

Regulatory Language

Subsection 27.82(b), Title 14, CCR, is amended to read:

(b) Seasons and depth constraints: The seasons and water depths (as described by lines connecting waypoints adopted in Federal regulations (50 CFR Part 660), or by general depth contour lines) where fishing is authorized for all species of federal groundfish (as defined in Section 1.91 including rockfish, cabezon, lingcod, and California scorpionfish), greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*, California sheephead, and ocean whitefish are listed below for each Rockfish and Lingcod Management Area. Seasons and depth constraints may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.82(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 days in advance of a change to seasons and/or depth constraints for these species made under the authority of subsection 27.82(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office. See subsection (c) for exceptions to these season and depth constraints. See also Section 27.83 for restrictions on fishing gear that apply when seasons or areas are closed to groundfish fishing.

(1) Northern Rockfish and Lingcod Management Area:

(A) January-June and November-December: closed in all water depths.

(B) July-October: open only in waters less than 40 fathoms in depth as described by lines connecting waypoints adopted in Federal regulations (50 CFR Part 660).

(2) The North-Central Rockfish and Lingcod Management Area:

(A) January-June, and December: closed in all water depths.

(B) July-November: open only in waters less than 20 fathoms in depth as described by general depth contour lines.

(C) Waters less than 10 fathoms in depth as described by general depth contour lines around the Farallon Islands (off San Francisco and San Mateo counties), including Southeast Farallon Island, Middle Farallon Island, North Farallon Island and Noon Day Rock are closed to fishing at all times for all species of federal groundfish (as defined in Section 1.91 including rockfish, cabezon, lingcod, and California scorpionfish), greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*, California sheephead, and ocean whitefish.

(D) Waters of the Cordell Bank (off Marin County) less than 100 fathoms in depth as described by waypoints adopted in Federal regulations (50 CFR Part 660) all species of federal groundfish (as defined in Section 1.91 including rockfish, cabezon, lingcod, and California scorpionfish), greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*, California sheephead, and ocean whitefish.

(3) The Monterey South-Central Rockfish and Lingcod Management Area:

(A) January-June, and December: closed in all water depths.

(B) July-November: open only in waters less than 20 fathoms in depth as described by general depth contour lines.

(4) The Morro Bay South-Central Rockfish and Lingcod Management Area:

- (A) January-April, and October-December: closed in all water depths.
- (B) May-September: open only in waters between 20 fathoms in depth as described by general depth contour lines and 40 fathoms in depth as described by waypoints adopted in Federal regulations (50 CFR Part 660).
- (5) Southern Rockfish and Lingcod Management Area:
- (A) January-February: closed in all water depths.
- (B) March-June: open only in waters between 30 fathoms in depth as described by waypoints adopted in Federal regulations (50 CFR Part 660) and 60 fathoms in depth as described by waypoints adopted in Federal regulations (50 CFR Part 660) ~~except that California scorpionfish may not be taken or possessed in these months at these depths and lingcod may not be taken or possessed in March at these depths.~~
- (C) July-September: open only in waters less than 40 fathoms in depth as described by lines connecting waypoints adopted in Federal regulations (50 CFR Part 660) ~~except California scorpionfish may not be taken or possessed in these months at these depths.~~
- (D) October-November: closed in all water depths ~~except that California scorpionfish may be taken in waters less than 40 fathoms in depth in as described by lines connecting waypoints adopted in Federal regulations (50 CFR Part 660).~~
- (E) December: closed in all water depths ~~except that California scorpionfish may be taken in waters less than 20 fathoms in depth as described by general depth contour lines.~~
- (F) See subsection (d) for special depth regulations in Cowcod Conservation Areas.

NOTE:

Authority cited: Sections 200, 202, 7071 and 8587.1, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 205, 7071 and 8586, Fish and Game Code; and 50 C.F.R. 660.