

# Gear Recovery

Tri-State Meeting

May 15-16, 2024





# Gear Recovery Effort Summary

Purpose is to incentivize and facilitate removal of lost/abandoned, derelict or gear not originally set by owner in the Commercial Dungeness Crab Fishery

- In-Season
  - Non-permitted (CA and OR)
  - Permitted (WA)
- Post-Season
  - Non-permitted (CA and OR)
  - Permitted (CA, OR and WA)
- Gear Recovery Waivers



# In-Season Gear Recovery

	Permits Required	Time Period	Number of traps	Retain legal crabs	Trap Ownership
California	No	Anytime	6	No	Permitholder
Oregon	No	Anytime	25 until second Monday in June, then 50 until Aug 14	Yes, if Dungeness crab permitted vessel (May 1-20 exceptions)	Permitholder
Washington	Yes (Est. 2020)	May 1 – Sept 15	No Limit only can recover gear w/o summer buoy tag	Yes, if permitted vessel is participating in summer fishery	Vessel that retrieved gear

# Logbook Requirements:

## California And Oregon

Must document date, time, number of traps, location and any tag info or buoy markings present on the retrieved trap in vessel log or logbook; must transport to shore during same fishing trip.

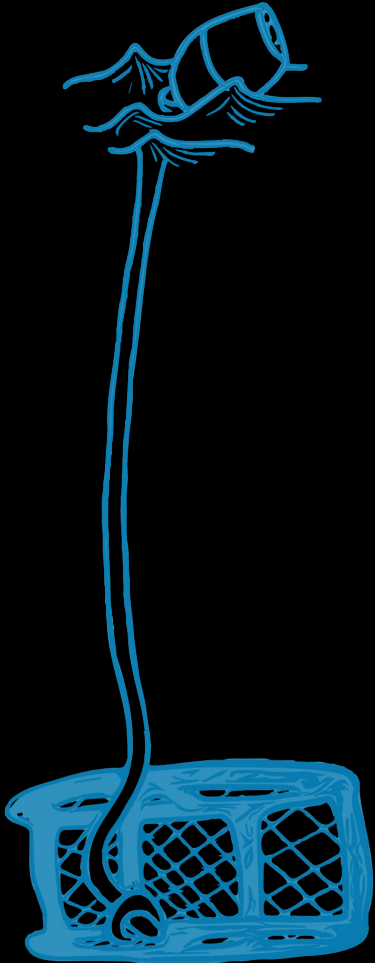
## Washington

Must document date, gear owner identification, depth, location, and number of live/dead crab released on gear recovery logbook; pots must remain on vessel until registered and tagged by WDFW. Must have an active Electronic Monitoring system on the vessel.



# Post-Season Gear Recovery: Non-Permitted

	Time Period	Number of traps	Dungeness Vessels	Trap Ownership
California	July 16 to Oct 31. Period can be expanded by Director Declaration	Unlimited	Yes	Permitholder
Oregon	Aug 15 – Oct 31	Unlimited	No	Permitholder
Washington	Prohibited	N/A	N/A	N/A





# Post-Season Gear Recovery: Permitted

## California

Lost or Abandoned Gear Retrieval  
Program, Est. 2020

## Oregon

Post-season Derelict Gear Recovery  
Program, Est. 2014

## Washington

Coastal Commercial Dungeness Crab Pot  
Removal Program, Est. 2009



# Post-Season Gear Recovery: Permitted

	<b>Time Period</b>	<b>Dungeness Vessels only</b>	<b>Logbook Requirements</b>	<b>Any Trap Allowed</b>	<b>Trap Registration Required</b>
<b>California</b>	15 days after statutory season closes in that area through September 30, or as authorized by Director	No	Yes, must enter every trap retrieved in specified logbook form	Commercial Dungeness crab traps marked w/Department-issued buoy tags, no sport crab gear	No
<b>Oregon</b>	15 days after season closes until October 11	No	Yes, must enter every trap retrieved in specified logbook form	Commercial crab pots only, no sport crab gear	Yes, all traps are registered by ODFW or OSP staff
<b>Washington</b>	Sept 16 – Oct 31	Yes	Yes, must enter every trap retrieved in specified logbook form	Commercial Dungeness crab traps marked w/Department-issued buoy tags, no sport crab gear	Yes, all traps are registered by WDFW enforcement or staff

# Trap Ownership Post-Season Gear Recovery: Permitted

## California

Belongs to retriever permitholder, but retriever must contact permitholder within one week of gear being retrieved and save record of contact to offer to sell trap back to owner.

## Oregon

Belongs to vessel that retrieved gear. Can be returned or sold back to original owner, but first right of refusal to original owner is strongly encouraged.

