notwithstanding subsection 1.74(c)(5), any report card holder who loses ~~his or her~~their report card during the report card period for which it is valid may purchase an additional report card by submitting payment to an authorized license agent or department license sales office. Catch information from the lost report card shall not be transferred to the new card. Information from lost lobster, salmon, sturgeon, and steelhead report cards shall be reported as specified in subsection 1.74(f)(3).

(2) Abalone ~~and sturgeon.~~ Notwithstanding subsection 1.74(c)(5), any report card holder who loses ~~his or her~~their report card during the period for which it is valid may purchase a replacement report card.

(A) The Department may issue a replacement report card for abalone ~~and sturgeon~~ upon completion of the following:

1. Submitting an affidavit to any department license sales office containing all the information specified in subsection 1.74(f)(3)(B); and

2. Submitting payment of the report card fee and the non-refundable replacement-processing fee specified in ~~S~~section 701.

- (B) Department staff shall enter the harvest information from the affidavit to the replacement report card.
- (C) Based on the information provided on the affidavit, department staff shall remove tags reported as used and issue only the number of tags that were reported as unused on the lost original report card.
- (D) Report card holders shall verify that the harvest information has been accurately transferred from the affidavit to ~~his or her~~their replacement report card.
- (E) The replacement report card shall be reported pursuant to the requirement for the original report card as specified in subsection 1.74(d).

Note: the original report card should not be reported.

(3) Reporting requirements. Except for lost abalone ~~and sturgeon~~ report cards for which a replacement card was purchased, all lost report cards shall be reported by the harvest report submission deadline date applicable to that card as specified in subsection 1.74(d)(1), ~~or~~1.74(d)(2), 5.80(g), or 27.90(g) by one of the following methods:

- (A) Online through the department's license sales service website; or
- (B) Submitting an affidavit, signed under penalty of perjury, to a department license sales office containing the following information:
 - 1. The report card holder's full name, GOID#, and a statement confirming that the originally issued report card is lost and cannot be recovered.
 - 2. A statement containing the report card holder's best recollection of the prior catch records that were entered on the report card that was lost.
 - 3. A statement describing the factual circumstances surrounding the loss of the report card.

Authority cited: Sections 200, 205, 265, 275, 1050, 1053.1, 1055.1, 2084 and 7380, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 110, 200, 205, 265, 275, 713, 1050, 1053.1, 1055.1, 2084, 7149.8, 7380, 7381 and 7382, Fish and Game Code.

Section 5.78, Title 14, CCR, will expire on September 1, 2025:

~~§ 5.78. White Sturgeon Catch and Release Sport Fishing for Inland Waters.~~

~~Notwithstanding Sections 5.79 and 5.80 of these regulations, White sturgeon may not be taken in inland waters statewide except as authorized below.~~

~~(a) Open season:~~

~~(1) From October 1 through June 30: from the west Carquinez Bridge east to downstream of the confluence of the Feather River on the Sacramento River and downstream of the I-5 bridge on the San Joaquin River.~~

~~(2) From October 1 through December 31: upstream of the confluence of the Feather River to the Highway 162 Bridge on the Sacramento River and upstream of the I-5 bridge on the San Joaquin River.~~

~~(b) Daily limit: zero fish~~

~~(c) Annual bag limit: zero fish per calendar year statewide.~~

~~(d) Methods of take: Only one single point, single shank, barbless hook shall be used on a line when taking sturgeon. The sturgeon must voluntarily take the bait or lure inside its mouth. No sturgeon may be taken by trolling, snagging or by the use of firearms. Sturgeon may not be gaffed, nor shall any person use any type of firearm or snare to take any sturgeon.~~

~~For the purposes of this section, a snare is a flexible loop made from any material that can be tightened like a noose around any part of the fish.~~

~~(e) Handling and removal from water: Any sturgeon greater than 60 inches fork length may not be removed from the water and shall be released immediately. Sturgeon of any size shall not be held out of water suspended by the gills, gill plates, mouth, or tail, and shall not be dragged across the ground, boat decks, or piers.~~

