

2019-20 WDFW Puget Sound Shrimp Fishery Report

Prepared for the Washington Fish and Wildlife
Commission



Spot Shrimp (*Pandalus platyceros*)



April 26, 2021

Purpose of this Report

This report fulfills Fish and Wildlife Commission Policy C-3610 by providing an annual summary describing the performance and harvest of commercial and recreational shrimp fisheries. Due to limited staff and commission workload resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, this report was not submitted in 2020; therefore, this report covers both the 2019 and 2020 fishing years.

Introduction

More than 80 species of shrimp inhabit Washington waters. Spot shrimp (*Pandalus platyceros*) are large, often growing to 7-8 inches in overall length, and are highly prized in recreational and commercial fisheries. They range in the northeast Pacific from Alaska to southern California and in the northwest Pacific, with significant populations off the coasts of Korea and Japan. Spot shrimp live in subtidal sandy and rocky habitats from the intertidal zone to the deepest depths of Puget Sound. Four species are commonly harvested by recreational and commercial fishers. Species other than the spot shrimp, are collectively referred to as non-spot shrimp in this report and in State and Tribal shrimp harvest management plans. Common non-spot species include pink shrimp (*P. eous*), dock shrimp (*P. danae*), and coonstripe shrimp (*P. hypsinotus*).

Spot shrimp are a hermaphroditic species that begin life as male and become female as they age. They live for about four years. Population assessment is conducted through pre- and post-season trapping surveys. This provides an abundance index and samples collected can also be used to develop a spawner index. The spawner index is an important tool which can be used to develop appropriate harvest strategies. The spawner index model is used in Canada, but it has not been widely accepted in the co-management of this species in Washington. Recreational harvest effort is assessed through aerial surveys, vessel-based observations, and through surveys of harvesters at off-load sites. Regional quotas in Puget Sound are established through the co-management planning process, which takes into account historic knowledge of preferred habitats within regions, prior fishery performance, and test fishing. To maintain orderly fisheries, the State (represented by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife) and Puget Sound treaty tribes (with marine water usual and accustom fishing areas) enter into annual shrimp harvest agreements pursuant to *U.S. v. Washington*. The Puget Sound shrimp fishery is managed separately from the Washington coastal fishery.

Shrimp pots are the preferred gear type allowed in State and Tribal fisheries. Shrimp pots must have escape hatches and rot cord to allow for shrimp escapement, have weighted line to reduce vessel conflicts and pot loss, and be marked to identify gear type and ownership. A limited entry trawl fishery is allowed in two Shrimp Regions; San Juan Islands and the Strait of Juan de Fuca, with restrictions to control area, depth, gear, and species taken. Observers monitor 10% of shrimp trawl trips for ESA compliance and to determine the incidental bycatch of spot shrimp.



This report provides information about fishery policy, current management practices, and describes performance of State and Tribal, recreational and commercial, and spot shrimp and non-spot shrimp fisheries over time, including the recent 2019 and 2020 shrimp seasons. This report also describes education and outreach and enforcement efforts to ensure regulatory compliance.

Shrimp Policy

A revised shrimp policy (C-3610) was adopted by the Fish and Wildlife Commission on December 15, 2012. This policy protects and conserves Puget Sound pandalid shrimp resources, while providing for recreational and commercial fishing opportunities. Specific objectives include providing for trawl and pot fisheries consistent with conservation objectives, allocating harvest consistent with *US vs. Washington*, monitoring for accurate catch accounting, managing conservatively, improving collection of biological and fishery information, developing a voluntary program to convert trawl licenses to pot fishery licenses, developing a pot fishery license buy-back program, and pursuing strategies to promote regulatory compliance and reduction of gear loss.

The general allocation objective for spot shrimp fisheries is to manage 70% of the combined State share for recreational opportunity and 30% for commercial opportunity. A regional strategy focuses the commercial fishery in the areas that are less accessible to recreational fishers. Regional allocation targets are specified as follows:

Region 1 will be managed to harvest 80% of the State share of quota in the recreational fishery.

Region 2 will be managed for the recreational fishery to take 100% of the State's share of the quota. Commercial harvest openings can occur in Region 2 after the recreational season is completed, with a maximum harvest of 10% of the State share of the quota.

Region 3 will be managed for the primary benefit of the commercial fishery. The recreational fishery will be structured to harvest 22% of the State share of the quota. The State shrimp fishery in the Discovery Bay shrimp district will be managed for the exclusive benefit of the recreational fishery.

Region 4 will be managed for the recreational fishery to take 100% of the State's share of the quota. Commercial harvest openings can occur in Region 4 after the recreational season is completed, with a maximum harvest of 10% of the State share of the quota.

Region 5 will be managed for the recreational fishery to take 100% of the State's share of the quota. Commercial harvest openings can occur in Region 5 after the recreational season is completed, with a maximum harvest of 5% of the State share of the quota.



Region 6 will be managed for the recreational fishery to take 100% of the State’s share of the quota. Commercial harvest openings can occur in Region 6 after the recreational season is completed, with a maximum harvest of 10% of the State quota.

Regions 1 and 3 may be adjusted annually or in-season by equal percentage points as needed to ensure that the Puget Sound general allocation objective of 70%-30% is attained.

The Puget Sound recreational allocation (70%) is close to being realized, increasing from 66% in 2016 to 70% in 2019 (Table 1). An increase in Region 3 from 29% in 2017 to 33% in 2018 helped to off-set a decrease in Region 1 from 75% to 70% in respective years. In 2019 and 2020 the Region 1 recreational allocation increased to 76%, getting closer the 80% target. Commercial “clean-up” fisheries were necessary in Regions 5 in 2019 and in Regions 2 (2 West), to utilize remaining shares of quota in those regions. This resulted in less than 100% of the allocation being utilized by the recreational fishery in those regions.

