



2021-2022 COMMERCIAL FISHING LICENSE RENEWAL UPDATE

All State offices will be closed **February 15, March 31, and May 31** in observance of President's Day, Cesar Chavez Day, and Memorial Day, respectively.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: SUBMITTING YOUR 2021 COMMERCIAL FISHING LICENSE AND BOAT REGISTRATION RENEWAL WORKSHEETS

Due to the temporary closure of license sales offices to the public, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is asking all customers who are not renewing their licenses online to please mail their renewal worksheets and any additional required documents directly to the address below to streamline the issuance of the 2021 Commercial Fishing Licenses, Commercial Boat Registrations, and Limited Entry and Restricted Access Permits.

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Attention: License and Revenue Branch
PO Box 944209
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090

When using mail carrier services other than USPS (e.g., FedEx, UPS, OnTrac, etc.) request the address by contacting CDFW, License and Revenue Branch at (916) 928-5822 or LRBCOMM@wildlife.ca.gov.

Your current Commercial Fishing License, Boat Registration, and other entitlements expire March 31, 2021. Please allow 15 business days to process the renewal of your license(s) and/or permit(s).

Proof of Vessel Ownership

Proof of vessel ownership (i.e., United States Coast Guard Certificate of Documentation or State Vessel Registration) must be current and on file with CDFW before you can renew your vessel registration. You may submit proof of vessel ownership to us using the mailing address listed above or by email to LRBCOMM@wildlife.ca.gov. Please allow 15 business days for mail submittal and two business days for email submittal for CDFW staff to update your customer record. Please Note: License agents cannot accept proof of vessel ownership.

Renewal by Mail

To renew by mail, please review the enclosed Instructions for Completing Commercial Fishing License Renewal (DFW 1309). Please allow 15 business days for your renewal(s) to be processed.

Renewing Online

You may renew online after logging in to your account using CDFW's Online License Sales and Services website: www.ca.wildlifelicenses.com/InternetSales. For step-by-step online renewal instructions visit wildlife.ca.gov/Licensing/Commercial (see the "Fees and Descriptions" section of the web page). **If renewing your boat registration, read the "Proof of Vessel Ownership" section.**

Renewing at Select License Agent Locations

Only select license agent locations can renew existing commercial fishing licenses. Before visiting a license agent location, call ahead to make sure they are open and to confirm their hours of operation. To find an authorized local sales agent, please visit the License Agent Search page at www.ca.wildlifelicenses.com/internetsales/OutletSearch/FindOutlet. Ensure you check the "Sells Commercial Fishing Items" box before clicking the "Search" button.

Renewing at a license agent requires your 2021-2022 Commercial Fishing License and/or Commercial Boat Registration Worksheet(s), or your previously issued Commercial Fishing License. **Prior to going to an authorized license agent to renew your boat registration, read the "Proof of Vessel Ownership" section.**

Temporary Closure of CDFW License Sales Offices Due to COVID-19

CDFW has temporarily closed public access to its high public use offices, including license sales counters, to help slow the spread of COVID-19. Please contact your local office to determine if it has reopened to the public prior to planning a visit. Visit the following web page to obtain a list of CDFW license sales offices: wildlife.ca.gov/Explore/Organization/LRB.

Commercial Fishing License Reminders

If you would like to receive email reminders for annual license and registration renewals, purchase availability, and deadline dates, write your email address on the preprinted renewal worksheet(s) when renewing by mail. You can also provide a new, or update your existing, email address online after logging into your



customer account via CDFW's Online License Sales and Services website at www.ca.wildlifelicenses.com/InternetSales/.

Deadline to Renew Limited Entry Permits

The deadline to renew your Limited Entry and Restricted Access Permits for the 2021-2022 permit year without incurring late fees is April 30, 2021. Renewal applications received after March 31, 2022, will be denied. Once denied, a written appeal may be submitted to the California Fish and Game Commission within 60 days of the date of CDFW's denial.

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

Change of vessel ownership or transfer of a Limited Entry or Restricted Access Permit to another vessel or owner requires prior approval from CDFW'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)

Commercial Dungeness Crab Gear Retrieval Program

On September 30, 2019, CDFW adopted regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 132.7) to mandate the implementation of the retrieval program for lost or abandoned commercial Dungeness crab trap gear. Any gear left in the water after the close of the season is subject to retrieval under this program. CDFW encourages Dungeness crab vessel permit holders who are contacted by authorized entities to work cooperatively and arrange for the return of their gear. Dungeness crab vessel permit holders are liable to pay a Retriever Trap Fee to the designated retriever for the return of their lost gear. Failure to comply with the regulations will result in additional fees and potential permit restrictions. For more information, contact WhaleSafeFisheries@wildlife.ca.gov or visit

wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Marine/Whale-Safe-Fisheries.

Sea Urchin Diving Permit Drawing

Applications for new Sea Urchin Diving Permits are made available each year through CDFW's Online License Sales and Services website at www.ca.wildlifelicenses.com/InternetSales/ or at license agents authorized to renew existing commercial fishing licenses. To find an authorized local sales agent, please visit the License Agent Search page at www.ca.wildlifelicenses.com/internetsales/OutletSearch/FindOutlet. Ensure you check the "Sells Commercial Fishing Items" box before clicking the "Search" button. Please note, CDFW has temporarily closed license sales counters, to help slow the spread of COVID-19. Please contact your local office to determine if it has reopened to the public prior to planning a visit.

Applicants must possess a valid Commercial Fishing License and a valid Sea Urchin Crewmember Permit for the two permit years immediately preceding the permit year in which the draw is performed. Applicants are required to apply by March 31 of each year and pay a nonrefundable processing fee.

Transfer of Southern Rock Crab Trap Permits

Beginning April 1, 2021, applications will be accepted for the five Southern Rock Crab Trap Permit (SRCTP) transfers allowed for the 2021-2022 permit year. To apply, the following must be submitted:

- A notarized letter from the permit holder requesting to transfer the SRCTP, along with the original 2021-2022 SRCTP.
- Copy of the proposed permittee's 2021-2022 Commercial Fishing License and General Trap Permit.
- Nonrefundable transfer fee of \$1,000.00.

Applications and all supporting documents must be submitted to: CDFW, Attn: License and Revenue Branch, PO Box 944209, Sacramento, CA 94244-2090. Please note, CDFW has temporarily closed license sales counters, to help slow the spread of COVID-19. Please contact your local office to determine if it has reopened to the public prior to planning a visit.



Important Information for Commercial Herring Permits and Herring Eggs On Kelp (HEOK) Permits

Existing herring permittees will now find their herring renewal listed on their 2021-2022 Commercial Fishing Renewal Worksheet and will receive a separate notice with details on new deadline and mandatory vessel registration requirements, fees, availability of applications for new permits, and other information.

The notice can also be found online at wildlife.ca.gov/Licensing/Commercial under Pacific Herring.

More information on the Pacific Herring Fishery can be found by viewing the CDFW Commercial Fishing Digest at wildlife.ca.gov/Licensing/Commercial (locate the "Herring" section listed under "Excerpts from the Fish and Game Code and Title 14, California Code of Regulations" in the Table of Contents).