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## Draft DCTF Interests

March 25, 2012

During its March 12, 2012 meeting, the DCTF identified interests to be considered within the purview of SB 369. In preparation for the DCTF's April 2, 2012 meeting, the DCTF Administrative Team developed the following summary document; this list also considers previously identified DCTF interests and considerations.

As a next step, the DCTF will prioritize these interests, identify key objectives, explore each priority's associated rationale (why) and solution (how), and develop appropriate recommendations for submission to the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG), the California Fish and Game Commission (FGC), and the Joint Committee of Fisheries and Aquaculture (Legislature).

### DCTF Identified Interests

★– from March 2012

◆– from prior meetings

#### **Commercial**

- Trap limit program: review and assess trap limit program and identify metrics for success<sup>1</sup>
- Crab testing program: discussions included adding a mechanism in the Fish and Game code to compensate observers and others involved in the crab quality testing process. ★◆
- Ensure crab caught in California is landed in California; discussions included landings-related taxes and revenue, how to track/log. ★◆
- Emergency transfers: discussions included tighter restrictions on emergency transfers, restrict/confine emergency transfers to apply to vessel size of permit holder. ★
- Enforcement: discussions included registering specific buoy colors with each permit holder. ★
- Lost and derelict gear retrieval: discussions included allowing fishermen to have any type of trap on board their vessel two weeks after completion of the season or within the last two weeks of the season. ★◆
- Dual permit holders: discussions included requiring out-of-state permit holders to put both OR and CA tags on a traps in CA waters. ★
- Movement between trap limit tiers: discussions included providing a mechanism to reduce trap allocations due to financial hardship for a period of time, and then allow permit holder to return to original allocation. ★
- Establishment of adaptive management procedures on Dungeness crab fishery management programs. ◆
- Discussion and recommendations on fishery management approaches to address issues associated with effort shift. ◆
- Improvement of the collection and dissemination of fishery data. ◆
- Potentially use landings taxes to support fishery management programs. ◆
- Establishment of a permanent Dungeness crab permit tracking number. ◆
- Work with the Tri-State committee to move the tri-state fair start line. ◆<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> This item was brought up on March 12, 2012 by the DCTF Administrative Team in response to the DCTF's charge as defined in SB 369

<sup>2</sup> SB 369 states that the DCTF will work with the tri-state committee on this issue

- Reduce potential threat of latent permit activation beyond “window period.” ◆
- Limit vessel expansion specific to permit transfers (e.g. width of the vessel). ◆
- Prevent transfer of fishing permits to crab processors. ◆
- Develop consistent regulations between commercial, CPFV and sport fisheries. ★◆

### **Sport**

- Commercial Passenger Fishing Vessel (CPFV): discussions included removing inconsistencies between CPFV and sport fishing regulations, limiting commercial fishers from participating in the recreational opener. ★
- Quality control: discussions included poor crab quality tests preventing the season from opening to the commercial fishermen but remaining open to sport fishery. ★
- Other: discussions included dissolvable cottons, retention of female crabs, minimum size requirements, marking sport buoys and traps. ★

### SB 369 Requirements

In addition to the DCTF’s identified interests, SB 369 also states the DCTF will discuss the following:

- The need for a permanent Dungeness crab advisory committee
- The economic impact of the [trap limit] program described in Section 8276.5 on permit holders of different tiers and the economies of different ports
- The cost of the [trap limit] program to the department, including enforcement costs
- The viability of a buyout program for the permit holders described in subparagraph (G) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 8276.5
- Refining sport and commercial Dungeness crab management, and the need for statutory changes to accomplish task force objectives.

SB 369 also highlights DCTF priorities:

- The review of pot limit restriction options current and future sport and commercial fishery effort
- Season modifications
- Essential fishery information needs
- Short- and long-term objectives for improved management