

WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE WORKSHOP 2
REGARDING WHALE ENTANGLEMENTS IN COASTAL DUNGENESS CRAB FISHERY
April 24, 2019 – Montesano, WA

PROPOSED AGENDA

9:00 am	Introductions/Purpose of the Meeting	Michele Culver
	Purpose: To review and discuss potential management tools and measures to better assess when and where the coastal crab fishery occurs and to avoid whale entanglements in crab fishing gear	
9:10 am	Whale Entanglement Update	Michele Culver and Heather Hall
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brief Recap of History of Whale Entanglements off West Coast and in Washington Coastal Dungeness Crab Fishery• Settlement Agreement Between the Center for Biological Diversity and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife• Proposed Measures by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife• Endangered Species Act Requirements and Process• Update on Tribal Discussions	
9:45 am	Review Potential Management Measure Alternatives From March Meeting	Heather Hall
10:00 am	Identify Additional Potential Management Measures	Group
10:15 am	<i>BREAK</i>	
10:30 am	Discuss Potential Management Measure Alternatives	Heather Hall
12:00 pm	<i>LUNCH BREAK (1 hour)</i>	
1:00 pm	Review Proposed Process and Timeline	Michele Culver
1:45 pm	Wrap Up and Next Steps Fish and Wildlife Commission: May 31, 2019 Conference Call	Michele Culver
2:00 pm	Adjourn	

REVISED (4/24/19)

WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE PROCESS TO ADDRESS WHALE ENTANGLEMENTS IN COASTAL DUNGENESS CRAB FISHERY

NMFS Incidental Take Permit Application Development (in Progress)

Target Completion Date: December 31, 2020

Submit to NMFS for Review and Approval

Potential Completion Date: 2022 (in place for 2022-23 Season)

Whale Entanglements in 2019

March 19 – 1st Industry Workshop

April 24 – 2nd Industry Workshop

May 31 – Commission Conference Call – Briefing/Guidance

Director consider adopting emergency rule for reduced pot limit

Whale Entanglements for 2020

Oct 18-19 – Commission Meeting – Rule Briefing

Dec 27 – Conference Call – Rule Adoption

Director consider adopting emergency rules for crab fishery start date

Electronic Monitoring for 2020

Submit FIS grant application to NOAA for EM pilot program

**WDFW PRELIMINARY PROPOSAL
TO ADDRESS WHALE ENTANGLEMENTS IN COASTAL DUNGENESS CRAB FISHERY
April 24, 2019**

1. Gear Requirements

Year-Round:

- a. Require line between pot and main buoy be kept taut and vertical
- b. Require line marking to identify gear if buoy is missing
- c. Require breakaway device in the line

Beginning April 1:

- d. Reduce pot limit: 500 to 330 pots; 300 to 200 pots
- e. Require different seasonal buoy tags to fish beginning April 1 and remove all other gear by April 30

2. Derelict Gear Removal

- a. Beginning May 1, allow removal of gear without new seasonal tag

3. Monitoring Requirements

- a. Pilot EM program – grant proposal (50-60 vessels)
 - i. RFID tags, camera, VMS, electronic logbook
 - ii. Consider for northern area for testing
- b. Require electronic fish tickets