



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
DECLARATION OF FISHERY CLOSURE
DUE TO SIGNIFICANT RISK OF MARINE LIFE ENTANGLEMENT
IN THE DUNGENESS CRAB COMMERCIAL FISHERY

Pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 8276.1(c), I find and declare that

I.

Pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 8276.1(c), after consultation with the California Dungeness Crab Fishing Gear Working Group and consideration of recommendations and new information provided in response to the March 28, 2019, notice of preliminary determination of significant entanglement risk, I have determined that the California commercial Dungeness crab fishery is being conducted in a manner that poses a significant risk of marine life entanglement, and that the appropriate management response is a closure of the California commercial Dungeness crab fishery, effective April 15, 2019.

II.

THEREFORE, under the authority granted by Fish and Game Code Section 8276.1(c)(1), I am closing the commercial Dungeness crab fishery statewide. This closure requires all commercial Dungeness crab fishing gear to be removed from ocean waters by 11:59 p.m. on April 15, 2019. No commercial Dungeness crab landings may be made after 11:59 p.m. on April 15, 2019.

The closure will remain in place for the remainder of the 2018-19 California commercial Dungeness crab season. Updates regarding the commercial Dungeness crab fishery will be made available on the Department's web page: www.wildlife.ca.gov/crab

Charlton H. Bonham, Director

April 2, 2019 / 2:45 pm PST
Date/Time