

# CALIFORNIA Sport Fishing Regulations

SUPPLEMENTAL EDITION



## 2014-2015

*Effective March 1, 2014 through February 28, 2015*





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# 2014-2015 Supplemental Fishing Regulations

Contains in-season changes to freshwater and ocean sport fishing regulations for 2014-2015.

## contact regional offices

[www.wildlife.ca.gov](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov)

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### Natural Resources Agency

Secretary John Laird

### Department of Fish and Wildlife

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Alternate communication formats are available upon request. If reasonable accommodation is needed call CDFW at (916) 322-8911. The California Relay Service for the deaf or hearing-impaired can be utilized from TDD phones at (800) 735-2929.

### This is a Supplement

The regulations in this supplement supersede regulations listed in the 2014-2015 Freshwater and/or Ocean Sport Fishing regulation booklets.

NOTE: This supplement does not contain a complete set of fishing regulations. Refer to your copy of the 2014-2015 Freshwater and/or Ocean Sport Fishing regulation booklet for regulations not included here.

### Clockwise from top right:

Mark Scatchard on the Eel River

photo by Tom Bono, CDFW

Larry Hanson, CDFW retired

photo by Wade Sinnen, CDFW

CA Recreational Fisheries Surveyor

photo by Ed Roberts, CDFW

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## ONLINE HARVEST REPORTING

CDFW needs your harvest data to manage fish and wildlife populations in California. Information gathered from hunting tags and sport fishing report cards is important data needed by fish and wildlife biologists to support science based hunting and sport fishing seasons and sustainable quotas for harvest. This data is one of the critical components used to prepare the regulatory and environmental documents required for hunting and sport fishing programs. Because harvest and effort data is essential to fish and wildlife management, hunters and sport fishermen are required by regulation to report hunting tags and sport fishing report cards in a timely manner. For most species, you must report even if you were unsuccessful or did not hunt or fish.

You can fulfill your reporting obligation by returning your report card to the address printed on the report card or by submitting your report card data online at:

[www.dfg.ca.gov/licensing/harvestreporting](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/licensing/harvestreporting)



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## FREE FISHING DAYS!

*July 5 and September 6, 2014*

On these days only, ALL regulations apply and report cards are required – but NO license is required for sport fishing.

# IT IS UNLAWFUL TO DO THE FOLLOWING

- Fish without a valid fishing license if you are 16 years of age or older (FGC 7145);
- Fail to return a report card by the deadline printed on the report card. Reporting harvest online at [www.dfg.ca.gov](http://www.dfg.ca.gov) satisfies the return requirement.
- Take or possess fish taken illegally (FGC 2000 and 2002);
- Transfer licenses, tags, validations, permits, applications or reservations to another person (FGC 1052);
- Use or possess any license, tag, validation, permit, application or reservation not lawfully issued to the user (FGC 1052);
- Alter, mutilate, deface, duplicate or counterfeit any license, tag, validation, permit, application or reservation (FGC 1052);
- Fish without the required report card on a free-fishing day (CCRT14 Section 1.74);
- Sell or barter fish taken with a sport fishing license (FGC 7121);
- Cause the deterioration or waste of any fish taken in the waters of this state (CCRT14 Section 1.87);
- Use explosives in state waters inhabited by fish (FGC 5500);
- Use or possess any net in state waters except as is authorized (FGC 8603);
- Disturb legal traps set by another person (FGC 9002);
- Litter into or within 150 feet of state waters (FGC 5652);
- Possess fish where the size or species cannot be determined (FGC 5508 and 5509);
- Fail to exhibit on demand all licenses, tags, validations, permits, applications or reservation to any peace officer or authorized CDFW employee (FGC 2012);
- Fail to exhibit, on demand, all fish, mollusks, crustaceans, amphibians and reptiles and any device or apparatus capable of being used to take them, to any peace officer or authorized CDFW employee (FGC 2012); or
- Prohibit a warden from inspection of any boat, market or receptacle where fish may be found (FGC 1006).

# Changes to Freshwater Fishing

## Lower Klamath River Basin Regulations

Effective August 15, 2014

*Shaded areas in this section denote changes in the freshwater fishing regulations that have occurred since the publication of the 2014-2015 Freshwater Sport Fishing regulations booklet.*

### (91.1) ANADROMOUS WATERS OF THE KLAMATH RIVER DOWNSTREAM OF IRON GATE DAM (LOWER KLAMATH RIVER BASIN).

The regulations in this subsection apply only to waters of the Klamath River system which are accessible to anadromous salmonids. They do not apply to waters of the Klamath River which are inaccessible to anadromous salmon and trout, for example, portions of the Klamath River system upstream of Iron Gate Dam, portions of the Trinity River system upstream of Lewiston Dam, and the Shasta River and tributaries upstream of Dwinell Dam. Fishing in these waters is governed by the General Regulations for non-anadromous waters of the North Coast District (see Section 7.00(a)(5)).

#### (A) Hook and Weight Restrictions.

1. Only barbless hooks may be used. (For definitions regarding legal hook types, hook gaps and rigging see Chapter 2, Article 1, Section 2.10).

2. During closures to the take of adult salmon, anglers shall not remove any adult Chinook salmon from the water by any means, such as by dragging the fish on shore or using a net.

#### (B) General Area Closures.

1. No fishing is allowed within 750 feet of any Department of Fish and Wildlife fish-counting weir.

2. No fishing is allowed from the Ishi Pishi Falls road bridge upstream to and including Ishi Pishi Falls from August 15 through December 31. EXCEPTION: members of the Karuk Indian Tribe listed on the current Karuk Tribal Roll may fish at Ishi Pishi Falls using hand-held dip nets.

3. No fishing is allowed from September 15 through December 31 in the Klamath River within 500 feet of the mouths of the Salmon, the Shasta and the Scott rivers.

#### (C) Klamath River Basin Possession Limits.

1. Trout Possession Limits.

a. The brown trout possession limit is 10 brown trout.

b. The hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead possession limits are as follows:

(i) Klamath River - 4 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead.

(ii) Trinity River - 4 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead.

2. Chinook Salmon Possession Limits.

a. Klamath River downstream of the Highway 96 bridge at Weitchpec from January 1 to August 14 and the Trinity River downstream of the Old Lewiston Bridge to the confluence of the South Fork Trinity River from January 1 to August 31.

(i) 2 Chinook salmon.

b. Klamath River from August 15 to December 31 and Trinity River from September 1 to December 31.

(i) 9 Chinook salmon. No more than 3 Chinook salmon over 22 inches total length may be retained when the take of salmon over 22 inches total length is allowed.

#### (D) Klamath River Basin Chinook Salmon Quotas.

The Klamath River fall Chinook salmon take is regulated using quotas. Accounting of the tribal and non-tribal harvest is closely monitored from August 15 through December 31 each year. These quota areas are noted in subsection (b)(91.1)(E) with "Fall Run Quota" in the Open Season and Special Regulations column.

1. Quota for Entire Basin.

The 2014 Klamath River Basin quota is 4,128 Klamath River fall Chinook salmon over 22 inches total length. The department shall inform the commission, and the public via the news media, prior to any implementation of restrictions triggered by the quotas. (NOTE: A department status report on progress toward the quotas for the various river sections is updated weekly, and available at 1-800-564-6479.)

