

towing lines, so that it is rendered unusable for fishing; or (3) remaining on deck uncovered if the trawl doors are hung from their stanchions and the net is disconnected from the doors. These restrictions do not apply to vessels fishing with midwater trawl gear for Pacific whiting during the primary whiting season or taking and retaining yellowtail rockfish or widow rockfish in association with Pacific whiting during the primary whiting season caught with midwater trawl gear or to taking and retaining yellowtail or widow rockfish with midwater trawl gear when midwater gear trip limits are authorized for those species (November-December 2003.) If a vessel fishes in an RCA, it may not participate in any fishing on that trip that is inconsistent with the restrictions that apply within the RCA. For example, if a vessel participates in the pink shrimp fishery within the RCA, the vessel cannot on the same trip participate in the DTS fishery outside of the RCA. Nothing in these Federal regulations supercede any State regulations that may prohibit trawling shoreward of the 3 nm State waters boundary line.

(ii) Between the U.S. border with Canada and 40°10' N. lat., the trawl RCA is defined along an eastern, inshore boundary approximating 100 fm (183 m) in January through June and October through December, and approximating 75 fm (137 m) in July and August. Between 40°10' N. lat. and 34°27' N. lat., the trawl RCA is defined along an eastern, inshore boundary approximating 50 fm (91 m) in January and February and 60 fm (110 m) in March through December. Between 34°27' N. lat. and the U.S. border with Mexico, along the mainland coast of California, the trawl RCA is defined along an eastern, inshore boundary approximating 100 fm (183 m) throughout the year. Between 34°27' N. lat. and the U.S. border with Mexico, adjacent to the islands offshore of California, the trawl RCA is defined along an inshore boundary approximating 20 fm (37 m) throughout the year. Boundary coordinates are provided below at paragraph (e) of this section.

(iii) Between the U.S. border with Canada and 38° N. lat., the trawl RCA is defined along a western, offshore boundary approximating 250 fm (457 m) in March through October, and approximating 250 fm (457 m) with some modifications to provide open areas to allow winter petrale sole fishing in January, February, November, and December. Between 38° N. lat. and the U.S. border with Mexico, the trawl RCA is defined along a western, offshore

boundary approximating 150 fm (274 m) throughout the year. Boundary coordinates are provided below at paragraph (e) of this section.

(d) *Non-trawl (limited entry fixed gear and open access nontrawl gears) Groundfish Conservation Area.*

(i) The non-trawl RCA is closed to non-trawl gear (limited entry or open access longline and pot or trap, open access hook-and-line, pot or trap, gillnet, set net, trammel net and spear) fishing for groundfish. Fishing with non-trawl gear is prohibited within the non-trawl gear RCA. It is unlawful to take and retain, possess, or land groundfish taken with non-trawl gear in the non-trawl gear RCA. Limited entry fixed gear and open access non-trawl gear vessels may transit through the non-trawl gear RCA, with or without groundfish on board. These restrictions do not apply to vessels fishing for species other than groundfish with non-trawl gear. If a vessel fishes in an RCA, it may not participate in any fishing on that trip that is inconsistent with the restrictions that apply within the RCA. For example, if a vessel participates in the salmon troll fishery within the RCA, the vessel cannot on the same trip participate in the sablefish fishery outside of the RCA.

(ii) Between the U.S. border with Canada and 46°16' N. lat., the non-trawl gear RCA extends to the shoreline. Between 46°16' N. lat. and 40°10' N. lat., the non-trawl gear RCA is defined along an eastern, inshore boundary approximating 27 fm (49 m) throughout the year. Between 40°10' N. lat. and the U.S. border with Mexico, the non-trawl gear RCA is defined along an eastern, inshore boundary approximating 20 fm (37 m) throughout the year, except as provided for between Point Fermin (33°41' N. lat.; 118°18' W. long.) and the Newport South Jetty (33°36' N. lat.; 117°51' W. long.) Between a line drawn due south from Point Fermin, CA (33°41' N. lat.; 118°18' W. long.) and a line drawn due west from the Newport South Jetty (33°36' N. lat.; 117°51' W. long.) vessels fishing with hook-and-line and/or trap (or pot) gear may operate from shore to a boundary line approximating 50 fm (91 m) in the months of July and August. Boundary coordinates are provided below at paragraph (e) of this section.

(iii) Between the U.S. border with Canada and 40°10' N. lat., the non-trawl gear RCA is defined along a western, offshore boundary approximating 100 fm (183 m) throughout the year. Between 40°10' N. lat. and the U.S. border with Mexico, the trawl RCA is defined along a western, offshore boundary approximating 150 fm (274 m)

throughout the year. Boundary coordinates are provided below at paragraph (e) of this section.

(e) *RCA Boundary Coordinates.* Coordinates for the specific boundaries that approximate the depth contours selected for both trawl and non-trawl gear RCAs are provided here.

(i) The 27-fm (49-m) depth contour used between 46°16' N. lat. and 40°10' N. lat. as an eastern boundary for the non-trawl RCA is defined by straight lines connecting all of the following points in the order stated:

- (1) 46°16.00' N. lat., 124°12.39' W. long.;
- (2) 46°14.85' N. lat., 124°12.39' W. long.;
- (3) 46°3.95' N. lat., 124°3.64' W. long.;
- (4) 45°43.14' N. lat., 124°0.17' W. long.;
- (5) 45°23.33' N. lat., 124°1.99' W. long.;
- (6) 45°9.54' N. lat., 124°1.65' W. long.;
- (7) 44°39.99' N. lat., 124°8.67' W. long.;
- (8) 44°20.86' N. lat., 124°10.31' W. long.;
- (9) 43°37.11' N. lat., 124°14.91' W. long.;
- (10) 43°27.54' N. lat., 124°18.98' W. long.;
- (11) 43°20.68' N. lat., 124°25.53' W. long.;
- (12) 43°15.08' N. lat., 124°27.17' W. long.;
- (13) 43°6.89' N. lat., 124°29.65' W. long.;
- (14) 43°1.02' N. lat., 124°29.70' W. long.;
- (15) 42°52.67' N. lat., 124°36.10' W. long.;
- (16) 42°45.96' N. lat., 124°37.95' W. long.;
- (17) 42°45.80' N. lat., 124°35.41' W. long.;
- (18) 42°38.46' N. lat., 124°27.49' W. long.;
- (19) 42°35.29' N. lat., 124°26.85' W. long.;
- (20) 42°31.49' N. lat., 124°31.40' W. long.;
- (21) 42°29.06' N. lat., 124°32.24' W. long.;
- (22) 42°14.26' N. lat., 124°26.27' W. long.;
- (23) 42°4.86' N. lat., 124°21.94' W. long.;
- (24) 42°0.10' N. lat., 124°20.99' W. long.;
- (25) 42°0.00' N. lat., 124°21.03' W. long.;
- (26) 41°56.33' N. lat., 124°20.34' W. long.;
- (27) 41°50.93' N. lat., 124°23.74' W. long.;
- (28) 41°41.83' N. lat., 124°16.99' W. long.;
- (29) 41°35.48' N. lat., 124°16.35' W. long.;