## Washington

Belongs to vessel that retrieved gear. Can be returned or sold back to original owner, but not required.



# Compensation and Penalties Post-Season Gear Recovery: Permitted

	Compensation from owner of trap	Penalty for permit holder not paying for trap	Penalty for non-compliance of program
California	Yes, permit holder is required to pay freely negotiated retriever fee	If the permit holder does not pay this fee to retriever, they will be subject to a Dept. fee. The Dungeness crab vessel permit will not be renewed until this fee is paid	Retrieval permit may be suspended or revoked for any violations; must turn over all records and all traps retrieved via Dept. direction
Oregon	N/A	N/A	Failure of the permit holder to abide by the terms of the gear removal permit will result in termination of the permit
Washington	N/A	N/A	Failure of the permit holder to abide by the terms of the gear removal permit will result in termination of the permit

# Gear Recovery Waivers

## California

Via waiver, any vessel may be allowed to retrieve gear not assigned to that vessel **in-season**.

## Oregon

Any vessel can apply for a waiver to have another vessel retrieve their gear **by the end of the season**. This gear may be exempt from retrieval by the permitted post-season recovery program if applied for by deadline.

## Washington

In the event of a vessel breakdown, hardship permits may be granted to allow another vessel to retrieve their gear by the **end of the season**. In the case of a catastrophic event, provisions of the permit may require the return of specific recovered gear to the original owner.