2. Subquota Percentages.

a. The subquota for the Klamath River upstream of the Highway 96 bridge at Weitchpec and the Trinity River is 50% of the total Klamath River Basin quota.

(i) The subquota for the Klamath River from 3,500 feet downstream of the Iron Gate Dam to the Highway 96 bridge at Weitchpec is 17% of the total Klamath River Basin quota.

(ii) The subquota for the Trinity River main stem downstream of the Old Lewiston Bridge to the Highway 299 West bridge at Cedar Flat is 16.5% of the total Klamath River Basin quota.

(iii) The subquota for the Trinity River main stem downstream of the Denny Road bridge at Hawkins

Bar to the confluence with the Klamath River is 16.5% of the total Klamath River Basin quota.

b. The subquota for the Lower Klamath River downstream of the Highway 96 bridge at Weitchpec is 50% of the total Klamath River Basin quota.

(i) The Spit Area (within 100 yards of the channel through the sand spit formed at the Klamath River mouth) will close when 15% of the Total Klamath

River Basin Quota is taken downstream of the Highway 101 bridge.

**(E) Klamath River Basin Open Seasons and Bag Limits.** All anadromous waters of the Klamath River Basin are closed to all fishing for all year except those areas listed in the following table. Bag limits are for trout and Chinook salmon in combination unless otherwise specified.

Area or Body of Water	Open Season and Special Regulations	Daily Bag Limit
1. Bogus Creek and tributaries	Fourth Saturday in May through August 31. Only artificial lures with barbless hooks may be used.	2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**
Klamath River main stem from 3,500 feet downstream of Iron Gate Dam to the mouth.		
a. Klamath River from 3,500 feet downstream of the Iron Gate Dam to the Highway 96 bridge at Weitchpec.	January 1 to August 14.	0 Chinook salmon 2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**
	Fall Run Quota 702 Chinook Salmon August 15 to December 31, 2014.	3 Chinook salmon – no more than 1 fish over 22 inches total length until subquota is met, then 0 fish over 22 inches total length. 2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**
	Fall Run Quota Exception: Chinook salmon over 22 inches total length may be retained from 3,500 feet downstream of Iron Gate Dam to the Interstate 5 bridge when the department determines that the adult fall-run Chinook salmon spawning escapement at Iron Gate Hatchery exceeds 8,000 fish. Daily bag and possession limits specified for fall-run Chinook salmon apply during this exception.	
b. Klamath River downstream of the Highway 96 bridge at Weitchpec.	January 1 to August 14.	2 Chinook salmon 2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**
	Fall Run Quota 2,064 Chinook Salmon August 15 to December 31, 2014.	3 Chinook salmon – no more than 1 fish over 22 inches total length until subquota is met, then 0 fish over 22 inches total length. 2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**
	Fall Run Quota Exception: Spit Area (within 100 yards of the channel through the sand spit formed at the Klamath River mouth). This area will be closed to all fishing after 15% of the Total Klamath River Basin Quota has been taken.	
3. Salmon River main stem, main stem of North Fork downstream of Sawyer's Bar bridge, and main stem of South Fork downstream of the confluence of the East Fork of the South Fork.	November 1 through February 28.	2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**

Area or Body of Water	Open Season and Special Regulations	Daily Bag Limit
4. Scott River main stem downstream of the Fort Jones-Greenview bridge to the confluence with the Klamath River.	Fourth Saturday in May through February 28.	2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**
5. Shasta River main stem downstream of the Interstate 5 bridge north of Yreka to the confluence with the Klamath River.	Fourth Saturday in May through August 31 and November 16 through February 28.	2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**
6. Trinity River and tributaries.		
a. Trinity River main stem from 250 feet downstream of Lewiston Dam to the Old Lewiston Bridge.	April 1 through September 15. Only artificial flies with barbless hooks may be used.	2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**
b. Trinity River main stem downstream of the Old Lewiston Bridge to the Highway 299 West bridge at Cedar Flat.	January 1 to August 31.	2 Chinook salmon 5 brown trout 2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**
	Fall Run Quota 681 Chinook Salmon September 1 through December 31, 2014.	3 Chinook salmon – no more than 1 fish over 22 inches total length until subquota is met, then 0 fish over 22 inches total length. 5 brown trout 2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**
	Fall Run Quota Exception: Chinook salmon over 22 inches total length may be retained downstream of the Old Lewiston bridge to the mouth of Indian Creek when the department determines that the adult fall-run Chinook salmon spawning escapement at Trinity River Hatchery exceeds 4,800 fish. Daily bag and possession limits specified for fall-run Chinook salmon apply during this exception.	
c. Trinity River main stem downstream of the Highway 299 West bridge at Cedar Flat to the Denny Road bridge at Hawkins Bar.	January 1 through August 31.	2 Chinook salmon 5 brown trout 2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**
	September 1 through December 31.	Closed to all fishing.

### ***Inland Salmon Informational Note***

All inland anadromous waters that are listed as “closed to take of salmon” in the district or special regulations are also closed to any catch and release fishing that results in hooking or attempting to hook a salmon.

As a reminder, Section 1.80 defines take as “Hunt, pursue, catch, capture or kill fish amphibians reptiles, mollusks, crustaceans or invertebrates or attempting to do so.”

