

Economic Impact Analysis

General Sport Fishing Regulations – 1.45, 1.77, 2.25, 4.20, 5.10, 5.40, 5.91 and 8.00.
Spear Fishing for Striped Bass in Inland Waters – 2.30
Black Bass Sport Fishing – 5.00
Take of Amphibians and Reptiles – 5.05 and 5.60
Sturgeon Sport Fishing Regulations – 5.80, 5.81, 27.90, 27.91 and 701
District and Special Regulation Changes – 7.00 and 7.50
Title 14, California Code of Regulations

Inland Sport Fishing

Creation or Elimination of Jobs Within the State, the Creation of New Businesses or the Elimination of Existing Businesses, or the Expansion of Businesses in California

The proposed regulations will revise and update inland sport fishing regulations starting in 2013. Currently, the seasons, size limits, and bag and possession limits for inland sport fishing are periodically reviewed by the Department of Fish and Game and the Commission. Economic impacts to jobs and businesses that provide services to inland sport fishermen will occur, but range from negative to positive impacts, depending on the regulations ultimately adopted by the Commission. Under a normal season, inland sport fishing angler expenditures contribute about \$1.2 billion in total annual revenues to the State's business sector. This is based on a 2006 US Fish and Wildlife national survey of fishing, hunting, and wildlife associated recreation for California. Adding the indirect and induced effects of this annual revenue contribution and the total benefit to California's economy is normally about \$2.03 billion. This is equivalent to about \$960 million in total wage earnings to Californians, and affects about 16,000 jobs in the State, annually.

Depending on the final season structure that the Commission adopts, the following statewide impacts to businesses may occur. The potential impacts range from 0 to 16,000 jobs. The impacted businesses are generally small businesses employing few individuals and, like all small businesses, are subject to success or failure for a variety of causes. Additionally, the long-term intent of the proposed action is to promote sustainability in fishable aquatic resources and, subsequently, the long-term viability of these same small businesses.

Benefits of the Regulation:

Concurrence with Federal Law:

Not applicable; no Federal Law exists regulating the take of these species in California inland waters.

Concurrence with other Statutory Requirements:

Not applicable.

Benefits to the Environment: Sustainable Management of Inland Aquatic Resources

It is the policy of the state to encourage the conservation, maintenance, and utilization of the living resources of the inland waters under the jurisdiction and influence of the state for the benefit of all its citizens and to promote the development of local California fisheries. The objectives of this policy include, but are not limited to, the maintenance of sufficient populations of all species of

aquatic organisms to ensure their continued existence and the maintenance of a sufficient resource to support a reasonable sport use, taking into consideration the necessity of regulating individual sport fishery bag limits in the quantity that is sufficient to provide a satisfying sport. Adoption of scientifically-based inland sport fishing seasons, size limits, and bag and possession limits provides for the maintenance of sufficient populations of aquatic species to ensure their continued existence.

Promotion of Businesses That Rely on Inland Sport Fishing.

Adoption of scientifically-based inland sport fishing seasons, size limits, and bag and possession limits provides for the maintenance of sufficient populations of inland fishable aquatic species to ensure their continued existence and future inland sport fishing opportunities. Under a normal season, inland sport anglers spend about \$1.2 billion, of which about \$900 million directly supports merchants and manufacturers in the State's business sector. This is based on a 2006 US Fish and Wildlife national survey of fishing, hunting, and wildlife associated recreation for California. Coupled with the indirect and induced effects of this \$900 million direct revenue contribution, the total realized economic benefit to California's is about \$2.03 billion in total economic output annually. This is equivalent to about \$960 million in total wages to Californians, which affects about 16,000 jobs in the State, annually.

Health and Welfare of California Residents

Inland fishable aquatic species provide a nutritious food source. Providing opportunities for an inland sport fishery encourages consumption of a nutritious food. Inland sport fishing also contributes to increased mental health of its practitioners as fishing is a hobby and form of relaxation for many. Inland sport fishing also provides opportunities for multi-generational family activities and promotes respect for California's environment by younger generations, the future stewards of California's natural resources.