



Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission
October 19, 2001

EXHIBIT **F**

SUBJECT OREGON COMMERCIAL DUNGENESS CRAB FISHERY

PRINCIPAL STAFF PERSON ROD KAISER PHONE: (541) 867-4741

COMMISSION ACTION REQUESTED The Commission will review the status of the Oregon commercial Dungeness crab fishery. Staff will provide an update on the Crab Fishermen Advisory Committee process to discuss a pot limitation system for the Oregon commercial crab fishery, as requested by the Commission. Staff will review a suggested schedule for Commission action (rulemaking) and guidance, to implement pot limits by the start of the 2002-03 season (December 1, 2002) if the crab advisors present options for Commission review and action.

DOCUMENTS ATTACHED

1. Agenda Item Summary
2. Oregon Commercial Dungeness Crab Fishery Status Report
3. An Update on Pot Limitation Issues in the Oregon Dungeness Crab Fishery and Discussion with the Oregon Crab Industry.

RELATED STATUTES ORS 506.119, 506.129, 508-921 to 508.921

RELATED RULES N.A.

Read and Approved by:

Division Director	REDACTED FOR PRIVACY REDACTED FOR PRIVACY	Date <u>10-3-01</u>
Attorney General	REDACTED FOR PRIVACY REDACTED FOR PRIVACY	Date <u>10/3/01</u>
Director	REDACTED FOR PRIVACY REDACTED FOR PRIVACY REDACTED FOR PRIVACY REDACTED FOR PRIVACY	Date <u>10/3/01</u>

Agenda Item Summary

BACKGROUND

This is an annual status report on Oregon's ocean commercial crab fishery (no rulemaking). Staff will also discuss and update the Commission on discussions with the Oregon crab industry on the issue of crab pot limitation for the commercial fishery. This issue was reviewed with the Commission at the May and October 1999, and October 2000 meetings. The Commission requested in October 2000 that staff begin an active and directed dialogue with the crab industry on this issue and report back to them on progress.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

1. Oregon Dungeness Crab Commodity Commission meetings with fishermen attending: Feb. (Astoria) and June (Charleston) 2001.
2. Winter 2001: Crab mail questionnaire on pot limits mailed to all Oregon crab limited entry license holders.
3. Winter-Spring 2001: Staff worked with crab fishermen in Oregon coastal ports to select representatives for Oregon Crab Fishermen Advisory Committee membership. Initial committee membership assembled in late Spring 2001
4. Held first Crab Fishermen Advisory Committee meeting on pot limits at Newport, September 18, 2001
5. Coastal Port Meetings: Six port meetings held (or scheduled) at Brookings, Port Orford, Coos Bay, Newport, Tillamook, Astoria in early October 2001.

ISSUE 1

Commission guidance for staff needed on scheduling Commission pot limitation public testimony and rulemaking for the Oregon commercial Dungeness crab fishery. If the Crab Advisors adopt options for Commission review, they likely will not complete this work prior to late February or early March 2002. May is the latest Commission date that would still allow time to qualify fishermen and implement limitation for December 1, 2002.

ANALYSIS

- The ODFW survey of Oregon crab limited Entry permit holders in Jan.-Feb. 2001 resulted in a 64% response rate and 87% of those respondents, across all ports, supporting pot limitation of some kind. They indicated that they wanted to move ahead with industry discussions and option development.
- Washington has implemented their final pot limitation system starting with the 2000-01 season. This action directly affects Oregon's fishermen, especially those actively fishing at the OR/WA Columbia River area.
- Industry is concerned over the rapid increase of pot gear in the Oregon fishery--staff has estimated pot usage for the 1999-00 season at 146,000 pots (not counting Washington gear fished off Oregon in "open" waters), compared to about an 118,00 pot average for 1995-1999.
- Several external factors such as severely reduced opportunity in Alaska crab and groundfish and West Coast fisheries off WA/OR/CA will bring added, and generally larger, vessels into the Oregon crab fishery.

Crabbers fear shorter "derby type" fisheries where more crab will be caught with more gear in shorter time periods. They are also concerned over the economic and fishery destabilization in the long term.

OPTIONS

None

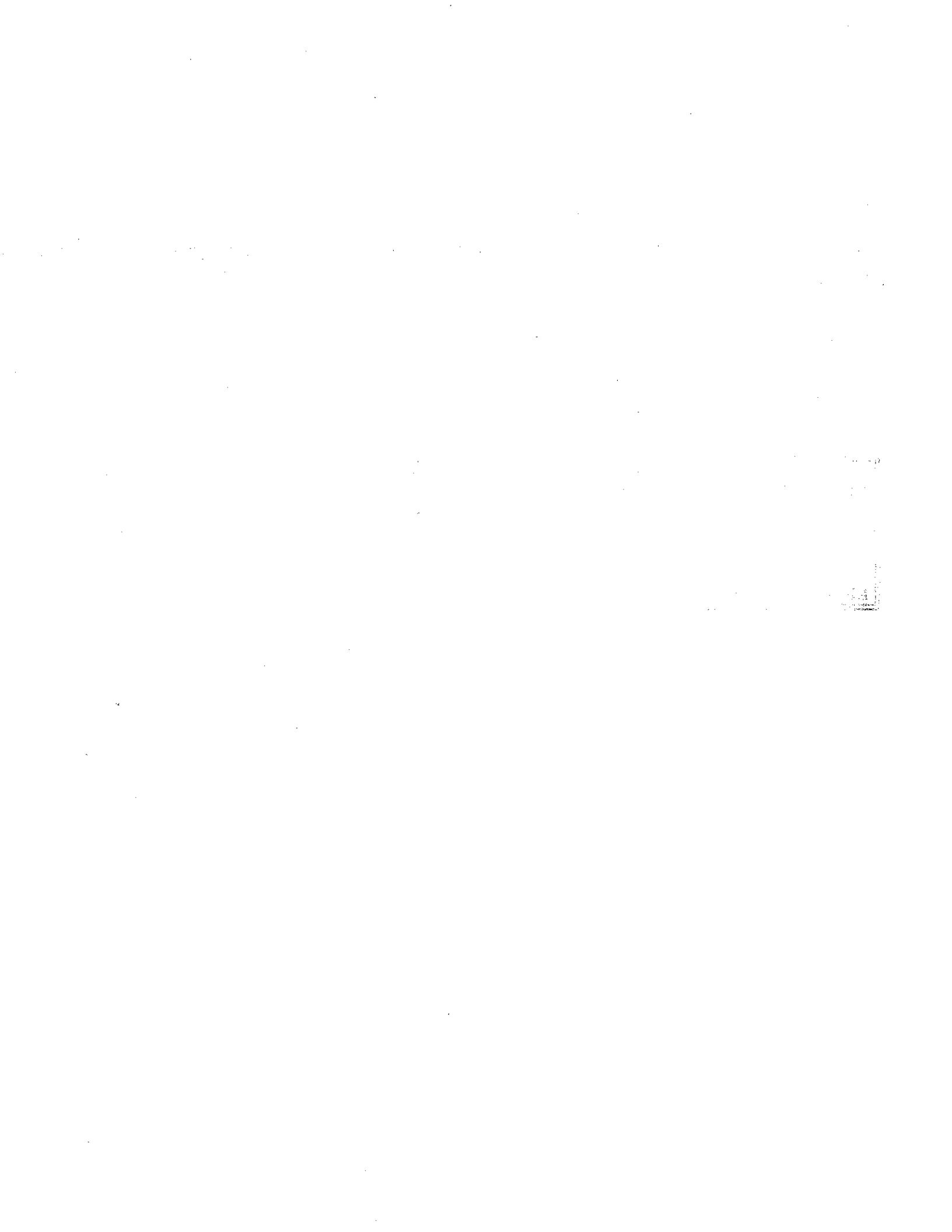
**STAFF
RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends continuation of ongoing public crab industry process through the Crab Advisory Committee and local port area meetings with fisherman during the period October 2001 through early Spring 2002. It is recommended that any options, if developed by the Committee and ODFW be scheduled for public testimony and rule-making by the Commission no later than May 2002 to allow time to qualify fishermen and prepare for a December 2002 implementation date.

