

POINT NO POINT TREATY COUNCIL SECTION 4.6 CRAB REGULATION FOR REGION 3

The following regulation is promulgated by the Point No Point Treaty Council and shall govern the conduct of off-reservation commercial Dungeness crab fisheries by the Port Gamble S'Klallam and the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribes in Region 3. The term of this regulation is from June 1, 2023 through May 31, 2024, unless superceded, and is intended to regulate the Dungeness crab harvest by the Port Gamble and Jamestown Tribes in Region 3 under provisions of Paragraph 4.6 of United States v. Washington, 898 F. supp. 1453 (W.D. Wash. 1995), as amended by the Stipulation and Order Amending Shellfish Implementation Plan, dated April 8, 2002, (hereafter "Implementation Order"). In the event the Region 3 Crab Harvest Management Plan is completed before the end of this regulation term, this regulation will be superceded by a new regulation as needed conforming to the provisions of the Region 3 Crab Harvest Management Plan.

FILING ORGANIZATION: POINT NO POINT TREATY COUNCIL

REGULATION NUMBER: #S23-139

DATE ADOPTED: SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

REGULATION MODIFIED REGULATION #S23-057, SECTIONS 5 AND 7a.

REGULATION SUPERCEDED: NONE

CATCH AREAS: CRUSTACEAN MANAGEMENT REGION 3, DESCRIBED AS:  
SUBREGION 3-2 (SHELLFISH CATCH REPORTING AREAS 25A, 25E AND 23D).

FISHERY TYPE: COMMERCIAL

SPECIES: DUNGENESS CRAB (*Metacarcinus magister*) AND RED ROCK CRAB (*Cancer productus*)

ON/OFF RESERVATION: OFF

EFFECTIVE DATES: SEPTEMBER 16 THROUGH 18, 2023

DAYS/HOURS:

1. FOR THE PORT GAMBLE S'KLALLAM TRIBE AND THE JAMESTOWN S'KLALLAM TRIBE: OPEN 10:00 AM SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2023, CLOSE 4:00 PM MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2023, OR UNTIL THE TRIBAL SHARE IS REACHED, WHICHEVER COMES FIRST.

2. POTS MAY ONLY BE CHECKED FROM 30 MINUTES BEFORE SUNRISE TO 30 MINUTES AFTER SUNSET EACH DAY.

LEGAL GEAR:

1. POT LIMITS FOR EACH OF THE AREAS WILL BE AS FOLLOWS (ALLOWED POTS PER VESSEL IMPLIES NO MORE THAN ONE VESSEL PER FISHER):
  - a. FOR SUBREGION 3-2, A TOTAL OF 50 POTS PER VESSEL FOR ALL CATCH REPORTING AREAS COMBINED;
  - b. FOR DUNGENESS BAY (ALL WATERS OF DUNGENESS BAY WEST OF THE 123° 6.50' LONGITUDE LINE FROM THE NEW DUNGENESS LIGHT): 35 POTS PER VESSEL;
  - c. FOR SEQUIM BAY (ALL WATERS OF SEQUIM BAY SOUTH OF A LINE TRUE WEST FROM TRAVIS SPIT TO THE MILLER PENINSULA): 20 POTS PER VESSEL;
  - d. FOR DISCOVERY BAY (AREA 25E, INCLUDING ALL WATERS SOUTH OF A LINE FROM CONTRACTORS POINT TO TUKEY POINT): 20 POTS PER VESSEL;
2. A BUOY MAY BE ANY COLOR EXCEPT FOR A COMBINATION OR RED AND WHITE. IF ANY PORTION OF A BUOY IS RED, NO REMAINING PORTION MAY BE WHITE. IF ANY PORTION OF A BUOY IS WHITE, NO REMAINING PORTION MAY BE RED.
3. LONGLINE FISHING IS PERMITTED. A MAXIMUM OF 5 POTS PER LONGLINE IS ALLOWED.

