

Dungeness Crab Poster Child for a Sea Change

PSFMC Meeting September 27, 2016 Sonke Mastrup Environmental Program Manager, Marine Region



Presentation Outline

- Review of Fishery Events 2015/16
- Domoic Management Plan 2016/17
- Whales
- Climate Change



Nov 6	Nov 13	Nov 19	Nov 20	Nov 21
 CDFW delays opening commercial Dungeness crab fishery NOAA Congressional Briefing on West Coast HAB event in Washington D.C 	 ODFW closes rec and commercial bay crab fisheries south of Hecta Head due to elevated levels of DA detected in Coos Bay and Port Ordford areas 	 Quinault Tribal commercial Dungeness crab opens north of Point Chehalis 	•Opening of commercial Dungeness crab season delayed to allow for more testing in all three coastal states	 First Quileute Tribal commercial Dungeness crab landings north of Queets River

Dec 1	Dec 7	Dec 21	Dec 24
 ODFW opens recreational crab harvest north of Heceta Head on OR coast 	 All three states further delay opening of commercial Dungeness crab season beyond Dec. 15 to allow for additional DA testing in OR and CA. 	 WDFW and ODFW agree to open both states to commercial Dungeness crab; CA remains closed with continuing elevated DA in crab ODFW opens razor clam harvest on Clatsop beaches and recreational Dungeness crab fishery along entire OR coast, including south of Heceta Head 	•WA razor clam fishery opens on one of five management beaches

Jan 4	Feb 11	Feb 17	Mar 18	Mar 26	Apr 22
 WDFW and ODFW open commercial Dungeness crab season in WA and OR 	 CDFW opens sport crab harvest south of Pt. Reyes 	 CDFW decides to delay opening of commercial Dungeness crab season south of Pt. Reyes, to allow all areas to open at the same time 	•CDFW opens recreational Dungeness crab south of Sonoma/ Mendocino county line	 CDFW opens central mgmt. area (south of Sonoma/ Mendocino county line) to commercial Dungeness crab 	 CDFW opens recreational Dungeness crab Humboldt Bay south

Apr 27	May 2	May 12	May 13	May 19	May 26
 CDFW closes recreational razor clam fishery in Humboldt and Del Norte counties due to high DA levels 	 CDFW opens Dungeness crab rec fishery in Del Norte County and northern part of Humboldt County, excluding Trinidad area 	 CDFW opens Dungeness crab commercial fishery in all of fishing District 7 and portion of District 6, excluding Trinidad area 	harvest	 CDFW opens Dungeness crab recreational fishery area around Trinidad, fishery now open statewide 	 CDFW opens Dungeness crab commercial fishery in area around Trinidad, fishery now open statewide



Domoic 2016/17

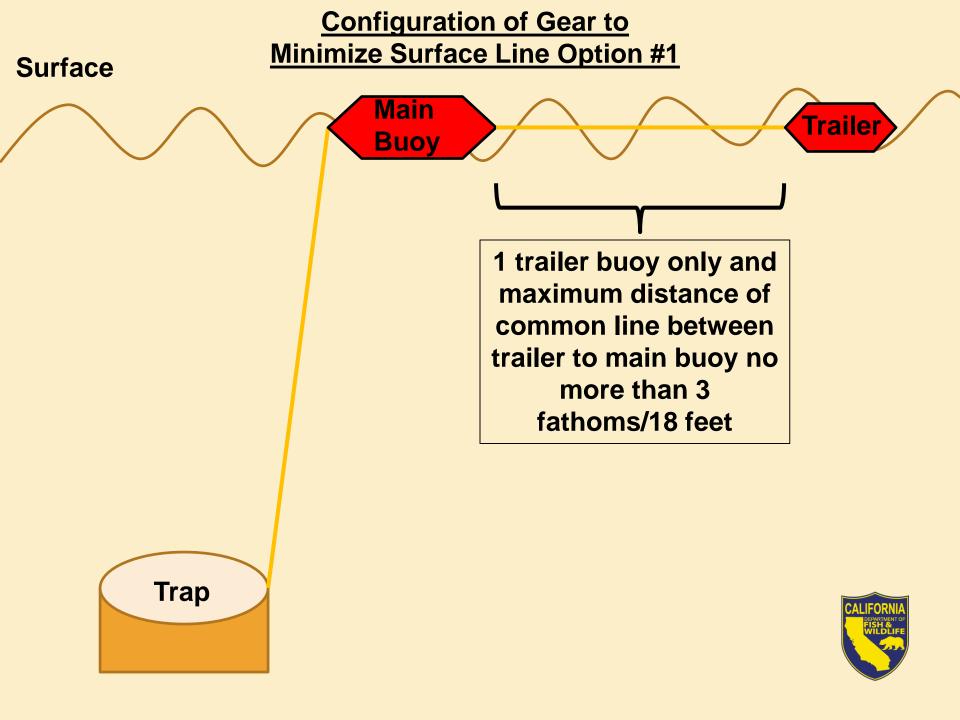
- Early Testing
- Coherent Sampling Strategy Thank you Tri-State
- Evisceration Option Death to the Live Mrkt
- Dynamic Management
- Dungeness, Rock, Lobster





