

# 2022 Puget Crab Association Meeting

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# Agenda

1. 2021-2022 Season Review
2. Management Changes
3. Electronic Fish Ticket Application
4. Commercial Sampling
5. Other Topics



# 2021-2022 Commercial Crab Season Structure

The 2021-2022 season opened on October 7, 2021 in the following areas:

- **Region 1** with **35 pots** per license (closed November 3, 300,000 buffer reserved)
- **Region 2E** with **35 pots** per license (closed October 17)
- **Region 2W** with **50 pots** per license (closed November 29)
- **Subregion 3-2** with **50 pots** per license (closed November 19)
- **Subregion 3-1** with **40 pots** per license (closed November 29)
- **Subregion 3-3** with **60 pots** per license (closed April 8)
- **Subregion 3-4 remained closed** (opened March 6 for a clean-up following quota transfer)

Subsequent Region 1 openings occurred:

- **December 15** through **January 9**
- **February 10** through **March 7** (following a quota increase)



# 2021-2022 Commercial Crab Season – State Harvest

Management Region	Marine Area	Regional State Share	State Summer Recreational Catch	State Summer EUC	State Winter Recreational Catch	State Winter EUC	State Commercial Harvest	State Commercial EUC	Total State Harvest To-Date	State Balance To-Date
1	7	2,425,000	454,146	45,278	55,321	5,516	1,867,795	18,678	2,446,734	-21,734
2E	8-1,8-2	1,000,000	624,317	62,244	41,043	4,092	243,154	2,432	977,282	22,718
2W	9	225,000	75,675	7,545	11,591	1,156	119,903	1,199	217,068	7,932
3-1	6, N	44,581	2,282	228	379	38	41,822	418	45,167	-586
3-2	6, SE	369,000	137,513	13,710	22,838	2,277	191,754	1,918	370,009	-1,009
3-3	6, W	15,500	2,853	284	474	47	4,931	49	8,639	6,861
3-4	4, 5	9,500	5,677	566	363	36	2,564	26	9,232	268
4	10	55,000	29,744	2,965	5,703	569	0	0	38,981	16,019
5	12	208,000	75,830	7,560	17,724	1,767	0	0	102,881	105,119
6	11	22,500	17,856	1,780	49	5	0	0	19,690	2,810
7	13	0	369	37	0	0	0	0	406	-406
<b>STATE HARVEST TOTALS</b>		<b>4,374,081</b>	<b>1,426,262</b>	<b>142,198</b>	<b>155,485</b>	<b>15,502</b>	<b>2,471,923</b>	<b>24,719</b>	<b>4,236,089</b>	



# 2021-2022 Commercial Crab Season – Treaty Harvest

MANAGEMENT REGION	MARINE AREA	REGIONAL TREATY SHARE	TREATY COMMERCIAL HARVEST	TREATY COMMERCIAL EUC	TREATY C&S	TREATY C&S EUC	TOTAL TREATY HARVEST TO DATE	TREATY BALANCE TO DATE
1	7	2,425,000	2,421,777	24,218	4,947	297	2,451,239	-26,239
2E	8-1,8-2	956,847	963,187	9,632	5,833	350	979,002	-22,155
2W	9	225,000	210,142	2,101	120	7	212,371	12,629
3-1	6, N	45,000	43,445	434	0	0	43,879	1,121
3-2	6, SE	368,218	360,231	3,602	842	51	364,726	3,492
3-3	6, W	15,500	13,182	132	0	0	13,314	2,186
3-4	4, 5	9,500	5,937	0	0	0	5,937	3,563
4	10	55,000	50,945	509	51	3	51,509	3,491
5	12	208,000	128,819	1,288	0	0	130,107	77,893
6	11	22,500	21,572	216	0	0	21,788	712
7	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TREATY HARVEST TOTALS</b>		<b>4,330,565</b>	<b>4,219,237</b>	<b>42,133</b>	<b>11,793</b>	<b>708</b>	<b>4,273,871</b>	



# 2022-2023 Commercial Crab Season – Management Status

The 2022-2023 management plan status by Area and State share of the annual quota below:

- **Region 1** management plan has not been signed. A higher initial quota was negotiated and will be pursued.
- **Region 2E** management plan has been not been signed.
- **Region 2W** has been signed.
  - Hard closure dates remain the same but can be extended based on hard-shell sampling results.
- **Region 3** (subregions 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, and 3-4)
  - Hard closure dates remain the same but can be extended based on hard-shell sampling results.
  - 3-4 initial quota is higher and 3-3 is lower (quota transfer between these subregions is the new starting point).

