



Sport Fishing Licenses



Calendar Year vs 12 Months

September 9, 2015

Glenn Underwood, Analyst

California Department of Fish and Wildlife



Overview

- Background
- California Sportfishing League Report
- License sales and revenue
- Sport Fish Restoration Grants
- Other states' experiences
- Efforts to increase sales



Background

- Fish and Game Code, Section 7149
- Resident fishing license fee - \$47.01
- 1.78 million fishing licenses in 2014
- 39 states have fixed license year
- Legislative interest



CA Sportfishing League Report

- Recommends 12 month license
- Report focuses on resident annual license
- Other annual license types include:
 - Gift vouchers (49,000)
 - Annual lifetime renewals (11,000)
 - Disabled veteran (13,000)
 - Free and reduced-fee (22,000)
- Short term license sales increased



Fishing License Sales Statistics

- Annual license sales
 - Declined 52% since 1980
 - 2.27 million to 1.1 million
 - Declined 4% since 2010
- Total number of fishing licenses
 - Declined 27% since 1980
 - 2.46 million to 1.78 million
 - Declined 1.6% since 2010



Shift Toward Short Term Licenses

- Ocean only short term licenses in 1980
- Increase in short term license options
- One-day licenses for all waters since 2004
- Short term licenses
 - Increased 306% since 1980
 - 168,000 in 1980 to 684,000 in 2014.



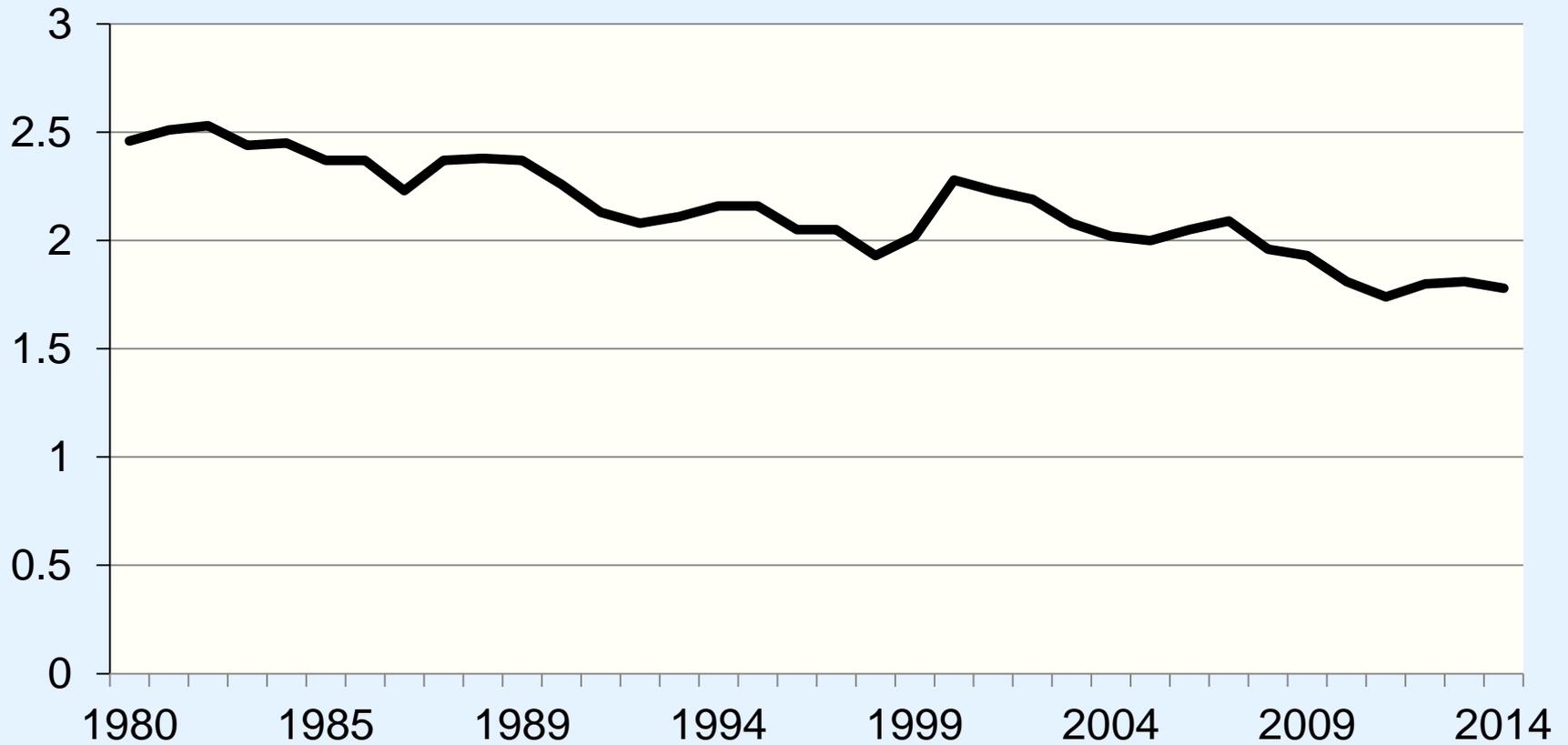
License Revenue

- License revenue has increased
 - 1980 - \$21.5 million
 - 2014 - \$63.3 million
- License revenue adjusted for inflation
 - 1980 - \$61.8 million
 - 2014 - \$63.3 million



