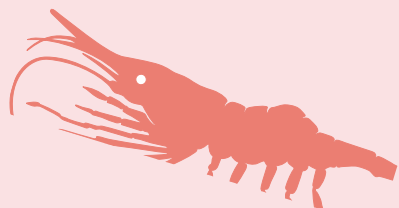


2018 Washington Pink Shrimp Fishery Newsletter



Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Region 6 Shellfish Management Program
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This newsletter provides a summary of the Washington commercial pink shrimp (*Pandalus jordani*) trawl fishery for the 2017 season and information for the 2018 season of interest to industry participants.

For additional fishery information go to:
<http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/commercial/shrimp/>



2017 Season Summary

The 2017 Coastal Pink Shrimp fishery saw a similar decline in total pounds landed as occurred during the 2016 season, after the record breaking 2014 and 2015 seasons. During the 2017 season, which opened on April 1 and ended on October 31, a total of 6.7 million pounds were landed (Figure 1). This level of harvest is below the 9.0 million pounds 10-year historical average (excluding the very large landings in 2014 and 2015). The number of limited entry permits in 2017 remained at 81 having dropped in 2016 from 83 which had been a consistent level since 2010; the number of actively fished licenses also decreased from a high in 2015 of 40 to 21 in 2017 (Figure 1). The total ex-vessel or direct value followed the decrease in total landings to \$3.1 million (Figure 2). This is a marked decline from the 2016 high of over \$29 million. The weighted average price per pound was 46 cents down from 61 cents in 2016 and 72 cents in 2015, and closer to the 15 year average of 44 cents (Figure 3). This reduction in price reflected softened global market conditions. The majority of shrimp (44%) were landed at a price of 43 cents

per pound, with 32% sold at 48 cents per pound.

Similar to the 2017 season, the majority (62%) of the landed catch came from the mid-coast of Washington, with 34% from north coast catch areas (Figure 4). During the 2017 season only 4% of the season total came from out-of-state waters (Oregon and California), compared to a 15-year average of 23% coming from out-of-state. While the fishery opened on April 1, no landings occurred before May 5. This was due to price discussions, and concerns with small shrimp. Landings peaked in the month of June at 1.99 million pounds dropping off some in July, followed by more considerable declines in August and September (Figure 5). There were only four very small landings in October with the last on October 2. As directed by permanent regulation, the fishery season closed October 31.

Some fishers reported anecdotally that shrimp were detected off shrimping beds, or “over edge” of the continental shelf where shrimp trawling is not possible. These reports are consistent with other

Continued next page

observations by some skippers in the Westport charter boat fleet reporting rockfish had moved from typical locations. These observations are consistent with those by University of Washington oceanographers who documented an unusually intense and extended period of low dissolved oxygen conditions along the Washington coast during the late summer and fall of 2017.

The overall lower than average catch during the 2017 season is a linked to the unusual drop of landings in the latter portion of the season which may very likely be tied to the low oxygen, hypoxia conditions.

Fishery Landing Statistics

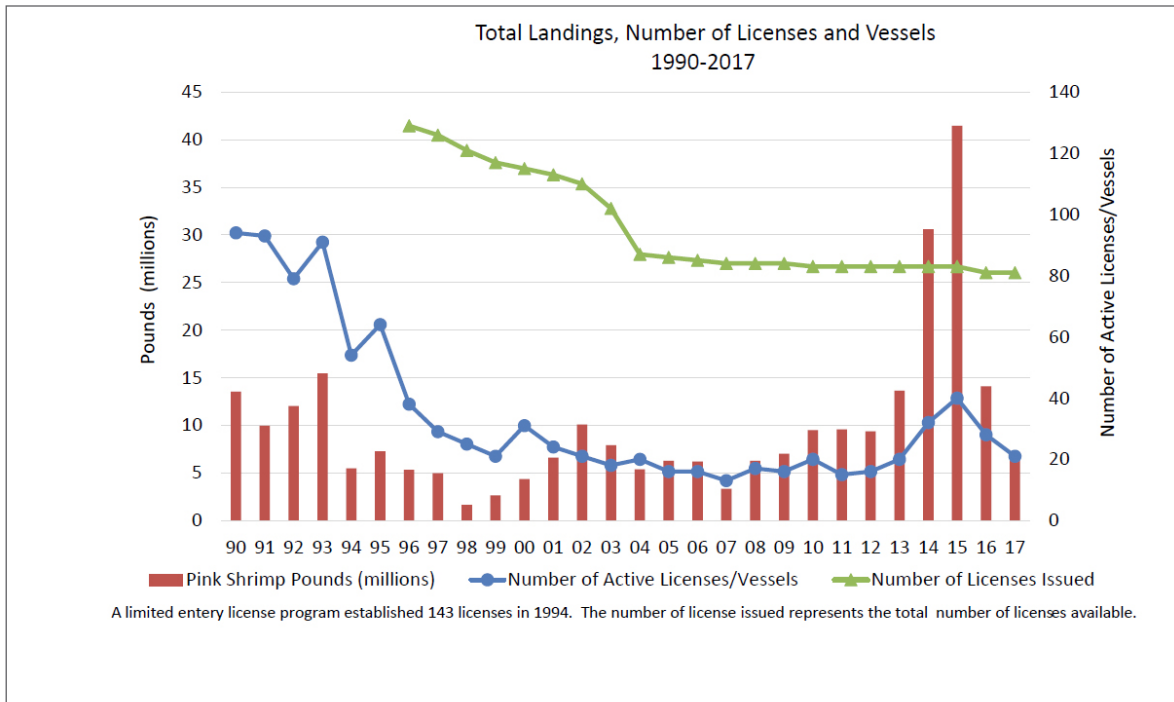


Figure 1. Washington pink shrimp fishery landings (pounds), number of active vessels and number of limited entry licenses, 1990-2017.