Management Region	Marine Area	Regional State Share
1	7	2,300,000
2E	8-1,8-2	1,000,000
2W	9	225,000
3-1	6, N	44,415
3-2	6, SE	348,990
3-3	6, W	15,500
3-4	4, 5	9,500
4	10	40,000
5	12	240,200
6	11	38,000
7	13	0
<b>STATE HARVEST TOTALS</b>		<b>4,261,605</b>



# 2022-2023 Commercial Crab Season – Estimated Summer Recreational Harvests

Estimate Date: 09/22/2022  
 Summary Type: Preliminary  
 Summer Reporting Rate: 14%

Management Region	Marine Area	Regional State Share	State Summer Recreational Catch	State Summer EUC	State Winter Recreational Catch	State Winter EUC	State Commercial Harvest	State Commercial EUC	Total State Harvest To-Date	State Balance To-Date
1	7	2,300,000	443,514	44,218	54,020	5,386	0	0	547,138	1,752,862
2E	8-1,8-2	1,000,000	612,616	61,078	40,249	4,013	0	0	717,955	282,045
2W	9	225,000	88,155	8,789	13,497	1,346	0	0	111,786	113,214
3-1	6, N	44,415	2,478	247	379	38	0	0	3,141	41,274
3-2	6, SE	348,990	149,281	14,883	24,781	2,471	0	0	191,416	157,574
3-3	6, W	15,500	3,097	309	514	51	0	0	3,972	11,528
3-4	4, 5	9,500	5,162	515	330	33	0	0	6,039	3,461
4	10	40,000	33,520	3,342	4,763	475	0	0	42,100	-2,100
5	12	240,200	89,836	8,957	20,995	2,093	0	0	121,880	118,320
6	11	38,000	26,492	2,641	6,000	598	0	0	35,731	2,269
7	13	0	473	47	0	0	0	0	520	-520
<b>STATE HARVEST TOTALS</b>		<b>4,261,605</b>	<b>1,454,624</b>	<b>145,026</b>	<b>165,527</b>	<b>16,503</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,781,680</b>	



# 2022-2023 Commercial Crab Season – Treaty Harvest

MANAGEMENT REGION	MARINE AREA	REGIONAL TREATY SHARE	TREATY COMMERCIAL HARVEST	TREATY COMMERCIAL EUC	TREATY C&S	TREATY C&S EUC	TOTAL TREATY HARVEST TO DATE	TREATY BALANCE TO DATE
1	7	2,300,000	1,039,395	10,394	1,976	119	1,051,884	1,248,116
2E	8-1,8-2	1,000,000	827,913	8,279	2,053	123	838,368	161,632
2W	9	225,000	68,240	682	0	0	68,922	156,078
3-1	6, N	45,000	0	0	0	0	0	45,000
3-2	6, SE	350,000	198,187	1,982	0	0	200,168	149,832
3-3	6, W	15,500	949	9	0	0	958	14,542
3-4	4, 5	9,500	3,953	40	0	0	3,993	5,507
4	10	40,000	36,839	368	279	17	37,503	2,497
5	12	240,200	69,516	695	0	0	70,211	169,989
6	11	38,000	36,093	361	0	0	36,454	1,546
7	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TREATY HARVEST TOTALS		4,263,200	2,281,085	22,811	4,308	258	2,308,462	





# 2022-2023 Commercial Crab Season – Preliminary State Commercial Targets

Management Region	Marine Area	Regional State Share	Total State Harvest To-Date	State Balance To-Date	Preliminary Commercial Available (includes EUC)
<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2,300,000</b>	547,138	1,752,862	<b>1,735,333</b>
<b>2E</b>	<b>8-1,8-2</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	717,955	282,045	<b>279,224</b>
<b>2W</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>225,000</b>	111,786	113,214	<b>112,082</b>
<b>3-1</b>	<b>6, N</b>	<b>44,415</b>	3,141	41,274	<b>40,861</b>
<b>3-2</b>	<b>6, SE</b>	<b>348,990</b>	191,416	157,574	<b>155,998</b>
<b>3-3</b>	<b>6, W</b>	<b>15,500</b>	3,972	11,528	<b>11,413</b>
<b>3-4</b>	<b>4, 5</b>	<b>9,500</b>	6,039	3,461	<b>3,426</b>