~~(f) Sturgeon Fishing Report Card Required. All anglers must have a valid Sturgeon Fishing Report Card in their possession while fishing for White sturgeon. Cardholders must complete and return the card pursuant to regulations in this Section and in Section 1.74, Title 14, CCR.~~

~~(g) Reporting Requirements for Released Fish.~~

~~(1) Whenever the cardholder catches and releases a sturgeon, the cardholder shall immediately record the month, day, location code, length, and species of sturgeon.~~

~~(2) If all lines in the "sturgeon released" field of the report card are filled, any additional sturgeon caught and released may be recorded on the back of the card.~~

~~(3) If the sturgeon has a department reward disk attached, write the reward disk number in the space provided on the report card.~~

~~(h) The annual fee for the Sturgeon Fishing Report Card is specified in Section 701(c).~~

~~(i) Special North Coast District Sturgeon Closure (Humboldt, Del Norte, Trinity and Siskiyou cos.). It is unlawful to take any sturgeon in the North Coast District at any time.~~

~~(j) Special Sierra and Valley District Sturgeon Closure from January 1 to December 31 (Shasta, Tehama, Butte and Glenn cos.).~~

~~(1) Sacramento River from Keswick Dam to the Highway 162 Bridge.~~

~~(A) It is unlawful to take any sturgeon.~~

~~(B) It is unlawful to use wire leaders.~~

~~(C) It is unlawful to use lamprey or any type of shrimp as bait.~~

~~(k) Special Yolo Bypass Flood Control System Sturgeon Closure. It is unlawful to take any sturgeon in the Yolo Bypass, Toe Drain Canal, and Tule Canal upstream of Lisbon Weir at any time.~~

~~(l) For regulations on take and possession of sturgeon in ocean waters as defined in Section 27.00, see Sections 27.93 and 27.95.~~

~~Authority cited: Sections 200, 205, 265, 275, 399 and 2084, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 110, 200, 205, 265 and 2084, Fish and Game Code.~~

Section 5.79, Title 14, CCR, is **repealed** as follows:

~~§ 5.79. White Sturgeon Report Card and Tagging Requirements for Inland Waters (FG 683, See Section 701).~~

~~See sections 5.78 and 27.93 for white sturgeon fishing regulations during California Endangered Species Act Candidacy.~~

~~(a) Sturgeon Fishing Report Card Required. All anglers must have a valid Sturgeon Fishing Report Card in their possession while fishing for or taking white sturgeon. Cardholders must complete and return the card pursuant to regulations in this Section and in Section 1.74.~~

~~(b) Tagging and Recording Requirements for Retained Fish. A Sturgeon Fishing Report Card includes detachable tags that shall be used to tag any white sturgeon that is taken and retained in the sport fishery. Any white sturgeon possessed by any person shall be tagged.~~

~~(1) Upon taking and retaining a white sturgeon, the cardholder shall immediately record the following information:~~

~~(A) The fishing location, time of catch and length of the fish shall be recorded legibly and permanently in the appropriate spaces on the tag. The cardholder shall immediately and completely punch out the date of catch (month and day) on the sturgeon tag. Tags shall be used in sequential order.~~

~~(B) The month, day, fishing location and length of the fish shall be recorded in the appropriate spaces on the Sturgeon Fishing Report Card which corresponds to the number on the tag.~~

~~(2) Immediately after recording the information above, the cardholder shall remove and completely detach the tag from the card and affix it to the white sturgeon. Cardholders shall not wait until completion of fishing activity to tag any white sturgeon in possession.~~

~~(3) The tag shall be securely fastened to the fish. To affix the tag, a “zip tie”, string, line or other suitable material shall be passed through the tag at the location specified on the sturgeon tag and attached to the fish.~~

