



2018/2019 Northern Red Urchin Fishery

Disaster Relief:

Draft Proposed Spending Plan

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Public Webinar

March 14, 2024



Topics Covered in this Presentation

1. Disaster relief steps
2. NOAA and CDFW Spending Plan guidance
3. Draft Proposed CDFW Spending Plan
 - a) Draft Proposed allocation of funds
 - b) Qualifications of individuals and calculating direct payments
4. Discussion of Draft Proposed Spending Plan
5. Next steps

Disaster Relief Steps - In Progress

- CDFW preparing Spending Plan with **public input** by **March 29, 2024**
- Submit Spending Plan by **April 12, 2024**
- Spending Plan Approval
- Fund award released with disbursement through Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC)
 - Applications sent via PSMFC
 - No money will be available until **January 1, 2025**

NOAA and CDFW Guidance on Disaster Relief Funds

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)



Address range of fishery impacts

Encourages use of funds for MITIGATION
(activities that restore the fishery or prevent
a similar future failure)

Assist fishing communities affected by failure

Strengthen long-term economic and
environmental sustainability of the fishery
(e.g., habitat restoration, research, capacity
reduction, etc.)

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)



Emphasis on funding MITIGATION

If direct payments to divers and businesses,
use the most simplified calculation possible

- Ensure better chances for approval by PSMFC/NOAA
- Will help streamline the spending process and expedite payments

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Draft Proposed Spending Plan



California Department of Fish and Wildlife Draft Proposal

Allocation of Funds

Category	Percentage	2016-2017	2018-2019 Using Same %
Mitigation/Restoration	20%	\$665,203	\$329,673
Direct Payments	79%	\$2,627,551	\$1,302,209
PSMFC Overhead	1%	\$33,260	\$16,484
<i>Total</i>	<i>100%</i>	Total=\$3,326,014	Total=\$1,648,366

RED=non-negotiable

BLUE=CDFW proposed; negotiable with justification

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Draft Proposal Cont'd

Breakdown of Direct Payments (from 79% of Allocation)

Category	Percentage	2016-2017	2018-2019 Using Same %
Fishermen	66%	\$1,734,184	\$859,458
Buyers	34%	\$893,367	\$442,751
Total	100%	Total=\$2,627,551	Total=\$1,302,209

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Fishermen Qualification Determination

Qualification Category	Approved for RSU Disaster 16/17	CDFW Draft Proposal 18/19
Owned Sea Urchin Diving Permit	Disaster Years 2016 or 2017	Disaster Years 2018 or 2019
Minimum Cumulative Landings RSU	1,000 lbs. (2011-2015) in North*	1,000 lbs. (2013-2017) in North*
Number Qualified	54	42**
Type of Payment Disbursement	Tiers	Tiers

RED=non-negotiable without strong justification from the industry

BLUE=CDFW proposed; negotiable with justification

* Disaster Relief only for red sea urchin landed in ports north of the San Luis Obispo/Monterey county line

** Preliminary Estimate based on 16/17 qualifications

2018/2019 Estimated Disbursement using Weighted Tiers

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Cumulative Landings (lbs.) (2013-2017)	Qualified Permits (n=42)*	Disbursement per Permit*
≥500,000	2	\$59,472
395,000-499,999	6	\$37,982
300,000-394,999	11	\$30,186
190,000-299,999	3	\$19,764
100,000-189,999	8	\$11,831
30,000-99,999	5	\$4,445
1,000-29,999	7	\$631

*Qualifying permits, number in tiers, and amounts subject to change

Qualification for Direct Payments Processors/Receivers/Buyers

Qualification Category	Approved for RSU Disaster 16/17	RSU Disaster 18/19
Owned Fish Business License	Disaster Years 2016 or 2017	Disaster Years 2018 or 2019
Received Cumulative Pounds RSU	1,000 lbs. (2011-2015) in North*	1,000 lbs. (2013-2017) in North*
Number Qualified	13	10**
Type of Payment Disbursement	Proportion for Years 2011-2015	Proportion for Years 2013-2017

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** Preliminary Estimate based on 16/17 qualifications

2018/2019 Proportional Sharing for BUYERS

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Proportion (n=10)*	Disbursement per Permit
Maximum (62.4%)	\$276,076
Minimum (0.01%)	\$126

*Qualifying buyers are subject to change

Mitigation/Restoration

- Spending plan must include general theme for how these funds will be used
 - Specific projects not required in spending plan

Themes	Approved for RSU Disaster 16/17	Being considered RSU Disaster 18/19
Kelp Forest Restoration	Yes	No
Marketing	Yes	Yes
Socioeconomic Assessments	Yes	No
Infrastructure	No	Yes
Urchin Recruitment	Yes	No
Others?	Not applicable	Yes

Alternative Allocations*

Reduced % of Mitigation/Restoration Funds

Category	Allocation	Dollar Amount	Allocation	Dollar Amount	Allocation	Dollar Amount	Allocation	Dollar Amount
% Direct Payments	79%	\$1,302,209	84%	\$1,384,627	89%	\$1,467,046	94%	\$1,549,464
Mitigation/Restoration	20%	\$329,673	15%	\$247,255	10%	\$164,837	5%	\$82,418
PSMFC Overhead	1%	\$16,484	1%	\$16,484	1%	\$16,484	1%	\$16,484

Direct Payment To	Allocation	Dollar Amount	Allocation	Dollar Amount	Allocation	Dollar Amount	Allocation	Dollar Amount
Fishermen	66%	\$859,458	66%	\$913,854	66%	\$968,250	66%	\$1,022,646
Buyers	34%	\$442,751	34%	\$470,773	34%	\$498,796	34%	\$526,818

More Money Going to Direct Payments for Divers/Buyers

*Using 2016/2017 Calculations

Department Seeking Feedback On....

1. Percentages to mitigation (20%) and direct payment (79%)
2. Qualification Criteria
 - Minimum poundage requirement (1,000 lbs. cumulative over 5 years)
 - Qualification years (2013-2017)
3. Disbursement Options
 - Fishermen (66%)
 - Weighted by Tier
 - Processors (34%)
 - Proportional by landings
4. Mitigation/Restoration Themes

Next Steps

- **Potential Eligible Permittees, Individuals and Businesses:**
 - Ensure that CDFW contact information is up to date in permitting/licensing database. Marine Region staff can verify information, but individuals **must** contact License and Revenue branch staff to update information.
- **Deadline to submit comments on CDFW's proposed spending plan is March 29, 2024**

Email comments and questions to urchindisaster@wildlife.ca.gov

Questions?

- Visit Disaster Relief Webpage for more information:
<https://wildlife.ca.gov/Fishing/Ocean/Disaster-Info>
- “Online License Sales and Service” at
<https://wildlife.ca.gov/Licensing/Online-Sales>. If you do not have access to the internet, you may call the Telephone License Sales at (800) 565-1458
- To verify state landings receipts you will need to fill out, sign, and send data request form found at
<https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=177020&inline>.
 - If you need assistance verifying landings or filling out the form, please contact the Marine Fisheries Statistical Unit at MFSU@wildlife.ca.gov or call at (562) 342-7130. You should request years 2013-2019.