All Sport Fishing Licenses

Licenses in Millions





Report Cards and Validations

- Report card data collected for regulations
- Report cards must be returned at the year's end
- Have a set expiration date
- Different validity dates cause confusion
- Regulation change



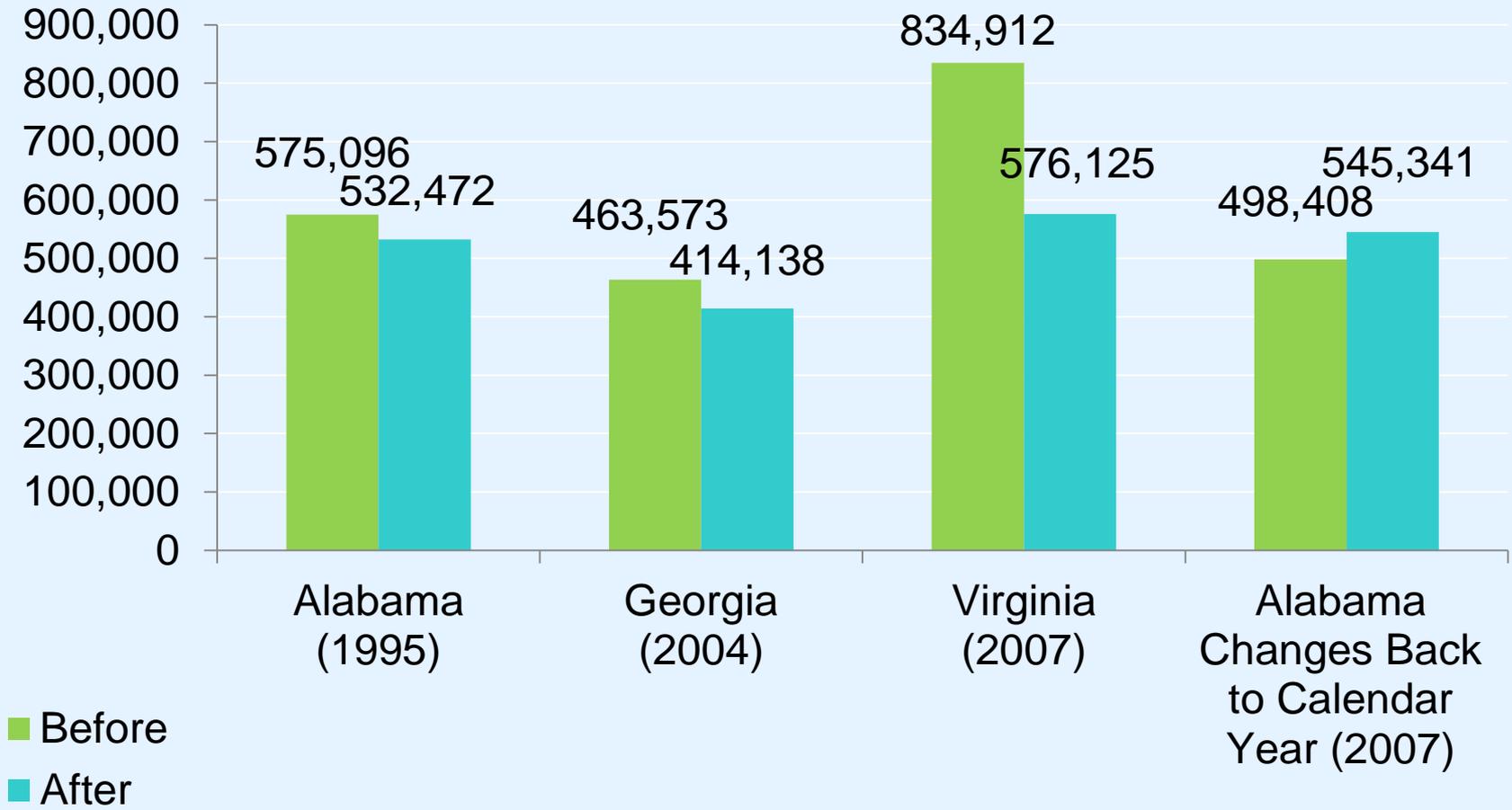
Sport Fish Restoration Grants

- Federal funding from excise tax
- Based on state size and licensed individuals
- CA received maximum grant of 5%
- \$17.3 million in 2015
- Small reduction in licenses = large reduction in grant money (\$2.7 - \$4.5 million)
- Sales relative to other states



Other States' Experience

3-Year Average Before and After





Neighboring States' Participation

	1991 Percent of Population Fishing	2011 Percent of Population Fishing	Percent Change
California	12	6	-50%
Oregon	24	13	-46%
Nevada	18	8	-56%
Washington	26	17	-35%
Arizona	14	12	-14%

Data from *National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation*



Efforts To Increase License Sales

- Fishing in the City Program
- Fishing Passport
- Developing e-mail renewal reminders
- Market California sport fishing opportunities
- Research alternatives



Summary

- Annual license sales are gradually declining
- Fishing rates dropping elsewhere
- Short term licenses increased significantly
- 365 day licenses have reduced sales in other states
- E-mail renewal reminders and marketing are being developed



Thank You  Questions?

