



State of Washington
Department of Fish and Wildlife

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April 5, 2021

WASHINGTON COASTAL DUNGENESS CRAB INDUSTRY NOTICE

Evisceration Requirements for Catch Area 60B (Inside Grays Harbor) are Removed Effective Immediately

Due to low levels of domoic acid in recent crab samples taken from inside Grays Harbor, WDFW is removing evisceration requirements for the area. License holders wanting to sell crab to any market (including live and whole cooked) from area 60B must **FIRST receive a new hold inspection.**

WDFW will conduct new hold inspections on request to allow the following:

- Any WA license holder with an “EVS” hold inspection certificate who wishes to switch from selling only to an evisceration market and set gear in any area north of Point Chehalis (outside of tribal SMA’s) including Grays Harbor may request a new hold inspection certificate designated “NOR” to fish for any market (including live and whole cooked). This hold inspection certificate will continue to prohibit setting gear south of Point Chehalis, WA (46°53.18 N. Lat).
- Prior to receiving a new hold inspection, license holders or alternate operators **must first**.
 - ✓ **Move all gear set** south of Point Chehalis, WA (46°53.18 N. Lat) out of these areas and **sign an affidavit attesting** that they have done so.
 - ✓ **Present a recent Fish Ticket** showing all crab was sold to an evisceration market.
 - ✓ Have **NO CRAB** onboard their vessel.
 - ✓ **Surrender** their previously issued 2021 Hold Inspection Certificate to WDFW
- Or, any WA license holder with a “NOR” hold inspection certificate who wishes to switch from selling to any market, including live and whole cooked and not having **any gear** set south of Point Chehalis, WA (46°53.18 N. Lat) may request a new hold

inspection certificate designated “EVS” and selling only to an evisceration market and set gear in any area outside of tribal SMA’s.

- Prior to receiving a new hold inspection, these license holders or alternate operators **must first:**
 - ✓ **Surrender** their previously issued 2021 Hold Inspection Certificate to WDFW.
 - ✓ **Understand that any crab on board at the time of the hold inspection can only be sold to an evisceration market.**
- Vessels and licenses that started their season south of Cape Falcon prior to the time the area north of Cape Falcon opened were allowed to begin fishing north of Cape Falcon on March 18, 2021. All dual licensed boats with an Oregon hold inspection can only use that certificate to land crab into EVISCERATION markets. All such vessels can also request a new WA hold inspection if they choose to fish for live or whole cooked markets. Vessels that started their season in California will all need a WA hold inspection certificate and make the market/area decisions listed above.

YOU MUST SCHEDULE A SPECIFIC TIME to have WDFW conduct a hold inspection to receive a new hold inspection certificate. To schedule a time, please EMAIL:

Sgt. Brian Alexander at brian.alexander@dfw.wa.gov

Or

Robert Morgan at robert.morgan@dfw.wa.gov

Please be able to provide several possible times.

This information and future updates will also be available on WDFW web page:

<http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/commercial/crab/coastal/>

If you have questions regarding the information contained in this notice or other regulations pertaining to the coastal Dungeness crab fishery, please contact Robert Morgan at (360) 480-8596.