LOWER ELWHA KLALLAM TRIBE SECTION 4.6 CRAB REGULATION FOR REGION 3

The following regulation is promulgated by the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe and shall govern the conduct of off-reservation commercial Dungeness crab fisheries in Region 3. The term of this regulation is from June 1, 2026 through May 31, 2027, unless superseded, and is intended to regulate the Dungeness crab harvest by the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe in Region 3 under provisions of Paragraph 4.6 of United States v.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the Region 3 Crab Harvest Management Plan is completed before the end of this regulation term, this regulation will be superseded by a new regulation conforming to the provisions of the Region 3 Crab Harvest Management Plan.

FILING ORGANIZATION: LOWER ELWHA KLALLAM TRIBE

REGULATION NUMBER: S26-074

DATE ADOPTED: NOVEMBER 25, 2026

REGULATION(S): S26-022 SECTION 5 & 7
MODIFIED:

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: JUNE 22ND, 2026 THROUGH APRIL 15, 2027

DAYS/HOURS: 1) OPEN 07:30AM MONDAY, AUGUST 31ST 2026 - CLOSE 05:00PM THURSDAY, JANUARY 7TH 2027

2) FOR ALL OPEN AREAS, POTS MAY ONLY BE CHECKED FROM 30 MINUTES BEFORE SUNRISE TO 30 MINUTES AFTER SUNSET EACH DAY.

LEGAL GEAR: AS PER REG. #S26-022, SECTION 7 AND 8 IN ADDITION:

1. POT LIMITS FOR EACH OF THE AREAS WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

A) FOR ALL OF SUBREGION 3-2, A TOTAL OF 50 POTS PER VESSEL FOR ALL AREAS COMBINED;

B) FOR INNER DUNGENESS BAY (ALL WATERS OF DUNGENESS BAY WEST OF THE 123 DEGREES 6.50 MINUTES 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. BUOY COLORS MAY BE ANY COLOR EXCEPT RED AND WHITE. NO RED AND WHITE COMBINATION OF ANY TYPE ARE PERMITTED. IF ANY PORTION OF THE BUOY IS RED NO REMAINING PORTION MAY BE WHITE. IF ANY PORTION OF THE BUOY IS WHITE, NO REMAINING PORTION MAY BE RED.

OTHER RESTRICTIONS: AS PER REG. #S26-022, ADDITIONALLY:

1. THE MINIMUM SIZE LIMIT FOR LEGAL CRAB IS 6.25 INCHES, CALIPER MEASUREMENT ACROSS THE BACK OF THE CRAB, IMMEDIATELY IN FRONT OF THE TIPS.
2. ONLY MALE CRABS MAY BE TAKEN. IT IS UNLWFUL FOR FISHERS TO RETAIN AND POSSESS ANY FEMALE DUNGENESS CRAB, UNDERSIZED, OR SOFT-SHELLED CRABS. ALL FEMALE DUNGENESS CRAB, UNDERSIZED, OR SOFT-SHELLED CRABS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE WATER UNHARMED.
3. 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 INTO THE TRIBAL FISHERIES OFFICE.
4. FISHERS WILL NEED TO SEND IN A DAILY COUNT PLEASE TAKE PICTURE AND SEND TO MY WORK CELL 360-912-4355.
5. LONGLINE FISHING IS PERMITTED. A MAXIMUM OF 5 POTS PER LONGLINE IS ALLOWED, PROVIDED THAT EACH LONGLINE HAS AT LEAST ONE BUOY ATTACHED THAT CONFORMS WITH THE BUOY REQUIREMENTS OF REGULATION #S24-018, SECTION 7. BUOYS MUST REMAIN FLOATING AT ALL TIMES EXCEPT DURING EXTREME TIDES. BUOYS WILL BE MARKED WITH THE TRIBE S INITIALS (LEK) AND WITH THE FISHER S ID NUMBER. BUOY LINES WILL BE WEIGHTED TO KEEP THE LINES FROM FLOATING.

REGISTRATION: ALL TRIBAL FISHERS PLANNING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE REGION 3 CRAB FISHERY MUST REGISTER AT THE TRIBAL OFFICE PRIOR TO FISHING. AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION, FISHERS SHALL REPORT THE NUMBER OF POTS TO BE USED.

CATCH REPORTING: 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 CODE 20-561 ON TREATY INDIAN FISH RECEIVING TICKETS. ALL SUBSISTANCE CRAB HARVEST SHALL BE REPORTED ON SHELLFISH SUBSISTANCE CARDS. CARDS ARE AVAILABLE THE TRIBAL FISHERIES OFFICE.

LOST GEAR REPORTING:

1. ALL FISHERS MUST REPORT LOST GEAR TO ENFORCEMENT IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE FISHERY.

2. ALL FISHERS MUST FILL OUT A LOST POT FORM AND SUBMIT IT TO THE NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE WITHIN 24 HOURS OF THE CLOSE OF THE FISHERY.

JUSTIFICATIONS: EXTENDS TREATY HARVEST OF AVAILABLE CRAB IN REGION 3-2 TO JANUARY 7TH.

(LOWER ELWHA FISHERIES
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