Glenn Underwood
Analyst

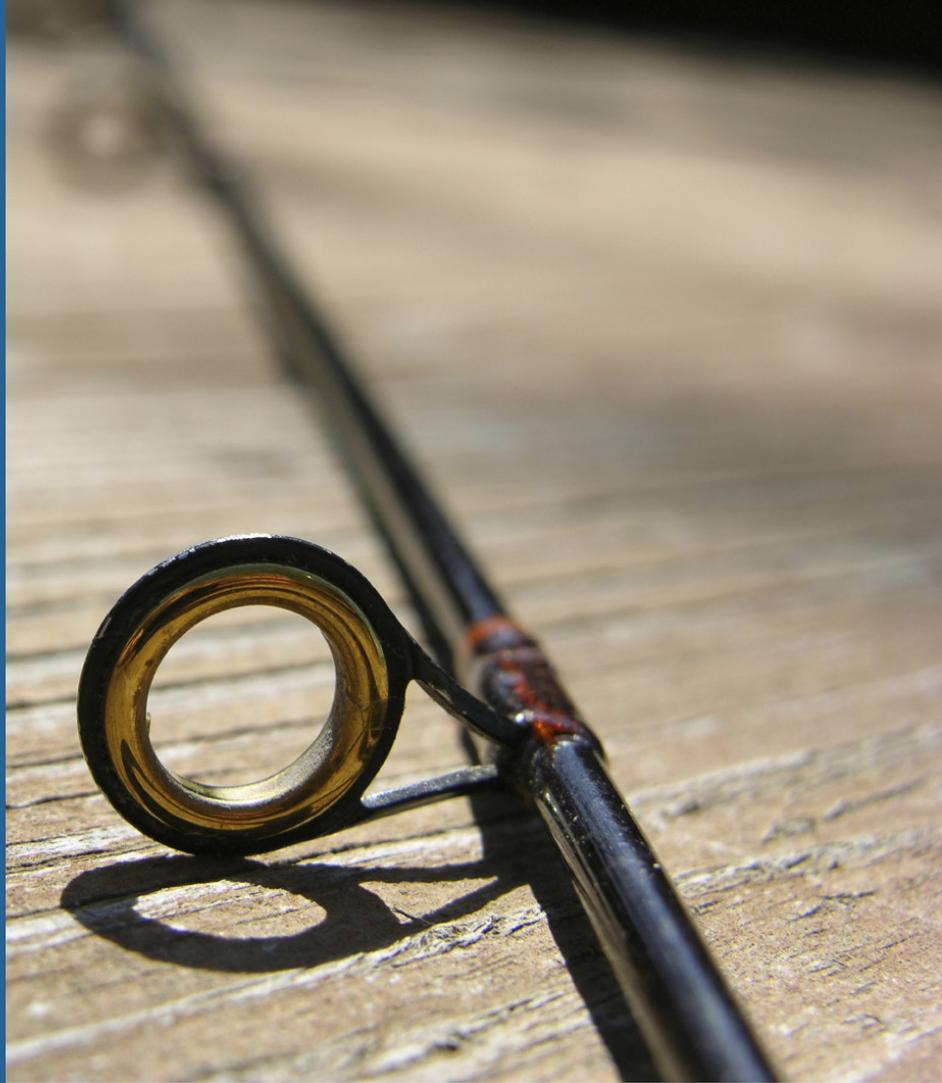
License and Revenue Branch
(916) 928-5841

Glenn.Underwood@wildlife.ca.gov



STUDY:

Are Costs, Lack of Value Contributing Factors to an Unprecedented Decline of Recreational Fishing in California?



**Presented by the
California Sportfishing League**

March 23, 2015

 /CASportfishingLeague

The California Sportfishing League (CSL) is a nonprofit coalition of fresh and saltwater anglers, and small business owners devoted to protecting access to recreational fishing. Recreational fishing contributes over \$4.9 billion annually to California's economy, supporting outdoor tourism and jobs, and generates a substantial amount of tax revenue for state and local government. For more information, visit www.SportfishingConservation.org

INTRODUCTION

The California Sportfishing League (CSL) is the state’s leading advocate for salt- and freshwater recreational fishing. With over 10,000 Facebook Fans and growing, CSL actively engages California anglers on various public policy issues concerning recreational fishing. Chief among anglers’ many concerns is the future of recreational fishing and the high costs associated with their favorite pastime.

The posts on CSL’s Facebook page are clear: California’s recreational anglers have become increasingly frustrated with the state for increasing the cost of fishing, all the while imposing greater barriers to access, and constantly adding new and burdensome regulations.

Based on the number of concerns expressed, CSL chose to investigate whether or not the cost of fishing licenses in California was truly too expensive in comparison to other states. Are California licenses a good value? Are costs discouraging participation? If so, what are the consequences for the long-term future of recreational fishing, and the jobs and communities dependent on it?

The results were just as much surprising as they were alarming, and they underscored the need for CSL to release its findings to the public — especially if recreational fishing is to be an affordable form of family recreation, a source of food for the table, and a creator of jobs.

METHODOLOGY

CSL conducted a state-by-state analysis to measure the value of state “**annual**” fishing licenses. CSL did not compare “reduced-fee” licenses, as the terms and definitions differ from state to state, and annual licenses represent the most common license purchased. For example, California offers lifetime licenses and discounts for seniors, veterans, youth and disabled Americans.

CSL found the cost of a resident annual fishing license and term of license (12-month v. calendar year) on each state’s individual website or by directly calling state fish and wildlife offices.

