



**Abridged Summary of California Dungeness Crab Task Force Votes
October 16-18, 2017 DCTF Meeting**

This document provides a summary of action items and associated votes taken by the California Dungeness Crab Task Force (DCTF) at its October 16-18, 2017 meeting. Any vote marked as “approved” will be forwarded as a recommendation in the DCTF ’s report to the Joint Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture (Legislature), the Fish and Game Commission (Commission), and Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) no later than January 15, 2018.

The following voting protocol, described in the [DCTF Charter](#), was used to conduct straw polls and final voting:

Thumbs Down: I do not agree with the proposal. I feel the need to block its adoption and propose an alternative.

Thumbs Sideways: I can accept the proposal although I do not necessarily support it.

Thumbs Up: I think this proposal is the best choice of the options available to us.

Abstention: At times, a pending decision may be infeasible for a Member to weigh in on. Examples could include but not be limited to: a Member cannot get a consensus of his/her constituents and therefore cannot offer a proposal or opinion; and other similar conditions.

For additional information about the October 16-18, 2017 meeting, please refer to the meeting summary at: <http://www.opc.ca.gov/2009/04/dungeness-crab-task-force/>

DCTF Votes

Note: A list of DCTF Members and Alternates present at the meeting is available on Page 9

ACTION: *Consideration and possible adoption of recommendation(s) related to the commercial Dungeness crab trap limit program including, but not limited to, monitoring and evaluation of the commercial Dungeness crab trap limit program, management of the Dungeness Crab Account, issuing of trap tags, etc.*

See below related to the Dungeness Crab Task Force.

ACTION: *Consideration and possible adoption of recommendation(s) related to Fish and Game code sections including, but not limited to, those related to limited entry, crab quality testing, etc.*



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APPROVED: The DCTF recommends reauthorizing all sunset code sections without changes except as specified in these DCTF recommendations.

- The sunset date on Fish and Game code sections including, but not limited to 8276.2, 8276.3, 8276.4, 8276.5, 8279.1, 8280.2, 8280.3, 8280.4, 8280.6, and 9002.5, should be extended to 2029.
- Fish and Game Code Sections 8280.1 and 8280.5 should be eliminated as they may no longer be relevant since the limited entry program has been in place for two decades.
- Additional actions related to sunset code sections taken by the DCTF during its October 2017 meeting are recommended to be updated as outlined in additional votes below.

The DCTF will continue its charge to review Dungeness crab fishery regulations and will continue to recommend modifications to those sections as need arises.

Thumbs up	Thumbs Sideways	Thumbs Down	Abstained	Absent
19	1	0	0	2

Vote of all DCTF Members (nonvoting Members abstained):

Thumbs up (19): Anderson, Atkinson, Beardon, Blue, Bradshaw, Cannia, Caito, Capra, Collins, Cunningham, Doyle, Gilmore, Goucher, Helliwell, Hemmingsen, Lawson, McHenry, Nolte, O'Donnell

Thumbs sideways (1): Powers

Thumbs down (0): None

Abstain (0): None

Absent (2): Vacant Processor, Yarnell

ACTION: *Consideration and possible adoption of recommendation(s) related to clarifying, amending, or eliminating Fish and Game code sections related to permit transfers and vessel lengths including, but not limited to, permit transfers, standardizing and documenting vessel lengths, policies on the lengthening/widening of vessels, etc.*

APPROVED: The DCTF recommends clarifying the definition of “length overall” in Fish and Game Code section 8280.3 to be defined as the horizontal distance between the forward-most and after-most points on the hull and attachments fixed to the stern and bow are not measured.

In an effort to establish consistent records of the measurement of all vessels in the commercial Dungeness crab fleet for CDFW, the DCTF recommends all permit holders submit a recent vessel survey with the standard definition of “length overall” to CDFW by March 31, 2020. In cases where a survey indicates a smaller vessel than is documented on the permit, the previously documented length would be maintained on that permit. Should an individual choose not to submit a survey by March 31, 2020 the original vessel length on file will be assumed to be the “length overall” and all future transfers and sales associated with the permit will be based on that measurement.



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The DCTF also recommends that a survey by a licensed marine surveyor be required at the time of a permit transfer as well as at the time of a vessel sale. Vessels associated with a permit should continue to only be allowed a one-time increase of a maximum of five feet in length.

