

State of Washington
Department of Fish and Wildlife
Region Six Fish Program
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FAX TRANSMISSION

NOTICE TO COASTAL DUNGENESS CRAB FISHERS AND PROCESSORS

Date: November 8, 2004

TO: Coastal buyers and Processors, Crab Fishers

NUMBER OF PAGES (including cover sheet): 1

FROM: Heather Reed

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Buyers: please post

THE COASTAL COMMERCIAL DUNGENESS CRAB SEASON OPENING DATE IS POSTPONED

DUE TO SLOWER THAN ANTICIPATED IMPROVEMENT IN CRAB QUALITY, WDFW, WITH INPUT FROM INDUSTRY INCLUDING FISHERS AND PROCESSORS, HAS DECIDED TO CONDUCT ANOTHER COMPLETE ROUND OF TEST FISHING BEFORE ANNOUNCING THE SEASON OPENING DATE. TEST FISHING SHOULD BE COMPLETED BY DECEMBER 21.

THE SEASON OPENING WILL BE DELAYED IN THE WATERS ADJACENT TO WASHINGTON AND IN NORTHERN OREGON TO CAPE FALCON. ODFW AND CDFG HAVE AGREED TO MAINTAIN THE FAIRSTART PROVISIONS WHICH PROHIBIT FISHERS WHO PARTICIPATE IN A COASTAL CRAB FISHERY THAT OPENED ON DECEMBER 1 FROM FISHING IN AN AREA THAT HAS BEEN DELAYED FOR 30 DAYS AFTER THAT AREA OPENS.

Contact Heather Reed at 360-249-1202 if you have any questions.