



# Quinault Indian Nation

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## 2015-16 SEASONAL REGULATION

**TO:** Quinault Tribal Members  
**FROM:** Quinault Department of Fisheries  
**DATE:** November 17, 2015  
**SUBJECT:** Quinault Indian Nation **Pacific Ocean ceremonial and subsistence** crabbing season starting November 19, 2015.

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**Fishery/Purpose:** To establish continuous framework crab harvest regulation for the 2015-16 fishing season for the Quinault Indian Nation.

**SEASON:** November 19, 2015 through September 15, 2016. It is lawful to set baited crab gear and pull gear starting at 08:00 am Thursday November 19, 2015

**AREA:** The area open for fishing to all tribal members shall be limited to all Pacific Ocean waters between Point Chehalis (46°53'18"N.) and Destruction Island (47°40'06" N.), and east of (125°08'30" W).

**REGULATIONS:** It is unlawful for any person to take, or possess for ceremonial and subsistence purposes female or softshell Dungeness crabs. Only male Dungeness crabs measuring 6 inches or more, caliper measurement, across the back immediately in front of the tips may be retained. Barter or sale of crab taken for C&S purposes is prohibited. **A maximum of 100 pounds of crab per vessel per landing may be used for C&S unless the Ocean Committee has provided prior written authorization.** Crab pots must have at least two (2) 4-1/8 inch minimum inside diameter escape rings and the lids secured with biodegradable cotton twine. **Absolutely no crab may be landed after September 15, 2016.**

The skipper/owner of any vessel who violates this regulation is subject to penalties allowed by law, which include a maximum fine of \$5,000 per day per violation and possible seizure and forfeiture of the vessel. Crew and owners convicted of repeated violations of C&S restrictions will also risk loss of future privileges to participate in the Quinault crab fishery.

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

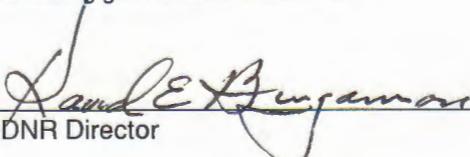
**GEAR IDENTIFICATION:** All crab pots, whether attended or unattended, must be clearly marked on the buoy with the fisher's tribal identification number preceded by the number 18.

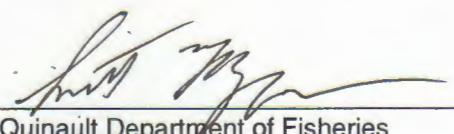
**GEAR REGISTRATION:** Before participating in the 2015-16 Dungeness crab fishery it is the responsibility of Quinault Fishers to register buoy colors, buoy identification number and amount of crab pots being fished with the Quinault Fish and Game secretary. No fishing is allowed until this requirement is met.

**AUTHORIZED FISHERMEN:** Only Quinault Indian Nation members who possess a Quinault Indian Nation identification card and authorized spouses or children are allowed to fish.

**GEAR REMOVAL:** All pots shall be removed when the fishery closes.

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

  
QDNR Director

  
Quinault Department of Fisheries

Persons wishing to comment on this regulation should file comments with the secretary of the Quinault Fish and Game Commission within 10 days of this posting. The Quinault Business Committee will consider whether to enact this regulation as a permanent regulation on or before its next meeting.