"GREEN SHEET"

(Form revised 01/25/05)

Meeting dates:	February 1-2, 2008
Agenda item:	Briefing: 2007 Puget Sound recreational crab fishery
Staff Contact:	Rich Childers, Mike Cenci
Presenter/s:	Rich Childers, Shellfish Policy Lead, Mike Cenci, Deputy Chief of Enforcement

Background:

This briefing is a response to a request from Commissioner Miranda Wecker's on the September 21, 2007 conference call regarding the Puget sound recreational crab fishery. The 2007 Puget Sound recreational crab fishery season was structured according to regulatory provisions adopted by the commission in 2005 and revised crab catch record card (CRC) rules adopted in 2007. The revised CRC rules include a separate summer and winter card and the option of reporting in-season catch via the Internet.

The briefing presentation will include the affects of the 2005 regulatory provisions on meeting harvest management objective to not exceed harvest targets and the results of the revised CRC method for estimating catch. This briefing will also include information pertaining to the compliance by recreational fishers to the current crab fishing rules. Results from WDFW Enforcement emphasis patrols in the Puget Sound recreational crab fishery for the past three years will be presented.

Policy issue(s) you are bringing to the Commission for consideration:
None. Briefing only

Public involvement process used and what you learned:
NA

Actions requested (identify the specific Commission decisions you are seeking):
None. Briefing only

Draft motion language:
NA.

Justification for Commission action:
NA

HANDOUT #1

SAMPLE SITE ENFORCEMENT - 2006

Cornet Bay

	# of Contacts	# of Crabbers	# of Violations
July	389	340	39
August	237	183	76
September	165	128	27
TOTAL:	791	651	142

Individual Violation Breakdown

#	Violation Type	Total # of Violations	% Out of Total Violations
1	Fail to record	31	21.9
2	No PS Crab End.	3	2.1
3	No CRC	8	5.6
4	No License	6	4.3
5	Undersized Crab	38	26.7
6	Female Crab	1	.7
7	Over Limit Crab	1	.7
8	Fail to Display Catch	0	0
9	Illegal Crab Gear	5	3.5
10	Crab Closed Season	0	0
11	Fin Fish Violation	0	0
12	Boat Safety	2	1.4
13	Soft Shell Crab	45	31.6
14	Other	1	.7

HANDOUT #2

SAMPLE SITE ENFORCEMENT - 2006

Everett

	# of Contacts	# of Crabbers	# of Violations
July	669	546	165
August	762	509	133
September	607	296	137
TOTAL:	2,038	1,351	435

Individual Violation Breakdown

#	Violation Type	Total # of Violations	% Out of Total Violations
1	Fail to record	92	21.2%
2	No PS Crab End.	10	2.3%
3	No CRC	7	1.6%
4	No License	12	2.8%
5	Undersized Crab	115	26.5%
6	Female Crab	4	.9%
7	Over Limit Crab	11	2.5%
8	Fail to Display catch	3	.7%
9	Illegal Crab Gear	14	3.2%
10	Crab Closed Season	3	.7%
11	Fin Fish Violation	3	.7%
12	Boat Safety violation	8	1.8%
13	Soft Shell Crab	143	32.9%
14	Other	9	2.1%

HANDOUT #3

CRAB ENFORCEMENT - 2007

TABLE 1

Marine Area	#of Crab Fishers	#with Crab	#Recording Crab	#of Violations
6	64	17	8	23
7	393	92	61	101
8-1	114	43	19	104
8-2	367	102	63	320
9	263	70	28	110
10	122	25	10	83
11	61	25	14	45
12	33	8	2	13
TOTALS	1417	382	205	799

Compliance with CRC recording-53%
Overall compliance rate-44%

TABLE 3

Violation	Number	%of Total
Fail to record crc	245	30.6%
No PS crab endorsement	27	3.3%
No CRC in possession	39	5%
No fishing license	53	6.6%
Possess undersized crab	92	11.5%
Possess female crab	7	0.8%
Exceed limit	13	1.6%
Fail to submit catch	2	0.2%
Illegal crab gear	82	10.2%
Closed Season / Area	35	4.3%
Fin fish violaitons	96	12%
Vessel Safety	43	5.3%
Mutilated crab	18	10.2%
Soft shell	47	5.8%