



State of Washington
Department of Fish and Wildlife

Region Six • 48 Devonshire Road • Montesano, Washington 98563-9618 • (360) 249-4628 • FAX (360) 664-0689

WASHINGTON COASTAL DUNGENESS CRAB INDUSTRY NOTICE

April 3, 2019

REVISIONS TO QUINAULT SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA

The purpose of this notice is to inform you that the southern boundary of the Quinault Special Management Area (SMA) will move from Joe Creek (47°12.11' N. lat.) north to Point Grenville (47°18.35' N. lat.) effective 8:00 AM April 8, 2019. A 200-pot limit will be in place in the area between the Copalis River (47°8.00' N. lat.) and Point Grenville (47°18.35' N. lat.) shoreward of 27 fathoms until further notice. There are no changes to the 200-pot limit in the area between Split Rock (47°24.50' N. lat.) and Raft River (47°28.00' N. lat.), which will also remain in place until further notice.

This change opens additional fishing area to state commercial fishers to help achieve a more balanced sharing of the Dungeness crab harvest in the area that we co-manage with the Quinault Indian Nation. The slight increase in the pot limit will allow fishers to fish more gear in a larger area and keep the amount of vertical line in the water down during a time when there is the potential for whales in the area. WDFW will continue to monitor the catch and harvest sharing in this area to evaluate if additional inseason adjustments are necessary.

Quinault SSMA:

The Quinault secondary SMA (SSMA) is closed to state fishers in the area shoreward of a line approximating the 27-fathom depth curve between Point Grenville (47°18.35' N. lat.) and Split Rock (47°24.50' N. lat.)

WDFW needs to know how many fishers have gear within the opened portions of the QIN SMA.

- Fishers who have NOT previously notified WDFW of their intent to fish within any open portions of the QIN SMA or notified WDFW but actually NOT set gear **MUST pre-register with WDFW twenty-four hours prior to deploying gear in the area** between Split Rock and Raft River and in the area between the Copalis River and Point Grenville.
- Contact Robert Morgan by one of the following methods to register:
 1. Fax: 360-249-1229;
 2. Email: Robert.Morgan@dfw.wa.gov; or
 3. Telephone: 360-249-1206

For more information about this notice, contact Dan Ayres at 360-249-4628 (ext. 209) or Daniel.Ayres@dfw.wa.gov



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Note: You can get this same information sent to your email by signing up for the WDFW Coastal Commercial Crab Email list. You can do so by sending an email to:

Daniel.Ayres@dfw.wa.gov