April 1, 2021

The Honorable Mike McGuire  
1303 10th Street, Room 5061  
Sacramento CA, 94249-0018

RE: Support for Senate Bill 80 – Commercial fishing: inspection: crab traps.

Dear Senator McGuire,

The California Dungeness Crab Task Force (DCTF) extends our support for Senate Bill 80. The DCTF was established pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 8276.4 and is directed to review and evaluate Dungeness crab fishery management measures. We thank you for including our recommendations from our October 2019 report (recommendations 4 and 6) and October 2020 report (recommendation 5) in SB 80. Additionally, on March 17, 2021, the DCTF voted unanimously to support the addition of amendments to Fish and Game Code §8280.3 regarding permit transfers in the version of the bill as amended on March 3, 2021.

The DCTF supports SB 80 in its current form and also respectfully requests Senator McGuire consider amending SB 80 to include:

- Recommendation 6 in the DCTF’s 2019 report, which requests changes to Fish and Game Code §9004 (the 96-hour gear servicing requirement) to allow a 9-day soak time, in alignment with the proposed Section 29.80 Title 14, CCR for the California recreational Dungeness crab fishery, currently under review by the Commission.
- The recommendations in the DCTF’s March 2021 report (enclosed).

The DCTF would continue to support SB 80 if it were amended to include these recommendations. While the above issues are a priority to the DCTF and broader commercial Dungeness crab industry, the DCTF supports considering these recommendations as part of future legislative efforts rather than SB 80 if the addition of these amendments would jeopardize the bill passing.

We appreciate the opportunity to respond to SB 80 and are grateful for your continued support and partnership in ensuring the successful and responsible management of the commercial California Dungeness crab fishery. For additional information about our work, please visit http://www.opc.ca.gov/2009/04/dungeness-crab-task-force/ or contact Rachelle Fisher at info@dungenesscrabtaskforce.com or 805-845-9852.

Sincerely,

The California Dungeness Crab Task Force

EC: CA Ocean Protection Council, Mark Gold, Executive Director  
CA Department of Fish and Wildlife, Charlton Bonham, Director  
California Fish and Game Commission, Peter Silva, President

ENCLOSURES:

DCTF March 17-18, 2021 Recommendations Report