DRAFT MOTION

None

EFFECTIVE DATE



OREGON COMMERCIAL DUNGENESS CRAB FISHERY

STATUS REPORT

Presented to

Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission

Seaside, Oregon

October 19, 2001

Prepared by

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Fish Division

Marine Resources Program

Newport, Oregon

Outline of Staff Report

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Appendix A. Oregon Pot Limit Survey - Final Results

Appendix B. Oregon Dungeness Crab Fisherman Advisory Committee

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report reviews the status of Oregon's ocean commercial Dungeness crab fishery. An overview is presented for the entire 2000-01 ocean commercial crab fishery with a specific discussion of the 2001 summer fishery. We discuss the joint ODFW and crab industry dialogue and process on the issue of implementing a crab pot limitation system in the Oregon commercial ocean crab fishery for the 2002-03 season.

2000-01 Fishery

- Oregon commercial crab fishery landed 7.4 million pounds, 18% below the historic average of 9.0 million pounds and 53% below the 1999-00 season catch of 15.7 million pounds. The fishery was valued at \$ 15.6 million.
- Newport, Astoria, Coos Bay and Brookings were the four leading ports of landing during the 2000-01 season, representing 83% of all deliveries; 84% in the 1999-00 season.
- Most crab catch is landed during December-January. Since 1984, no less than 67% of the annual catch has been harvested during December and January. On average, over the past four seasons, 80% or more of the season catch has been harvested in this eight-week period.
- An estimated 322 vessels fished this past season, a 2% decrease from the 1999-00 season (327), but only 1% below the six season average (325) since limited entry (1995).
- Gear use (pots fished) increased dramatically from about 116,000 pots in the 1998-99 season to an estimated 146,000 pots in 1999-00 season based on preseason vessel "hold" inspections. This is second only the record of 151,000 pots set in 1989-90 (before limited entry). Pot fished in the 2000-01 season are very preliminary and are estimated only slightly less than the prior season, at 137,000 pots, despite the 53% reduction in catch
- Slightly more than 50% of pots are fished by active vessels 49 feet or less, averaged over the past six fishing seasons based on an analysis by staff.
- Overall ex-vessel price/pound for crab set a new record of \$2.11/pound.

2001 Summer Fishery

- Summer crab catch of 429,000 pounds was 13% below the 2000 summer fishery harvest of 494,000 pounds. Summer catch was 6% total season catch.
- Summer landings were 12% below the summer fishery catch ceiling calculated as 7% of the December-May landings; 487,000 pounds for 2001.
- Ex-vessel price per pound, by month, was similar to 2000. Overall, the fishery was worth about \$0.95 million compared to \$1.2 million in 2000.

Oregon Pot Limitation Discussion

- Washington implemented a pot limitation system at the start of the 1999-00 season with a 500 pot allocation for all vessels. For the 2000-01 season a revised system was adopted using a two-tiered pot limit of 300 or 500 pots per license. Pot allocation is based on the best year of landings from a base period of 1996-97, 1997-98, and 1998-99 season.
- ODFW and the Oregon crab industry are actively discussing pot limits for possible implementation for the Oregon crab fishery beginning with the 2002-03 season.
- Mail survey questionnaire to all limited entry license holders resulted in a 64% return rate (259 responses from 404 surveys mailed). A total of 87% of respondents supported some sort of pot limitation for the Oregon fishery and want to move ahead with options for Commission review.
- Staff and industry jointly created an Oregon Crab Fishermen Advisory Committee to discuss the issue of pot limits. Staff produced a technical report on the fishery in September 2001, profiling the fleet activity and pot use. The report discussed sample approaches and options based on criteria most often mentioned by fishermen. These included single or multi-tiered vessel pot allocation based on: (1) catch history and participation, (2) past pot usage based on pots "declared" at the time of preseason vessel hold inspections, and (3) vessel length.

**OREGON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
STAFF REPORT**

**OREGON COMMERCIAL DUNGENESS CRAB FISHERY
STATUS REPORT**

PREPARED FOR OREGON FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION

October 19, 2001

Seaside, Oregon

I. INTRODUCTION

This report reviews the current status of Oregon's ocean commercial Dungeness crab fishery. The report discusses the most recent 2000-01 season (December 1, 2000-August 14, 2001). It updates the Commission on the staff's ongoing dialogue with the Oregon crab industry to evaluate pot limitation in the fishery.

II. REVIEW OF 2000-01 FISHERY

Fishery Regulations

The West Coast Dungeness crab fishery off Washington, Oregon, and California is managed as a "recruit" fishery harvesting mostly one or two age classes of adult male crab of a minimum size based on established season dates, specific gear requirements, and no quotas (except weekly catch limits during the summer season). This harvest strategy is generally described as "3-S" management based on the application of size, sex, and season criteria.

Oregon regulations insure continuous, though cyclic, levels of annual reproduction over time. It protects all females from harvest and adult males below the commercial minimum size of 6.25 inches. Season regulations are designed to harvest most crab well after molting, allowing a period of time for newly-molted soft-shell crabs of legal size to harden their shells and reach an acceptable "market condition" for minimum meat content. The traditional approach of West Coast harvest strategies has been to close the season during the period when the majority of adult male crabs are "soft", in order to optimize the annual yield from the crab resource. However, both Oregon and Washington seasons currently extend small fisheries into the summer months when molting activity and soft-shell abundance is typically high (July and August).

In 1992, the Commission enacted a summer harvest ceiling for the June 1 through August 14 period, requiring the Director to close the season if landings after May 31 exceeded ten percent of the previous December through May total landings. This regulation was effective with the 1993

summer season and continued through the 1998 summer fishery. The 10 percent ceiling was approached but not exceeded during these years.

Starting in 1999, the Commission enacted additional summer fishery regulations to discourage the potential for continued expansion of a soft-shell crab fishery, higher levels of fishing effort, and increased sorting and associated mortality. Regulations restricted landings to 1,200 cumulative pounds per vessel per week from the second Monday in June through August 14 (end of season), with total landings during the June 1 through August period limited to a reduced catch ceiling of 7 percent of the previous December-May harvest. This action preserved the modest historic low volume summer fishery directed towards available hard-shell crab and coastal consumer markets.

Overall Season Landings, Effort, and Value

Landings: The 2000-01 Oregon commercial crab fishery landed 7.4 million pounds, 18% below the historic average (since 1947-48 season) of 9.0 million pounds and 53% below the 1999-00 season landings of 15.7 million pounds (Table 1, Figure 1). Combined December-January landings continued to represent the bulk of total landings at 5.9 million pounds; 80 percent of total season landings. The monthly landing profile has shown a significant change since the late 1970's when 48, 44, and 9 percent of the catch was landed during the December-January, February-May, and June-August periods, respectively. During the most recent four seasons, the landing profile has changed markedly to an average of 80, 16, and 4 percent composition for the same periods, respectively (Table 2, Figure 2). Since 1987, no less than 66 % of the annual catch has been landed during the combined months December and January.

Oregon's annual crab landings have fluctuated in cyclic patterns over the last fifty years where reliable landing data is available. Oregon fishery landings range from peak catches in the 15 to 18 million pound range and a low range of 3 to 5 million pounds (Figure 1). This pattern is expected in a fishery that predominately relies on a single year "recruit" class for most of its harvest. The long-term harvest (since the 1947-48 season) is 9.0 million pounds and 10.9 million for the most recent 10 years (since 1990-91 season).

The four leading ports for the 2000-01 season, in order of landings, were Astoria, Newport, Coos Bay and Brookings, with landings of 2.6, 1.9, 0.8 and 0.7 million pounds, respectively. Collectively, these ports represented 83% of total 2000-01 season crab harvest and have generally been the leading ports over time (Figure 3).

