



CALIFORNIA SALTWATER ANGLING RECORDS

PROCEDURES:

1. Print the California Saltwater Angling Record Verification form available at www.dfg.ca.gov. Be sure to record the date and location of your catch.
2. Once you have landed your potential record size catch, you should have it weighed as soon as possible to prevent the loss of weight by drying out. Weigh the fish on a scale certified by a government agency for accuracy in the presence of two witnesses, preferably unknown to the angler. Record the names, phone numbers, and addresses of the witnesses on the application. In addition, ask for a weight receipt.
3. Take several clear pictures of the fish at full length with a measuring device in the background with which the length of the fish can be clearly determined.
4. Contact the nearest Department of Fish and Game office (listed below) to arrange for a biologist to identify your catch. If a Department office is not located nearby, you can take your fish to a museum or university where a biologist can identify it for you. The fish may be examined by the biologist in a fresh/frozen/preserved condition.
5. Upon verification of the authenticity of your submitted application, you will receive a letter of acknowledgment and certificate signed by the Department of Fish and Game Director.

RULES:

1. To qualify for a saltwater angling record you are required to have a current California saltwater fishing license, or be under 16 years of age. In addition, you must adhere to all fishing regulations.
2. The act of persons other than the angler touching any part of the rod, reel, or line either bodily or with any device, from the time a fish strikes or takes the bait or lure, until the fish is landed, or in giving any aid is prohibited.
3. Shooting or harpooning the fish at any stage of the catch is prohibited.
4. Your application must be submitted within one year of the date of catch.
5. An International Game Fish Association application may not be submitted in place of the California Saltwater Angling Record Verification form.
6. Only the species found on the sport angling record list (see Record Ocean Sportfish section on DFG website) can be turned in as a new record. Any species not on the list will not be accepted.
7. In order to defeat a record, the fish must exceed the current record by at least one ounce. A catch that matches the weight of an existing record or exceeds the weight by less than one ounce will be considered a tie.



Department of Fish and Game Offices Where Species Identification May Be Verified

Eureka (707) 445-6493
619 Second Street
Eureka, CA 95501

Fort Bragg* (707) 964-9078
32330 N. Harbor Drive
Fort Bragg, CA 95437

Santa Rosa (707) 576-2882
5355 Skylane Boulevard, Suite B
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Belmont (650) 631-7730
350 Harbor Boulevard
Belmont, CA 94002

Monterey (831) 649-2870
20 Lower Ragsdale Drive, Suite 100
Monterey, CA 93940

Santa Barbara* (805) 568-1231
1933 Cliff Drive, Suite 9
Santa Barbara, CA 93109

Los Alamitos (562) 342-7199
4665 Lampson Avenue, Suite C
Los Alamitos, CA 90720

San Diego (858) 467-4201
3883 Ruffin Road
San Diego, CA 92123

* Field offices have variable office hours, so please call before visiting.