

WDFW Preliminary Regulatory Proposal and Next Steps

Preliminary Proposal

Gear Requirements

Year-Round:

- Require line be kept taut and vertical (don't specify line requirements)

Beginning May 1:

- Reduce pot limit by one-third: 500 pots to 330 pots/300 pots to 200 pots
- Require summer buoy tags on all pots beginning May 1
 - Remove all other gear by May 31
- Require line marking for "WA crab fishery," not individual (coordinate with OR and CA)
 - Paint line; zip ties

Derelict Gear Removal

- Effective June 1, allow all gear without summer buoy tag to be brought in and reported

Additional Ideas and Concepts for Further Exploration

- Breakaway Devices – Further discussion by Whale Working Group
- Pilot electronic monitoring program – Submit NOAA grant proposal for 2020
- Electronic fish tickets – Voluntary in 19-20, consider mandatory for 20-21

Next Steps

May 16 – Tri-State Coordination Meeting

May 23 – Coastal Dungeness Crab Advisory Board Meeting – Review preliminary proposal

May 28 – WA Whale Working Group Meeting

May 31 – FWC Conference Call – Briefing

June 3 – File E-reg for reduced pot limit effective July 1, 2019; send industry notice

July/Aug – File CR-102; distribute to industry

Oct 18-19 – FWC Meeting – Rule Briefing with Public Comment

Jan 2020 – FWC Meeting – Rule Adoption