A landing profile of catch for the Oregon commercial crab fleet has been completed for three fishing seasons covering the period of 1997-98 through 1999-00 (Figure 4). These seasons represent a below average, average, and above average range of catch and illustrate the catch distribution percentage among the active fleet. On average, about 50 percent of vessels landing crab landed 20,000 pounds or less per season during that period. Nearly 75 percent of the vessels landed 40,000 pounds or less. A vessel size class profile for the 1999-00 season was also completed (Figure 5) and shows that vessels less than 45 feet (overall length) landed roughly 30 percent of the catch while vessels less than 55 feet landed about two thirds of the catch.

Effort: A estimated 322 vessels (preliminary) fished during the 2000-01 season, a 2 percent decrease from the 1999-00 season (327), and only 1% less than the six season average of 325

vessels since the start of Oregon's vessel limited entry program in 1995-96 (Table 1). The 2000-01 season effort was within the range of 300-350 vessel range for active vessels during this period.

Commercial crab pots and the level of gear use is constantly discussed as a major issue in the Oregon fishery. The second section of this report evaluates pot usage relative to the current dialogue with industry on the issue of pot limitation. The level of gear usage has increased significantly in the Oregon crab fishery since the early 1970's (Table 1 and Figure 6) and continues to increase despite the stabilizing factor of implementing the vessel limited entry program in 1995. Pot use in the fishery is estimated to have reached 100,000 pots during the 1978-79 season, a record of 151,000 pots in 1990-91, and ranged from 112,000 to 146,000 pots since the start of limited entry (1995-96 season). In general, while vessel effort leveled off with the start of limited entry, pot use continued to increase to higher levels (Figure 6).

Pot usage for the 1999-00 was evaluated for the pot limitation discussion with industry based on the required preseason vessel hold inspection and asking vessel operators the number of pots being fished. We interviewed 80 percent of the active vessels that "declared" 82 percent of the total pots estimated in use for the season. The remaining 66 active vessels that were not inspected (inspection not required if a vessel fishes later in the season) were each assigned an average pot use based on their vessel length and the average pots declared for inspected vessels of the same length category (Figure 7). Overall, it is estimated that about 146,000 pots were in use for the 1999-00 season. The 23% increase over the previous 1998-99 season is generally attributed to the expected high catch anticipated and the fear by many fishermen that pot usage may be a criteria for pot allocation under a future pot limit system. Washington fisherman has also relocated additional pots to "open" Oregon waters during the past two seasons since implementation of the Washington pot limitation program for waters off Washington.

Some observations of pot usage in the Oregon fishery are:

- Slightly more than 50% of pots are estimated to be fished by vessels 49 feet or less, on average, over the past six fishing seasons, but gear use is well distributed across many vessel size groups (Figure 8).
- A comparison of pot declaration data from inspected vessels only, since the 1994-95 season, indicates that pot use has increased fairly uniformly across most vessel size groups over the time evaluated (Figure 9).

Value: The 2000-01 ocean commercial crab fishery ex-vessel value was worth \$15.6 million, the fifth highest value on record, despite the below average catch. The average season value of \$2.11 per pound also set a record. Total and average per pound values are shown in Table 3. Monthly comparisons for the past two seasons and a history of value by month for 1994-2001 is shown in Table 4.

2001 Summer Fishery

Description, History and Markets: The "traditional" summer fishery historically includes the period of June 1-August 14 (end of season) Markets for summer crab has historically been more

diverse with crab quality and price varying widely. The summer fishery landed catch is only a small portion of the total season catch; almost always less than 10 percent (Table 5). Although significant number of good quality crab can still be caught through June and early July, prior to the summer molting period, in most years, there are few remaining "hard-shells" or "skip molts" available. New recruits, following molting in mid summer, are not generally of sufficient quality to support significant catches for the hard-shell markets. In occasional years, however, crab molt and harden-up relatively early so that by mid-July there is an opportunity to market substantial quantities. The quality is still not up to winter standards but finds market acceptance at a time when domestic supplies of fresh crab are limited.

Catch: The 2001 summer fishery (June-August 14), operating under the 1999 revised regulations, landed 429,400 pounds (preliminary), 13 percent less than the 2000 summer landings of 494,500 pounds. A comparison of the fishery since 1999 (under weekly catch limits regulations) is shown in Figure 10. Landings represented about 6 percent of the total season catch (Table 5). Overall, landings were approximately 50,000 below the 7 percent summer fishery ceiling estimated at 487,000 pounds. Monthly landings for June and July were 38 and 16 percent below 2000 harvests and 67 percent higher in August, respectively.

Value: The 2001 summer fishery ex-vessel price per pound, by month (June, July and August) is similar for the past three years (Table 4). Based on summer monthly poundage and average monthly prices, the 2001 summer fishery had an ex-vessel value of about \$0.95 million, compared to \$1.2 and \$0.54 in 2000 and 1999 seasons, respectively.

Table 1. Historical effort and catch in the Oregon ocean commercial Dungeness crab fishery, 1947-48 through 2000-01 seasons. Total pots are estimated historically by staff biologists, by port. Since about 1990, an increasing emphasis has been placed on coastwide pot declaration data and estimates for non-inspected vessels.

Season	Active Vessels	Estimated Number of Total Pots	Number of Pounds Harvested			Thousands of Pounds per Boat
			Winter	Summer	All	
1947-48	67	8,000			10,044,000	150
1948-49	35	4,000			9,354,000	267
1949-50	29	4,000			6,252,000	216
1950-51	63	13,600			7,478,400	119
1951-52	83	15,700			5,407,675	65
1952-53	71	13,500			6,413,275	90
1953-54	83	16,200			10,131,125	122
1954-55	89	19,600			6,413,100	72
1955-56	92	18,900			8,910,600	97
1956-57	68	19,200			11,737,800	173
1957-58	75	21,300			10,103,000	135
1958-59	105	21,800			7,125,525	68
1959-60	103	20,600			8,296,125	81
1960-61	110	24,400			11,359,000	103
1961-62	103	28,400			5,813,000	56
1962-63	121	24,600			3,620,975	30
1963-64	95	23,000			3,586,335	38
1964-65	100	22,100			6,221,000	62
1965-66	81	25,000			10,187,000	126
1966-67	87	27,100			9,428,000	108
1967-68	90	28,600			10,215,000	114
1968-69	105	29,200			11,965,000	114
1969-70	143	33,500			13,849,000	97
1970-71	193	49,600			14,735,000	76
1971-72	205	54,900			6,780,000	33
1972-73	310	52,000			3,143,000	10
1973-74	* 300	* 50,000			3,462,000	12
1974-75	* 300	* 50,000			3,335,000	11
1975-76	220	55,000			9,099,000	41
1976-77	324	87,800			16,301,800	47
1977-78	355	70,000	9,856,158	522,442	10,378,600	23
1978-79	346	100,800	15,413,485	938,335	16,351,820	37
1979-80	465	125,400	17,275,838	966,692	18,242,530	35
1980-81	447	126,600	9,119,830	385,988	9,505,818	21
1981-82	423	107,100	5,740,798	2,975,739	8,716,537	19
1982-83	393	104,700	3,095,347	1,232,122	4,327,469	11
1983-84	317	90,300	4,166,174	513,839	4,680,013	14
1984-85	314	83,600	4,738,432	162,293	4,900,725	15
1985-86	380	93,600	6,906,855	222,230	7,129,085	21
1986-87	324	88,700	4,362,639	317,485	4,680,124	14
1987-88	327	85,200	8,299,822	350,009	8,649,831	26
1988-89	342	91,900	10,638,471	526,380	11,164,851	32
1989-90	452	151,400	8,693,548	541,859	9,235,407	20
1990-91	368	86,400	7,692,299	554,203	8,246,502	22
1991-92	374	94,800	6,745,145	809,322	7,554,467	20
1992-93	354	102,300	9,911,678	956,540	10,868,218	31
1993-94	386	111,900	9,356,100	885,060	10,241,160	27
1994-95	424	114,200	14,369,709	681,977	15,051,686	35
1995-96	346	124,500	17,079,115	601,866	17,680,981	51
1996-97	332	122,400	6,689,348	356,824	7,046,172	21
1997-98	314	112,200	6,636,392	449,661	7,086,053	23
1998-99	306	116,400	8,912,160	202,421	9,114,581	30
1999-00	327	145,100	15,180,609	497,445	15,678,054	48
Historic Average	231	62,474	9,168,694	680,467	9,005,612	63
Recent 10 Yr Avg.	353	113,020	10,257,256	599,532	10,856,787	31
Avg. Since Ltd. Entry	325	124,120	10,899,525	421,643	11,321,168	35
2000-01 (preliminary)	322	137,300	6,955,909	429,433	7,385,342	23

* general estimate only

Figure 1. Total seasonal landings and historical average (in pounds) for the Oregon ocean commercial Dungeness crab fishery, 1951-52 through 2000-01 seasons. 2000-01 data is preliminary.

