

CA Lost Fishing Gear Recovery Project: Northern California Crab Gear Retrieval Program Results

Presented by Jennifer Renzullo, Field Manager

Northern California Crab Gear Retrieval Program Results

- Trinidad = 6 days , Craig Goucher
- Eureka = 3 days, Kevin Pinto
- Crescent City = 11 days, John Beardon
- 323 traps pulled
- 342 traps pumped
- 72 buoys and line
- Total = 665 traps recovered
- Representing 65 different boats!



How much did this cost?

- Total grant \$109,000
- HFMA Subawarded \$50,000 for gear retrieval costs, storage, etc.
- Total Subaward Spent \$45,993.48
- \$21,840 earned through trap buyback
- ~200 traps remain in storage to be sold back
- ~25 Eureka/Trinidad and 35 CC traps taken w/o payment so far...



Statewide Program Proposed Model

The following ideas were generated at association meetings in Eureka & CC

- Gear retrieval program begins day after close of season. (or 2 weeks later?)
- Pay fishermen \$65/trap recovered + fuel reimbursement. (Sell gear for \$70/trap?) No observer needed.
- Pots are “impounded”.
- Everyone must pay whether they pick up their gear or not. Bills not paid will be given to CDFW and attached to permit renewal.
- 1 person at each port needs to inventory and sell gear back to rightful owners.
- Gear not picked up by Nov.1st will be sold or scrapped.
- Overhead for program will be paid for by added cost for replacement tags and profit from gear sales.

Estimated Cost Projections

- 10 ports = 1 person/port/season to inventory, sell gear, prepare bills, write receipts, track fishermen \$ earned and fuel receipts. $\sim \$3,000 \times 10 \text{ ports} = \$30,000/\text{season}$
- 1 Program Administrator, keep Gear Recovery Committee informed, manage a port, and give CDFW unpaid bills by end of year. Handles any unforeseen issues. $\sim \$8,000.00$
- Storage ($\$0.30/\text{ft}/\text{month}$) $\sim \$270/\text{month}$, forklifts ($\$30/\text{half-hour}$), hoists (?). Total Misc. $\$15,000$
- Fuel $\sim \$450/\text{day} \times 80 \text{ days} = \$36,000$
- Total Cost Projection = $\$89,000$