



2026 Ocean Salmon Commercial Regulations

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

wildlife.ca.gov/oceansalmon



Summer Harvest Regulations

Harvest limit of **83,000** Chinook applicable to open areas south of Pt. Arena; Landing limit of 160 Chinook per vessel per open period applies across the combined management areas south of Pt. Arena. Possession limit of 160 Chinook; Minimum size limit: **27 inches** total length; All salmon must be landed south of 40°10' N. lat and within 24 hours of any closure of the fishery.

Inseason action may be taken to reduce landing limits or close open days when harvest is approaching the summer harvest limit.

OR/CA Border to the 40°10' Line (Klamath Management Zone):

Closed

40°10' Line to Pt. Arena (Fort Bragg):

Closed

Pt. Arena to Pigeon Point (San Francisco):

May 1-6, 9-13, 16-20, 23-29, August 1-7, 13-16, 25-27

Pigeon Pt. to the U.S./Mexico Border (Monterey and south):

May 1-6, 9-13, 16-20, 23-29, June 3-8, 12-16, 26-30, July 6-10, 20-24, August 1-7, 13-16, 25-27

Fall Harvest Regulations

Harvest limit of **20,000** Chinook; Landing limit of 100 Chinook per vessel per open period. Possession limit of 100 Chinook; Minimum size limit: **26 inches** total length; All salmon must be landed between Pt. Arena and Pigeon Pt. and within 24 hours of any closure of the fishery.

Inseason action may be taken to reduce landing limits or close open days when harvest is approaching the fall harvest limit.

38°02' N. lat. to Pigeon Pt. Subarea:

September 4-8, 11-15, 18-22, 25-30

General Commercial Regulations

- **All salmon except coho; all commercial salmon must be landed in California (CCR T-14, § 182)**
- **Single point, single shank barbless hooks are required**
- **No more than 6 lines are allowed per vessel (CCR T-14, §182)**
- **Electronic Reporting Requirements:** Any fish receiver or fisherman with a fisherman's retail license shall record landing information on an electronic fish ticket, including the number of individual fish (CCR T-14, §197). Electronic fish tickets must be submitted within 24 hours of landing. Any person who lands salmon shall keep a copy of all landing receipts documenting salmon landings on board the fishing vessel that caught the salmon until 15 days after the last salmon season closure for the calendar year (CCR T-14, §182).
- **Compliance with salmon sampling programs:** A person shall relinquish fish or fish parts for the purpose of a biological sample, including heads from adipose fin-clipped salmon for recovery of the Coded-Wire Tag (FGC §8226; §7711).
- **Transit through closed area with salmon on board:** It is unlawful for a vessel to have fishing gear in the water while transiting any area closed to salmon fishing while possessing salmon (CCR T-14, §182).
- **Barbless circle hooks¹ required when fishing with bait by any means other than trolling²**
 1. A **CIRCLE HOOK** is defined as a hook with a generally circular shape and a point which turns inwards, pointing directly to the shank at a 90-degree angle (CCR T-14, §182).
 2. **TROLLING** is defined as angling from a boat or floating device that is making way by means of a source of power, other than drifting by means of the prevailing water current or weather conditions (CCR T-14, §182).

NOTE: When Pacific halibut are caught and landed incidentally in the commercial salmon troll fishery under a NOAA issued permit, both the number of Pacific halibut landed and the number of salmon landed must be recorded on the electronic fish ticket. See federal regulations for incidental Pacific halibut harvest requirements and restrictions.

OCEAN SALMON REGULATIONS HOTLINES

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE: (800) 662-9825

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH & WILDLIFE: (707) 576-3429

