

**Please note this message regarding dredging in Grays Harbor. All coastal crab fishers with gear in the area will need to be aware of this information. To prevent damage to crab gear, it should be moved out of these areas.**

**All questions should be directed to: Elizabeth Chien with the US Army Corps of Engineers at the contact information listed below.**

Gentlemen,

The government hopper dredge YAQINA is delayed and now will arrive on or about 20 April 2019 and will dredge approximately 6 days (completion date TBD). Dredging will occur in specified shoaled areas of the Entrance, Pt. Chehalis, and South Reaches. The goal is to dredge approximately 150,000 CY, with 30,000 - 70,000 CY placed in the Half Moon Bay Beneficial Use site and the remaining material will be placed in the open water Pt. Chehalis disposal site.

The government hopper dredge ESSAYONS is delayed by several weeks and no firm revised start date has been determined. However, we are expecting that it will start around the second week of May. The hopper will dredge approximately 3 weeks (completion date NLT 31 May). Dredging will occur in shoaled areas of the Bar, Entrance, and Pt. Chehalis reaches. The goal is to dredge approximately 800,000 CY, with 600,000 CY placed in the South Beach beneficial use site. The remaining material will be placed in the Pt. Chehalis disposal site.

There are usually a significant number of crab pots in the South Beach and Half Moon Bay disposal sites (SBDS, HMBDS) and I need your help to get the word out to the fishermen and crabbers to move their pots and gear before they are damaged. I have attached drawings of the disposal and dredge areas that they will need to keep clear during the dredging, which will conclude no later than 31 May 2018.

Please note that the TARGET areas within the South Beach and Half Moon Bay beneficial sites will be modified once we get current surveys of those areas (revised drawings will be provided) - all of the target area will be used by the hopper.

Fisherman and crabbers are encouraged to position themselves and/or their gear at least 300 feet from any channel and disposal area boundary in order to provide a buffer zone to allow for the gear drifting into the area used by the hoppers. Gear that drifts into the navigation channel, access channel and/or disposal areas may be damaged or destroyed.

Any help you can give, such as notifying your fishermen/crabbers would be much appreciated. Hopefully, this is plenty of time for crabbers to be notified and have their gear clear of the work areas by the time the hoppers arrive.

I have sent separate notifications to both the Tribe, Washington Fish and Wildlife, and the Port of Grays Harbor.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Elizabeth A. Chien

Coastal Program Manager, Navigation Section Contracting Officer Representative Army Corps of  
Engineers, Seattle District PO Box 3755, Seattle, WA 98124-3755  
4735 E. Marginal Way S., Seattle, WA 98134-2255

(206) 316-3968 Office

(206) 499-6119 Cell

(206) 764-3403 Fax

[elizabeth.a.chien@usace.army.mil](mailto:elizabeth.a.chien@usace.army.mil)