CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE DECLARATION OF FISHERIES CLOSURE DUE TO A PUBLIC HEALTH THREAT CAUSED BY ELEVATED LEVELS OF DOMOIC ACID IN RAZOR CLAMS Pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 5523, I find and declare that

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On April 20, 2016, the Director of the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment in consultation with the Director of the California Department of Public Health determined that razor clams in Humboldt and Del Norte counties contain unhealthy domoic acid levels and recommended fishery closure.

II.

On April 25, the Fish and Game Commission adopted an emergency closure of the razor clam fishery as recommended. The emergency closure effective dates were from April 26, 2016 to October 24, 2016. The emergency closure was extended for 90 days and will expire on January 26, 2017.

III.

Opportunistic sampling of razor clams from the affected counties in December shows that domoic acid levels remain at unhealthy levels.

IV.

THEREFORE, under the authority granted by FG Code Section 5523, I am continuing the razor clam closure until I am notified by the public health agency directors named above, that a health hazard with regard to razor clams no longer exists.

Charlton H. Bonham, Director

Date/Time