



# 2019 Dungeness Crab Fishery Updates

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Christy Juhasz, Environmental Scientist  
CDFW, Marine Region  
DCTF Meeting, Santa Rosa  
Oct. 16-17, 2019

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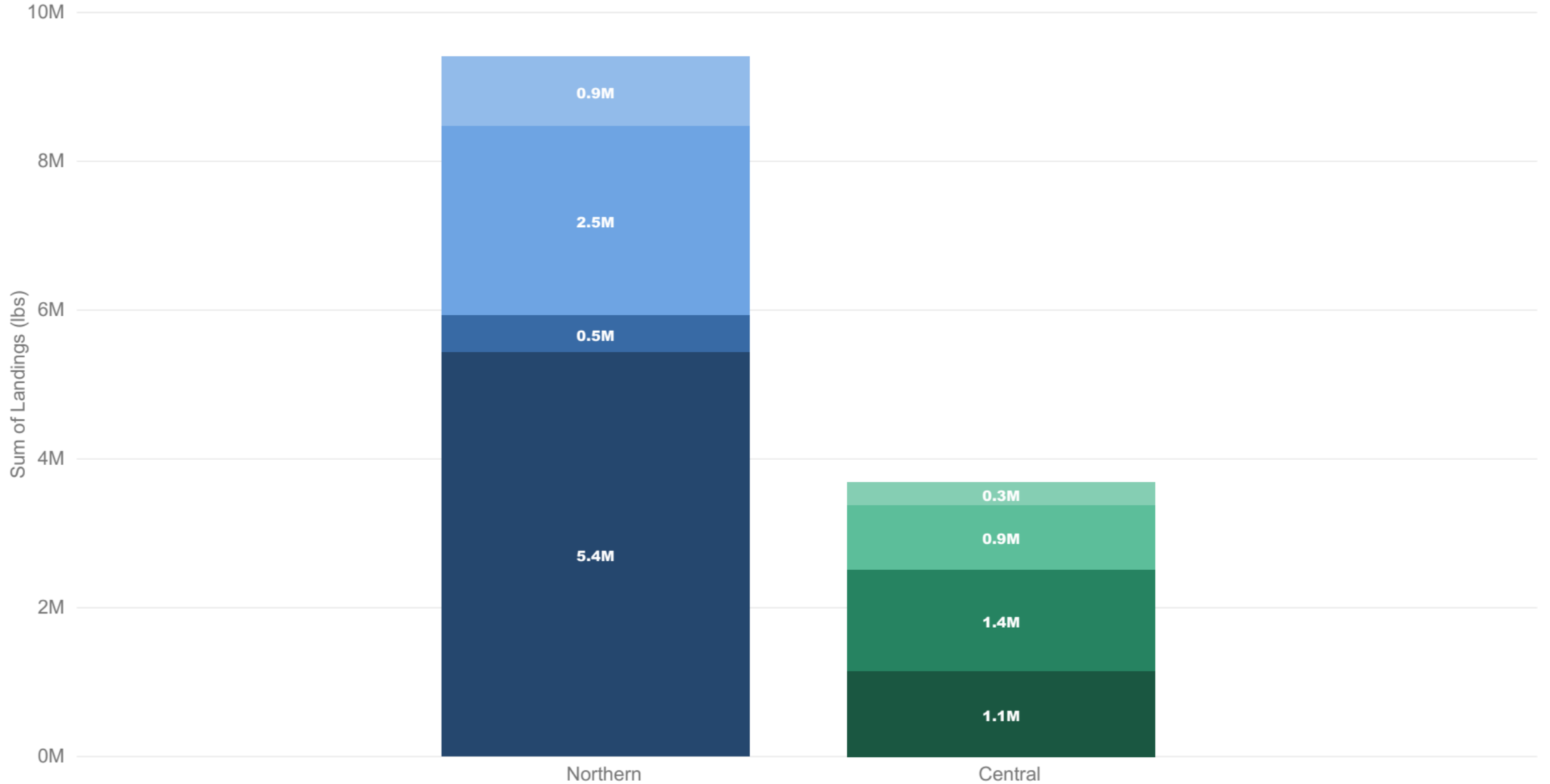
# CDFW Updates

- 2018-2019 Dungeness crab season totals
- 2015-2016 Crab Disaster Relief Status
- Dungeness Crab Trap Limit Account
- Tri-State process and proposed updates for quality testing
- Vessel Length Marine Surveys
- Looking ahead to 2019-2020 season



# 2018-2019 Season Landings

Port ● 1CRESC CITY ● 2TRINIDAD ● 3EUREKA ● 4FORT BRAGG ● 5BODEGA BAY ● 6SAN FRANCISCO ● 7PRINCETON-HALF MOON ● 8MONT/MORRO BAYS



# Status of Crab Disaster Relief for 2015-16 Season

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- \$25.6 million total funds available June 2019
- \$22.8m direct payments to eligible participants (<5% remaining)
- \$2.6m Phase 2 Mitigation:
  - At least 50% to support enhancing CDPH Food and Drug Laboratory
  - Other 50% will go towards research funding
    - Proposals that aim to better understand domoic acid and how the fishery can adapt to future events
    - Review panel to include industry