Table 1. Recreational spot shrimp allocation targets identified in Fish and Wildlife Commission Policy C-3610 and harvest percentages by region from 2016 - 2020.

Region	Recreational Target %	Actual % Harvested in State Fishery				
		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
1	80	75	75	70	76	76
2	100	100	100	100	100	96
3	22	21	29	33	31	25
4	100	100	100	94	100	100
5	100	95	94	96	95	100
6	100	100	100	100	100	99
Statewide	70	66	67	67	70	67

Per Fish and Wildlife Commission Policy C3610, the Puget Sound recreational non-spot shrimp pot fishery will be managed to take up to 20% of the State share of the non-spot shrimp quota. The commercial non-spot pot fishery will be provided the opportunity to harvest a minimum of 80% of the State share of the non-spot quota. The non-spot shrimp trawl fishery will be managed for the exclusive benefit of the commercial fishery and will be restricted to Regions 1 and 3. The trawl fishery will be designed and regulated to harvest non-spot pandalid shrimp only.



Harvest Management Regions

Six shrimp harvest management units have been established in Puget Sound (Figure 1). The policy provides for recreational and commercial harvest opportunity in all regions; with Regions 2, 4, 5 and 6 targeted primarily for recreational spot shrimp harvest, unless quota shares remain following the recreational fisheries.

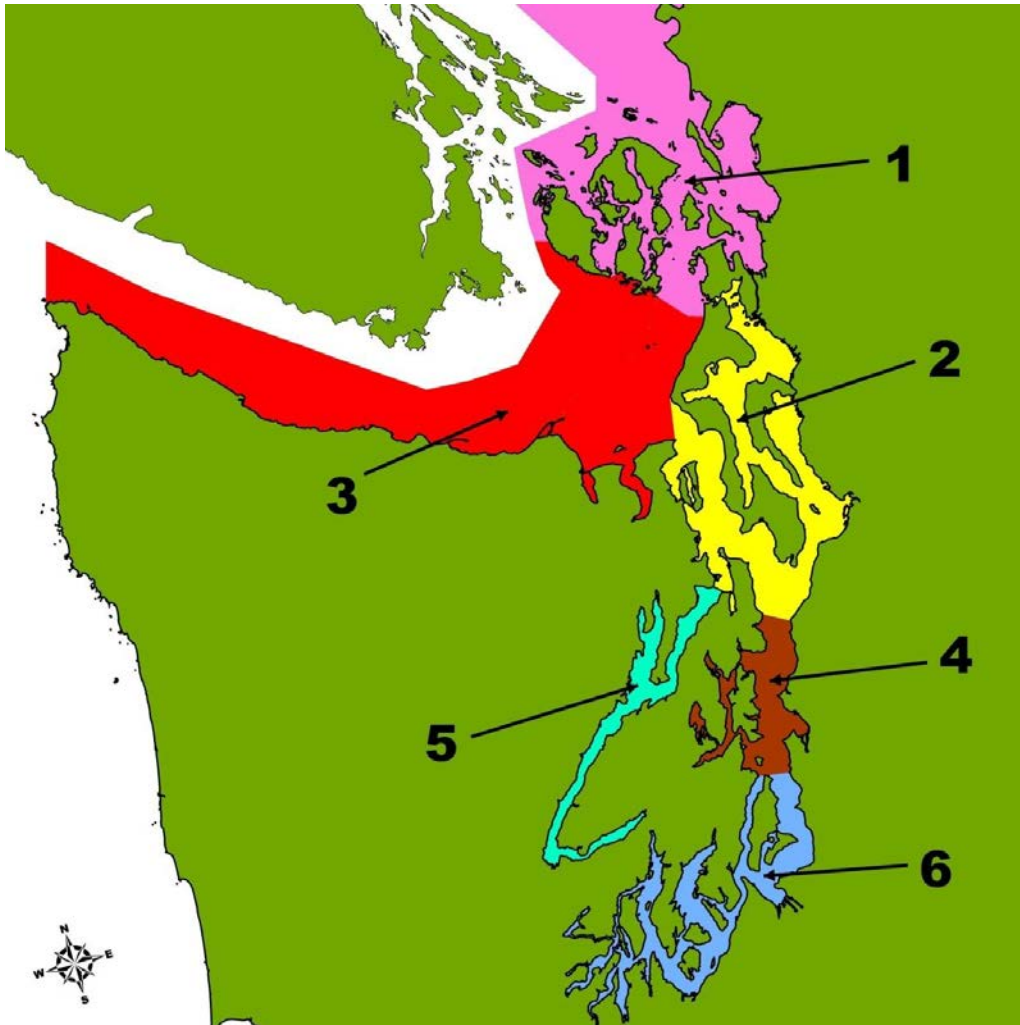


Figure 1. Shrimp harvest regions in Puget Sound.

Shrimp management region boundary lines take into consideration historic WDFW Marine Areas, WDFW Marine Fish – Shellfish Catch Areas (MF/SF), and tribal usual and accustomed areas at the time when shellfish harvest management plans were first negotiated, circa 1995. Table 2 (below) shows defined shrimp regions and associated WDFW Marine Areas and WDFW Marine Fish/Shellfish Catch Areas.