By using U.S. Census data,¹ CSL compiled all state participation rates by combining the study’s “Fished Only” and “Fished and Hunted” percent of population. This number is reflected as “Participation Rate.”

Our analysis below defines “**value**” as the price and term of the annual state license (12-month vs. calendar year).

FINDINGS

California Anglers Are Experiencing High Costs

In 1980, California's annual fishing license fee was a mere \$5.00.² Today, California's annual resident fishing license is the second highest in the Country,³ at \$47.01 for a base "annual" license,⁴ excluding permits and stamps that a substantial number of anglers are required to purchase throughout the year. If an angler purchased every available permit and stamp to catch all the various fish in California, fees could exceed \$120 per calendar year.⁵ The price to fish for a family of four, excluding cost for tackle, transportation, food or lodging can easily cost several hundred dollars or more.

"It's simply TOO EXPENSIVE to buy a license anymore!"

- Central Valley Angler on 

California's "annual" base residential license is 66% above the average fishing license cost of all coastal states (\$28.30) and 76% above the average fishing license cost for all states (\$26.73),⁶ and these figures do not include the extra fees California requires for additional permits.

Only the State of Washington surpasses California for the priciest fishing license in the U.S., at a cost of \$54.25 per year for a salt/freshwater combo, and Washington also operates under a calendar system. However, the state does present price conscious anglers greater choices by offering the option of purchasing a freshwater-specific license for \$29.50 or a saltwater-specific license for \$30.05.⁷ With exception to mostly shellfish and fishing on the Columbia River, the state also appears to mandate fewer permits than California.⁸ All these options may be contributing factors to why Washington's fishing participation rate is 17%, or nearly three times that of California.⁹

California's So-Called "Annual" License Provides Least Bang for the Buck

Value is just as important to anglers as cost. So, what are they getting for their money?

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) offers what they call an "annual" fishing license. However, California's annual fishing licenses operate on a calendar system, which expires on December 31 of every year, regardless of when purchased.¹⁰ In reality, an annual license can expire just months after being purchased. It is truly an antiquated system that motorists would never tolerate if the Department of Motor Vehicles applied the same system to car registration fees.

While 13 other coastal states practice such a calendar system, their annual fees are significantly less expensive, with one state offering a calendar year fishing license for a mere \$8.50.¹¹ In fact, when compared to all states offering a calendar year license, California's license costs 84% above the national average price (\$25.52).¹² Again, these figures do not include the extra fees for additional permits.

Even if a California angler is cost conscious or fishes infrequently, California's two-day license costs \$23.50 (not including additional permits/stamps),¹³ or more than the annual resident license offered in 19 other states and just half the cost of California's annual license.¹⁴

According to the most recent records available, DFW sold approximately 445,000 two-day fishing licenses¹⁵ at a cost of \$9.50 in 1999.¹⁶ By 2015, the number of 2-day licenses plummeted 78% to approximately 96,000.¹⁷ California also offers a lifetime license, with no expiration date. Its sales have been fairly consistent at roughly 11,000 since 2009.¹⁸ If it was the state's goal to maintain fishing participation rates by offering lifetime and short-term licenses at a lower cost, that goal has not been achieved.

"Look at the cost from \$5 a couple decades ago to getting close to \$100 when all the bells and whistles are included. Then there are all the complex and confusing regulations."

- Santa Rosa Angler
on 

As is the case in Washington, it is also important to note that several coastal states (9) sell saltwater and inland fishing licenses separately, providing considerable savings depending on one's fishing preference.¹⁹

Higher fees have not benefitted the state's fish stocking programs, as it has been widely reported that DFW is struggling to finance these programs. Much to the dismay of several rural counties dependent on fishing for outdoor tourism and tax revenue,²⁰ DFW announced in November of 2014 that it was reducing the average size of stocked trout by half due to budget constraints.²¹