# 2021-2022 Management Changes – Review

- **Harvesters are required to register what management region they are fishing:**
  - prior to season start,
  - before gear moves management regions, and / or
  - if you leave the fishery
- **Communicated that buoy registrations would be mandatory on the coast and Puget Sound**
  - Voluntary this season in Puget Sound
  - Please provide feedback on form if you register
- **Efforts to track stored crab**
  - Recording on Transportation Tickets.
  - Labeling crab that is stored off-vessel.
  - Required reporting if longer than 5:00 pm the day after crab is caught.
  - Required reporting of sale of stored crab.
- **Removed commercial exclusion areas**
- **Opened rec priority areas with reduced pot limit**
  - Port Townsend Bay
  - Discovery Bay
  - Sequim Bay



• **Split Region 3-3 into 3-3/3-4**


# 2022-2023 Management Review

- Everything from 2021-2022 remains in effect.
  - Registering where you will be fishing
  - Tracking stored crab
  - Removal and relaxation of the commercial exclusion and recreational priority areas
  - Split between subregions 3-3 and 3-4
- Buoy registration is not mandatory, but we will be testing the application that the coast will be using when opening on a voluntary basis in Puget Sound.
- All fish tickets must be submitted using an **electronic fish ticket application**:
  - Watix
  - E-tickets



# 2022-2023 Management Review – Registering Fishing Area

- Harvesters are required to register what management region they are fishing:
  - Prior to season start,
  - Before gear moves management regions, and / or
  - If you leave the fishery
- Report to [crab.report@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:crab.report@dfw.wa.gov) or using the web form on the website.
- Summarizing details and reporting on the web



Washington  
Department of  
**FISH and  
WILDLIFE**

### Puget Sound Commercial Crab License Registration

Vessel Operator Name\*

Vessel Name\*  
Submit the vessel name, WN,

Vessel ID\*  
This is a 4-5 digit number that  
card.

Phone Number\*

Phone Number\*  
This information will only be used to contact you if there is an issue with your registration.  
( ) -

Email\*  
This information will only be used to send a confirmation of your registration.

**Puget Sound Commercial Crab License Number** ▼

First Crab License Number\*  
Commercial crab license numbers are a 5 digit number printed on your commercial license card.

Gear Deployment Date\*  
MM/DD/YYYY

Crab Management Region to be Fished\*  
Select the Puget Sound crab management region that you intend to fish with your first license.

- Region 1 includes Marine Fish-Shellfish (MFSF) Catch Reporting Areas 20A, 20B, 21A, 21B, 22A, 22B.
- Region 2 East includes MFSF Catch Reporting Areas 24A, 24B, 24C, 24D, and 26A East.
- Region 2 West includes MFSF Catch Reporting Areas 25B, 25D, and 26A West.
- Region 3-1 includes MFSF Catch Reporting Areas 23A and 23B.
- Region 3-2 includes MFSF Catch Reporting Areas 25A, 25E, and 23D.
- Region 3-3 includes MFSF Catch Reporting Areas 23C East
- Region 3-4 includes 23C West and 29
- Stacking Out choose this if you are removing gear from a region

-Please select- ▼



# 2022-2023 Management Review – Tracking Stored (Hung) Crab

- Recording on Transportation Tickets
- Labeling crab that is stored off-vessel
  - Date of harvest;
  - Estimate of pounds of crab contained;
  - Either the Catch Reporting Area or the Crab Management Region from which the catch originated.
- Required reporting if longer than 5:00 pm the day after crab is caught.
- Required reporting of sale of crab previously reported as stored.
- Cannot store crab longer than 10 days.