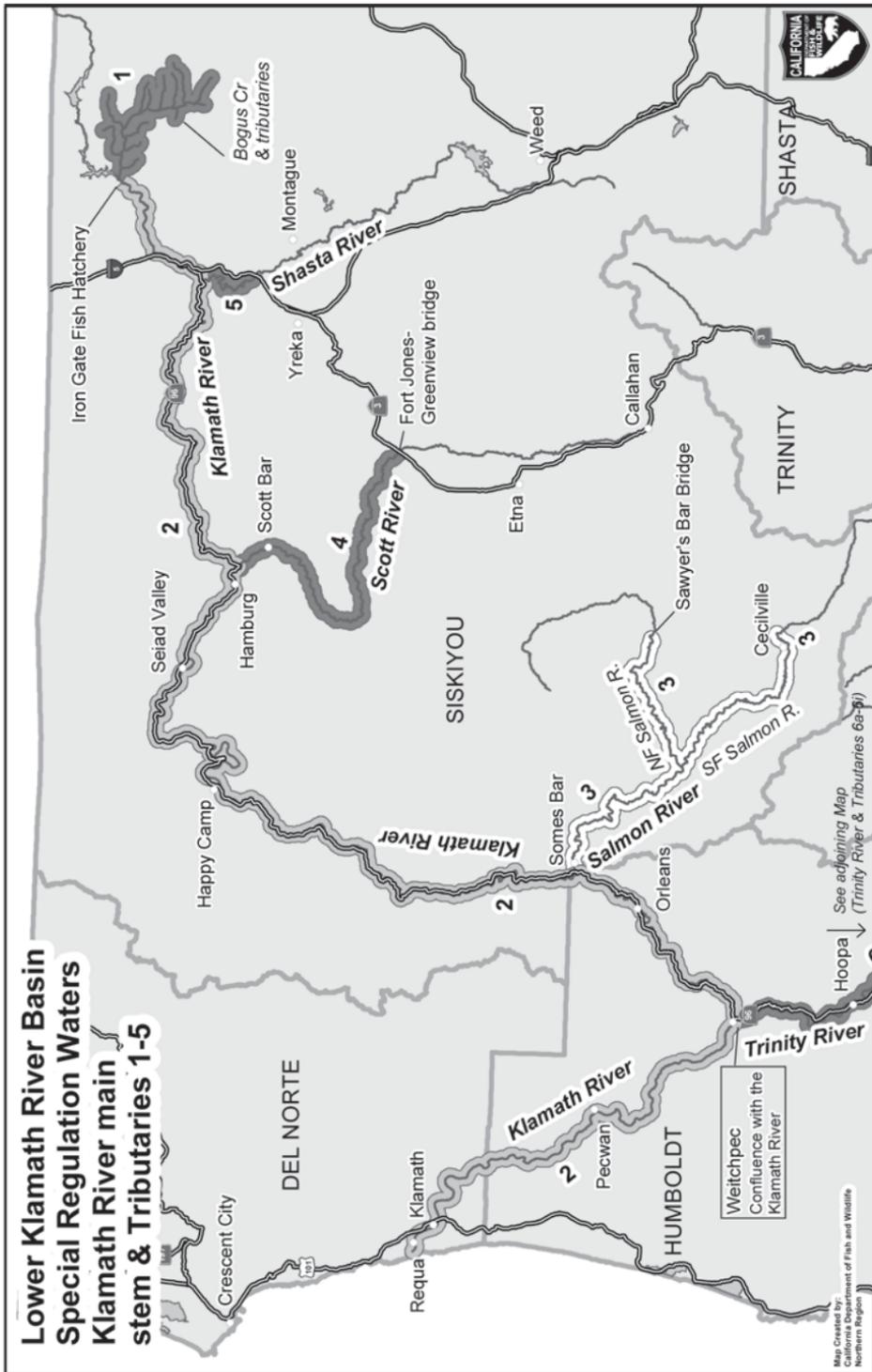
There will be no allowance for any catch and release fishing that targets salmon when the river or stream is closed to salmon fishing.

Area or Body of Water	Open Season and Special Regulations	Daily Bag Limit
d. New River main stem downstream of the confluence of the East Fork to the confluence with the Trinity River.	September 15 through November 15. Only artificial lures with barbless hooks may be used.	2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**
e. Trinity River main stem downstream of the Denny Road bridge at Hawkins Bar to the mouth of the South Fork Trinity River.	January 1 to August 31.	2 Chinook salmon 5 brown trout 2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**
	Fall Run Quota 681 Chinook Salmon September 1 through December 31, 2014. This is the cumulative quota for subsections 6.e. and 6.f. of this table.	3 Chinook salmon – no more than 1 fish over 22 inches total length until subquota is met, then 0 fish over 22 inches total length. 5 brown trout 2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**
f. Trinity River main stem downstream of the mouth of the South Fork Trinity River to the confluence with the Klamath River.	January 1 to August 31.	0 Chinook salmon 5 brown trout 2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**
	Fall Run Quota 681 Chinook Salmon September 1 through December 31, 2014. This is the cumulative quota for subsections 6.e. and 6.f. of this table.	3 Chinook salmon – no more than 1 fish over 22 inches total length until subquota is met, then 0 fish over 22 inches total length. 5 brown trout 2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**
g. Hayfork Creek main stem downstream of the Highway 3 bridge in Hayfork to the confluence with the South Fork Trinity River.	November 1 through March 31. Only artificial lures with barbless hooks may be used.	2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**
h. South Fork Trinity River downstream of the confluence with the East Fork of the South Fork Trinity River to the South Fork Trinity River Bridge at Hyampom.	November 1 through March 31. Only artificial lures with barbless hooks may be used.	2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**
i. South Fork Trinity River downstream of the South Fork Trinity River Bridge at Hyampom to the confluence with the Trinity River.	November 1 through March 31.	0 Chinook salmon 2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**

\* Wild Chinook salmon are those not showing a healed adipose fin clip and not showing a healed left ventral fin clip.

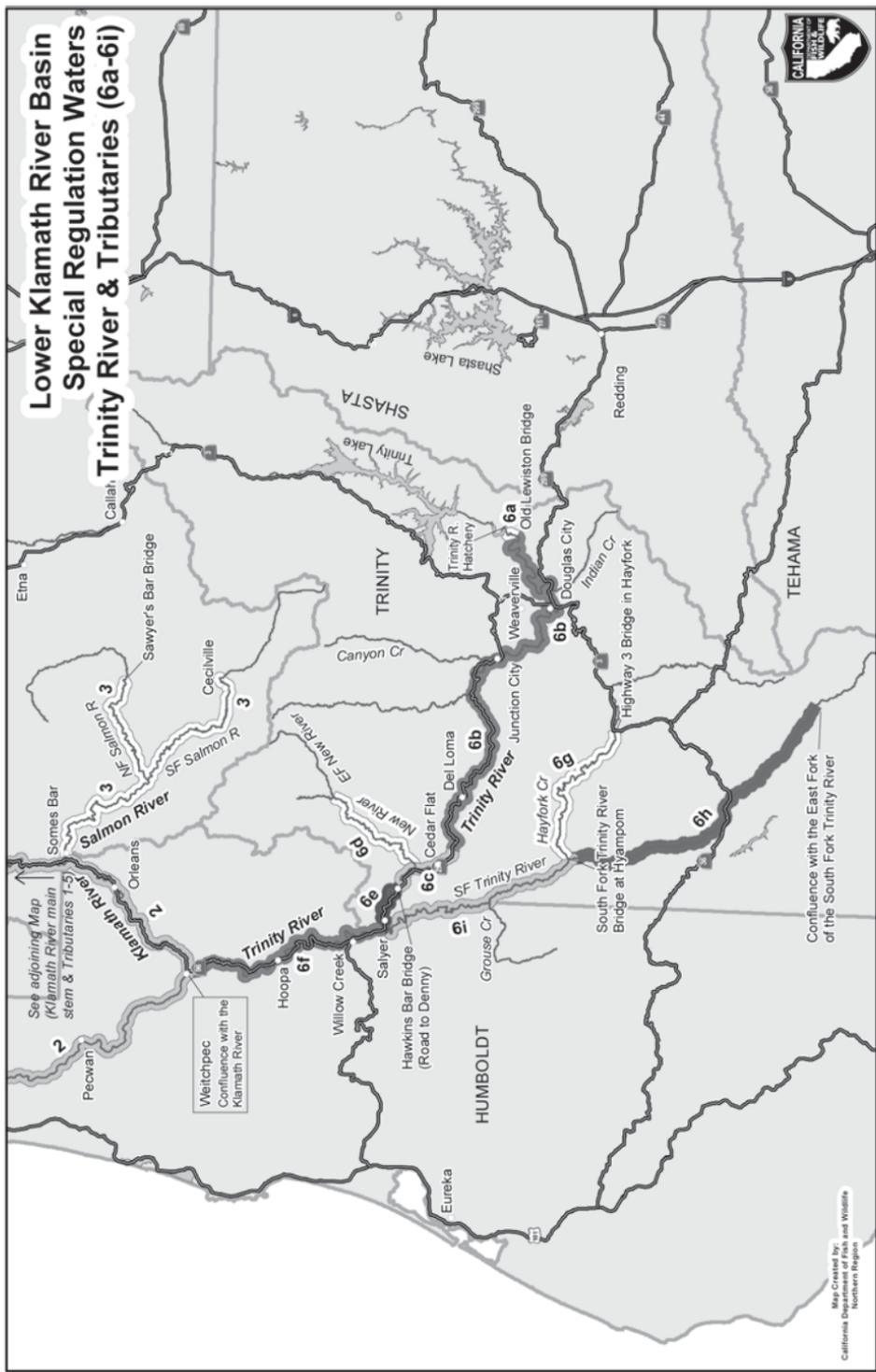
\*\*Hatchery trout or steelhead are those showing a healed adipose fin clip (adipose fin is absent). Unless otherwise provided, all other trout and steelhead must be immediately released. Wild trout or steelhead are those not showing a healed adipose fin clip (adipose fin is present).

