

## **CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE REPORT ON DRIFT GILL NET TRANSITION PROGRAM**

In June 2021, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) provided an update to the Council on the Drift Gill Net (DGN) Transition Program established pursuant to California Senate Bill 1017, and . the second regulatory process to extend the deadline to participate in the Transition Program ([Agenda Item F.4.a Supplemental CDFW Report 1](#), June 2021).

The total cost for the program if all voluntary participants who submitted the form complete the process, will be \$3,240,000. Funding provided by the California Ocean Protection Council (OPC) and Oceana enabled the Department to notify the first 24 approved participants that they could proceed with the Transition Program. The California State Budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year includes the remaining \$1.3 Million necessary to allow the remaining 20 participants to proceed. The Department has executed an updated agreement with the fiscal agent, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, and notified all remaining participants of their ability to proceed.

As of November 2021, 23 permittees (16 active and seven inactive) have completed the transition process by relinquishing their nets and permits and agreeing not to fish, renew, or transfer a federal DGN permit. The remaining participants have until October 28, 2022, to complete the process.

Of the 42 federal DGN permit holders in 2021, six have participated in the California Transition Program and 17 have indicated their intent to participate. There are 19 federal permit holders who were either ineligible to participate or chose not to participate in the California program. Of those 19, only three had DGN landings during the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 seasons.

Details on the Transition Program can be found on the Department's web site at:  
<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/conservation/marine/pelagic/DGN-Transition>