Table 2. The relationship between Shrimp Regions, WDFW Marine Areas, and WDFW MF/SF Catch Areas

Shrimp Regions	WDFW Marine Areas	WDFW MF/SF Catch Areas
1	7 (portion)	20A, 20B, 21A, 21B, 22A, 22B, 23A
2	8-1, 8-2, 9	24A, 24C, 25B, 26A
3	4, 5, 6, 7 (portion)	23A, 23B, 23C, 23D, 25A, 25E, 29
4	10	26B, 26C
5	12	25C, 27A, 27B, 27C
6	11	26D
7	13	28A, 28B, 28C, 28D

Co-management harvest plans

Federal Sub-proceeding 89-3 of *US v. Washington* provides a framework for Treaty Tribe harvest of shellfish in Washington. Sub-proceeding 89-3 decisions are sometimes collectively referred to as the Rafeedie Decision. The first implementation order regarding Treaty Tribe shellfishing occurred in 1995. Implementation orders mandate that harvest must occur under harvest management plans developed by affected parties. Annual co-management harvest plans provide more detailed conditions and responsibilities of parties when conducting their respective fisheries including management principles, annual shares of quota, timing of fisheries, and harvest reporting. 15 treaty tribes participate in 6 shrimp harvest management plans in Puget Sound.



Fishery Performance

Total Harvests of Spot Shrimp



Figure 2. A spot shrimp (*Pandalus platyceros*) from Puget Sound.

Since 2010, spot shrimp (shown in Figure 2, above) landings in the Puget Sound State and Tribal fisheries combined has ranged from 381,000 to a peak of 609,000 pounds in 2019 in (Figure 3). Catch has generally continued to increase from 2010 through 2020. In 2020, the total State catch was 298,028 pounds and Treaty Tribe harvest was 285,803 pounds, a 4.3% difference.



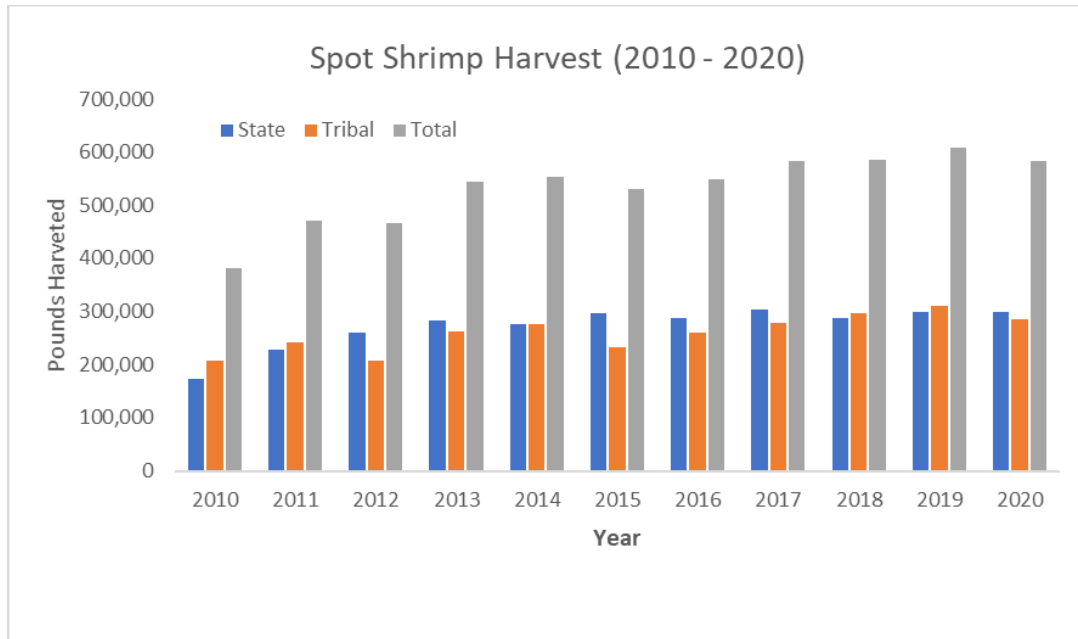


Figure 3. State, Tribal, and total spot shrimp landings in Puget Sound from 2010 - 2020.

Recreational and Commercial Harvests of Spot Shrimp

Between 2010 and 2020, the State commercial spot shrimp landings have ranged between 90,364 pounds (2019) and 126,333 pounds (2012; Figure 4). During the same time frame, recreational landings have ranged from a low of 121,076 pounds (2011) to 208,223 pounds (2018). When the Fish and Wildlife Commission Policy C-3610 was adopted in 2012, recreational harvest comprised 51% of the total harvest and commercial harvest took the remaining 49%. Following adoption of the policy, the crustacean management team has worked to implement and achieve its allocation priorities. This has resulted in the proportion of recreational harvest increasing nearly every year up to 2019 when the recreational fleet was able to harvest 70% of the total harvest spot shrimp quota. Overall, it is very difficult to precisely achieve the 70% recreational allocation defined in the Puget Sound shrimp policy. Uncertainty in recreational harvest effort across areas throughout the season and logistics surrounding implementing management (such as extension date announcement lead time, bag limit adjustments, etc.) contribute to the fishery sometimes not reaching the overall recreational allocation percentage.