~~(4) Tags shall not be removed from the report card until immediately prior to affixing to a white sturgeon. Any tags detached from the report card and not affixed to a white sturgeon shall be considered used and therefore invalid. No person shall possess any used or otherwise invalid sturgeon tags.~~

~~(5) Records of Prior Activity. All tags must be accounted for at all times by entry of a record on the Sturgeon Fishing Report Card corresponding to all tags that are not in the cardholder’s possession. Any tag that was lost or destroyed shall be recorded as such on the corresponding line on the Sturgeon Fishing Report Card.~~

~~(6) If the sturgeon has a department reward disk attached, write the reward disk number in the space provided on the report card.~~

~~(c) Reporting Requirements for Released Fish.~~

~~(1) Whenever the cardholder catches and releases a sturgeon, the cardholder shall immediately record the month, day, location code, and species of sturgeon.~~

~~(2) If all lines in the "sturgeon released" field of the report card are filled, any additional sturgeon caught and released need not be recorded on the card.~~

~~(3) If the sturgeon has a department reward disk attached, write the reward disk number in the space provided on the report card.~~

~~(d) Sturgeon tags must be left affixed to the fish in place, including while stored at a residence or non-transient location, until the fish is processed for immediate consumption.~~

~~(e) The annual fee for the Sturgeon Fishing Report Card is specified in Section 701(c).~~

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

~~Reference: Sections 200, 205 and 265, Fish and Game Code.~~

Section 5.80, Title 14, CCR, is amended as follows:

§ 5.80. Inland White Sturgeon.

(a) ~~Open season: All year, except for closures listed under special regulations.~~

(1) From October 1 through June 30: from the west Carquinez Bridge east to downstream of the confluence of the Feather River on the Sacramento River and downstream of the I-5 bridge on the San Joaquin River.

(2) From October 1 through December 31 of the same calendar year: upstream of the confluence of the Feather River to the Highway 162 Bridge on the Sacramento River and upstream of the I-5 bridge on the San Joaquin River.

(3) Year-round: all tributaries of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers are closed.

(b) ~~Daily and annual bag limit: One fish per day. Three fish per year statewide.~~ Zero fish

(c) ~~Size limit: No fish less than 40 inches fork length or greater than 60 inches fork length may be taken or possessed.~~ Annual bag limit: zero fish per calendar year statewide.

(d) Methods of take: Only one single point, single shank, barbless hook may be used on a line when taking sturgeon. The sturgeon must voluntarily take the bait or lure inside its mouth. No sturgeon may be taken by trolling, snagging or by the use of firearms. Sturgeon may not be gaffed, nor shall any person use any type of firearm or snare to take any sturgeon.

For the purposes of this section, a snare is a flexible loop made from any material that can be tightened like a noose around any part of the fish.

(e) ~~Handling and removal~~ Removal from water. Any sturgeon greater than ~~68~~ 60 inches fork length may not be removed from the water and shall be released immediately. Sturgeon of any size shall not be held out of water suspended by the gills, gill plates, mouth, or solely by the tail, and shall not be dragged across the ground, boat decks, or piers. Lip gripper devices shall not be used on sturgeon.

(f) ~~Sturgeon Fishing Report card required~~ Card Required: Any person fishing for or taking sturgeon shall have in their possession a nontransferable Sturgeon Fishing Report Card issued by the department and shall adhere to all reporting and tagging requirements for sturgeon defined in Sections 1.74 and 5.79, Title 14, CCR. All anglers must have a valid Sturgeon Fishing Report Card in their possession while fishing for white sturgeon. Anglers must complete and return the report card pursuant to regulations in this section and in section 1.74.

(g) Reporting Requirements for Released Fish:

(1) Reporting Requirements for Released Fish (report cards purchased prior to July 1, 2025).

(A) Prior to beginning fishing activity, the cardholder must record the month, day, and location code on the first available line on the report card.

(B) Whenever the cardholder catches and releases a sturgeon, the angler shall immediately record the month, day, and location code and species of sturgeon. Start a new line for every sturgeon caught and released.