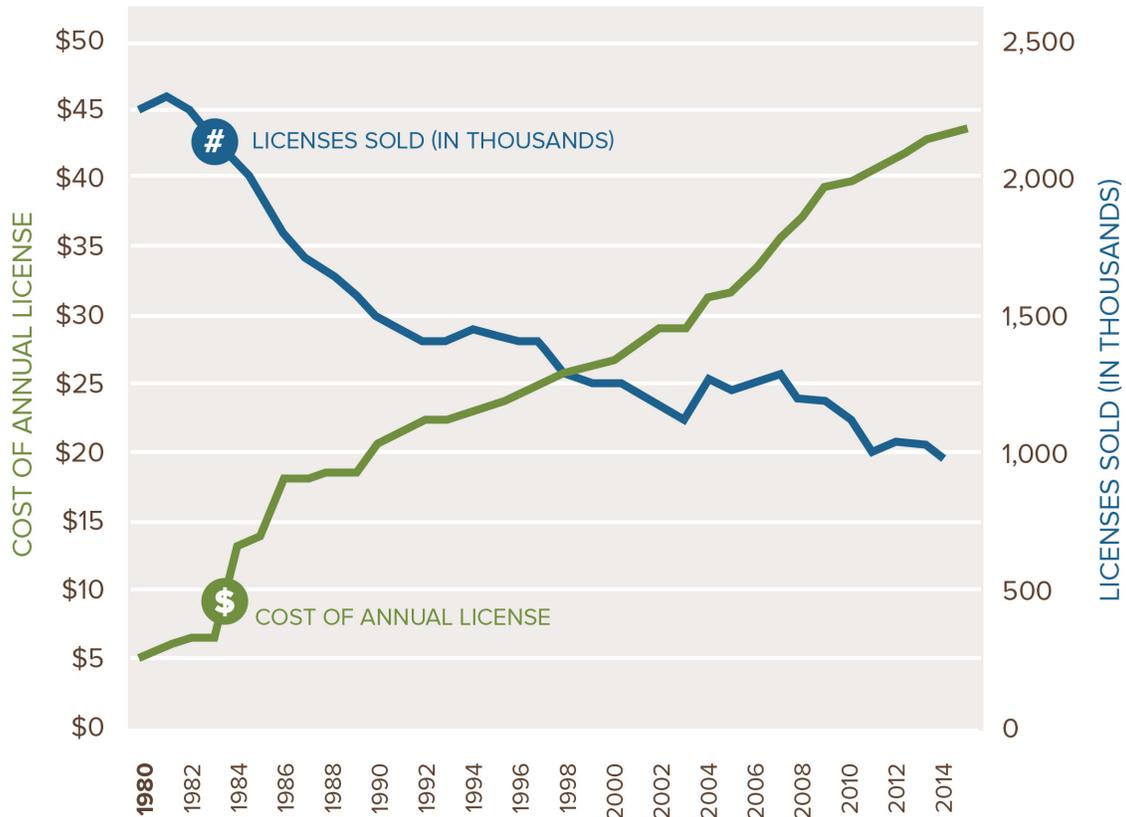
Furthermore, fishing license fees have been subsidizing the cost of regulating the state's commercial fishing industry as far back as 2007, which is disingenuous to anglers at best, and potentially unlawful at worst.²² If such funds were allocated properly, an additional \$17 million a year, or more, could be invested in the state's fishing programs.

"A good change would be to have a YEAR'S worth of use from the date purchased!"

- California Angler
on 

CONSEQUENCES OF HIGH COSTS

COST OF ANNUAL FISHING LICENSES AND LICENSES SOLD
1980-2014



Unprecedented Decline in Recreational Fishing

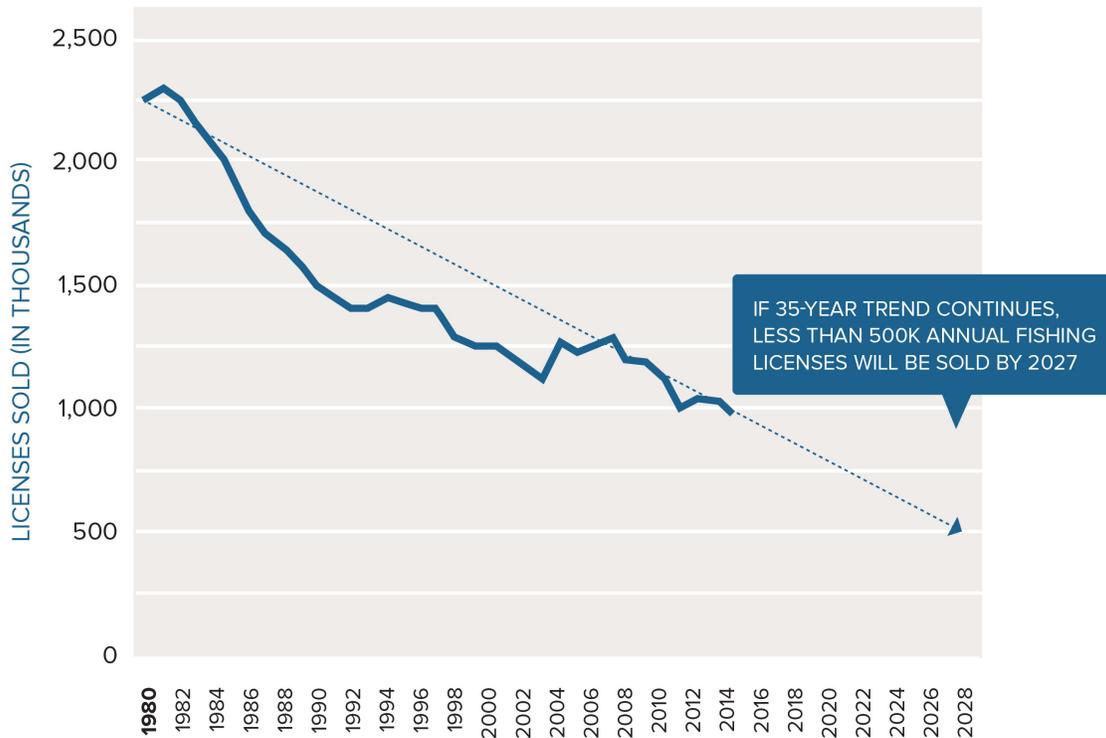
Despite one of the country's longest coastlines; 4,000 thousand lakes/reservoirs and over 20,000 registered ponds; and thousands of miles of streams and rivers; California has experienced an unprecedented decline in recreational fishing.

