

Staff Summary for June 17-18, 2026

6. Recreational Gear Restrictions for White Shark (Emergency)**Today's Item**Information Action

Consider adopting emergency regulations to further protect white sharks during environmental conditions that increase nearshore aggregations of white sharks and increase the likelihood of humans interacting with sharks while fishing, by prohibiting specific gear types when recreational fishing from shore or within 1,000 yards of shore.

Summary of Previous/Future Actions

- **Today discuss and consider adopting emergency regulations** **June 17-18, 2026**

Background

White sharks (*Carcharodon carcharias*) are an important apex predator in the marine ecosystem and are protected from take under state and federal fishing regulations. Juvenile white sharks commonly aggregate in nearshore waters of southern California and have not been documented north of Santa Cruz.

Recently, several incidents have occurred in which juvenile white sharks were hooked by pier and shore anglers using heavy fishing gear, such as wire leaders and large hooks; this gear is commonly used to legally target other shark species but can also be used to illegally target white sharks. These fishing interactions can injure sharks and have resulted in the death of at least three white sharks in 2026. A previous incident in 2014 also involved a swimmer being bitten by a white shark that had been hooked by an angler on a pier.

This year, a strong El Niño event is expected to warm coastal water and increase the presence of juvenile white sharks in California coastal waters, making the sharks more susceptible to being hooked and significantly heightening the potential for human-shark interactions involving hooked sharks. Given these conditions, there is an immediate need to deter illegal targeting of white shark, improve survival of incidentally hooked white sharks, and reduce risk of incidents in which hooked sharks may pose a hazard to ocean users.

Based on the recent events and the anticipated increase caused by the upcoming El Niño event, the Department is requesting the Commission amend recreational ocean fishing regulations through the emergency rulemaking process to further protect white sharks from illegal take and incidental harm and to help prevent incidents between ocean users and hooked sharks (see Exhibit 1 for additional details).

The draft emergency amendments would require that any white sharks caught be released immediately and prohibit removing hooked white sharks from the water. The amendments would also prohibit the use of wire or other metallic lines or leaders and hooks larger than one and one-half inches in maximum inside measurement when fishing in ocean waters south of Pigeon Point (San Mateo County, 37° 11' N. lat.), the area where juvenile white shark aggregations are documented to occur and are expected to increase. For additional background, supporting information, and proposed regulatory text, see exhibits 2 and 3.

Staff Summary for June 17-18, 2026

Significant Public Comments (N/A)**Recommendation**

Commission staff: Adopt the proposed emergency regulation for recreational gear restrictions for white sharks as recommended by the Department.

Department: Adopt the emergency regulation described in exhibits 2 and 3.

Exhibits

1. [Department memo, received June 2, 2026](#)
2. [Draft emergency statement and informative digest, dated May 13, 2026](#)
3. [Draft proposed regulatory language](#)
4. [Draft economic and fiscal impact statement \(STD 399\)](#)
5. [Department presentation](#)

Motion

Moved by _____ and seconded by _____ that the Commission finds, pursuant to Section 399 of the California Fish and Game Code, that adopting the proposed emergency regulation is necessary for the immediate conservation, preservation, or protection of birds, mammals, fish, amphibians, or reptiles, including, but not limited to, their nests or eggs and is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, or general welfare.

The Commission further determines, pursuant to Section 11346.1 of the Government Code, that an emergency situation exists and finds the proposed regulation is necessary to address the emergency.

Therefore, the Commission adopts the emergency regulation to amend sections 28.06 and 28.65, as discussed today.

MEMORANDUM

Date: June 1, 2026

To: Melissa Miller-Henson, Executive Director
Fish and Game Commission

From: Meghan Hertel, Director

Subject: Submission of Finding of Emergency Statement and Regulatory Documents for the June 17-18, 2026 California Fish and Game Commission Meeting to Amend Sections 28.06 and 28.65, Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Re: Shore Fishing Gear Restrictions and White Shark Take

Please find attached the Findings of Emergency and Statement of Proposed Emergency Regulatory Action to amend sections 28.06 and 28.65, Title 14, California Code of Regulations (CCR). The proposed emergency regulatory changes are needed to further protect white sharks from illegal take and incidental harm and to help prevent incidents between swimmers and other water users and hooked sharks. We request submission of this emergency action to the Office of Administrative Law after consideration at the June meeting.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Craig Shuman at r7regionalmgr@wildlife.ca.gov.

ec: **California Department of Fish and Wildlife**

Chad Dibble, Deputy Director
Wildlife and Fisheries Division

Craig Shuman, Regional Manager
Marine Region

Eric Kord, Assistant Chief
Marine Law Enforcement Division

Anthony Cusato, Attorney
Office of General Counsel



Melissa Miller-Henson, Executive Director
California Fish and Game Commission
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Ona Alminas, Env. Program Manager
Regulations Unit
Wildlife and Fisheries Division

Emily McKim, Senior Regulatory Scientist
Regulations Unit
Wildlife and Fisheries Division

California Fish and Game Commission

David Thesell, Deputy Executive Director

Gabe Lopez, Program Manager

Susan Ashcraft, Marine Advisor

Jenn Bacon, Analyst

State of California
Fish and Game Commission
Finding of Emergency and Statement of Proposed Emergency Regulatory Action

Emergency Action to Amend Sections 28.06 and 28.65
Title 14, California Code of Regulations
Re: Recreational Gear Restrictions for White Shark

Date of Statement: May 13, 2026

I. Statement of Facts Constituting the Need for Emergency Regulatory Action

Background

Unless otherwise specified, all section references in this document are to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.