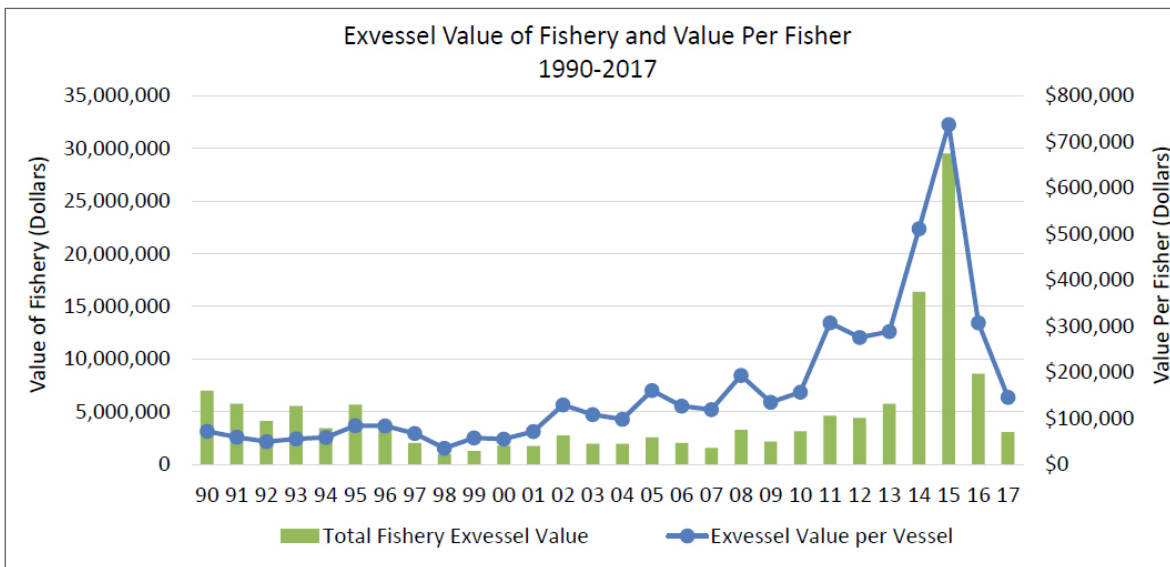


Figure 2. Washington pink shrimp total fishery ex-vessel value and value per fisher, 1990-2017.

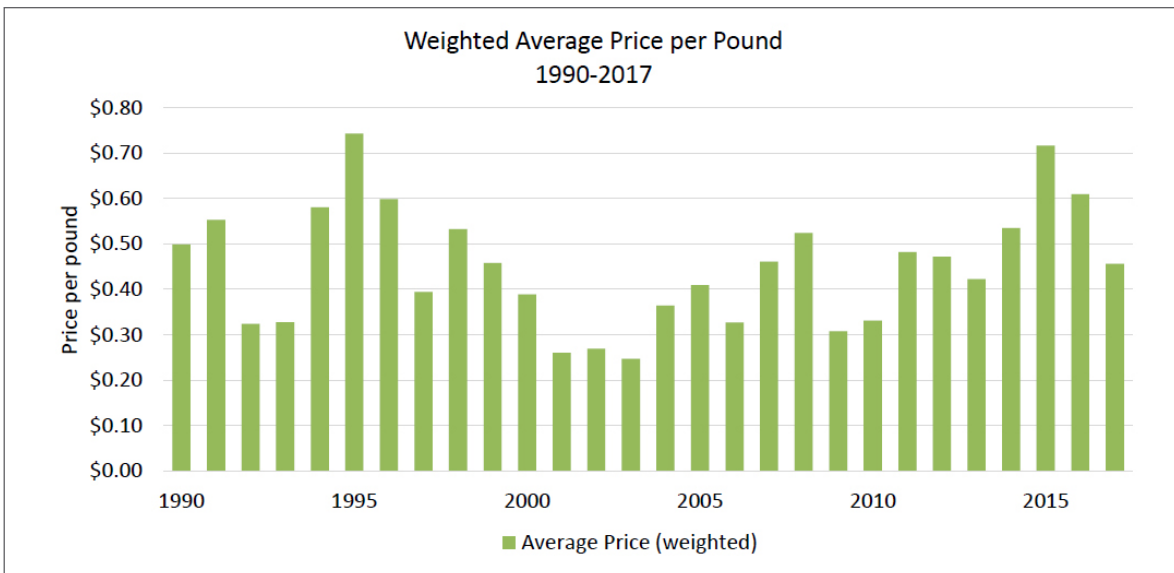


Figure 3. Washington pink shrimp fishery weighted average price per pound (1990-2017).

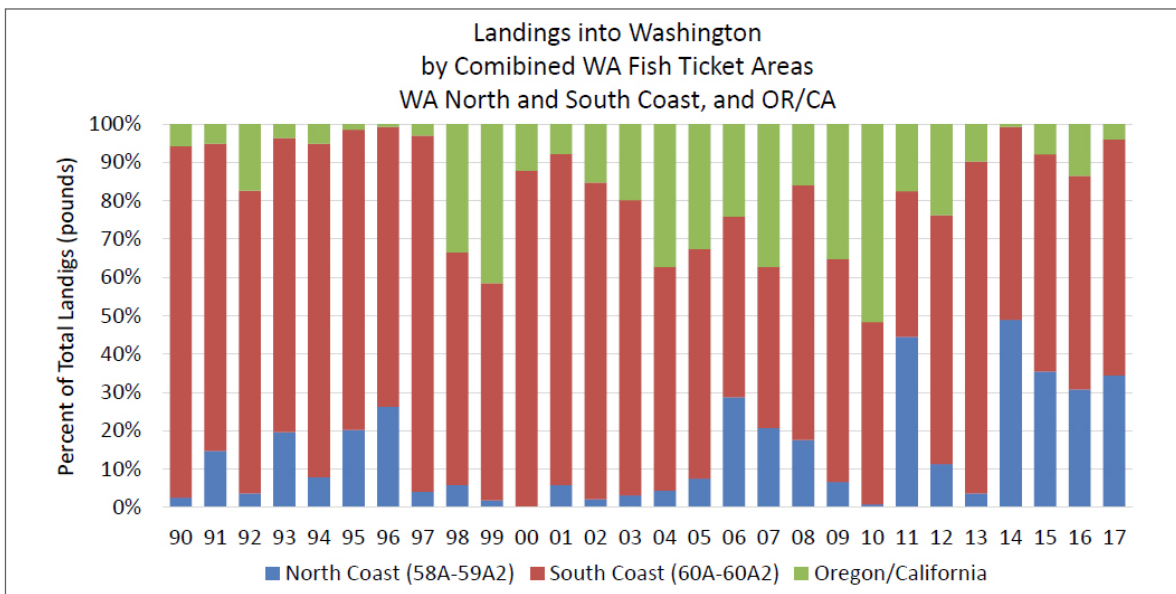


Figure 4. Washington shrimp fishery catch by combined fish ticket areas, 1990-2017.

