



State of Washington  
Department of Fish and Wildlife

*48 Devonshire Road, Montesano, Washington 98563-9618 (360) 249-4628 FAX (360) 249-1229*

Contact: Dan Ayres 360-249-4628 (ext. 209)  
December 28, 2016

**WASHINGTON COASTAL DUNGENESS CRAB INDUSTRY NOTICE**

**Regarding the opening of the coastal Dungeness crab fishery between the Queets River and Destruction Island, Washington;**

In our December 21, 2016 letter we told you that we would provide an update on the season opening in the Quileute U&A both in the area between Queets and Destruction Island.

Quileute tribal landings through December 26 have met the threshold (in our 2016-17 State/Quileute Crab Agreement) that requires us to delay the opening in this area. At this point we are unable to confirm when the area between the Queets River and Destruction Island will open, but we do know it will not be before January 15, 2016.

As a result, the northern border of the January 7 opening is now confirmed:

The state coastal commercial Dungeness crab fishery between Klipsan Beach (46°28.00) and the **Queets River (47°31.70)** will open at 9:00 am on January 7, 2017.

- A 73-hour gear pre-set period will begin at 8:00 am January 4, 2017.
- Hold inspections will be conducted starting at noon on January 6, 2017.
- Temporary pot limits in place south of Klipsan Beach will be removed at 8:00 am January 4, 2017.