



State of Washington
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

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March 6, 2020

Dear Coastal Dungeness Crab Fishery Participant:

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is hosting two public meetings this spring to discuss issues affecting the coastal Dungeness crab fishery. The first industry meeting will include: a review of the 2019-2020 season opening, discussions about issues impacting the state season opening and potential strategies to consider when discussing future season openings. We will also spend some time talking about recent regulatory changes approved by the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission, including the line marking requirement which will be effective at the start of next season.

The second industry meeting in April is intended to provide stakeholders with an update on WDFW staff progress to develop a conservation plan for the Washington coastal Dungeness crab fishery. As you may know, a conservation plan is required as part of the application for an Incidental Take Permit. At the April meeting, we will orient you to the components of a conservation plan, seek feedback on potential actions to avoid and reduce whale interactions, and review the timeline to complete a draft conservation plan by the end of 2020.

These industry meetings will be held at Montesano City Hall on the following dates and times:

Thursday, March 26, 2020, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Wednesday, April 29, 2020, from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm

The April meeting will include a break for lunch (on your own). Montesano City Hall is located at 112 North Main Street in Montesano.

For more information, you can contact me at 360-902-2487 or Heather.Hall@dfw.wa.gov

Sincerely,

Heather Hall
Intergovernmental Ocean Policy

cc: Dan Ayres
Victoria Knorr