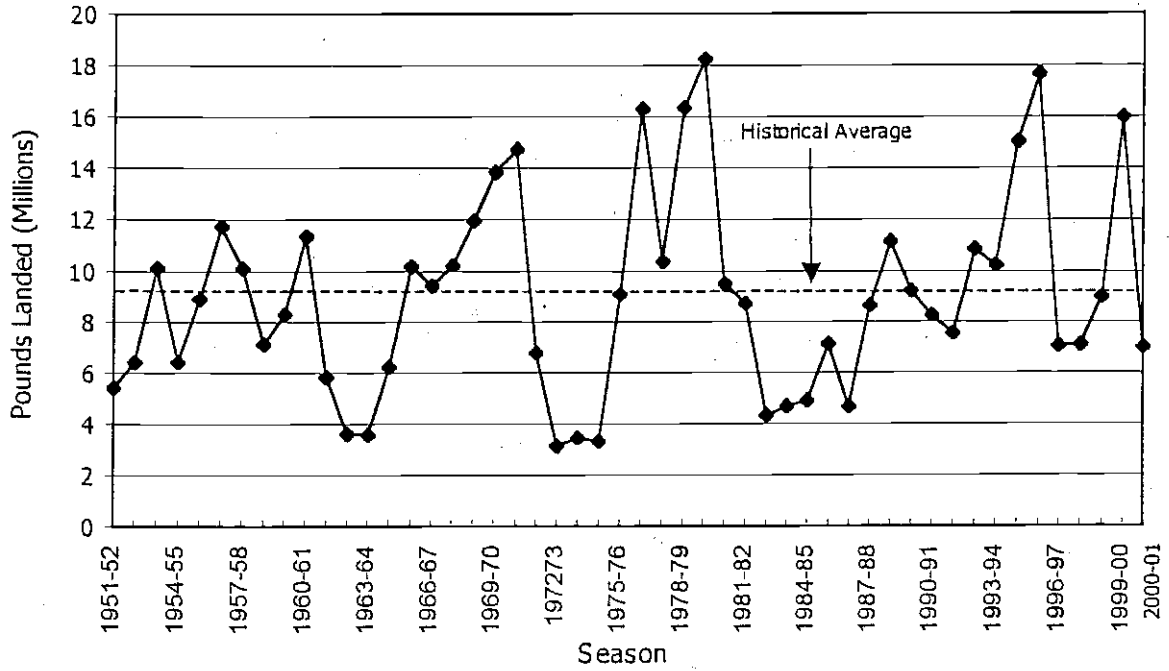


Figure 2. Seasonal percent distribution of landings in the Oregon ocean commercial Dungeness crab fishery for the 1987-88 through 2000-01 fishing seasons, with comparison to the average for the 1976-77 through 1978-79 seasons.

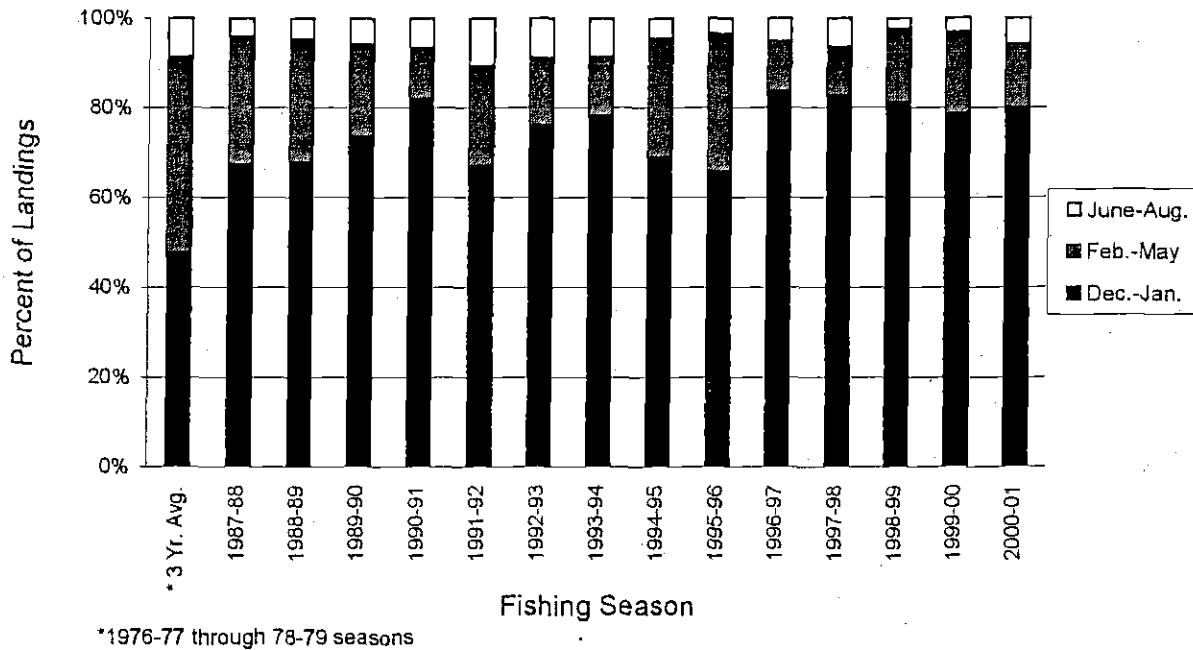
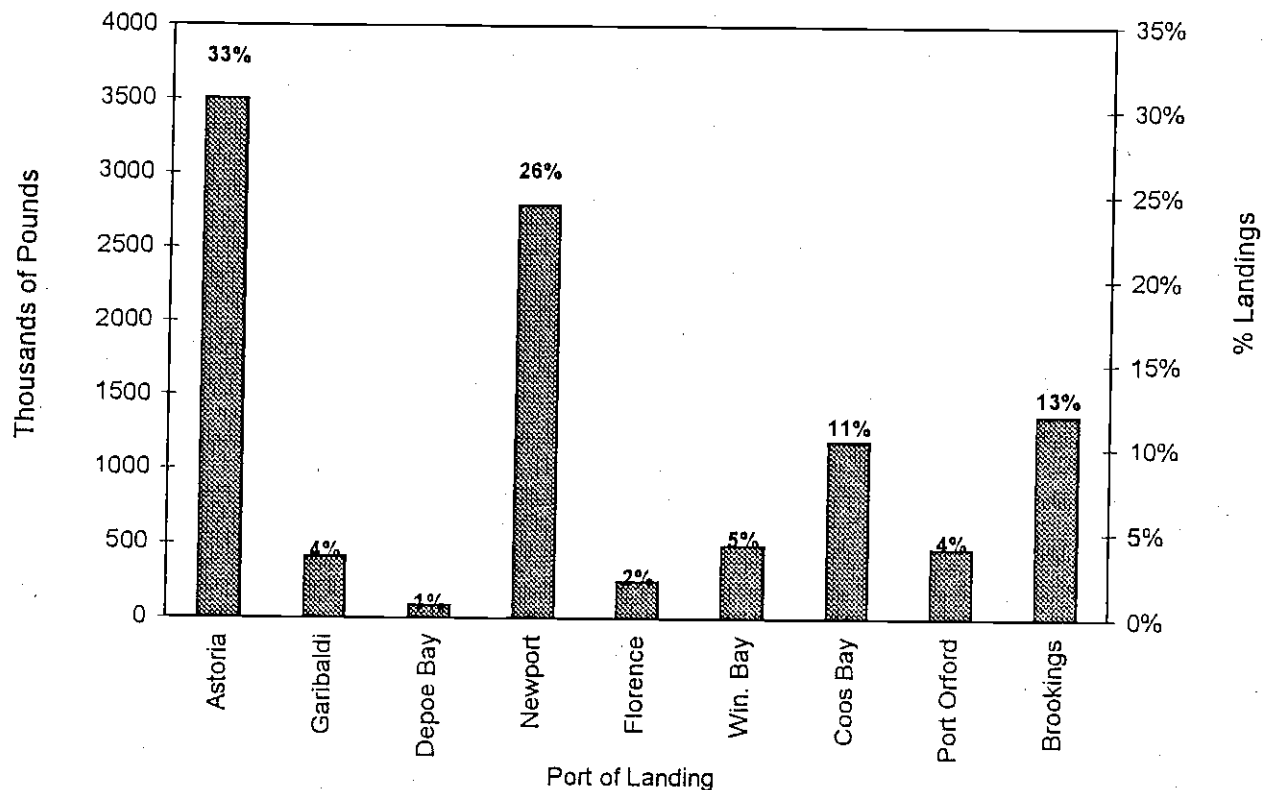


