



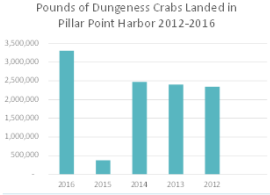
HALF MOON BAY LOST FISHING GEAR RECOVERY PROJECT




Presentation to
the San Mateo County Harbor District
December 20, 2017

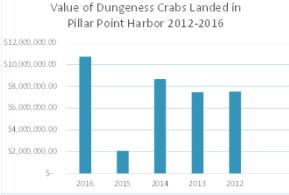
The California Dungeness crab fishery is a highly valuable state resource, averaging an ex-vessel value of approximately \$59.6 million a year. Locally, over the last five years an average of 2.2 million pounds of Dungeness Crab representing almost \$7.3 million dollars per year was landed in Pillar Point Harbor. This fishery has the highest number Pillar Point Harbor fishermen participating with approximately 42 Dungeness Crab Permit holders.

Pounds of Dungeness Crabs Landed in Pillar Point Harbor 2012-2016



Year	Pounds Landed
2012	~2,300,000
2013	~2,300,000
2014	~2,400,000
2015	~400,000
2016	~3,300,000

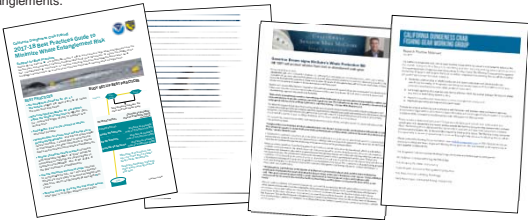
Value of Dungeness Crabs Landed in Pillar Point Harbor 2012-2016



Year	Value (\$)
2012	~\$7,000,000
2013	~\$7,000,000
2014	~\$9,500,000
2015	~\$2,500,000
2016	~\$11,000,000

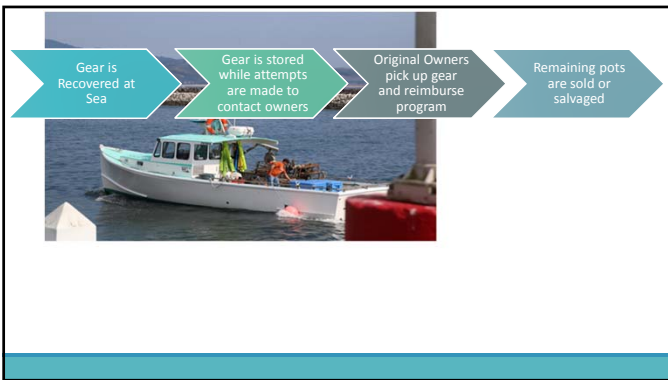
* In January 2017, the 2015 Dungeness Crab Fishery was declared a disaster by the US Department of Commerce /NOAA
<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/fishing/commercial/landings>

In response to an increase in reported entanglements, The California Dungeness Crab Fishing Gear Working Group initially convened in the fall of 2015. Since that time, 100+ fishermen have been trained to respond to an entanglement event, hundreds of Best Practices fishing guides have been distributed, and there has been important research into the key drivers of entanglement risk on an annual basis. With the support of the Crab Fleet, Senate Bill 1287 was signed in 2016 to support lost gear recovery efforts and although the law has not yet been implemented, 2017 has shown a significant decrease in reported entanglements.





With the support of The Nature Conservancy and the San Mateo County Harbor District, Half Moon Bay Commercial Fisheries Trust (HMBCFT), partnered with members of the Half Moon Bay Seafood Marketing Association (HMBSMA) and took the initiative to design and test a fishermen-driven model recovering lost Dungeness crab gear in 2015.



Data Tool

In 2016, a tool was developed by The Nature Conservancy and tested by the Half Moon Bay fleet to help identify lost gear locations for targeted recovery.

In 2017, the tool was expanded to track lost gear from when it was first located in the ocean, to final resolution at the end of the program.

