



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

I.

On November 8, 2016, the state Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), in consultation with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), recommended to CDFW to close the commercial rock crab fishery north of Pigeon Point, San Mateo County due to elevated levels of the neurotoxin Domoic Acid in rock crab tissue samples. Subsequently, CDFW Director Charlton H. Bonham submitted to the Office of Administrative Law an emergency rulemaking to close the commercial rock crab fishery north of Pigeon Point. The recreational fishery for rock crab remained open statewide with a warning from CDPH to recreational anglers to avoid consuming the viscera of rock crab caught in the closure area.

II.

Following the recommendation of state health agencies, the CDFW Director, under new authority granted by Fish and Game Code Section 5523, announced on February 10, 2017 that the open area of the commercial rock crab fishery had been extended northward to Bodega Bay, Sonoma County (38° 18' N. Lat.).

III.

The emergency commercial rock crab fishery closure for the area north of Bodega Bay is due to expire on May 16, 2017, and state public health agencies are not expected to recommend opening the commercial rock crab fishery at that time.

IV.

**THEREFORE**, under the authority granted by FG Code Section 5523, I am continuing the commercial rock crab fishery closure until I am notified by the public health agency directors named above, that a health hazard with regard to rock crabs no longer exists.

Charlton H. Bonham, Director

Date/Time