



State of Washington
Department of Fish and Wildlife

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December 5, 2025

WASHINGTON COASTAL DUNGENESS CRAB INDUSTRY NOTICE

Season Opening Delayed in Washington

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) have agreed to open the commercial Dungeness crab season south of Cape Falcon, OR to the OR/CA border on December 16, 2025. **Fishery managers have made the decision to delay the opening of the 2025-26 Coastal Dungeness crab fishery from Cape Falcon, OR (45° 46'00" N. Lat.) to the US/Canada border through at least December 30, 2025.** This decision was based on crab condition tests conducted by WDFW that do not currently meet the minimum meat recovery criteria (see below).

Tri-State Dungeness Crab Pre-Season Testing Protocols specify that after the second 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 conducted before a season opening date can be confirmed. WDFW will provide additional information regarding the season opening as soon as possible following the completion of the upcoming tests to be completed by December 22, 2025.

WASHINGTON TEST RESULTS

The stations in the Long Beach test area were completed on December 1, 2025. The results for all stations are summarized below.

Test Area	Date	Shell Grade				Meat Recovery	Domoic Acid (ppm) levels per crab
		1A	1B	II	III		
Long Beach	12/1/25	14.9%	35.8%	49.3%	0%	22.4%	No Test

COASTWIDE TEST RESULTS

Coastwide test meat recovery results to date are summarized below and can also be found at this link: https://old.psmfc.org/crab/2025-2026%20files/Tri-StatePreseasonCoastwideResults_2025.pdf

2025 Preseason Coastal Dungeness crab Test Fishery Results for WA, OR, and CA

*Date pots were pulled. **Meat recovery criteria per Tri-State protocol. Percentage meat recovery may not be rounded to meet minimum threshold listed.

Test Area Information			Optional Early Round		Round 1		Round 2		Round 3		Round 4	
Test Area Name	% Meat Recovery Required **	Number of pots	Date*	Meat Recovery %	Date*	Meat Recovery %	Date*	Meat Recovery %	Date*	Meat Recovery %	Date*	Meat Recovery %
Washington												
Northern	23%	n/a	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT				
Westport	23%	54	10/16/25	20.9%	11/11/25	25.0%	NT	NT				
Long Beach	23%	54	NT	NT	11/3/25	21.9%	12/1/25	22.4%				
Oregon												
Astoria (50-A)	23%	36	NT	NT	11/9/25	26.4%	NT	NT				
Garibaldi (50-B)	23%	18	NT	NT	11/9/25	27.1%	NT	NT				
Pacific City (50-C)	23%	18	NT	NT	11/9/25	27.5% [†]	NT	NT				
Newport North (50-D)	24%	18	NT	NT			NT	NT				
Newport South (50-E and 50-F)	24%	36	NT	NT	11/9/25	27.7%	NT	NT				
Coos Bay North (50-G and 50-H)	24%	36	NT	NT	11/9/25	27.4%	NT	NT				
Coos Bay South (50-I and 50-J)	24%	36	NT	NT	11/9/25	27.4%	NT	NT				
Port Orford (50-K)	24%	18	NT	NT	11/9/25	28.7%	NT	NT				
Brookings (50-L)	24%	18	NT	NT	11/9/25	27.5%	NT	NT				
California												
Crescent City	24%	36	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT				
Trinidad	24%	36	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT				
Eureka	24%	36	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT				
District 10 (not bound by Tri-State)												
Bodega Bay		n/a	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT				
San Francisco		n/a	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT				

[†]Oregon areas 50-C and 50-D unintentionally combined onboard vessel

WDFW is grateful to the fishers and processors that work cooperatively with WDFW to successfully complete this important work.

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