



PRESS RELEASE

Manhattan Beach Exceeds Authority to Ban Pier Fishing Anglers call for lifting of ban

August 7, 2014 (Sacramento, CA): Yesterday, the California Fish and Game Commission reaffirmed that California's Constitution protects recreational fishing and the City of Manhattan Beach exceeded its authority to ban pier fishing after a shark attack.

In response, the California Sportfishing League released the following statement:

"The City of Manhattan Beach's decision to ban pier fishing was not a measured response to an extraordinarily rare shark attack. There are many risks associated with swimming in the ocean that have never been banned, giving anglers the impression that politics prevailed over sound public policy," said Executive Director Marko Mlikotin. "Fortunately, the California Fish and Game Commission reaffirmed that municipalities, such as Manhattan Beach, do not have the authority to limit fishing from public piers, a safe form of recreation that generates tourism dollars and jobs. We urge the City of Manhattan Beach to reopen their piers to recreational fishing immediately."

Since July 31st, over 650 Californians have signed CSL's online petition opposing any type of ban on pier fishing, including small bait and tackle shop owners who rely upon pier anglers for jobs.

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 of outdoor tourism and jobs.

To learn more visit www.SportfishingConservation.org or @CASportfishing

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