



State of Washington
Department of Fish and Wildlife

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January 23, 2026

WASHINGTON COASTAL DUNGENESS CRAB INDUSTRY NOTICE

Quinault PSMA opens

In response to the closure of the Quinault Indian Nation (QIN) Dungeness crab fishery, the Quinault Primary Special Management Area (PSMA) will open to state fishers starting February 3, 2026.

Quinault Primary Special Management Area (PSMA)

The QIN PSMA will open to state fishers **at 8:00 A.M. on February 3, 2026**. The QIN PSMA is defined by the following coordinates:

• Northeast Corner (Raft River):	47° 28.00' N. Lat.	124° 20.70' W. Lon.
• Northwest Corner:	47° 28.00' N. Lat.	124° 34.00' W. Lon.
• Southwest Corner:	47° 08.00' N. Lat.	124° 25.50' W. Lon.
• Southeast Corner (Copalis River):	47° 08.00' N. Lat.	124° 11.20' W. Lon.

Please be advised that the QIN PSMA is opening without a pot limit. Fishery participants are encouraged to be respectful of others when setting gear and to provide adequate spacing to reduce the potential for gear conflicts.

Tribal gear recovery efforts may be underway in the QIN PSMA. It is unlawful to tamper with, fish, or possess tribal gear; provide adequate distance when setting pots within this area to ensure gear recovery can proceed uninterrupted.

FAIR START PROVISIONS:

- **Oysterville (46° 33.00) to Cape Falcon, OR (45° 46.00):** Licenses and vessels designated to those licenses that fish (as defined by WAC 220-340-400) in the coastal commercial Dungeness crab fishery in the waters between CA/OR border and Cape Falcon, OR before this area opens will not be allowed to fish in this area until **9:00 am on January 30, 2026**.
- **Destruction Island (47° 40.50) to U.S./Canada Border:** Licenses and vessels designated to those licenses that fish (as defined by WAC 220-340-400) in the fishery between OR/CA Border and Destruction Island, including Willapa Bay and Grays Harbor, before the area north of Destruction Island opens will not be allowed to fish in this area until **9:00 am on February 8, 2026**.

Licenses and vessels designated to those licenses that fish (set gear) in the area between Klipsan Beach, Washington and the OR-CA border prior to 8:00 AM on January 1, 2026, will be subject to the following fair start provisions:

- **Oysterville (46° 33.00) to Destruction Island (47° 40.50):** Licenses and vessels designated to those licenses that fish (as defined by WAC 220-340-400) in the fishery between OR/CA Border and Klipsan Beach, WA, including Willapa Bay, before the area north of Klipsan Beach opens will not be allowed to fish in this area until **9:00 am on February 8, 2026.**
- **WAC 220-340-400 Definition—Commercial crab fishing:** “Commercial crab fishing” means any taking, fishing, use, or operation of gear to fish for crab for commercial purposes and includes the

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.