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FISH AND GAME
COMMISSION

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California Fish and Game Commission
President Michael Sutton, Vice President Richard B. Rogers,
Members Jim Kellogg, Jack Baylis, Jacque Hostler-Carmesin
PO Box 944209
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090

Dear Commissioners:

The commercial fishermen of California are asking the Fish and Game Commission for a more accurate accountability of recreational sport take of chinook salmon and dungeness crab (ocean and river). We see very limited data taking and enforcement at launching ramps and marinas for the sport fishing fleet. Commercial fishermen are strictly enforced with fish count and poundage.

As an example, on July 3rd-July 7, 2013 there has been very limited data collected and fish landings checked in Bodega Bay for the sport fishing fleet. The local Coast Guard office in Bodega Bay tries to keep an accurate count of boats that go out and for July 7th alone, they counted upwards of 350+ recreational salmon boats, which does not include Dillon Beach or other ports in the area. A simple phone call to the Bodega Bay Coast Guard station will verify this information as it is readily available daily. A viable solution to this lack of accountability in the sport fishing fleet would be a simple punch card system such as is already used for abalone. This would give a more accurate accounting of what impact sport fishing has on the Chinook salmon population as well as Dungeness crab. We should follow the lead of other states, i.e. Alaska, Washington and Oregon in their regulation of the sport fishing industry. This would also generate needed revenue for our state to enforce the rules and data collection.

Another issue that needs to be resolved is how can a **commercial passenger fishing vessel** be allowed to operate and make their living while a **commercial fishing vessel** is shut down and unable to operate? A harvested fish is still one less fish in the ocean, regardless of how it is caught.

Thank you for your consideration of these matters. Our goal as commercial fishermen is to make this fishery sustainable for the future, provide an excellent product for our consumers and be able to make a viable living, which includes generating tax revenue for the State of California.

Sincerely,

Don Kammerer

