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STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
MEGHAN HERTEL, Director

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CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
DECLARATION OF FISHERIES DELAY
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 October 30, 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 waters from Cape Mendocino, Humboldt County (40^0 10' N. latitude) to the southern boundary of the Ten Mile State Marine Reserve (39^0 33.3' N. latitude), posed a human health risk due to elevated levels of domoic acid and recommended a delay of the recreational Dungeness crab fishery in the affected area.

II.

On November 5, 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 from the southern boundary of the Reading Rock State Marine Protected Areas (41^0 17.6' N. latitude) to Cape Mendocino, Humboldt County (40^0 10' N. latitude), posed a human health risk due to elevated levels of domoic acid and recommended a delay of the recreational Dungeness crab fishery.

III.

THEREFORE, under the authority granted by Fish and Game Code Section 5523, I am ordering a recreational Dungeness crab fishery delay in state waters from the southern boundary of the Reading Rock State Marine Protected Areas (41^0 17.6' N. latitude) to Cape Mendocino, Humboldt County (40^0 10' N. latitude). The entire delayed area will now extend from the southern boundary of the Reading Rock State Marine Protected Areas (41^0 17.6' N. latitude) to the southern boundary of the Ten Mile State Marine Reserve (39^0 33.3' N. latitude). State waters extend three nautical miles beyond outermost islands, reefs and rocks.

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This delay will remain in place until I am notified by the public health agencies named above, that a health hazard regarding Dungeness crab no longer exists.

Signed by:
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11/5/2026

Meghan Hertel, Director

Date