Table 2. Oregon ocean Dungeness crab landings by fishing season (in pounds) and percent of total catch for selected months for a 3-season average (1976-77 through 1978-79) and 1987-88 through 2000-01 (incomplete) seasons. Fishing season catch includes December of the previous year.

Fishing Season	Dec.-Jan.	%Catch	Feb.-May	% Catch	June-Aug./Sept.	%Catch	Total
3 Year Avg. (1976-77 -78-79)	6,840,918	48%	6,261,063	44%	1,235,426	9%	14,337,407
1987-88	5,836,900	67%	2,462,922	28%	350,009	4%	8,649,831
1988-89	7,582,072	68%	3,056,399	27%	526,380	5%	11,164,851
1989-90	6,794,917	74%	1,898,631	21%	541,859	6%	9,235,407
1990-91	6,763,334	82%	928,965	11%	554,203	7%	8,246,502
1991-92	5,071,816	67%	1,673,329	22%	809,322	11%	7,554,467
1992-93	8,270,857	76%	1,640,821	15%	956,540	9%	10,868,218
1993-94	8,021,208	78%	1,334,892	13%	885,060	9%	10,241,160
1994-95	10,392,225	69%	3,977,585	26%	681,977	5%	15,051,787
1995-96	11,649,204	66%	5,426,937	31%	601,866	3%	17,678,007
1996-97	5,901,345	84%	784,964	11%	356,824	5%	7,043,133
1997-98	5,855,281	83%	776,952	11%	449,661	6%	7,081,894
1998-99	7,408,164	81%	1,502,929	16%	202,421	2%	9,113,514
1999-00	12,338,408	79%	2,842,159	18%	497,487	3%	15,678,054
2000-01	5,905,897	80%	1,050,012	14%	429,433	6%	7,385,342
4-yr. Average:	7,876,938	80%	1,543,013	16%	394,751	4%	9,814,701

Figure 3. Average landings (in thousands of pounds) and percent total landings by port in the Oregon ocean commercial Dungeness crab fishery, 1988-99 through 2000-01 seasons.

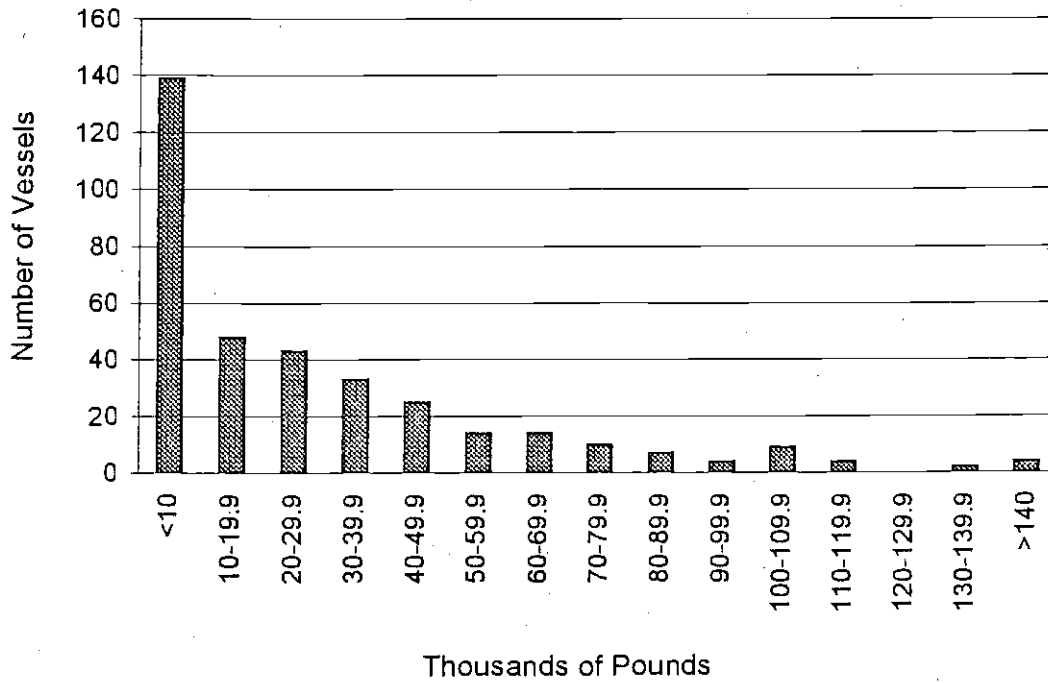


Season ¹	Astoria	Garibaldi	Depoe Bay	Newport	Florence	Winchester Bay	Coos Bay	Port Orford	Brookings	Other ²	Total
1988	3,143,826	427,028	125,188	2,273,939	333,983	586,446	792,040	184,281	773,801	9,299	8,649,831
1989	4,305,234	599,331	113,422	3,050,992	361,348	661,302	801,062	141,458	1,117,144	13,558	11,164,851
1990	2,888,137	344,286	35,133	2,152,798	258,114	590,906	1,444,346	443,974	1,053,312	24,401	9,235,407
1991	2,359,461	254,790	42,433	1,918,796	181,998	488,401	1,135,287	419,840	1,416,951	28,545	8,246,502
1992	2,164,735	342,384	78,837	1,877,572	257,721	496,040	797,034	329,856	1,197,572	12,716	7,554,467
1993	2,714,761	436,253	134,811	2,494,018	239,655	482,042	1,091,214	429,862	2,833,580	12,022	10,868,218
1994	4,614,144	360,011	92,241	2,630,344	236,460	389,579	1,168,701	206,892	531,290	11,498	10,241,160
1995	5,419,904	414,048	111,816	4,173,526	230,555	512,915	2,086,775	721,006	1,364,963	16,279	15,051,787
1996	5,971,173	725,619	197,295	4,440,287	173,758	450,215	1,768,416	1,341,943	2,591,814	17,487	17,678,007
1997	2,573,250	256,314	67,787	1,976,850	175,759	415,018	761,720	256,319	540,850	19,466	7,043,133
1998	2,611,609	264,907	41,373	1,753,618	327,508	215,737	594,651	247,484	1,015,976	9,031	7,081,894
1999	2,362,908	245,476	52,160	2,612,684	163,507	294,081	1,029,182	713,246	1,627,378	13,407	9,114,029
2000	4,413,701	704,801	68,283	4,926,162	281,820	799,388	2,061,549	666,672	1,717,546	38,132	15,678,054
2001	2,647,536	330,574	51,132	1,947,566	186,906	323,917	817,404	284,586	745,214	52,153	7,386,988
Average	3,442,170	407,559	86,565	2,730,639	243,507	478,999	1,167,813	456,244	1,323,385	19,857	10,356,738

