

*Turtles*—Several years ago, significant poundages of turtle, *Chelonia mydas*, appeared in our records. The fishery was concentrated along the coast of Lower California. This fishing is now controlled by the Mexican government. Occasionally, turtles are taken in Southern California waters.—*Helen L. Nelson*.

References (see page 210): 15, 133.

**TABLE 23**

**TURTLE**

Year	Pounds	Year	Pounds	Year	Pounds
1916.....	1,870	1923.....	4,057	1932.....	5,728
1917.....	23,722	1924.....	51	1933.....	2,901
1918.....	30,629	1925.....	21	1934.....	3,661
1919.....	255,239	1928.....	5,594	1935.....	1,722
1920.....	76,918	1929.....	2,216	1936.....	2,638
1921.....	2,571	1930.....	580	1940.....	70
1922.....	12,521	1931.....	6,657	1941.....	33

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## 2.55. MARINE SPORTFISHING

The marine sport catch is a major drain on the supply of some of our choicest ocean fish. Since sportsmen and commercial fishermen are actively pursuing many of the same species of fish, statistics of the sport catch are pertinent in this bulletin.

The importance of ocean sportfishing became apparent many years ago. Preliminary work started in 1932 to determine the magnitude of the sportsman's catch. The 1935 Legislature enacted a law making it mandatory that all boats carrying fishermen for hire shall keep daily records of their operations and of all fish taken. The basic law has not changed. At the beginning of each calendar year, or prior to the sportfishing season, every boat operator must register his boat and obtain a permit from the Division of Fish and Game. There is a fee of \$1 for the permit. Every vessel engaged in fishing operations must carry Fish and Game boat plates in plain sight on either side of the boat's superstructure. These plates are obtained free with the first registration and become a permanent fixture on the boat.

In 1947 a law was enacted, making it unlawful to sell any fish taken under the privileges of a sportfishing license or to sell fish taken on any vessel which carries anglers. Prior to this it was the practice of the operator of the boat to purchase a market fisherman's license and sell the excess catch of the sportsmen. There are a few other state regulations which govern the manner in which the daily records are to be kept in order that accurate reports may be obtained.

At the time the boat is registered the operator is issued a book of printed forms for keeping daily records, postage-paid envelopes for mailing records to the Division of Fish and Game at the end of each month, a chart with coastal areas blocked off and numbered so that the operator may record the areas where the fish are caught, and a copy of the regulations.

A report sheet must be completed for every trip the boat makes, showing an accurate count of the number and an estimated total weight of each species taken. These reports must be filled out between the time