



2021 Offshore Longleader Fishery

The **Offshore Longleader Fishery** is a fishing opportunity to target midwater rockfish species (while avoiding benthic species such as yelloweye rockfish), outside of the [40-fathom regulatory line](#), using longleader gear only.

The gear required consists of a fishing line and tackle configuration with a minimum of 30 feet of line between the terminal weight (sinker) and the lowest hook, and a non-compressible float affixed above the top hook. Lures must be less than 5 inches in length, and natural bait is prohibited.

Supplies to make a longleader gear rig:

- Two swivels (one above the float and one below the bottom hook)
- One non-compressible float (example: rigid plastic or cork; not Styrofoam) above the top hook that has sufficient buoyancy to support all of the hanging gear and line above the leader
- Up to three shrimp flies or artificial worms (below the non-compressible float and above the lower swivel)
- Natural bait is not allowed
- A weight (sinker), size dependent on the drift, current, and ocean conditions
- A minimum of 30 feet of line between the lower swivel and weight

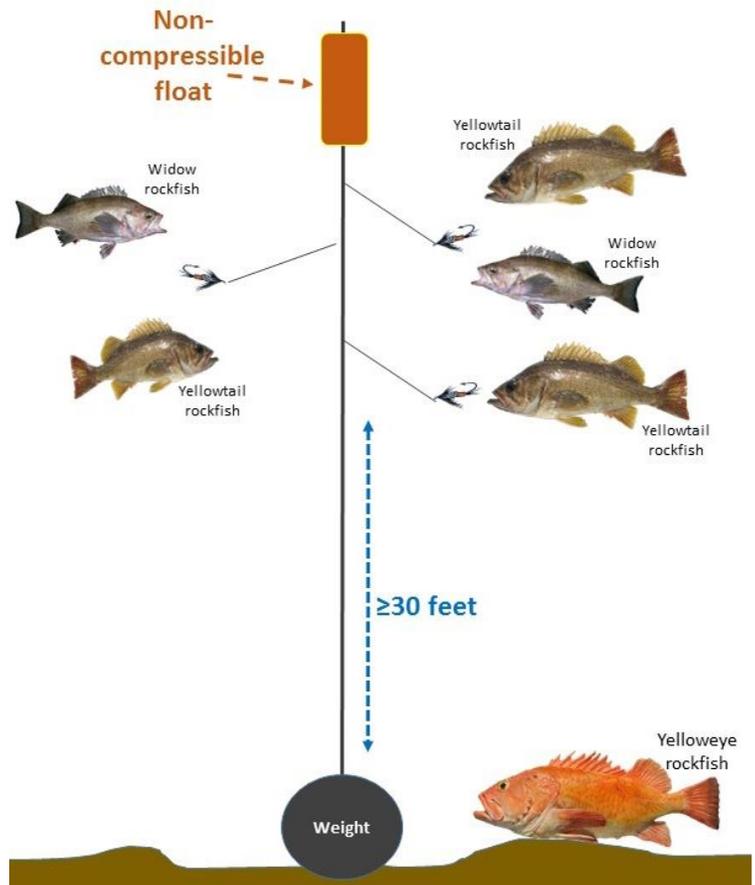


Photo of longleader gear

- Yellow circle shows the non-compressible float above the lures
- Red circles show the three shrimp flies
- The white bucket in this photo was used to contain the weight and 30 feet of leader below the lures; this is not required. Anglers may use different methods for containing the gear



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Frequently Asked Questions

When and where is the Offshore Longleader Fishery allowed?

- This gear type is allowed at any depths, but for the 10-fish bag limit, anglers must remain seaward (outside) of the [40-fathom regulatory line](#).
- Available year-round

What is the bag limit when participating in the Offshore Longleader Fishery?

- The 2021 bag limit when participating in the Offshore Longleader Fishery (using longleader gear and outside of 40 fathoms) is 10 fish in total per angler.
- The only species allowed are: [yellowtail](#), [widow](#), [canary](#), [greenstriped](#), [redstripe](#), [bocaccio](#), [chilipepper](#), [blue](#), [deacon](#), and [silvergray](#) rockfishes.
- For more fish ID, see <http://www.dfw.state.or.us/MRP/FishID/index.asp>

Can I fish for lingcod/flatfish/other bottomfish on the same trip as Offshore Longleader rockfish?

- **No.** Lingcod, flatfish, and other bottomfish are not allowed onboard at the same time
- Anglers may return to shore, offload all rockfish and fish for lingcod or flatfish on a separate trip.
- Bottomfish listed under the general marine species daily bag limit (black rockfish, nearshore rockfish, kelp greenling, etc.) may be kept on a separate trip on the same day only if fewer than 10 fish were kept on the offshore longleader trip. In that case, anglers may keep up to the general marine bag limit of 6 on a separate trip, but may total no more than 10 general marine species per day.

What about Pacific halibut on the same trip?

- **Yes (new in 2021).** During June, July, and August (months when the bottomfish fishery is restricted to inside of 40-fathoms) offshore longleader gear fishing may be combined with an all-depth Pacific halibut trip.
 - However, once longleader species are onboard the vessel, no further halibut fishing may occur.
- **No.** During May, September, and October offshore longleader gear fishing cannot be combined with an all-depth halibut trip. *The regular bottomfish fishery is open to all depths during those months, and may be combined with all-depth halibut.*
- Anglers may return to shore, offload all longleader rockfish species, and then go fish for Pacific halibut on a separate trip, in areas and time that Pacific halibut is open. Or the other way around, return to shore and offload all Pacific halibut, then go fish for longleader rockfish species.

Can I combine any other non-bottomfish fishing with Offshore Longleader Fishing on the same trip?

- **Yes.** Tuna, crab, & salmon may be combined with offshore longleader trips. Anglers are reminded that once salmon are on board, anglers are restricted to no more than 2 single point barbless hooks at all times when angling for salmon in the ocean or when angling for other species if a salmon has already been retained. And you may not fish in an area closed for any species you have onboard.

Regulations can change, check: <https://myodfw.com/sport-bottomfish-seasons> before fishing.