**Lower Klamath River Basin  
Special Regulation Waters  
Klamath River main  
stem & Tributaries 1-5**



Map Created by  
California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Northern Region

# Lower Klamath River Basin Special Regulation Waters Trinity River & Tributaries (6a-6i)



See adjoining Map  
(Klamath River main  
stem & Tributaries 1-5)

Weitchpec  
Confluence with the  
Klamath River

Confluence with the East Fork  
of the South Fork Trinity River

Map Created by:  
California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Northern Region

## **1.74. SPORT FISHING REPORT CARD REQUIREMENTS.**

(a) Purpose. These regulations are designed to improve recreational fishing effort and catch information in some or all areas where the fisheries operate. Many of these species are of high commercial value, and therefore, additional enforcement mechanisms are needed to improve compliance with existing bag limits and other regulations, and to reduce the potential for poaching.

(b) Report card requirements apply to any person fishing for or taking the following species regardless of whether a sport fishing license is required:

- (1) Salmon, in the anadromous waters of the Klamath, Trinity, and Smith river basins. Anadromous waters are defined in Section 1.04.
- (2) Steelhead trout.
- (3) White sturgeon.
- (4) Red abalone.
- (5) California spiny lobster.

(c) General Report Card Requirements.

(1) Any person fishing for or taking any of the species identified in this Section shall have in his immediate possession a valid non-transferable report card issued by the department for the particular species. See special exemption regarding possession of report cards for lobster divers in Section 29.91.

(2) All entries made on any report card or tag shall be legible and in indelible ink.

(3) A report card holder fishing with a one, two, or ten-day sport fishing license, may replace the expired fishing license without purchasing a new report card so long as the report card is still valid.

(4) Report cards are not transferable and shall not be transferred to another person. No person shall possess any report card other than his own.

(5) Only one abalone report card and one sturgeon report card may be issued per person per report card period.

(6) Any report card holder who fills in all available lines on his steelhead, salmon or lobster report card shall return or report the card to the department pursuant to subsection 1.74(e) prior to purchasing a second card.

(7) Data recording and tagging procedures vary between report cards and species. See specific regulations in sections 5.79, 5.87, 5.88, 27.92, 29.16, and 29.91 that apply in addition to the regulations of this Section.

(d) Report Card Return and Reporting Requirements

(1) Report card holders shall return or report their salmon, steelhead, sturgeon, or abalone report cards to the department pursuant to subsection 1.74(e) by January 31 of the following year.

(A) Any person who fails to return or report his salmon, steelhead, sturgeon, or abalone report

card to the department by the deadline may be restricted from obtaining the same card in a subsequent license year or may be subject to an additional fee for the issuance of the same card in a subsequent license year.

(2) Report card holders shall return or report their lobster report cards purchased on or before July 31, 2013 pursuant to subsection 1.74(e) by January 31 of the following year.

(3) Report card holders shall return or report their lobster report cards purchased after July 31, 2013 pursuant to subsection 1.74(e) by April 30 following the close of the lobster season specified on the card.

(A) Any report card holder who fails to return or report his lobster report card purchased after July 31, 2013 by April 30 following the close of the lobster season specified on the card shall be subject to a non-return fee specified in Section 701, in addition to the annual report card fee, for the issuance of a lobster report card in the subsequent fishing season.

(e) Report Card Return and Reporting Mechanisms:

(1) By mail or in person at the address specified on the card. A report card returned by mail shall be postmarked by the date applicable to that card as specified in subsection 1.74(d)(1), 1.74(d)(2), or 1.74(d)(3).

(2) Online through the department's internet license sales service website by the date applicable to that card as specified in subsection 1.74(d)(1), 1.74(d)(2), or 1.74(d)(3).

(3) If a report card is submitted by mail and not received by the department, it is considered not returned unless the individual reports his report card as lost pursuant to subsection 1.74(f).

(f) Lost report cards.

(1) Any report card holder who loses his report card shall submit an affidavit, signed under penalty of perjury, in person to a department license sales office containing all of the following information:

(A) A statement containing the report card holder's full name confirming that the originally issued report card cannot be recovered.

(B) A statement of the report card holder's best recollection of the prior catch records that were entered on the report card that was lost.

(C) A statement describing the factual circumstances surrounding the loss of the card.

(2) An Affidavit for a lost report card shall be presented at a department license sales office, by the date applicable to that card specified in subsection 1.74(d)(1), 1.74(d)(2), or 1.74(d)(3) to be considered returned.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection 1.74(c)(5), any report card holder who loses his report card during the period for which it is valid may replace the lost report card by submitting an affidavit as described in subsection 1.74(f)(1) and payment of the report

card fee and replacement processing fee specified in Section 701.

(A) Based on the information provided in the written affidavit for abalone and sturgeon report cards, the department shall issue only the number of tags that were reported unused on the previously issued report card.

### **5.87. NORTH COAST SALMON REPORT CARD REQUIREMENT**

(a) Report Card Required in Waters of the Klamath-Trinity River System and the Smith River. All anglers must have a North Coast Salmon Report Card in their possession while fishing for or taking salmon in waters of the Klamath-Trinity River System and the Smith River, and must complete and return the card pursuant to regulations in this Section and in Section 1.74.

(b) Prior to beginning fishing activity, the cardholder shall record the month, day, and fishing location on the first available line on the report card.

(c) For the Klamath-Trinity River System: Whenever the cardholder lands (either retains or releases) a Chinook salmon, the angler shall immediately record whether the fish was an adult or a jack, and whether the fish has an adipose fin present. Whenever the cardholder releases a Coho salmon, the angler shall immediately record whether the maxillary is present or absent.

(d) For the Smith River: Whenever the cardholder lands (either retains or releases) a Chinook salmon, the angler shall immediately record whether the fish was an adult or a jack, and whether the fish has an adipose fin or left ventral fin present.

(e) Whenever the cardholder moves to another fishing location, the angler shall record the month, day, and location on the next line on the report card.

(f) In the Klamath-Trinity River System and Smith River, a jack Chinook salmon is defined as any Chinook salmon that is less than 22 inches total length.

