



State of Washington  
**Department of Fish and Wildlife**

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November 19, 2020

**WASHINGTON COASTAL DUNGENESS CRAB INDUSTRY NOTICE**

**Season Opening Delayed In Washington, Oregon and  
California (North of Point Arena)**

On Wednesday November 18, 2020 coastal Dungeness crab Tri-State policy representatives from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) agreed to delay the opening of the 2020-21 Coastal Dungeness crab fishery from Point Area, California north to the US/Canada border through December 15<sup>th</sup> at least. This decision was based on crab condition tests conducted by WDFW, ODFW and CDFW which shows that test areas do not currently meet the minimum meat recovery criteria at multiple sites across the region.

The Tri-State Dungeness Crab Pre-Season Testing Protocols specify that after the first round of testing, if any area does not meet the minimum meat recovery criteria (23% north of Cascade Head and 24% south of Cascade Head) a delay is required and additional testing is required before a season opening date can be confirmed. Additionally, the protocol also recommends that each test site should have at least 300 pounds of crab.

A second round of both meat recovery and domoic acid testing is scheduled to be conducted in early December. WDFW will provide additional information regarding the season opening as soon as possible following the completion of the upcoming tests.

Coast-wide test meat recovery and domoic acid results to date are found in the link below.

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/commercial/crab/coastal/letters-notices#general-info>

**NOTE: If you know of fellow members of the WA Crab Industry who are not receiving these notices, please ask them to send their name, email and cell phone number to [daniel.ayres@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:daniel.ayres@dfw.wa.gov)**

2020 Preseason Coastal Dungeness crab Test Fishery Results for WA, OR and CA


\* Date is the date the pots were pulled

Test Area	Number of pots	Optional Early Round		Round 1		Round 2		Round 3	
		Date*	Meat Recovery %	Date*	Meat Recovery %	Date*	Meat Recovery %	Date*	Meat Recovery %
<b>Washington</b>									
Northern		no test	no test	no test	no test				
Westport		10/22/20	19.6%	11/9/20	21.8%				
Long Beach		10/23/20	18.7%	11/9/20	21.8%				
<b>Oregon</b>									
Astoria (50-A)	18	no test	no test	11/9/20	21.6%				
Garibaldi (50-B)	18	no test	no test	11/9/2020 ***~	24.8%				
Newport North (50-C and 50-D)	36	no test	no test	11/9/20	25.1%				
Newport South (50-E and 50-F)	36	no test	no test	11/10/20	23.5%				
Coos Bay North (50-G and 50-H)	36	no test	no test	11/9/2020 ~	26.4%				
Coos Bay South (50-I and 50-J)	36	no test	no test	11/12/2020 ~	24.9%				
Port Orford (50-K)	18	no test	no test	11/9/2020 **	23.9%				
Brookings (50-L)	18	11/9/2020 ^	25.6%	11/12/2020 ^**	25.3%				
<b>California</b>									
Crescent City	36/60	10/27/2020 **	25.1%	11/12/2020 **	26.8%				
Trinidad	36	10/27/2020 **	25.2%	TBD					
Eureka	36/60	10/27/2020 **	25.6%	11/12/2020 **	24.8%				
<b>District 10 (not bound by Tri-State)</b>									
Bodega Bay	no test	no test	no test	no test	no test				
San Francisco	no test	no test	no test	no test	no test				

\*\*below 300lb minimum poundage

^ The first test (reported above in the early round column) was significantly below 150lbs allowed for a test area with 18 pots. In the re-do of this test area 45 pots were set due to the significantly low poundage.

~ less than a 24hr soak time

 <b>WA Dungeness Crab Domoic Acid Test Results</b>					
Collect Date	Waterbody	SiteName	Crab Species	Tissue	Domoic Result
11/9/2020	Grays Harbor Coast	Cape Disappoint./Pt Brown (GA 15 f)	Dungeness	Gut	4
11/9/2020	Grays Harbor Coast	Cape Disappoint./Pt Brown (GA 15 f)	Dungeness	Gut	3
11/9/2020	Grays Harbor Coast	Cape Disappoint./Pt Brown (GA 15 f)	Dungeness	Gut	10
11/9/2020	Grays Harbor Coast	Cape Disappoint./Pt Brown (GA 15 f)	Dungeness	Gut	14
11/9/2020	Grays Harbor Coast	Cape Disappoint./Pt Brown (GA 15 f)	Dungeness	Gut	8
11/9/2020	Grays Harbor Coast	Cape Disappoint./Pt Brown (GA 15 f)	Dungeness	Gut	5
11/9/2020	Pacific Cnty Coast	Inside Willapa Bay	Dungeness	Gut	6
11/9/2020	Pacific Cnty Coast	Inside Willapa Bay	Dungeness	Gut	2
11/9/2020	Pacific Cnty Coast	Inside Willapa Bay	Dungeness	Gut	7
11/9/2020	Pacific Cnty Coast	Inside Willapa Bay	Dungeness	Gut	4
11/9/2020	Pacific Cnty Coast	Inside Willapa Bay	Dungeness	Gut	4
11/9/2020	Pacific Cnty Coast	Inside Willapa Bay	Dungeness	Gut	3
11/9/2020	Pacific Cnty Coast	Cape Disappoint./Pt Brown (LBP 15 f)	Dungeness	Gut	1
11/9/2020	Pacific Cnty Coast	Cape Disappoint./Pt Brown (LBP 15 f)	Dungeness	Gut	1
11/9/2020	Pacific Cnty Coast	Cape Disappoint./Pt Brown (LBP 15 f)	Dungeness	Gut	3
11/9/2020	Pacific Cnty Coast	Cape Disappoint./Pt Brown (LBP 15 f)	Dungeness	Gut	5
11/9/2020	Pacific Cnty Coast	Cape Disappoint./Pt Brown (LBP 15 f)	Dungeness	Gut	5
11/9/2020	Pacific Cnty Coast	Cape Disappoint./Pt Brown (LBP 15 f)	Dungeness	Gut	2
OR = Northern Oregon		GA = Grayland Area	59A-1 = catch area		
LBP = Long Beach Peninsula		PB = Pacific Beach			
CRA = Columbia River Area		COP = Copalis Area			
<b>WDOH REOPENING CRITERIA: Reopening a zone that has been closed due to toxic test results, will require two (2) consecutive crab sample sets, not less than seven (7) days apart, with all six crab in each set, testing below 30 ppm in the viscera, or 20 ppm in meat.</b>					