White sharks (*Carcharodon carcharias*) are an important apex predator in the marine ecosystem, and are protected under state and federal fishing regulations. There have been several recent incidents involving pier and beach anglers either intentionally targeting white sharks, or accidentally hooking them with very heavy fishing gear. These incidents have resulted in the death of at least three white sharks this year. Additionally, in 2014, a swimmer was bitten by a white shark that had been hooked by a pier angler.

This year, a forecasted strong El Niño oceanic event is anticipated to increase the presence of white sharks in California coastal waters, which will increase their availability to anglers and the potential for human interactions with hooked sharks. Young white sharks are already being observed in significantly higher numbers in southern California. Because of this, there is an immediate need to curtail illegal targeted fishing for white sharks, help ensure accidentally hooked sharks are released alive, and help prevent another incident where a hooked shark bites an ocean user, or the heavy gear used to catch such sharks entangles a person in the water.

Proposed Emergency Regulations

Section 28.06

Proposed amendments would require that any white sharks that are caught be released immediately, and would prohibit removing white sharks from the water. These changes are necessary to improve the chances for white sharks to survive following release after being hooked incidentally, and to reduce the risk of injuries to people who might attempt to handle or lift the white sharks out of the water.

Section 28.65

Proposed amendments would prohibit the use of wire or metallic lines or leaders, as well as hooks greater than one and one-half inches in maximum inside measurement, when fishing in ocean waters south of Pigeon Point (San Mateo County, 37° 11' N. lat.). This restriction would apply to anglers fishing from the shoreline (including beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks, and other man-made structures connected to the shore) or within 1,000 yards of the mean high tide line.

These changes are necessary to better protect white sharks from illegal targeting, allow incidentally hooked white sharks to more easily break free from the line, and prevent sharks from being released with trailing wires that can entangle the shark after release. The restrictions will also help protect swimmers, surfers, and other ocean users from potential harm caused by a hooked shark or attached wire leader.

The proposed boundary is set south of Pigeon Point because aggregations of juvenile white sharks have not previously been observed north of Santa Cruz, and Pigeon Point is an established, easily identifiable, geographical management line. The remainder of Section 28.65 is renumbered to allow for these additional restrictions to be added to this section.

II. Findings for the Existence of an Emergency

The Fish and Game Commission (Commission) considered the following factors in determining that an emergency currently exists. The Department has indicated that increased shark aggressions are occurring in Southern California Waters this year. Juvenile white sharks usually move into Southern California waters in the summer months, as waters to the south become too warm. During warm water events, the sharks are present in greater numbers and are present farther north. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is forecasting a strong El Niño event, beginning this summer, that will bring warmer than normal waters to the California coast. These warm water events have historically led to increased presence of white sharks in California, and a northward shift in the range of juvenile white sharks. In early April 2026, 20 juvenile white sharks were caught in a single day from the Hermosa Beach Pier. Additionally, at least three white sharks have been documented to have died this year after being hooked and released with heavy fishing gear consisting of wire leaders and large hooks.

The magnitude of potential harm:

Given the number of white sharks taken in recent months, the confirmed deaths of at least three white sharks, and the known potential for a hooked shark to bite a human in the water, the magnitude of documented and potential harm is great. As white shark presence is expected to increase during the summer months, it is likely that dozens of sharks could be killed through incidental and illegal targeted fishing activities over the course of the year. This could have a substantial negative impact on white shark populations.

In addition to the harm to the species, a hooked white shark poses a serious risk of harm to ocean users. In 2014, an ocean swimmer was bitten by a shark that had been hooked off the Manhattan Beach Pier. The swimmer encountered the fishing line and was bitten by the shark fighting on the line. The individual was hospitalized with lacerations and puncture wounds on the right side of his torso and his right hand. An additional risk is an ocean user becoming entangled in the fishing line or leader. Wire leader has the capability of severely injuring an angler if entangled while a large shark is struggling on the end. With more people at the beach and in the ocean during the summer months, the risk of potential harm to people from hooked white sharks is significant.

The existence of a crisis situation:

No white sharks are allowed to be taken recreationally pursuant to Section 28.06. White sharks are slow-growing, long lived, and have low reproductive rates compared to other fish species. As

a top-level predator, healthy populations are necessary to maintain a balanced ecosystem. Additionally, a single incident involving a hooked white shark harming a bystander in the water is not acceptable. The increased number of sharks already being hooked from piers and beaches indicates that a crisis exists, which will likely increase through the summer without intervention.

