



REGION 6

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Memorandum:

Date: November 15, 2007
To: Dungeness Crab Industry
From: Brandon Bryant
Subject: Preseason test results

2007 PRE-SEASON TEST FISHERY RESULTS

Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) completed the second round of pre-season test fishing for coastal Dungeness crab shell condition and meat recovery.

The Long Beach portion was completed on November 6, 2007 and the Westport portion of the test was completed on November 14, 2007. The season start date is dependent on a meat recovery rate projected to be 23% on December 1.

Crabs were collected from three stations at each area; strings of pots were set at 15, 30, and 45 fathoms at each station. All legal sized male crab caught were included in the meat recovery sample. While aboard the charter vessels, WDFW staff collected shell condition data for Long Beach on all crab collected from all depths and stations. Due to inclement weather conditions WDFW staff was unable to collect shell condition data for Westport. The results for both areas are summarized below.

Sampling location	1A	1B	II	III	Meat Recovery
Westport	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	22.9%*
Long Beach	38.4%	33.6%	28.1%	0.0%	23.1%

*Crabs from Westport test areas are projected to meet the criteria for season opening by Dec 1.

I would like to thank the fishermen and processors for their time and effort making the 2007 test fishery a success.

If you have any questions pertaining to this notice please call Brandon Bryant at 360.249.1229 or email him at bryanblb@dfw.wa.gov.