



State of California – Natural Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE  
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GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor  
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



December 20, 2024

**Subject: 2024-25 Dungeness Crab Northern Season Delay Notification**

Fish and Game Code (FGC) Section 8276.2 (c) provides the Director with the authority to delay the December 1 season opening, due to soft-shell or poor quality crab conditions, in Fish and Game Districts 6, 7, 8 & 9 (Mendocino, Humboldt, and Del Norte counties) for a minimum of 15 days to a date no later than January 15.

Crab quality tests in northern California could not be completed due to lack of sample collection. Without quality testing data and in the interest of cooperatively managing the interstate Dungeness crab fishery, I am delaying the opening of the Dungeness crab season in Districts 6, 7, 8 & 9 until 12:01 a.m. on January 15, 2025.

Pursuant to FGC Section 8276.3 (b), the opening date in Districts 6, 7, 8 and 9 shall be preceded by a 64-hour gear-setting period. Therefore, crab gear may be set no earlier than 8:01 am on January 12, 2025.

As provided in FGC Section 8276.3 no vessel may take or land crab within Districts 6, 7, 8 & 9 during the closure period. In addition, FGC Section 8279.1 (a) prohibits a vessel that took, possessed onboard, or landed crab from ocean waters outside of Districts 6, 7, 8 & 9 from participating in the crab fishery in Districts 6, 7, 8 & 9, for 30 days following the opening of those areas.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CH Bonham'.

Charlton H. Bonham  
Director