



**Experimental Fishing Permit No.** \_\_\_\_\_

**EXPERIMENTAL FISHING PERMIT TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

Pursuant to California Fish and Game Code (FGC) Section 1022 and Section 90, Title 14, California Code of Regulations (CCR), the Permitholder is authorized to conduct experimental fishing activities according to the authorizations, Standard Terms, Special Conditions and restrictions listed on the Experimental Fishing Permit (EFP) approved by the Fish and Game Commission (Commission) and issued by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department). These Standard Terms shall apply to all persons or vessels conducting activities under an EFP.

Permittee Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Permittee Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Second Operator Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Second Operator Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Vessel Name and ID # \_\_\_\_\_

**Description of Authorized Activity:**

**STANDARD TERMS**

1. An Experimental Fishing Permit number will be provided by the License and Revenue Branch (LRB) for this activity, and it will be valid for a term of one year commencing on \_\_\_\_\_ and ending on \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The permit shall be operated only on the vessel named above. The permittee may designate up to one other permit operator who may also take the authorized species from the vessel named on this permit. Either the primary permittee or the secondary operator must be aboard the vessel, and both are responsible and accountable for meeting the requirements and limits of this permit.
3. Pursuant to FGC Section 7857(d), a valid copy of the original Department issued Automated License Data System permit shall be attached to a signed copy of this form and be on the vessel when activities are being conducted under the authority of this permit.
4. The permittee and any person who assists the permittee, must possess a valid commercial fishing license issued pursuant to FGC Section 7850, prior to engaging in any commercial fishing operations authorized by this permit.
5. The permittee shall possess a valid commercial boat registration issued pursuant to FGC Section 7881, for the vessel named above and display the Department Boat Registration numbers in plain sight on each side of the vessel.





### **Special Conditions Approved by the Commission**

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Participants may fish for box crab and rock crab, Dungeness crab or spot prawn within the same trip if appropriate permits for retained species are in place. Adherence to all other regulations regarding the take of these species is required. Brown box crab and lobster shall not be targeted or possessed within the same trip. For research purposes, the Department may provide written authorization for the landing of king crab caught in box crab traps above the 25-pound landing restriction specified in section 126 of Title 14. All other species caught in box crab traps shall be returned to the water immediately and not used as bait.
2. This permit authorizes up to 36,000 pounds of brown box crab to be landed annually by the vessel named in this permit. If this limit is reached prior to one year from the date fishing is initiated, all targeting of box crab must cease until the permit expires and is subsequently renewed.
3. All box crab must have a minimum width of 5  $\frac{3}{4}$  inches across the widest part of the carapace including spines to be retained, possessed and landed unless authorized in writing by the Department to retain smaller crab for research purposes.
4. No processing or packaging of box crab may take place until weighed, recorded on a landing receipt, and a landing receipt is provided to the permittee by the receiver.
5. Permittees must engage in a minimum of 50 active fishing days per year targeting box crab. Active fishing days include days when box crab traps are pulled and do not include days when only transit or the setting of traps takes place.
6. Pursuant to FGC Section 9004, permittees must service their traps at intervals no more than 96 hours unless otherwise authorized in writing by the Department. Exceptions may be made for weather or other safety concerns.
7. Traps shall meet the following design specifications:
  - a. Traps may be any shape but must have a diameter, length or width no larger than 6 feet.
  - b. Traps must have at least one round escape port no smaller than 4 inches in diameter.
  - c. Traps made of wire mesh must have mesh measurements 1.5 x 3.5 inches or larger.
  - d. Escape ports must be in the top or side of the trap. If both are in the side, at least one must be located so that at least one half of the opening is in the upper half of the trap.
  - e. Traps must include at least one destruct device to be specified by the Department.
  - f. The Department may allow and/or request deployment of specific trap designs for research purposes.
8. Buoy markings shall comply with requirements specified in California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 180.5 marking the letter "R" on buoys used for box crab. Additionally, the Department may require a tag of designated shape, color and size, to be provided by the permittee, to be fixed to the line immediately below the buoy.



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9. Pop-up buoys shall not be used.
10. A maximum of 75 traps may be fished at one time unless additional traps are authorized in writing by the Department for research purposes.
11. If requested by the Department, permittees must move fishing gear in response to circumstances including, but not limited to, gear conflicts with other fishermen and Naval operations.
12. The permittee shall allow Department designated technicians to install electronic fishery monitoring hardware on their vessel and comply with all associated procedures for operation, maintenance, and data sharing. No fishing for box crab may take place unless a functioning electronic monitoring system is installed and used as specified by the Department. The electronic monitoring must remain active at all times when the vessel is in use through the duration of the project.
13. The permittee shall document all fishing activities using a logbook provided by the Department. Any additional information requested by the Department shall be provided by the permittee. Failure to keep or submit required records of fishing activity may result in revocation or suspension (including non-renewal) of the license or permit for the taking of all fish or the particular species for which the records are required.
14. The permittee shall ensure a landing receipt is submitted using E-Tix within 24 hours following a landing of box crab. Use of E-Tix is described in the California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 197.
15. The permittee shall participate in all requested research data collection activities including but not limited to:
  - a. Intensive fishing within a designated area.
  - b. Trap survey monitoring catch per unit effort with varying levels of trap spacing along strings.
  - c. Tag-recapture study.
  - d. Crab collections.
  - e. Logbook data collection.
16. The permittee must follow the best practices for avoiding whale entanglement described in the attached guide. This includes fishing gear and incident reporting requirements.
17. The permittee and any person who assists the permittee, shall possess a valid general trap permit issued pursuant to FGC Section 9001, prior to engaging in any fishing operations authorized by this permit.
18. Cooperation with domoic acid testing is required by providing samples to the California Department of Public Health when requested.