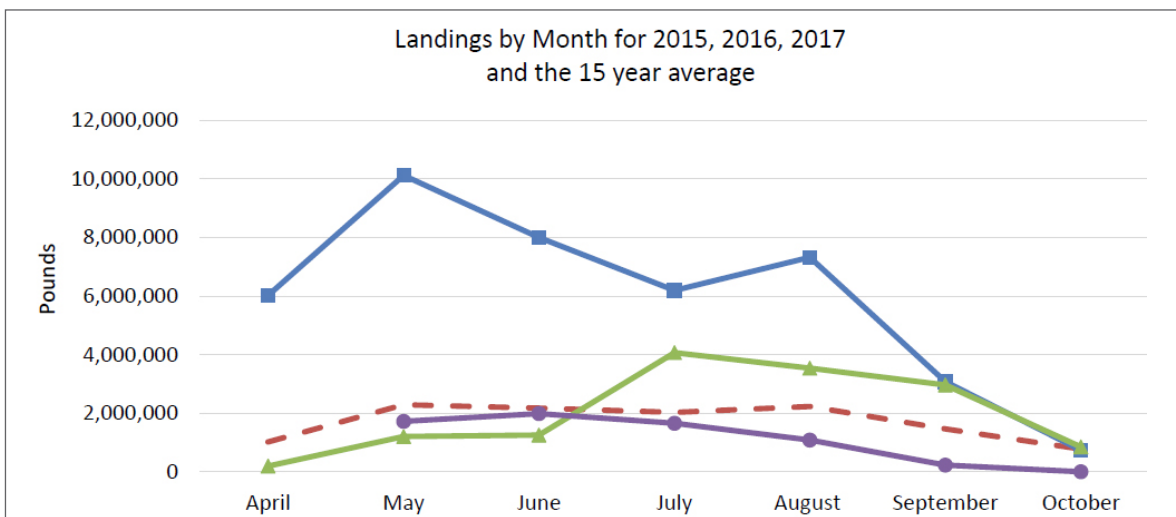


Figure 5. Washington pink shrimp landings by month for 2015, 2016, 2017 and the 15 year average.

2017 Research Plan

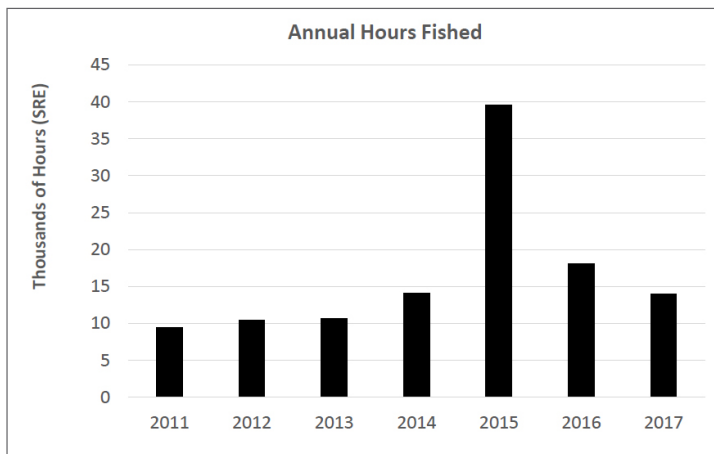


Figure 6. Estimated total annual hours fished, 2011-2017.

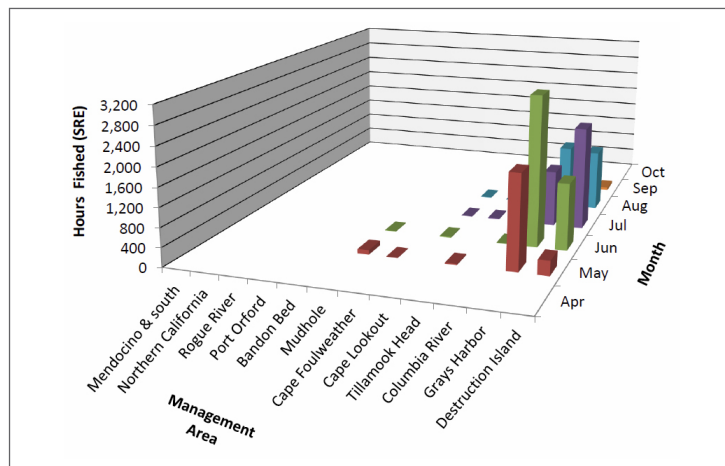


Figure 7. Estimated total hours fished by month and management area for 2017.

Fishing Effort, Catch Distribution and Rates

The majority of vessels landing shrimp into Washington tow two nets, known as “double-rig.” However, hours fished are estimated in single-rig equivalents or SRE*. Total effort – the number of hours fished – for the season decreased again in 2017 compared to 2016 (Figure 6). This is not surprising, given there were no shrimp landings into Washington in April and only a few trips in late September that landed shrimp in early October (Figure 7). Effort was focused in June in the Grays Harbor area, shifting north to the Destruction Island area in July. Fishing in August was split fairly evenly between the two areas. Only a small amount of time was spent fishing in either area in September.

Continuing a recent year trend, shrimpers stayed closer to “home” in 2017 as shown in the heat map (Figure 8). The heat map plots the “footprint” of the fishery with the color intensity changing from white to pink to red as more shrimp are caught in a particular location. The deep red zones are literally the fishing “hot spots.” Nearly 98% of the shrimp landed into Washington were caught in the Grays Harbor and Destruction Island areas. This compares to 88% in 2016.

But not all shrimp caught offshore Washington are landed here. The coastal pink shrimp fishery operates in federal waters and is open to licensed fishers in Oregon and California. In 2017, 11% of the shrimp landed into Oregon were caught off the central and north coast of Washington. This is a marked decrease from 2016 when 30% of the shrimp landed into Oregon originated from these two areas¹. (One advantage of producing this newsletter after the Oregon Shrimp Review is published is we are able to compare our season results with the Oregon fishery. We highly recommend you read that excellent report.)

Catches were highest during May and June in the Grays Harbor area and declined through the rest of the summer (Figure 9). To the north, catches were lower earlier in the season, peaking in July.

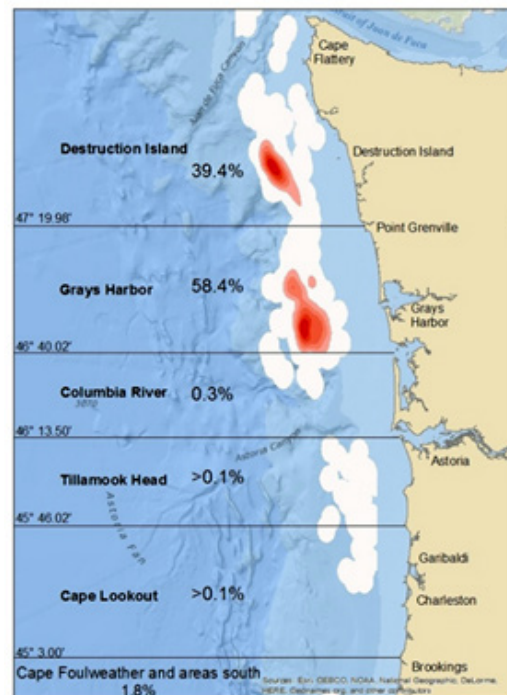


Figure 8. Distribution, by percent, of pink shrimp catch landed into Washington by management area in 2017.

