



Quinault Indian Nation

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

2017-18 SEASONAL CRAB REGULATION - 04

Revision – Supersedes previous regulation issued March 15, 2018 and will go into effect on May 10, 2018 at 8:00 AM.

(Please note change to Secondary Special Management Area section below)

TO: Quinault Tribal Members
FROM: Quinault Ocean Fishers Committee
DATE: May 2, 2018
SUBJECT: Quinault Indian Nation **Pacific Ocean commercial** crabbing season

REASON: To address principles and objectives of 2017-2018 Dungeness Crab Harvest Management Plan; Management Objectives - Section 4.3 and Inseason Catch Accounting and Data Sharing - Section 6.0.

SEASON: Continues through September 15, 2018.

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 west to 30 nautical miles offshore.

SECONDARY SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA: The Quinault-only Secondary Special Management Area (SSMA) is modified May 10, 2018 at 8:00 am to address objectives of the Dungeness Crab Harvest Management Plan with the State of Washington. The SSMA is modified to be the area north of Joe Creek (47°12.25' N. Lat.) and south of Split Rock (47°24.50' N. Lat.) shoreward of a line extending between the southwestern coordinate (47°12.25' N. Lat.; 124°27.50' W. Long.) and northwestern coordinate (47°24.50' N. Lat.; 124°32.40' W. Long.).

POT LIMITS: **Effective May 10, 2018 at 8:00 AM and until further notice**, each vessel registered for the 2017-2018 Quinault Nation commercial crab fishery is limited to **500 pots total with a maximum of 400 pots placed within the SSMA 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 SSMA area described.

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.

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

2017-18 Seasonal Ocean Commercial Crab Regulation - 04 cont.

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 Quinault 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.

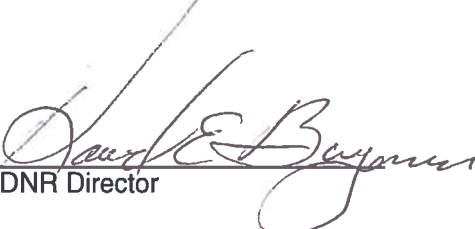
GEAR REGISTRATION: Before participating in the 2017-18 Dungeness crab fishery it is the responsibility of Quinault Fishers to register buoy colors, buoy identification number and amount of crab pots being fished with the Quinault Fish and Game secretary. **Fishing prior to meeting these requirements is illegal and a violation of this regulation.**

ELECTRONIC MONITORING: All fishermen participating in this fishery must comply with the **2017-18 Ocean Crab Electronic Monitoring Regulation.**

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

GEAR REMOVAL: All crab fishermen 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 Quinault Derelict Gear Regulations.

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


QDNR Director


Quinault Fisheries Policy Spokesperson