

# SUSTAINABILITY



Do you think the fisheries of the SBC are sustainable? This is a difficult question to answer because people define sustainability in different ways. Some people just consider the condition or status of the fish population. With this in mind, you may have heard that commercial fisheries are not doing well. However, many of these stories are based on the condition of global fisheries, which are different from the local conditions of the SBC. With the implementation of new regulations in California over the past 10-15 years, and current ocean conditions, most SBC fish populations are currently considered to be healthy. However, there are some fish populations (such as some rockfishes and abalones) that still need time to rebuild. Also, it is important to remember that the condition of the ocean waters of the SBC are constantly changing, so all fisheries need to be watched closely with regulations changed (either increased or decreased) when appropriate.

Having more regulations may seem like it couldn't hurt. But, sustaining fisheries also requires that fishery participants are able to support themselves and their families, all while meeting the demands of the consumer and maintaining the fish populations. Balancing the biological, economic and social aspects of sustainability is tricky, but it is vital for having healthy commercial fisheries for fishery participants, consumers and the marine environment. Like an ecosystem in the ocean, a change in one aspect of sustainability will affect the ability to maintain the other fishery components.

## WORD SEARCH

### Sustainable Commercial Fisheries

(Answers on back page)

BALANCE  
ECONOMIC  
LOCAL  
SOCIAL  
BIOLOGICAL  
ECOSYSTEMS  
POPULATION  
CHANGING  
GLOBAL  
REGULATIONS

S B M L J E Y J C R N L J X Q  
Y N N A Q B C Z H Q N S J U R  
D B O C E E R O A N X C B B G  
K G O I W I F M N T N A M A P  
H J O G T Q R A G O I H W F O  
M F U O I A X O I Z M L W L H  
I T W L U T L T N I Z I U A N  
R G N O D Z A U G E K U C C C  
R S Q I L L B A G L A I C O S  
X L K B U A I R D E J F Y L C  
S C X P L K B I H G R Z J G O  
W P O A B E C O S Y S T E M S  
W P N L D V T N L E C Y E R L  
U C I N J T I B F G A L H J J  
E C F B G Y Q E Z Q C L N F A