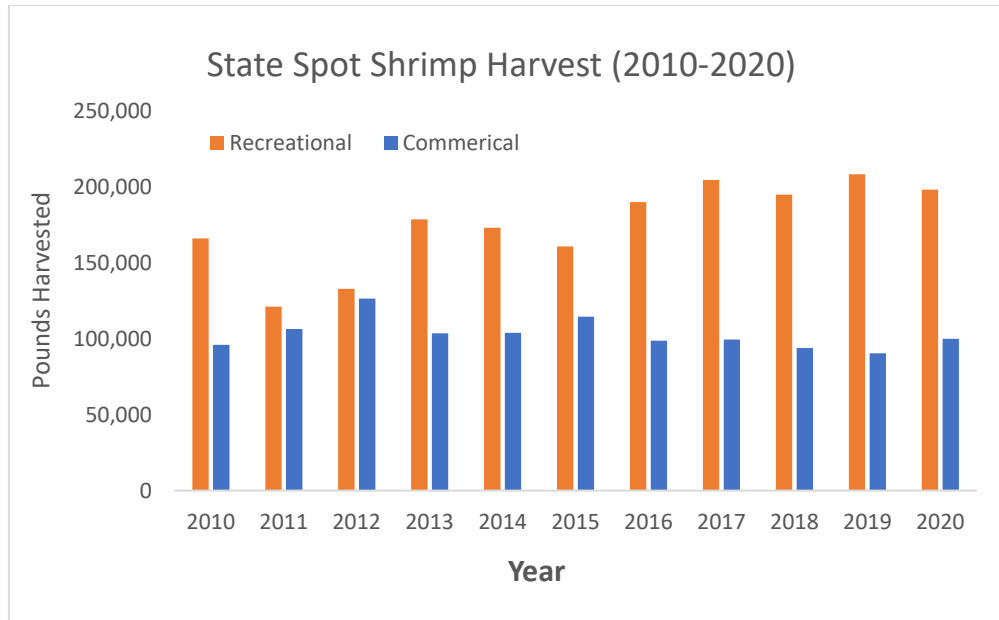


Figure 4. State recreational and commercial spot shrimp landings in Puget Sound from 2010-2020.

Recreational Spot Shrimp Harvest Effort by Region

In shrimp regions where the State share of spot shrimp quota is large and recreational effort is low, the seasons are often prolonged and achieving the regional statewide harvest allocation objectives can be challenging. In 2016, a strategy was used to better target a summer recreational fishery share of spot shrimp quota in Regions 1 and 3 by increasing daily limits from 80 to 160 shrimp. This strategy worked well to focus the recreational fishery effort in those areas, but in turn this reduced the number of fishing days. This strategy was fine tuned in 2017 by reducing the daily limit to 120 shrimp, which still promoted a higher level of recreational effort and provided fishing opportunity into August. Recreational effort estimates increased significantly in Region 1 in 2018 and the season length was significantly reduced, likely a result of bonus limit inducements to more fully utilize the spot shrimp resource (Table 3). A similar approach was used for the 2019 season but the number of open days per week was reduced from 7 to 4 days per week and daily limits were reverted to 80 shrimp, with a goal of extending the season into late July or early August for the 2019 season. In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic brought out record numbers of shrimpers and daily effort counts in Regions 1 and 3 far exceeded those from previous years. As a result, the recreational share was taken quickly in only 26 fishing days (Table 3). In 2021, a precautionary approach will be taken to account for higher expected effort with back-up dates being announced later in the season if quota remains.



Table 3. Recreational Spot Shrimp - Open Harvest Days in 2016 – 2020.

Region	Recreational Days Open Each Year				
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
1	94	88	72	54	39
2	2	2	2	2	2
3**	91	90	63	101	26
4	1	1	1	1	1
5	4	7	8	8	5
6	1*	1*	1*	1*	1*

*In Shrimp Region 6; 1 day was open in the northern portion (Marine Area 11) and 2 days in the southern portion (Marine Area 13) in 2016, 2017, and 2018. Marine Area 13 was closed in 2019 and 2020. **Days open in Region 3 do not include Marine Areas 4 and 5. Most of the shrimp harvest in Region 3 comes from Marine Area 6 and 7S.

Recreational Spot Shrimp Landings

At a Puget Sound wide scale, recreational spot shrimp landings have been steadily increasing since the policy was adopted in 2012. This increase in landings is coupled with an associated increase in effort (Figure 5) and this fishery is fully utilized. In order to accommodate the annual increase in recreational participation in the fishery, seasons have been shortened, in many regions to only 4 hours for one day in the year. Since 2016 and with increasingly restricted harvest seasons, landings across the management regions have been relatively consistent. The exception is Region 6 South Puget Sound area (Marine Areas 11 and 13) where spot shrimp harvest declined to a low in 2018 with the closure of Marine Area 13. Additionally, the average catch per boat has not changed substantially over the last 5 years, with the exception of Marine Area 13 (Table 4). An example of an abundant landing of spot shrimp in shrimp Region 3 is shown in Figure 6 (below).

By comparison, there has been little recreational effort observed in the *non-spot* shrimp fishery. Managers are attentive to any sign of significant increase in recreational effort in this fishery. The recreational non-spot fishery is not currently monitored.



