

48 Devonshire Road, Montesano, Washington 98563-9618 (360) 249-4628 FAX (360) 664-0689

April 23, 2009

Dear Coastal Dungeness crab License Holder:

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) is soliciting nominations for individuals interested in serving on the Coastal Dungeness crab Advisory Board. The Advisory Board is made up of fifteen representatives of the coastal Dungeness crab industry that will serve a two-year term starting June 1, 2009.

If selected to serve on the Advisory Board, members must willing to communicate with others involved in the coastal crab industry, solicit their opinions and ideas and share those with the Department and Advisory Board, and share the results of the Advisory Board meetings. Once the Advisory Board has been selected a contact sheet will be provided to all coastal Dungeness crab license owners.

Included are more details on the responsibilities of Advisory Board members and instructions for submitting nominations.

Please contact me at 360-249-1202 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Heather Reed

Heather Reed WDFW Coastal Marine Resources Policy Coordinator

Cc: Philip Anderson, WDFW Interim Director Dan Ayres, Coastal Shellfish Manager

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## State of Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

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April 22, 2009

## COASTAL DUNGNENESS CRAB ADVISORY BOARD NOMINATION PROCEDURES

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) appoints a fifteen-person advisory board made up of members of the coastal Dungeness crab industry and is seeking nominations of qualified candidates. The composition of the Coastal Dungeness crab Advisory Board is intended to ensure a balanced representation of all sectors and geographic areas of the coastal Dungeness crab industry. Industry advisors provide critical input to the Department during their term on the Advisory Board. Over the past two-year period the Advisory Board has contributed significantly in the following processes.

- Development of a Buyback Program for Washington Coastal Dungeness Crab Licenses
- Development of annual State and Tribal Management Agreements
- Improvements to pre-season test fishing operations
- Continued coordination with the Tri-State Dungeness Crab Committee

In the upcoming year the Department plans to continue work with the Dungeness Crab Advisory Board to develop a derelict gear removal program, provide input on the development of management plans with coastal treaty tribes and the state season opening structure, address hot-topic issues such as domoic acid, and continue to explore ideas that provide economic stability to the coastal Dungeness crab fishery.

## **Advisory Board Duties**

The primary responsibility of the Advisory Board is to consult with WDFW managers throughout the season relative to management of the coastal Dungeness crab fishery. It is the responsibility of Advisory Board members to communicate with other members of the coastal Dungeness crab industry, to solicit their input, to share their ideas and opinions with the Advisory Board and the Department and to inform them of the results of Advisory Board meetings.

## **Tri-State Dungeness crab Committee**

The Tri-State Dungeness Crab Committee was formed in 1996 through the Pacific States Fisheries Management Council to provide a forum for the three coastal states fisheries management agencies and industry representatives to work cooperatively to manage the coastal Dungeness crab fishery.

Six members of the Coastal Dungeness Crab Advisory Board will be selected to participate as members of the Tri-State Dungeness Crab Committee. The Washington delegation will be comprised of five members and one alternate and will be responsible for attending meetings of the Tri-State Committee. Tri-State Committee meetings may require travel at the cost of the committee member.

**Advisory Board Nomination** Page 2

Term

Coastal Dungeness Crab Advisory Board members will be appointed for two-year terms, beginning May 2009 through April 2011.

**Nomination Process** 

Advisory Board nominations are open to all individuals who are members of the Coastal Dungeness crab industry, including fishers and processing representatives. Nominated individuals do not have to be affiliated with a group or organization.

Nomination letters must include the following information:

- Name, address, telephone number
- Name of fishing vessel (if applicable)
- Description of your interest in the Coastal Dungeness crab fishery
- Description of your participation in the Coastal Dungeness crab fishery including the state(s) in which you hold a coastal Dungeness crab license (if applicable)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Nominations should be forward to:

Attn: Heather Reed 48 Devonshire Road Montesano, WA 98563 Fax: 360-664-0689

Heather.Reed@dfw.wa.gov

Nominations must be received by 5:00 p.m. on May 15, 2009.

If you have questions, please contact Heather Reed, (360) 249-1202