How To Stamp A Passport!

1. Make sure all information is recorded for the species (see the *How To Use Your Passport* excerpt, below).
2. One of three verification methods is needed for a stamp to be administered:
   a. Witness signature, *or*
   b. Clear color photograph of fish/shellfish that allows positive identification, *or*
   c. Identify the fish/shellfish first-hand.
3. Only fish/shellfish taken (beginning) in 2006 qualify for stamps.

Additional information below, or on the California Fishing Passport website (www.fishingpassport.org). Any additional questions, contact Mary Patyten (707.964.5026) or Carrie Wilson (831.649.7191)!

How the Program Works

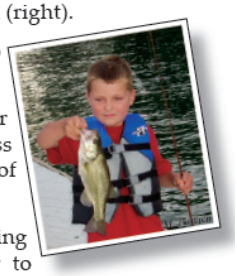
The California Fishing Passport lists 150 different species of fresh and saltwater finfish and shellfish that occur throughout the state. With this passport book as your guide, you are challenged to try to catch and document all of the different species listed.

For each species caught, you will receive a stamp in this passport book documenting your achievements. Catch and release practices are encouraged whenever possible, and even released fish qualify for stamps.

Here's all you need to do:

1. For each species caught, fill in the catch report section of your book with all data requested (right).

2. Take a clear, side-view, color photo of your fish to verify the species.

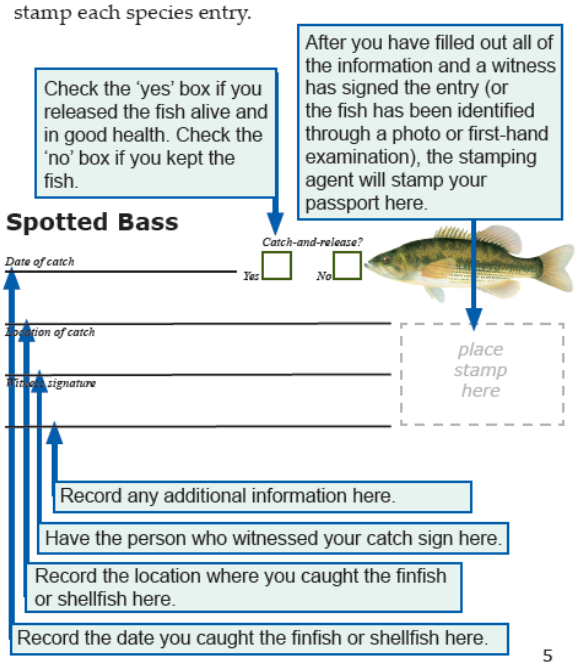


3. If no photo is taken, have your fishing partner or another witness who can certify the authenticity of your catch sign your book.

4. Take your book and any verifying photos to a DFG license office or to any authorized stamping agent to verify and stamp your book. A list of all stamping locations is posted on our Web site at **www.fishingpassport.com/stamps**, and available at any license office.

5. You can also create your own ***online*** fishing log book through our Web site and post your data and photos at www.fishingpassport.org/TripTracks. This site will allow you to track your progress and see how well you're doing compared to others who are also taking the California Fishing Passport challenge. Your data will be added to a statewide fishing database but your personal information will be kept private.

How To Use Your Passport

This passport is your personal record of the finfish and shellfish you've caught in California. The passport gives you a place to record catches of the most popular species in California, and any others you may catch along the way (see page 56).

Follow the instructions below to properly record your landings of each species. To qualify for angler recognition awards, be sure to have a witness sign your passport (or take a photo of the catch), and have a stamping agent stamp each species entry.