

WDFW – European green crab

European Green Crab Emergency Measures Report to the Governor



WDFW staff process and prepare shrimp traps, minnow traps, lines, buoys, and other equipment for EGC deployment.

Report Purpose: Meet requirements of RCW [77.135.090\(4\)](#) that requires the Director of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) 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.

May 5 to May 15, 2022 Report:

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Aquatic Invasive Species staff continued coordination with Lummi Nation Natural Resources to trap and remove European green crab (EGC) at the Lummi Sea Pond (LSP). Lummi Nation reports that a total of 3,424 EGC were removed from inside the LSP after 1,474 trap checks during the week ending on May 6. Of these, 46 EGC were gravid females (females with eggs) or about 1.3 percent of the total captured. EGC control and monitoring efforts led by Northwest Straits Commission (NWSC) in coordination with WDFW, Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) and Veterans Conservation Corps (VCC) are continuing in Whatcom and Skagit counties. NWSC removed 9 EGC from Drayton Harbor and 2 from Samish Bay. WDFW continues to provide NWSC bait, equipment, and other support for this effort.

On Washington's outer coast, WDFW lent 100 more modified shrimp pots with buoys, lines, identification tags, and bait to the Willapa-Grays Harbor Oyster Growers Association (WGHOGA) to support their permitted EGC removal efforts in coordination with local shellfish growers and tidelands owners. This local effort has expanded this spring with impressive results. WGHOGA affiliates report removing more than 8,702 EGC from Willapa Bay in 2022 as of May 10, see screenshot below. WDFW received a second 20' aluminum boat which was deployed to the Willapa Bay Field Station to support removal efforts on the coast. Hiring efforts continue for additional WDFW scientific technicians to support EGC removal and for the EGC Outreach Specialist.

Additional information and further details will be provided in the next European green crab management quarterly report or are available upon request. Reports are posted at:
<https://wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/invasive/carcinus-maenas>



Willapa Green Crab Disaster

May 10 at 6:09 PM · 🌐



Willapa Bay Shellfish Special Operations Team gathered 275 EGC today. 10 were gravid females. 8702 total for us in 89 days...WDFW brought another 100 shrimp style traps and gear to their Nahcotta Lab for Shellfish Growers to use...Again a big THANK YOU to WDFW for your quick help supplying traps and bait.



A Facebook post from May 10, 2022 updates on European green crab trapping efforts by shellfish growers involved with the Willapa-Grays Harbor Oyster Growers Association, with equipment, bait and other support from WDFW.

May 16, 2022

