

**Commercial Dungeness Crab Gear Recovery Efforts by State Matrix for California, Oregon and Washington**  
**Prepared for Tri-State Meeting May 15-16, 2024**

<b>Gear Recovery Efforts by State</b>	<b>California</b>	<b>Oregon</b>	<b>Washington</b>
Terms used to describe trap gear that is allowed to be recovered:	In-season: "Derelict" (not defined) Out of season: "Lost or abandoned" defined as gear that is left in after the end of the season.	"Derelict" defined as gear that is lost, forgotten, damaged, abandoned or otherwise deserted.	Pot gear that was not originally set by licensed participant in the Dungeness crab-coastal fishery or not.
<b>In-Season</b>			
Permits Required:	No.	No.	Yes.
Time period:	Anytime.	Anytime.	May 1 – Sept 15. (Program initiated: 2020).
Number of traps/rings allowed that are not necessarily owned by retriever:	6.	25 - Until second Monday in June 50 - Between second Monday in June until Aug 14 Any number of Dungeness crab gear w/o a secondary tag may be retrieved between May 21-Aug 14.	No limit. Only WA state licensed gear without current license year summer buoy tags may be recovered.
Limited to Dungeness crab vessels only:	Yes.	No.	Yes.
Allowance for legal-sized male Dungeness crab to be retained:	No.	Yes, if vessel is a Dungeness crab permitted vessel. (May 1-20 exceptions).	Yes, if permitted vessel is participating in the summer fishery.
Trap ownership:	Belongs to permitholder.	Belongs to permitholder.	Belongs to vessel that retrieved gear.

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Other requirements:	Must document date, time, number of traps, location and any tag info or buoy markings present on the retrieved trap in vessel log; must transport to shore during same fishing trip.	Must document date, time, number of traps, location, and crab gear owner identification in logbook; must transport to shore same fishing trip.	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.
<b>Post-Season – non-permitted</b>			
Time period:	July 16 until Oct 31. Under emergency regulations, period can be expanded by Director Declaration if implementing actions under RAMP.	Aug 15 until Oct 31.	Prohibited.
Number of traps (not necessarily owned by retriever):	Unlimited.	Unlimited.	None.
Limited to Dungeness crab vessels only:	Yes.	No.	N/A
Trap ownership:	Belongs to permitholder.	Belongs to permitholder.	N/A

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<b>Post-Season – permitted</b>	<a href="#">Lost or Abandoned Gear Retrieval Program</a>	<a href="#">Post-season Derelict Gear Recovery Program</a>	Coastal Commercial Dungeness crab pot removal program
Year program initiated:	2020.	2014.	2009.
Time period:	15 days after statutory season closes in that area and until September 30, or as authorized by Director Declaration if implementing actions under RAMP.	15 days after season closes until October 11.	Sept 16 – Oct 31.
Limited to Dungeness crab vessels only:	No.	No.	Yes.
Permits required:	Yes, each retrieval permit may be issued to a qualifying entity that may list up to 10 retrievers and 10 vessels.	Yes, this is for each owner or operator that allows retriever to pick up gear and be exempt from Oregon's personal property law.	Yes, allows retrieval of any WA state licensed crab gear and exempts retriever from Washington's lost and found property provisions.
Logbook requirements:	Yes, must enter every trap retrieved in specified logbook form.	Yes, must enter every trap retrieved in specified logbook form.	Yes, must enter every trap retrieved in specified logbook form.
Any trap allowed:	Commercial Dungeness crab traps marked w/Department-issued buoy tags, no sport crab gear.	Commercial crab pots only, no sport crab gear.	Commercial crab pots only marked w/Department-issued buoy tags, no sport or tribal crab gear.
Trap ownership:	Belongs to <a href="#">retriever permitholder</a> , but retriever must contact permitholder via text, email or certified letter within one week of gear being retrieved and save record of contact to offer to sell trap back to owner for a reasonable recovery fee for retrieval and storage.	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. All gear registration forms are shared online to facilitate this.	Belongs to vessel that retrieved gear. Can be returned or sold back to original owner, but not required.

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	For any outstanding fees, a follow-up certified letter is required to be mailed by Oct 6 to initiate Dept. fee process.		
Trap registration required:	No.	Yes, all traps are registered by ODFW or OSP staff.	Yes, all traps are registered by WDFW enforcement or staff.
Compensation received from owner of trap:	Yes, permit holder is required to pay freely negotiated retriever fee.	Not a requirement.	Not a requirement.
Penalty for permit holder not paying for trap:	If the permit holder does not pay this fee to retriever, they will be subject to a Dept. fee (part of this fee is compensation to retriever). The Dungeness crab vessel permit will not be renewed until this fee is paid.	N/A	N/A
Penalty for non-compliance of program:	Retrieval permit may be suspended or revoked for any violations; must turn over all records and all traps retrieved via Dept. direction.	Failure of the permit holder to abide by the terms of the gear removal permit will result in termination of the permit.	Failure of the permit holder to abide by the terms of the gear removal permit will result in termination of the permit.
<b>Gear Recovery Waivers</b>			
	Yes, via waiver any vessel may be allowed to retrieve gear not assigned to that vessel <b>in-season</b> .	Yes, any vessels can apply for a waiver to have another vessel retrieve their gear <b>by the end of the season</b> . This gear may be exempt from retrieval by the permitted post-season recovery program if applied for by deadline.	Yes, in the event of a vessel breakdown, hardship permits may be granted to allow another vessel to retrieve their gear by the <b>end of the season</b> . In the case of a catastrophic event, provisions of the permit may require the return of specific recovered gear to the original owner.