

**State of California
Department of Fish and Wildlife**

Memorandum

Date: January 5, 2026

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

From: Valerie Termini
Acting 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 August 29, 2025, Greg Wells/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 3, 2025, and recommends the California Fish and Game Commission (Commission) approve all the requested changes, with several necessary additional modifications to the terms and conditions as further detailed in the Recommended EFP Terms and Conditions (DFW1103, Attachment 2) and supplemental environmental documentation (Attachments 3 and 4).

Next Steps

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 California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 91, subdivision (e)(2).

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

Melissa Miller-Henson, Executive Director

Fish and Game Commission

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