



# COMMERCIAL FISHING LICENSE UPDATE

All State offices will be closed **February 18, April 1 and May 27, 2019** in observance of President's Day, Cesar Chavez Day and Memorial Day.

## 2019-2020 Commercial Fishing License Information

2018-2019 Commercial Fishing Licenses, Vessel Permits, and other entitlements expire March 31, 2019. Your 2019-2020 Commercial Fishing Licenses and Vessel Registration renewal information were mailed in separate envelopes. Commercial fishing items can be purchased online, at Department of Fish and Wildlife License Sales Offices, select license agents, or by mailing forms to the address below.

## Renewing Your Commercial License Online

For detailed instructions see "Steps to Renew Your License Online" at [wildlife.ca.gov/licensing/commercial](http://wildlife.ca.gov/licensing/commercial).

To find a license agent with commercial fishing sales in your area visit: [wildlife.ca.gov/licensing/commercial](http://wildlife.ca.gov/licensing/commercial)

## Purchasing Online or at Select License Agents:

- ✓ All vessel documentation (i.e., United States Coast Guard or State Registration) must be up to date and on file with the Department. You may email a scanned copy to [LRBCOMM@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:LRBCOMM@wildlife.ca.gov) and allow 24-48 hours to update. License agents cannot update or accept vessel documentation.
- ✓ Purchasing at a license agent requires your 2019-2020 Commercial Fishing License and/or Commercial Boat Registration Worksheets, or your previously issued Commercial License.

## Changes to Commercial Fisheries Landings Requirements

Effective July 1, 2019, fish businesses (i.e., fish receivers and fishermen's retail license holders) will be required to submit all landings electronically via the E-tix application. This has been optional since July 1, 2018 and some fish receivers have begun to submit electronically, while others have continued to use paper landing receipts. As of July 1, 2019, fish businesses must enter the landings using the E-Tix application. If that is not possible at the time of the landing (e.g., no device with a web browser, no printer), then fish businesses are required to fill out a dock ticket at the time the fish are purchased.

The dock ticket must contain the same information that will be submitted in the electronic fish ticket and is the same information as what was provided previously on paper landing receipts. There is no official form for the dock ticket; however, a link to a suitable dock ticket is provided below.

**What does this mean for fishermen?** For fishermen selling their catch to a fish receiver, this means you will no longer be receiving a copy of an official Department issued paper landing receipt. However, the fish business is required to provide a paper copy of either the electronic fish ticket or paper dock ticket that is signed by both of you before you leave the dock. You will need to review the copy of the electronic fish ticket or dock ticket for accuracy before you sign it, just like you do for paper landing receipts. Additionally, you are still required to keep a paper copy of all electronic fish tickets or dock tickets for 4 (four) years and make them available for inspection at any time by the Department. If you participate in fisheries that require that you keep copies of fish tickets on board the vessel, such as the federal groundfish fishery, you are still required to follow those regulations as well.

If you have a Fishermen's Retail License for selling your catch, you should already have been made aware of this change in submitting landings information. If you have not already done so, you will need to create an E-Tix account. The E-Tix system is maintained by the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission. If you have not yet created an E-Tix account or would like to request a free one-on-one training, please contact Dave Colpo at (503) 595-3100.

For questions regarding Department electronic fish tickets or dock tickets, please contact the Marine Fisheries Statistical Unit at (562) 342-7130 or email [ElectronicFishTicket@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:ElectronicFishTicket@wildlife.ca.gov). Additional resources can be found at

[www.wildlife.ca.gov/Fishing/Commercial/Landing-Resources](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Fishing/Commercial/Landing-Resources)

## Commercial Dungeness Crab Vessel Baseline Length

Senate Bill 1310, enacted on September 21, 2018, amended Fish and Game Code (FGC) Section 8280.3. The bill established a baseline length overall for Dungeness Crab Vessel Permits. The baseline length overall on the permit is either:

- The length overall of the originally permitted vessel, as originally documented on the permit, or
- The length overall of the currently permitted vessel if the permit holder submits a marine survey to the Department of Fish and Wildlife before March 31, 2020, showing a greater current length overall than originally documented. The marine survey must show the length overall, determined by measuring the horizontal distance between the forward-most and after-most points of the hull of a vessel. The length overall of a vessel does not include attachments fixed to the stern and bow.

## Commercial Dungeness Crab Gear Retrieval Program

The Department is developing regulations to implement the Legislatively-mandated lost and abandoned commercial Dungeness crab trap gear retrieval program. California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 132.7 would allow permitted entities to retrieve gear after the commercial season, establish provisions for gear return, and enable those entities to seek compensation from Dungeness crab vessel permit holders. Permit holders who refuse to pay for retrieved gear would be subject to fees and permit restrictions. The Department anticipates these regulations will be in place for the 2019-20 season.

## Sea Urchin Diving Permit Drawing

**How to Enter the Drawing:** Applications for new sea urchin diving permits shall be made available each year through the Department's License and Revenue Branch's Automated License Data System, at Department license sales offices, the Department's Internet Sales site, and at Department's license agents authorized to sell commercial fishing licenses. Applicants shall possess a valid Commercial Fishing License and a valid Sea Urchin Crewmember Permit for each of the two permit years immediately preceding the permit year when drawing is done.