According to the U.S. Census, 10% of California's population fished in 2001,²³ tied for the 46th place in participation.²⁴ Ten years later, California's fishing participation rate plummeted to just 6%²⁵ and ranks dead last in the nation.²⁶

Since 1980, when annual licenses were sold for as little as \$5.00, California's annual fishing license sales have dropped by more than 55% (1980: 2.26 million²⁷; 2014: 990k²⁸), while our state's population has increased by nearly 60%. In 2014, 40,000 fewer annual fishing licenses were sold compared to 2013.²⁹

If the 35-year trend remains constant, annual fishing license sales are expected to drop below 500k by 2027, or another 49% over the next 12 years. Should this occur, between 1980 and 2027, annual license sales will have dropped 78%.³⁰ This downward trend could accelerate even faster if fees are increased substantially, or new regulations are imposed that increase costs or barriers to fishing.

ANNUAL FISHING LICENSES SOLD



Other Contributing Factors

In addition to expensive fishing licenses, there are many other economic factors and social reasons as to why fishing participation in California has decreased dramatically. While not the subject of this study, it is important to underscore that restructuring California’s fishing fees alone may not stop fishing’s declining participation rate. There is little doubt that regulatory barriers to access are also major contributing factors to California’s accelerated decline in fishing.

These barriers include, but are not limited to: Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) that deny recreational anglers access to approximately 800 square miles of California coast (even though commercial fishing is the greatest cause of overfishing); outright fishing bans and illegal local fishing ordinances; new burdensome regulations; and fewer resources spent on state conservation programs that protect wildlife and stock fish.

A CALL TO ACTION

If California's policy makers continue to ignore these facts, they stand to harm the state's economy and specifically, the communities and businesses dependent on outdoor recreation and tourism for jobs.

While our state's fishing participation rate is ranked last, the 2010 U.S. Census reports that California is still home to roughly 1.7 million anglers,³¹ one of the largest consumer markets in the country. As a result, recreational fishing contributes over \$4.9 billion annually in economic activity,³² while commercial fishing only generates an estimated \$1.7 billion in economic activity.³³

This is why so many fishing tackle manufacturers, boating and outdoor apparel companies were founded here in California, and why so many more find California to be a lucrative consumer market. What's more, fishing makes California an attractive destination for tourists who spend millions of dollars each year to visit our communities. But, this is likely to change.

High costs are barriers for all forms of outdoor recreation, but it is abundantly clear that the significant decline in recreational fishing will continue, especially as fewer young people select fishing as a form of outdoor recreation. This point is underscored by a study commissioned by the American Sportfishing Association, which found that 71% of anglers first started fishing when they were under 18 years old.³⁴ Fishing's future is dependent on more young people being introduced to fishing, and the best way to do that is to make it more affordable for families.

Hispanics, California's fastest growing demographic, cannot be ignored, either. A market study prepared for the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation found that recreational fishing's costly barriers to entry are directing Hispanics to other more affordable forms of outdoor recreation.³⁵

CONCLUSION

The high costs and lack of value of a California fishing license, combined with high regulatory barriers, have contributed to an unprecedented decline of recreational fishing in the state.

CSL's analysis validates the concerns raised by our Facebook Fans. It is expensive to fish in California and ranks second only to Washington for the most expensive state to fish both salt- and freshwater. However, one can also make a strong case that California is comparatively more expensive than Washington since California requires a substantial number of anglers to purchase additional permits. California also does not offer the option of purchasing a saltwater or freshwater license separately, at a reduced rate.

Combine the high costs with an antiquated calendar-year license system, and California provides the least value to anglers in the United States. As a result, fewer Californians are being introduced to fishing and many more no longer participate in a great form of family-oriented outdoor recreation.

The dramatic downward trend in the number of annual state licenses sold should be a wakeup call for California policy makers. If the State of California sees the value of recreational fishing and outdoor tourism, it needs to offer a better value and remove unwarranted barriers to access in order to pull fishing participation out of its inevitable death spiral.

The important question CSL cannot address is whether policymakers will recognize that costs and barriers to entry are truly a threat to recreational fishing in a state with an abundance of natural resources, and for an economy heavily dependent on a \$95 billion tourism industry.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Department of Fish and Wildlife should conduct a full evaluation of its current licensing structure in order to develop a new one that not only ensures that recreational fishing is affordable and accessible, but also supports fishing and wildlife programs for years to come.

With even lower participation rates anticipated in the immediate future, fewer anglers will be financing fish stocking and conservation programs that are becoming more costly. Taking into account CSL's analysis, higher fees are not a realistic solution to generate greater revenue for the state. Higher costs and poor value will only encourage more anglers to abandon fishing and raise barriers to entry, putting critical fishing and conservation programs at further risk.

Given this reality, the need for full-scale reform is immediate.

Controlling Costs and Increasing Value for Longtime/First Time Anglers

- Establish a full 12-month annual fishing license.
- Suspend automatic cost of living adjustments (COLA) on fishing licenses.
- Consider a family pack license fee, making fishing more affordable for California families.
- Establish a low cost, junior fishing license, for those aged 16 and 17, similar to California hunting licenses.
- Ensure that recreational fishing license fees no longer subsidize the cost of regulating the California commercial fishing industry.

Reducing Regulatory Costs

- Exempt recreational anglers from fishing restrictions that were intended to address unsustainable commercial fishing practices and destructive gear.
- Eliminate fishing restrictions that have insignificant impacts on wildlife.
- Eliminate illegal fishing restrictions imposed by local governments, such as limits or bans on pier fishing and jetties.
- Oppose efforts to regulate or ban common fishing gear that have an insignificant impact on wildlife, but could substantially increase the cost of equipment or require impractical substitute gear.

