



## OCEAN PROTECTION COUNCIL

Wade Crowfoot | Secretary for Natural Resources | Council Chair  
Jared Blumenfeld | Secretary for Environmental Protection  
Eleni Kounalakis | Lieutenant Governor | State Lands Commission Chair  
Ben Allen | State Senator  
Mark Stone | State Assemblymember  
Michael Brown | Public Member  
Jordan Diamond | Public Member

April 17, 2020

Dear California Dungeness Crab Commercial Permit Holder,

Enclosed is your opportunity to vote for your representative(s) to the California Dungeness Crab Task Force (DCTF). Your participation in this process is extremely important to the future of the California Dungeness crab fishery. The representative(s) elected from your home port will communicate your views on the fishery's management and development recommendations for the California Legislature, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), and California Fish and Game Commission (FGC). **Please email or mail the enclosed ballot and Permit Holder Verification Form postmarked by May 15, 2020 (details below).**

This mailing pertains to DCTF commercial fishing elections for Group 2 port complexes: Out of State, Eureka, Bodega Bay, and Half Moon Bay. For more information about the composition of the DCTF and the DCTF commercial fishing elections process, please see the Frequently Asked Questions document available on the DCTF webpage here: <http://www.opc.ca.gov/2009/04/dungeness-crab-task-force/>.

Representatives will be elected for each home port complex/production level combination, as described in Fish and Game Code Section 8276.4. Please note that although you may have nominated a specific individual, his/her name will not appear on your ballot if that person is not in the same home port complex/production level combination as you. In addition, if a nominee did not confirm their willingness to serve on the DCTF, that name was not included on the ballot.

On the enclosed ballot (blue paper), **please rank all the nominees listed in order of preference** (number 1 being your first choice). If no majority exists within a particular home port complex/production level combination, then an instant runoff voting process will be used.<sup>1,2</sup>

Please **complete and sign the Permit Holder Verification Form** by writing your name, crab permit number, and boat name.

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<sup>1</sup> Instant runoff voting is a voting system used for single-winner elections in which voters rank candidates in order of preference. If no candidate receives a majority of first preference rankings, then the candidate with the fewest number of votes will be eliminated and that candidate's votes redistributed to the voters' next preferences among the remaining candidates. This process is repeated until one candidate has a majority of votes among remaining candidates. In the case of a tie after the instant runoff voting process, OPC and CDFW staff may contact both top candidates and allow for the candidates to discuss a primary and alternate seat agreement, and/or OPC and CDFW staff may conduct informal phone interviews with the tied candidates, as well as consider history of serving on the DCTF.

<sup>2</sup> Please note that the Bagley Keene Open Meeting Act requirements limit the number of participants who serve on both the California Dungeness Crab Fishing Gear Working Group and the Dungeness Crab Task Force. The Dungeness Crab Task Force may consist of no more than two members who also serve of the California Dungeness Crab Fishing Gear Working Group.

Please return **BOTH** the ballot and the Permit Holder Verification Form **by May 15, 2020** by email or mail (see instructions below). If you hold more than one crab permit, you may fill out a ballot and a Permit Holder Verification Form for every permit you hold. Only one ballot *per crab permit number* will be accepted. **Failure to provide your crab permit number and boat name on the Permit Holder Verification Form will invalidate your ballot (we must be able to read it, so please write legibly).**

All individuals elected to the DCTF will be notified by OPC and CDFW staff after the votes have been tallied. We anticipate posting a list of names of all individuals that will serve on the DCTF on the DCTF webpage (<http://www.opc.ca.gov/2009/04/dungeness-crab-task-force/>), as well as sharing results via the DCTF, OPC and CDFW listservs by late June 2020.

If you have any questions about the Dungeness Crab Task Force or the election process, please contact Paige Berube ([paige.berube@resources.ca.gov](mailto:paige.berube@resources.ca.gov); Ocean Protection Council, 916-651-1265) or Christy Juhasz ([christy.juhasz@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:christy.juhasz@wildlife.ca.gov); CDFW Marine Region; 707-576-2887). Thank you for your time and cooperation.

Sincerely,



Mark Gold  
Executive Director and Deputy Secretary for Ocean and Coastal Policy  
Ocean Protection Council



## How to Return the Ballot and Permit Holder Verification Form:

### Option 1: Email

Please email the completed Ballot and completed and signed Permit Holder Verification Form to the below email address no later than **May 15, 2020**. Please either take a photo of the completed form to include in the email or print, complete and sign, and scan to email to the below address no later than **May 15, 2020**.

Paige Berube, Ocean Protection Council;  
[paige.berube@resources.ca.gov](mailto:paige.berube@resources.ca.gov)

### Option 2: Mail

Please mail the completed Ballot and completed and signed Permit Holder Verification Form to the below address, postmarked by no later than **May 15, 2020**.

Paige Berube  
Ocean Protection Council  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311  
Sacramento, CA, 95814



**DUNGENESS CRAB TASK FORCE ELECTIONS**  
**Permit Holder Verification Form**

Please fill out this form and return it to the OPC with the enclosed blue ballot by **May 15, 2020**.

Please print clearly and remember to fill out one ballot and one Permit Holder Verification Form per permit. Make sure that you attribute each permit number to the correct associated home port/production level combination ballot.

**Your Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Crab Permit #** \_\_\_\_\_  
The vessel permit number that starts with a "C" (not your L-number or your federal boat registration number)

**Boat Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

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