* Single Rig Equivalents (SRE)

We measure effort in “single rig equivalents or (SRE). Fishing hours for vessels towing one net (single-rig) are used as reported in logbooks, whereas, fishing hours for vessels towing two nets (double-rig) are multiplied by 1.6. This accounts for the greater efficiency of double-rigs.

¹ Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2018. Pink shrimp review. 16 pp. http://www.dfw.state.or.us/mrp/shellfish/commercial/shrimp/docs/29th_APSR_2018.pdf

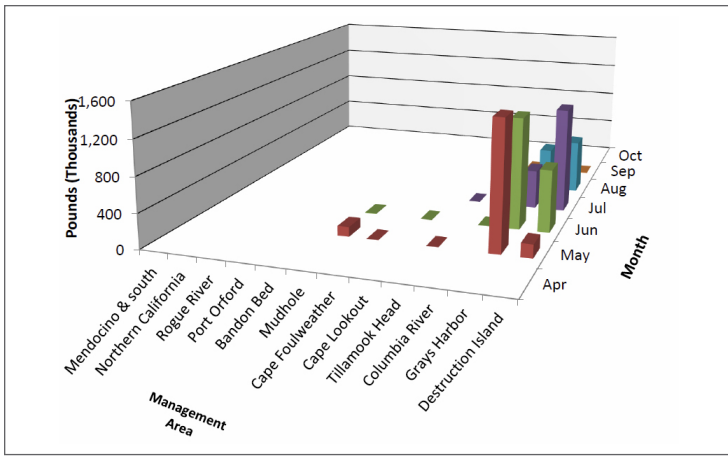


Figure 9. Estimated total pink shrimp pounds landed into WA by management area and month in 2017.

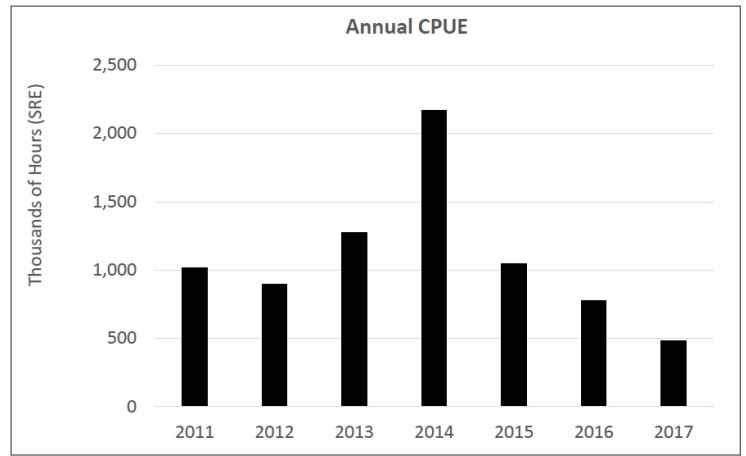


Figure 10. Estimated average annual pink shrimp pounds caught per SRE hour landed into Washington, 2011-2017.

Pink shrimp catch rates fell again in 2017 (Figure 10) and are the lowest observed since the fishery logbook program was reinstated in 2011. Catch rate here is estimated by dividing total catch by total SRE hours fished. The 2017 rate is consistent with lower shrimp biomass. We lack a long data set for comparison, but Oregon catch rates declined in 2017 and were similar to values the fishery experienced in the early 2000's. Catch rates were highest in the spring across all areas, and highest overall in areas off Oregon (Figure 11).

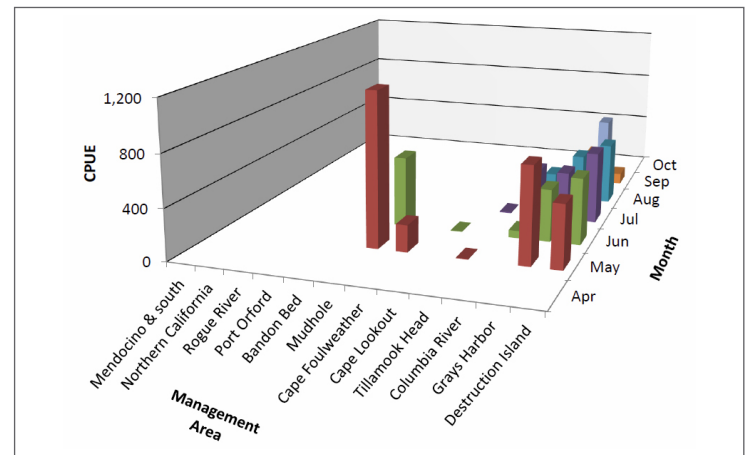


Figure 11. Estimated average pink shrimp pounds caught per SRE hour by Management area and Month, landed into Washington in 2017.

Biological Sampling

Count per Pound

Monthly biological sampling of commercial landings provides count per pound, length, and sex information. In 2017, we sampled 34 landings from three management areas at Westport (Table 1). Because we lack staff to cover Ilwaco adequately, we assume landings into Westport are representative of the fishery generally.

Our sampling found that in six (6) samples counts exceeded 160 per pound, which is the legal maximum. Four (4) of the six (6) samples were from May, and the counts for all but one of these topped 170. The other two samples collected in July fell in the mid-160 range. The protocols we follow for biological sampling are not as stringent as the legal requirements for enforcing count per pound. Yet, as spot-checks, the data suggest a need to monitor size more carefully, especially earlier in the season.

Shrimp Age Classes

Shrimp age is estimated from grouped carapace length measurements. Pink shrimp have short life spans, living about three years. They also lack a physical structure or body part that can be used to determine age, instead individual lengths are plotted and the “modes” or most frequent values represent age groupings. Figure 12 plots the

Month	Management Area	Samples (100 shrimp each)	Total Samples
May	Columbia River	2	9
	Grays Harbor	7	
June	Grays Harbor	6	7
	Destruction Is.	1	
July	Grays Harbor	2	7
	Destruction Is.	5	
August	Grays Harbor	5	7
	Destruction Is.	2	
Sept	Columbia River	1	4
	Grays Harbor	3	
Total			34

Table 1. Samples by month and management area, 2017.

length distributions of pink shrimp sampled in 2017. Here we include data collected at Westport and data provided to us from Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). The data from Oregon were from vessels that fished offshore Washington and landed their catch in Oregon ports. This nearly doubled the amount of data and improved our ability to see the year-class groups or “bumps.”

The monthly series of plots show the catch in 2017 was comprised largely of two year-classes: 2015 (age 2) and 2016 (age 1). The 2014 year-class was poor so it not surprising we see little evidence (flat line extending past age 2 bump) of age 3’s in the catch. Likewise, there is little indication of age 0’s (released in 2017) which would appear to the left of the age 1 bump from August onward. Age 0’s will be age-1 for the 2018 season. However, even by combining Oregon and Washington data sets, we still lacked data for October when stronger indications of age 0’s might be more likely.

