



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

Department of Fish and Wildlife

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Oregon Ocean Commercial Dungeness Crab Permit Holders and Interested Persons,

In partnership with the Oregon Dungeness Crab Commission (ODCC) and the Oregon Dungeness crab industry, the first round of Oregon preseason crab testing was completed in early November (week of Nov. 3rd). During this same time, crab were collected for toxin testing by the Oregon Department of Agriculture and results of those tests are reported on our website at http://www.dfw.state.or.us/MRP/shellfish/commercial/crab/news_publications.asp. Tri-state policy leaders met the second week of November and decided to try to accommodate a second round of testing to retest the areas that did not meet the minimum meat recovery criteria the following week in all three states. In Oregon, tests were only completed in the Brookings area due to boat availability. The minimum meat recovery rates to be met in each test are 23% north of Cascade Head (no rounding allowed) and 25% south of Cascade Head (rounded to the nearest integer). Results from the tests completed to date are as follows:

	Agency	Optional Early Round	Round 1 Meat Recovery %	Round 2 Meat Recovery %
Northern/Pt.Grenville	WDFW	no test	26.4	met criteria
Westport/Grayland	WDFW	20.9	23.1	met criteria
Long Beach/Klipsan	WDFW	21.0	21.8	no test
Astoria	ODFW	no test	21.4	no test
Garibaldi	ODFW	no test	25.4	met criteria
Newport	ODFW	no test	24.4	no test
Coos Bay	ODFW	no test	28.2	met criteria
Floras Creek	ODFW	no test	27.2	met criteria
Port Orford	ODFW	no test	24.9	met criteria
Brookings	ODFW	no test	23.9	24.7
Crescent City	CDFW	24.5	met criteria	met criteria
Trinidad	CDFW	no test	25.3	26.4
Eureka	CDFW	23.2	24.4	no test
Fort Bragg	CDFW	25.8	met criteria	met criteria

The ocean commercial Dungeness crab season along the Oregon coast normally opens on Dec. 1, but can be delayed to ensure a high-quality product to consumers and optimize utilization of the resource. Tri-state policy leaders from Oregon, Washington and California met on Friday (Nov. 22nd) and **decided to delay the season opening from Klipsan Beach, Wash., south to the Oregon/California border through at least Dec. 15, pending further results.** At that time, testing

was still underway in Northern California to determine the season status from Point Arena to the Oregon/California border.

To determine when the season will open in Oregon we will be working with industry to re-test the Astoria and Newport areas in early December. Once the results are in from the additional tests, fishery managers from all three states will again meet and decide to either open the season on Dec. 16 or further delay the season. This information will be distributed to the fleet as soon as it is available.

We would like to thank all of those involved with the testing; the staff at Hallmark Fisheries in Newport, Charleston, Brookings, and Port Orford, staff at Bornstein Seafoods in Astoria and Newport, the Oregon Dungeness Crab Commission and the captains and crew of the crabbing vessels that make this possible.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

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