



State of Washington
Department of Fish and Wildlife

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November 24, 2025

This is a reminder that all vessels participating in the WA coastal Dungeness crab fishery must have a qualifying electronic monitoring (EM) system installed, activated, and transmitting data to the Pacific States Marine Fishery Commission (PSMFC) before setting gear for the 2025-26 season. More information on EM can be found at this link:

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/commercial/crab/coastal/electronic-monitoring>

REQUIRED STEPS TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH EM RULES

1. Review the Electronic Monitoring Compliance Guide and [WAC 220-340-420](#): The EM Compliance Guide also contains a current list of EM system providers and can be found at: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/commercial/crab/coastal/electronic-monitoring#guide>
2. Ensure the EM system is powered 24/7 while commercial Dungeness crab fishing, as defined by WAC [220-340-400](#). This will require the EM system to be wired directly to a battery power source. The latent power requirements of most EM systems will not drain a vessel's battery during normal fishing activity; refer to a system's specifications to determine battery draw.
3. Determine the location of the hydraulic pressure sensor. The sensor must be installed on the main high pressure supply line between the hydraulic pump and the crab block of a vessel that controls it such that recorded pressure readings show pressure increases during pot hauling activity. For most vessels this will be best located in the engine room.
4. Review instructions on how to install an EM system and **subscribe to a data plan**. If using a LIME system, please visit: <https://www.archipelago.ca/fishvuelime-help>. The EM system should be installed inside the cabin of the vessel with a clear view of the sky and mounted away from large electronics.

Once the EM system has been installed AND a data plan has been purchased, all fishery participants must:

1. Submit an activation report to WDFW. An activation report has been included with this notice and can be found at this link: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/commercial/crab/coastal/electronic-monitoring#activation>. Activation reports should be mailed or emailed to EM program staff using the contact information listed in this notice. Activation reports must be submitted before the vessel begins participating in the coastal Dungeness crab fishery (this includes the 73-hour gear set period).
2. WDFW staff will provide confirmation that the EM system is transmitting data to the provided contact information on the form. Fishers do not need to wait for this confirmation to begin fishing.
3. Fishers are now ready to participate in the coastal Dungeness crab fishery.

When filling out an activation report fishers will need to provide the EM system's device identifier. For the Archipelago LIME system, this will be the serial number displayed on the back of the unit and the box that the unit was shipped. The locations of the serial numbers are highlighted in the following pictures:



For any questions about EM or replacement forms please contact:

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