**Deadline to Apply:** Applicants shall apply by March 31 of each year and are required to pay a nonrefundable processing fee.

## Transfer of Southern Rock Crab Trap Permits

Beginning April 2, 2019, applications will be accepted for the five Southern Rock Crab Trap Permit (SRCTP) transfers allowed for



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## LIMITED ENTRY AND RESTRICTED ACCESS PERMIT RENEWAL DEADLINES

PERMIT	Deadline for Receipt or Postmark of Application Without Penalty	Late Fee Assessed	Late Fee
<b>California Halibut Bottom Trawl Vessel</b> <b>Deeper Nearshore Fishery</b> <b>Drift Gill Net</b> <b>Dungeness Crab Vessel</b> <b>General Gill/Trammel Net</b> <b>Lobster Operator</b> <b>Market Squid Vessel</b> <b>Market Squid Brail</b> <b>Market Squid Light Boat</b> <b>Nearshore Fishery</b> <b>Nearshore Fishery Trap Endorsement</b> <b>Nearshore Fishery Bycatch</b> <b>Northern Pink Shrimp Trawl</b> <b>Salmon Vessel</b> <b>Sea Cucumber (Dive or Trawl)</b> <b>Sea Urchin Diving</b> <b>Spot Prawn Trap (Tier 1, 2, &amp; 3)</b> <b>Southern Rock Crab Trap</b>	<b>April 30, 2019</b>	<b>May 1, 2019 to May 30, 2019</b> <b>May 31, 2019 to June 29, 2019</b> <b>June 30, 2019 to March 31, 2020*</b>	<b>\$157.25</b> <b>\$313.25</b> <b>\$627.50</b>
<b>Pacific Herring</b>	<b>October 4, 2019</b>	<b>October 5, 2019 to November 3, 2019</b> <b>November 4, 2019 to December 3, 2019</b> <b>December 4, 2019 to March 31, 2020*</b>	<b>\$157.25</b> <b>\$313.25</b> <b>\$627.50</b>

\* The Department shall deny renewal applications for the above permits (last renewed in the 2018-2019 licensing year) received or postmarked after March 31, 2020. Applicants applying after the March 31, 2020 deadline may appeal in writing to the Department's License and Revenue Branch. (FGC §7852.2(c)).

the 2019-20 permit year. To apply, the following must be submitted:

1. A notarized letter from the permit holder requesting to transfer the SRCTP, along with the original 2019-2020 SRCTP.
2. Copy of the proposed permittee's 2019-2020 Commercial Fishing License and General Trap Permit.
3. Nonrefundable transfer fee of \$1,000.00.

Applications and all documents must be submitted to the Department's License and Revenue Branch, 1740 N. Market Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95834.

### Deadline to Renew Limited Entry Permits

The deadline to renew your **2017-2018** Limited Entry and Restricted Access permits for the 2018-2019 permit year is March 31, 2019. Applications for renewal of permits must be received at a Department License Sales Office or postmarked on or before March 31, 2019. **Limited Entry Permits last renewed in 2017-2018 cannot be renewed online or at license agents.** Applicants for renewal after the March 31, 2019 deadline may submit a written request for reinstatement to the Department's License and Revenue Branch.

### Reporting Sold, Lost, or Destroyed Vessels

Vessel owners must immediately notify the Department when a commercial fishing vessel is lost, destroyed, or changes ownership. (FGC §7881). A report filed with the United States Coast Guard or other law enforcement agency investigating the loss of a commercial fishing vessel must be submitted to the Department's License and Branch. Commercial Fishing Vessel, Sold, Lost, or Destroyed form is posted at [wildlife.ca.gov/licensing/commercial](http://wildlife.ca.gov/licensing/commercial).

### Renewing Salmon Vessel Permits

To renew a Salmon Vessel Permit, vessel owners or their agents are required to purchase a 2019-2020 Commercial Fishing License and a Commercial Fishing Salmon Stamp, even if the salmon vessel owner does not intend to commercially fish for any species during the 2019-2020 license year. In addition, a 2019-2020 Commercial Boat Registration must be purchased for the qualified vessel.

Only vessel owners 70 years of age or older as of April 1, 2019, are exempt from obtaining a Commercial Fishing Salmon Stamp. A salmon vessel owner, who designates an agent 70 year of age or older, must still purchase a Commercial Fishing License and Commercial Fishing Salmon Stamp before a Salmon Vessel Permit can be renewed, unless the salmon vessel owner is also 70 years of age or older.

### Change of Vessel Ownership or Transfer of Limited Entry and Restricted Access Permits

Change of ownership or transfer of a Limited Entry and Restricted Access Permit to another boat or owner, requires prior approval from the Department's License and Revenue Branch.

The following permits cannot be transferred to another person when there is a change of vessel ownership:

- Nontransferable Dungeness Crab Vessel
- Nontransferable Market Squid Vessel
- Nontransferable Squid Light Boat
- Nontransferable Northern Pink Shrimp Trawl Vessel
- Spot Prawn Trap Vessel (Tier 2 and Tier 3)

For more information, call (916) 928-5822 or go to: [wildlife.ca.gov/licensing/commercial](http://wildlife.ca.gov/licensing/commercial)