(C) If all lines in the "sturgeon released" field of the report card are filled, any additional sturgeon caught and released may be recorded on the back of the card.

(D) If the sturgeon has a department reward disk attached, write the reward disk number in the space provided on the report card.

(E) Cardholders shall return or report their salmon, steelhead, sturgeon, or abalone report cards to the department pursuant to subsection 1.74(e) by January 31 of the following year.

(F) Any report card holder who fails to return or report their salmon, steelhead, sturgeon, or abalone report card to the department by the deadline may be restricted from obtaining the same card in a subsequent license year or may be subject to an additional fee for the issuance of the same card in a subsequent license year.

(G) The annual fee for the Sturgeon Fishing Report Card is specified in section 701(c).

(2) Reporting Requirements for Released Fish (report cards purchased on or after July 1, 2025).

(A) Prior to beginning fishing activity, the cardholder must record the month, day, and location code on the first available line of the report card.

(B) Whenever the angler catches and releases a sturgeon, the report card holder shall immediately record the catch in the appropriate column on the report card, according to the length and species of the fish.

(C) When the cardholder moves to another location code, the angler must complete the line for the location they were fishing in and then start a new line for the new location.

(D) At the end of the fishing trip, the cardholder shall record the number of hours fished in that location.

(E) Report card holders shall return or report their sturgeon report card to the department pursuant to subsection 1.74(e) by July 31 after the season closes on June 30.

(F) Any report card holder who fails to return or report their sturgeon report card to the department by the deadline may be restricted from obtaining the same card in a subsequent license year or may be subject to an additional fee for the issuance of the same card in a subsequent license year.

(G) In the event an angler fills in all lines and returns a Sturgeon Fishing Report Card, an additional card must be purchased to continue to fish for white sturgeon. See section 1.74(c)(6) The annual fee for the Sturgeon Fishing Report Card is specified in section 701(c).

(h) For regulations on take and possession of sturgeon in ocean waters as defined in Section 27.00, see Sections 27.90, 27.91, and 27.95 Special North Coast District Sturgeon Closure (Humboldt, Del Norte, Trinity and Siskiyou cos.). It is unlawful to take any sturgeon in the North Coast District at any time.

(i) Special Sierra and Valley District Sturgeon Closure from January 1 to December 31 (Shasta, Tehama, Butte and Glenn cos.).

(1) Sacramento River from Keswick Dam to the Highway 162 Bridge.

(A) It is unlawful to take any sturgeon.

(B) It is unlawful to use wire leaders.

(C) It is unlawful to use lamprey or any type of shrimp as bait.

(j) Special Yolo Bypass Flood Control System Sturgeon Closure. It is unlawful to take any sturgeon in the Yolo Bypass, Toe Drain Canal, and Tule Canal upstream of Lisbon Weir at any time.

(k) For regulations on take and possession of white sturgeon in ocean waters as defined in section 27.00, see section 27.90.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 200, 205, 265, 275, 399, and 2084, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 110, 200, 205, 265, and 2084, Fish and Game Code.

Section 5.81, Title 14, CCR, is amended as follows:

§ 5.81. Inland Green Sturgeon.

- (a) Green sturgeon may not be taken or possessed.
- (b) Green sturgeon may not be removed from the water and shall be released immediately.
- (c) Green sturgeon taken and released incidentally to white sturgeon fishing shall be reported on a Sturgeon Fishing Report Card issued by the department, in accordance with procedures defined in Sections 1.74 and ~~5.795.80., Title 14, CCR.~~

Authority cited: Sections 200, 205, 265 and 275 Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 110, 200 and 205, Fish and Game Code.

Section 27.60, Title 14, CCR, is amended as follows:

§ 27.60. Limit.

...

[No change to subsections (a) and (b)]

...

