



State of Washington
Department of Fish and Wildlife

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INDUSTRY NOTICE

January 20, 2012

WDFW staff has heard from many of you regarding the difficult ocean conditions predicted for the next several days that coincide with the gear set period and the opening of the commercial fishery in the area north of Klipsan Beach. In consideration for the safety of the commercial crab fleet we are modifying the haul boat provisions so that fishers may use a haul boat to assist in setting crab gear **until further notice**.

WDFW will monitor ocean conditions, consult with industry advisors and make a decision about when to end the use of haul boats but haul boats will be allowed at least through January 31, 2012.

All other provisions of the haul boat regulation remain in effect:

- Only vessels not designated on a coastal Dungeness crab license are permitted to haul gear.
- No more than 250 pots may be hauled at any one time.
- The primary or alternate operator named on the license associated with the gear being deployed must be on board the haul vessel.

Hold inspections will be conducted as scheduled at noon on January 23rd; you should plan on getting your hold inspection at this time even if you have not deployed your gear. If you have gear on board, be sure to leave an opening where we can view the tank so that a hold inspection certificate can be issued. If you are not able to get a hold inspection on the regularly scheduled day please contact Sergeant Dan Chadwick at 360-581-3337.