



~California Dungeness Crab Task Force~

<http://www.opc.ca.gov/2009/04/dungeness-crab-task-force/>

June 28, 2018

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Attn: Christy Juhasz, Senior Environmental Scientist
5355 Skylane Blvd., Suite B
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Re: Suggested Amendments to Title 14 Proposed Rulemaking, Section 132.6

Dear Ms. Juhasz,

The California Dungeness Crab Task Force (DCTF) is writing to express general support for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (Department) draft rulemaking package, which includes amending sections 132.1, 132.2, and 132.3 and adding 132.6 to California's Title 14 regulations. This proposed regulatory package is a positive step in addressing the issue of whale entanglements and promoting responsible fishing practices.

The DCTF would like to submit the following recommended amendments to section 132.6 of the proposed rulemaking package to allow up to two trailer buoys on gear set-ups at depths less than 35 fathoms. The DCTF further recommends the regulations clarify that the maximum distance of the surface gear be measured from the front end of the main buoy to the tail end of the last trailer buoy. These amendments would continue to support responsible fishing behavior without detriment to marine life and help reduce confusion within the fleet.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the Department's draft Title 14 rulemaking package. If you have any questions or require anything additional, please do not hesitate to be in touch with the DCTF's Administrative Team with any questions (info@dungenesscrabtaskforce.com or 805-845-9852).

Sincerely,

The California Dungeness Crab Task Force

EC: Charlton Bonham, California Department of Fish & Wildlife (director@wildlife.ca.gov)
California Dungeness Crab Task Force (info@dungenesscrabtaskforce.com)
California Dungeness Crab Fishing Gear Working Group (info@cawhalegroup.com)