



State of Washington
Department of Fish and Wildlife

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WASHINGTON COASTAL DUNGENESS CRAB INDUSTRY NOTICE

**Season Opening Further Delayed In Washington, Oregon and
California (North of Point Arena)**

On Friday December 6, 2019 coastal Dungeness crab Tri-State policy representatives from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) agreed to further delay the opening of the 2019-20 Coastal Dungeness crab fishery from Point Area, California north to the US/Canada border through December 31, 2019 at least. This decision was based on crab condition tests conducted by WDFW, ODFW and CDFW which shows that some test areas still do not currently meet the minimum meat recovery criteria.

The Tri-State Dungeness Crab Pre-Season Testing Protocols specify that if test results show that any area does not meet the minimum meat recovery criteria (23% north of Cascade Head and 25% south of Cascade Head), a delay and additional testing are required before a season opening date can be confirmed.

A third round of meat recovery testing will be conducted sometime in mid-December, targeting completion by December 20. WDFW will provide additional information regarding the season opening as soon as possible following the completion of the upcoming tests.

Coast-wide test meat recovery results to date are found in the attached table.

This information can also be found at: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/commercial/crab/coastal/letters-notices#general-info>

Note that we also received word late this morning that Quinault Indian Nation (QIN) fishery managers will open the Quinault coastal Dungeness crab fishery Sunday December 8, 2019. WDFW will continue meeting with our Coastal Crab Advisory Board as we work to come to agreement with QIN on the 2019-20 State/Tribal Coastal Crab Management Plan.

2019 Preseason Coastal Dungeness crab Test Fishery Results for WA, OR and CA

* Date is the date the pots were pulled

Test Area	Optional Early Round		Round 1		Round 2		Round 3	
	Date	Meat Recovery %	Date	Meat Recovery %	Date	Meat Recovery %	Date	Meat Recovery %
Washington								
Northern	no test	no test	11/5/19	no pickout ^				
Westport	10/24/19	20.97%	11/7/19	22.6%	12/2/19	23.8%		
Long Beach	10/23/19	19.1%	11/6/19	20.4%	12/3/19	21.8%		
Oregon								
Astoria (50-A)*	no test	no test	11/6/19	20.3%	12/1/19	20.4%		
Garibaldi (50-B)*	no test	no test	11/5/19	21.0%	12/1/19	24.6%		
Newport North (50-C and 50-D)	no test	no test	11/5/19	21.7%	12/1/19	24.5%		
Newport South (50-E and 50-F)	no test	no test	11/5/19	21.0%	12/1/19	23.6%		
Coos Bay North (50-G and 50-H)	no test	no test	11/5/19	21.1%	12/1/19	24.8%		
Coos Bay South (50-I and 50-J)	no test	no test	11/5/19	21.6%	12/1/19	23.2%		
Port Orford (50-K)*	no test	no test	11/5/19	20.8%^	12/2/19	24.2%~		
Brookings (50-L)*	no test	no test	11/5/19	22.3%	12/2/19	24.7%~		
California								
Crescent City	no test	no test	11/3/19	21.4%	12/3/2019	24.3%		
Trinidad	no test	no test	11/3/19	20.2%	12/3/2019	23.4%		
Eureka	no test	no test	11/3/19	21.9%	12/3/2019	24.5%		
District 10 (not bound by Tri-State)								
Bodega Bay	no test	no test	no test	no test	no test	no test		
San Francisco	no test	no test	no test	no test	no test	no test		
*Only one test station in each area (18 pots)								
^ Area had less than 300 lbs.								
~ 48 hr soak time								