

2nd 2009 Northern California Dungeness Crab Quality Test

November 12, 2009

As agreed upon in the Tri-State agreement, prior to opening the coastal commercial Dungeness crab fishery in California, CDFG/PSMFC will conduct test fishing for crab condition based on meat recovery (not crab abundance). Criteria for opening the fishery on December 1 are a meat recovery rate (or projected rate) of 25% (rounded to the nearest integer) or higher south of Cascade Head.

Given the test results below, CDFG has determined that the crab meet this recovery rate.

As indicated by the table below crab landed during the second Crescent City/Eureka/Trinidad (CET) test of 2009, conducted November 10-12, had a combined green weight of 3,034 pounds with 760 pounds of meat recovered for a combined CET recovery rate of 25.0%. The crab meat was/will be provided to various non-profit centers.

Description	Crescent City	Trinidad	Eureka	Combined
Drained weight	1,526	977	531	3,034
Picked weight	399	233	128	760
Combined	26.1%	23.8%	24.1%	25.0%

Departure from Tri-State protocols

Tri-State protocols call for a testing off Ft. Bragg. For this second test, Ft. Bragg was not tested due to a lack of available fishing vessels. However, results from recent years and the first 2009 crab test, Ft. Bragg samples have had yields greater than the other northern California ports. Therefore, the lack of data from Ft. Bragg in this instance is not thought to raise a question regarding whether or not the 25% minimum would have been met if results from Ft. Bragg had been available. It is important to note that during the first test, the Tri-State protocol that at least 300 drained weight pounds of crab that Tri-State protocols require was not met in Ft. Bragg.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have additional questions.
Dave Colpo