

## **Economic Impact Analysis**

### **Sections 27.85, 28.90 and 28.95 Title 14, California Code of Regulations Re: Spear Fishing Striped Bass in Ocean Waters**

#### **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 authorize recreational spearfishing and bow and arrow fishing tackle to take striped bass by in ocean waters. Currently, sport fishing regulations are periodically reviewed by the Department of Fish and Game and the Commission. The Commission does not anticipate any significant impacts on the creation or elimination of jobs, the creation of new business, the elimination of existing businesses or the expansion of businesses in California. The impacted businesses are generally small businesses employing few individuals and, like all small businesses, are subject to failure for a variety of causes which may or may not include changes to fishing regulations. Additionally, the long-term intent of the proposed action is to provide for increased opportunity for sustainable harvest of fishable stocks and, subsequently, the promotion and 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 this species in California waters.

##### Concurrence with other Statutory Requirements:

The proposed regulations are neither inconsistent nor incompatible with existing state regulations.

##### Benefits to the Environment: Sustainable Management of Marine Resources

It is the policy of the state to encourage the conservation, maintenance, and utilization of the living marine resources 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 benefits of the proposed regulations are increased fishing opportunities for striped bass, continuation of sustainable management of sport fishing resources, protection of listed and special status species, and promotion of businesses that rely on California's sport fisheries.

##### Promotion of Businesses That Rely on Marine Sport Fishing

Adoption of scientifically-based sport fishing regulations provides for the enhancement and maintenance of species to ensure their continued existence and provide for future sport fishing opportunities. In 2009, saltwater anglers expended approximately \$1.6 billion, of which about \$1.3 billion directly supports merchants and manufacturers in the State's business sector based on a fisheries economic analysis conducted by the National Marine Fisheries Service. Coupled with the indirect and induced effects of this \$1.3 billion direct revenue contribution, the total realized economic benefit to California's

is about \$2.0 billion in total economic output annually. This is equivalent to about \$710 million in total wages to Californians, which affects about 14,000 jobs in the State, annually.

#### Health and Welfare of California Residents

The Commission anticipates benefits to the health and welfare of California residents. Providing opportunities to participate in sport fisheries fosters conservation through education and appreciation of California's wildlife. The Commission does not anticipate non-monetary benefits to the protection of public health and safety, worker safety, the prevention of discrimination, the promotion of fairness or social equity and the increase in openness and transparency in business and government.