The immediacy of the need:

The proposed regulations are needed immediately to ensure they are in effect as water temperatures rise, white shark aggregations increase, and more people begin using beaches this summer.

Whether the anticipation of harm has a basis firmer than simple speculation:

The anticipation of potential harm is supported by confirmed recent cases of white sharks being hooked and dying as a result of the use of the gear proposed for prohibition, documented increases in white shark aggregations this year, NOAA's forecast of a strong El Niño event, and a documented 2014 incident in which a white shark bit a swimmer after it was hooked by an angler fishing on a pier.

III. Impact of Regulatory Action

The potential for significant statewide adverse economic impacts that might result from the proposed regulatory action has been assessed, and the following initial determinations relative to the required statutory categories have been made:

(a) Costs or Savings to State Agencies or Costs/Savings in Federal Funding to the State

There are no anticipated costs or savings to state agencies or costs/savings in Federal Funding to the State as a result of the proposed regulations, which reinforces the existing prohibition of the incidental take of white shark to state what to do if one is caught incidentally, and prohibits the use of certain fishing gear within the shoreline that would potentially lead to such incidental take.

(b) Nondiscretionary Costs/Savings to Local Agencies

None.

(c) Programs Mandated on Local Agencies or School Districts

None.

(d) Costs Imposed on Any Local Agency or School District that is Required to be Reimbursed Under Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4, Government Code

None.

(e) Effect on Housing Costs

None.

IV. Technical, Theoretical, and/or Empirical Studies, Reports, or Documents Relied Upon:

Anderson J.M., Burns E.S., Meese E.N., Farrugia T.J., Stirling B.S., White C.F., Logan R.K., O’Sullivan J., Winkler C. and Lowe C.G. 2021. Interannual Nearshore Habitat Use of Young of the Year White Sharks off Southern California. *Front. Mar. Sci.* 8:645142.

<https://doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2021.645142>

California Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2026. California Shark Incident Database, <https://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Marine/White-Shark>. Accessed May 2026.

Fox 11 News Los Angeles. 2026. “Fisherman reels in 7-foot great white shark at Hermosa Beach Pier.” April 3, 2026, <https://www.foxla.com/news/hermosa-beach-pier-great-white-shark-catch-release>

Montalto, K.H. 2025. Juvenile White Sharks in Monterey Bay: Effects of Thermal Habitat Patchiness on Local Densities of a Novel Range Shifting Predator. Capstone Projects and Master's Theses. 2003. https://digitalcommons.csumb.edu/caps_thes_all/2003

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center. 2026. El Niño/Southern Oscillation (ENSO) Diagnostic Discussion.

https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/enso_advisory/index.shtml.

Accessed May 14, 2026.

NBC News Los Angeles. 2026. “Nearly 2 dozen juvenile sharks caught and released by fishermen in Hermosa Beach,” April 13, 2026,

<https://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/local/juvenile-sharks-hermosa-beach/3875429/>

Tanaka, K.R., Van Houtan, K.S., and Mailander, E. 2021. North Pacific warming shifts the juvenile range of a marine apex predator. *Sci Rep* 11, 3373. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-021-82424-9>.

White C.F., Lyons K., Jorgensen S.J., O’Sullivan J., and Winkler C. 2019. Quantifying habitat selection and variability in habitat suitability for juvenile white sharks. *PLOS ONE* 14(5): e0214642. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0214642>.

V. Authority and Reference

Section 28.06:

Authority cited: Sections 200, 205, 255, 265, and 399, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 110, 200, 205, 255, 265, 1002 and 5517, Fish and Game Code.

Section 28.65:

Authority cited: Sections 200, 205, 265, 270, 275, 7071, 7110, and 399, Fish and Game Code.

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

VI. Fish and Game Code Section 399 Finding

Pursuant to Section 399 of the Fish and Game Code, the Commission finds that the adoption of this regulation is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, or general welfare.

Informative Digest/Policy Statement Overview

Existence of an Emergency and Need for Immediate Action***Background***

Unless otherwise specified, all section references in this document are to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.

No white sharks (*Carcharodon carcharias*) are allowed to be taken recreationally, as they are an important apex predator in the marine ecosystem and are protected under state and federal fishing regulations. There have been several recent incidents involving pier and beach anglers either intentionally targeting white sharks or accidentally hooking them with very heavy fishing gear. These incidents have resulted in the death of at least three white sharks this year. Additionally, in 2014, a swimmer was bitten by a white shark that had been hooked by a pier angler.

This year, a forecasted strong El Niño oceanic event is anticipated to increase the presence of white sharks in California coastal waters, which will increase their availability to anglers and the potential for human interactions with hooked sharks. Young white sharks have already been observed in significantly higher numbers in southern California. Because of this, there is an immediate need to curtail illegal targeted fishing for white sharks, help ensure accidentally hooked sharks are released alive, and help prevent another incident where a hooked shark bites a swimmer or the heavy gear used to catch such sharks entangles a person in the water.

Proposed Emergency Regulations

Section 28.06 amendments would require that white sharks be released immediately if taken and would prohibit removing white sharks from the water. This is necessary to help increase the ability for white sharks to survive following release after being hooked incidentally, and to prevent injuries to people attempting to place white sharks back into the water after removal.

