January 28, 2005

WDFW INDUSTRY NOTICE TO: COASTAL COMMERCIAL DUNGENESS CRAB FISHERS AND PROCESSORS

Updated Information Regarding Commercial Dungeness crab Regulations for the 2004-2005 Season

The following changes have been made to the Quinault Special Management Area. This change was made after consultation with Quinault Indian Nation in recognition of the delayed opening of the non-tribal fishery.

Effective 8:01 AM February 1, 2005 through 12:00 PM February 28, 2005, the Quinault Special Management Area (SMA) description is revised to move the western boundary from approximately the 25-fathom line to the 20-fathom line and is described by the following points:

 Southwest point (Copalis River):
 47°08.00'N
 124°19.25'W

 Central point:
 47°16.8'N
 124°24.6'W

 Northwest point:
 47°25.50'N
 124°30.00'W

Effective 8:01 AM March 1, 2005 through 12:00 PM March 31, 2005, the Quinault SMA will open subject to the following restrictions: a vessel may use, maintain, operate, or control no more than 100 pots within the Quinault SMA.

Any individual that intends to fish within this SMA during the March 1-March 31, 2005 time period must notify the Department 48 hours in advance of setting any gear. This notice must include the following information: name of person controlling the gear; vessel name; the amount of gear being deployed; and the buoy brand identification data. This notice must be given by one of the following three means:

- 1. Fax transmission to Heather Reed at: 360-664-0689;
- 2. E-mail to: reedhjr@dfw.wa.gov; or
- 3. Telephone call to: Heather Reed at 360-249-4628, Extension 202.

Further, if an individual has provided the Department with a notice of intent to set gear and later decides not to deploy gear, a notice to that affect should be given by one of the three means listed above.

As of 12:01 AM on April 1, 2005 the Quinault SMA will be open with no limits on the number of crab pots fished.

If you have any questions pertaining to this notice please call Heather Reed (360) 249-4628 ext. 202.