For most people, the word fishing conjures up the image of an angler with a rod and reel. But California is also home to many species of ocean shellfish, which may be found all along the 1,100-mile California coastline and offshore islands. To fully experience all that California has to offer the sport fishermen, you’ll need to put down your rod and reel and grab your clam fork or shovel, abalone iron, crab trap, hoop net, or dive bag.

No other state in the country can compare to the Golden State in terms of variety of edible shellfish. Whether you favor clams, abalone, crabs, lobsters, scallops, squid, urchins or even mussels, California can easily satisfy your shellfish cravings.

Each of these fisheries is unique, and may challenge fishermen to develop new skills. The rewards are well worth the effort. Fresh Dungeness crab with sourdough bread, steamed lobster tails with drawn butter, and delicious clam chowder are but a few of the culinary delights that await, not to mention that many of these shellfish are just as tempting to finfish as bait. For many, partaking of California’s abundant shellfish is as big a part of the outdoor experience as fishing with rod and reel.
Pacific Razor Clam

Date of catch

Location of catch

Witness signature

Nuttall Cockle

Date of catch

Location of catch

Witness signature

California Mussel

Date of catch

Location of catch

Witness signature

Giant Rock Scallop

Date of catch

Location of catch

Witness signature
Ocean Shellfish

Dungeness Crab

Date of catch

Location of catch

Witness signature

Red Rock Crab

Date of catch

Location of catch

Witness signature

Red Abalone

Date of catch

Location of catch

Witness signature

Red Sea Urchin

Date of catch

Location of catch

Witness signature
Humboldt Squid

Date of catch

Location of catch

Witness signature

Market Squid

Date of catch

Location of catch

Witness signature

Stewardship of Fish and Wildlife

I recognize that managing our coastal resources for their ecological, economic, recreational, and aesthetic values benefits everyone.

Yes □