Eulachon Management and Research

Eulachon (Columbia River smelt, Pacific smelt) management and research is primarily handled by the Columbia River Management Unit based at the agency’s Southwest Region office in Ridgefield. Program managers provided the following to highlight WDFW accomplishments in 2017 to better understand eulachon population abundance and dynamics (Figures 13-15):

- Conducted presence/absence surveys in various coastal river systems and tributaries of the Columbia River to better understand the distribution of the species.
- Continued annual spawning stock biomass estimation for the mainstem Columbia River eulachon population (upstream from the estuary).
- Compared the patterns of SSB estimations for the Columbia River eulachon populations with those from other populations, such as the Fraser River.

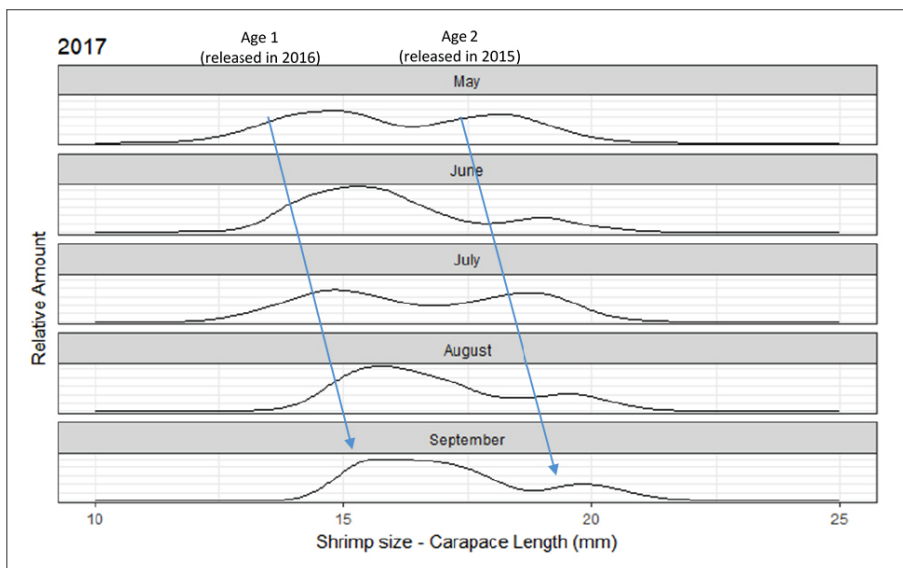


Figure 12. Size distribution of pink shrimp caught in May through September. Although the fishery is open April to October, little to no fishing occurred in those months offshore Washington in 2017.

- Continued collaboration with the Cowlitz Indian Tribe to develop SSB estimations for the Cowlitz River, in order to better understand the distribution of spawning in the Columbia River mainstem and its tributaries.
- WDFW worked with Oregon State University Department of Fisheries and Wildlife to test eDNA methods to assess relative abundance of Eulachon and Longfin Smelt DNA in the Chehalis River Basin. Analysis of the results of this study are underway, but we can report that both Eulachon and Longfin Smelt DNA were detected in the Chehalis Basin.
- WDFW filled the only non-NMFS position on the Eulachon Recovery Team.

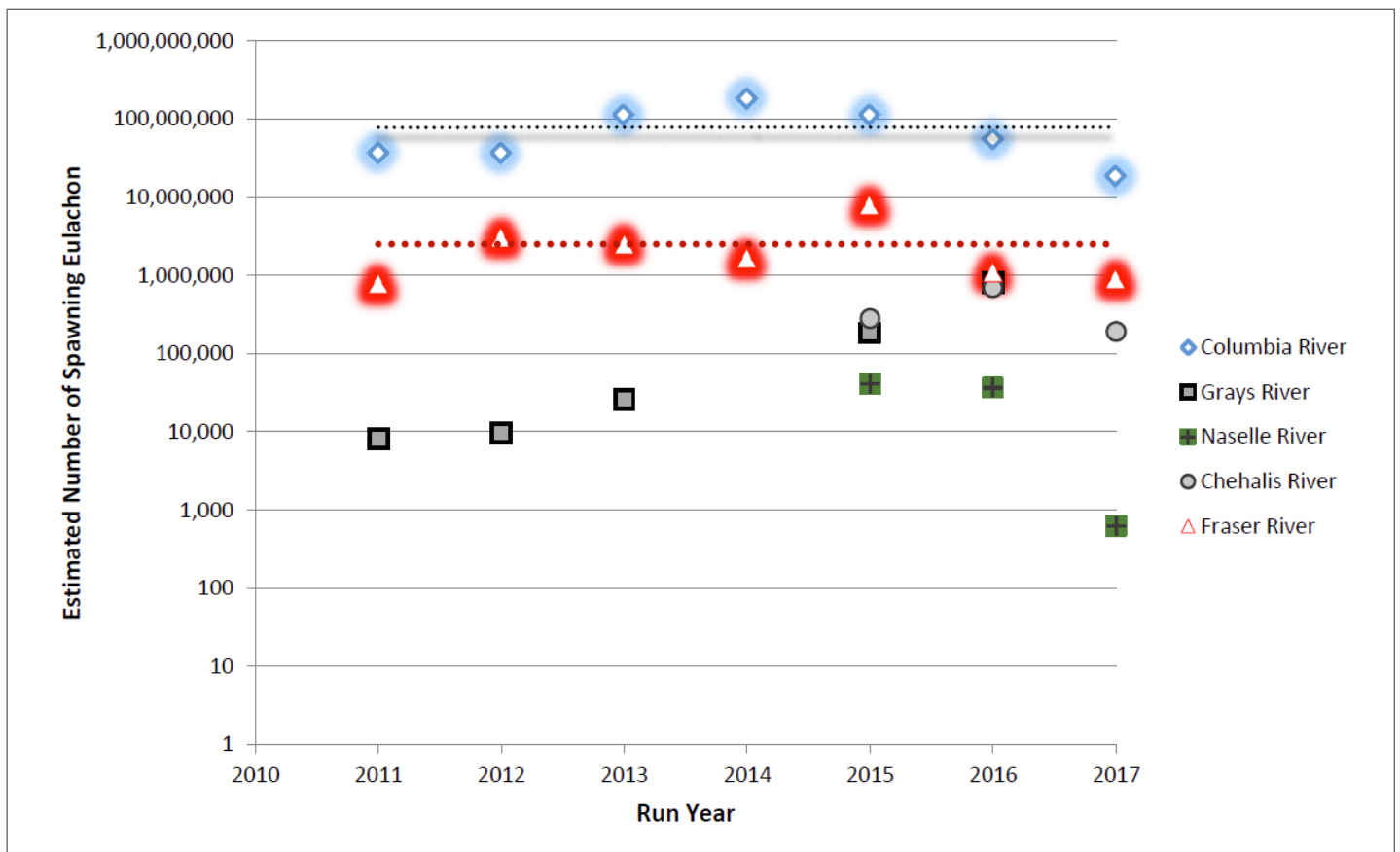


Figure 13. Comparison of estimated number of eulachon spawning in the Columbia River, Fraser River, Chehalis River, Naselle River, and Grays River.

