



State of Washington
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

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Main Office Location: Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington Street SE, Olympia, WA

September 26, 2017

Dear Coastal Dungeness Crab License Owner:

In July we notified you about proposed revisions to coastal commercial Dungeness crab regulations that were being considered by the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission. The changes were developed to improve the intent and enforceability of existing rules and include; streamlining the replacement buoy tag program and allowing transport of out of state gear through Washington waters. The purpose of this letter is to inform you that the Fish and Wildlife Commission approved the changes at their August meeting.

Through these changes, it will be lawful to transport of out-of-state gear when in possession of a permit issued by WDFW. The permit will allow WDFW enforcement officers to effectively track out of state gear as it is transported through Washington waters and will require permit holders to record the location of the gear once it's set.

Rule changes pertaining to the replacement buoy tag program will allow license owners to get replacement buoy tags from March 1 through June 30 and will reduce the amount of tags available from 15 to 10 percent based on the license owners pot limit (see attachment).

A copy of the CR-103 and the final regulatory language is available on the WFDW webpage under the Rules Information Center (<http://wdfw.wa.gov/about/regulations/permanent.html#17-10-071>).

If you have any questions about this notice please contact me at 360-902-2487 or Heather.Reed@dfw.wa.gov

Sincerely,

Heather Reed
Intergovernmental Ocean Policy

cc:

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