



# Attention California Ocean Salmon Anglers Please check your catch!



Coho salmon are frequently contacted in California's ocean fisheries. Although some of these salmon may have originated from Oregon or Washington, many are California coastal coho salmon, which are protected under the Endangered Species Act. Thus the retention of coho salmon is **PROHIBITED** in all California ocean fisheries. Please take the time to correctly identify each salmon caught before removing it from the water. All coho must be released.



\*Photo by CDFW Warden Bob Aldrich

Help avoid contacting coho salmon:

Rig to fish deeper - coho are more often in the top 30 feet of water.

Fish nearshore for Chinook - coho are usually more offshore.

Use large lures that select for larger Chinook and reduce coho catch.

For additional information, please check the CDFW website at  
[www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/oceansalmon.asp](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/oceansalmon.asp)  
or call the Ocean Salmon Hotline at (707) 576-3429

Note: A few pink salmon have been caught in past seasons, usually in odd numbered years. Pink salmon are generally smaller than Chinook and coho salmon and can be identified by the large, oval-shaped spots found on their back and on both lobes of the tail fin. Their scales are very small and number over 168 in the row above the lateral line. The minimum size limit in California for pink salmon is the same as Chinook. The daily bag/possession limit remains 2 salmon of any species except coho.