Development will continue in 2018

HMB worked with 5 California ports to share the tool and support efforts to build similar programs. More than 1000 pots were recovered in California in 2017

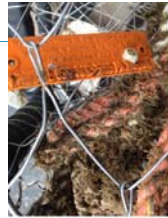
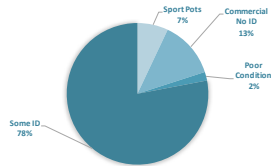


Gear Storage

For all three years of the program, SMCHD has donated an area of the parking lot for storage during the program. In 2016 and 2017, HMBCT rented construction fencing to secure the gear. A sign on the gear lot alerted fishermen and the public to the program and provided contact information. The fenced area is kept locked with a combination lock that is changed weekly during the distribution phase of the project. In 2017 space had to be increased due to high volume of pots recovered, and SMCHD accommodated the additional space needed.

Gear Identification

IDENTIFICATION IN GEAR RECOVERED 2017

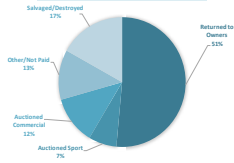


Condition of gear recovered through lost gear recovery efforts remains variable and there continues to be more than 20% of gear that does not include owner identification information including recreational gear.



Gear Distribution

FINAL DISTRIBUTION OF GEAR 2017



Gear was distributed over the course of 12 weeks and the program was completed By October 15, 2017.



Cost Recovery

- 82% 2017 Gear retrieval costs
- 64% Cost Recovery in 2017
- 29% Recovered gear that did not result in cost recovery for the program.



In 2015, 3 vessels participated in the program over 6 sea days, retrieving **182 crab pots**

In 2016, 5 vessels participated in the program over 12 sea days, retrieving **207 crab pots**

In 2017, 4 vessels participated in the program over 13 sea days, retrieving **449 crab pots**

838 pots

have been recovered in HMB since 2015

Lessons Learned

- LOST GEAR RECOVERY PROGRAMS CAN EFFECTIVELY REMOVE GEAR FROM THE WATER
- TOOLS AND TECHNOLOGY PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES
- FISHERMEN ARE SUPPORTIVE OF LOST GEAR RECOVERY PROGRAMS
- LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS CAN ADD CAPACITY AND AID IN LOST GEAR EFFORTS
- COSTS MUST BE AFFORDABLE FOR INDUSTRY AND SUPPORT THE PROGRAM





THANK YOU to the San Mateo County Harbor District for supporting the Lost Fishing Gear Recovery Program in Half Moon Bay.

From: [Edmundo Larenas](#)
To: [Debbie Gehret](#)
Cc: [Steve McGrath](#)
Subject: Correction
Date: Wednesday, December 20, 2017 12:05:58 PM
Attachments: [EAL Harbor District sexual harrassment.docx](#)

Hi Debbie,

I know its difficult to get all the minutes accurate so I in now way intend this to reflect badly on you. It would have made it easier for you to get my comment correctly had I provided you with the statement that I read at our November 15 regular meeting for your minutes reporting. My apologies to you.

I have attached the statement here. There may be a need to provided a printed copy at the meeting because I intend to pull the minutes from the meeting so that my comment is accurately reflected in the minutes.

Thanks,

Edmundo

Commissioner Larenas Comment during the regular meeting

November 15, 2017

As a Man

As a member of this community

I am not surprised that a fellow Commissioner has made a claim of sexual harassment.

Because we live in a society that continues to have significant inequalities between men and women, and where sexual harassment and assault of women are still common, and because our society silences women about those experiences.

So, my inclination is to believe women when they disclose that they have been harassed or assaulted.

Harassment, Assault, and Gender based violence hurts us all.

Women have begun to speak out against this at great risk to themselves.

This moment may be uncomfortable, but it is important.

Women speaking out against gender based violence empowers us all, women and men alike. Our society will become stronger because women are increasingly speaking up.

We should look inside ourselves to understand how we have enabled and contributed to social inequalities.

We should strive to eliminate them with our thoughts and actions, that lead to equity for all members of our community

I am angry for the times in my life when I didn't speak up against gender inequality, or speak loud enough, and say "this is wrong" or "this is unacceptable".

