RAMP 2.0 Overview Section 132.8 Title 14, CCR

Presented to the Dungeness Crab Task Force

by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife – Marine Region

April 23, 2024



RAMP 2.0 – Timeline

- April 5: 45-day public comment period start
- May 21: Notice period ends
- May 21: Public hearing
- November 1: Effective date (anticipated)



<u>Definitions (a):</u>

- "Confirmed Entanglement" defined as entanglements involving California commercial Dungeness crab gear observed anywhere
- Clarify "Unknown Fishing Gear" entanglements will count as a Confirmed Entanglement only if reported from Ocean Waters off California
- Removal of Fishing Zones 6 and 7
- Simplify Confirmed Entanglement's calculation by repealing Impact Score using phased approach
- Specify Marine Life Concentration survey area
- Include definition of Ocean Waters



- <u>Risk Assessment Schedule (b):</u>
 - Assessments to begin October 15
 - Clarify that a management action will remain in effect until it is revoked
 - If a Fishing Zone is closed for the season, only approved Alternative Gear can then be used in that zone.
 - Once a Fishing Zone is closed for the season, entanglement risk will no longer be evaluated for that zone.
 - The Director will provide a minimum of 24 hours' notice (rather than 48) of anticipated Risk Assessment



• <u>Triggers for Management Action (c):</u>

• **Remove Impact Scoring:** phased approach for new Entanglement Evaluation process for

Actionable Species.

Actionable Species	Type of Entanglement	RAMP 1.0	RAMP 2.0, effective Nov. 1, 2024	RAMP 2.0, effective Nov 1, 2025*	RAMP 2.0, effective Nov 1, 2028**
Humpback whale	Confirmed CA commercial Dcrab	0.75	1	1	1
Blue whale	Confirmed CA commercial Dcrab	1	1	1	1
Leatherback sea turtle	Confirmed CA commercial Dcrab	1	1	1	1
Humpback whale	Unknown Fishing Gear	0.38	0.5	0.25	0
Blue whale	Unknown Fishing Gear	0.5	0.5	0.25	0
Leatherback sea turtle	Unknown Fishing Gear	0.5	0.5	0.25	0





- <u>Triggers for Management Action (c):</u>
 - Automatic closures:
 - <u>Humpback whales:</u> three Confirmed Entanglements during a calendar year will close the season statewide. Fishing Season will not re-open until January 1 of the next calendar year.
 - <u>Blue whales:</u> one Confirmed Entanglement will close the season statewide. For the next two calendar years the Fishing Season will close on April 1 statewide.
 - <u>Pacific leatherback sea turtles:</u> one Confirmed Entanglement will close the Fishing Season in Fishing Zones 3 and 4. Automatic season curtailment in Fishing Zones 3 and 4 for the next nine years (January 1 to June 1).



<u>Management Considerations (d):</u>

- Minor additions for clarity and consolidation
- Past Confirmed Entanglements can be considered from previous calendar years and Fishing Seasons.

• Management Actions (e):

- Removal of Fleet Advisory
- Addition of Surface Gear restriction: prohibit the use of additional surface buoys and surface lines.
- Addition of Active Tending requirement: shorten the maximum service interval to four hours and the maximum distance from a vessel to any and all of its crab traps to two miles
- Clarify how season closures affect use of gear and sale of crab; add allowance for sale of crab taken prior to season closure date

Notification Process (f):

- Minor language addition
- Data Reporting (g):
 - Update to bi-weekly reporting:
 - Reports can be submitted via a new electronic form in addition to email and text
 - Additional reporting fields: report date and number of newly lost traps
 - Two weeks after final bi-weekly report, submit cumulative lost trap and buoy tag numbers
 - Update vessel tracking requirements:
 - EM device needs to transmit via satellite or cell service that automatically uploads to CDFW or authorized agent within 24 hours
 - Addition of tampering and transmission requirements



- Gear Identification (h):
 - **Buoy Marking** Effective November 1, 2024
 - Mark both main and trailer buoys with "D" multiple sides
 - ≤4 inches diameter 2 times
 - >4 inches diameter 4 times
 - Main buoy shall also have operator license number in front of one identification letter



California Dungeness Crab Fishery Buoy Marking

Effective Date: November 1, 2024



For all buoys <4 inches in diameter – Unique letter marked on 2 sides

California Dungeness Crab Fishery Buoy Marking

Effective Date: November 1, 2024



For all buoys ≥4 inches in diameter – Unique letter marked on 4 sides

• Gear Identification (h):

- Line marking: purple and black line requirement (manufactured or painted)
 - By Nov. 1, 2025: Surface Gear
 - Any portion of line that connects two buoys shall be continuously marked
 - By Nov. 1, 2028: Depth-dependent line marking
 - Greater than 20 fathoms: Upper 15 fathoms marked
 - Between 5 and 20 fathoms: Entire line, except for bottom 5 fathoms, marked
 - At 5 fathoms or shallower: Entire line marked



California Dungeness Crab Fishery Line Marking

Manufactured Line: 3 strands;

2 strands purple and one strand black

Painted Line: Alternating color; Solid color marks of 6-12 inches in length cover entirety (circumference) of line





California Dungeness Crab Fishery Line Marking

Effective Date: November 1, 2025



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California Dungeness Crab Fishery Line Marking

Effective Date: November 1, 2028



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RAMP 2.0 - Update to §132.8

• Alternative Gear (i):

- Minor readability changes (i.e. "Detectability" to "Detectable" and "Ability to Identify" to "Identifiable" etc.)
- Add specific conditions that Alternative Gear authorization under RAMP may be subject to including limitation of allowable Fishing Zones, limiting depth, limiting number of maximum traps, adding notification requirements, and other conditions to ensure compliance.

• Unlawful to Violate (j):

• States that it is unlawful to violate any restriction or fail to comply with any requirements imposed by RAMP