Section 28.65 amendments would prohibit the use of wire or metallic lines or leaders, as well as hooks greater than one and one-half inches in maximum inside measurement, when fishing in ocean waters south of Pigeon Point (San Mateo County, 37° 11' N. lat.). These restrictions apply to anglers fishing from the shoreline (including beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks, and other man-made structures connected to the shore) or within 1,000 yards of the mean high tide line.

These restrictions are necessary to protect white sharks from illegal targeting, allow incidentally hooked white sharks to break free from the line, and prevent sharks from being released with trailing wires that can entangle the shark after release. This will also help protect people who are swimming, surfing, or engaged in other water sports from being harmed by a hooked shark or a wire leader attached to one. The remainder of Section 28.65 is renumbered to allow for additional restrictions to be added.

The Fish and Game Commission (Commission) determined that an emergency exists based on several factors. Shark researchers have documented increased white shark aggressions in Southern California this year, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is forecasting a strong El Niño event, that will warm coastal waters and further increase shark

presence and northward movement in juvenile white shark range. In April 2026, 20 juvenile white sharks were caught in a single day from the Hermosa Beach Pier, and at least three white sharks have died this year after being hooked and released with heavy fishing gear.

Given the number of white shark captures, confirmed mortalities, and the risk that a hooked shark could injure a person, the potential harm to white sharks and humans is significant. Without these regulations, dozens more white sharks could be killed through incidental and illegal targeted fishing activities, negatively impacting white shark populations, and there is increased risk of human injury resulting from a hooked shark biting or entangling a person in the water.

The proposed emergency regulations are needed immediately to ensure they are in place as the water temperature increases and more people begin using beaches this summer. The anticipation of potential harm is based on firm evidence that white sharks have been hooked and have died as a result of the use of the gear proposed for prohibition. Additionally, a white shark bit a swimmer in 2014 after being hooked by an angler on a fishing pier.

Benefits of the Regulation:

The Commission anticipates benefits to the State's environment by sustainably managing California's ocean resources by limiting the potential increase of white shark take. The Commission also anticipates improved public safety, by reducing the chance that an incidentally hooked shark remains on the line and either bites someone in the water or injures a person with a trailing wire leader.

Consistency and Compatibility with Existing Regulations

The Legislature may delegate to the Commission such powers relating to the protection and propagation of fish and game as the Legislature sees fit. The Legislature delegated regulation of the take of white shark to the Commission. The Commission conducted an evaluation of existing regulations, and this regulation is neither inconsistent nor incompatible with existing state regulations.

Proposed Emergency Regulatory Language

Section 28.06, Title 14 CCR, is amended to read:

§ 28.06. White Shark.

(a) White shark may not be taken, except under permit issued by the Department pursuant to Section 1002 of the Fish and Game Code for scientific or educational purposes.

(b) If taken, white shark shall be released immediately and shall not be removed from the water, except when taken under permit issued by the Department pursuant to Section 1002 of the Fish and Game Code for scientific or educational purposes.

Authority cited: Sections 200, 205, 255, ~~and 265~~, and 399, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 110, 200, 205, 255, 265, 1002 and 5517, Fish and Game Code.

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) South of Pigeon Point (San Mateo County, 37° 11' N. lat.), when angling from shore (including beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks, and other man-made structures connected to the shore) or within 1,000 yards of the mean high tide line, the following are prohibited:

(1) The use of wire or metallic lines or leaders.

(2) The use of hooks greater than one and one-half inches at the widest inside measurement.

~~(c)~~(d) When rockfish (genus *Sebastes*), California scorpionfish (*Scorpaena guttata*), lingcod (*Ophiodon elongatus*), cabezon (*Scorpaenichthys marmoratus*), 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)~~(e) 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)~~(f) 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)~~(g) 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)~~(h) 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.

Authority cited: Sections 200, 205, 265, 270, 275, 7071, and 7110, and 399, Fish and Game Code.
Reference: Sections 200, 205, 265, 270, 275, 7110 and 8585.5, Fish and Game Code.

ECONOMIC AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(REGULATIONS AND ORDERS)

STD. 399 (Rev. 10/2019)

ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

| | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| DEPARTMENT NAME California Fish and Game Commission | CONTACT PERSON David Thesell | EMAIL ADDRESS fgc@fgc.ca.gov | TELEPHONE NUMBER 916-201-6201 |
| DESCRIPTIVE TITLE FROM NOTICE REGISTER OR FORM 400 Emerg. Action to Amd. Sec. 28.06, 28.65, CCR. T14 re: Recreational Gear Restrictions for White Shark | | | NOTICE FILE NUMBER Z |

A. ESTIMATED PRIVATE SECTOR COST IMPACTS *Include calculations and assumptions in the rulemaking record.*

1. Check the appropriate box(es) below to indicate whether this regulation:

- a. Impacts business and/or employees
- b. Impacts small businesses
- c. Impacts jobs or occupations
- d. Impacts California competitiveness
- e. Imposes reporting requirements
- f. Imposes prescriptive instead of performance
- g. Impacts individuals
- h. None of the above (Explain below):

Emergency action: no economic assessment; only fiscal impact assessment.

