

## Summary of Recreational Groundfish Regulations for 2013 CENTRAL Management Area



Ocean waters between 37°11' N. latitude (Pigeon Point) and 34°27' N. latitude (Point Conception) Includes all of Santa Cruz, Monterey, and San Luis Obispo counties, and parts of Santa Barbara and San Mateo counties

Note: Shaded areas indicate regulations that have changed for 2013. Regulations in this table may change during the year. Before engaging in ocean sportfishing for groundfish and associated species, please review the resources listed in

Footnote 1 to receive the most up-to-date regulations.

Species	Time Period <sup>1, 2</sup>	Depth Limit <sup>1, 2</sup>	Daily Bag Limit <sup>1</sup>	Min. Size Limit <sup>1, 4, 5</sup>
RCG Complex <sup>1</sup>	Boat-based Anglers <sup>2</sup> :	May only be taken or	10 fish in combination	See individual species
(including all	Open: May 1-Dec 31	possessed in waters	per person <b>EXCEPT</b> :	and groups below
species of	Closed: Jan 1-Apr 30	shoreward of the 240		
Rockfish,		ft (40 fm) depth	Cabezon: 3 fish per	Cabezon: 15" total
Cabezon and	Divers, Shore-based	contour, defined in	person	length
<u>G</u> reenlings,	Anglers <sup>2</sup> :	Federal regulations		
Sections 1.91 and	Open year-round	(50 CFR Part 660,		Kelp and/or rock
28.55, 28.28, and		Subpart G)	Bocaccio: 3 fish per	greenlings: 12" total
28.29)		SEE EXCEPTION AT	person	length
		END OF TABLE		

## THESE ROCKFISHES MAY NOT BE TAKEN OR POSSESSED IN CALIFORNIA:

Bronzespotted Rockfish, Canary Rockfish, Cowcod, and Yelloweye Rockfish (Section 28.55)

FISHING IS CLOSED year-round, at all depths NO RETENTION at any time (zero fish per person)

Ocean Whitefish			10 fish per person	No size limit
(Section 28.58)				
California			5 fish per person	12" total length
Sheephead			o non per person	12 total longth
(Section 28.26)	0 500			
California	Same as RCG Complex above		5 fish per person	10" total length
Scorpionfish			o non per person	10 total long.
(Section 28.54)				
Lingcod			2 fish per person	22" total length
(Section 28.27)				3.
Leopard Shark <sup>6</sup>	All Anglers - within	All Anglers - within	3 fish per person	36" total length
(Section 28.56)	Elkhorn Slough <sup>1</sup> :	Elkhorn Slough <sup>1</sup> : No		G
,	Open year-round	depth limit		
	Outside of Elkhorn	Outside of Elkhorn		
	Slough: Same as RCG	Slough: Same as RCG		
	Complex above	Complex above		
Pacific			Pacific sanddab: No limit	No size limit
Sanddabs			All "Other Flatfish" <sup>3</sup> : 10	
and "Other	OPEN year-round <sup>3</sup>	No depth limit <sup>3</sup>	fish of each species,	
Flatfish"3	OF LIV year-round	No deptir iiriit	limit 20 fish total in	
(Section			combination, per	
28.48)			Section 27.60	
Other Federal			Petrale sole and starry	No size limit
Groundfish			flounder: No limit	
(Section 28.49)			Soupfin shark: 1 fish per	
			person	
	Same as RCG	Complex above	All Other Federal	
			Groundfish: 10 fish of	
			each species, limit 20	
			fish total in combination,	
			per Section 27.60	
	<u> </u>		per Section 27.60	

1. Subject to in-season change. Call the Recreational Groundfish Fishing Regulations Hotline at **(831) 649-2801**, visit the Marine Region Web site at **www.dfg.ca.gov/marine**, send an e-mail to **AskMarine@dfg.ca.gov**, or call your nearest CDFW office for the latest information.

Some marine protected areas (MPAs) restrict or prohibit sport fishing. Check the current ocean sport fishing regulations booklet or the MPA website at **www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/mpa/ccmpas\_list.asp**, send an e-mail to **AskMPA@dfg.ca.gov**, or call your nearest CDFW office for more information.

- 2. Divers and shore-based anglers are exempt from season and depth restrictions affecting the RCG Complex and other federally managed groundfish. However, when spear fishing during a boat-based closure, only spear fishing gear is allowed aboard any vessel or watercraft. Also, when angling from shore during a boat-based closure, no vessel or watercraft may be used to assist in taking or possessing species included in this table. The following definitions describe boat-based and shore-based anglers, and divers:
  - Boat-based anglers are fishermen that fish from boats or vessels of any size or any other type of floating object, including kayaks and float tubes.
  - Shore-based anglers are fishermen that fish from beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks and other manmade structures connected to the shore.
  - Divers are spear fishermen entering the water either from the shore or from a boat or other floating object.
- 3. During the closed season, Pacific sanddab, butter sole, curlfin sole, flathead sole, rex sole, rock sole, and sand sole (defined as "Other Flatfish" in subsection 1.91(a)(10)) may be taken.
- 4. See regulations for information on gear restrictions (Sections 28.65, 28.70, 28.75, 28.90, 28.91, and 28.95) and fillet lengths (Section 27.65).
- 5. Total length is the longest straight-line measurement from the tip of the head with the mouth closed to the end of the longest lobe of the tail. A measurement method illustration is available in the current Ocean Sport Fishing Regulations booklet.
- 6. The sport fishery for leopard shark inside Elkhorn Slough is exempt from season and depth restrictions that affect other federally managed groundfish (Section 28.56).

EXCEPTION: During the open season, groundfish may be possessed in closed areas and in water depths closed to fishing only aboard vessels in transit with no fishing gear in the water. See subsection 27.20(b).