The California Sportfishing League is pleased to have shared these findings with California's fishing community and policymakers, and remains committed to working with them to ensure a strong future for recreational fishing in California.

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY:



SOURCES

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2. California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Sport Fishing Fees Reported by License Year <https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=90660&inline>
3. See Fishing License Data by State, Attached
4. California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Sport Fishing Licenses and Report Cards <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Licensing/Fishing>
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FISHING LICENSE DATA BY STATE

State	2011 Participation Rate	2011 U.S. Ranking	Resident Adult Cost	Annual vs. Calendar
Alabama	14%	30	Fresh \$12.85/Salt 22.60	Calendar/expires Aug 31
Alaska	41%	1	\$25.00	Calendar/expires Dec 31
Arizona*	11%	40	\$37.00	12 months
Arkansas*	21%	10	\$10.50	12 months
California	6%	49	\$47.01	Calendar/expires Dec 31
Colorado*	17%	19	\$36.00	Calendar/expires Mar 31
Connecticut	13%	33	\$32.00	Calendar/expires Dec 31
Delaware	13%	33	\$8.50	Calendar/expires Dec 31
Florida	14%	30	Fresh \$17.00/Salt \$17.00	12 months
Georgia	11%	40	\$9.00	12 months
Hawaii	11%	40	Free	No licenses required
Idaho*	24%	8	\$25.75	Calendar/expires Dec 31
Illinois*	13%	33	\$15.00	March of following year
Indiana*	15%	27	\$17.00	Calendar/expires Mar 31
Iowa*	22%	9	\$19.00	Calendar/expires Dec 15
Kansas*	20%	13	\$20.50	Calendar/expires Dec 31
Kentucky*	15%	27	\$20.00	Calendar/expires Feb 28
Louisiana	21%	10	\$9.50	Calendar/expires Jun 30
Maine	19%	15	\$25.00	Calendar/expires Dec 31
Maryland	10%	44	Fresh \$20.50/Salt \$15	Calendar/expires Dec 31
Massachusetts	8%	47	Fresh \$27.50/Salt \$10	Calendar/expires Dec 31
Michigan*	18%	17	\$26.00	Calendar/expires Mar 31
Minnesota*	32%	2	\$22.00	Calendar/expires Feb 28
Mississippi	27%	3	Fresh \$32/Salt \$10	12 months
Missouri*	19%	15	\$12.00	Calendar/expires Feb 28
Montana*	25%	7	\$26.00	Calendar/expires Feb 28
Nebraska*	14%	30	\$28.50	Calendar/expires Dec 31
Nevada*	8%	47	\$29.00	Calendar/expires Feb 28
New Hampshire	16%	25	Fresh \$35/Salt \$11	Calendar/expires Dec 31
New Jersey	10%	44	\$22.50	Calendar/expires Dec 31
New Mexico*	15%	27	\$25.00	Calendar/expires Mar 31
New York	12%	38	\$25.00	12 months
North Carolina	18%	17	Fresh \$20/Salt \$15	12 months
North Dakota*	N/A	N/A	\$17.00	Calendar/expires Mar 31
Ohio*	16%	25	\$19.00	Calendar/expires Feb 28

State	2011 Participation Rate	2011 U.S. Ranking	Resident Adult Cost	Annual vs. Calendar
Oklahoma*	26%	5	\$25.00	Calendar/expires Dec 31 OR June 30
Oregon	13%	33	\$33.00	Calendar/expires Dec 31
Pennsylvania*	10%	44	\$21.70	Calendar/expires Dec 31
Rhode Island	11%	40	\$18.00	Calendar/expires Feb 28
South Carolina	17%	19	Fresh \$30/Salt \$10	12 months ^a
South Dakota*	26%	5	\$30.00	Calendar/expires Jan 31
Tennessee*	17%	19	\$28.00	Calendar/expires Feb 28
Texas	13%	33	\$40.00	12 months
Utah*	17%	19	\$34.00	12 months
Vermont*	20%	13	\$25.00	Calendar/expires Dec 31
Virginia	12%	38	\$44.50	12 months
Washington	17%	19	\$54.25 ^b	Calendar/expires Mar 31
West Virginia*	17%	19	\$19.00	Calendar/expires Dec 31
Wisconsin*	21%	10	\$20.00	Calendar/expires Mar 31
Wyoming*	27%	3	\$24.00	Calendar/expires Dec 31

* Inland State

a. Changed from calendar year to 12-month license in 2015

b. WA also offers separate fresh and saltwater licenses for \$29.50 and \$30.05, respectively.

California Outdoors Q&As

Contact: Carrie Wilson, Communications Office, CalOutdoors@wildlife.ca.gov

Why Don't Licenses Run Annually from Date of Purchase?

Posted on April 2, 2015 by [California Outdoors](#)

Q: Why do fishing licenses run from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31 every year rather than from the date of purchase? For example, a person buys his/her license Dec. 1 only to find it expires the end of the month. Then by Jan. 1, they must purchase a new license for the full price. Why not let it go for one full year from the date of purchase? Hunting licenses also run from July 1 through June 30 of the next year. I think license sales would greatly improve if they were changed from date of purchase to the next year. Can someone give a rational answer, please?

