



Abridged Summary of Dungeness Crab Task Force (DCTF) Votes April 22-23, 2014 DCTF meeting

This document provides a summary of Action Items and associated votes taken by the DCTF at its April 22-23, 2014 meeting in Ukiah, California. Any vote marked as “approved” will be forwarded as a recommendation to the Tri-State Dungeness Crab Committee, the Fish and Game Commission (Commission), and Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and included in their January 2015 report to the Legislature, CDFW, and the Commission.

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 more background about the April 2, 2012 meeting, please refer to the meeting summary at:
<http://www.opc.ca.gov/2009/04/dungeness-crab-task-force/>

DCTF Votes

The recommendations below represent agreements of the DCTF members (per voting protocols defined in the DCTF Charter); however, in some cases they are not the *verbatim* language from when the votes were taken. Because of the iterative nature of the conversations at DCTF meetings, the language of some recommendations has been adjusted to improve clarity. The verbatim language from the meeting is available on the DCTF webpage as part of the April 22-23 DCTF meeting summary for reference. Some recommendations are grouped together for clarity. Explanatory notes are provided below recommendations, when necessary.

ACTION: *Consideration and possible adoption of recommendations pertaining to Commercial Passenger Fishing Vessels (CPFVs) and the Dungeness crab sport fishery.*

APPROVED: Per the Commission’s direction, the DCTF has discussed the Coastside Fishing Club’s proposal (dated October 9, 2013). The DCTF feels strongly that these issues need to be vetted through and decided on by the Commission with input from CDFW and members of the recreational fishing fleet.

The DCTF agrees that there should be a uniform bag limit and minimum size for the recreational fishery throughout California. However, at this time, the DCTF agrees that the Commission should decide the details of these issues with input from CDFW and members of the recreational fleet.

The DCTF looks forward to discussing future recreational fishery issues.



~California Dungeness Crab Task Force~

<http://www.opc.ca.gov/2009/04/dungeness-crab-task-force/>

Thumbs up	Thumbs Sideways	Thumbs Down	Abstained	Absent
21	0	0	0	1

Vote of all DCTF Members (nonvoting Members abstained):

Thumbs up (21): Anderson, Atkinson, Bettencourt, Blodgett, Blue, Caito, Cannia, Collins, Cunningham, de Solenni, Doyle, Fahning, Gorelnik, Goucher, Horner, Mantua, Nolte, Powers, Shepherd, Standley, Yarnall

Thumbs sideways (0): None

Thumbs down (0): None

Abstain (0): None

Absent (1): Johnson

ACTION: Consideration and possible adoption of Dungeness crab fishery management measures or policy statements, including season opener dates, changes to commercial fishing regulations, and future data needs.

APPROVED: The DCTF has discussed the four (4) topics directed to it by the Tri-State Committee. The DCTF agrees that the topics require continued discussion with their constituents. A formal recommendation on all four (4) topics will be submitted to the Tri-State Dungeness Crab Committee following the next DCTF meeting in fall 2014. In the meantime, the DCTF will continue to explore the following management options:

- Include District 10 in the Tri-State Dungeness Crab Committee and move the Tri-State line to Mexican Border.
- Maintain the November 15th opener in District 10.
- Implement a 15-day fair start provision for District 10, except during a soft-shell delay, at which point the current 30-day fair-start would remain in place.
- Explore an alternative northern opener including, but not limited to, December 7th, 10th, 15th, or January 1st.
- Revisit crab quality testing protocols including:
 - Consider and potentially re-designate the dates on which California will perform the first crab quality test(s) for the northern and central California (if District 10 is included in the Committee) season openers.
 - Consider allowing flexibility in the duration between each round of crab quality testing such that each successive round of testing may take place inside or outside 10-day increments.

The DCTF would appreciate feedback from the Committee on the issues above to inform the DCTF's continued discussion.

Thumbs up	Thumbs Sideways	Thumbs Down	Abstained	Absent
13	6	0	2	1



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Vote of all DCTF Members (nonvoting Members abstained):

Thumbs up (13): Anderson, Atkinson, Bettencourt, Blodgett, Blue, Cannia, Collins, Cunningham, Doyle, Goucher, Mantua, Shepherd, Standley,

Thumbs sideways (6): Caito, de Solenni, Fahning, Gorelnik, Horner, Yarnall

Thumbs down (0): None

Abstain (2): Nolte, Powers

Absent (1): Johnson

APPROVED: The DCTF will consider flexibility in setting start a date outside of 15-day increments, but they do not necessarily endorse it without further discussion within the DCTF and with their constituents.