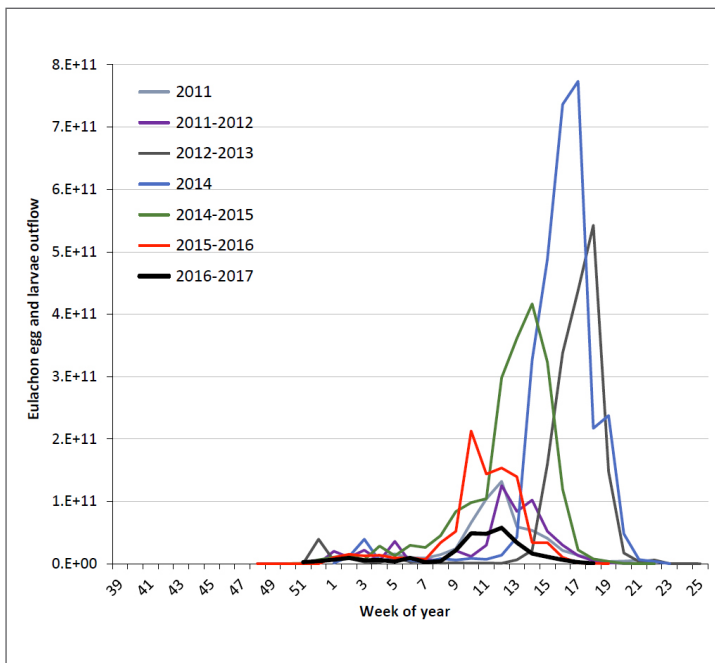


Figure 14. Comparison of estimated weekly outflow (passive outmigration) of eulachon smelt plankton (eggs and larvae) into the Columbia River estuary at the Clifton Channel – Price Island transect for 2011, 2011-2012, 2012-2013, 2014, 2014-2015, 2015-2016, and 2016-2017.

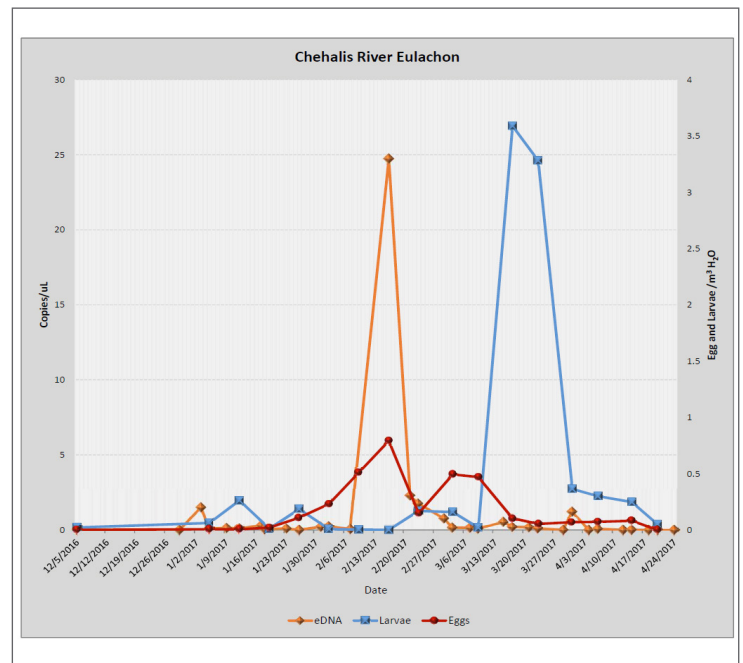


Figure 15. Graph of the average concentration of Eulachon genetic material quantified as copies of DNA per microliter of each PCR reaction (orange line, left axis), and visually identified Eulachon egg (red line, right axis), and larvae (blue line, right axis) densities from the Chehalis River plotted across time of the 2016-17 season.

Research Plans for 2018

WDFW's work on pink shrimp is relatively limited due to a lack of sufficient staff and funding. Our annual research is limited to our commitment to continue sampling pink shrimp catch landed into Washington at a level that can be considered statistically valid. Our hope is to be able to use the data collected to continue to building a long term time series. This long term series is necessary to be able to better understand changes in the populations of pink shrimp off the Washington coast.

WDFW also remains committed to maintaining the pink shrimp fishery logbook program. Because of our limited ability to dedicate more staff time to this work, we need your continued cooperation in the timely submission, of accurate and complete log books. This allows us to enter and process data more efficiently and reduces our labor for data entry and error-checking. We are exploring a request to consider placing "drop boxes" at shrimp plants. These would provide a safe and secure location where you could simply drop your logs off and we could pick-up at a later time. This would save you the time and effort of mailing your logs to us and save us time trying to track you down when you happen to be in port. We will be talking with processors to see if we can make this work. Finally, you may not realize how vital your accurate and complete log book information is to the future of your fishery. Beyond proving the information you see presented in this newsletter, your logbook data has also played a key role in the decisions made by the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) to certify Washington's Pink Shrimp fishery as sustainable (see page 19). This certification must be re-evaluated on a

regular basis and good logbook data will remain critical to that process. In addition, with the expected adoption of the Washington Pink Shrimp Fishery Management Plan (see page 12) and potential changes in ocean conditions with the threats posed by ocean acidification and climate change - any future management decisions that may be required will be better decisions when based on good logbook information.

We are pleased to say that our working relationship with our counterparts in Oregon and Washington remains strong. As a group we have plans in the coming months to develop bycatch identification materials for all west-coast shrimpers to have onboard. These laminated cards with pictures of key species will help you better identify and record in you logbook all by-catch species.

Expanded Collaboration with ODFW Shrimp Project

For many years, Washington shrimp management has substantially benefited from the extensive research and fishery monitoring conducted by the ODFW Shrimp Project. Now that the WDFW logbook and biological sampling programs are fully underway, we have the opportunity to contribute by providing additional catch and biological data. An important objective for us is to collect and summarize data consistent with Oregon's approaches. We will be working to hone our sampling techniques and improve data analyses through ongoing training and collaboration with ODFW shrimp biologists. We extend our appreciation to the Shrimp Project staff for their past and ongoing support.

Expectations for 2018

WDFW does not have the data to estimate trends in abundance similar to the Oregon model; we refer readers to the ODFW Pink Shrimp Review. ODFW modelling indicates the 2018 catch will be comprised of 3 year classes; despite earlier predictions, the 2015 year class has been strong and the 2016 and 2017 year classes are expected to be moderate. Overall, ODFW projects moderate abundance.