# Dungeness Crab Trap Limit Account – Ongoing FY End Balances

Fiscal Year Period	Revenue	Total CDFW Costs	FY End Balance
2012-13	\$481,183	n/a	\$481,183
2013-14	\$1,072,152	\$264,884.75	\$1,288,450
2014-15	\$1,385,582	\$693,436.40	\$1,980,596
2015-16	\$61,143	\$662,765.56	\$1,378,973
2016-17	\$1,401,304	\$673,118.27	\$2,107,159
2017-18	\$91,124	\$641,564.78	\$1,556,718
<b>2018-19*</b>	\$1,438,670	\$770,952.74	<b><u>\$2,224,436</u></b>

\*2018-19FY numbers are preliminary; Fiscal Year (FY) = July 1 to June 30

# Dungeness Crab Trap Limit Account

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- Department costs average ~\$690k FY
- Dept. costs include LRB, LED and Marine, overhead and DCTF Facilitation:
  - Up to \$150k each FY, if available, may be used
  - 2018-2019 Contract over 2FYs was \$150k
  - Current contract covers 2FY also \$150k good until June 30, 2021
- Current statute states excess funds shall be used to reduce trap limit permit (\$1k) or tag fee (\$5/trap)
- Thinking ahead, excess funds could also be used to offset whale entanglement mitigation measures – (i.e. solar loggers)



# Tri State Updates



PACIFIC STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

205 SE Spokane, Portland, Oregon 97202

PHONE (503) 595-3100

FAX (503) 595-3232

Revised Pre-Season Testing Protocol for the  
Tri-State Coastal Dungeness Crab Commercial Fishery

August 2019

- Meeting held May 2019 in Portland, OR
- Discussed and reviewed current quality testing protocols and options to incorporate more flexibility into protocols due to marine life entanglement risk
- Lower meat quality criteria from 25 percent (rounded to the nearest integer) to 24 percent (not rounded) in the region south of Cascade Head, Oregon
  - Expedite a season opener in the northern management area
  - State managers did not adopt this change for the upcoming season pending further discussion with Dungeness Crab Task Force (DCTF)

# Tri State Updates (cont'd.)



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Revised Pre-Season Testing Protocol for the  
Tri-State Coastal Dungeness Crab Commercial Fishery

August 2019

- Consider multiple lines within the Tri-State region based on which port areas meet the quality criteria
  - This change could be adopted by Washington and Oregon for the upcoming season;
  - California will not add lines as the current statute specifies that quality delays apply to the entire northern management area
- Allow delays until February 1 after the third round of meat quality testing, but only if the marine life entanglement risk is predicted to be low
  - California can't delay the season beyond January 15 because of existing statute



# New Vessel Size Restrictions: Defined Length Overall & Marine Surveys

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- Vessel sizes can be updated via a marine survey that are due by March 31, 2020
- If no survey is submitted, vessel size will default to original permitted vessel length
- Submit surveys along with note identifying that this is to establish the baseline length of the Dungeness crab vessel permit to:

Ruth Flores, Analyst  
License and Revenue Branch  
California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
1740 N Market Blvd  
Sacramento, CA 95834  
(916)928-7470  
[Ruth.Flores@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Ruth.Flores@wildlife.ca.gov)



# 2019-2020 Season

- Lost/Abandoned gear
  - Can be pulled by Dcrab permitted vessels July 16- Oct 31
  - **\*NEW\*** Gear retrieval program in place for post-season 2019-2020
- New buoy tags currently being mailed for 2019-21 biennial period
- **NO** new gear requirements for upcoming season
  - Limit trailer lengths inside and outside 35 fathoms with no more than 2 trailer buoys
  - BPGs: try to eliminate additional buoys, keep lines taut and maintain gear





Questions/Comments?

Christy Juhasz, Environmental  
Scientist

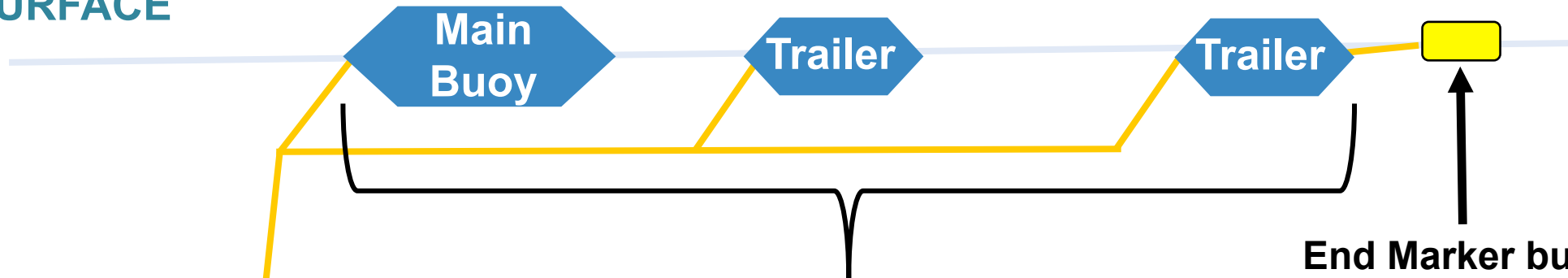
CDFW, Marine Region

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**NEW REGULATIONS IN PLACE FOR 2018-19 SEASON:  
California Commercial Dungeness Crab Traps Surface Gear Set-up**

**SURFACE**



**Total Distance between the front end of main buoy and final trailer buoy**

**End Marker buoy attached to 3 feet of line or less\***

<b>Inside 35 fathoms</b>	<b>Max of 4 fathoms</b>
<b>Outside 35 fathoms</b>	<b>Max of 6 fathoms</b>

**No more than two trailer buoys allowed in addition to the main buoy**



**1 fathom = 6 feet**

**\*Not to scale**

