

Washington Coastal Commercial Dungeness Crab Fishers

We have had several questions about the rules around the Fair Start Provisions. We want to remind you that the following applies;

- Licenses and vessels designated to those licenses that fish (as defined by WAC 220-340-400) in the coastal commercial Dungeness crab fishery in the waters from Point Arena, California, to Klipsan Beach, Washington, (including Willapa Bay) before 8:00 a.m. January 25, 2018 are subject to the Fair Start Provisions
- **WAC 220-340-400 Definition—Commercial crab fishing:** “Commercial crab fishing” means any taking, fishing, use, or operation of gear to fish for crab for commercial purposes, and includes the possession of crab on the water for commercial purposes, and the landing or initial delivery of crab for commercial purposes.
 - **This includes the setting of crab pots, even if those pots have not yet been fished.**
- The Fair Start Provisions are:
 - **Klipsan Beach (46°28.00) to Oysterville (46°33.00):** Licenses and vessels designated to those licenses that fish (as defined by WAC 220-340-400) in the fishery between Point Arena, CA and Klipsan Beach, WA, including Willapa Bay, before the area north of Klipsan Beach opens will be allowed to fish in the area between Klipsan Beach and Oysterville at **8:00 am on February 7, 2018**
 - **Oysterville (46°33.00) to the U.S. - Canada Border:** Licenses and vessels designated to those licenses that fish (as defined by WAC 220-340-400) in the fishery between Point Arena, CA and Klipsan Beach, WA, including Willapa Bay, before the area north of Oysterville opens will be allowed to fish in the area between Oysterville and Destruction Island at **8:00 am on March 4, 2018.**

Also, any boat that received a **Hold Inspection** with the intention of setting gear south of Klipsan Beach (46°28.00) but does not set gear before 8:00 am January 25, 2018 will be required to have a new **Hold Inspection**. We will be conducting Hold Inspections starting at noon on **January 27, 2018** in all major coastal ports.

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