2017 Enforcement Report



During the 2017 season, WDFW Region Six Police Region Six Coastal Detachment reported the following coverage specific to the pink shrimp fishery:

- Enforcement Hours: 55
- Number of Contacts: 24
- Violations: 3
- Warnings: 2

Fishery Management Plan

After several years in development, a draft fishery management plan (FMP) intended to guide management of the non-treaty coastal pink shrimp fishery is complete and available for review.

Shrimpers will recognize the FMP largely captures existing agency policies or practices that have directed coastal pink shrimp fishery management for many years. The FMP simply puts these in writing and further documents our commitment to sustainable management of the fishery. The FMP expressly only applies to the non-treaty fishery, providing guidance to WDFW managers, and should not be confused with tribal co-manager agreements or plans.

We would like to call your attention to a new reference point policy the FMP introduces to guide management decision-making. The reference point policy takes the form of “action-levels” that specify when the Washington fishery would close for conservation purposes. Our current management framework does not identify any criteria for closing the fishery beyond the permanent fixed-season.

ODFW managers developed the action-levels to indicate when shrimp abundance is so low that the resource would potentially benefit from reduced fishing pressure. Specifically, if the

Oregon fleet’s June average catch per trip falls below 12,500 pounds, the fishery closes two weeks early – on October 15, and opens two weeks later the following spring – on April 15. If the fleet’s June average catch per trip falls below 10,000 pounds, the fishery closes as soon as practicable and does not reopen until April 15 of the following year. We are proposing to apply the same triggers to the Washington fishery. That is, if Oregon catches trigger a closure, we would follow suit.

Why link in this way? Biologically, we presume the shrimp resource off the Washington and Oregon coasts is one stock. A closure of one state would only prohibit landings into that state, fishing in federal waters could continue, diminishing the conservation benefit. The draft FMP presents information about this approach, and why it is proposed for management of the coastal pink shrimp fishery.

Shrimpers and other stakeholders can expect to receive copies of the draft FMP in May through a State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) review process. Instructions for submitting comments will be included. Public and shrimp processor meetings in April will provide additional opportunity to offer feedback.



Crew observes shrimp for bycatch as it is loaded into the vessel hold.

Good news!

A joint-project application by Oregon, Washington and California for federal funding was successful. Funds from the Saltonstall-Kennedy grant will cover the one-time purchase of a set of fishing lights for active participants in the pink shrimp fishery coast-wide. In addition, the project will develop bycatch mitigation outreach and fish identification materials. We expect to distribute the lights and outreach materials in early 2019. Stay tuned for more information.

Fishing Regulations

Coordination with Oregon and California

While most regulations are similar, when fishing offshore another state, shrimpers are reminded to confirm that their operations conform to that state's regulations. For example, Oregon law does not authorize the landing of frozen shrimp, whereas this activity is permissible via permit in Washington. Also, Oregon licensed shrimpers can trawl in that state's territorial waters; conversely, Washington does not allow any trawling in its coastal territorial waters (0-3 miles).

Fishing lights are required in all three states.

Shrimp trawl logbooks are required by both WDFW and ODFW, and each agency will accept the other state's logbook.

Freezing at Sea

As mentioned above, Washington regulations do not explicitly prohibit freezing catch at sea. However, to address fishery specific needs, the pink shrimp trawl fishery permit now has provisions to support monitoring and sampling of frozen landed catch. The permit now requires those who intend to process shrimp at sea off Washington by freezing their catch to:

- notify the WDFW their intent to do so;
- notify WDFW personnel 24 hours prior to landing;
- provide (upon request) WDFW a sample of 25 pounds of whole shrimp processed at sea by freezing and a sample of 25 pounds of fresh shrimp.



Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)

The National Marine Fisheries Service requires any vessel using non-groundfish trawl gear in federal waters to have VMS installed. Declaration reports are also mandated prior to fishing. Specific compliance information can be found at the NMFS Vessel Monitoring System website at: <http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/fisheries/management/vms.html> or contact the NMFS Office of Law Enforcement (OLE) at 206.526.6140

Groundfish Limits

Limits have not changed from 2017.

Shrimp trawlers are limited to 1,500 pounds of groundfish per TRIP with a daily limit of 500 pounds. Included in the daily and trip limits are sub-limits for: lingcod at 300 pounds per month with a 24" minimum size, and sablefish at 2000 pounds per month. Canary rockfish, yelloweye rockfish and thornyheads are all PROHIBITED. All other groundfish

species taken count towards the 500 per day or 1,500-pound trip limits and do not have species-specific limits. The amount of groundfish landed may not exceed the amount of pink shrimp landed.

A complete copy of Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery management measures for 2018 can be found under "Public Notices, Inseason Updates and Trip Limit Tables" here: <http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/fisheries/groundfish/index.html>.

Fishing Lights

Beginning this season, Washington shrimpers will be required to use fishing lights on the footrope of each trawl net. The Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission adopted the new rule in March. Our neighbors to the south have also taken this action for 2018: Oregon is requiring fishing lights on trawl net footropes. Shrimpers fishing both Washington and Oregon should note the specifications are the same for both states. The approved lighting devices are listed below.

The rule language:

Washington Administrative Code 220-340-500
Commercial ocean pink shrimp trawl fishery—Coastal waters.

(7) It is unlawful to fish with trawl gear for pink shrimp for commercial purposes unless footrope lighting devices that have been approved by the department are used in each net. A list of approved footrope lighting devices is available from the department.

Footrope lighting devices must meet the following criteria:

- (a) Lighting devices must be operational;
- (b) Lighting devices must be securely attached within six inches of the forward leading edge of the bottom panel of trawl netting; and
- (c) Each trawl net must have a minimum of five lighting devices, spaced four feet apart in the central sixteen feet of each net.

(8) It is unlawful to modify footrope lighting devices or device placement on the footrope in any way inconsistent with subsection (7)(c) of this section, except as provided by special gear permit as described in subsection (9) of this section.

(9) Testing of footrope lighting devices or placement on the footrope is allowed by special gear permit only, consistent with the terms and conditions of the permit.

Three lighting devices are approved for use in 2018:

1. Lindgren-Pitman “LP Electrolume Light” – Green (Figure 16)
2. Catch All Tackle “Deep Drop LED Fishing Light” – Green (Figure 17)
3. Rock-engineering “LED Rope Light” – Green

The Washington rule does allow us to issue special gear permits to shrimpers to test new lighting strategies. These permits would be evaluated and issued on a case-by-case basis, and would require very close collaboration with WDFW shrimp managers. This permit provision is unique to Washington and permits would authorize the special gear testing only in waters offshore Washington.