If any box in Items 1 a through g is checked, complete this Economic Impact Statement.

If box in Item 1.h. is checked, complete the Fiscal Impact Statement as appropriate.

2. The _____ estimates that the economic impact of this regulation (which includes the fiscal impact) is:
(Agency/Department)

- Below \$10 million
- Between \$10 and \$25 million
- Between \$25 and \$50 million
- Over \$50 million *[If the economic impact is over \$50 million, agencies are required to submit a [Standardized Regulatory Impact Assessment](#) as specified in Government Code Section 11346.3(c)]*

3. Enter the total number of businesses impacted: _____

Describe the types of businesses (Include nonprofits): _____

Enter the number or percentage of total businesses impacted that are small businesses: _____

4. Enter the number of businesses that will be created: _____ eliminated: _____

Explain: _____

5. Indicate the geographic extent of impacts: Statewide
 Local or regional (List areas): _____

6. Enter the number of jobs created: _____ and eliminated: _____

Describe the types of jobs or occupations impacted: _____

7. Will the regulation affect the ability of California businesses to compete with other states by making it more costly to produce goods or services here? YES NO

If YES, explain briefly: _____

**ECONOMIC AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT
(REGULATIONS AND ORDERS)**

Draft Document

STD. 399 (Rev. 10/2019)

ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

B. ESTIMATED COSTS *Include calculations and assumptions in the rulemaking record.*

1. What are the total statewide dollar costs that businesses and individuals may incur to comply with this regulation over its lifetime? \$ _____

a. Initial costs for a small business: \$ _____ Annual ongoing costs: \$ _____ Years: _____

b. Initial costs for a typical business: \$ _____ Annual ongoing costs: \$ _____ Years: _____

c. Initial costs for an individual: \$ _____ Annual ongoing costs: \$ _____ Years: _____

d. Describe other economic costs that may occur: _____

2. If multiple industries are impacted, enter the share of total costs for each industry: _____

3. If the regulation imposes reporting requirements, enter the annual costs a typical business may incur to comply with these requirements. *Include the dollar costs to do programming, record keeping, reporting, and other paperwork, whether or not the paperwork must be submitted.* \$ _____

4. Will this regulation directly impact housing costs? YES NO

If YES, enter the annual dollar cost per housing unit: \$ _____

Number of units: _____

5. Are there comparable Federal regulations? YES NO

Explain the need for State regulation given the existence or absence of Federal regulations: _____

Enter any additional costs to businesses and/or individuals that may be due to State - Federal differences: \$ _____

C. ESTIMATED BENEFITS *Estimation of the dollar value of benefits is not specifically required by rulemaking law, but encouraged.*

1. Briefly summarize the benefits of the regulation, which may include among others, the health and welfare of California residents, worker safety and the State's environment: _____

2. Are the benefits the result of: specific statutory requirements, or goals developed by the agency based on broad statutory authority?

Explain: _____

3. What are the total statewide benefits from this regulation over its lifetime? \$ _____

4. Briefly describe any expansion of businesses currently doing business within the State of California that would result from this regulation: _____

D. ALTERNATIVES TO THE REGULATION *Include calculations and assumptions in the rulemaking record. Estimation of the dollar value of benefits is not specifically required by rulemaking law, but encouraged.*

1. List alternatives considered and describe them below. If no alternatives were considered, explain why not: _____

**ECONOMIC AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT
(REGULATIONS AND ORDERS)**

STD. 399 (Rev. 10/2019)

ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

2. Summarize the total statewide costs and benefits from this regulation and each alternative considered:

Regulation: Benefit: \$ _____ Cost: \$ _____

Alternative 1: Benefit: \$ _____ Cost: \$ _____

Alternative 2: Benefit: \$ _____ Cost: \$ _____

3. Briefly discuss any quantification issues that are relevant to a comparison of estimated costs and benefits for this regulation or alternatives: _____

4. Rulemaking law requires agencies to consider performance standards as an alternative, if a regulation mandates the use of specific technologies or equipment, or prescribes specific actions or procedures. Were performance standards considered to lower compliance costs? YES NO

Explain: _____

E. MAJOR REGULATIONS *Include calculations and assumptions in the rulemaking record.*

California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) boards, offices and departments are required to submit the following (per Health and Safety Code section 57005). Otherwise, skip to E4.

1. Will the estimated costs of this regulation to California business enterprises exceed \$10 million? YES NO

***If YES, complete E2. and E3
If NO, skip to E4***

2. Briefly describe each alternative, or combination of alternatives, for which a cost-effectiveness analysis was performed:

Alternative 1: _____

Alternative 2: _____

(Attach additional pages for other alternatives)

3. For the regulation, and each alternative just described, enter the estimated total cost and overall cost-effectiveness ratio:

Regulation: Total Cost \$ _____ Cost-effectiveness ratio: \$ _____

Alternative 1: Total Cost \$ _____ Cost-effectiveness ratio: \$ _____

Alternative 2: Total Cost \$ _____ Cost-effectiveness ratio: \$ _____

4. Will the regulation subject to OAL review have an estimated economic impact to business enterprises and individuals located in or doing business in California exceeding \$50 million in any 12-month period between the date the major regulation is estimated to be filed with the Secretary of State through 12 months after the major regulation is estimated to be fully implemented?

