



State of Washington
Department of Fish and Wildlife

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Contact: Jamie Fuller at 360-580-0875

WASHINGTON COASTAL DUNGENESS CRAB INDUSTRY NOTICE

February 22, 2023

MAKAH SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA OPENS TO STATE FISHERS

The Makah SMA, in the area described below, opens to state fishers at 8:00 AM March 5, 2023.

The Makah SMA is described as the coastal waters between 48°02.15' N' Lat. to 48°19.50' N' Lat. east of a line connecting those points approximating the 25-fathom line according to the following coordinates:

- Northeast Corner: Tatoosh Island
- Northwest Corner: 48°19.50' N. Lat. 124°50.45' W. Lon.
- Southwest Corner: 48°02.15' N. Lat. 124°50.45' W. Lon.
- Southeast Corner: 48°02.15' N. Lat. 124°41.00' W. Lon.

There will be a 200-pot limit in the SMA until 8:00 AM April 4, 2023. Fishers must pre-register with WDFW **twenty-four hours** prior to deploying gear in this area. Fishers can pre-register by one of the following methods:

- Email to Jamie Fuller at Jamie.Fuller@dfw.wa.gov; or
- Telephone call to Jamie Fuller at 360-580-0875

Please note that the following SMA's remain CLOSED to state fishers.

Quinault:

The Quinault **primary SMA** is scheduled to remain closed to state fishers until further notice.

The Quinault **primary SMA** is described as the coastal waters shoreward of a line approximating the 27-fathom depth curve between Raft River (47°28.00) and Copalis

River (47°08.00) according to the following coordinates:

- Northeast Corner: 47°28.00' N. Lat. 124°20.70' W. Lon.
- Northwest Corner: 47°28.00' N. Lat. 124°34.00' W. Lon.
- Southwest Corner: 47°08.00' N. Lat. 124°25.50' W. Lon.
- Southeast Corner: 47°08.00' N. Lat. 124°11.20' W. Lon.

Quileute:

The **Quileute SMA**, in the area described below, is scheduled to remain closed to state fishers until 8:00 AM May 1, 2023.

The **Quileute SMA** is described as the area from Cape Johnson to Destruction Island shoreward of a line approximating 30 fathoms according to the following points:

- Northeast Corner: (Cape Johnson): 47°58.00' N. Lat. 124°40.40' W. Lon.
- Northwest Corner: 47°58.00' N. Lat. 124°49.00' W. Lon.
- Southwest Corner: 47°40.50' N. Lat. 124°40.00' W. Lon.
- Southeast Corner (Destruction Island): 47°40.50' N. Lat. 124°24.43' W. Lon.

There will be a 100-pot limit in the SMA from May 1, 2023, through May 31, 2023. Fishers must pre-register with WDFW **twenty-four hours** prior to deploying gear in this area.

Fair Start Provisions:

- **Klipsan Beach (46°28.00) to Oysterville (46°33.00):** Opened to all state fishers at **8:00 am on February 16, 2023.**
- **Oysterville (46°33.00) to Destruction Island (47°40.50):** Licenses and vessels designated to those licenses that fish (as defined by WAC 220-340-400) in the fishery between Point Arena, CA and Klipsan Beach, WA, including Willapa Bay, before the area north of Oysterville opens will be allowed to fish in the area between Oysterville and Destruction Island at **8:00 am on March 13, 2023.**

Other Requirements:

- A **hold inspection certificate number** is required on all fish tickets until **March 13, 2023.**
- License owners **MUST** register one unique buoy color scheme per coastal crab license with WDFW. License owners must complete buoy registration regardless of if you have sent photos to WDFW in the past. If you have not yet registered your buoy for the 2022-23 season, you can access the registration form at: <https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/1a6ae9a42a7342d4884f63a089968aa9>. The

registration form requires you use a smartphone to take and submit photos of your buoys. If you do not have a smartphone or are unable to complete the registration, contact Jamie Fuller at 360-580-0875 or Jamie.Fuller@dfw.wa.gov.

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 letter or other regulations pertaining to the coastal Dungeness crab fishery, please contact Jamie Fuller at (360) 580-0875.