

Proposed Regulatory Text

Section 150.06, Title 14, California Code of Regulations is amended to read:

§ 150.06. Commercial Groundfish Area Management Defined

...[no changes to Section 150.06 proposed with emergency readoption]...

- (a) California Groundfish Restriction Areas. The California Groundfish Restriction Areas minimize interaction with particular species of groundfish that cannot be selectively avoided and must be protected by limiting or prohibiting fishing in certain depths or areas for federal groundfish and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*.
- (b) Except for purposes of continuous transit, it is prohibited to take and retain or possess federal groundfish, as defined in section 1.91, within the California Groundfish Restriction Area, when in effect, or in other closed water. Continuous transit is defined as on a heading as nearly as practicable to a direct route through a California Groundfish Restriction Area or closed waters, while maintaining expeditious headway throughout transit without delay and with fishing gear stowed and secured in such a manner that it is rendered unusable for fishing.
- (c) Seasonal closure periods and in-season closures enacted due to quota attainment for groundfish, other than those specified in 150.16(e)(5)(A) and (B), noticed in the Federal Register in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Parts 600 and 660 by the National Marine Fisheries Service are extended to apply in state waters. See also Section 189, Title 14, California Code of Regulations for additional explanation regarding fishing for federal groundfish in state waters.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 7071, 7652 and 8587.1, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 7071, 7652, 8585.5 and 8587.1, Fish and Game Code.

Proposed Regulatory Text

Section 150.16, Title 14, California Code of Regulations is amended to read:

§ 150.16. Commercial Take of Nearshore Fishes.

... [No changes to subsections (a) through (e)(4)]...

(5) Cumulative trip limit tables for federal groundfish, California sheephead, cabezon and greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* in state waters.

(A) Between 42° N lat. (Oregon/California border) and 40° 10' N lat. (near Cape Mendocino, the cumulative trip limit per two-month limit period is as follows:

		Jan-Feb	Mar-Apr	May-Jun	Jul-Aug	Sep-Oct	Nov-Dec
1	Cabezon			1,000 lbs / 2 mo			
2	California Scorpionfish ⁴			3,500 lbs / 2 mo			
3	California sheephead	2,000 lbs / 2 mo			2,400 lbs / 2 mo		
4	Greenlings of the genus <i>Hexagrammos</i>			500 lbs / 2 mo			
5	Quillback rockfish			Closed			
6	Black rockfish			7,000 lbs / 2 mo			
7	Nearshore rockfish excluding black rockfish	2,000 / 2 mo, of which no more than 75 lbs may be copper rockfish					
8	Lingcod and other flatfish complex	See subsection (f)(2) and (g) of this section					
<u>9</u> <u>8</u>	All other federal groundfish ² (defined in Section 1.91)	See subsection (f) of this section					

⁴ The trip limit for this species is specified in federal regulation at 50 CFR 660 Subpart F, which does not grant an additive federal and state trip limit for the species.

² As defined in section 1.91, Title 14, CCR.

(B) South of 40° 10' N lat. (near Cape Mendocino), the cumulative trip limit per two-month limit period is as follows:

		Jan-Feb	Mar-Apr	May-Jun	Jul-Aug	Sep-Oct	Nov-Dec
1	Cabezon			1,000 lbs / 2 mo			
2	California scorpionfish			3,500 lbs / 2 mo			
3	California sheephead	2,000 lbs / 2 mo			2,400 lbs / 2 mo		
4	Greenlings of the genus <i>Hexagrammos</i>			500 lbs / 2 mo			
5	Quillback rockfish			Closed			
6	Shallow nearshore rockfish			2,000 lbs / 2 mo			
7	Deeper nearshore rockfish	2,000 lbs / 2 mo, of which no more than 75 lbs may be copper rockfish					
8	Lingcod and other flatfish complex	See subsection (f)(2) and (g) of this section					
9_8	All other federal groundfish ² (defined in Section 1.91)	See subsection (f) of this section					

¹ Trip limits for these species or species groups are specified in federal regulation at 50 CFR 660 Subpart F, which does not grant an additive federal and state trip limit for these species or species groups.

² As defined in section 1.91, Title 14, CCR.

(C) The department will evaluate year-to-date catch levels against total allowable catch limits defined in Section 52.10 for California sheephead, cabezon and greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* or, for nearshore rockfish as defined in 14 CCR 1.91(a)(1) (subsection 1.91(a)(1)) and California scorpionfish, annual harvest limit or harvest specifications established in regulation by the NOAA Fisheries (National Marine Fisheries Service) in 50 CFR subpart C. Based on these data, when the department determines that cumulative trip limits defined in this Section need significant adjustment upward or downward (by 50 percent or more) in order to spread the allowable catches through the open season to the extent possible and prevent early attainment of the annual total allowable commercial catch, the cumulative trip limits defined in this Section may become inoperative and may be replaced with alternative limits as determined by the department. The department may perform these in-season analyses between May and September of each year; and provide notification of changes by October 15 of each year, as described in subsection (e)(5)(D).

(D) The department shall give nearshore fishery permittees no less than 10 days notice of any cumulative trip limit change pursuant to this Section via a notification letter sent to the permittee's address on file with the department.

(E) When allocations, total allowable catches or other catch limits defined in Section 52.09 or 52.10 are reached, and action to close the fishery is taken pursuant to Section 52.09 subsection (d) or Section 52.10 subsection (b), cumulative trip limits defined in this Section become inoperative.

(f) ~~All other trip limits (including daily, weekly and cumulative trip limits) established for For all other federal groundfish not specified in subsections (e)(5)(A) or (B) of this section:~~

(1) ~~Trip trip limits (including daily, weekly and cumulative trip limits) noticed in the Federal Register by the National Marine Fisheries Service (Title 50, CFR, Part 660, subparts D, E, and F) are extended to apply in state waters. See also Section 189, Title 14, California Code of Regulations for additional requirements regarding fishing for federal groundfish in state waters.~~

(2) ~~Notwithstanding subsection (f)(1), the trip limits established for lingcod and the other flatfish complex as specified in Tables 2b (North) and 2b (South) to Part 660, Subpart E, Title 50 CFR (Rev. 7/21/2025), hereby incorporated by reference, and Tables 3b (North) and 3b (South) to Part 660, Subpart F, Title 50 CFR, (Rev. 7/21/2025), hereby incorporated by reference, are extended to apply in state waters, regardless if specified only seaward of the federal Rockfish Conservation Area. See also Section 189, Title 14, California Code of Regulations for additional requirements regarding fishing for federal groundfish in state waters.~~

(g) Vessels that fish in both state and federal waters shall not be entitled to additive state and federal trip limits.

(h) Crossover provisions established for federal groundfish noticed in the Federal Register by the National Marine Fisheries Service in Title 50, CFR, Part 660.60 are extended to apply in state waters.

(i) A vessel and/or individual that is subject to trip limits shall not exceed any trip limit for nearshore fish stocks or federal groundfish during any cumulative trip limit period.

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

Reference: Sections 1802, 8585.5, 8586, 8587, and 8587.1, Fish and Game Code.