(g) In the event an angler fills in all lines and returns a North Coast Salmon Report Card, an additional card may be purchased. See Section 1.74.

(h) The annual fee for the North Coast Salmon Report Card is specified in Section 701, Title 14, CCR

### **5.88. STEELHEAD REPORT AND RESTORATION CARD REQUIREMENTS FOR INLAND WATERS**

(a) Steelhead Fishing Report and Restoration Card Required. All anglers must have a Steelhead Fishing Report and Restoration Card in their possession while fishing for or taking steelhead in anadromous waters, as defined in Section 1.04. Anglers must complete and return the card pursuant to regulations in this Section and in Section 1.74. For purposes of these regulations, a steelhead trout is

defined as any rainbow trout greater than 16 inches in length found in anadromous waters.

(b) Prior to beginning fishing activity, the cardholder must record the month, day, and location code on the first available line on the report card.

(c) When a steelhead is retained, the cardholder must immediately fill in a circle indicating whether the fish is a wild fish or a hatchery fish.

(d) When the cardholder moves to another location code, or finishes fishing for the day, the angler must immediately record on the card the number of wild and hatchery fish that were released from that location and the number of hours fished for steelhead to the nearest hour.

(e) In the event an angler fills in all lines and returns a Steelhead Fishing Report and Restoration Card, an additional card may be purchased. See Section 1.74.

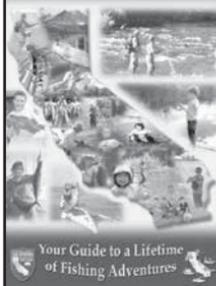
(f) The annual fee for the Steelhead Fishing Report and Restoration Card is specified in Section 7380 of the Fish and Game Code.

### **FGC SECTION 8226 - RECOVERY OF CODED-WIRE TAG FROM SALMON HEAD**

(a) Notwithstanding any measurement requirements under this code, and to implement the department's salmon tagging program, any person in possession of a salmon with a missing adipose fin, the small, fleshy fin on the back of the fish between the back fin and the tail, upon request by an authorized agent or employee of the department, shall immediately relinquish the head of the salmon to the state, at no charge, for recovery of any coded-wire tag. The head may be removed by the fish owner or, if removed by the official department representative, the head shall be removed in a manner to minimize loss of salmon flesh and the salmon shall immediately be returned to the rightful owner.

(b) It is unlawful to intentionally conceal, cull, or release into the waters, a salmon with a missing adipose fin that it is otherwise legal to possess.

## California Fishing Passport



## CALIFORNIA FISHING PASSPORT

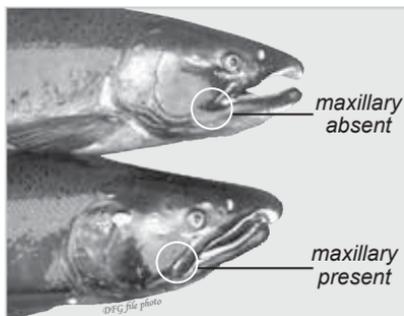
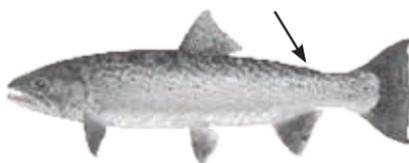
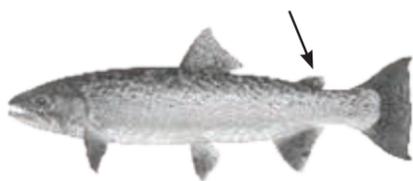
To encourage people to more fully experience all of the fishing opportunities that the Golden State has to offer, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife designed the California Fishing Passport program. Fish your way around the state in search of 150 different fish and shellfish species! For more information, please visit

[www.dfg.ca.gov/fishingpassport](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/fishingpassport)

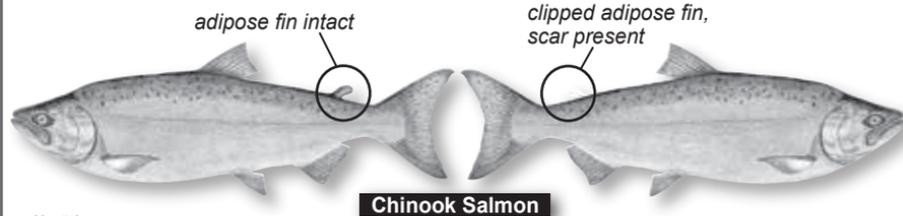
### How to Distinguish Wild Steelhead from Hatchery Steelhead

Wild steelhead possess an intact adipose fin.

Hatchery steelhead lack an adipose fin, and possess a scar where the fin was clipped



**Maxillary or No Maxillary?**  
**Report the Presence or Absence of Maxillary on Coho Salmon when fishing the Klamath-Trinity River System see Section 5.87(c)**



**Report Chinook Salmon With Clipped Adipose Fins when fishing the Klamath-Trinity River System - see Section 5.87(c)**

# Outdoor CALIFORNIA

November - December 2012

Volume 73 No. 6 \$2.50

Calendar  
Issue

Outdoor California is the Department of  
Fish and Wildlife's Bi-Monthly Magazine.

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***[www.dfg.ca.gov/m/MPA](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/m/MPA)***

*Find the MPA information you need from your cell phone,  
tablet, or other web-enabled device!*



# HARVEST REPORTING

*Now, it is easier than ever to report your harvest:*

- Report your harvest online, using the Online License Service at [www.dfg.ca.gov/licensing/ols](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/licensing/ols) ; or
- Return your report card via mail to the address printed on the report card.

## *Important Information – Read before you report online*

- Accurate and complete data is required. If you report online, all entries on the report card must be entered in the electronic form, including sport fishing reports of activity where no catches were made.
- Submission of report card data online must be completed within 20 minutes to avoid a system time out.
- Sport fishing report cards may be reported online only after the last day of the report card's validity.
- If you report online, you do not need to mail in your report card. You will be issued a report confirmation number. After reporting, please retain your report card for 90 days for survey purposes and write your report confirmation number on it. Once a report card has been reported, it may no longer be used in the field.

*Online Harvest Reporting is available on these dates:*

HARVEST REPORT TYPE	REPORTING DATES	LATE REPORTING*
ABALONE REPORT CARD	Dec 1, 2014 - Jan 31, 2015	mail only
FULL SEASON SPINY LOBSTER REPORT CARD	Mar 19 - Apr 30, 2015	mail only
NORTH COAST SALMON REPORT CARD	Jan 1 - Jan 31, 2015	Feb 1 - Apr 1, 2015
STEELHEAD REPORT CARD	Jan 1 - Jan 31, 2015	Feb 1 - Jun 1, 2015
STURGEON FISHING REPORT CARD	Jan 1 - Jan 31, 2015	Feb 1 - Apr 30, 2015

\* Late reporting occurs after the regulatory deadline.

If you have not reported your harvest by the dates listed above, please mail your harvest report card to the address listed on the report card immediately.

