

Appendix: Oregon

OREGON CRAB TEST FISHING PROCEDURES

Updated October, 2017

In partnership with the Oregon Dungeness Crab Commission, ODFW will conduct pre-season testing in accordance with the Tri-State testing protocols for softshell crab prior to the Ocean Dungeness Crab Fishery opening each year.

Crab will be collected in eight test areas off the Oregon coast. Each area consists of one or two stations where strings of six pots will be set at approximately 15, 30, and 45 fathoms centered around the locations listed below. Each pot will be a standard commercial 38 inch crab pot and will be baited with two baiters filled with approximately 1 pound of squid each. For each depth, all legal-sized male crab will be collected. A minimum of 150lbs will be required in each area with a single test station. All crab will be combined and processed for a single meat recovery rate for each area, according to Tri-State protocols. The meat recovery by test area will be made available to each of the states and PSFMC for posting on their website as soon as possible. The total poundage by test area for each round of testing will be available to permit holders upon request. Six legal male crabs from each test station (1 from each pot) will be collected as part of the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) domoic acid tests as needed. Secondly, the contents of two pots per string will be further examined by the ODFW at-sea observer to assist in collecting data about the quantity and species composition of the bycatch caught in the fishery. The sex and carapace widths of all of the Dungeness crab and the amount and species composition of all other bycatch will be recorded for each of these pots. This additional information will be available upon request after the first 30 days of the Ocean Dungeness Crab fishery. Lastly, genetic samples (one posterior leg) from female and undersized male crab may be retained and brought back to port for future population genetic analyses.

TEST AREAS

Astoria area: OR/WA border to Cape Falcon

Centered around (46° 00'N 124° 3.6'W)

Garibaldi area: Cape Falcon to Cape Lookout

Centered around (45° 33'N 124° 02'W)

North Newport area: Cape Lookout to Cape Foulweather

Centered around (45° 10'N 124° 2.8' W) and (44° 54'N 124° 06.3'W)

South Newport area: Cape Foulweather to Heceta Head

Centered around (44° 34.2'N 124° 11' W) and (44° 17.5'N 124° 12'W)

North Charleston area: Heceta Head to North Bend

Centered around (43° 57.5'N 124° 12.5' W) and (43° 36.5'N 124° 15.3' W)

South Charleston area: North Bend to Cape Blanco

Centered around (43° 19.5'N 124° 26.3' W) and (42° 58.5'N 124° 31.4' W)

Port Orford area: Cape Blanco to Gold Beach
Centered around (42° 37.5'N 124° 27.5' W)

Brookings area: Gold beach to OR/CA border
Centered around (42° 10'N 124° 24.1' W)