



State of Washington
Department of Fish and Wildlife

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November 19, 2020

WASHINGTON COASTAL DUNGENESS CRAB INDUSTRY NOTICE

**Season Opening Delayed In Washington, Oregon and
California (North of Point Arena)**

On Wednesday November 18, 2020 coastal Dungeness crab Tri-State policy representatives from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) agreed to delay the opening of the 2020-21 Coastal Dungeness crab fishery from Point Area, California north to the US/Canada border through December 15th at least. This decision was based on crab condition tests conducted by WDFW, ODFW and CDFW which shows that test areas do not currently meet the minimum meat recovery criteria at multiple sites across the region.

The Tri-State Dungeness Crab Pre-Season Testing Protocols specify that after the first round of testing, if any area does not meet the minimum meat recovery criteria (23% north of Cascade Head and 24% south of Cascade Head) a delay is required and additional testing is required before a season opening date can be confirmed. Additionally, the protocol also recommends that each test site should have at least 300 pounds of crab.

A second round of both meat recovery and domoic acid testing is scheduled to be conducted in early December. WDFW will provide additional information regarding the season opening as soon as possible following the completion of the upcoming tests.

Coast-wide test meat recovery and domoic acid results to date are found in the link below.

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/commercial/crab/coastal/letters-notices#general-info>

NOTE: If you know of fellow members of the WA Crab Industry who are not receiving these notices, please ask them to send their name, email and cell phone number to daniel.ayres@dfw.wa.gov

2020 Preseason Coastal Dungeness crab Test Fishery Results for WA, OR and CA


* Date is the date the pots were pulled

| Test Area | Number of pots | Optional Early Round | | Round 1 | | Round 2 | | Round 3 | |
|---|----------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|---------|-----------------|---------|-----------------|
| | | Date* | Meat Recovery % | Date* | Meat Recovery % | Date* | Meat Recovery % | Date* | Meat Recovery % |
| Washington | | | | | | | | | |
| Northern | | no test | no test | no test | no test | | | | |
| Westport | | 10/22/20 | 19.6% | 11/9/20 | 21.8% | | | | |
| Long Beach | | 10/23/20 | 18.7% | 11/9/20 | 21.8% | | | | |
| Oregon | | | | | | | | | |
| Astoria (50-A) | 18 | no test | no test | 11/9/20 | 21.6% | | | | |
| Garibaldi (50-B) | 18 | no test | no test | 11/9/2020 ***~ | 24.8% | | | | |
| Newport North (50-C and 50-D) | 36 | no test | no test | 11/9/20 | 25.1% | | | | |
| Newport South (50-E and 50-F) | 36 | no test | no test | 11/10/20 | 23.5% | | | | |
| Coos Bay North (50-G and 50-H) | 36 | no test | no test | 11/9/2020 ~ | 26.4% | | | | |
| Coos Bay South (50-I and 50-J) | 36 | no test | no test | 11/12/2020 ~ | 24.9% | | | | |
| Port Orford (50-K) | 18 | no test | no test | 11/9/2020 ** | 23.9% | | | | |
| Brookings (50-L) | 18 | 11/9/2020 ^ | 25.6% | 11/12/2020 ^** | 25.3% | | | | |
| California | | | | | | | | | |
| Crescent City | 36/60 | 10/27/2020 ** | 25.1% | 11/12/2020 ** | 26.8% | | | | |
| Trinidad | 36 | 10/27/2020 ** | 25.2% | TBD | | | | | |
| Eureka | 36/60 | 10/27/2020 ** | 25.6% | 11/12/2020 ** | 24.8% | | | | |
| District 10 (not bound by Tri-State) | | | | | | | | | |
| Bodega Bay | no test | no test | no test | no test | no test | | | | |
| San Francisco | no test | no test | no test | no test | no test | | | | |

**below 300lb minimum poundage

^ The first test (reported above in the early round column) was significantly below 150lbs allowed for a test area with 18 pots. In the re-do of this test area 45 pots were set due to the significantly low poundage.

~ less than a 24hr soak time

|  WA Dungeness Crab Domoic Acid Test Results | | | | | |
|--|--------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|--------|---------------|
| Collect Date | Waterbody | SiteName | Crab Species | Tissue | Domoic Result |
| 11/9/2020 | Grays Harbor Coast | Cape Disappoint./Pt Brown (GA 15 f) | Dungeness | Gut | 4 |
| 11/9/2020 | Grays Harbor Coast | Cape Disappoint./Pt Brown (GA 15 f) | Dungeness | Gut | 3 |
| 11/9/2020 | Grays Harbor Coast | Cape Disappoint./Pt Brown (GA 15 f) | Dungeness | Gut | 10 |
| 11/9/2020 | Grays Harbor Coast | Cape Disappoint./Pt Brown (GA 15 f) | Dungeness | Gut | 14 |
| 11/9/2020 | Grays Harbor Coast | Cape Disappoint./Pt Brown (GA 15 f) | Dungeness | Gut | 8 |
| 11/9/2020 | Grays Harbor Coast | Cape Disappoint./Pt Brown (GA 15 f) | Dungeness | Gut | 5 |
| 11/9/2020 | Pacific Cnty Coast | Inside Willapa Bay | Dungeness | Gut | 6 |
| 11/9/2020 | Pacific Cnty Coast | Inside Willapa Bay | Dungeness | Gut | 2 |
| 11/9/2020 | Pacific Cnty Coast | Inside Willapa Bay | Dungeness | Gut | 7 |
| 11/9/2020 | Pacific Cnty Coast | Inside Willapa Bay | Dungeness | Gut | 4 |
| 11/9/2020 | Pacific Cnty Coast | Inside Willapa Bay | Dungeness | Gut | 4 |
| 11/9/2020 | Pacific Cnty Coast | Inside Willapa Bay | Dungeness | Gut | 3 |
| 11/9/2020 | Pacific Cnty Coast | Cape Disappoint./Pt Brown (LBP 15 f) | Dungeness | Gut | 1 |
| 11/9/2020 | Pacific Cnty Coast | Cape Disappoint./Pt Brown (LBP 15 f) | Dungeness | Gut | 1 |
| 11/9/2020 | Pacific Cnty Coast | Cape Disappoint./Pt Brown (LBP 15 f) | Dungeness | Gut | 3 |
| 11/9/2020 | Pacific Cnty Coast | Cape Disappoint./Pt Brown (LBP 15 f) | Dungeness | Gut | 5 |
| 11/9/2020 | Pacific Cnty Coast | Cape Disappoint./Pt Brown (LBP 15 f) | Dungeness | Gut | 5 |
| 11/9/2020 | Pacific Cnty Coast | Cape Disappoint./Pt Brown (LBP 15 f) | Dungeness | Gut | 2 |
| OR = Northern Oregon | | GA = Grayland Area | 59A-1 = catch area | | |
| LBP = Long Beach Peninsula | | PB = Pacific Beach | | | |
| CRA = Columbia River Area | | COP = Copalis Area | | | |
| WDOH REOPENING CRITERIA: Reopening a zone that has been closed due to toxic test results, will require two (2) consecutive crab sample sets, not less than seven (7) days apart, with all six crab in each set, testing below 30 ppm in the viscera, or 20 ppm in meat. | | | | | |