## NON-RETURN FEE

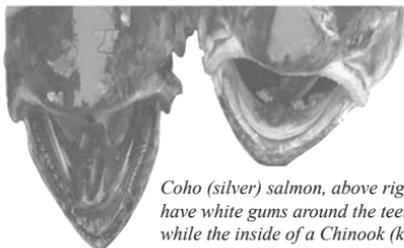
Remember, a **\$20 non-return fee** will be charged when purchasing a spiny lobster report card if the previous year's report card is not returned or reported online by the April 30 deadline! To avoid the fee, you may either return your card by the deadline or skip one fishing season to be able to purchase a spiny lobster report card the following season at no extra cost.

*Thanks very much in advance for your cooperation and input!*

## SPORT FISHING SPECIAL ALERT FOR CALIFORNIA OCEAN SALMON FISHERIES

The California coastal coho (silver) salmon has been designated as an endangered species under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA). It is unlawful to fish for, capture, keep, or possess under any circumstances a California coastal coho salmon. Violation of the ESA may result in civil or criminal penalties.

Large numbers of coho salmon have been caught in California's ocean waters. Although it is likely that most of these salmon originated from hatcheries in the Columbia River basin, some of the fish are California coastal coho salmon which are protected under the ESA. Thus, the retention of any 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.



*Coho (silver) salmon, above right, have white gums around the teeth, while the inside of a Chinook (king) salmon's mouth is all dark.*

*photo by CDFW Warden Bob Aldrich*

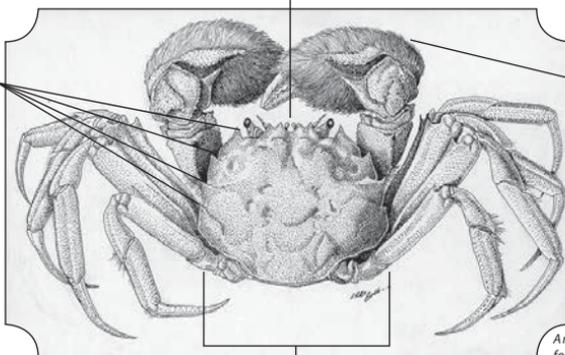
### TO AVOID CONTACT WITH COHO SALMON:

- Fish near shore for Chinook— coho are usually more offshore.
- Use larger lures that select for large Chinook and reduce the coho catch.

## Have You Seen Me?

**Notch between eyes**

**Four spines on each side of carapace**



**Hairy "mitten" claws**

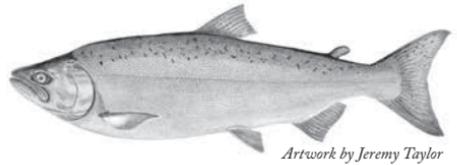
*Artwork by Randall D. Babb for the USFWS*

**Maximum carapace width of 3 inches**

Chinese mitten crabs are nonnative, invasive species that pose a serious threat to California's economy and aquatic ecosystems. They clog fish screens and impede water delivery, burrow into levees weakening infrastructure and increasing erosion, prey on, compete with, and transfer diseases to native species, and damage rice crops through excessive foraging. Chinese mitten crabs invaded the San Francisco Bay in 1992 and by 1996 had spread to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. They experienced a population boom in 1997, and by 1998 could be found over 100 miles north and east of the Bay in the Sacramento and San Joaquin River watersheds. Chinese mitten crabs have mysteriously disappeared from the Delta and are now only rarely seen in San Francisco Bay. Have you seen any Chinese mitten crabs? Report sightings of Chinese mitten crabs to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Invasive Species Program by calling **866-440-9530** or sending an email to **Invasives@wildlife.ca.gov**. Additionally, if you catch a Chinese mitten crab, do not release it back into the water! Any Chinese mitten crabs that are caught should be killed immediately and preserved in alcohol or frozen for later identification by CDFW staff.

# Changes to Ocean Fishing

Shaded areas in this section denote changes in the ocean fishing regulations that have occurred since the publication of the 2014-2015 Ocean Sport Fishing regulations booklet.



## SECTION 27.75. SALMON CLOSURE.

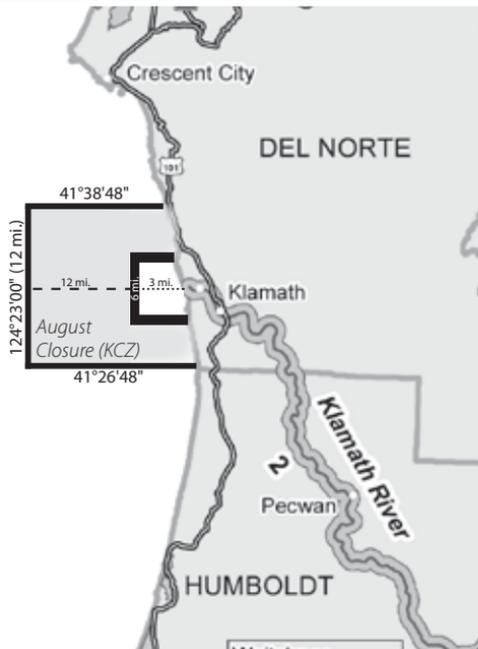
(a) No salmon may be taken in ocean waters at the mouth of the Smith and Klamath rivers within three nautical miles north and south of a line drawn due west for three nautical miles from the center of the mouth of each of said rivers.

(b) No salmon may be taken during the months of August and September in ocean waters at the mouth of the Eel River within two nautical miles north and south of a line drawn due west for two

nautical miles from the center of the mouth of said river.

(c) No salmon may be taken during the month of August in ocean waters at the mouth of the Klamath River within six nautical miles north and south of a line drawn due west for three nautical miles from the center of the mouth of said river (Note: see Federal regulations for closure beyond state waters).

## Ocean Closures Around Klamath River Mouth



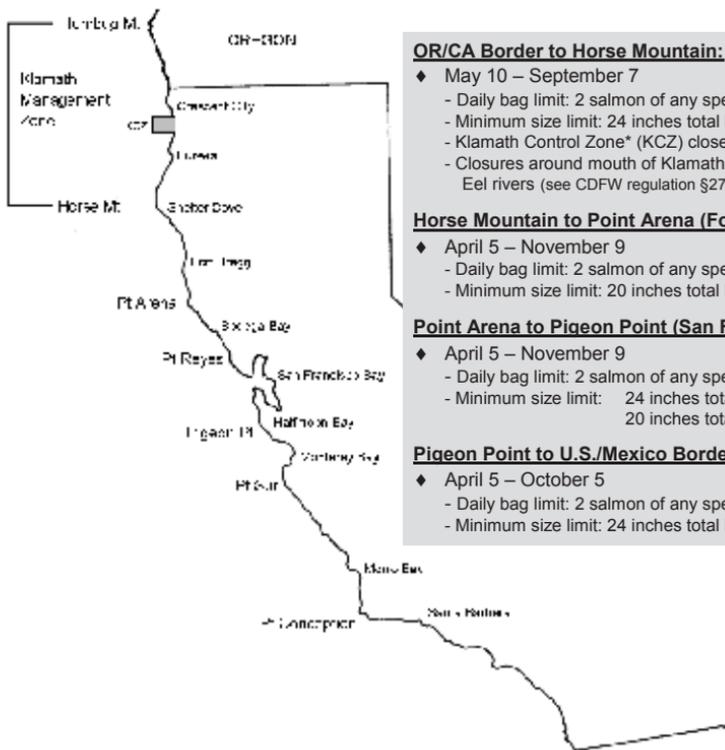
No salmon may be taken in ocean waters at the mouth of the Klamath River within three nautical miles north and south of a line drawn due west for three nautical miles from the center of the mouth of the Klamath River. In August, the closure expands north, south and west into federal waters to form the "Klamath Control Zone", as defined below:

### — Klamath Control Zone (KCZ) —

In August, salmon may not be taken in the ocean area surrounding the Klamath River mouth, bounded on the north by 41°38'48" N. lat. (approximately 6 nautical miles north of the Klamath River mouth), on the south by 41°26'48" N. lat. (approximately 6 nautical miles south of the Klamath River mouth), and on the west by 124°23'00" W. long.