Thumbs up	Thumbs Sideways	Thumbs Down	Abstained	Absent
18	1	0	0	3

Vote of all DCTF Members (nonvoting Members abstained):

Thumbs up (18): Anderson, Atkinson, Beardon, Blue, Bradshaw, Caito, Cannia, Capra, Collins, Cunningham, Goucher, Helliwell, Hemmingsen, Lawson, McHenry, Nolte, O'Donnell, Powers

Thumbs sideways (1): Gilmore

Thumbs down (0): None

Abstain (0): None

Absent (3): Doyle, Vacant Processor, Yarnell

ACTION: *Consideration and possible adoption of recommendation(s) to establish a long-term Dungeness crab industry-representative organization, including, but not limited to, the organization's incorporation status, structure, funding, other operational considerations, etc.*

APPROVED: The DCTF recommends extending Fish and Game Code section 8276.4. The DCTF supports the Ocean Protection Council (OPC) administering the DCTF and recommends authorizing the allocation of \$150,000 dollars per year from the Dungeness Crab Account to the OPC to support the administration and facilitation of the DCTF through 2029.

The DCTF recommends the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) provide the DCTF with an annual review of the Dungeness crab account.

Thumbs up	Thumbs Sideways	Thumbs Down	Abstained	Absent
19	0	1	0	2

Vote of all DCTF Members (nonvoting Members abstained):

Thumbs up (19): Anderson, Atkinson, Beardon, Blue, Bradshaw, Caito, Capra, Collins, Cunningham, Doyle, Gilmore, Goucher, Helliwell, Hemmingsen, Lawson, McHenry, Nolte, O'Donnell, Powers

Thumbs sideways (0): None

Thumbs down (1): Cannia

Abstain (0): None

Absent (2): Vacant Processor, Yarnell



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APPROVED: The DCTF recommends amending Fish and Game Code section 8276.4(a)(7) to change the commercial fishing representation as follows:

(7) Seventeen members representing commercial fishery interests, elected by licensed persons possessing valid Dungeness crab permits in their respective ports and production levels, as follows:

- (A) Three members from Crescent City.
- (B) One member from Trinidad.
- (C) Two members from Eureka.
- (D) Two members from Fort Bragg.
- (E) Two members from Bodega Bay.
- (F) Two members from San Francisco.
- (G) Two members from Half Moon Bay.
- (H) Two members from ports south of Half Moon Bay.
- (I) One member who has a valid California nonresident crab permit.

All commercial fishing representation would have voting authority.

Thumbs up	Thumbs Sideways	Thumbs Down	Abstained	Absent
9	9	2	0	2

Vote of all DCTF Members (nonvoting Members abstained):

Thumbs up (9): Beardon, Blue, Caito, Cannia, Gilmore, Goucher, Helliwell, Lawson, O’Donnell,

Thumbs sideways (9): Anderson, Atkinson, Bradshaw, Capra, Collins, Cunningham, Hemmingsen, McHenry, Powers

Thumbs down (2): Doyle, Nolte,

Abstain (0): None

Absent (2): Vacant Processor, Yarnell

APPROVED: The DCTF recommends amending Fish and Game Code section 8276.4(a) to adjust the membership of the DCTF as follows:

- Elections for DCTF Members shall occur in each port every three years to allow for fresh perspectives to serve on the body. DCTF elections shall be staggered/rotating across ports to maintain institutional knowledge. *Details to appoint alternates are included in a subsequent recommendation.*
- For ports with one representative, elected members and their alternates will represent all permitholders in that port regardless of landings history.
- For ports with two representatives, elected members and their alternates will represent both the upper and lower production levels.



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- For ports with three representatives, two elected members and their alternates will represent both the upper and lower production levels. A third elected member will represent all permit holders in that port regardless of landings history.
- Upper and lower production levels shall be calculated as the average of all permits in a port who landed a minimum of 25,000 pounds of crab during the five years prior to each election.
- Elections will be coordinated by CDFW and/or OPC with support from a contracted DCTF Administrative team.

Thumbs up	Thumbs Sideways	Thumbs Down	Abstained	Absent
16	2	2	0	2

Vote of all DCTF Members (nonvoting Members abstained):

Thumbs up (16): Anderson, Atkinson, Beardon, Blue, Bradshaw, Caito, Capra, Collins, Doyle, Gilmore, Goucher, Helliwell, Hemmingsen, McHenry, Nolte, O'Donnell

Thumbs sideways (2): Lawson, Powers

Thumbs down (2): Cannia, Cunningham

Abstain (0): None

Absent (2): Vacant Processor, Yarnell

APPROVED: The DCTF recommends amending Fish and Game Code section 8276.4 to clarify how DCTF member alternates and replacements are identified as follows:

- A DCTF member will choose their alternate in the event they are unable to attend a DCTF meeting.
- In the event that a DCTF member is unable to fulfill his/her duty on the DCTF for a full three-year term, a replacement will be selected by the DCTF member until a new election can be held.

