



# Memorandum

## Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Marine Resources Program

2040 S.E. Marine Science Drive  
Newport, OR 97365  
(541) 867-4741 FAX (541)867-0311

December 11, 2007

TO: Oregon Commercial Dungeness Crab Fishery Participants  
FROM: Patricia Burke, Manager *Patty*  
RE: 2007-8 Crab Gear Information



### Derelict Gear Retrieval

Effective December 11, 2007, ODFW adopted a temporary rule to facilitate recovery of derelict crab gear. A notice that summarizes this temporary rule is enclosed. This rule allows a vessel to retain up to six crab pots that are not tagged for that vessel for the purpose of recovery and return to shore. Please note that gear recovered is to be noted on your logbook and returned to shore on that trip.

### Buoy Tag Replacement:

**Extraordinary Event:** The December 2-3 storm resulted in an extraordinary event and loss of gear off the Columbia River area. A rule is in place to allow for replacement of lost pots resulting from an extraordinary event. The process is as follows:

1. Obtain tag replacement form. Form is available at these ODFW offices: **Astoria, Newport, Charleston or Salem** (at ODFW License Services, 3406 Cherry Avenue NE).
2. The form must be filled out with the following information (review the form carefully):
  - a. Total number of tags/pots lost due to the event
  - b. You must indicate the extraordinary event causing your gear loss.
  - c. You must indicate that reasonable diligence was used prior to gear loss
  - d. You must certify that efforts were made to have attempted a recovery of the gear.

ODFW staff must witness the signature of the form. Forms will first be reviewed for qualification under the extraordinary replacement rule. You will be notified by phone of the decision. **So please make sure that you have the best contact phone number on the form.** If approved ODFW License Services can mail the tags or you may pick them up in Salem. Every effort will be made to expedite tag replacement. To help expedite replacements, please be sure to provide accurate information and have **only the owner or the previously designated alternate sign the form at one of the above ODFW offices** in the presence of an ODFW staff person. Inaccurate information or an incomplete form will result in delays.

**10% Replacement:** All permit holders/designees may request replacement of lost tags (up to 10% of pot limit) as of December 31, 2007. This is separate from the above replacement process. The same form will be used. The owner or designee must certify the loss of pots. Again, tags obtained under the 10% replacement process may be mailed or picked up at ODFW License Services in Salem.

***For Further Information Contact: Mitch Vance or Cyreis Schmitt at ODFW (541-867-4741)***