



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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“ANNUAL CRAB PRICE NEGOTIATIONS DELAYED”

Coos Bay, OR –The state-supervised price negotiations between the five Dungeness crab marketing associations in Oregon and coastal seafood processors have been temporarily delayed.

The Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA), which convenes the annual bargaining process, announced that the parties involved in the price negotiation discussions agreed on Wednesday to postpone further talks until additional preseason ‘meat fill’ tests in California and Washington are completed and the results analyzed by fishery managers in the three states.

The opening date for the 2012/13 Dungeness crab season, already postponed by at least 15 days from the customary December 1st start, could be determined as early as this coming Monday, when a scheduled conference call between Fish & Wildlife officials occurs. ODA plans to resume the price negotiations in Newport, OR.

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The ODCC is an industry-funded commodity commission under the umbrella of the Oregon Department of Agriculture, representing 429 limited-entry Oregon crab permit holders in an MSC-certified “well managed and sustainably harvested fishery.” Our mission is to enhance the image of Oregon’s Dungeness crab industry and increase opportunities for profitability through promotion, education and research.