Thumbs up	Thumbs Sideways	Thumbs Down	Abstained	Absent
8	8	4	1	1

Vote of all DCTF Members (nonvoting Members abstained):

Thumbs up (8): Anderson, Bettencourt, Caito, Cannia, Collins, Doyle, Mantua, Nolte

Thumbs sideways (8): Atkinson, Blodgett, Blue, Cunningham, Gorelnik, Goucher, Standley, Yarnall

Thumbs down (4): de Solenni, Fahning, Horner, Shepherd,

Abstain (1): Powers

Absent (1): Johnson

APPROVED: The DCTF continues to consider a December 15 target start date, but does not necessarily endorse that date without further discussion within the DCTF and with constituents.

Thumbs up	Thumbs Sideways	Thumbs Down	Abstained	Absent
12	8	0	1	1

Vote of all DCTF Members (nonvoting Members abstained):

Thumbs up (12): Anderson, Bettencourt, Blue, Caito, Cannia, de Solenni, Doyle, Fahning, Goucher, Horner, Mantua, Shepherd

Thumbs sideways (8): Atkinson, Blodgett, Collins, Cunningham, Gorelnik, Nolte, Standley, Yarnall

Thumbs down (0): None

Abstain (1): Powers

Absent (1): Johnson

NOT APPROVED: The DCTF does not approve of revising the pre-soak period and start time to avoid a 12AM start time for pulling gear.

Thumbs up	Thumbs Sideways	Thumbs Down	Abstained	Absent
3	1	12	3	1

Vote of all DCTF Members (nonvoting Members abstained):

Thumbs up (3): Blodgett, Blue, Cannia

Thumbs sideways (1): Horner



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Thumbs down (12): Anderson, Atkinson, Bettencourt, Caito, Collins, Cunningham, de Solenni, Doyle, Fahning, Goucher, Mantua, Nolte, Shepherd, Standley

Abstain (3): Gorelnik, Powers, Yarnall

Absent (1): Johnson

Administrative vote: *Consideration and possible confirmation of a sport fishery workgroup including, but not limited to, membership, tasks, responsibilities, and timelines.*

APPROVED: The EC may elect to request other DCTF members (e.g. sport representatives) to discuss related issues.- APPROVED

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

Vote of all DCTF Members (nonvoting Members abstained):

Thumbs up (18): Anderson, Atkinson, Bettencourt, Blodgett, Blue, Caito, Collins, Cunningham, de Solenni, Doyle, Fahning, Gorelnik, Goucher, Horner, Nolte, Shepherd, Standley, Yarnall

Thumbs sideways (0): None

Thumbs down (0): None

Abstain (3): Cannia, Mantua, Powers

Absent (1): Johnson

ACTION: *Consideration and possible adoption of a prioritized process/list of how to Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission may distribute funds allocated for crab quality testing.*

APPROVED: The DCTF agrees with the EC’s memo on crab quality testing funding for the present time.

- Processors will come to a DCTF meeting with updated insights on accounting and DCTF will consider revisiting compensation for processors
- Excess Funds- TBD in another year or 2. This may include, but not be limited to, charitable purposes, reserved funds for light years, observers during the set, funding DCTF, and crab trap recovery program.

Thumbs up	Thumbs Sideways	Thumbs Down	Abstained	Absent
20	1	0	0	1

Vote of all DCTF Members (nonvoting Members abstained):

Thumbs up (20): Anderson, Atkinson, Bettencourt, Blodgett, Blue, Caito, Cannia, Collins, Cunningham, de Solenni, Doyle, Fahning, Gorelnik, Goucher, Horner, Mantua, Nolte, Shepherd, Standley, Yarnall

Thumbs sideways (1): Powers

Thumbs down (0): None

Abstain (0): None



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Absent (1): Johnson

Next Steps

In addition to the reports mentioned above to the Tri-State Dungeness Crab Committee and the Commission, these recommendations, along with those approved at the upcoming Fall 2014 DCTF meeting, will be forwarded to the Legislature, CDFW, and the Commission no later than January 15, 2015.