Dungeness and Rock Crab Fishery Disaster Relief: Overview and Options for Consideration

July 18, 2018

Provide Written Comments by 5pm on Wednesday, July 18: Christy.Juhasz@wildlife.ca.gov

www.wildlife.ca.gov/crab
Purpose of Webinar

• To engage with the Dungeness and rock crab industries
• To provide background on disaster relief process and timing
  • Be responsive to questions
• To receive public feedback focused on Department-developed options
Background

• Congress appropriated $25.8 million to California crab disaster
• NOAA established guidance for use of funds
• State of California responsible for determining how money will be allocated through grant application to NOAA Fisheries.
• PSMFC will distribute funds based on CDFW determination
NOAA Guidance

• State’s grant application must:
  • Be consistent with NOAA’s guidance and other fishery and disaster policies
  • Address impacts to fishermen, charter operations, shoreside infrastructure, subsistence users, and the fishing ecosystem and environment
  • Focus should be on restoring fishery and preventing future disasters
  • Strengthen long-term economic and environmental sustainability of the fishery
NOAA Guidance

“The spend plans…must articulate how the activities were prioritized and demonstrate how this assistance is aimed at preventing similar failures in the future. If the spending plan includes a request for direct payments, the project narrative must describe why direct payments, instead of long-term economic and environmental measures, are the best mechanism to address the fishery disaster…”
Proposed Distribution By Sectors

- **Mitigation of Future Impacts of Domoic Acid: 10-30%**
  - Domoic Research: 50%
  - Domoic Testing Infrastructure: 50%
- **Direct Payment to Support Industry: 69-89%**
  - Dungeness crab: 97%
    - Commercial Fishermen: 67%
    - Processors/Buyers: 30%
    - CPFVs: 3%
  - Rock crab: 3%
    - Commercial Fishermen: 70%
    - Processors/Buyers: 30%
- **PSMFC Overhead Rate: 1%**
- **Department Loss in Landing Fees: 0.1%**

*Estimated*
Proposal for Mitigation of Future Impacts of Domoic Acid

• Research – Competitive grant program focused on Domoic acid environmental and ecological dynamics; supports development of predictive tools

• Testing Infrastructure – improve monitoring/testing capability to minimize impacts to the fishery
Proposed Options for Disbursement
Industry Sector: Commercial Fishermen

# of Permits: 561 Dcrab; 126 South Rock & 43 North Rock

• Option 1: Equal Share: split equally among all qualifying participants
  - Sub-option: Weighted by trap tier (Dcrab only)

• Option 2: Proportional to ex-vessel value of landings
  • Sub-option A: Based on difference between past average and disaster year
  • Sub-option B: Based on past average
Proposed Options for Disbursement
Industry Sector: Processors/Buyers

~300 Businesses

• Option 1: Equal Share: split equally among all qualifying participants
• Option 2: Proportional to ex-vessel value of landings
  • Sub-option A: Based on difference between past average and disaster year
  • Sub-option B: Based on past average
Proposed Options for Disbursement
Industry Sector: Dungeness Crab CPFV

~90 vessels

• Option 1: Equal Share: split equally among all qualifying participants
• Option 2: Proportional to historic trips from daily logbooks
Q & A and Discussion

- Procedures
  - State your name and affiliation, if any
  - Feedback should consider NOAA guidance
Next Steps

• Additional questions/comments may be submitted in writing until 5pm, Wednesday, July 18
  • Christy.Juhasz@wildlife.ca.gov
• Summary of public comments received verbally and via email will be summarized and shared in the coming weeks: www.wildlife.ca.gov/crab
• Department will take into consideration industry feedback
• Proposal submitted by Friday, July 20