

December 21, 2010

Dear Coastal Dungeness Crab Participant:

The purpose of this message is to update you on the derelict gear recovery program and to let you know that recovered crab buoys will be available for their owners to pick up in Westport.

In the state permitted derelict gear recovery program, 19 participants recovered 885 abandoned crab pots. In the state recovery program through a NOAA grant, 209 abandoned crab pots were recovered and returned to their owners.

Over the course of the last two years, WDFW has collected a large sum of abandoned buoys that we have not been able to identify and return to their owners. In an effort to return these buoys to their proper owner, WDFW has placed the buoys in the parking lot behind Washington Charters. (Note that WDFW has secured permission from the City of Westport to use this location.) Please stop and look to see if your buoys are in the pile. If you find your buoy there take it. If you see your neighbor's buoy please let him know his buoy is there so he may retrieve it. The buoys will remain out for owner retrieval until January 4, 2011 then they will be permanently removed.

If you have any questions you may contact Carol Henry at (360) 249-4628 ext. 254 or you may send an e-mail to carol.henry@dfw.wa.gov .

Dan L. Ayres
Coastal Shellfish Lead Biologist
Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife Region Six
48 Devonshire Road
Montesano, WA 98563 USA
Telephone: 360-249-4628 (ext. 209)
FAX: 360-249-1229
Email : Daniel.Ayres@dfw.wa.gov
WDFW Radio System Call Sign : W-758