

Line Marking Proposal Matrix for California, Oregon, and Washington
Prepared for Tri-State Meeting May 15-16, 2024

	California (Proposed RAMP 2.0)	Oregon	Washington
Line Marking			
Line colors (state/fishery):	Purple/Black	Yellow/Black	Red/Black
Manufactured line allowed? If so, how is it defined?	Yes , manufactured line shall be 3 strands w/2 purple strands and 1 black strand.	Yes , applied during the manufacturing process such that the majority of strands are colored yellow and at least 1/3 of strands colored black.	Yes , not defined.
Solid marking method allowed (temporarily or indefinitely)?	Yes , indefinitely.	Yes , temporarily (sunsets prior to 2033-34 season).	<i>Considering options for temporary and indefinitely</i>
Can solid colored line be used for part of marks?	Yes , solid colored line may be used for one color to satisfy solid marks.	Yes , solid colored line may be used for one color to satisfy solid marks.	
Prohibition of other fishery line marks on crab gear?	CA commercial crab line marking requirement dictates line marks for this fishery only.	Yes , regulation in place prohibiting line marks on OR commercial crab gear that are required for any state or federal fishery operating on West Coast, other than Dungeness crab.	Yes , it is unlawful to use line that is not marked sufficiently to identify it as gear used exclusively in WA coastal Dungeness crab fishery
Prohibition of crab fishery line marks on other commercial fixed gear and/or rec crab gear?	Under development with new authority for commercial fisheries. Under development for recreational gear under authority of CA Fish and Game Commission.	<i>Under consideration for all.</i>	Yes , prohibits line marks or multicolored line required in other West Coast fisheries for WA fixed gear fisheries (commercial and recreational).
Surface Line			
Definition of the line at the surface that is required to be marked:	Any portion of the line that connects two buoys on all Dungeness crab fishing gear shall be continuously marked.	All rope or line used in surface gear above the attachment point of the main buoy, excluding buoy gangions (also known as buoy straps) that are	

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		less than five feet total length. A buoy gangion is defined as rope or line that passes through, and is affixed to, the buoy forming loops on each end of the buoy. The length of a buoy gangion is measured in a straight line between the opposing loop ends.	
Implementation date:	Effective Nov 1, 2025 (2025-26 season)	Effective 2025-26 season	
Placement and marking method(s):	Manufactured or painted in alternative solid color marks of 6-12 inches in length and cover circumference of line.	Manufactured or containing one set of solid marks (2' yellow within 6" of 2' black, each covering the entire circumference of the line) between any two buoys.	
Is there a provision for when no 'surface line' is used (e.g., single buoy, only daisy-chained buoy straps)?	No , only portion of line connecting two buoys is required to be marked.	Yes , when no surface line is used, manufactured line or one set of marks within top 1 fm of main line is required.	
Main Line			
Definition of upper portion of the main line that is required to be marked:	The top portion of the line connecting the main buoy to the crab trap shall be continuously marked. The length of this top portion of line is dependent on the depth that gear is deployed.	The main rope or line closest to the surface, measured from the attachment point of the buoy closest to the crab pot or ring extending toward the crab pot or ring.	

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Implementation date:	Effective Nov 1, 2028 (2028-29 season)	Effective 2028-29 season	
Placement and marking method(s):	Manufactured or painted in alternative solid color marks of 6-12 inches in length and cover circumference of line.	The upper 15 fathoms of the main line is required to be manufactured or containing three sets of evenly distributed solid marks (first set within top 1 fathom)	
Shallow depth provision?	Depth/Top Portion of Line: Greater than 20 fathoms , top 15 fathoms of line connecting main buoy to crab traps is continuously marked. Between 20 fathoms and greater than 5 fathoms , entire length of line, except bottom 5 fathoms closest to trap, is continuously marked. At 5-fathom depth or shallower , entire length of line is continuously marked.	<i>Under consideration</i> – priorities are to ensure some line is marked on any gear in shallow water, while not incentivizing the use of extra line (excess scope) <u>and</u> to accommodate the ability for fishers to use a different color or mark at the bottom of the main line closest to the pot.	