YES NO

If YES, agencies are required to submit a [Standardized Regulatory Impact Assessment \(SRIA\)](#) as specified in Government Code Section 11346.3(c) and to include the SRIA in the Initial Statement of Reasons.

5. Briefly describe the following:

The increase or decrease of investment in the State: _____

The incentive for innovation in products, materials or processes: _____

The benefits of the regulations, including, but not limited to, benefits to the health, safety, and welfare of California residents, worker safety, and the state's environment and quality of life, among any other benefits identified by the agency: _____

**ECONOMIC AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT
(REGULATIONS AND ORDERS)**

STD. 399 (Rev. 10/2019)

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL EFFECT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT *Indicate appropriate boxes 1 through 6 and attach calculations and assumptions of fiscal impact for the current year and two subsequent Fiscal Years.*

1. Additional expenditures in the current State Fiscal Year which are reimbursable by the State. (Approximate)
(Pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution and Sections 17500 et seq. of the Government Code).

\$ _____

a. Funding provided in _____

Budget Act of _____ or Chapter _____, Statutes of _____

b. Funding will be requested in the Governor's Budget Act of _____

Fiscal Year: _____

2. Additional expenditures in the current State Fiscal Year which are NOT reimbursable by the State. (Approximate)
(Pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution and Sections 17500 et seq. of the Government Code).

\$ _____

Check reason(s) this regulation is not reimbursable and provide the appropriate information:

a. Implements the Federal mandate contained in _____

b. Implements the court mandate set forth by the _____ Court.

Case of: _____ vs. _____

c. Implements a mandate of the people of this State expressed in their approval of Proposition No. _____

Date of Election: _____

d. Issued only in response to a specific request from affected local entity(s).

Local entity(s) affected: _____

e. Will be fully financed from the fees, revenue, etc. from: _____

Authorized by Section: _____ of the _____ Code;

f. Provides for savings to each affected unit of local government which will, at a minimum, offset any additional costs to each;

g. Creates, eliminates, or changes the penalty for a new crime or infraction contained in _____

3. Annual Savings. (approximate)

\$ _____

4. No additional costs or savings. This regulation makes only technical, non-substantive or clarifying changes to current law regulations.

5. No fiscal impact exists. This regulation does not affect any local entity or program.

6. Other. Explain _____

**ECONOMIC AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT
(REGULATIONS AND ORDERS)**

STD. 399 (Rev. 10/2019)

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

B. FISCAL EFFECT ON STATE GOVERNMENT *Indicate appropriate boxes 1 through 4 and attach calculations and assumptions of fiscal impact for the current year and two subsequent Fiscal Years.*

1. Additional expenditures in the current State Fiscal Year. (Approximate)

\$ _____

It is anticipated that State agencies will:

a. Absorb these additional costs within their existing budgets and resources.

b. Increase the currently authorized budget level for the _____ Fiscal Year

2. Savings in the current State Fiscal Year. (Approximate)

\$ _____

3. No fiscal impact exists. This regulation does not affect any State agency or program.

4. Other. Explain _____

C. FISCAL EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDING OF STATE PROGRAMS *Indicate appropriate boxes 1 through 4 and attach calculations and assumptions of fiscal impact for the current year and two subsequent Fiscal Years.*

1. Additional expenditures in the current State Fiscal Year. (Approximate)

\$ _____

2. Savings in the current State Fiscal Year. (Approximate)

\$ _____

3. No fiscal impact exists. This regulation does not affect any federally funded State agency or program.

4. Other. Explain _____

FISCAL OFFICER SIGNATURE

DATE



The signature attests that the agency has completed the STD. 399 according to the instructions in SAM sections 6601-6616, and understands the impacts of the proposed rulemaking. State boards, offices, or departments not under an Agency Secretary must have the form signed by the highest ranking official in the organization.

AGENCY SECRETARY

DATE



Finance approval and signature is required when SAM sections 6601-6616 require completion of Fiscal Impact Statement in the STD. 399.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE PROGRAM BUDGET MANAGER

DATE



STD. 399 Addendum

Amend Sections 28.06 and 28.65 Title 14, California Code of Regulations Re: Recreational Gear Restrictions for White Shark

Background

White sharks (*Carcharodon carcharias*) are an important apex predator in the marine ecosystem and are protected under state and federal fishing regulations. There have been several recent incidents involving pier and beach anglers either intentionally targeting white sharks or accidentally hooking them with very heavy fishing gear. These incidents have resulted in the death of at least three white sharks this year. Additionally, in 2014, a swimmer was bitten by a white shark that had been hooked by a pier angler. This year, a forecasted strong El Niño oceanic event is anticipated to increase the presence of white sharks in California coastal waters, which will increase their availability to anglers and the potential for human interactions with hooked sharks. Young white sharks are already being observed in significantly higher numbers in southern California. Because of this, there is an immediate need to curtail illegal targeted fishing for white sharks, help ensure accidentally hooked sharks are released alive, and help prevent another incident where a hooked shark bites a swimmer or the heavy gear used to catch such sharks entangles a person in the water.

