

2009 BOG Coastal Year 1 Sampling Summary

The goal for Year 1 was to collect all 27 southern California zones and 6 Region 2 zones. We were able to sample all 27 southern California zones and all 9 Region 2 zones. We started fish sampling in May and completed sampling in November. Sampling occurred over 26 weeks in which we had between 2 to 7 samplers out each week. Over 2400 fish were collected in Year 1. Sampling techniques included hook and line, gill net, otter trawls, spear, beach seine, and cast net.

Table 1 summarizes the fish collected in each of the zones. Each zone is separated by fish collected from the primary/secondary species list and additional fish collected.

Recommendations for 2010 BOG Coastal Year 2 Sampling

I recommend that we modify the recommended species on the primary/secondary species list prior to next year's sampling. Gopher rockfish, China rockfish and possibly brown rockfish should be included in the primary/secondary species list for central and northern California zones. Shiner surfperch should be deleted from the primary/secondary species list.

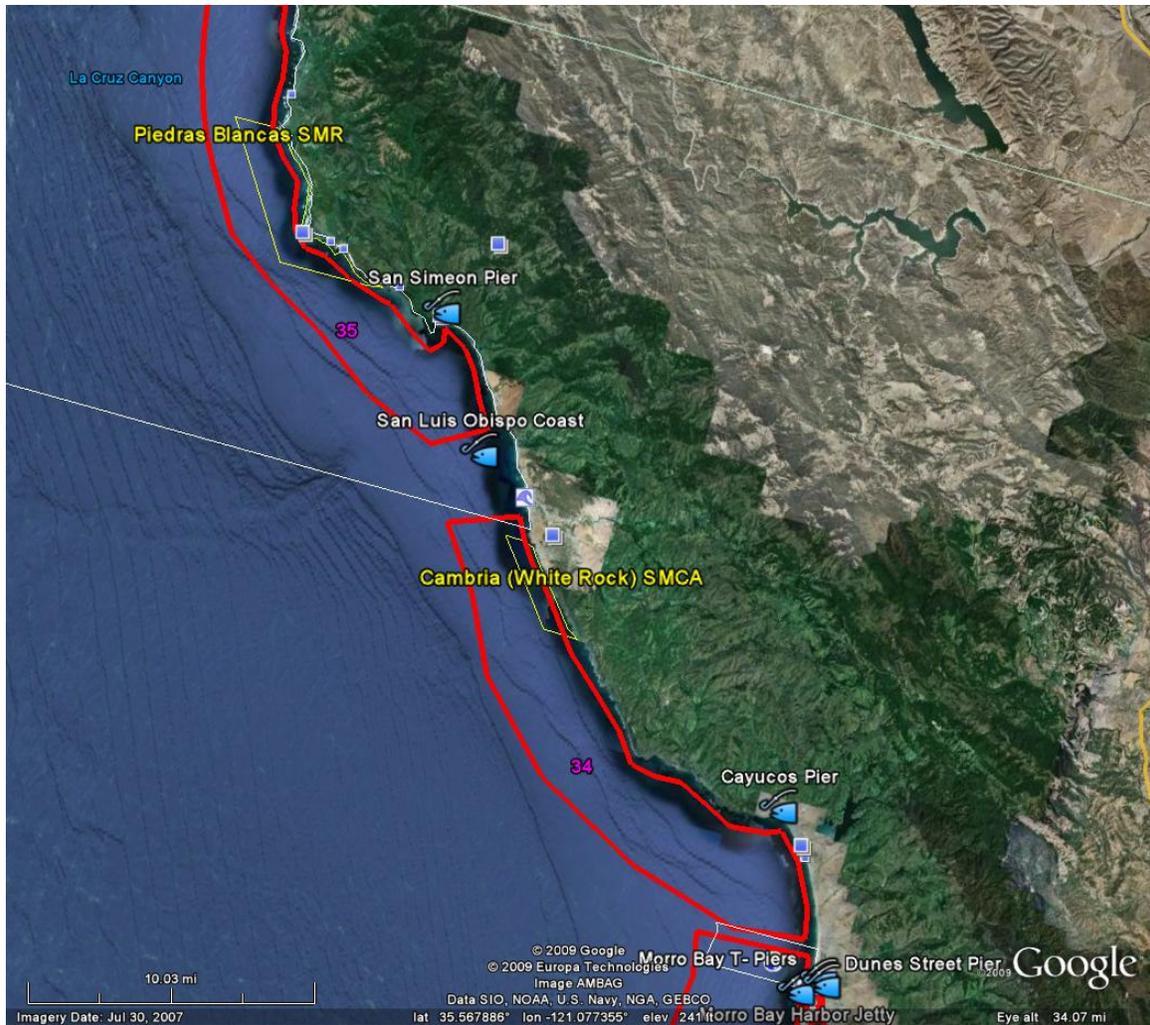
Even though salmon was on the target list, we did not collect any due to the closure to all salmon fishing. Next year there maybe a short window of time that salmon maybe fished. We will try and collect salmon in as many zones as we can during that window.

The goal for Year 2 is to collect the remaining 33 zones in central and northern California. But, because we are getting \$40,000 less this year, we do not have enough funds to collect all the 33 zones. In addition we will need about 10% more per zone for sampling because the conditions (wind and waves) on the north coast make collecting more difficult. I would like to recommend collapsing 8 of the zones into 4 zones, therefore leaving us with 29 zones to sample. This change in sampling design would accommodate the increase in sampling cost and allow us to conduct the program for the amount budgeted.