Thumbs up	Thumbs Sideways	Thumbs Down	Abstained	Absent
20	0	0	0	2

Vote of all DCTF Members (nonvoting Members abstained):

Thumbs up (20): Anderson, Atkinson, Beardon, Blue, Bradshaw, Caito, Cannia, Capra, Collins, Cunningham, Doyle, Gilmore, Goucher, Helliwell, Hemmingsen, Lawson, McHenry, Nolte, O'Donnell, Powers

Thumbs sideways (0): None

Thumbs down (0): None

Abstain (0): None

Absent (2): Vacant Processor, Yarnell



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APPROVED: The DCTF recommends amending Fish and Game Code section 8276.4(b) to adjust the structure of the DCTF as follows:

- (1) Two members representing sport fishing interests: one voting and one non-voting.
- (2) Two members representing crab processing interests with voting authority.
- (3) One member representing commercial passenger fishing vessel interests with voting authority.
- (4) Two nonvoting members representing non-governmental organization interests.
- (5) One nonvoting representative of Sea Grant.
- (6) Two nonvoting members representing the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Members members representing sport fishing interests, crab processing interests, commercial passenger fishing vessel interests, and nongovernmental organization interest will be appointed by the OPC chair following a public solicitation for nominations. CDFW and Sea Grant will select their own representatives.

Thumbs up	Thumbs Sideways	Thumbs Down	Abstained	Absent
16	4	0	0	2

Vote of all DCTF Members (nonvoting Members abstained):

Thumbs up (16): Atkinson, Beardon, Blue, Bradshaw, Caito, Cannia, Capra, Collins, Cunningham, Doyle, Goucher, Hemmingsen, Lawson, Nolte, O'Donnell, Powers

Thumbs sideways (4): Anderson, Gilmore, Helliwell, McHenry

Thumbs down (0): None

Abstain (0): None

Absent (2): Vacant Processor, Yarnell

ACTION: *Consideration and possible adoption of recommendation(s) related to clarifying and amending Fish and Game code sections related to 30-day fair start clauses, presoak periods, openers following a public health delay, etc.*

APPROVED: Following a delay for health and safety issues such as domoic acid, and once an area is deemed "safe" by the California Department of Public Health and the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, the DCTF supports opening each area as it is deemed safe. The DCTF recommends amending Fish and Game code section 8279.1 so that 30-day fair start provisions are applied to any type of health/safety delay for any size area (e.g. if the fishery is opened in areas smaller than a district, each area would be subject to the fair start provisions) for all management areas.



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DCTF recommends the Director gives three days' notice that a preset will begin unless the preset will land on a state or federal holiday, December 24, Thanksgiving eve, or New Year's Eve. In these cases, the preset will begin the day after the holiday.

Thumbs up	Thumbs Sideways	Thumbs Down	Abstained	Absent
13	3	2	1	3

Vote of all DCTF Members (nonvoting Members abstained):

Thumbs up (13): Anderson, Atkinson, Beardon, Bradshaw, Caito, Cannia, Capra, Collins, Goucher, Helliwell, Hemmingsen, Lawson, McHenry

Thumbs sideways (3): Blue, Cunningham, O'Donnell

Thumbs down (2): Doyle, Nolte

Abstain (1): Powers

Absent (3): Gilmore, Vacant Processor, Yarnell

NOT APPROVED: The DCTF recommends amending Fish and Game code section 8283 to change the Central Management Area's presoak period from 18 hours to 64 hours. The DCTF recommends amending Fish and Game code section 8283 to change the Northern Management Area presoak period from 64 hours to 72 hours to be consistent with OR/WA.

Thumbs up	Thumbs Sideways	Thumbs Down	Abstained	Absent
10	3	4	3	2

Vote of all DCTF Members (nonvoting Members abstained):

Thumbs up (10): Atkinson, Beardon, Blue, Bradshaw, Cannia, Collins, Cunningham, Gilmore, Helliwell, Lawson

Thumbs sideways (3): Anderson, Caito, Goucher

Thumbs down (4): Doyle, McHenry, Nolte, O'Donnell

Abstain (3): Capra, Hemmingsen, Powers

Absent (2): Vacant Processor, Yarnell

ACTION: Consideration and possible adoption of recommendation(s) to provide guidance to CDFW and others to inform the development of the California Dungeness crab lost fishing gear recovery program.