Whales

- Large Number of Entanglements (30-50)
- Whale Entanglement Workgroup 2015-?
- Three Objectives:
 - Gear Modifications
 - Communication/Compliance
 - Co-Occurrence

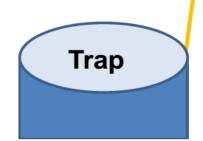


Dungeness Crab Fishing Gear Working Group September 2016-17 Recommendations

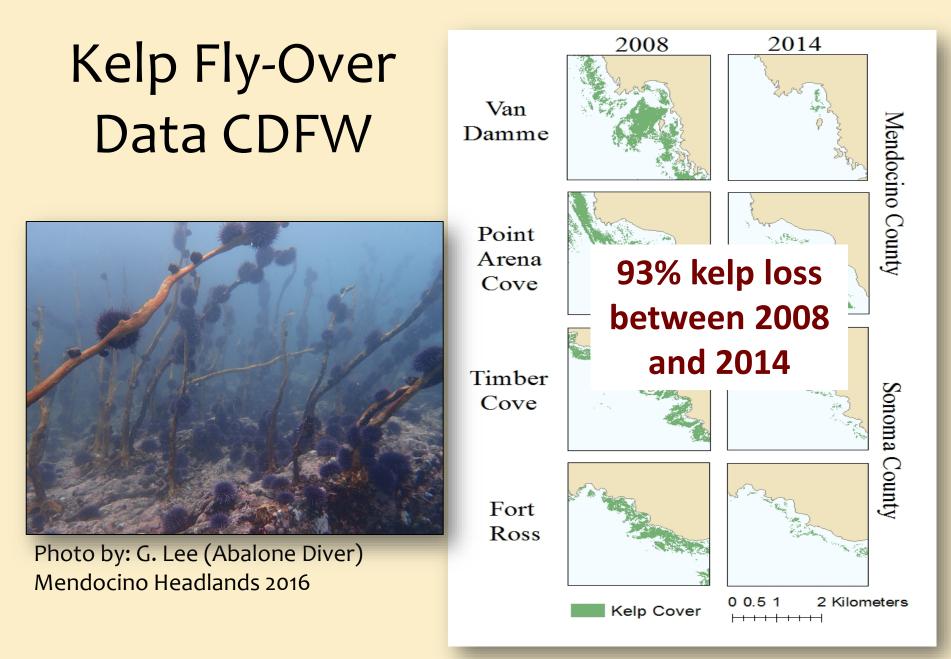
Surface

Minimize # of buoys in set up—no more than 1 trailer buoy inside 30 fathoms

Line between trap and main buoy should be taut



Main Buoy		nce between the final trailer buoy	railer		
Recreational		shortest as possible, i 2 fathoms (12ft) at an			
Commercial					
Inside 30 fathoms		shortest as possible, i 3 fathoms (18ft)	max of		
30-50 fathoms		shortest as possible, ı 4 fathoms (24ft)	max of		
Outsic	le 50 fathoms	shortest as possible, i 5 fathoms (30ft)	max of		



Data M. Fredle

Unprecedented Large-Scale Purple Sea Urchin Explosion in 2015



A. Maguire (CDFW)

 60x historic densities in N. California
 Mostly small 2-3 year old urchins

> Reports of high urchin numbers from Central California to Washington State



Kelp loss threatens fisheries and the ecosystem



Starvation Conditions in Northern California (2014-2016)



A. Maguire (CDFW)



Next steps

- Communication/Education of Fleets
- Enhance Capacity
- Research
 - Dynamics of Domoic
 - Watch out Whales
 - Climate Crisis
 - Governance Goo

