

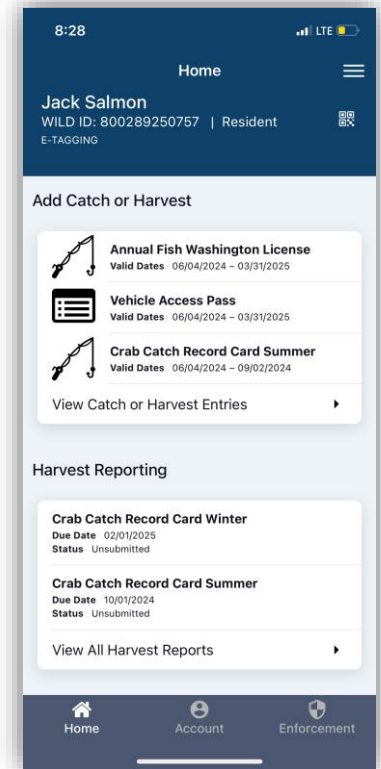
# Update on electronic catch record reporting

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# Washington expressly authorized electronic licensing, including catch record cards (eCRCs), in 2022

- Efforts by staff occurred in 2023 and 2024
- Cross-program work focused on rulemaking for an application that allows online license sales and collecting harvest information from anglers and hunters
  - Required species - Statewide salmon & steelhead, halibut, and sturgeon, and PS Dungeness crab
  - PS Dungeness Crab expected to be initial users of this application and data stream (catch estimates are uniquely solely reliant on CRC data)
- A functioning application is included in the RFP for the new six-year WILD contract.



# So why eCRCs?

- **Streamlined harvest reporting** for users and data access for managers
- **Enforcement** - easily display relevant information for enforcement and creel staff
- **Communication** – application provides communication with anglers; ability to push regulation changes to eCRC users
- **Near real time harvest data** - near real time daily harvest estimation to guide in-season fisheries management \*



# Update

- New contract expected to begin on June 2, 2025.
- Vendor is Brandt/Terra
- Expectation is functioning 'app' by mid-July with finalized version complete mid-October.
- Release in December of 2025.



# Success looks like:

- A duplicate clean raw database for all CRC species
- Editor and review functionality
- Increased data collection as evidence by percentage of anglers reporting
- Timely availability of data for fisheries management



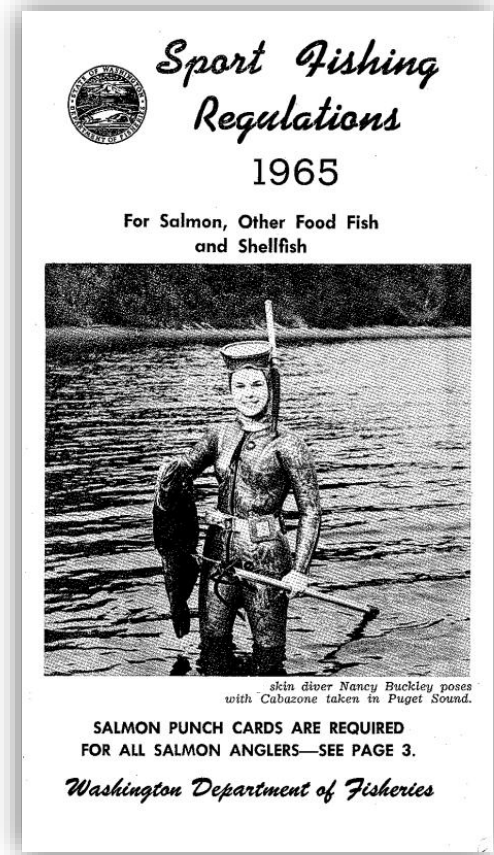
# Co-manager Discussions

- WDFW staff met with co-managers and NWIFC in June and October 2024.
- Paused discussions in December for new RFP
- These initial discussions focused on strategic goals of eCRCs and conceptually described the anticipated methodological changes we are pursuing
- Learn from Oregon eCRC experience (Riggers and Jones 2022)
- The compressed application rollout timeline challenged state/tribal discussions
- At the time, WDFW staff didn't have a useable app to test nor the internal staff capacity to develop new harvest estimation methods



# Comanager Discussions Cont.

- WDFW has a long a long history of using CRCs for harvest estimation – first CRC for salmon required in 1964.
- *Transitioning* to new catch estimation method
  - Related discussions in PS Dungeness crab - technical working group (TWG)
- Plan to reinitiate eCRC discussions with co-managers once contract is signed and timelines can be determined.
- Upcoming discussions will focus on harvest estimate methods for all CRC species
  - Needed technical discussions on several key application decisions and features



# Additional resources are necessary to implement eCRCs.

- Additional technical and user support staff are necessary for successful eCRC implementation
  - Current funding supports the development of the application;
  - Daily harvest estimates will require new modified harvest estimation methods – to determine daily compliance rates, paper vs electronic CRC users, etc.
  - New real-time data stream; for PS crab – additional creel resources also needed







# Questions