



OCEAN PROTECTION COUNCIL

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June 7, 2019

Dear California Dungeness Crab Commercial Permit Holder,

Enclosed is your opportunity to vote for your representative(s) 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 development 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 ballot and Permit Holder Verification Form postmarked by Friday, June 28, 2019 (details below).**

This mailing pertains to DCTF commercial fishing elections for Group 1 port complexes: Crescent City, Trinidad, Fort Bragg, San Francisco, and south of Half Moon Bay. For more information about the composition of the DCTF and the DCTF commercial fishing elections process, please see the Frequently Asked Questions document available on the DCTF webpage here: <http://www.opc.ca.gov/2009/04/dungeness-crab-task-force/>.

Representatives will be elected for each home port complex/production level combination, as described in Fish and Game Code Section 8276.4. Please note that although you may have nominated a specific individual, his/her name will not appear on your ballot if that person is not in the same home port complex/production level combination as you. In addition, if a nominee did not confirm their willingness to serve on the DCTF, that name was not included on the ballot.

On the enclosed ballot (the blue sheet), **please rank *all* the nominees listed in order of preference** (number 1 being your first choice). If no majority exists within a particular home port complex/production level combination, then an instant runoff voting process will be used¹.

Please **complete and sign the Permit Holder Verification Form** (the white half sheet) by writing your name, crab permit number, and boat name.

Please return **BOTH** the ballot and the Permit Holder Verification Form by **Friday, June 28, 2019**, by email or mail (see instructions below). If you hold more than one crab permit, you may fill out a ballot and a Permit Holder Verification Form for every permit you hold. Only one ballot *per crab permit number* will be accepted. **Failure to provide your crab**

¹ Instant runoff voting is a voting system used for single-winner elections in which voters rank candidates in order of preference. If no candidate receives a majority of first preference rankings, then the candidate with the fewest number of votes will be eliminated and that candidate's votes redistributed to the voters' next preferences among the remaining candidates. This process is repeated until one candidate has a majority of votes among remaining candidates.

permit number and boat name on the Permit Holder Verification Form will invalidate your ballot (we must be able to read it, so please write legibly).

All individuals elected to the DCTF will be notified by OPC and CDFW staff after the votes have been tallied. We anticipate posting a list of names of all individuals that will serve on the DCTF on the DCTF webpage (<http://www.opc.ca.gov/2009/04/dungeness-crab-task-force/>), as well as sharing results via the DCTF, OPC and CDFW listservs by July 2019.

If you have any questions about the Dungeness Crab Task Force or the election process, please contact Paige Berube (paige.berube@resources.ca.gov; Ocean Protection Council, 916-651-1265) or Christy Juhasz (christy.juhasz@wildlife.ca.gov; CDFW Marine Region; 707-576-2887). Thank you for your time and cooperation.

Sincerely,



Deborah Halberstadt
Executive Director and Deputy Secretary for Ocean and Coastal Policy
Ocean Protection Council



How to Return the Ballot and Permit Holder Verification Form:

Option 1: Email

Please email the completed Ballot and completed and signed Permit Holder Verification Form to the below email address no later than **June 28, 2019**. Please either take a photo of the completed form to include in the email or print, complete and sign, and scan to email to the below address no later than **June 28, 2019**.

Paige Berube, Ocean Protection Council;
paige.berube@resources.ca.gov

Option 2: Mail

Please mail the completed Ballot and completed and signed Permit Holder Verification Form to the below address, postmarked by no later than **June 28, 2019**.

Paige Berube
Ocean Protection Council
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA, 95814

