California Fish and Game Commission

Summary

SCH Number

TBD

Lead Agency

California Fish and Game Commission

Document Title

Proposed Amendments to Recreational Fishing Regulations for Rockfish, Cabezon, Greenling (RCG) and Lingcod, Title 14, California Code of Regulations

Document Type

NOI – Notice of Intent

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Document Description

The California Fish and Game Commission (Commission) proposes to amend sections 1.91, 27.25, 27.30, 27.35, 27.40, and 28.55, Title 14, California Code of Regulations (CCR) related to recreational take of rockfish, cabezon, greenling, and lingcod.

The proposed amendments to the rockfish, cabezon, greenling, and lingcod recreational fishing regulations will continue the emergency regulations that restored fishing access to all depths in state waters north of Point Conception from April 1 to December 31, implemented a 2-fish sub-bag limit for canary rockfish, and added sunset rockfish to cryptic-species vermilion/sunset rockfish management unit. The existing emergency regulations would expire in May 2026 following the extension of the emergency regulations in December 2025 (extension 1). The proposal is necessary for regulations in state waters (0 to 3 miles from shore) to be consistent and complementary with regulations in federal waters (3 to 200 miles from shore), to keep catches of canary rockfish and vermilion/sunset rockfish within federally established harvest limits, and for the benefit of the public's general welfare.

It is the policy of this state to encourage the conservation, maintenance, and utilization of the living resources of the ocean and other waters under the jurisdiction and influence of the state for the benefit of all the citizens of the state and to promote the development of local and distant water fisheries based in California. 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 to the quantity that is sufficient to provide a satisfying sport. Adoption of scientifically based rockfish, cabezon, greenling, and lingcod seasons, depth constraints, and bag and possession limits provides for the maintenance of sufficient populations of rockfish, cabezon, greenling, and lingcod species to ensure their continued existence.

The Commission will consider this action at its scheduled February 11-12, 2026 meeting. Background information and information on public participation may be found at https://fgc.ca.gov/.

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