

Memorandum

Date: December 27, 2024

To: Melissa Miller-Henson
Executive Director
California Fish and Game Commission

From: Charlton H. Bonham
Director

Subject: **Transmittal of an Experimental Fishing Permit Major Amendment Recommendation for Pop-Up Gear Testing in the California Dungeness and Rock Crab Fisheries (Greg Wells/National Marine Sanctuary Foundation/EFP #2023-02)**

On September 10, 2024, Greg Wells of the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation submitted a Major Amendment Request for Experimental Fishing Permit (EFP) #2023-02 (Attachment 1) which includes several revisions to expand the scope of approved fishing activities and revise or remove existing EFP Terms and Conditions. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) accepted the request for technical review on October 21, 2024, and recommends the California Fish and Game Commission (Commission) approve the majority of the requested changes as further detailed in the Recommended EFP Terms and Conditions (DFW1103, Attachment 2) and supplemental environmental documentation (Attachments 3 and 4).

Next Steps

Pursuant to subsection 91(f), Title 14, California Code of Regulations, the Department requests the Commission schedule the requested amendment for consideration no sooner than 30 days after public notice is given. The Department has prepared a draft Notice of Receipt of Recommendation (Attachment 5) to support the public notice requirement prescribed in subsection 91(e)(2), Title 14, California Code of Regulations.

If you have any questions on this item, please contact Dr. Craig Shuman, Marine Regional Manager, at (805) 568-1246 or by email at R7RegionalMgr@wildlife.ca.gov.

Attachments:

1. Major Amendment Request for EFP #2023-02 (confidential information omitted)
2. Recommended EFP Terms and Conditions (DFW 1103)
3. CEQA Overview Memo
4. Draft CEQA Notice of Exemption (NOE) and NOE Attachment
5. Draft Notice of Receipt of Recommendation

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Melissa Miller-Henson, Executive Director
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