



## PRESS RELEASE

### **Local Restrictions on Recreational Fishing Illegal State to review illegal pier and jetty regulations**

December 3, 2014 (Sacramento): Today, the California Fish and Game Commission unanimously approved the recommendation of the California Sportfishing League (CSL) to conduct a review to identify illegal locally imposed pier and jetty fishing regulations in Southern California.

The action was in response to complaints that municipalities throughout Southern California were imposing illegal restrictions on fishing, including the City of Manhattan Beach who imposed a temporary ban on pier fishing following a rare shark attack. Under California law, only the California Fish and Game Commission has the legal authority to regulate fishing equipment and manner of take, and not local municipalities.

“Illegal restrictions on recreational fishing is contributing to a significant decline in participation,” said Marko Mlikotin, CSL executive director. “We applaud the commission’s decision to identify illegal restrictions on a safe form of family recreation and, to many working Californians, a way to put food on the table.”

CSL is also calling on the fishing community to help the State identify illegal local restrictions on fishing equipment and manner of take by emailing CSL at [abuse@sportfishingconservation.org](mailto:abuse@sportfishingconservation.org).

“We encourage anglers throughout California to help the State identify illegal restrictions on fishing,” said Mlikotin. “By limiting access to recreational fishing, municipalities are also harming local tourism and the jobs it supports.”

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, a major contributor to outdoor tourism and jobs. To learn more visit [www.SportfishingConservation.org](http://www.SportfishingConservation.org) or @CASportfishing, or LIKE on [facebook.com/CASportfishingLeague](https://facebook.com/CASportfishingLeague)

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