



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Fish and Wildlife

Marine Resources Program
2040 SE Marine Science Drive
Newport, OR 97365
(541) 867-4741
FAX (541) 867-0311
www.dfw.state.or.us/mrp/



January 6, 2023

Oregon Ocean Commercial Dungeness Crab Permit Holders and Interested Persons,

In consultation with the crab industry, Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) and California and Washington fishery managers, based on meat recovery and domoic acid results from preseason testing, ODFW is opening the Oregon ocean commercial Dungeness crab season as follows:

Cape Falcon (45° 46' 00" N. Lat.) southward to Cape Arago (43° 17' 00" N. Lat.)

73 hr presoak begins (setting gear): January 12, 8:00AM

Hold Inspections: January 14, see page 3

Start date (pulling gear): January 15, 9:00AM

Cape Falcon (45° 46' 00" N. Lat.) northward to the Oregon/Washington border (42° 15' 00" N. Lat.)

73 hr presoak begins (setting gear): January 29, 8:00AM

Hold Inspections: January 31, see page 4

Start date (pulling gear): February 1, 9:00AM

In consultation with the crab industry, ODA, and California and Washington fishery managers, ODFW is delaying the opening of the area south of Cape Arago to the Oregon/California border. This delay will allow completion of additional testing for domoic acid and help determine a season opening structure for this area.

New closed area transit allowance (by temporary rule):

Vessels may possess and land Dungeness crab in an area that is otherwise closed to take of Dungeness crab for commercial purposes under all the following conditions:

1. Vessel must possess and use an **activated Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)** that is type-approved by the National Marine Fisheries Service Office of Law Enforcement;
2. The vessel's VMS must transmit vessel location, speed and bearing at least every 60 minutes while transiting a closed area;
3. The vessel must maintain **continuous transit** through the closed area until reaching the port of landing designated in their declaration to ODFW;

4. The vessel **must register** with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife at least 72 hours prior to entering a closed area. Vessels shall register by emailing kelly.c.corbett@odfw.oregon.gov a request for registration including all the information listed below (i-vi). An emailed response will be sent acknowledging receipt of registration information and notice of any missing registration information that is required.
 - i. vessel name;
 - ii. vessel captain name and phone number;
 - iii. port where crab will be landed;
 - iv. wholesale fish dealer that crab will be delivered to;
 - v. number of trips anticipated where vessel will enter a closed area;
 - vi. requested start and end date of closed area transit registration.

5. The vessel must make a **declaration prior to each time** the vessel enters a closed area. The declaration shall be made by calling 541-857-2522 and leaving a message with the information listed below. These voicemails will be maintained by ODFW as the record for each declaration.
 - i. vessel name;
 - ii. estimated date and time the vessel will enter closed area;
 - iii. estimated date and time the vessel will leave the closed area;
 - iv. estimated amount of crab on board the vessel;
 - v. any changes from registration information provided to ODFW in the initial closed area transit registration emailed request.

Fair start provision reminders:

A vessel used for fishing crab in any open zone within the Tri-State management area (from WA/Canadian border south to Point Arena, CA) may not be used for fishing crab in any other zone within the Tri-State area that opens at a later date until 30 days after the later opening date, except for any areas delayed due to high marine life concentrations.

Vessel hold inspection reminders:

Vessels must obtain a hold inspection prior to participating in the fishery for the first 30 days after opening. Each inspection certificate must be signed by the vessel operator or owner, not by a crewman.

Please contact us if you have any questions.

Kelly Corbett
Commercial Crab Project Leader
541-270-5083
Kelly.C.Corbett@odfw.oregon.gov

Troy Buell
State Fishery Manager
541-921-0422
Troy.V.Buell@odfw.oregon.gov

2022-23 Oregon Commercial Dungeness Crab South of Cape Falcon Season Opening Schedule

73 hr presoak begins (setting gear): January 12, 8:00AM

Hold Inspections: January 14, see schedule below

Start date (pulling gear): January 15, 9:00AM

Hold Inspection Schedule

Appointments, after hours or for other locations:

(800) 452-7888 or *OSP from a cellphone

LOCATION	TIME
Columbia River Deep Sea Basin Hammond Boat Basin Warrenton Boat Basin Astoria West End/Pier 2	12-12:30 PM By appointment 12:30-2 PM 2-2:30 PM
Garibaldi Boat Basin	11-1 PM
Pacific City	Call after 12 PM
Depoe Bay	Call after 12 PM
Newport South Beach Marina Seafood Proc. Docks- Bay Blvd. Port Dock 3, 5 & 7	12-1 PM 12-4 PM 12-4 PM
Florence	Call after 12 PM
Winchester Bay Boat Basin	11:30-12:30
Charleston Small Boat Basin Charleston Boat Basin Hallmark Fisheries	12-1 PM 1-3 PM 3-4 PM
Bandon	By appointment
Port Orford	By appointment
Brookings Boat Basin Port Docks	By appointment

2022-23 Oregon Commercial Dungeness Crab North of Cape Falcon Season Opening Schedule

73 hr presoak begins (setting gear): January 29, 8:00AM

Hold Inspections: January 31, see schedule below

Start date (pulling gear): February 1, 9:00AM

Hold Inspection Schedule

Appointments, after hours or for other locations:

(800) 452-7888 or *OSP from a cellphone

LOCATION	TIME
Columbia River	
Deep Sea Basin	12-12:30 PM
Hammond Boat Basin	By appointment
Warrenton Boat Basin	12:30-2 PM
Astoria West End/Pier 2	2-2:30 PM