- (c) Boat limit. When two or more persons that are licensed or otherwise authorized to sport fish in ocean waters off California or in the San Francisco Bay District, defined in Section 27.00, are angling for finfish aboard a vessel in these waters, fishing by all authorized persons aboard may continue until boat limits of finfish are taken and possessed aboard the vessel as authorized under this section or Section 195, Title 14, CCR.
- (1) The authorization for boat limits aboard a vessel does not apply to fishing trips originating in California where fish are taken in other jurisdictions.
 - (2) A boat limit for a species or species group is the number of persons aboard a vessel that are licensed or otherwise authorized to sport fish in ocean waters off California, or in waters of the San Francisco Bay District, (see special conditions of Section 195, Title 14, CCR, applicable to operator and crew members of vessels licensed pursuant to Fish and Game Code 7920) multiplied by the individual daily bag limit authorized for a species or species group in those waters. With the exception of species listed in subsection (b) above, the total fish aboard a boat may not exceed the aggregate per-person daily bag limit of 20-fish in combination of all species times the number of anglers licensed or otherwise authorized to sport fish aboard the vessel. It is unlawful to exceed the boat limit at any time.
 - (3) All persons aboard a vessel may be cited where violations involving boat limits are found, including, but not limited to the following violations:
 - (A) Over limits
 - (B) Possession of prohibited species
 - (C) Violation of size limits
 - (D) Fish taken out of season or in closed areas.
 - (4) Upon completion of a fishing trip aboard a vessel, each licensed angler or person otherwise authorized to sport fish may not possess more than the individual daily bag and possession limits. For purposes of this section, a trip is completed at the time a person disembarks from a vessel and individual possession limits apply. Special boat limit provisions apply to persons fishing aboard commercial passenger fishing vessels reporting pursuant to Section 195, Title 14, CCR.
 - (5) Species for which no daily bag limit exists are not counted as part of a boat limit.
 - ~~(6) Boat limits are not authorized for sturgeon fishing and shall not apply to the take, possession or retention of sturgeon.~~

Authority cited: Sections 200, 205, 265, 2084, 7071 and 8587.1, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 200, 205, 255, 265, 2084, 7071, 7120 and 8587.1, Fish and Game Code.

Section 27.90, Title 14, CCR, is amended as follows:

§ 27.90. Ocean White Sturgeon.

- (a) Open season: All year~~From October 1 through June 30 except as described in subsection (i) of these regulations.~~
- (b) Daily and annual bag limit: One fish per day. ~~Three fish per year statewide.~~ Zero fish.
- (c) Size limit: No fish less than 40 inches fork length or greater than 60 inches fork length may be taken or possessed~~Annual bag limit: zero fish per calendar year statewide.~~
- (d) Methods of take: Only one single point, single shank, barbless hook may be used on a line when taking sturgeon. The sturgeon must voluntarily take the bait or lure inside its mouth. No sturgeon may be taken by trolling, snagging or by the use of firearms. Sturgeon may not be gaffed, nor shall any person use any type of firearm or snare to take any sturgeon.

For the purposes of this section, a snare is a flexible loop made from any material that can be tightened like a noose around any part of the fish.

- (e) Handling and removal~~Removal~~ from water. Any sturgeon greater than 68~~60~~ inches fork length may not be removed from the water and shall be released immediately. Sturgeon of any size shall not be held out of water suspended by the gills, gill plates, mouth, or solely by the tail, and shall not be dragged across the ground, boat decks, or piers. Lip gripper devices shall not be used on sturgeon.
- (f) Sturgeon Fishing Report card required~~Card Required: Any person fishing for or taking sturgeon shall have in their possession a nontransferable Sturgeon Fishing Report Card issued by the department and shall adhere to all reporting and tagging requirements for sturgeon defined in Sections 1.74 and 5.79, Title 14, CCR~~All anglers must have a valid Sturgeon Fishing Report Card in their possession while fishing for white sturgeon. Cardholders must complete and return the card pursuant to regulations in this section and in section 1.74.
- (g) Reporting Requirements for Released Fish:
 - (1) Reporting Requirements for Released Fish (report cards purchased prior to July 1, 2025).
 - (A) Prior to beginning fishing activity, the cardholder must record the month, day, and location code on the first available line on the report card.
 - (B) Whenever the cardholder catches and releases a sturgeon, the cardholder shall immediately record the month, day, and location code and species of sturgeon. Start a new line for every sturgeon caught and released.
 - (C) If all lines in the "sturgeon released" field of the report card are filled, any additional sturgeon caught and released may be recorded on the back of the card.
 - (D) If the sturgeon has a department reward disk attached, write the reward disk number in the space provided on the report card.
 - (E) Report card holders shall return or report their salmon, steelhead, sturgeon, or abalone report cards to the department pursuant to subsection 1.74(e) by January 31 of the following year.

