

Proposed Regulatory Language

Section 132.2, Title 14, CCR, is amended as follows:

§ 132.2. Retrieval of Commercial Dungeness Crab Traps.

(a) Permitted Dungeness crab vessels shall not possess, use, control, or operate any commercial Dungeness crab trap without a buoy tag assigned to that vessel except:

(1) To set gear as allowed under Section 8280.7 of the Fish and Game Code; or

(2) ~~To~~ Notwithstanding Fish and Game Code Section 9002, to retrieve from the ocean and transport to shore another permitted Dungeness crab vessel's derelict commercial Dungeness crab trap that is lost, damaged, abandoned, or otherwise derelict, provided that:

(A) No more than six (6) derelict commercial Dungeness crab traps may be retrieved per fishing trip.

(B) The retrieving vessel operator shall immediately return ~~to the ocean waters immediately~~ any crab found in a retrieved commercial Dungeness crab trap to the ocean waters.

(C) Immediately upon retrieval of a commercial Dungeness crab trap, the retrieving vessel operator shall document in the retrieving vessel's log:

(i) the date and time of the trap retrieval,

(ii) number of retrieved commercial Dungeness crab traps,

(iii) the location [latitude and longitude in degrees decimals minutes (DDM)] of the retrieval,

(iv) and any tag information or buoy markings present on the retrieved traps, and

(v) reasons why the retrieving vessel operator believes the traps are derelict and subject to retrieval under this Section.

(D) On or before the first day of each month, vessel operators shall report information required by subsection (a)(2)(C) for any traps retrieved during the prior month. Reporting shall be via email or text to LostGear@wildlife.ca.gov, or on an electronic form prescribed by the Department.

~~(D)~~ (E) Any All retrieved commercial Dungeness crab ~~trap~~traps shall be transported to shore during the same fishing trip that retrieval took place.

~~(E) Notwithstanding subsection (a)(2)(A), from July 16 through October 31, an unlimited number of commercial Dungeness crab traps may be retrieved per fishing trip and transported to shore during the same fishing trip.~~

(F) Notwithstanding subsection (a)(2)(A), an unlimited number of commercial Dungeness crab traps may be retrieved per fishing trip and transported to shore during the same fishing trip:

(1) from July 16 through October 31, or

(2) as authorized by the Director during a fishery closure or season delay pursuant to Section 132.8. Vessel operators may not possess more than six (6) retrieved traps on board when transiting Fishing Zones which are open for commercial Dungeness crab fishing.

. . . [No changes to subsections (b) and (c)]

Authority cited: Sections 8276.5 and 9002.5, Fish and Game Code.

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