

# WDFW – European green crab

## European Green Crab Emergency Measures Report to the Governor



**Report Purpose:** Meet requirements of RCW [77.135.090](#)(4) that requires the Director of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to continually evaluate the effects of the emergency measures and report these to the Governor at intervals of not less than ten days. The Director must immediately advise the Governor if the Director finds that the emergency no longer exists or if certain emergency measures should be discontinued. Gov. Jay Inslee [issued Emergency Proclamation 22-02](#): Green Crab Infestation on Jan. 19, 2022 to address the exponential increase in European green crab (EGC) populations within the Lummi Nation’s Sea Pond and outer coast areas.

**February 10, 2022 Summary:** WDFW continued internal policy coordination and began implementation of \$600k in authorized EGC emergency measures spending, including the process of purchasing \$300k worth of traps, boats and other equipment with priority to support at Lummi Sea Pond, the contracting process for \$300k passthrough to Lummi Nation, and hiring for six technicians to be stationed in Bellingham. WDFW Legislative Affairs and coastal region leadership held discussions with shellfish growers and coastal community leaders regarding emergency funding to support EGC management and local coordination in Willapa Bay and other coastal areas. WDFW staff fielded numerous inquiries from tribes and stakeholders on emergency measures implementation and planned for Salish Sea and coastal stakeholder briefings on Feb. 15 and 17. Met with Puget Sound Federal Task Force and with Washington Recreation and Conservation Office, Washington Department of Agriculture and Emergency Management Division to support coordination.



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## Accomplishments January 29 to February 10, 2022

- Weekly WDFW internal policy coordination meetings
- WDFW Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Unit in process of:
  - Purchasing \$300,000 worth of boats and other EGC operational equipment/supplies with priority to support Lummi Nation in early management of Sea Pond infestation, including initial order for 100 shrimp traps and 600 minnow/Fukui traps.
  - Continuing contracting process for \$300,000 passthrough to Lummi Nation
  - AIS Unit continuing hiring process for 6 technicians that will be stationed in Bellingham to support Lummi Nation.
  - Responding to numerous inquiries from tribes and stakeholders on emergency measures implementation plans.
- WDFW Legislative Affairs and coastal region leadership held discussions with shellfish growers and coastal community leaders regarding emergency funding to support EGC management and local coordination in Willapa Bay and other coastal areas.
- WDFW Public Affairs staff supported media requests including coverage from aquaculture outlet [Undercurrent News](#) and local station [KUOW](#). Followed up with Chinook Observer editor regarding ongoing coastal EGC media coverage and funding requests.
- February 4: Met with Puget Sound Federal Task Force to brief them and begin discussions on federal roles and funding opportunities to support emergency measures actions. Meeting included federal representatives from USEPA, USFWS, NOAA, USGS, and BIA and tribal policy and technical representatives from the Lummi Nation, Metlakatla Indian Community (Alaska).
- February 4: Met with WDFW, RCO, WSDA and EMD to discuss options on setting up a Multi-agency Coordination Group or advisory group as a policy forum for advising the Department on establishing European green crab policy and technical functions necessary to successfully prioritize action areas, allocate scarce resources, and plan for long-term policy management.



## Pending Tasks

- February 15: Salish Sea European green crab stakeholder meeting – [Zoom meeting](#)
- February 16: Coastal European green crab stakeholder meeting – [Zoom meeting](#)
- February 19: Briefing to the Fish and Wildlife [Commission](#) on emergency measures status.
- March 3: National Invasive Species Awareness Week - EGC presentations to congressional staff
- March 10: Washington Invasive Species Council – emergency measures status and consultation – [agenda](#) – [zoom registration](#)
- April 26-28: Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference – EGC session presentations.

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