



**Abridged Summary of California Dungeness Crab Task Force (DCTF) Votes
October 29, 2014 DCTF meeting
Updated January 2015**

This document provides a summary of action items and associated votes taken by the DCTF at its October 29, 2014 meeting in Ukiah, California. Any vote marked as “approved” will be forwarded as a recommendation to the Joint Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture (Legislature), the Fish and Game Commission (Commission), and Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) in the DCTF’s legislatively mandated January 2015 report.

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 October 29, 2014 meeting, please refer to the meeting summary at: <http://www.opc.ca.gov/2009/04/dungeness-crab-task-force/>

DCTF Votes

ACTION: *Consideration and possible adoption of recommendations related to the Dungeness crab commercial trap limit program including, but not limited to, waivers for trap tag fees, derelict gear retrieval options, changes to the transferability of tier 7 permits, future data needs and monitoring and evaluation of the commercial Dungeness crab trap limit program.*

APPROVED Allow buoy tag fee waiver for permitholders upon renewal of permit if you are faced with mandatory military service. There is no limit on how many times a permitholder can do this. An individual cannot purchase tags mid-season and start fishing. If a permitholder decides to not fish one year and wants to fish the next year, the permitholder will need to pay tag fees for two full years. No discounting or prorating fees.

Thumbs up	Thumbs Sideways	Thumbs Down	Abstained	Absent
17	1	1	0	3

Vote of all DCTF Members (nonvoting Members abstained):

Thumbs up (17): Anderson, Atkinson, Bettencourt, Blodgett, Blue, Caito, Collins, de Solenni,



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Goucher, Helliwell, Hemmingsen, Lawson, Nolte, Powers, Wolford, Yarnall, Yearwood

Thumbs sideways (1): Fahning

Thumbs down (1): Doyle

Abstain (0): None

Absent (3): Bennett, Cunningham, Johnson

APPROVED The DCTF believes no action should be taken on Tier 7 permits with regards to allowing transferability of trap tags after March 31, 2015.

Thumbs up	Thumbs Sideways	Thumbs Down	Abstained	Absent
14	5	0	0	3

Vote of all DCTF Members (nonvoting Members abstained):

Thumbs up (14): Anderson, Blodgett, Blue, Caito, de Solenni, Fahning, Goucher, Helliwell, Hemmingsen, Lawson, Nolte, Powers, Yarnall, Yearwood

Thumbs sideways (5): Atkinson, Bettencourt, Collins, Doyle, Wolford

Thumbs down (0): None

Abstain (0): None

Absent (3): Bennett, Cunningham, Johnson

APPROVED The DCTF continues to oppose the stacking of commercial Dungeness crab permits.

Thumbs up	Thumbs Sideways	Thumbs Down	Abstained	Absent
16	1	2	0	3

Vote of all DCTF Members (nonvoting Members abstained):

Thumbs up (16): Anderson, Atkinson, Bettencourt, Blodgett, Blue, Caito, Collins, Fahning, Goucher, Helliwell, Hemmingsen, Lawson, Powers, Wolford, Yarnall, Yearwood

Thumbs sideways (1): Doyle

Thumbs down (2): de Solenni, Nolte

Abstain (0): None

Absent (3): Bennett, Cunningham, Johnson

APPROVED The DCTF recommends amending 132.1 CCR T-14 and adding #3- Vessels may transit waters South of 42.00 with traps buoy tagged with either a valid Oregon or Washington buoy tag, provided no crab species are aboard the vessel and no traps shall be deployed in waters South of 42.00 without a valid CA buoy tag.