Shrimpers are to be commended for voluntarily using lights to reduce bycatch up to this point. A majority of shrimpers have been using lights for several years, and most of the time when fishing. The motivation to reduce bycatch is clear when bycatch volume is high – less time is needed for sorting. We recognize purchasing, installing and maintaining fishing lights adds to operating costs. Meeting the minimum requirements of the rule, with five (5) lights per net, is estimated to cost shrimpers about \$1,300 annually. However, the move to require lights recognizes the need to minimize bycatch is equally, if not more, important when low bycatch volumes reflect poor abundance. Moreover, the maximum conservation benefit is realized when all vessels are outfitted, all the time.

A 2017 federal eulachon smelt recovery plan identified adoption of fishing lights as a five-year action item. You are well ahead of schedule! We encourage your continued efforts to reduce bycatch. Supporting and ensuring the sustainability of the fishery remains a management priority.



Figure 16. Lindgren-Pittman Fishing Light



Figure 17. Deep-Drop Fishing Light

LED Fishing Light Research

A study conducted by the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission and ODFW in 2015 and 2018 documented significant bycatch reductions in pink shrimp trawl nets outfitted with LED fishing lights on the footrope.

Bycatch of eulachon smelt, which is listed as threatened under the ESA, was reduced by about 90%. Bycatch reduction of certain juvenile rockfish and flatfish ranged from 56% – 82%.

Crewmember License

WDFW submitted a legislative proposal in early 2017 requesting changes to licensing fees and requirements for commercial fishers. ESHB1597 established mandatory annual crewmember licenses for all commercial vessels that land in Washington State. This rule, which is similar to Oregon's crewmember rule, was signed into law on July 6, 2017 and became effective January 1, 2018.

Crewmember licenses are required for all individuals age 16 and older working on-board all commercial fishing vessels that land fish or shellfish in Washington State. An individual can purchase their own crewmember license that is valid for participating in all Washington commercial fisheries. A vessel operator can purchase up to two undesigned crewmember licenses to accommodate crewmembers who do not have their own individual crewmember license. The undesigned crewmember license covers only one crewmember at a time but will allow for frequent crewmember changes. Primary and alternate operators are exempt from needing to purchase a crewmember license as long as they are on board a vessel that designates them as an operator. Immediate family members, including spouses, children, or grandchildren of a person who holds a commercial license or alternate operator license are exempt from the crewmember licensing requirement.

Individual crewmember licenses can be purchased at any license vendor and undesigned crewmember licenses can be

purchased at WDFW licensing department in Olympia when renewing an annual license. Undesignated and individual crewmember licenses cost \$40.50 for Washington state residents and \$123.00 for non-residents.

For more information or to purchase a crewmember license go to: https://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/commercial/crewmember_licenses.html.

Small Vessel Incidental Discharge Permitting

We want to alert operators of small commercial and fishing vessels less than 79 feet to changes affecting you. A 2008 congressional moratorium on implementation of on EPA's Small Vessel General Permit (sVGP) (<https://www.epa.gov/npdes/vessels-svgp>) expired in December 2017.

We are providing this for informational purposes only. WDFW does not enforce or manage this program. If you are not familiar with sVGP requirements, we put together a quick reference table below in comparison to the large VGP requirements. If you contact us, we can provide you a copy of the permit with necessary forms for compliance.

For more information contact:

Tara Martich
EPA Region 10
907.271.6323
Martich.Tara@epa.gov

Requirements/ Coverage	sVGP (2014)	VGP (2013)
Eligible vessels	Part 1.1: All fishing and commercial vessels < 79 feet	Part 1.2.1: All fishing and commercial vessels ≥ 79 feet or ballast water capacity > 8 cubic meters
Geographic scope	Part 1.2: Waters of the United States	Part 1.2.1: Waters of the United States
Obtaining coverage	Part 3.1(a) and Appendix A: Complete a ¼ page self-authorization that is kept on board vessel (no EPA NOI or filing required)	Part 1.5.1 and Appendix E: Complete and file comprehensive 4-page Notice of Intent (NOI)
Incidental discharge coverage	Part 1.4: Covers 9 effluent limit BMPs (including ballast water and biofouling)	Part 1.2.2: Covers 27 effluent limit BMPs (including ballast water and biofouling)
Self-inspections	Part 3.1: Quarterly visual inspections of each incidental discharge covered	Part 4.1.1: Per voyage or weekly visual inspections of each incidental discharge covered Part 4.1.3: Comprehensive annual inspections Part 4.1.4: Drydock inspections
Recordkeeping	Part 3.1(b): Complete a 1 row quarterly report that is kept on board vessel	Part 4.1.1.1: Document voyage/weekly findings in ship's log Part 4.1.3: Document annual reports Part 4.1.4: Drydock reports available upon request
EPA Annual Reporting	Part 4.10 and Appendix B: Complete a 1 page Annual Noncompliance Form	Part 4.4.1 and Appendix H: Complete a comprehensive 4 page annual reporting + supplemental addendums as needed

Electronic Fish Tickets

Shrimp processors and dealers may soon have the option to use electronic fish receiving tickets in the coastal pink shrimp fishery. Currently electronic fish tickets are mandatory for most commercial groundfish delivered into the state. One part of a new rule under consideration aims to make electronic fish tickets available to other fisheries under voluntary reporting agreements between individual dealers and WDFW.

We do not yet know the outcome of the rule proposal, but we encourage you to consider moving from paper to electronic tickets.

A notice of the rule proposal was mailed to commercial harvesters and buyers of fish and shellfish in March. Complete rule information on the WDFW website at: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/about/regulations/>.



Pink shrimp, Pandalus jordani



CERTIFICATE NO:
MRAG-F-0045

ISSUE DATE:
13 February 2018

EXPIRY DATE:
12 February 2023

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This Certificate is the property of MRAG Americas, and its use is subject to conformance with the standards of the Marine Stewardship Council.

Certificate of Conformity

MSC Fisheries

MRAG Americas certifies that
Washington Pink Shrimp Fishery
Pacific Seafood Group
16797 SE 130th Avenue
Clackamas, OR 97015

meets the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) Principles and Criteria for Sustainable Fishing, and that the fishery is well managed and sustainable.

Unit of Certification: Species: <i>Pandalus jordani</i> Geographical area: WOC, West Coast USA EEZ Area 67 Harvest method: Other Trawl	Certificate Issued by: MRAG Americas Certification Committee
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Signature 



MSC Certification

Good news! In February 2018, the coastal pink shrimp trawl fishery earned full Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) certification for sustainable wild-caught seafood through 2023. You will recall that in 2015 the coastal pink shrimp trawl fishery became the first state-managed fishery in Washington to be deemed sustainable by an independent entity. Going forward annual audits will monitor fishery performance, while full recertification follows a 5-year cycle.

MSC certification benefits shrimpers by opening key global markets to Washington shrimp. Access to these markets, which demand a “sustainability” label, contributed significantly to the exceptionally strong season landings in 2015.

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