Tracking Number: (__2026-07__)

To request a change to regulations under the authority of the California Fish and Game Commission (Commission), you are required to submit this completed form to: California Fish and Game Commission, (physical address) 1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1320, Sacramento, CA 95814, (mailing address) P.O. Box 944209, Sacramento, CA 94244-2090 or via email to FGC@fgc.ca.gov. Note: This form is not intended for listing petitions for threatened or endangered species (see Section 670.1 of Title 14).

Incomplete forms will not be accepted. A petition is incomplete if it is not submitted on this form or fails to contain necessary information in each of the required categories listed on this form (Section I). A petition will be rejected if it does not pertain to issues under the Commission's authority. A petition may be denied if any petition requesting a functionally equivalent regulation change was considered within the previous 12 months and no information or data is being submitted beyond what was previously submitted. If you need help with this form, please contact Commission staff at (916) 653-4899 or FGC@fgc.ca.gov.

SECTION I: Required Information.

Please be succinct. Responses for Section I should not exceed five pages

1. **Person or organization requesting the change (Required)**
   Name of primary contact person: James Smith
   Address: [redacted]
   Telephone number: [redacted]
   Email address [redacted]

2. **Rulemaking Authority (Required) -** Title 14, §29.80, Fish and Game Code §§ 200, 205, 265, 270, 275, 399, 7075, and 7078.

3.

4. **Overview (Required) -** Summarize the proposed changes to regulations: To revise the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 14, Section 29.80 to change gear servicing interval to 5 hours. We also request waiver of the 10 day response requirement.

5.

6. **Rationale (Required) - Proposed Regulatory Change**

7. **Current Title 14 CCR §29.80 (simplified reference)**

8. "Recreational hoop nets are required to be serviced every 2 hours."

9. **Proposed Amendment**

10. "Recreational hoop nets must be serviced every five hours North of Pt. Arguello"

A 5-hour service interval could increase catch rates and therefore reduce the number of hoops needed for a recreational angler to harvest their daily limit of

Crab. Reduced Hoop gear in the water would lower entanglement risk to marine life.

11. Increased Catch Efficiency:

a. **Reduced Gear Numbers**: Allowing a 5-hour servicing window would increase catch rates per hoop net, and recreational anglers could potentially harvest their daily limit of Crab with fewer hoop nets in the water. This would result in fewer nets needing to be deployed.

12. Reduction in Entanglement Risks:

a. **Humpback Whale and Other Marine Species Protection**: By reducing the number of hoop nets in the water, we would reduce the number of vertical lines that humpback whales and other marine species could potentially become entangled in. During heavy migration periods, vertical lines from hoop nets and other fishing gear can pose a risk of entanglement.

b. **Safety.** Vessels would need to carry fewer hoops on board, improving safety for both private and commercial passenger vessels

13. Environmental Protection:

a. **Less Bycatch**: fewer hoops in the water reduce the chance for unintended bycatch or entanglement of non-target species. This could be particularly beneficial in protecting marine mammals, turtles, and other vulnerable species that might get tangled in the gear.

14.

a. **More Efficient Use of Gear**: With an extended time between servicing, recreational anglers could optimize their time on the water. They would still be able to catch their daily limit with fewer hoop nets, making their fishing trips more efficient and potentially safer.

b. **Reduced Fishing Pressure**: If anglers need fewer nets to catch their daily limit, the overall fishing pressure on the ecosystem could be reduced. This could lead to less disturbance in sensitive habitats.

15. Compliance and Enforcement:

a. **Easier Enforcement**: From an enforcement perspective, fewer nets in the water would make it easier for officers to track compliance. Less gear would be spread over larger areas, and there would be fewer nets to monitor overall.

16. Title 14 29.80

SECTION II: Optional Information

17. Date of Petition: 12/3/2025.

18. Category of Proposed Change
x Sport Fishing
☐ Commercial Fishing
☐ Hunting
☐ Other, please specify: Click here to enter text.

19. The proposal is to: (*To determine section number(s), see current year regulation booklet or https://govt.westlaw.com/calregs*)
X Amend Title 14 Section(s):29.80.
☐ Add New Title 14 Section(s): Click here to enter text.
☐ Repeal Title 14 Section(s): Click here to enter text.

20. If the proposal is related to a previously submitted petition that was rejected, specify the tracking number of the previously submitted petition
X Not applicable.

21. Effective date: If applicable, identify the desired effective date of the regulation.
If the proposed change requires immediate implementation, explain the nature of the emergency: 11/1/2026.

22. Supporting documentation: Identify and attach to the petition any information supporting the proposal including data, reports and other documents:

23. Economic or Fiscal Impacts: Identify any known impacts of the proposed regulation change on revenues to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, individuals, businesses, jobs, other state agencies, local agencies, schools, or housing: Potential impact of lowering cost of enforcement and lost gear retrieval

24. Forms: If applicable, list any forms to be created, amended or repealed:

SECTION 3: FGC Staff Only

Date received: 4/22/2026

FGC staff action:
☑ Accept - complete
☐ Reject - incomplete

☐ Reject - outside scope of FGC authority

Tracking Number

Date petitioner was notified of receipt of petition and pending action: _____

Meeting date for FGC consideration: _____

FGC action:

☐ Denied by FGC

☐ Denied - same as petition _____

Tracking Number

☐ Granted for consideration of regulation change