My recommendations for collapsing of zones are as follows:



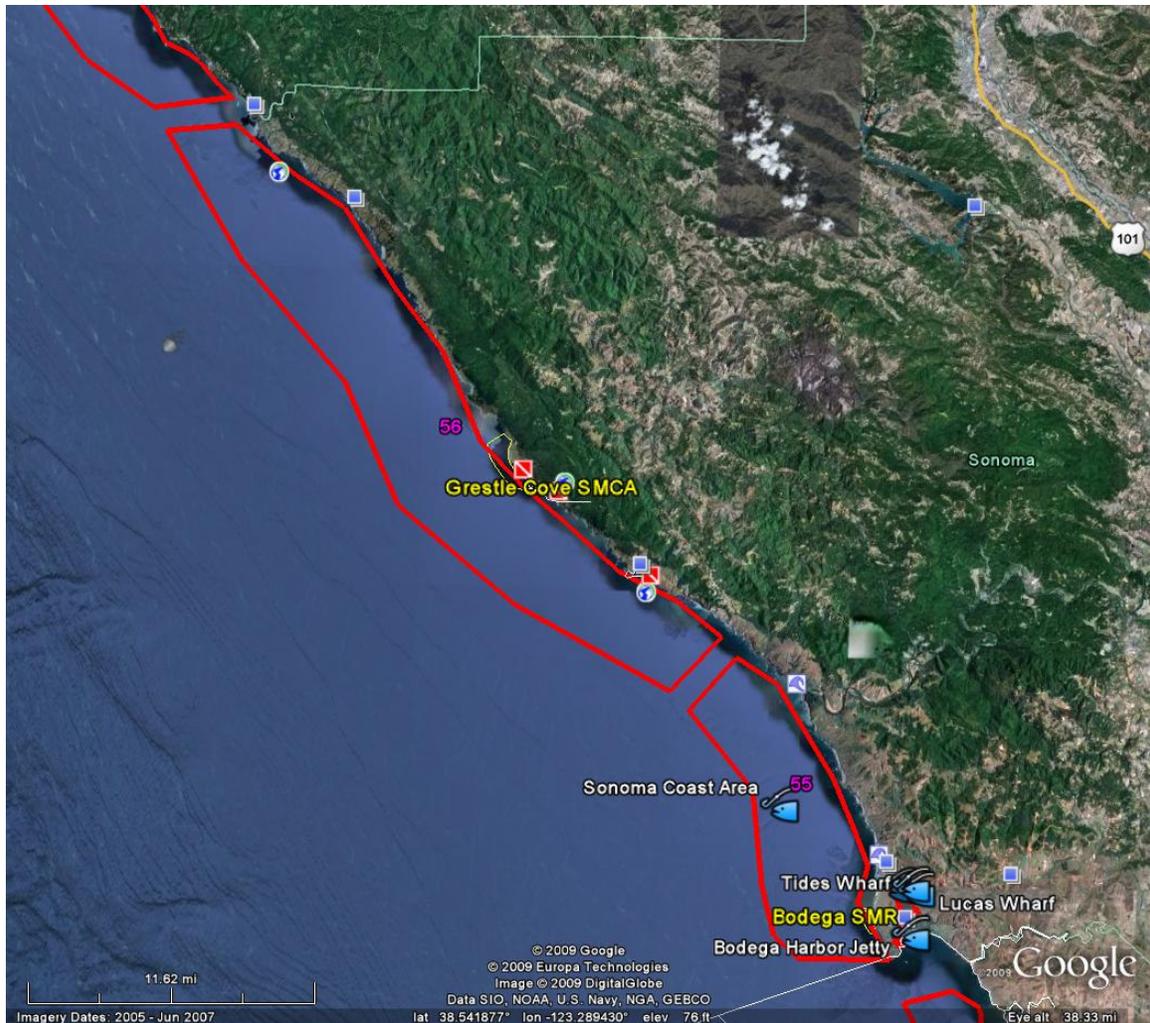
I suggest collapsing zones 28 and 29 because both zones are mostly sandy beach. Zone 28 is very remote (>13 miles from closest boat launch) and fishermen launching from Port of San Luis Obispo would probably fish north where there is closer and better habitat.



I suggest collapsing zones 34 and 35 because the closest boat launch (Morro Bay) is about 24 miles from the southern edge of zone 35. With similar habitat in zone 34 few fishermen would go that far north.



I suggest collapsing zones 36 and 37 because they are so remote. The closest boat launch (Morro Bay) is about 42 miles from the southern edge of zone 36 and the closest boat launch (Monterey) from zone 37 is 25 miles from the northern edge of the zone. Both zones have similar habitat.



Zones 55 and 56 have similar habitat. Zone 56 is 19 miles from Bodega Bay.

Collapsing zones makes sense due to the remoteness of some of the zones. This will also allow us more time in the remaining 29 zones. I think that it will take more time to sample Year 2 zones than Year 1 zones. This is because the ocean swells north of Point Conception are generally larger and more inconsistent during the summer. The wind is usually greater north of Point Conception as well. This means that there will be less safe fishing time available to the collectors. This year we were lucky and only got blown off the water less than 10 times. Next year, I don't think we will be so lucky.