The proposed regulations would require that white sharks be released immediately if taken, and would prohibit removing white sharks from the water. This is necessary to help increase the ability for white sharks to survive after incidentally being hooked and to prevent injuries to people attempting to place white sharks back into the water after removal.

Additionally, the proposed regulations would prohibit the use of wire or metallic lines or leaders and hooks larger than one inch in maximum inside measurement when fishing south of Pigeon Point (San Mateo County) from the shoreline (including beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks, and other man-made structures connected to the shore) or within 1,000 yards of the mean high tide line. This is necessary to better protect white sharks from illegal targeting, allow incidentally hooked white sharks to break free from the line, and prevent sharks from being released with trailing wires that can entangle the shark after release. This would also help protect people who are swimming, surfing, or engaged in other water sports from being harmed by a hooked shark or a wire leader attached to one.

Economic Impact Statement

Section A. Estimated Private Sector Cost Impacts

Question 1. Answer: h. None of the above. (Explain below):

Emergency regulations do not require an economic impact statement; only fiscal impacts must be evaluated (California Government Code Section 11346.1).



White Shark Fishing Emergency

17 June 2026

Presented to:

**California Fish and Game
Commission**

Presented by:

**John Ugoretz
Pelagic Fisheries Program Manager
Marine Region**

Background

- Recent incidents involving pier and beach anglers taking white sharks using very heavy fishing gear
- 2014 swimmer bitten by a hooked white shark



Photo: Phillip Sternes



Photo: Instagram



Photo: Lb.Hookups



Current Regulations

- Prohibit take of white sharks
 - Other species may be taken with same gear
- Prohibit use of shark fishing gear if white shark present
 - Difficult to document known presence prior to fishing

WHITE SHARKS ARE PRESENT IN THIS AREA

White Sharks are Protected
Under State and Federal Law

It is **ILLEGAL** to hunt, pursue, catch, capture or kill a white shark, or attempt to do so.
(Fish & Game Code §§5517 and §86)

Please notify CalTIP of poaching:
1-888-334-CalTIP
(888-334-2258)

CUT THE LINE IMMEDIATELY
If you accidentally hook a white shark as close to the shark as safely possible, without touching or removing the shark from the water.

WHEN WHITE SHARKS ARE PRESENT IT IS ILLEGAL TO (Fish & Game Code §5517):

- Place any shark bait, shark lure, or shark chum into the water within one nautical mile of any shoreline, pier, or jetty.
- Attract white sharks with bait, chum, or other methods such as a decoy.

shark bait, shark lure, or shark chum means any natural or manufactured product or device used to attract sharks by the sense of taste, smell, or sight, including, but not limited to, blood, fish, or other material upon which sharks may feed, and surface or underwater decoys.

For more information on white sharks, including how to differentiate from other shark species, visit: <https://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Marine/White-Shark>



Emergency Condition

- Increasing reports of juvenile white sharks
- 20 white sharks caught in one day
- At least 3 hooked sharks killed this year
- Potential for interaction with people in the water



Photo: Dr. Chris Lowe



Photo: Dr. Chris Lowe



Photo: CDFW

Immediacy of Need

- Aggregations of juvenile white sharks documented
- Summer season will increase public beach attendance
- Forecast El Nino expected to increase water temperature and presence of white sharks

