

February 5, 2020

Dear California Dungeness Crab Commercial Permit Holder,

This letter is to request your nominations for representatives to the California Dungeness Crab Task Force (DCTF). Your participation in this process is extremely important to the future of the California Dungeness crab fishery. The representative(s) elected from your home port will communicate your views on the fishery's management and develop recommendations for the California Legislature, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), and California Fish and Game Commission (FGC). **Please email or mail the enclosed Nomination Form by March 6, 2020 (details below).**

The California Ocean Protection Council (OPC) is responsible for administering the Dungeness Crab Task Force (DCTF) pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 8276.4. Part of this responsibility includes holding elections to ensure that the Dungeness crab fishery is adequately and appropriately represented in the management of the fishery. DCTF commercial fishing elections are being administered by OPC in coordination with CDFW. Commercial fishermen will be elected to the DCTF by their peers to represent their home port complexes. For more information about the composition of the DCTF, please see the enclosed Frequently Asked Questions document.

DCTF Election Process and Timelines

DCTF elections shall be held every three years in each port, on a staggered basis across ports. Elections will be carried out with two separate mailings:

1. **Mailing #1: Nomination Form:** All valid California Dungeness crab permit holders will receive a form to nominate individuals for the DCTF. See enclosed Nomination Form for additional details and instructions.
2. **Mailing #2: Ballot:** Ballots in 2020 will be compiled from the list of nominees for the following ports: Half Moon Bay, Bodega Bay, Eureka, and non-resident Dungeness crab permit holders. All register permit holders in these ports will receive a ballot in 2020. All other permit holders will receive a ballot during the next election cycle in 2022 (same ports as 2019). Votes tallied from these ballots will determine the members who serve on the DCTF.

Results of the 2020 DCTF elections will be posted on OPC's website and shared via the DCTF listserv. Please see the enclosed Frequently Asked Questions document and Production Table document for more details.

Your involvement in the election process is extremely important to the future of the California Dungeness crab fishery. To guarantee your participation in the voting process, please email or mail the enclosed Nomination Form no later than **March 6, 2020**.

If you have any questions about the DCTF or election process, please contact Paige Berube (paige.berube@resources.ca.gov; Ocean Protection Council, 916-651-1264) or Christy Juhasz, Christy.Juhasz@wildlife.ca.gov; CDFW Marine Region, 707-576-2887). Thank you for your time and cooperation.

Sincerely,



Mark Gold
Executive Director and Deputy Secretary for Ocean and Coastal Policy
California Ocean Protection Council