APPROVED: The DCTF looks forward to working with CDFW to implement the lost fishing gear recovery program outlined in Fish and Game code 9002.5 and would like to recommend the following adjustment to help reduce CDFW costs: require that when permits are renewed permit holders are informed that CDFW will share their contact, license, and permit information with a 3rd party entity that will be supporting local retrieval efforts. The 3rd party entity will maintain the confidentiality of the information and use it to locate the owner of recovered gear.



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If this recommendation is not lawful, the DCTF recommends CDFW enter into confidentiality agreement with the 3rd party entity that will be supporting local retrieval efforts to share contact information of permitholders to assist in efforts to locate owners of the recovered gear.

Thumbs up	Thumbs Sideways	Thumbs Down	Abstained	Absent
18	2	0	0	2

Vote of all DCTF Members (nonvoting Members abstained):

Thumbs up (18): Anderson, Atkinson, Beardon, Blue, Bradshaw, Caito, Cannia, Capra, Collins, Cunningham, Doyle, Gilmore, Goucher, Hemmingsen, Lawson, McHenry, Nolte, O'Donnell

Thumbs sideways (2): Helliwell, Powers

Thumbs down (0): None

Abstain (0): None

Absent (2): Vacant Processor, Yarnell

ACTION: *Consideration and possible support for the Dungeness Crab Fishing Gear Working Group's efforts to-date and 2017-18 Working Group recommendations/next steps. Guidance on ideas for the Working Group's consideration and other items may also be provided.*

APPROVED: The DCTF supports the California Dungeness Crab Fishing Gear Working Group's efforts to address the issue of whale entanglements in Dungeness crab fishing gear including the piloting of a draft Risk Assessment and Mitigation Program (RAMP) and the recommendation that all fixed fishing gear establish standardized marking at the surface.

Fishing ports are committed to supporting Working Group representatives to continue their participation on the body. The DCTF supports the Working Group continuing its efforts and looks forward to learning more as those efforts progress.

Thumbs up	Thumbs Sideways	Thumbs Down	Abstained	Absent
18	1	1	0	2

Vote of all DCTF Members (nonvoting Members abstained):

Thumbs up (18): Anderson, Beardon, Blue, Bradshaw, Caito, Capra, Collins, Cunningham, Doyle, Gilmore, Goucher, Helliwell, Hemmingsen, Lawson, McHenry, Nolte, O'Donnell, Powers

Thumbs sideways (1): Atkinson

Thumbs down (1): Cannia

Abstain (0): None

Absent (2): Vacant Processor, Yarnell



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DCTF Members and Alternates Present — October 16-18, 2017

Jim Anderson, Half Moon Bay, Low Tier
John Atkinson, Jr., San Francisco, High Tier
John Beardon, Alternate for Mark Horner, Crescent City, Low Tier
Bill Blue, Half Moon Bay South
George Bradshaw, Alternate for Ricardo De Solenni, Crescent City, Low Tier
Joe Caito, Alternate for Bill Carvalho, Crab Processor
Tony Cannia, Fort Bragg, Low Tier
Mark Capra, Alternate for Marc Gorelnik, Sport Fishing
Larry Collins, San Francisco, Low Tier
Mike Cunningham, Eureka, High Tier
Vince Doyle, Fort Bragg, High Tier
Keith Gilmore, Alternate for Ron Blodgett, Fort Bragg, Low Tier
Craig Goucher, Alternate for Mike Zamboni, Trinidad
David Helliwell, Eureka, Low Tier
Gerry Hemmingsen, Crescent City, High Tier
Christy Juhasz, CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife
Chris Lawson, Bodega Bay, High Tier
Porter McHenry, Alternate for Geoff Bettencourt, Half Moon Bay, High Tier
Brian Nolte, Alternate for Todd Whaley, Nonresident
Matthew O'Donnell, Alternate for Brett Fahning, Crescent City, High Tier
Carrie Pomeroy, CA Sea Grant
Rick Powers, Alternate for Roger Thomas, Commercial Passenger Fishing Vessel
Cpt. Bob Puccinelli, CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife

DCTF Members and Alternates Absent

David Crabbe, Nongovernmental Organization
Jim Yarnall, Sport Fishing
Vacant Seat, Crab Processor
Vacant Seat, Nongovernmental Organization