The image shows a screenshot of a web form titled "Puget Sound Commercial Crab Stored Harvest Report". The form is part of a "WILDBIRD" system. It includes several input fields and sections:

- Harvester Name\***: A text input field.
- Phone Number\***: A text input field with a placeholder for area code and number.
- Puget Sound Commercial Crab License Number**: A dropdown menu. Below it, a note states: "Commercial crab license numbers are a 5 digit numbers printed on your commercial license card. PS commercial crab licenses start with a '5'."
- First Crab License number\***: A text input field.
- Email\***: A text input field with an email icon.
- Additional Puget Sound Commercial Crab License Number**: Two dropdown menus.
- Next**: A button at the bottom left.
- Page 1 of 2**: A progress indicator at the bottom right.



# 2022-2023 Management Review – Buoy Registration Requirement

- Buoy registration is not mandatory in Puget Sound this year.
- Voluntarily testing the application that the coast will be using when opening.
- Buoys registration will be mandatory next year in Puget Sound.
- Test the application using the QR code and report any feedback to Daniel / Brad

The image shows a screenshot of a web application titled "Buoy Color Collection Test Survey". The form is divided into several sections:

- Puget Sound - Coastal\***: Radio buttons for "Puget Sound" and "Coastal".
- Registration Type\***: Radio buttons for "New Registration" and "In-season Update".
- License Season\***: A dropdown menu showing "2022/2023".
- License Owner\***: A text input field.
- Vessel Operator\***: A text input field.
- Operator Email\***: A text input field.
- Operator Phone Number\***: A text input field.
- Vessel Name\***: A text input field.
- Vessel WDFW ID\***: A text input field with a note: "This is a five digit number found on the bottom left of your comment. (Commercial License Only)".
- Main Buoy Color(s)\***: A grid of color swatches (Black, White, Gray, Blue, Pink, Red, Green, Yellow, Purple) with checkboxes.
- Visual Selections**: A vertical column of buoy icons with checkboxes, including:
  - Black and white stripes
  - Black diamond
  - Black and white stripes (horizontal)
  - Black and white circles
  - Black and white crosses
  - Black triangle
  - Black heart
  - Black club
  - Black spade
  - Black rectangle
  - Black circle



# 2022-2023 Management Change – Commercial Sampling Program

- Brought on new staff to the program focused on commercial fisheries.
  - Based out of Bellingham
- 1. Sampling commercial catch at the docks
  - Individual crab weight, size, shell condition
  - Learn more about what our fishery brings to dock and the overall condition of the catch.
- 2. Conducting voluntary ride-alongs
  - Sampling catch on-board vessels as you fish.



# 2022-2023 Management Changes – WaTix

- All fish tickets must be submitted using an **electronic fish ticket application**:
  - Watix
  - E-tickets
- Harvesters will need to **verify fish tickets via text message confirmation code**.
- Make sure to **ensure that dealers have entered all information on your license correctly**.
  - Vessel ID Number
  - License Number(s)
  - Operator Name
- **Training opportunities** to use the application next week
  - Mill Creek, WDFW office, Sept 27, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm.
  - Mill Creek, WDFW office, Sept 29, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm.





# Other Items

- Addressing how the Estimated Unreported Catch (EUC) for recreational fisheries is currently estimated.
  - Working with natural resource survey company to validate the current bias correction factor model.
- Hiring new staff to conduct annual creels and help support recreational fishery management
  - Biologist 2
  - 8 scientific technicians for dock sampling and crabber interviews
- Electronic CRCs application is beginning stages of development



# Other Items

## Recreational fishery performance

### Region 1

Time Frame	Estimated Pounds of Crab (Memo)	Open Days	Avg Pounds Per Day
July 15-31	194,089	13	14,930
August	205,646	22	9,348
Sept 1-6	54,410	5	10,882
Sept 7-30	37,417	16	2,339
Oct	9,425	31	304
Nov	4,984	30	166
Dec	3,496	31	113

### Region 2E

Time Frame	Estimated Pounds of Crab (Memo)	Open Days	Avg Pounds Per Day
July 1-31	408,344	23	17,754
August	175,585	22	7,981
Sept 1-6	40,208	5	8,042
Oct	19,413	31	626
Nov	13,901	30	463
Dec	7,380	31	238

No. of Dungeness Crab CRCs Issued Summer and Winter, by Year

