



State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Director's Office
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GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
VALERIE TERMINI, Acting Director



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
DECLARATION LIFTING FISHERIES DELAY DUE TO A PUBLIC HEALTH THREAT
CAUSED BY ELEVATED LEVELS OF DOMOIC ACID IN DUNGENESS CRAB
Pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 5523, I find and declare that

I.

On January 8, 2026, the Director of the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) in consultation with the State Public Health Officer at the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) determined that Dungeness crab in state waters from the southern boundary of the Reading Rock State Marine Protected Areas (41° 17.6' N. latitude) south to Cape Mendocino (40° 10.0' N. latitude) posed a human health risk due to elevated levels of domoic acid and recommended a delay of the commercial Dungeness crab fishery in the affected area.

II.

On January 8, 2026, under the authority granted by Fish and Game Section 5523, I declared a delay of the commercial Dungeness crab fishery from the southern boundary of the Reading Rock State Marine Protected Areas (41° 17.6' N. latitude) south to Cape Mendocino (40° 10.0' N. latitude).

III.

On January 23, 2026, OEHHA in consultation with the State Public Health Officer at CDPH determined that the consumption of Dungeness crab from the affected area no longer poses a significant human health risk due to elevated levels of domoic acid.

IV.

THEREFORE, under the authority granted by Fish and Game Code Section 5523, I am lifting the delay and opening the commercial Dungeness crab fishery from the southern boundary of the Reading Rock State Marine Protected Areas (41° 17.6' N. latitude) south to Cape Mendocino (40° 10.0' N. latitude) at **12:01 a.m. on Friday, January 30**. Pursuant to subsection 5523(d) of the Fish and Game Code, this opening shall be preceded by a 64-hour gear setting period set to begin at **8:01 a.m. on Tuesday, January 27**.

DocuSigned by:
Valerie Termini
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Valerie Termini, Acting Director

1/23/2026 1:39 PM

Date/Time