¹ Includes December of the previous year

² Other includes Nehalem, Pacific City, Waldport, Bandon and Gold Beach

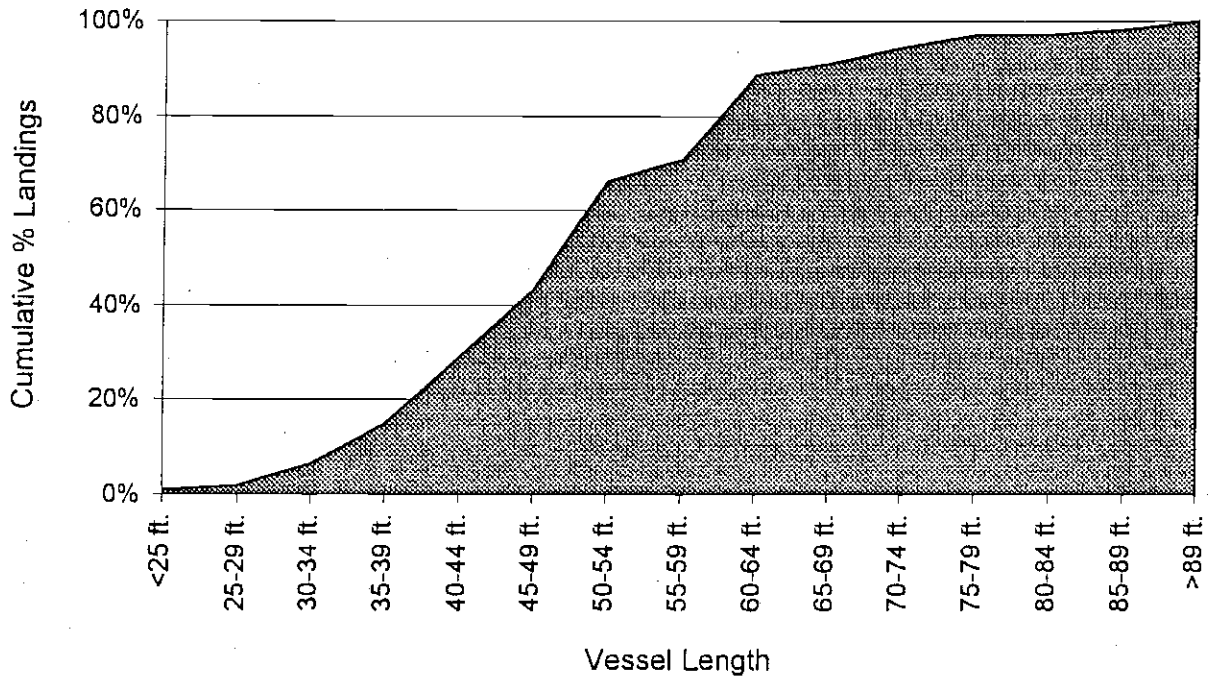
Figure 4. A three-year average landings profile (in thousands of pounds) of Dungeness crab for the Oregon ocean commercial fishery during the 1997-98 through 1999-2000 fishing seasons.



Thousands of Pounds Landed	Number of Boats 3-Year Average 1998-2000	Cumulative Percent of Total Catch
<10	139	39%
10-19.9	48	53%
20-29.9	43	65%
30-39.9	33	74%
40-49.9	25	81%
50-59.9	14	85%
60-69.9	14	89%
70-79.9	10	92%
80-89.9	7	94%
90-99.9	4	95%
100-109.9	9	97%
110-119.9	4	98%
120-129.9	0	98%
130-139.9	2	99%
≥140	4	100%

Total Vessels: 356

Figure 5. Cumulative percentage of pounds landed in the Oregon ocean commercial Dungeness crab fishery during the 1999-2000 season.



Vessel Length Category	Number of Vessels	Total Poundage by Vessel Length Category	Cumulative	
			Vessels	% of Catch
<25 ft.	20	157,836	20	1%
25-29 ft.	15	157,363	35	2%
30-34 ft.	32	717,005	67	7%
35-39 ft.	56	1,299,305	123	15%
40-44 ft.	53	2,202,087	176	29%
45-49 ft.	45	2,251,825	221	43%
50-54 ft.	28	1,673,827	249	66%
55-59 ft.	25	1,906,191	274	71%
60-64 ft.	9	704,032	283	89%
65-69 ft.	23	2,842,776	306	91%
70-74 ft.	6	373,285	312	95%
75-79 ft.	7	539,939	319	97%
80-84 ft.	4	410,551	323	97%
85-89 ft.	2	168,389	325	98%
>89 ft.	2	273,643	327	100%

Total:	327	15,678,054
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Figure 6. Estimated number of pots fished by active vessels in the Oregon ocean commercial fishery, 1947-48 through 2000-01 seasons. Pots declared historically by ODFW staff biologists, by port. Since about 1990 an increasing emphasis has been placed on the coastwide vessel "hold inspection" pot declarations and estimates for non-inspected active vessels.

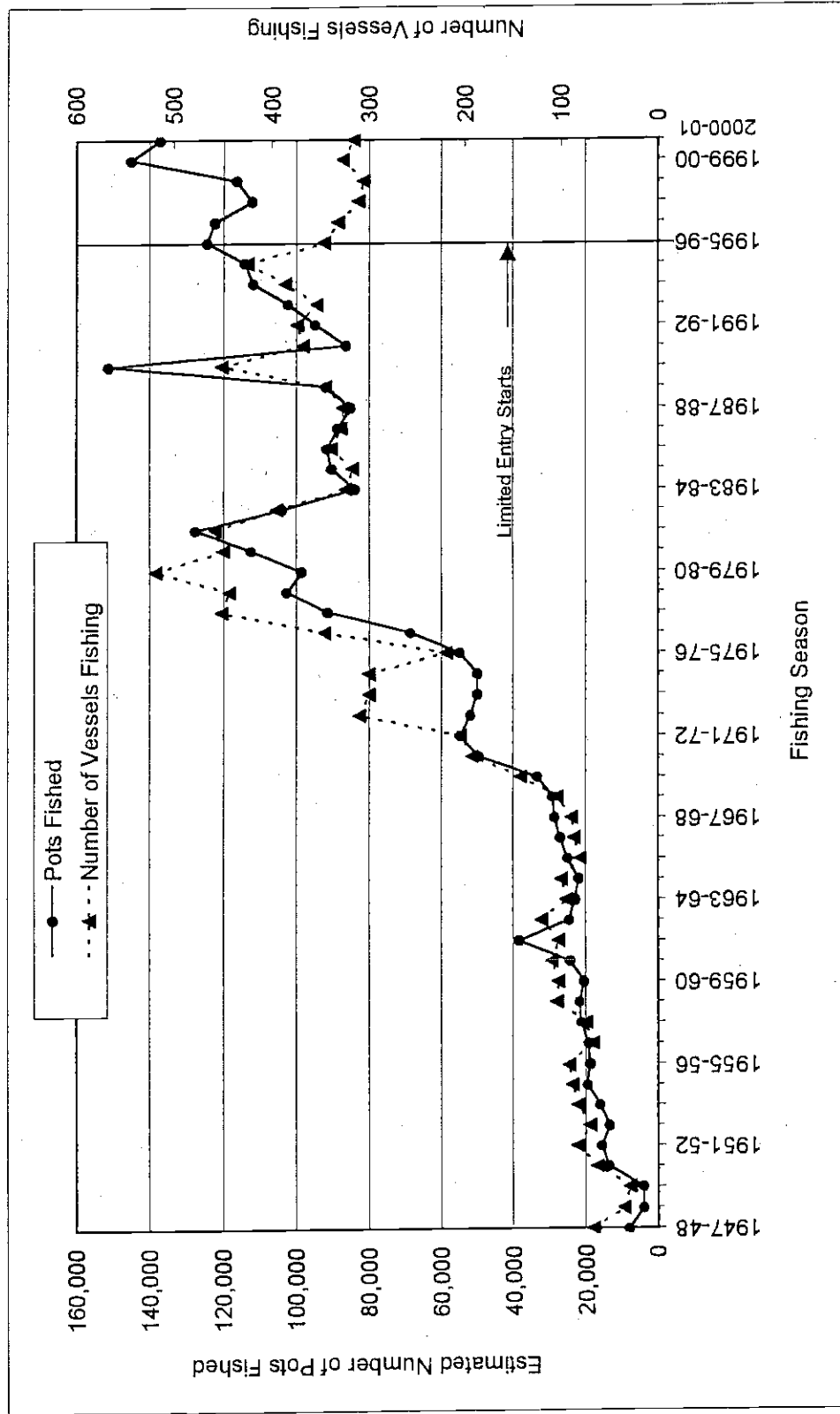
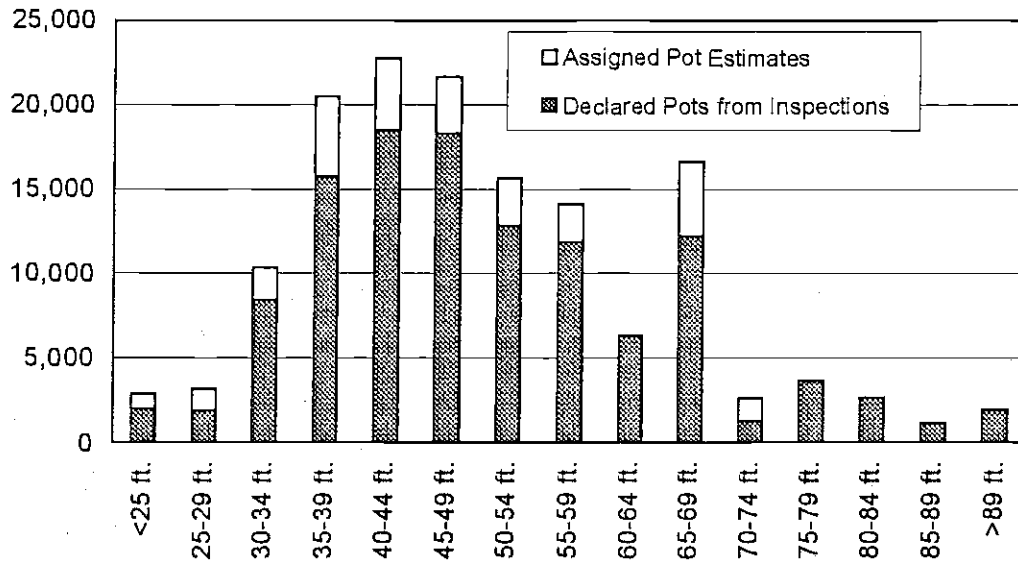