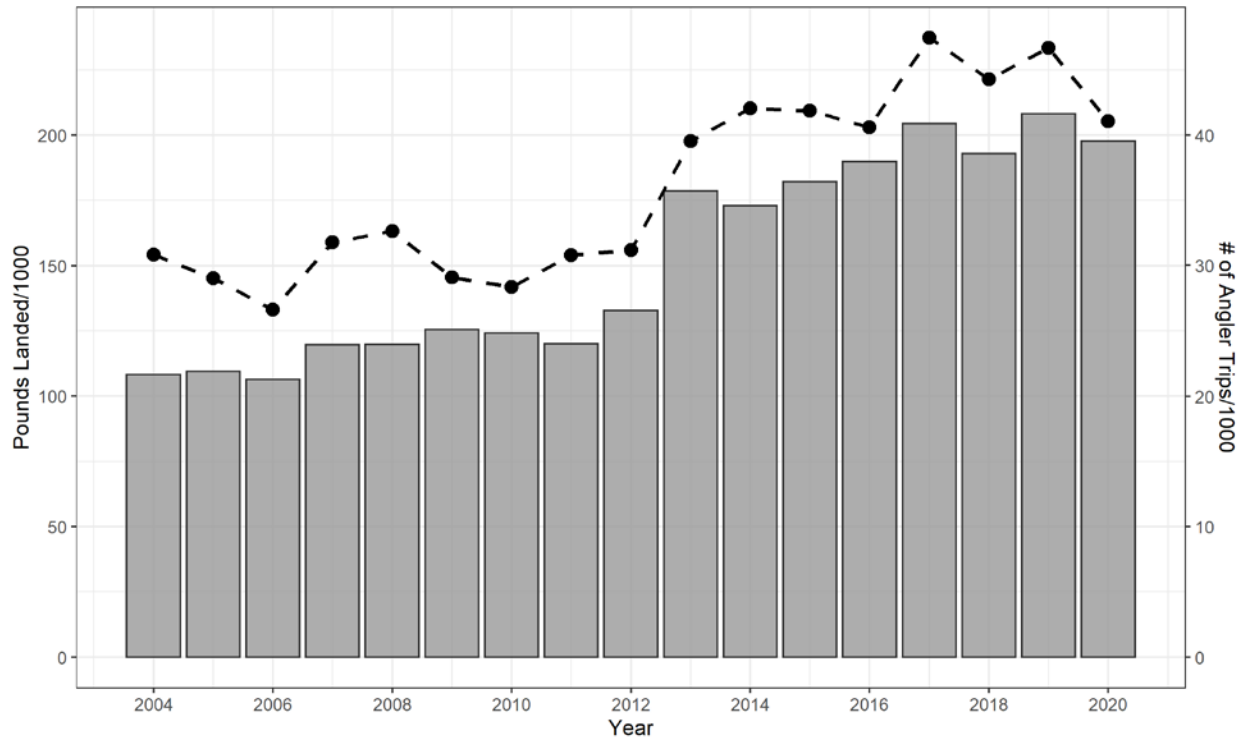


Figure 5. Number of trips and catch of spot shrimp by recreational shrimp pot fishers from 2004 through 2020. Bars indicate total landings (pounds/1000) and points show number of angler trips (in thousands) by year.

Table 4. Recreational spot shrimp average harvest per boat in pounds from 2016 through 2020.

Shrimp Region	Subregion	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
1	Reg 1 (MA 7 East, MA 7 West)	15.3	13.7	12.8	12.7	13.1
2E	Reg 2E (MA 8-1, MA 8-2)	17.6	18.4	15.9	16.7	18.2
2W	Reg 2W (MA 9)	19.8	15.9	16.4	14.4	14.9
3	Reg 3 (MA 6 outside Discovery Bay)	17.9	18.8	17.0	14.7	14.6
3	Reg 3 (MA 6 inside Discovery Bay)	9.6	10.1	10.3	10.7	11.1
3	Reg 3 (MA 7 South)	16.3	15.6	15.5	15.1	16.6
4	Reg 4 (MA 10 outside Elliott Bay)	18.7	19.0	20.0	15.4	16.0
4	Reg 4 (MA 10 inside Elliott Bay)	24.1	18.1	21.4	23.3	23.7
5	Reg 5 (MA 12 or Hood Canal)	14.5	14.6	12.4	12.5	16.7
6	Reg 6 (MA 11)	17.4	15.1	13.0	12.3	11.9
6	Reg 6 (MA 13)	10.0	7.5	1.6	closed	closed





Figure 6. Recreational spot shrimp catch in the Strait of Juan de Fuca.

Table 4. Recreational spot shrimp harvest by region, from 2016 – 2020 in pounds.

Regions	Harvest Seasons				
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
1	36,878	37,297	35,757	38,368	34,342
2	26,578	28,622	23,418	34,798	20,314
3	22,633	34,619	38,323	35,663	29,797
4	10,890	8,895	7,972	10,608	13,706
5	84,750	90,007	87,234	86,219	95,653
6	8,161	5,225	2,159	2,549	4,285



Commercial Shrimp Pot Fishery

Commercial shrimp pot fishing has been limited to 18 transferrable licenses since 2001. Spot and Non-spot shrimp are targeted by the State commercial pot fishery. It is unlawful to retain spot shrimp for commercial purposes using trawl gear (WAC 220-340-520). Since the 2012 Fish and Wildlife Commission Shrimp Policy C-3610 was implemented, commercial spot shrimp landings have ranged from 56,910 pounds (2000) to 113,166 pounds (2015; Figure 7). Since 2000, Commercial non-spot pot landings ranged from a low of 26,759 pounds to a high of 66,629 pound in 2019.

