



State of Washington

Department of Fish and Wildlife

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June 14, 2022

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WASHINGTON COASTAL DUNGENESS CRAB INDUSTRY NOTICE

SUMMER FISHERY MANAGEMENT:

With the intent of protecting crab in the soft-shelled condition, the provisions of the summer fishery management plan will be in effect at 12:01 A.M. July 3, 2022, through the end of the season:

It is unlawful for any person licensed to fish under a Dungeness crab-coastal fishery license to possess or land crab in excess of 2,500 pounds during any weekly catch accounting period (Sunday through Saturday). See the list of catch accounting periods below.

Any crab taken prior to July 3, 2022, and not landed before 11:59 p.m. July 2, 2022, become part of the July 3 through July 9, 2022, accounting period catch.

Weekly Catch Accounting Periods:

July 3 – July 9, 2022
July 10 – July 16, 2022
July 17 – July 23, 2022
July 24 – July 30, 2022
July 31 – August 6, 2022

August 7 – August 13, 2022
August 14 – August 20, 2022
August 21 – August 27, 2022
August 28 – September 3, 2022
September 4 – September 10, 2022
September 11 – September 15, 2022

MORE INFORMATION:

The weekly trip limits are part of the Summer Fishery Management Plan that provides specific steps necessary to protect the Dungeness crab resource from handling mortality. The Plan also addresses the variability in the presence of soft-shelled crab from year to year through in-season monitoring. WDFW will continue to collect shell condition data through the remainder of the season both in dockside and in at-sea sampling and will take additional measures, following the Plan's testing protocols, if large numbers of soft-shelled crab are present. More information can be found at:

https://wdfw.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2019-03/summer_crab_fishery_management_measures_updated_2015.pdf

Permanent implementation of the 2,500-pound limit on July 1 has been in place since 2015. To avoid confusion, the weekly landing limit will always start on the first Sunday in July.

For more information feel free to reference the June 24, 2015, letter which is on our web site at:

https://wdfw.wa.gov/sites/default/files/fishing/commercial/crab/coastal/letters/letter_jun24_2015.pdf