Regarding the current claim of harassment,

As an elected official, your Commissioner, I am bound to work within the structure the district has in place.

I do have concerns that the district's policy regarding sexual harassment is flawed and does not adequately address the problem.

However, I commit to work diligently to ensure that the process is fair. And further, going forward, I am going to work to ensure that this commission becomes and remains a place where both women and men participate, and are included and respected and treated equitably.

Only by ensuring equitable participation by women and men in public office, are we able to best serve the public.

From: Dayla Soul
To: [Steve McGrath](#)
Cc: [Debbie Gehret](#); [Edmundo Larenas](#); [Robert Bernardo](#); [Sabrina Brennan](#); [Tom Mattusch](#); [Virginia Chang Kiraly](#)
Subject: SMCHD 12/20 Meeting - Agenda Item #4
Date: Wednesday, December 20, 2017 3:22:48 PM

Hello Mr. McGrath,

I am writing to ask that the minutes for the November 15 regular meeting be modified to accurately reflect my public comment. I understand that the board will be approving the minutes tonight under agenda item 4.

As I said in public comment last month the Harbor District should employ an independent, third-party law firm to investigate the sexual harassment claims against Tom Mattusch.

As well as hiring a third-party firm, it is important that any report or analysis put together by the firm the district employs is made available directly to the entire board and the public and not handled in any way by Harbor District staff. The district has to maintain a “hands off” approach on this matter to assure the public that the process used to handle commissioner Brennan’s case was fair and impartial.

Please make sure that the minutes for November 15 are corrected to reflect the fact that I am calling for the district to employ an independent, third-party law firm to investigate these sexual harassment claims and to ensure that the entire process is handled independently from start to finish.

Thank you and please make sure to include my letter in the board packet under Item #4 for tonight’s meeting.

Dayla Soul
Pacifica

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Dayla Soul
IAP Director
415-368-3702

From: James Lee
To: [Steve McGrath](#)
Cc: [Debbie Gehret](#); [Tom Mattusch](#); [Virginia Chang Kiraly](#); [Edmundo Larenas](#); [Robert Bernardo](#); [Sabrina Brennan](#)
Subject: SMCHD 12/20 Meeting - Agenda Item #4
Date: Wednesday, December 20, 2017 10:53:57 AM

Hi Steve,

I hope you are doing well.

I am writing to respectfully demand that the minutes for the November 15 Regular Meeting of the Harbor District, which are set to be approved tonight under Agenda Item #4, be corrected to accurately reflect the public comments made by myself, by Dayla Soul, and by Kathryn Slater-Carter:

My comments have been recorded in the minutes as "comments directed to President Mattusch." This is not an accurate reflection of what I said. I specifically asked for Tom Mattusch to resign in light of the sexual harassment allegations made against him, allegations which have evidence to back them up.

I also stated in my public comment, as did Ms. Soul, and Ms. Slater-Carter, that the Harbor District should employ an independent, third-party law firm to investigate these sexual harassment claims. It is my understanding that to this date such a firm STILL has not been engaged to work on this matter.

The way our public comments were recorded into the minutes makes it sound like such a firm was already hired by the Harbor District and that we support that effort. This is not the case. The minutes should read that we all requested that the Harbor District employ such a law firm because it was not doing so.

On another note, I notice that neither Commissioner Brennan nor Commissioner Larenas's agenda items from the Nov. 15 meeting have rolled over to this meeting. Steve, you know as well as I do that the only reason board did not get to these items is because Commissioners Mattusch, Chang-Kiraly, and Bernardo disrespected the public and their fellow board members by ending the meeting early because they were tired of doing their duty as public servants after roughly three whole grueling hours of sitting in a chair behind a dais. As I and others have told the board and staff countless times now, for staff to remove these items after they are regularly blocked from being heard by a disrespectful and petty 3-2 board majority is unprofessional and unfair to the public. Please correct this practice ASAP.

Thank you,

James Han
720 Warren St
Redwood City, CA 94063