Figure 7. Total number of pots estimated to have been used by the 327 active vessels¹ in the 1999-2000 Oregon ocean commercial Dungeness crab fishery, by vessel length category. Estimated pots based on pot declarations made during 1999-2000 season inspections.



Vessel Length Category	Inspected Active Vessels ²			Non-Inspected Active Vessels		Total Pots (Declared+ Estimated)
	99-00 Active Vessels with Pot Declarations ²	Pots Declared by Active Vessels	Average Pots in Category	Active Vessels not Inspected	Number of Pots Assigned ³	
<25 ft.	14	2,021	144	6	866	2,887
25-29 ft.	9	1,909	212	6	1,273	3,182
30-34 ft.	26	8,421	324	6	1,943	10,364
35-39 ft.	43	15,732	366	13	4,756	20,488
40-44 ft.	43	18,470	430	10	4,300	22,770
45-49 ft.	38	18,301	482	7	3,371	21,672
50-54 ft.	23	12,848	559	5	2,793	15,641
55-59 ft.	21	11,870	565	4	2,261	14,131
60-64 ft.	9	6,329	703	0	0	6,329
65-69 ft.	17	12,275	722	6	4,332	16,607
70-74 ft.	3	1,300	433	3	1,300	2,600
75-79 ft.	7	3,621	517	0	0	3,621
80-84 ft.	4	2,647	662	0	0	2,647
85-89 ft.	2	1,170	585	0	0	1,170
>89 ft.	2	1,955	978	0	0	1,955
Totals:	261 (80%)	118,869 (82%)	455	66 (20%)	27,196 (18%)	146,065 ⁴

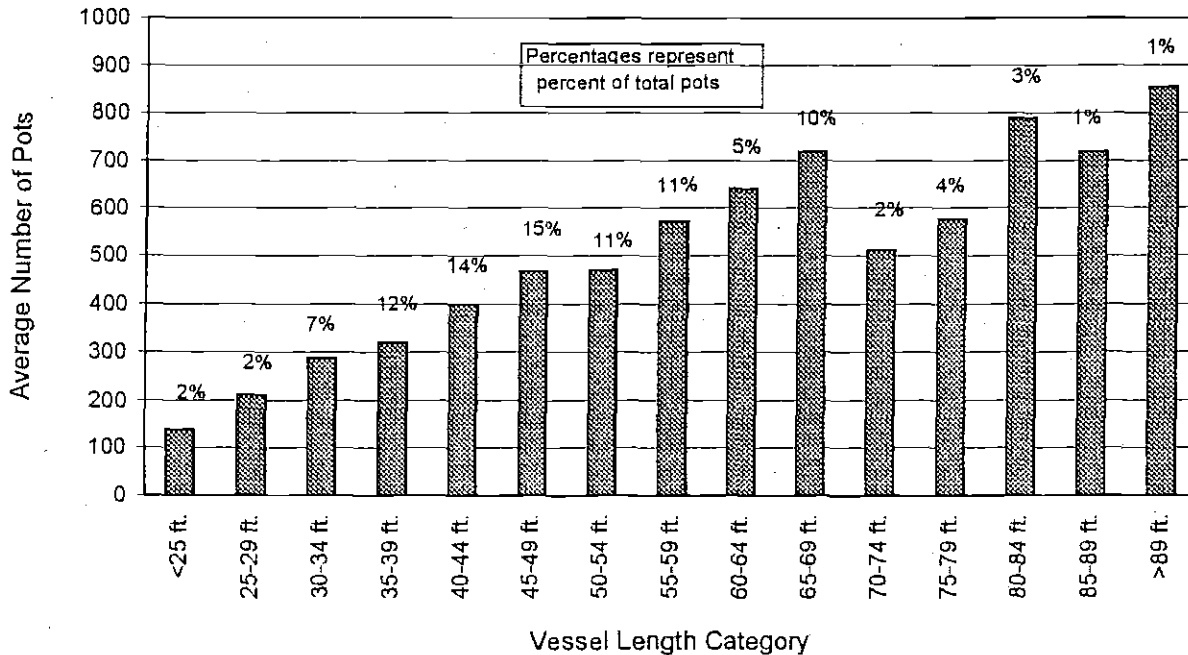
¹ The term "active vessel" refers to vessels having at least one crab landing in the 1999-2000 season.

² Includes only vessels inspected in the 1999-2000 season.

³ Number of pots assigned is obtained by multiplying the number of active, non-inspected vessels by the average number of pots from declared vessels within that vessel length category.

⁴ Total is based on 1999-00 season pot declarations, not 1995-96 through 1999-2000 averages, as used in other estimates.

