



State of Washington  
Department of Fish and Wildlife

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April 25, 2024

## WASHINGTON COASTAL DUNGENESS CRAB INDUSTRY NOTICE

### Adjustment of QIN SSMA Western Boundary

To provide the opportunity for the State to achieve harvest sharing goals with the coastal treaty tribes, State and Quinault Indian Nation (QIN) managers have agreed to move the western boundary of the QIN Secondary Special Management Area (SSMA) from a line approximating the 27-fathom depth curve to a line approximating the 17-fathom depth curve. State and QIN managers will continue to evaluate harvest sharing and will consider the need for additional measures as the season progresses.

**Effective at 8:00 A.M., May 1, 2024, the western boundary of the Quinault Secondary Special Management Area (SSMA) will move from a line approximating the 27-fathom depth curve to a line approximating the 17-fathom depth curve.** The QIN SSMA remains closed to State fishers until further notice shoreward of a line approximating the 17-fathom depth curve between the mouth of Joe Creek (47°12.25) and Split Rock (47°24.50) according to the following coordinates (coordinate changes are highlighted):

- Northeast Corner (Split Rock): 47°24.50' N. Lat. 124°20.00' W. Lon.
- Northwest Corner: 47°24.50' N. Lat. 124°28.50' W. Lon.
- Southwest Corner: 47°12.25' N. Lat. 124°19.00' W. Lon.
- Southeast Corner (Joe Creek): 47°12.25' N. Lat. 124°12.28' W. Lon.

The southern portion of the QIN SSMA opened to State fishers between Copalis River (47°08.00) and Joe Creek (47°12.25) shoreward of the 27-fathom line on April 15. This area is subject to a 100-pot limit from 8:00 AM on April 15, 2024, until 8:00 AM on May 1, 2024. Fishers must pre-register with WDFW **twenty-four hours** prior to deploying gear in this area by contacting Jamie Fuller at [Jamie.Fuller@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:Jamie.Fuller@dfw.wa.gov) or 360-580-0875.

### SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS (SMA):

#### Quileute SMA

**Effective at 8:00 A.M., May 1, 2024, the Quileute SMA will open to State fishers.** State fishers will be subject to a 100-pot limit in the Quileute SMA from 8:00 AM May 1, 2024, until 8:00 AM June 1, 2024. Fishers must pre-register with WDFW **twenty-four hours** prior to deploying gear in this area by contacting Jamie Fuller at [Jamie.Fuller@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:Jamie.Fuller@dfw.wa.gov) or 360-580-0875.

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 coordinates:

- 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.

#### OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

- **Vessels leaving the fishery must submit a departure report to WDFW before turning off their EM system.** Departure reports must contain vessel name, license number, and departure date. Reports can be sent by email to [Coastal.Crab.EM@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:Coastal.Crab.EM@dfw.wa.gov) or by text to Robert Morgan at 360-480-8596.
- Each crab pot must be rigged with line that is marked with 12 inches of continuous red in at least two places. At a minimum, 12 inches of continuous line must be marked in red, no more than one fathom from the main buoy and no more than one fathom from the pot. WAC 220-340-430 (6ii).
- License owners **MUST** register one unique buoy color scheme per coastal crab license with WDFW. License owners must complete buoy registration **annually** before fishing. If this is your first-time registering buoys for the commercial WA Dungeness crab fishery or you want to change your colors, contact Jamie Fuller at 360-580-0875 to verify your color scheme is available. Buoy registration must be completed using the WDFW online registration form. It requires that you use a smartphone or tablet to take photos of your buoys. To access the registration form visit: <https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/1a6ae9a42a7342d4884f63a089968aa9>. For questions or assistance, contact Jamie Fuller at 360-580-0875 or [Jamie.Fuller@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:Jamie.Fuller@dfw.wa.gov).

If you have any questions pertaining to this notice, contact Jamie Fuller at [Jamie.Fuller@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:Jamie.Fuller@dfw.wa.gov) or 360-580-0875 or Matt George at [Matthew.George@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:Matthew.George@dfw.wa.gov) or 360-640-1066.