



Memorandum

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Marine Resources Program

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December 12, 2006:

Notice to the commercial ocean Dungeness crab fleet:

Effective January 1, 2007, Oregon commercial Dungeness crab fishery permits are valid only in the waters off of Oregon.

Effective January 1, 2007, a temporary rule adopted by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife will restrict Oregon permitted vessels to crab only in waters adjacent to Oregon. This includes state and federal waters off Oregon from the shore to 200 miles between the Oregon/Washington border (46° 15' 00" N. Lat.) and the Oregon/California border (42° 00' 00" N. Lat.). California crab licenses are no longer valid in the waters off of Oregon and Oregon crab permits are no longer valid in the waters off of California. This temporary rule is reciprocal to the action taken by the California Legislature which passed a bill restricting California licenses to waters south of the California/Oregon border. That legislation also takes effect January 1, 2007. A similar set of reciprocal rules was put in place before the beginning of the 2005-06 crab season by Oregon and Washington. According to permanent rule 635-005-0047, crab legally taken in waters off another state may be landed in Oregon with a valid Oregon Dungeness crab permit. It is expected that the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission will consider making this rule permanent in the future.

Action by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife:

Dungeness Crab Fishery

635-005-0042

Temp Rule ef. 1-1-07 thru 6-29-07

Areas

Oregon Dungeness crab permits are valid only in Oregon state waters and the Pacific Ocean in federal waters south of an east-west line extending 200 nautical miles westward at 46° 15' 00" N. Latitude (Oregon/Washington border) and north of an east-west line at 42° 00' 00" N. Latitude (Oregon/California border).

Action by the California State Legislature:

California passed an Assembly Bill (AB 2773) in 2006 limiting the geographic area where a California Coastal Dungeness Crab license is valid to the state and federal waters adjacent to the State of California. This bill takes effect January 1, 2007.

Enforcement officers from Oregon, Washington, and California will work cooperatively to enforce this new rule.

If you have any questions about this new rule, please contact ODFW at 541-867-4741.