(F) Any report card holder who fails to return or report their salmon, steelhead, sturgeon, or abalone report card to the department by the deadline may be restricted from obtaining the same card in a subsequent license year or may be subject to an additional fee for the issuance of the same card in a subsequent license year.

(G) The annual fee for the Sturgeon Fishing Report Card is specified in section 701(c).

(2) Reporting Requirements for Released Fish (report cards purchased for the season starting on or after July 1, 2025).

(A) Prior to beginning fishing activity, the cardholder must record the month, day, and location code on the first available line of the report card.

(B) Whenever the angler catches and releases a sturgeon, the report card holder shall immediately record the catch in the appropriate column on the report card, according to the length and species of the fish.

(C) When the cardholder moves to another location code, the angler must complete the line for the location they were fishing in and then start a new line for the new location.

(D) At the end of the fishing trip, the cardholder shall record the number of hours fished in that location.

(E) Report card holders shall return or report their sturgeon report card to the department pursuant to subsection 1.74(e) by July 31 of the following year.

(F) Any report card holder who fails to return or report their sturgeon report card to the department by the deadline may be restricted from obtaining the same card in a subsequent license year or may be subject to an additional fee for the issuance of the same card in a subsequent license year.

(G) In the event an angler fills in all lines and returns a Sturgeon Fishing Report Card, an additional card must be purchased to continue to fish for white sturgeon. See section 1.74(h) The annual fee for the Sturgeon Fishing Report Card is specified in section 701(c).

(h) The annual fee for the Sturgeon Fishing Report Card is specified in section 701.

(i) San Francisco Bay Special Closure: White sturgeon may not be taken in the following described area between January 1 and March 15: That portion of San Francisco Bay included within the following boundaries: A direct line between Pt. Chauncy (National Marine Fisheries Laboratory) and Pt. Richmond, the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge and a direct line between Pt. Lobos and Pt. Bonita.

~~(g) (j) For regulations on take and possession of sturgeon in inland waters as defined in Ssection 1.53, see Ssection 5.80 and Section 5.81.~~

~~(h) Boat limits, as defined in Subsection 27.60(e) and Section 195, are not authorized for sturgeon fishing and shall not apply to the take, possession or retention of white sturgeon.~~

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 200, 202, 205 and 220, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 200, 205 and 206, Fish and Game Code

Section 27.91, Title 14, CCR, is amended as follows:

§ 27.91. Ocean Green Sturgeon.

- (a) Green sturgeon may not be taken or possessed.
- (b) Green sturgeon may not be removed from the water and shall be released immediately.
- (c) Green sturgeon taken and released incidentally to white sturgeon fishing shall be reported on a Sturgeon Fishing Report Card issued by the department, in accordance with procedures defined in ~~Sections 1.74 and 27.9227.90,~~ Title 14, CCR.
- (d) San Francisco Bay Special Closure: Green sturgeon may not be taken in the following described area between January 1 and March 15: That portion of San Francisco Bay included within the following boundaries: A direct line between Pt. Chauncy (National Marine Fisheries Laboratory) and Pt. Richmond, the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge and a direct line between Pt. Lobos and Pt. Bonita.

