



State of Washington  
Department of Fish and Wildlife

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

Contact: Dan Ayres at (360) 249-4628 (ext. 209)

**INDUSTRY NOTICE TO COASTAL COMMERCIAL DUNGENESS CRAB  
FISHERS AND PROCESSORS**

July 28, 2009

**The area outside 4-miles will CLOSE effective 8:00 a.m. August 1, 2009.**

**The Coastal Dungeness Crab Summer Fishery Management Plan is now in effect:**

The Summer Fishery Management Plan is designed to give WDFW staff the information needed to allow the commercial Dungeness crab fishery to continue during the summer and to provide fishers with some predictability on the implementation of specific management measures to protect soft-shelled crab.

The Summer Fishery Management Plan includes the closure of the waters west of 4-miles beginning on July 1. This year, shell condition sampling indicated that there were large enough numbers of hard-shelled male crab to delay the closure of the area outside 4-miles through July 31, 2009. **However, because the most recent sampling results and reports from fishers indicate the percentages of soft crab are on the rise WDFW is putting into effect the closure of Dungeness crab fishing in the area outside 4-miles – effective 8:00 a.m. August 1, 2009.**

In addition, if we continue to see an increase in soft-shelled crab in our at-sea sampling inside 4-miles, or if significant numbers of soft crab continue to be landed - we will take additional management measures.

The 4-mile line is defined as those waters west of straight lines drawn in sequence from south to north between the following coordinates:

Land description	Coordinate
(a) Washington – Oregon border	46°15.00'N 124°10.00'W
(b) Seaview	46°20.00'N 124°10.00'W
(c) Willapa Bay entrance	46°40.00'N 124°10.00'W
(d) N. Willapa Bay Spits	46°43.50'N 124°11.50'W
(e) Grayland	46°50.00'N 124°12.30'W
(f) Grays Harbor	46°54.70'N 124°16.00'W
(g) Ocean Shores	47°00.00'N 124°16.00'W
(h) Moclips	47°15.00'N 124°19.00'W
(i) Cape Elizabeth	47°20.00'N 124°25.00'W
(j) Raft River	47°27.00'N 124°28.60'W
	(follow TD 41880 to waypoint # 11 N. Destruction Island)
(k) N. Destruction Island	47°42.40'N 124°31.50'W
(l) Lapush	47°55.00'N 124°46.00'W
(m) Carroll Island	48°00.00'N 124°49.50'W
(n) N. Lake Ozette	48°07.60'N 124°51.40'W
(o) Makah Bay	48°20.00'N 124°50.00'W
(p) Cape Flattery	Point on land