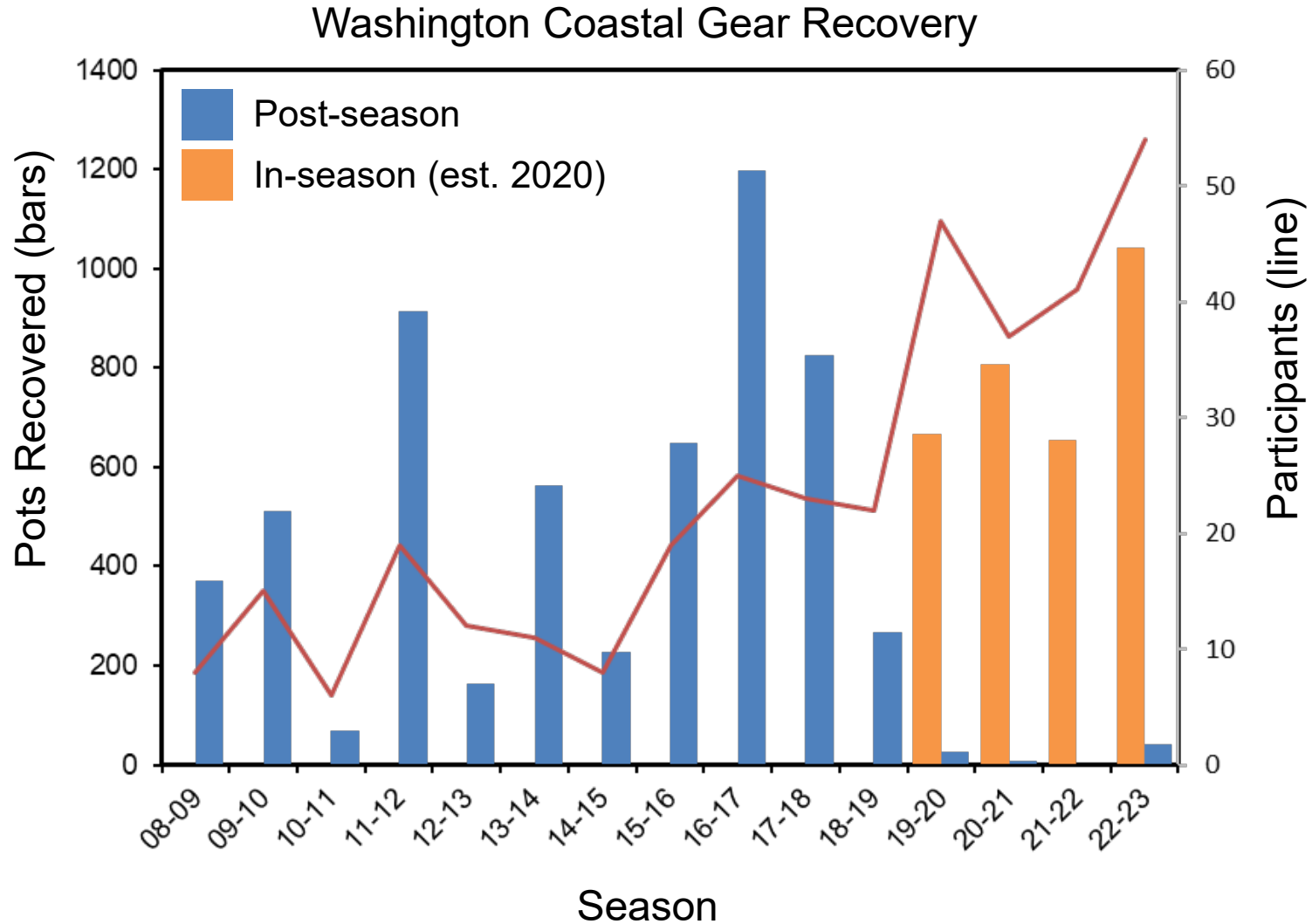


# Questions for Tri-State

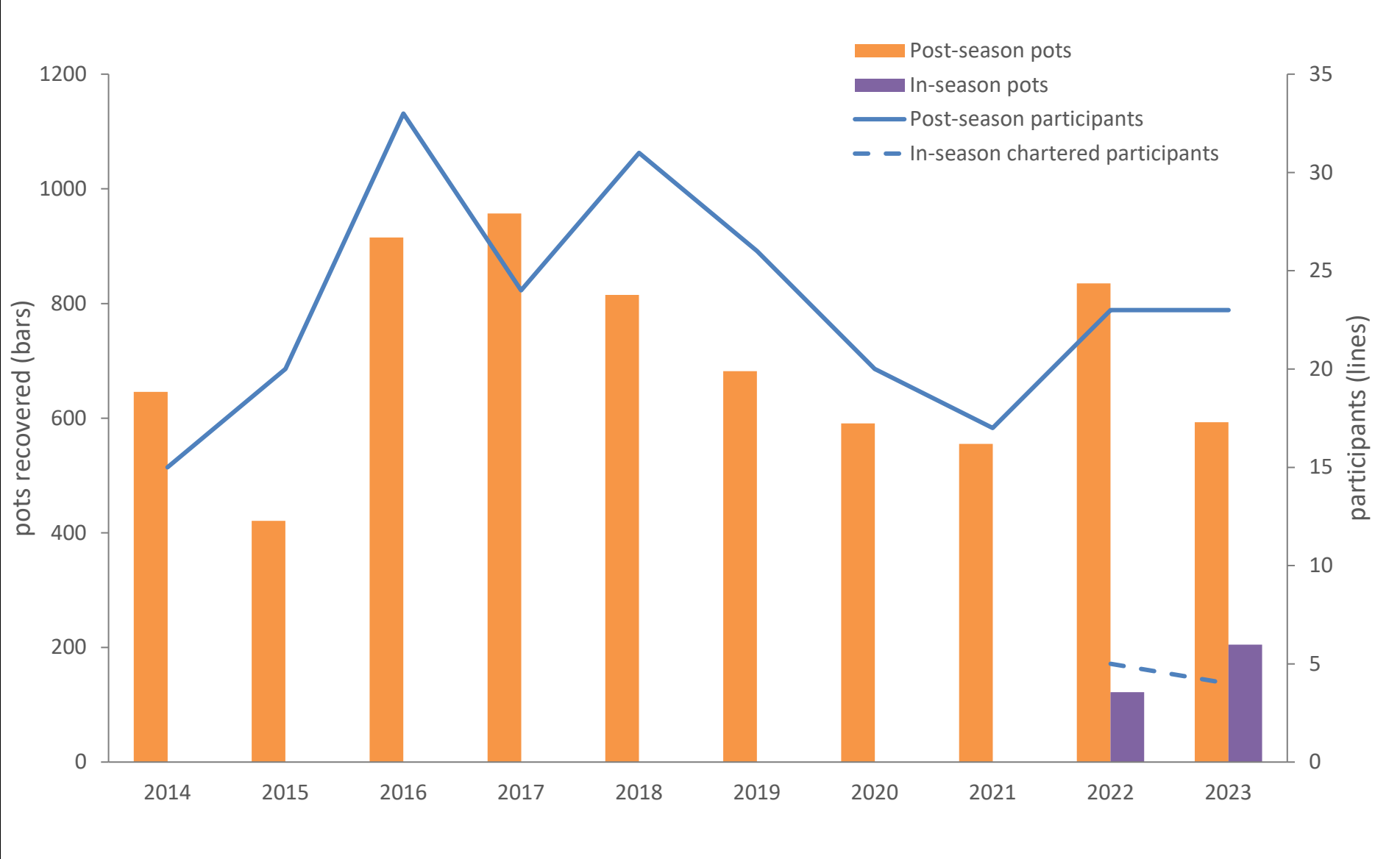
- What is working and/or not working in your state's gear retrieval programs?
- How has participation changed since implementation?



# Washington Gear Recovery



# Oregon Gear Recovery



# California Gear Recovery

