

Calif.-caught Dungeness crab off the holiday menu

By Mary Callahan, Press Democrat

With less than two weeks left in 2015, state health and wildlife officials say chances are slim to none that Californians will be feasting on local Dungeness crab this Christmas or any time before next year.

Though overall levels of a naturally occurring neurotoxin called domoic acid have diminished off the coast, enough crabs are still coming back with concentrations above the allowable limit that the fishery will remain closed at least into January, they said.

Public health representatives have said test crabs must come back completely clean for two weeks in a row before they will lift the advisory that prompted Fish and Wildlife officials to put the season on hold.

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