

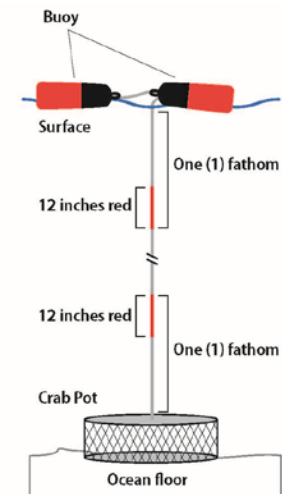
# 2023 Rule Package

## Line Marking

Clarify current rule language

Prohibit marks required in another fishery

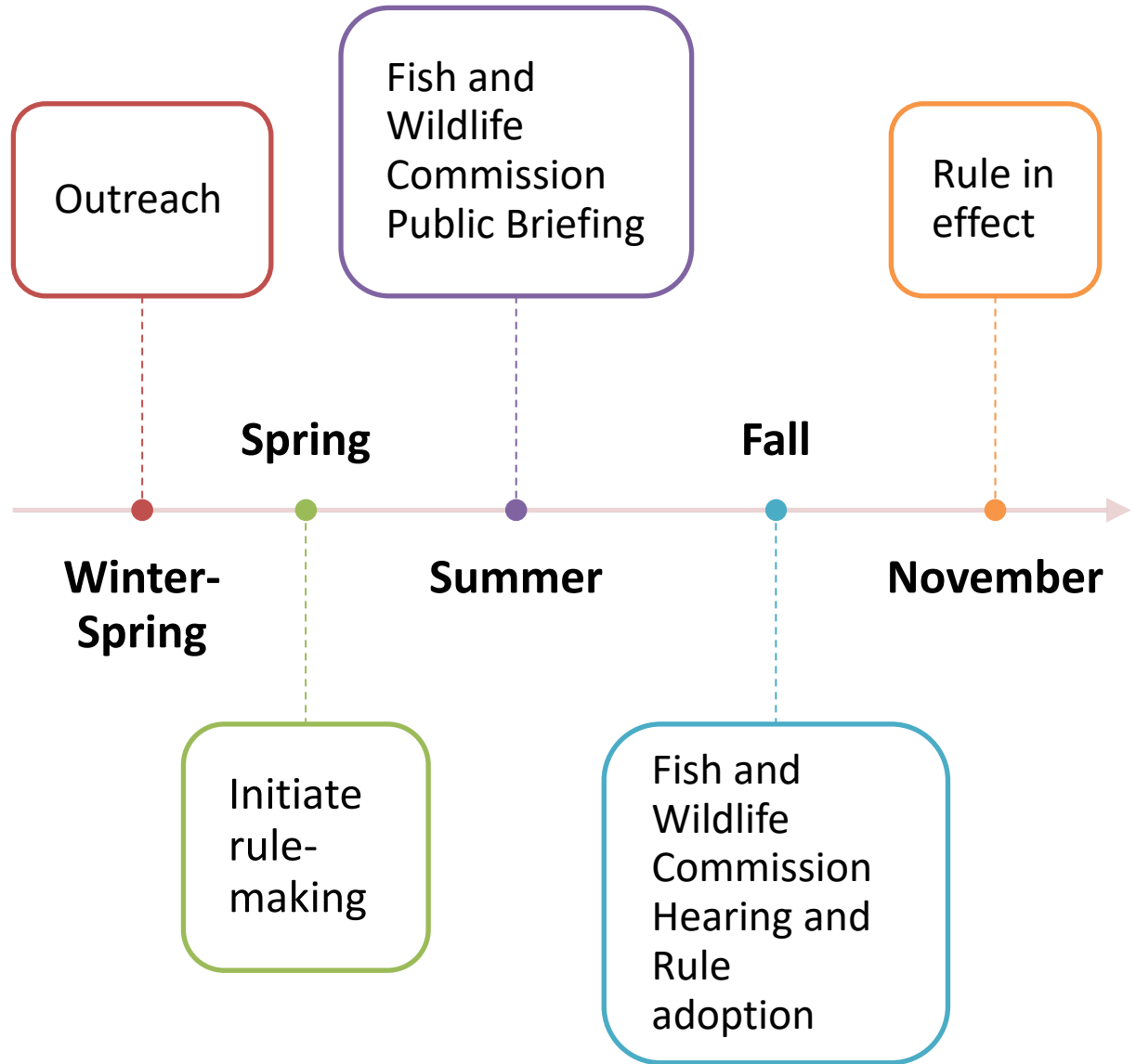
## Electronic Monitoring



# 2023

# Rule Making Timeline

Goal:  
Rules in Place  
by 12/1/2023



# Conservation Plan

## Monitoring Requirements

- a) Improve the reporting and documentation of entanglements using standardized protocols.
  - Get more eyes on the water, improve reporting rate.
    - Use Whale Alert app
    - Complete Level 1 Training
  
- b) Improve the ability of NMFS and the States to identify the origins of reported entanglements.
  - Improve gear marking & identification.
  
- c) Estimate the number or level of takes that occur but are not observed or reported.
  - Develop co-occurrence models, scar accumulation rate info, and a statistically robust method for estimating unobserved take.



# Initial Draft Rule Language

## WAC 220-340-430 Commercial crab fishery—Gear requirements.

### Current Rule

(b)(i) It is unlawful for a coastal Dungeness crab fishery license holder to use line that connects the main buoy to the crab pot that is not marked sufficiently to identify it as gear used in the Washington coastal Dungeness crab fishery.

