



State of Washington
Department of Fish and Wildlife

Region Six • 48 Devonshire Road • Montesano, Washington 98563-9618 • (360) 249-4628 • FAX (360) 664-0689

WASHINGTON COASTAL DUNGENESS CRAB INDUSTRY NOTICE

March 27, 2019

POT LIMITS CONTINUE IN QUINAULT SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA:

The purpose of this notice is to inform you of the extension of the reduced pot limits the area from Raft River to Split Rock where a 200-pot limit **will remain in place until further notice** and between the Copalis River and Joe Creek where a 100-pot limit **will remain in place until further notice**.

This extension of the rule requiring reduced pot limits is necessary to reduce crowding in these areas and to limit the number of lines in the water to reduce the risk of whale entanglements.

We also want to remind you that WDFW has scheduled a second meeting of Washington Dungeness Crab industry members on April 24, 2019 in Montesano at the Montesano City Hall, North 112 Main Street, from 9 am to 3:30 pm. The purpose of the meeting is to review potential new measures to reduce whale entanglements in crab gear. Your participation is encouraged.

Quinalt:

The Quinalt **secondary SMA** (SSMA) remains closed to state fishers and includes the area shoreward of a line approximating the 27-fathom depth curve between the mouth of the Joe Creek (47°12.11) and Split Rock (47°24.50) following the coordinates provided previously.

There is a 200-pot limit in the area between Split Rock (47°24.50') and Raft River (47°28.00') shoreward of the 27-fathom line, and a 100-pot limit in the area between the Copalis River (47°08.00') and Joe Creek (47°12.11') shoreward of the 27-fathom line. **These pot limits remain in place until further notice.**

Fishers must pre-register with WDFW **twenty-four hours** prior to deploying gear in these areas by sending either: Fax transmission to Robert Morgan at 360-249-1229; E-mail to Robert Morgan at Robert.Morgan@dfw.wa.gov; or Telephone call to Robert Morgan at 360-249-1206

Quileute:

The Quileute SMA remains closed to state fishers and includes the area shoreward of a line approximating the 30-fathom depth curve between Cape Johnson (47°58.00') to Destruction Island (47°40.50') following the coordinates provided previously.

For more information about this notice, or to sign up to receive these notices via e-mail, please contact Dan Ayres at 360-249-4628 (ext. 209) or Daniel.Ayres@dfw.wa.gov