This map is for informational purposes only and should not be used for navigational or legal purposes.

## 2014 Ocean Salmon Sport Regulations



### OR/CA Border to Horse Mountain:

- ◆ May 10 – September 7
  - Daily bag limit: 2 salmon of any species except coho
  - Minimum size limit: 24 inches total length
  - Klamath Control Zone\* (KCZ) closed in August
  - Closures around mouth of Klamath, Smith and Eel rivers (see CDFW regulation §27.75)

### Horse Mountain to Point Arena (Fort Bragg):

- ◆ April 5 – November 9
  - Daily bag limit: 2 salmon of any species except coho
  - Minimum size limit: 20 inches total length

### Point Arena to Pigeon Point (San Francisco):

- ◆ April 5 – November 9
  - Daily bag limit: 2 salmon of any species except coho
  - Minimum size limit: 24 inches total length through June 30  
20 inches total length thereafter

### Pigeon Point to U.S./Mexico Border (Monterey and south):

- ◆ April 5 – October 5
  - Daily bag limit: 2 salmon of any species except coho
  - Minimum size limit: 24 inches total length

### General Sport Regulations

- **Possession limit:** No more than two daily bag limits may be possessed when on land. On a vessel in ocean waters, no person shall possess or bring ashore more than one daily bag limit.
- **Retention of coho salmon or steelhead trout is prohibited in any ocean fishery.**
- **Salmon may only be taken by angling as defined in Section 1.05.** No sinkers or weights exceeding 4 lbs may be used, except that a fishing line may be attached to a sinker or weight of any size if such sinker or weight is suspended by a separate line & the fishing line is released automatically by a mechanical device from the sinker or weight when any fish is hooked.
- **North of Point Conception:** No more than two single-point, single-shank barbless hooks shall be used & no more than one rod per angler when fishing for salmon or fishing from a boat with salmon on board.
- **Horse Mountain to Point Conception:** When fishing with bait and angling by any means other than TROLLING<sup>1</sup>, no more than two single-point, single-shank barbless circle hooks<sup>2</sup> shall be used. The distance between the two hooks must not exceed 5 inches when measured from the top of the eye of the top hook to the inner base of the curve of the lower hook and both hooks must be permanently tied in place (hard tied).

**Note:** These special gear restrictions apply to each angler fishing for salmon or fishing from any boat or floating device with salmon on board.

1. **TROLLING** is defined as angling from a boat or floating device that is making way by means of a source of power, other than drifting by means of the prevailing water current or weather conditions.
2. A **CIRCLE HOOK** is defined as a hook with a generally circular shape and a point which turns inwards, pointing directly to the shank at a 90-degree angle.

\* **Klamath Control Zone:** The ocean area at the Klamath River mouth bounded on the north by 41°38'48" N. lat. (approximately six nautical miles north of the Klamath River mouth); on the west, by 124°23'00" W. long. (approximately 12 nautical miles off shore); and on the south, by 41°26'48" N. lat. (approximately six nautical miles south of the Klamath River mouth).

## SECTION 27.80. SALMON.

(a) Methods of take:

(1) General Provisions. Only by angling as defined in Section 1.05. No sinkers or weights exceeding four pounds may be used, except that a fishing line may be attached to a sinker or weight of any size if such sinker or weight is suspended by a separate line and the fishing line is released automatically by a mechanical device from the sinker or weight when any fish is hooked. See sections 28.65 and 28.70.

(2) Barbless Hooks. No more than two (2) single point, single shank barbless hooks shall be used in the ocean north of Point Conception (34°27'00" N. lat.) when salmon fishing or fishing from any boat or floating device with salmon on board.

(3) Other Hook Restrictions. When fishing with bait in the ocean between Horse Mountain (40°05'00" N. lat.) and Point Conception, if angling by any means other than trolling, then no more than two (2) single point, single shank, barbless circle hooks shall be used. The distance between the two hooks must not exceed five inches when measured from the top of the eye of the top hook to the inner base of the curve of the lower hook, and both hooks must be permanently tied in place (hard tied). A circle hook is defined as a hook with a generally circular shape, and a point which turns inwards, pointing directly to the shank at a 90 degree angle. Trolling is defined as angling from a boat or floating device that is making way by means of a source of power, other than drifting by means of the prevailing water current or weather conditions. See Section 28.65(g).

(4) One Rod Restriction north of Point Conception. Salmon may be taken by angling with no more than one rod in ocean waters north of Point Conception. See Section 28.65(e).

(b) Statewide Coho (silver) Salmon Restrictions: No coho (silver) salmon may be retained.

(c) Open Fishing Days, Daily Bag Limits, and Minimum Size in effect April 5 through April 30, 2014.

(1) North of Horse Mountain (40°05'00" N. lat.) and in Humboldt Bay.

(A) Closed to salmon fishing.

(2) Between Horse Mountain and Point Arena (38°57'30" N. lat.).

(A) Open to salmon fishing from April 5 to April 30, 2014. Fishing is authorized 7 days per week.

(B) Daily Bag Limit: 2 salmon per day. See subsection (b) above and subsection (e) below.

(C) Minimum Size: 20 inches total length.

(3) Between Point Arena and Pigeon Point (37°11'00" N. lat.).

(A) Open to salmon fishing from April 5 to April 30, 2014. Fishing is authorized 7 days per week.

(B) Daily Bag Limit: 2 salmon per day. See subsection (b) above and subsection (e) below.

(C) Minimum Size: 24 inches total length.

(4) Between Pigeon Point and Point Sur (36°18'00" N. lat.).

(A) Open to salmon fishing from April 5 to April 30, 2014. Fishing is authorized 7 days per week.

(B) Daily Bag Limit: 2 salmon per day. See subsection (b) above and subsection (e) below.

(C) Minimum Size: 24 inches total length.

(5) South of Point Sur.

(A) Open to salmon fishing from April 5 to April 30, 2014. Fishing is authorized 7 days per week.

(B) Daily Bag Limit: 2 salmon per day. See subsection (b) above and subsection (e) below.

(C) Minimum Size: 24 inches total length.

(d) Open Fishing Days, Daily Bag Limits, and Minimum Size in effect on or after May 1, 2014.

(1) North of Horse Mountain (40°05'00" N. lat.) and in Humboldt Bay.

(A) Open to salmon fishing May 10 to September 7, 2014. Fishing is authorized 7 days per week.

