

State of California
Department of Fish and Wildlife

Memorandum

Date: February 15, 2020

To: Charlton H. Bonham
Director
Department of Fish and Wildlife

From: Craig Shuman, D. Env
Marine Regional Manager



Subject: Commercial Dungeness Crab Entanglement Risk Assessment

On February 7, 2020 the California Dungeness Crab Fishing Gear Working Group (Working Group) met to review available data and provide a recommendation to the Director based on the Risk Assessment and Mitigation Program (RAMP) framework. Based on this review and with additional support from RAMP factor experts, the four RAMP factors were evaluated by the Working Group as follows:

- Entanglement: risk is low
- Marine life concentrations: risk is low
- Ocean conditions and forage: risk is low
- Fishing dynamics: risk is low

Based on the above risk assessment, the Working Group finalized a recommendation on February 11, 2020 to inform the Director's February 15, 2020 risk determination. Based on the Working Group's risk assessment they did not recommend any management action by the CDFW Director. The Working Group continues to encourage commercial and recreational Dungeness crab fishery participants to use best practices, as outlined in their current Best Practices Guide.

Marine Region staff have independently reviewed all available data and the risk assessment factors. Based on this independent analysis, Marine Region agrees with the Working Group's risk assessment and does not recommend any additional management measures at this time. Staff will continue to monitor all available data sources and convene the Working Group prior to the next risk assessment determination on March 15, 2020.

Attachments:

- RAMP Working Group – Management Recommendation – 02/11/2020
- RAMP Available Data – Risk Assessment – 02/07/2020

Charlton H. Bonham, Director

February 15, 2020

Page 2

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