

June 28, 2013

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Dungeness Crab Commercial Season Extension to August 14, 2013 in Districts 6, 7, 8, & 9 (Mendocino, Humboldt, and Del Norte counties)

Fish and Game Code (FGC) Section 8277 provides the Director with the authority to extend the commercial Dungeness crab season based upon written findings that such an extension will not harm the crab resource.

The 2012-13 commercial Dungeness crab season was delayed six weeks due to soft-shell related to late onset of molting. The season extension will provide added fishing opportunity to make up for the delayed start and to take advantage of what appears to be another late molt as reports from the industry are that crab are still in good condition at this time.

Pursuant to FGC Section 8277, the Director has decided to extend the commercial season through August 14 in Districts 6, 7, 8 & 9. This extended season coincides with the Oregon commercial Dungeness crab season closing date, as well. FGC Section 8277(c) authorizes the Director to close the season at any time during the extension period if it is determined that continued fishing will damage the crab resource.

Charlton H. Bonham

Director