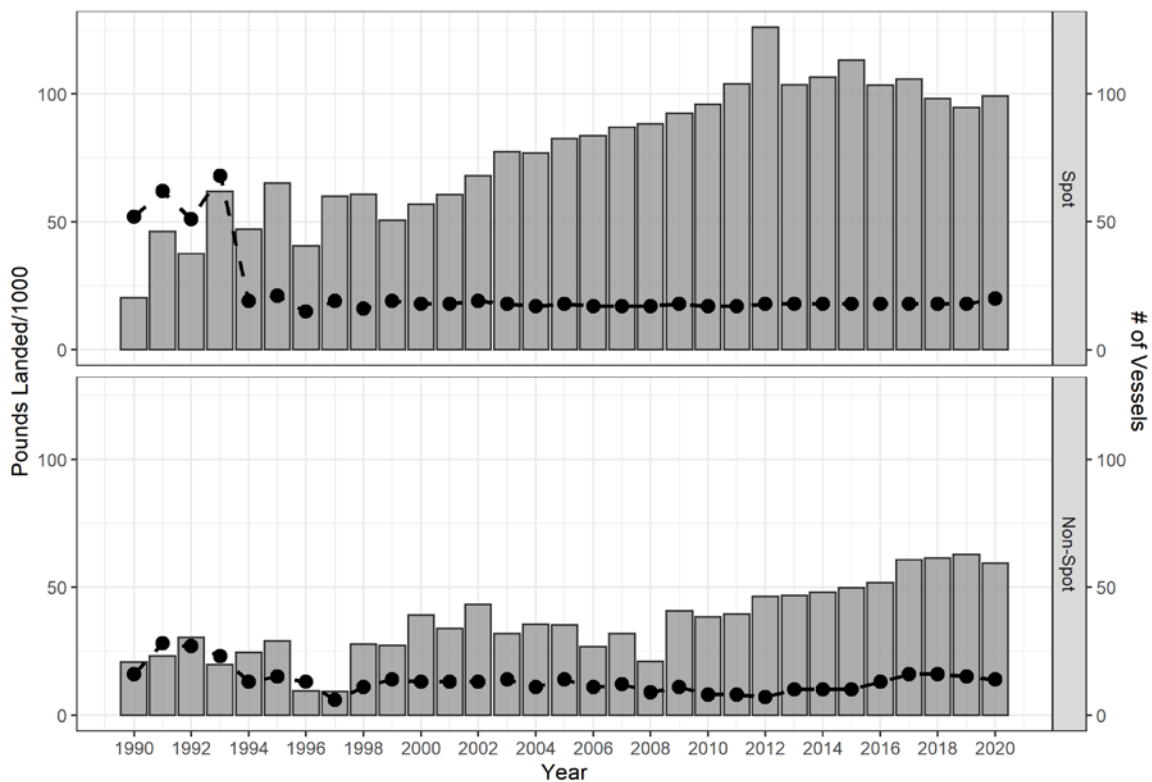


Figure 6. Commercial shrimp pot catch and effort for spot and non-spot shrimp fisheries in Puget Sound, 1990 to 2020 (Source, WDFW unpublished data). Points show number of active vessels, bars indicate total landings (pounds/1000) by year.

Commercial Shrimp Trawl Fishery

There are five beam trawl licenses that participate in the Puget Sound non-spot trawl fishery. Two of these licenses target pink shrimp, *P. eous*, (Figure 8) in the Strait of Juan de Fuca (Shrimp Region 3) and the remaining trawlers target dock shrimp (*P. danae*), and coonstripe shrimp (*P. hypsinotus*) in the San



Juan Islands area (Region 1). The total quota of non-spot shrimp available to the trawl is 817,000 pounds combined across both management areas. 74,000 pounds are allocated to Region 1 and 734,000 pounds to Region 3. Non-spot trawl harvest in Puget Sound has declined from a high of 686,693 pounds in 2002 to a low of 92,209 pounds in 2010. Landings since 2014 have been relatively consistent and in 2020 the total trawl landings were 480,151 pounds, representing only 58% of the total trawl quota share (Figure 9). In Region 1 the trawl fishery took 73,197 pounds of the 74,000-pound share (99%) and in Region 3, the trawl fishery took 406,954 pounds of the 734,000-pound share (55%). Although the quota shares have been underutilized in the past due to low market demand and small profit margin for trawl caught product, recent surge in the price of non-spot shrimp species has increased the market value (\$0.84/pound in 2020) and harvest effort (Table 6).



Figure 8. Pink shrimp (*Pandalus eous*)

An observer program was initiated for the trawl fishery in 2011 to monitor bycatch of Endangered Species Act (ESA) listed fish species including, southern Eulachon and Green Sturgeon. Observers sample trawl catch to record interactions with ESA listed species during routine fishing operations, but they also monitor spot shrimp bycatch in trawls targeting Pink shrimp. Observer data showed an increase in spot shrimp bycatch during the 2013-14 season. To reduce bycatch, including spot shrimp, excluder devices have been installed on the two trawls targeting pink shrimp (Figure 10).