— Alan E., Los Angeles

A: California has considered changing from a calendar-based sport fishing license to a license that is valid for one year from the date of purchase. But while this seems beneficial, when we looked at the issue thoroughly, we realized that changing to a license that is valid for one year from the date of purchase would significantly reduce funding for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

According to CDFW License Program analyst Glenn Underwood, several other states have made the change to a license that is valid for one year from the date of purchase. So, we contacted these other states to learn from their experiences. We found states that changed from a calendar year license to a license that is valid for one year from the date of purchase experienced a reduction in license sales from 10 to 30 percent in the three years following implementation. Experts from these states explained license purchasing patterns changed when the license system changed to one year from the date of purchase licenses. Customers tended to wait until the last minute to purchase a license, as they knew it would be valid for one year from that date. Then when their licenses expired, customers again waited to renew until they fished again, creating a gap in licensure. After a few years, the sum of the gaps was often greater than a year and a complete license sale was lost.

Changing to a license that is valid for one year from the date of purchase would also reduce federal grant funding. Each state in the country receives federal grant money from the Sport Fish Restoration Act, which is funding generated from federal excise tax on sales of sport fishing tackle and motorboat fuels. This program funds critical fish habitat restoration projects throughout the state, providing increased fishing opportunities for California anglers. A tiered system is used to allocate grants to the states. In 2014, California received the maximum grant of \$16,287,011, which is 5 percent of the total available to all the states. Federal SFRA grant amounts are based partially on the number of licenses issued in each state. **If California license sales declined by as little as 3 percent, California's grant would be reduced to a lower tier and the grant amount would be reduced by approximately \$2.7 million to \$4.5 million, further reducing CDFW's ability to manage and protect California's fisheries.**

So, while we realize your license restructuring suggestion is popular, it would create a significant reduction in license revenue and sport fish grant funding for CDFW. The resulting reduction in revenue and grant funding would reduce the CDFW's ability to manage and protect California's fisheries; and it would reduce the number of fish CDFW could plant for California anglers.



Supporters of SB 345 – Sportfishing Stimulus Act

Outdoor Organizations

- CA Sportfishing League
- American Sportfishing Association
- National Marine Manufacturers Assoc.
- CA Assoc. for Recreational Fishing
- CA Yacht Brokers
- Marina Recreation Assoc.
- Worldwide Boater Safety Assoc.
- Los Angeles Rod & Reel Club
- CA Aquaculture Association
- Coastal Conservation Assoc. of CA
- CA Waterfowl Assoc.
- Fish Sniffer Magazine
- Western Outdoor News

Businesses

- Pure Fishing
- Turner's Outdoorsman
- California Parks Company
- Lip RipperZ, Inc.
- Tackle Warehouse
- Eagle Claw Fishing Tackle Company
- Fred Hall Tackle Shows

“Increasing the number of licenses sold will help fund important wildlife and conservation programs that make recreational fishing in California a tourist attraction.”

- CA Chamber of Commerce

“SB 345 would help to protect and encourage recreational fishing in California.”

- CA Parks and Hospitality Assoc.

Business & Tourism Organizations

- California Chamber of Commerce
- NFIB/CA
- California Asian Pacific Chamber of Commerce
- CA Hotel and Lodging Assoc.
- CA Travel Assoc.
- CA Assoc. of RV Parks and Campgrounds
- CA Assoc. of Boutique and Breakfast Inns
- CA Parks Hospitality Assoc.
- San Francisco Chamber of Commerce
- Visit Huntington Beach
- CA Lodging Industry Assoc.
- Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce
- Oxnard Chamber of Commerce
- San Diego Chamber of Commerce

Local Gov.

- Rural Counties Representatives of CA (RCRC)

“SB 345 is a logical solution to not only protecting, but growing, recreational fishing’s \$4.9 billion annual contribution to CA Economy and the jobs that depend on it”

- CA Sportfishing League

“As a means to increase tourism and create jobs, the State of California needs to consider expanding participation in recreational fishing.”

- NFIB/CA

Over 500 CA Anglers Have Joined our Efforts to Reform CA's Fishing License... You Can Too!

www.SportfishingConservation.org

Updated 5.15.15

From: [sally_wdog](#)
To: [FGC](#)
Subject: Fishing License ripoff
Date: Sunday, July 19, 2015 8:41:38 AM

To whom it may concern or someone that can make a difference,

At the current price of a California fishing license its time to at least give us a little break.

If Arizona can go to one year from purchase date so can California.

Also after raising two kids in California fishing and hunting why is it your an adult at 18 but you have to buy an adult fishing hunting license at 16. More financial burden for the parents.

The California duck stamp is of course now more then the federal stamp.

Dollar for each waterfowl draw date what a cash cow.

And where does the money go to the general fund.

Pathetic California

From: [Don Johnson](#)
To: [FGC](#)
Subject: CA hunting and fishing licenses
Date: Tuesday, August 25, 2015 7:56:12 AM

As the new California hunting and fishing licenses are computer generated it would be a great time to switch to the licensseing system used in Arizona.

In Arizona when a license is purchased the license has an expiration date of 1 year from the purchase date. This gives the purchaser a full year of license use for his fee. If the rules or regulations change during that year it is up to the purchaser to stay current with the new regulations.

In California if you do not purchase your license on the first day they are available you do not receive full year of license use for your fee.

It is time to stop "short-changing" California's sportsman.

Donald Johnson
[REDACTED]
Cerritos, CA 90703