Thumbs up	Thumbs Sideways	Thumbs Down	Abstained	Absent
13	3	0	3	3



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Vote of all DCTF Members (nonvoting Members abstained):

Thumbs up (13): Bettencourt, Blodgett, Blue, Caito, Collins, de Solenni, Doyle, Fahning, Goucher, Helliwell, Lawson, Nolte, Yearwood

Thumbs sideways (3): Anderson, Atkinson, Hemmingsen

Thumbs down (0): None

Abstain (3): Powers, Wolford, Yarnall

Absent (3): Bennett, Cunningham, Johnson

APPROVED The DCTF agrees that the Dungeness crab commercial trap limit program is an important step in managing the amount of gear in the water. The DCTF looks forward to watching the trap limit program develop and providing additional recommendations in the DCTF's legislatively mandated 2017 report. Future recommendations may include:

- Looking at the need for in-season replacement tags. There are concerns about potential loopholes associated with replacement tags.
- Recommendations related to preserving the structure of the commercial fleet.

Thumbs up	Thumbs Sideways	Thumbs Down	Abstained	Absent
19	0	0	0	3

Vote of all DCTF Members (nonvoting Members abstained):

Thumbs up (19): Anderson, Atkinson, Bettencourt, Blodgett, Blue, Caito, Collins, de Solenni, Doyle, Fahning, Goucher, Helliwell, Hemmingsen, Lawson, Nolte, Powers, Wolford, Yarnall, Yearwood

Thumbs sideways (0): None

Thumbs down (0): None

Abstain (0): None

Absent (3): Bennett, Cunningham, Johnson

APPROVED The DCTF agrees that an industry designed, funded, and implemented lost gear retrieval program that works in cooperation with CDFW is a priority. The DCTF will work with CDFW, the Northern CA Crab Gear Retrieval Program, and the industry to investigate the best way to design and implement this program, including the specifics of how to fund this program.

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

Vote of all DCTF Members (nonvoting Members abstained):

Thumbs up (18): Anderson, Atkinson, Bettencourt, Blodgett, Blue, Caito, Collins, de Solenni, Doyle, Fahning, Goucher, Helliwell, Hemmingsen, Lawson, Nolte, Wolford, Yarnall, Yearwood

Thumbs sideways (0): None

Thumbs down (0): None

Abstain (1): Powers



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Absent (3): Bennett, Cunningham, Johnson

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

APPROVED The DCTF recommends changing all references to “a/the person” in Fish and Game code 8279.1 (a)-(d) to “any Dungeness crab permitted vessel”.

Thumbs up	Thumbs Sideways	Thumbs Down	Abstained	Absent
7	11	1	0	3

Vote of all DCTF Members (nonvoting Members abstained):

Thumbs up (7): Collins, de Solenni, Doyle, Fahning, Hemmingsen, Lawson, Nolte

Thumbs sideways (11): Anderson, Atkinson, Bettencourt, Blodgett, Blue, Caito, Goucher, Helliwell, Powers, Wolford, Yarnall

Thumbs down (1): Yearwood

Abstain (0): None

Absent (3): Bennett, Cunningham, Johnson

APPROVED The DCTF feels the issues identified by Tri-State for giving the CDFW director more authority and/or flexibility are currently resolved. Issues include presoak, start date, start time, management area lines to have the ability to draw new lines for softshell delays, and new delay increments for season start. The DCTF would like to retain CA’s current structure for making recommendations to Tri-State.

Thumbs up	Thumbs Sideways	Thumbs Down	Abstained	Absent
6	13	0	0	3

Vote of all DCTF Members (nonvoting Members abstained):

Thumbs up (6): Anderson, Blodgett, Collins, Goucher, Hemmingsen, Powers

Thumbs sideways (13): Atkinson, Bettencourt, Blue, Caito, de Solenni, Doyle, Fahning, Helliwell, Lawson, Nolte, Wolford, Yarnall, Yearwood

Thumbs down (0): None

Abstain (0): None

Absent (3): Bennett, Cunningham, Johnson

Next Steps

These recommendations, along with recommendations approved at the April 2014 DCTF meeting, will be forwarded to the Legislature, CDFW, and the Commission no later than January 15, 2015.