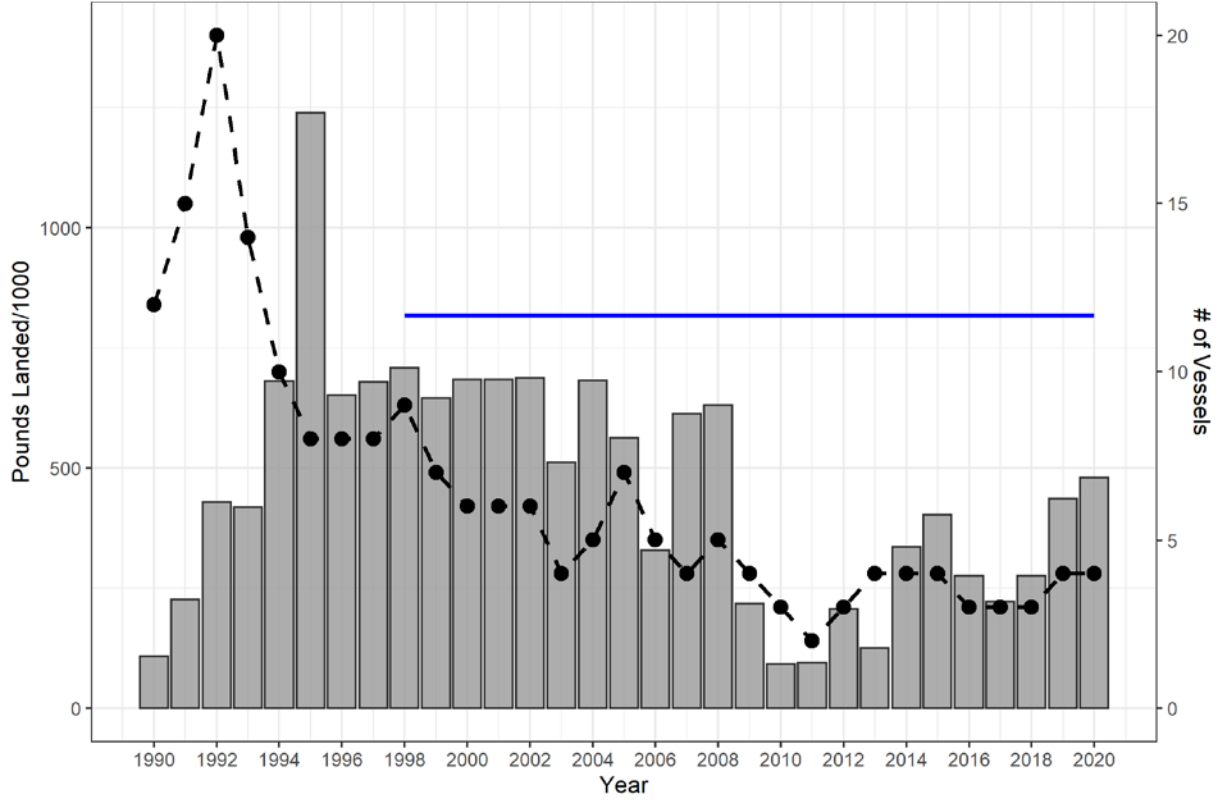


Figure 8. Commercial shrimp trawl catch and effort in Puget Sound, 1990 to 2020 (Source, WDFW unpublished data). Points show number of active trawl vessels, bars indicate total landings (pounds/1000) by year and blue line show total quota implemented in 1998 (817,000 pounds combined across all management areas).



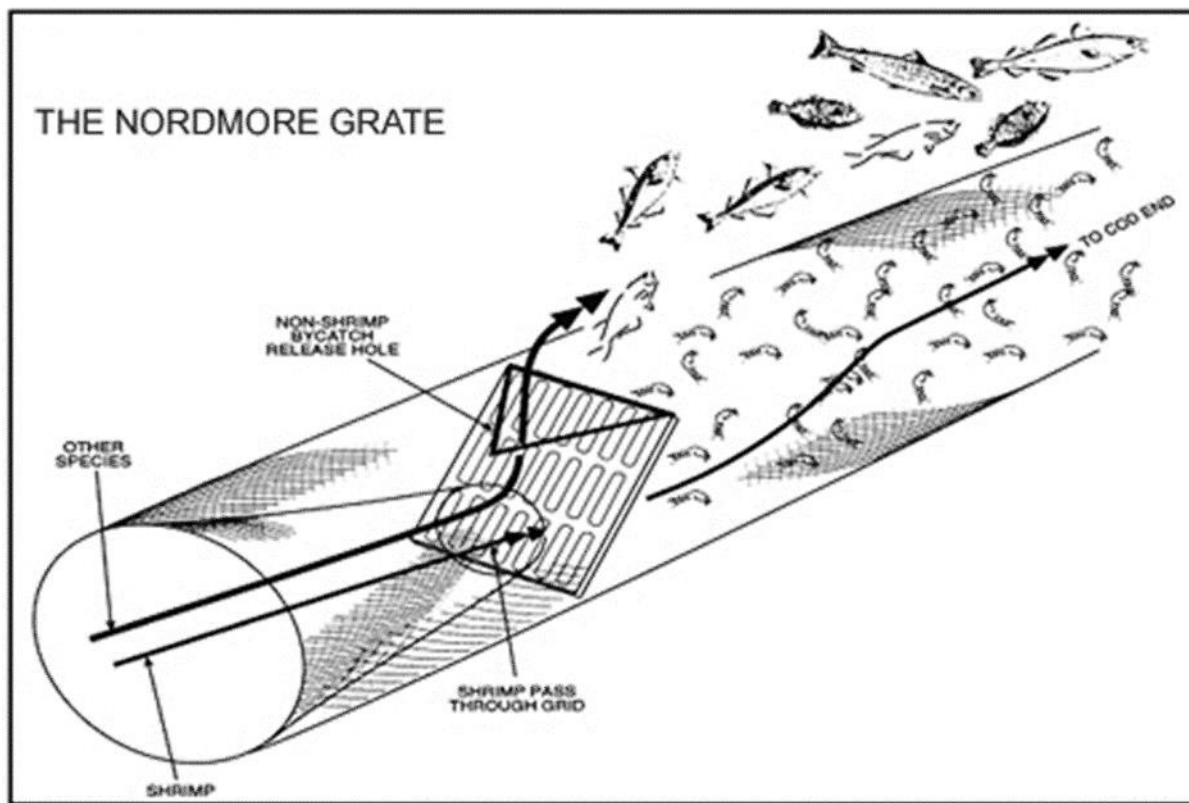


Figure 9. Representation of bycatch excluder device used in the Puget Sound non-spot shrimp trawl fishery (from Pinkham & Schick, 2009).

Commercial Shrimp Value

Commercial fisheries are commonly assessed by their ex-vessel value, the amount paid to the fisher for their product. Over the last decade, the ex-vessel value of the commercial spot shrimp pot fishery reached a peak of over \$1M in 2015, then modestly declined. In 2020, the commercial spot shrimp fishery was valued at \$910,055. The ex-vessel value of the commercial non-spot shrimp pot fishery has been steadily increasing since 2010 with a peak ex-vessel value of \$222,298 in 2019. In 2020, the fishery was valued at \$196,262 (Table 5).



Table 5. Total catch and ex-vessel value of spot and non-spot Shrimp taken in the commercial shrimp pot fishery from 2000 to 2020 (WDFW, unpublished fish ticket data). Values are not adjusted for inflation.