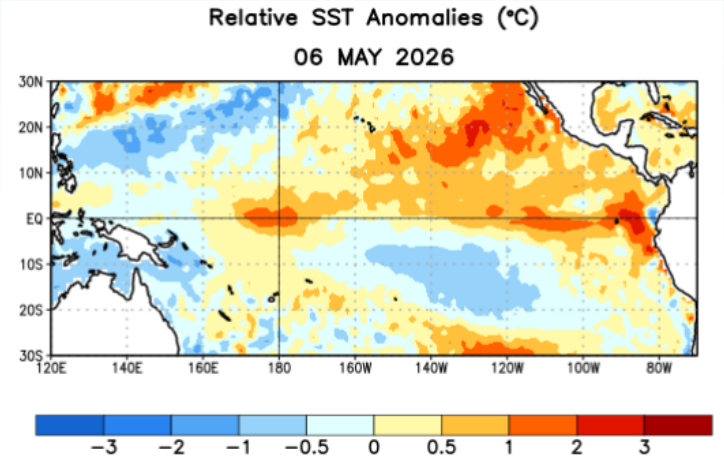


Photo: NOAA

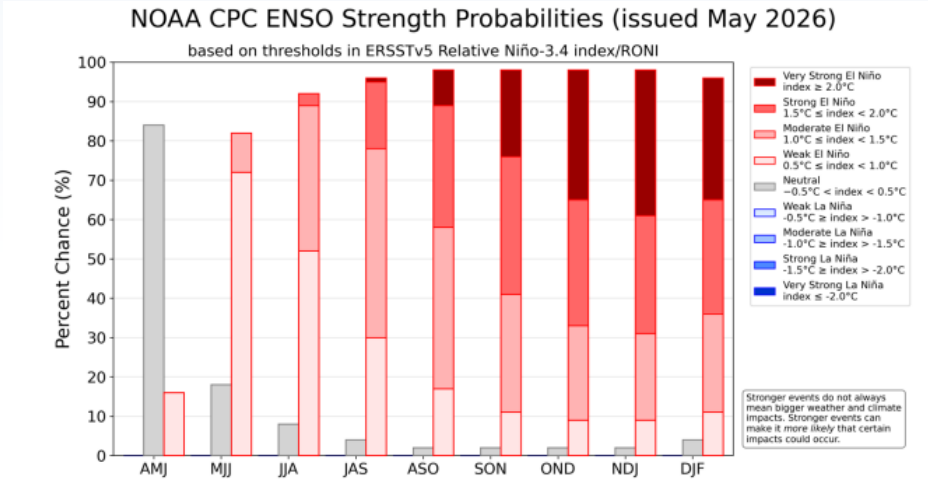


Photo: NOAA



Proposed Emergency Regulations

- Prohibit removing hooked white sharks from water and requiring immediate release
- South of Pigeon Point (San Mateo County):
 - Prohibit the use of wire lines and leaders or hooks $> 1.5''$ in maximum inside measurement when:
 - Angling from shore (including beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks, and other man-made structures connected to the shore)
 - Angling within 1,000 yards of mean high tide line



Photo: Dr. Chris Lowe



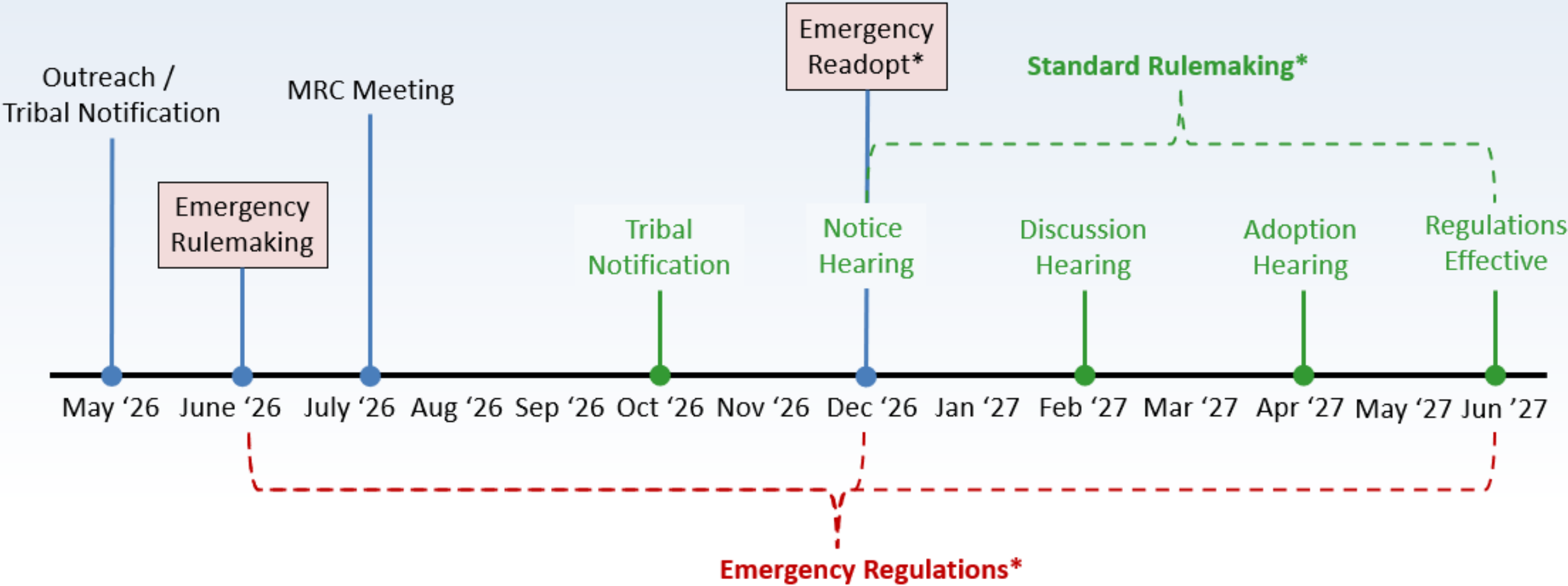
Outreach

- Direct contact with:
 - All Waters
 - California State University Long Beach Shark Lab
 - California Surf Fishing
 - Coastal Conservation Association California
 - Coastside Fishing Club
 - Fish On
 - Golden Gate Fishermen's Association
 - Sportfishing Association of California



Timeline

***Readopt and Standard Rulemaking if Needed**



Thank You



AskMarine@Wildlife.ca.gov