Authority cited: Sections 200, 205, 265, ~~and 275,~~ and 2084 Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 110, 200, ~~and 205,~~ and 2084 Fish and Game Code.

Section 27.92, Title 14, CCR, is **repealed** as follows:

~~§ 27.92. White Sturgeon Report Card and Tagging Requirements for Ocean Waters (FG 683, See Section 701).~~

~~See sections 5.78 and 27.93 for white sturgeon fishing regulations during California Endangered Species Act Candidacy.~~

~~(a) Sturgeon Fishing Report Card Required. All anglers must have a valid Sturgeon Fishing Report Card in their possession while fishing for or taking white sturgeon. Cardholders must complete and return the card pursuant to regulations in this Section and in Section 1.74.~~

~~(b) Tagging and Recording Requirements for Retained Fish. A Sturgeon Fishing Report Card includes detachable tags that shall be used to tag any white sturgeon that is taken and retained in the sport fishery. Any white sturgeon possessed by any person shall be tagged.~~

~~(1) Upon taking and retaining a white sturgeon, the cardholder shall immediately record the following information:~~

~~(A) The fishing location, time of catch and length of the fish shall be recorded legibly and permanently in the appropriate spaces on the tag. The cardholder shall immediately and completely punch out the date of catch (month and day) on the sturgeon tag. Tags shall be used in sequential order.~~

~~(B) The month, day, fishing location and length of the fish shall be recorded in the appropriate spaces on the Sturgeon Fishing Report Card which corresponds to the number on the tag.~~

~~(2) Immediately after recording the information above, the cardholder shall remove and completely detach the tag from the card and affix it to the white sturgeon. Cardholders shall not wait until completion of fishing activity to tag any white sturgeon in possession.~~

~~(3) The tag shall be securely fastened to the fish. To affix the tag, a “zip tie”, string, line or other suitable material shall be passed through the tag at the location specified on the sturgeon tag and attached to the fish.~~

~~(4) Tags shall not be removed from the report card until immediately prior to affixing to a white sturgeon. Any tags detached from the report card and not affixed to a white sturgeon shall be considered used and therefore invalid. No person shall possess any used or otherwise invalid sturgeon tags.~~

~~(5) Records of Prior Activity. All tags must be accounted for at all times by entry of a record on the Sturgeon Fishing Report Card corresponding to all tags that are not in the cardholder’s possession. Any tag that was lost or destroyed shall be recorded as such on the corresponding line on the Sturgeon Fishing Report Card.~~

~~(6) If the sturgeon has a department reward disk attached, write the reward disk number in the space provided on the report card.~~

~~(c) Reporting Requirements for Released Fish.~~

~~(1) Whenever the cardholder catches and releases a sturgeon, the cardholder shall immediately record the month, day, location code, and species of sturgeon.~~

~~(2) If all lines in the "sturgeon released" field of the report card are filled, any additional sturgeon caught and released need not be recorded on the card.~~

~~(3) If the sturgeon has a department reward disk attached, write the reward disk number in the space provided on the report card.~~

~~(d) Sturgeon tags must be left affixed to the fish in place, including while stored at a residence or non-transient location, until the fish is processed for immediate consumption.~~

~~(e) The annual fee for the Sturgeon Fishing Report Card is specified in Section 701, Title 14, GCR.~~

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

~~Reference: Sections 200, 205 and 265, Fish and Game Code.~~

Section 27.93, Title 14, CCR, will expire on September 1, 2025:

~~§ 27.93. White Sturgeon Catch and Release Sport Fishing for Ocean Waters.~~

~~Notwithstanding Sections 27.90 and 27.92 of these regulations, white sturgeon may not be taken in ocean waters statewide except as authorized below.~~

~~(a) Open season: From October 1 through June 30 except as described in Section 27.95 of these regulations.~~

