

*Public comment submitted to the California Dungeness Crab Task Force (DCTF) on April 14, 2018*

Hi Rachelle,

I was listening in to the [Executive Committee] call [on Thursday, April 12, 2018] and heard public comment on the Whale issue from "Chris" I think it was. He read from a prepared statement that obviously took time to research and write and spoke calmly and clearly. His statements seemed factual and had considerable merit. At the end of his comments there was no feedback, no debate amongst the DCTF members, nothing! This is a perfect example of the disconnect that a majority of current Dungeness Crab permit holders feel with the DCTF. If a carefully crafted factual piece of pertinent information is delivered to the DCTF and it falls on deaf ears then why should any permit holder feel he is being represented. Public comment is provided for those that feel they are not being represented. He brought up some very valid points that the DCTF should have considered but all he got was, next. I hope you understand this critique and I hope things can change in the future because for those of us who are on the outside, the window looking in is getting smaller.

Can you forward this email to the DCTF for consideration.

Stephen Melz