



# California Department of Fish and Wildlife Assessment of Marine Life Entanglement Risk and Required Management Recommendation under RAMP

Date: April 4, 2022

## A. Recommended Management Action from options identified in subsection (e)

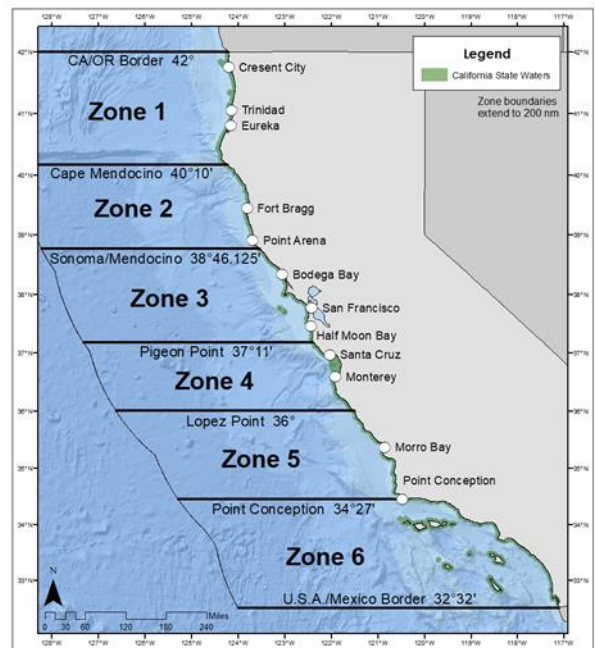
### Commercial Fishery:

- **Fishery Closure: Fishing Zones 1 and 2 – effective April 20, 2022 at 12:00pm (noon)**

### Recreational Fishery:

- **No Management Action**

CDFW Marine Region staff's recommendation is to implement a Fishery Closure for Fishing Zones 1 and 2 triggered by an Impact Score of 3.01 caused by three confirmed humpback entanglements in commercial Dungeness crab gear and two confirmed entanglements in Unknown Fishing Gear that could be California commercial Dungeness crab fishing gear during the 2021-22 fishing season. RAMP regulations require a non-discretionary Fishery Closure when an Impact Score of three or more is reached within any Fishing Season. Staff's recommendation is to implement the Fishery Closure for Fishing Zones 1 and 2 beginning April 20, 2022, at 12:00pm (noon). In addition to the Fishery Closure, staff recommend the Director authorize the Lost or Abandoned Commercial Dungeness Crab Trap Gear Retrieval Program to begin on April 27, 2022, at 12:00pm (noon) for Fishing Zones 1 and 2. Authorization of this program will further reduce entanglement risk by removing lost or abandoned gear.



CDFW will continue to monitor marine life concentrations to inform management actions for the recreational crab fishery. The recreational crab fishery is not currently subject to a restriction at this time because Marine Life Concentration triggers have not been reached. The recreational fleet should however implement best fishing practices and remove all gear promptly once they no longer intend to fish for crab to further minimize risk of entanglement. If Marine Life Concentration triggers are reached during a future risk assessment, the Director may implement a trap restriction for the recreational fishery either

by Zone or statewide.

CDFW will continue to monitor all available data to inform the next risk assessment for the recreational fishery (expected to occur no later than May 3, 2022 as data becomes available).

## B. Marine life entanglement risk, relative to the triggers in subsection (c)

### Confirmed Entanglements in California Commercial Dungeness Crab Gear

#### Confirmed Entanglements in California Commercial Dungeness Crab Gear

- During the current Fishing Season: 3 humpback whales
- During the current calendar year: 3 humpback whales
- During the 2021 calendar year: 1 humpback whale

#### Confirmed Entanglements in Unknown Fishing Gear reported from California:

- During the current Fishing Season: 2 humpback whales
- During the current calendar year: 2 humpback whales
- During the 2021 calendar year: 3 humpback whales