Exception: The ocean area surrounding the Klamath River mouth bounded on the north by 41° 38'48" N lat. (approximately 6 nautical miles north of the Klamath River mouth), on the south by 41° 26'48" N lat. (approximately 6 nautical miles south of the Klamath River mouth), and extending 3 nautical miles offshore is closed to salmon fishing during August. No salmon may be taken at any time in ocean waters at the mouths of the Smith and Klamath rivers and during August and September at the mouth of the Eel River. See Section 27.75.

(B) Daily Bag Limit: 2 salmon per day. See subsection (b) above and subsection (e) below.

(C) Minimum Size: 24 inches total length.

(2) Between Horse Mountain and Point Arena (38°57'30" N. lat.).

(A) Open to salmon fishing May 1 to November 9, 2014. Fishing is authorized 7 days per week.

(B) Daily Bag Limit: 2 salmon per day. See subsection (b) above and subsection (e) below.

(C) Minimum Size: 20 inches total length.

(3) Between Point Arena and Pigeon Point (37°11'00" N. lat.).

(A) Open to salmon fishing May 1 to November 9, 2014. Fishing is authorized 7 days per week.

(B) Daily Bag Limit: 2 salmon per day. See subsection (b) above and subsection (e) below.

(C) Minimum Size: 24 inches total length through June 30, 2014 and 20 inches total length thereafter.

(4) Between Pigeon Point and Point Sur (36°18'00" N. lat.).

(A) Open to salmon fishing May 1 to October 5, 2014. Fishing is authorized 7 days per week.

(B) Daily Bag Limit: 2 salmon per day. See subsection (b) above and subsection (e) below.

(C) Minimum Size: 24 inches total length.

(5) South of Point Sur.

(A) Open to salmon fishing May 1 to October 5, 2014. Fishing is authorized 7 days per week.

(B) Daily Bag Limit: 2 salmon per day. See subsection (b) above and subsection (e) below.

(C) Minimum Size: 24 inches total length.

(e) Ocean salmon possession limit: No more than two daily bag limits may be possessed when on land. On a vessel in ocean waters, no person shall possess or bring ashore more than one daily bag limit. See Section 1.17 and 27.60(c) of these regulations.

## **FGC SECTION 8226 - RECOVERY OF CODED- WIRE TAG FROM SALMON HEAD**

**(a) Notwithstanding any measurement requirements under this code, and to implement the department's salmon tagging program, any person in possession of a salmon with a missing adipose fin, the small, fleshy fin on the back of the fish between the back fin and the tail, upon request by an authorized agent or employee of the department, shall immediately relinquish the head of the salmon to the state, at no charge, for recovery of any coded-wire tag. The head may be removed by the fish owner or, if removed by the official department representative, the head shall be removed in a manner to minimize loss of salmon flesh and the salmon shall immediately be returned to the rightful owner.**

**(b) It is unlawful to intentionally conceal, cull, or release into the waters, a salmon with a missing adipose fin that it is otherwise legal to possess.**

## **NEW OCEAN SALMON POSSESSION LIMIT**

No more than two daily bag limits may be possessed when on land. On a vessel in ocean waters, no person shall possess or bring ashore more than one daily bag limit. See Section 1.17 and 27.60(c) of these regulations.

### **28.20. HALIBUT, PACIFIC.**

(a) Season: Pacific halibut may be taken only from May 1 through October 31.

(b) Limit: One.

(c) Minimum size: None.

## **CALIFORNIA'S PACIFIC HALIBUT REGULATIONS (SECTION 28.20 SHOWN ABOVE) MAY CHANGE PRIOR TO AUGUST TO CONFORM TO FEDERAL REGULATIONS.**

Federal regulations for 2014 allow recreational fishing for Pacific halibut in federal waters (3-200 miles from shore) off of California from May 1 through July 31, and September 1 through October 31, seven days per week (closed for the month of August). The bag limit of one fish and no minimum size limit for Pacific halibut continue to be the same. Please check the Department's website ([www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/pacifichalibut.asp](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/pacifichalibut.asp)) or Regulations Hotline (831-649-2801) for updated information.



# **HELP PUT AN END TO POACHING AND POLLUTING.**

## **1-888-334-CalTIP**

(1-888-334-2258)

# HELP FISH LIKE THIS SURVIVE!



CDFW photo by E. Jarvis

*Fish floating at the surface like this can survive.... with your help.*

When fish with swim bladders are brought up from depth, decreasing pressure may injure them (*known as pressure shock, or 'barotrauma'*). When released, these fish often float helplessly at the surface. Injured fish that cannot descend on their own are especially easy targets for sea gulls and sea lions. Helping fish to descend significantly increases their chances of survival.

You can transport fish down to the sea floor using one of the following:

-  A weighted, inverted barbless hook
-  A fish-descending device available at your local tackle shop
-  An inverted, weighted plastic crate with a rope attached to the bottom

For more information visit the CDFW Web site at

[www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/groundfishcentral/barotrauma.asp](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/groundfishcentral/barotrauma.asp)

Or Ask For An Informational Brochure at Your Local CDFW Office

# Anadromous Fish Identification

## Steelhead Rainbow Trout



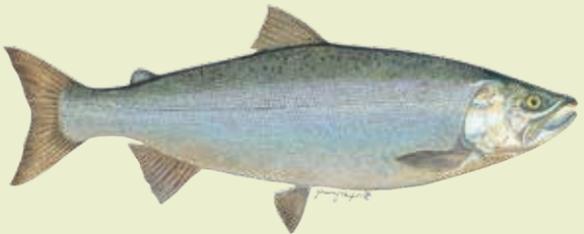
White gums and tongue

## Chinook Salmon



Base of teeth all black

## Coho Salmon



Narrow light gray band  
at base of bottom teeth

# Save Our WATER

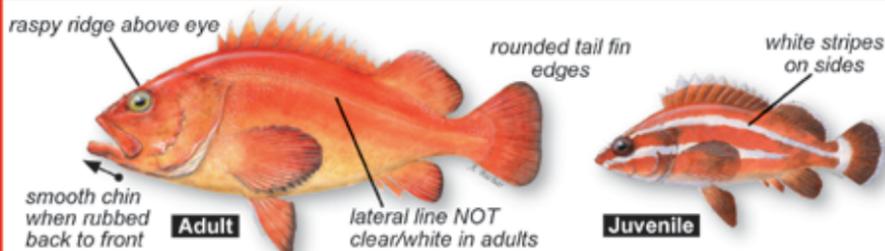


Now more than ever it's important to conserve our most precious resource. Remember, fish need water! Find out how you can help.

## **DROUGHT 2014: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW**

Governor Brown has declared a statewide drought emergency and is asking all Californians to reduce their water use by 20 percent. California is experiencing a serious drought and the state will be challenged to meet its water needs in the upcoming year. Calendar year 2013 was the driest year in recorded history for many areas of California, and current conditions suggest no change is in sight for 2014. Water conservation is always important in California, but this year no Californian can afford to waste any water. We all need to do our part.

**LEARN TO CONSERVE WATER.**  
[www.SaveOurH2O.org](http://www.SaveOurH2O.org)



**Retention of Yelloweye Rockfish is Prohibited in California**