



# Quinault Indian Nation

POST OFFICE BOX 189 • TAHOLAH, WASHINGTON 98587 • TELEPHONE (360) 276-8211

## 2016-17 SEASONAL CRAB REGULATION -06

**Revision – Supersedes previous regulation issued Feb. 22, 2017 and will go into effect on May 5, 2017 at 8:00 AM.**

**Please note the Increased Secondary Special Management Area described below**

**TO:** Quinault Tribal Members  
**FROM:** Quinault Ocean Fishers Committee  
**DATE:** April 26, 2017  
**SUBJECT:** Quinault Indian Nation **Pacific Ocean commercial** crabbing season

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**REASON:** In-season adjustments per co-management agreement.

**SEASON:** Continues through September 15, 2017.

**AREA:** The area open for fishing to all tribal members shall be limited to all Pacific Ocean waters between Point Chehalis (46°53.30' N Lat.) and Destruction Island (47°40.10' N. Lat.), and east of (125°08.50' W Lon.).

- **SECONDARY SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA:** A Quinault-only Secondary Special Management Area (SSMA) is designated per agreement with the State of Washington. This SSMA SMA is described as the area from Raft River to Hogan's Corner shoreward of a line approximating 27 fathoms according to the following points:

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°02.70' N. Lat.	124°24.00' W. Lon.
Southeast Corner (Hogan's Corner):	47°02.70' N. Lat.	124°10.00' W. Lon.

**POT LIMITS:** **Effective January 7, 2017 at 8:00 AM and until further notice**, each vessel registered for the 2016-2017 Quinault Nation commercial crab fishery **is limited to 500 pots total. Beginning December 29, 2016 a maximum of 400 pots may be placed within the SMA area described above.** Pots may be deployed anywhere within the Quinault Usual and Accustomed area between Point Chehalis (46°53.30' N Lat.) and Destruction Island (47°40.10' N. Lat.), and east of (125°08.50' W Lon.) but only 400 per registered fisher are allowed in the SMA area.

**REGULATIONS:** It is unlawful for any person to take, or possess for commercial purposes female Dungeness crabs. Only male Dungeness crabs measuring 6-1/4 inches or more, caliper measurement, across the back immediately in front of the tips may be retained. Retention and/or sale of softshell crab are prohibited. There is no bag limit or quota. All crab harvested in the fishery shall be sold to the Quinault Tribal Enterprise or authorized agents of the Quinault Indian Nation. The use of long-line gear is permitted. Crab pots must have at least two (2), 4-1/4 inch minimum, inside-diameter escape rings and the lids secured with biodegradable cotton-twine.



**2016-17 Seasonal Ocean Commercial Crab Regulation-06 continued...**

**OFFLOADING NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:** It is a violation to offload any ocean crab unless the following requirements have been met:

1. Vessel skipper is required to contact Taholah Police Department dispatch at **360-276-4423 (or 4424)** before entering Grays Harbor with ocean crab.
2. The skipper will provide the following information when they call: Time of arrival, estimated time of off-load, and location of off-load in Westport.

All calls will be logged by Taholah Police Department for proof of compliance and Fisheries Enforcement Officers will be notified. Failure to follow these requirements will be a violation of this regulation.

**REPORTING:** All catch including ceremonial and subsistence must be reported on fish receiving tickets. Dungeness Crab shall be sold only to Quinalt authorized commercial fish buyers. The sale of Dungeness Crab harvested for ceremonial and subsistence use is prohibited. All approved Buyers are required to indicate, on the fish receiving tickets, the name of the Authorized Fisher who caught the crab. In the event that an individual other than that Authorized Fisher is selling it on the Authorized Fisher's behalf, the individual selling the crab must also be indicated on the fish receiving ticket. A list of currently approved Authorized Fishers is kept in the QDNR Permits Office.

**Due to potential health concerns with biotoxins it is important to report catch areas as accurately as possible on fish landing tickets.**

**GEAR IDENTIFICATION:** All crab pots, whether attended or unattended, must be clearly marked on the buoy with the fisher's tribal identification number preceded by the number 18.

**GEAR REGISTRATION:** Before participating in the 2016-17 Dungeness crab fishery it is the responsibility of Quinalt Fishers to register buoy colors, buoy identification number and amount of crab pots being fished with the Quinalt Fish and Game secretary. **Fishing prior to meeting these requirements is illegal and a violation of this regulation.**

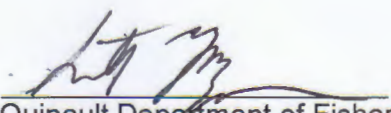
**ELECTRONIC MONITORING:** All fishermen participating in this fishery must comply with the **2016-17 Ocean Crab Electronic Monitoring Regulation.**

**AUTHORIZED FISHERMEN:** Only individuals who possess a Quinalt Indian Nation identification card are authorized to fish in Quinalt Ocean fisheries. Nonmember spousal assistance is not authorized in any Quinalt Ocean Fishery.

**GEAR REMOVAL:** A crab fishers must remove his or her crab fishing gear from the ocean waters described by this regulation when the fishery closes or when he or she has discontinued fishing per Quinalt Derelict Gear Regulations.

**JUSTIFICATION:** The recent test fishery results indicate that crab condition is healthy and harvestable, provided processing guidelines are followed.

  
for QDNR Director

  
Quinalt Department of Fisheries