

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: (Public Agency): CA Dept Fish and Wildlife

County Clerk  
County of: \_\_\_\_\_

(Address)

Project Title: 2019 CA commercial Dungeness Crab Spring Closure

Project Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Location - Specific:  
ocean waters statewide

Project Location - City: statewide Project Location - County: statewide

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:  
statewide closure of the commercial Dungeness crab fishery starting on April 15.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: CA Dept of Fish and Wildlife

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: CA Dept of Fish and Wildlife

Exempt Status: (check one):

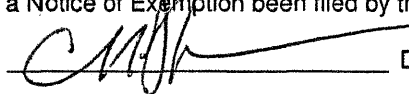
- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Section 15307 (Class 7); 15308 (Class 8)
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons why project is exempt:  
see attached

Lead Agency  
Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Area Code/Telephone/Extension: \_\_\_\_\_

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project?  Yes  No

Signature:  Date: 4/2/19 Title: Director

Signed by Lead Agency  Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.  
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

APR 03 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE



State of California – Natural Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE  
Director's Office  
P.O. Box 944209  
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090  
[www.wildlife.ca.gov](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov)

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor  
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



2019048045

April 2, 2019

## ATTACHMENT TO NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

### Closure of the California Dungeness Crab Commercial Fishery

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) has taken final action under the Fish and Game Code with respect to the above-referenced project. On April 2, 2019, the Director of the Department signed a declaration closing the commercial Dungeness crab fishery statewide, effective April 15, 2019.

For the purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA, Pub. Resources Code, Section 21000 et seq.), the Department approved project relying on the Class 7 categorical exemption for "Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of Natural Resources" and the Class 8 categorical exemption for "Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of the Environment" contained in CEQA Guideline Sections 15307 and 15308, Title 14, CCR, respectively.

### Categorical Exemptions to Protect Natural Resources and the Environment

In compliance with CEQA, the Department approved the project relying on the categorical exemptions contained in CEQA Guidelines of Title 14, CCR: Section 15307 (Action by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of Natural Resources) and Section 15308 (Action by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of the Environment). The exemptions apply to agency actions to protect natural resources and the environment, respectively.

The proposed project will close the commercial Dungeness crab fishery in response to a significant marine life entanglement risk. Lines and buoys of Dungeness crab traps pose a marine life entanglement risk, especially for whales migrating through California waters. The closure will have the overall effect of reducing the entanglement risk by removing traps from the marine environment, and thereby is the proper subject of CEQA's Class 7 and 8 categorical exemptions.