HARVEST RESTRICTIONS:

1. THE MINIMUM SIZE FOR HARVEST IS 6 1/4 INCHES FOR DUNGENESS CRAB AND 5 INCHES FOR RED ROCK CRAB. MINIMUM SIZE IS MEASURED AS CALIPER LENGTH ACROSS THE BACK OF THE CRAB, IMMEDIATELY IN FRONT OF THE TIPS.
2. ONLY MALE CRAB MAY BE TAKEN.
3. RECENTLY MOLTED, SOFT-SHELLED CRAB MAY NOT BE TAKEN. ALL CRAB TAKEN MUST BE CHECKED FOR SHELL HARDNESS.
4. IT IS UNLAWFUL FOR FISHERS TO RETAIN AND POSSESS ANY FEMALE, UNDERSIZED AND SOFT-SHELLED CRABS. ALL FEMALE, UNDERSIZED AND SOFT-SHELLED DUNGENESS CRABS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE WATER UNHARMED.

EXPECTED HARVEST:

1. THE TARGET HARVEST FOR THIS OPENING IS ~100,000 POUNDS.

OTHER RESTRICTIONS:

1. IT IS UNLAWFUL TO REMOVE FROM THE WATER OR TAMPER WITH ANOTHER FISHER'S CRAB GEAR. ANY CRAB GEAR FOUND WITHOUT LEGIBLE IDENTIFICATION MARKINGS MUST BE TURNED IN TO THE TRIBAL FISHERIES OFFICE. FISHERS WISHING TO TEND THE GEAR OF ANOTHER FISHER ON A TEMPORARY BASIS MUST OBTAIN A GEAR-TENDING PERMIT SPECIFIC TO THAT FISHER, FROM THEIR TRIBAL FISHERIES OFFICE. TRIBAL FISHERIES STAFF MAY DECLINE REQUESTS FOR PERMITS. PERMITS WILL BE VALID FOR A LIMITED PERIOD OF TIME. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS AVAILBLE FROM THE RESPECTIVE TRIBAL FISHERIES STAFF.

2. ALL COMMERCIAL CRAB SALES INTENDED FOR RESALE MUST BE MADE TO TRIBALLY APPROVED BUYERS WHO HAVE FILLED OUT A BUYER'S AGREEMENT WITH EITHER THE PORT GAMBLE OR JAMESTOWN TRIBE.
3. FISHERS MUST ADHERE TO ANY TRIBAL SOCIAL DISTANCING PROTOCOLS WHILE AT THE BOAT LAUNCH AND ON THE WATER.

REGISTRATION:

ALL TRIBAL FISHERS PLANNING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE REGION 3 CRAB FISHERY MUST REGISTER AT THE TRIBAL FISHERIES OFFICE PRIOR TO FISHING. AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION, FISHERS SHALL REPORT THE NUMBER OF POTS TO BE USED AND POTENTIAL BUYERS THAT FISHERS INTEND TO SELL TO.

CATCH REPORTING:

1. ALL COMMERCIAL CATCHES SHALL BE REPORTED ON TREATY INDIAN FISH RECEIVING TICKETS. THE WEIGHT OF ALL CRAB RECEIVED AND NOT PURCHASED FOR ANY REASON SHALL BE RECORDED AS TAKE HOME OR SPECIES CODE 20-561 ON TREATY INDIAN FISH RECEIVING TICKETS. ALL SUBSISTENCE CRAB HARVEST SHALL BE REPORTED ON SHELLFISH SUBSISTENCE CARDS. CARDS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE TRIBAL FISHERIES OFFICE.
2. JAMESTOWN TRIBAL BUYERS MUST RETURN COMPLETED FISH TICKETS INTO JAMESTOWN'S FISHERIES OFFICE NO LATER THAN 6 DAYS FOLLOWING COMMERCIAL HARVEST.

LOST GEAR REPORTING:

1. ALL FISHERS MUST REPORT LOST GEAR TO ENFORCEMENT IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE FISHERY.
2. PORT GAMBLE FISHERS MUST FILL OUT A LOST POT FORM AND SUBMIT IT TO THEIR RESPECTIVE NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE WITHIN 24 HOURS OF THE CLOSE OF THE FISHERY.

JUSTIFICATION:

CONTINUE TREATY HARVEST OF AVAILABLE CRAB IN SUBREGION 3-2.