Year	SPOT SHRIMP				NON-SPOT SHRIMP			
	Pounds	Average Price	# Boats	Ex-Vessel Value	Pounds	Average Price	# Boats	Ex-Vessel Value
2000	56,910	\$3.98	18	\$226,325	39,036	\$1.52	13	\$59,483
2001	60,479	\$3.81	18	\$230,223	33,940	\$1.56	13	\$52,805
2002	67,905	\$3.16	19	\$214,676	43,194	\$1.25	13	\$54,194
2003	77,264	\$3.47	18	\$268,041	31,822	\$1.26	14	\$39,980
2004	76,882	\$3.93	17	\$302,473	35,604	\$1.18	11	\$42,068
2005	82,508	\$4.42	18	\$364,356	35,201	\$1.37	14	\$48,221
2006	83,586	\$4.63	17	\$387,388	26,759	\$1.32	11	\$35,392
2007	86,955	\$4.70	17	\$408,964	31,796	\$1.66	12	\$52,752
2008	88,274	\$5.33	17	\$470,755	20,947	\$1.86	9	\$38,965
2009	92,387	\$4.95	18	\$457,457	40,722	\$1.94	11	\$78,845
2010	95,915	\$5.27	17	\$505,081	38,243	\$1.82	8	\$69,536
2011	103,820	\$5.93	17	\$615,749	39,378	\$1.94	8	\$76,287
2012	126,026	\$6.48	18	\$816,255	46,354	\$2.09	7	\$96,833
2013	103,576	\$6.92	18	\$716,265	46,716	\$2.13	10	\$99,337
2014	106,468	\$7.65	18	\$814,182	48,012	\$2.58	10	\$123,963
2015	113,166	\$9.32	18	\$1,054,375	49,649	\$2.53	10	\$125,690
2016	103,291	\$8.96	18	\$925,236	51,762	\$3.11	13	\$160,911
2017	105,722	\$9.07	18	\$958,611	60,720	\$2.93	16	\$177,981
2018	98,139	\$8.88	18	\$871,957	61,381	\$2.99	16	\$183,626
2019	94,588	\$9.75	18	\$921,763	62,629	\$3.55	15	\$222,298
2020	99,081	\$9.18	20	\$910,055	59,266	\$3.31	14	\$196,262

Historically the performance of the trawl fishery has varied widely from year-to-year, primarily as a function of the number of fishery participants (i.e., active vessels) and effort of licensed vessels as markets and processing capability have shifted. Participation increased from 1990 and was highest from 1995 to 1997, then declined after the institution of the harvest quota in 1998 (Figure 8). Over the last two decades, the ex-vessel value of this fishery has varied reaching a peak in 2000 at \$475,163 and lowest in 2010 at \$46,011 (Table 6). In 2020, the trawl fishery was valued at \$403,150.



Table 6. Value of the commercial beam trawl fishery in ex-vessel dollars from 1999-2020. Source: WDFW unpublished data. Values are not adjusted for inflation.

Year	Pounds	Average Price	# Boats	Ex-Vessel Value
2000	683,931	\$0.69	6	\$475,164
2001	684,202	\$0.60	6	\$410,214
2002	686,693	\$0.58	6	\$400,625
2003	511,468	\$0.62	4	\$315,374
2004	682,155	\$0.63	5	\$431,241
2005	562,023	\$0.65	7	\$362,849
2006	327,748	\$0.55	5	\$180,824
2007	613,135	\$0.69	4	\$422,719
2008	630,787	\$0.55	5	\$346,933
2009	217,380	\$0.68	4	\$148,014
2010	92,209	\$0.50	3	\$46,012
2011	94,105	\$0.58	2	\$54,512
2012	205,455	\$0.51	3	\$103,907
2013	125,692	\$0.71	4	\$89,317
2014	335,578	\$0.50	4	\$168,800
2015	402,497	\$0.53	4	\$211,591
2016	275,225	\$0.55	3	\$151,153
2017	221,318	\$0.60	3	\$132,791
2018	274,598	\$0.61	3	\$166,202
2019	435,904	\$0.65	4	\$282,762
2020	480,151	\$0.84	4	\$403,150

Education and outreach

The focus of shrimp education and outreach is to reduce closed season shrimping, prevent loss of shellfish gear, promote rot cord use that allows shrimp escapement from derelict pots, and reinforce daily limits. The target for outreach effort is all recreational shrimpers.

WDFW web pages are a good source to find information related to recreational shrimp harvest. These pages have practical information about shrimp fishing including licensing, configuring and marking pot gear, and harvest regulations.

Shellfish gear sweeps

Similar to the crab fishery, shellfish gear sweeps are made when shrimping is closed. Because several regions have punctuated recreational shrimp openings, some only lasting 4 hours on a single day, the



frequency of gear sweeps is likewise commensurate with reduced shrimping effort. The same challenges and benefits of recovering and processing crab pots applies to shrimp pots. This includes:

- Secure storage and staff time is required to process the large volume of gear recovered
- Not able to identify fishers due to improperly marked buoys
- Fishers often assume gear was stolen
- Removing gear does provide an educational opportunity when owners are contacted
- Removing gear prevents continuous fishing by derelict pots and reduces unintended shrimp mortalities

Derelict shellfish gear recovery

In addition to WDFW pot sweeps, there is an effort to recover derelict shellfish pots under a contract with the NW Straits Foundation. The recovery effort uses sidescan sonar to detect submerged gear and then divers use this information to retrieve abandoned pots. The Foundation reports that over the last 5 years, 723 recreational and 628 commercial pots have been recovered. In 2020, the NW Straits Foundation was able to detect and recover 50 commercial and 138 recreational derelict pots. Most of the recovered pots were crab pots, but some of these pots were shrimp pots lost during shrimp fisheries.

Enforcement

Due to logistical constraints, updated data was not available prior to submitting this report. The 2021 report will include enforcement data from the 2019 and 2020 fishing seasons.

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