CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE DECLARATION OF LIFTING FISHERIES CLOSURE DUE TO A PUBLIC HEALTH THREAT CAUSED BY ELEVATED LEVELS OF DOMOIC ACID IN DUNGENESS CRAB Pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 5523, I find and declare that

1

On November 9, 2018, the Director of the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) in consultation with the State Public Health Officer at the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) determined that Dungeness crab in state waters from the southern boundary of Bodega Head State Marine Reserve in Sonoma County (38° 18' N. latitude) north to the Sonoma/Mendocino county line (38° 46.125' N. latitude) pose a human health risk due to elevated levels of domoic acid and recommended to delay opening the commercial Dungeness crab fishery in this area.

II.

On December 3, 2018, the Director of OEHAA in consultation with the State Public Health Officer at CDPH determined that Dungeness crab in waters from the southern boundary of Bodega Head State Marine Reserve in Sonoma County (38° 18' N. latitude) north to the Sonoma/Mendocino county line (38° 46.125' N. latitude) no longer pose a significant human health risk due to elevated levels of domoic acid and recommended opening the commercial Dungeness crab fishery in this area.

III.

THEREFORE, under the authority granted by Fish and Game Code Section 5523, I am opening the commercial Dungeness crab fishery in state waters from the southern boundary of Bodega Head State Marine Reserve in Sonoma County (38° 18' N. latitude) north to the Sonoma/Mendocino county line (38° 46.125' N. latitude) at **12:01 a.m. on Saturday, December 8**. Pursuant to subsection 5523(d) of the Fish and Game Code, this opening shall be preceded by an 18-hour gear setting period set to begin at **6:01 a.m. on Friday, December 7**.

Charlton H. Bonham, Director

Date/Time

12/3/18 12:50 pm pst