~~(b) Daily limit: zero fish per day.~~

~~(c) Annual bag limit: zero fish per calendar year statewide.~~

~~(d) Methods of take: Only one single point, single shank, barbless hook shall be used on a line when taking sturgeon. The sturgeon must voluntarily take the bait or lure in its mouth. No sturgeon may be taken by trolling, snagging or by the use of firearms. Sturgeon may not be gaffed, nor shall any person use any type of firearm or snare to take any sturgeon.~~

~~For the purposes of this section, a snare is a flexible loop made from any material that can be tightened like a noose around any part of the fish.~~

~~(e) Handling and removal from water: Any sturgeon greater than 60 inches fork length may not be removed from the water and shall be released immediately. Sturgeon of any size shall not be held out of water suspended by the gills, gill plates, mouth, or tail, and shall not be dragged across the ground, boat decks, or piers.~~

~~(f) Sturgeon Fishing Report Card Required. All anglers must have a valid Sturgeon Fishing Report Card in their possession while fishing for white sturgeon. Cardholders must complete and return the card pursuant to regulations in this Section and in Section 1.74, Title 14, CCR.~~

~~(g) Reporting Requirements for Released Fish.~~

~~(1) Whenever the cardholder catches and releases a sturgeon, the cardholder shall immediately record the month, day, location code, length, and species of sturgeon.~~

~~(2) If all lines in the "sturgeon released" field of the report card are filled, any additional sturgeon caught and released may be recorded on the back of the card.~~

~~(3) If the sturgeon has a department reward disk attached, write the reward disk number in the space provided on the report card.~~

~~(h) The annual fee for the Sturgeon Fishing Report Card is specified in Section 701, Title 14, CCR.~~

~~(i) For regulations on take and possession of sturgeon in inland waters as defined in Section 1.53, see Section 5.78.~~

~~Authority cited: Sections 200, 202, 205, 220, 265, 399 and 2084, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 200, 205, 206, 265 and 2084, Fish and Game Code.~~

Section 27.95, Title 14, CCR, is repealed as follows:

~~§ 27.95. Sturgeon Closure.~~

~~Green sturgeon and white sturgeon may not be taken in the following described area between January 1 and March 15: That portion of San Francisco Bay included within the following boundaries: A direct line between Pt. Chauncy (National Marine Fisheries Laboratory) and Pt. Richmond, the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge and a direct line between Pt. Lobos and Pt. Bonita.~~

~~Authority cited: Sections 200, 205, 219, 265 and 275, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 200, 205, 255, 265, 270 and 275, Fish and Game Code.~~

Section 701, Title 14, CCR, is amended as follows:

§ 701. Sport Fishing Forms and Fees.

<u>Subsection</u>	<i>Application Type</i>	<i>Permit Fees (US\$)</i>	<i>Replacement Processing Fees (US\$)</i>
(a)	Declaration for Multi-Day Fishing Trip (FG 935 (Rev. 2/13)), incorporated by reference herein	5.75	
(b)	2014 North Coast Salmon Report Card	5.75	
(c)	2014 <u>2025</u> Sturgeon Fishing Report Card	7.50 <u>5.00-</u> <u>11.00</u>	
(d)	2014 Sturgeon Fishing Replacement Report Card and Replacement Fee	7.50	7.50
(e)	2014 Spiny Lobster Report Card	8.75	
(f)	2014 Spiny Lobster Report Card Non-Return Fee	20.00	
(g)	2014 Abalone Replacement Report Card and Replacement Fee	9.50	7.50
(h)	2021 Recreational Crab Trap Validation	2.25	

~~(h)~~ Pursuant to the provisions of section 699, Title 14, the department shall annually adjust the fees of all licenses, stamps, permits, tags, or other entitlements required by regulations set forth in this section.

Authority cited: Sections 200, 205, 265, 275, 713, 1050, 1053.1, 2084 and 7149.8, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 200, 205, 265, 275, 713, 1050, 1053.1, 1055.1, 2084 and 7149.8, Fish and Game Code.