

# Rockfish Conservation Areas

Inshore rockfish, especially within the inland waters of Vancouver Island, are at low levels of abundance. Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) needs your help to protect and conserve inshore rockfish.

To alleviate further rockfish population declines, DFO established catch restrictions and Rockfish Conservation Areas (RCAs) in 2002. Within RCAs, inshore rockfish are protected from recreational and commercial fisheries.

Within RCAs, permitted fishing activities are:

- invertebrates by hand or dive
- crab by trap
- shrimp/prawn by trap
- smelt by gillnet

Unlike salmon, rockfish do not survive well after catch and release. Because of this, there is no size limit for rockfish. Keep what you catch and move to another area if you have reached your rockfish limit.

How you can help:

- Know the Rockfish Conservation Areas
- Tell other anglers about the need to conserve rockfish

## Fish and Shellfish Information

604-666-2828

Includes PSP - Red Tide updates

## Maritime Search and Rescue Emergencies

1-800-567-5111 or

\*16 on your cell phone

## Reporting Marine Mammal Incidents and Sightings

1-800-465-4336

DFO's Observe, Record, Report (ORR) line



Quillback Rockfish  
Photo credit: Margie Gang



Tiger Rockfish  
Photo credit: Margie Gang



Yelloweye Rockfish  
Photo credit: Margie Gang

