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*Wildlife Heritage and Conservation
Since 1870*

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Notice of Receipt of Experimental Fishing Permit (EFP) Major Amendment Request for Pop-Up Gear Testing in the California Dungeness and Rock Crab Fisheries (Commission Tracking ID #2023-02)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the provisions of Section 1022 of the California Fish and Game Code and Section 91, Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), on October 3, 2025 the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) notified the California Fish and Game Commission (Commission) of an accepted major amendment request for a previously issued EFP. The EFP holder is requesting a major amendment to their existing EFP (Commission tracking ID #2023-02), which was initially approved by the Commission on June 14, 2023 to conduct testing of pop-up gear in the California Dungeness and rock crab fisheries.

Subsection 91(k)(2), Title 14, CCR allows an EFP holder to request amendments to their EFP. Amendments which exceed the allowances placed on the permit by the Commission constitute a “major amendment” and are subject to the same Department review, public notice, Commission action, and Department issuance procedures as a new application (subsections 91(d)(2) through (g), Title 14, CCR). The Commission has approved two previous major amendment requests for this EFP.

The EFP holder has requested the following changes to the terms and conditions of their currently issued EFP:

- 1) Expand the allowable geographic area southward to Point Conception (34° 27' N latitude).
- 2) Expand testing of approved pop-up devices in the spot prawn (*Pandalus platyceros*) fishery.
- 3) Authorize testing of four additional pop-up fishing systems.
- 4) Provide flexibility to allow future testing of new pop-up fishing system versions that are substantially similar to approved systems without processing a major amendment.

Pursuant to subsection 91(d)(2), Title 14, CCR, the Department will provide a recommendation to the Commission concerning the requested major amendment, including any proposed special conditions. As soon as the Department's recommendation is available, and at least 30 days before the hearing on this application, a notice will be published on the

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Commission's website at <https://fgc.ca.gov/EFP> and sent to interested individuals providing information on the opportunity for public comment.

Written comments and information on matters addressed in this notice and relevant to the Department's technical review of the accepted amendment may be submitted to Owen Mulvey-McFerron, EFP Coordinator, at EFP@wildlife.ca.gov. Please visit www.fgc.ca.gov for additional information.

October 8, 2025

California Fish and Game Commission
Melissa Miller-Henson
Executive Director