(ii) For each shellfish pot used in the Washington coastal commercial Dungeness crab fishery and rigged with line, that line must be marked with 12 inches of red in at least two places. At a minimum, 12 inches of line must be marked in red, no more than one fathom from the main buoy and no more than one fathom from the pot.

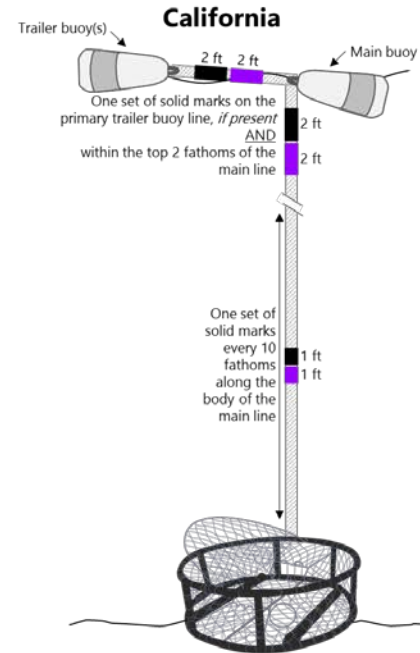
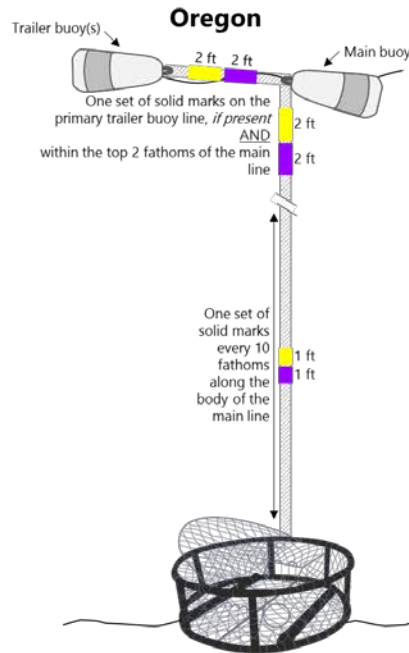
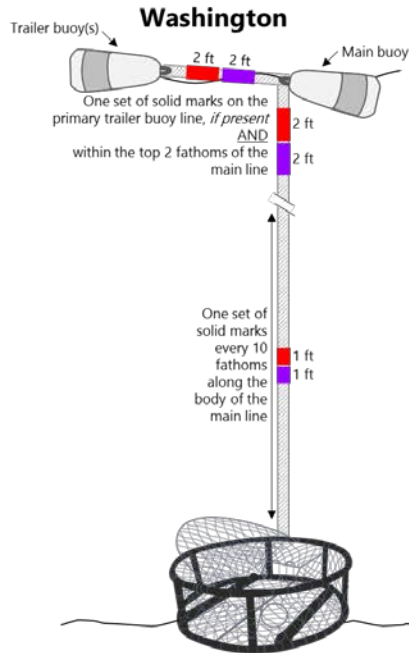
### Preliminary language

“It is unlawful to use commercial Dungeness crab gear in any Washington marine area with a line mark that is required for any state or federal fishery other than the Washington Dungeness crab fishery operating in the US West Coast EZZ, or the state waters of Washington, Oregon, or California.”

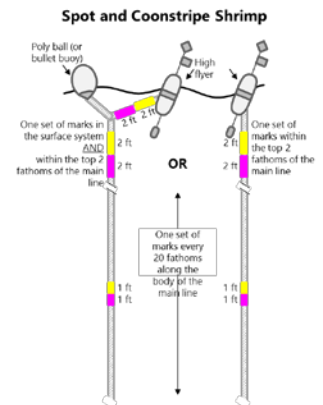
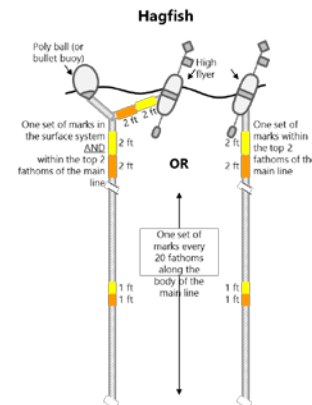
(ii) For each shellfish pot used in the Washington coastal commercial Dungeness crab fishery and rigged with line, that line must be marked with 12 **continuous** inches of red in at least two places. At a minimum, 12 inches of line must be marked in red, no more than one fathom from the main buoy and no more than one fathom from the pot.



# Line Marking Strawman Proposal for West Coast Commercial Crab Fisheries



\*Space between different colored marks should be  $\leq 6$  in within each set



# Electronic Monitoring

## Real-time robust fishing activity data

Fine-scale data at pot level

Confirm catch area and date

- Enables area specific accountability: SMA, Fair Start, Tri-State, Biotoxin/Evisceration
- ESA/MMPA – data to track cooccurrence of gear and marine mammal activity

WDFW Pilot Project

System Options → Technical specifications

### **EM System with Hydraulic Sensor**

- Cheaper
- Less equipment to install and maintain
- Can meet minimum EM needs

### **EM Video Enhanced System with Hydraulic Sensor**

- More expensive
- More equipment
- Bycatch monitoring
- Provides ability to enforce gear tampering



# Questions & Discussion

