

**Proposal by the DCTF Half Moon Bay Low Tier Representative to the California
Dungeness Crab Task Force for consideration at the February 17-18, 2010 DCTF meeting
in Ukiah, CA**

The following concepts reflect additional management options for the California Dungeness crab fishery since the Dungeness Crab Task Force (DCTF) met in late October 2009. These ideas are based on objectives to set an overall fishery trap target, to reduce total traps in the water to this target, and to reduce active permits in the fishery to an overall target. These concepts have been prepared by fishermen and are expected to be discussed at the February 17 and 18 DCTF meeting in Ukiah

Trap reduction concept

Since many will have a trap reduction, the true goal of this reduction is to increase the catch per pot per season. By allowing the purchase of pots, most everyone will be able to maintain their level while reducing unused pots.

As to the sales of someone's business, for a person that is selling to get out of the business, to someone new and getting into the fisheries (not a transfer of pots) the sales of the whole business is with a one for one trap sales.

- 1) Max cap trap limit per vessel
- 2) Trap allocation will be set below max cap and allow a fisherman to buy up to a cap
- 3) Trap capacity goal set for the state
- 4) Traps to be traded with a reduction formula (ie.. two for one)
- 5) Once trap capacity goal is reached, traps would be traded one for one
- 6) If an individual owns more than one permit the additional permit(s) traps could be transferred to the first permit at the reduction rate. The owner could opt to keep the second permit on another vessel.
- 7) Traps can be sold from an existing allotment in any fraction desired by a seller and buyer (i.e. 100 percent of traps for sale go to one buyer, or 50 percent of traps sold go to one buyer, 50 percent go to another buyer)\
- 8) A latent permit holder may choose to sell their entire trap allotment and their permit. In such a sale, traps are sold two for one, and the latent permit is retired.
- 9) In concert with the retirement of latent permits, a pool (the number to be determined) of permits will always be maintained that will allow entry into the fishery.
- 10) Trap allocation data will be administered by either DFG, or through an industry committee associated with a Dungeness crab advisory body that is set up to address issues such as permit grievances, tag allocation database management, etc.
- 11) Administration will be paid through either a landings tax, or a pot tag fee, or a pot transfer fee (\$500)

As a separate issue as pertaining to an effort shift, a proposal of a 30-day fair start clause would be set for all areas along the California coast (and pursued through the Tri-State Commission for

Oregon, Washington, and Tribal boats with CA permits) such that all fishermen make and are bound to a 30-day hold at the beginning of the season for the fishing district of their choice.

Examples of trap allocations could include the following variations:

EXAMPLE 1

500 max trap cap

Allocation as follows

Top tier 150 permits with 400 pots = 60,000

Lower tier 250 permits with 250 traps =62,500

Latent tier 200 permits with 100 traps = 20,000

Total 142,500

100,000 capacity goal

Traps would trade 2 for 1 until capacity goal is reached and 1 for 1 from then on.

EXAMPLE 2

500 max trap cap

Allocation as follows

Active fishers 400 permits with 400 pots=160,000

Latent permits 200 permits with 100 pots =20,000

Total180,000

100,000 capacity goal

Traps would trade 2 for 1 until capacity goal is reached and 1 for 1 from then on