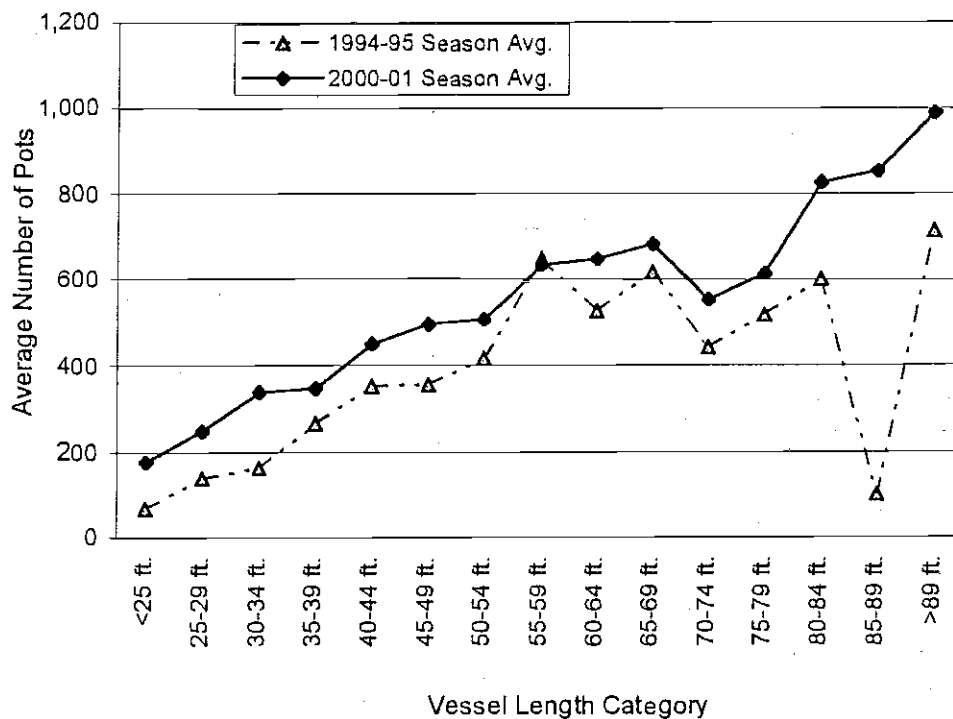
Figure 8. Average estimated number of pots and percent of total pots declared by Oregon ocean commercial Dungeness crab limited-entry permitted vessels during vessel hold inspections during six fishing seasons (1995-96 through 2000-01), by vessel length category.



Vessel Length Category	Number of Vessels Inspected at Least Once During 1995-96 through 2000-01)	Average Pots per Category	Estimated Pots per Length Category (#Vessels x Avg.#Pots)	Cum. Pot %
<25 ft.	24	137	3,288	1%
25-29 ft.	17	211	3,587	4%
30-34 ft.	35	287	10,045	11%
35-39 ft.	58	319	18,502	23%
40-44 ft.	54	399	21,546	37%
45-49 ft.	49	467	22,883	52%
50-54 ft.	34	470	15,980	63%
55-59 ft.	28	573	16,044	74%
60-64 ft.	11	640	7,040	79%
65-69 ft.	22	718	15,796	89%
70-74 ft.	5	513	2,565	91%
75-79 ft.	11	576	6,336	95%
80-84 ft.	5	789	3,945	98%
85-89 ft.	2	718	1,436	99%
>89 ft.	2	854	1,708	100%

Total Inspected Vessels: 357 Average: 511 Total: 150,701

Figure 9. Average number of pots for vessels inspected and declared by fishermen during the Oregon ocean commercial Dungeness crab vessel hold inspections for the 1994-95 (pre-limited entry) and 2000-01 seasons, by vessel length category.



Vessel Length Category	1994-95 Average Number of Pots by Category	2000-01 Average Number of Pots by Category	Percent of Change in Avg. Number of Pots
<25 ft.	68	177	161%
25-29 ft.	139	248	79%
30-34 ft.	163	338	108%
35-39 ft.	266	347	30%
40-44 ft.	353	450	28%
45-49 ft.	356	496	39%
50-54 ft.	415	507	22%
55-59 ft.	648	634	-2%
60-64 ft.	527	648	23%
65-69 ft.	617	683	11%
70-74 ft.	441	553	25%
75-79 ft.	518	613	18%
80-84 ft.	600	827	38%
85-89 ft.	100	853	752%
>89 ft.	714	990	39%
Overall Average	395	557	29%

Table 3: Oregon ocean commercial Dungeness crab landings (in pounds), total value (in dollars), and average price per pound for the 1979-80 through 2000-01 seasons. Data for 2000-01 is preliminary and incomplete.

SEASON	SEASON VALUE	SEASON POUNDS	SEASON AVERAGE PRICE
1979-80	\$11,579,555	18,242,530	\$0.63
1980-81	\$7,386,161	9,505,818	\$0.78
1981-82	\$8,820,066	8,716,537	\$1.01
1982-83	\$5,737,610	4,327,469	\$1.33
1983-84	\$7,466,409	4,680,013	\$1.60
1984-85	\$7,710,788	4,900,725	\$1.57
1985-86	\$10,015,844	7,129,085	\$1.40
1986-87	\$6,692,034	4,680,124	\$1.43
1987-88	\$10,585,061	8,649,831	\$1.22
1988-89	\$12,814,781	11,166,646	\$1.15
1989-90	\$12,607,279	9,235,710	\$1.37
1990-91	\$13,099,457	8,248,080	\$1.59
1991-92	\$9,449,203	7,561,292	\$1.25
1992-93	\$11,375,876	10,873,175	\$1.05
1993-94	\$12,346,745	10,243,239	\$1.21
1994-95	\$24,776,086	15,051,787	\$1.65
1995-96	\$22,441,795	17,680,981	\$1.27
1996-97	\$13,355,787	7,050,899	\$1.89
1997-98	\$12,465,647	7,086,053	\$1.76
1998-99	\$16,257,751	9,113,514	\$1.78
1999-00	\$31,432,728	15,678,054	\$2.00
Average:	\$12,781,746	\$9,515,312	\$1.38
2000-01	\$15,597,644	7,375,270	\$2.11

Table 4. Monthly commercial landings of Oregon ocean Dungeness crab during the 1999- 2000 and 2000-01*seasons monthly values and average price per pound, 1994 through 2001* seasons. The 2001 data is preliminary.

Month	1999-2000 Season		
	Pounds	Value	Average Price (per pound)
December**	8,813,381	\$15,306,014	\$1.74
January	3,525,027	\$7,659,313	\$2.17
February	1,325,027	\$3,131,971	\$2.36
March	671,640	\$1,685,679	\$2.51
April	484,207	\$1,352,299	\$2.80
May	360,509	\$1,082,723	\$3.01
June	221,557	\$591,789	\$2.68
July	196,440	\$449,628	\$2.33
August	79,448	\$154,710	\$1.95
Season Total	15,677,236	\$31,415,082	\$2.00

Month	2000-2001 Season *		
	Pounds	Value	Average Price (per pound)
December**	4,298,576	\$7,434,454	\$1.73
January	1,604,706	\$3,805,300	\$2.37
February	528,416	\$1,579,128	\$2.99
March	218,232	\$702,496	\$3.22
April	163,862	\$592,674	\$3.62
May	140,262	\$529,404	\$3.77
June	137,860	\$372,386	\$2.70
July	164,085	\$350,058	\$2.13
August	119,271	\$231,744	\$1.94
Season Total	7,375,270	\$15,597,644	\$2.11

Month	Monthly Values (per pound) by Year							
	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001*
December**	\$1.14	\$1.40	\$1.26	\$1.63	\$1.65	\$1.55	\$1.74	\$1.73
January	\$1.15	\$1.65	\$1.16	\$2.12	\$2.17	\$1.79	\$2.17	\$2.37
February	\$1.28	\$1.99	\$1.31	\$2.56	\$2.53	\$2.38	\$2.36	\$2.99
March	\$1.45	\$2.00	\$1.44	\$3.04	\$2.30	\$2.46	\$2.51	\$3.22
April	\$1.54	\$2.01	\$1.60	\$3.21	\$2.26	\$2.58	\$2.80	\$3.62
May	\$1.57	\$2.00	\$1.66	\$3.13	\$2.35	\$2.75	\$3.01	\$3.77
June	\$1.52	\$1.97	\$1.75	\$2.96	\$2.33	\$2.73	\$2.68	\$2.70
July	\$1.45	\$1.79	\$1.74	\$2.36	\$1.50	\$2.54	\$2.33	\$2.13
August	\$1.46	\$1.61	\$1.71	\$2.00	\$1.47	\$2.66	\$1.95	\$1.94
Season Avg.	\$1.21	\$1.65	\$1.27	\$1.89	\$1.76	\$1.78	\$2.00	\$2.11

* Year 2001 data preliminary and incomplete

** December of previous year

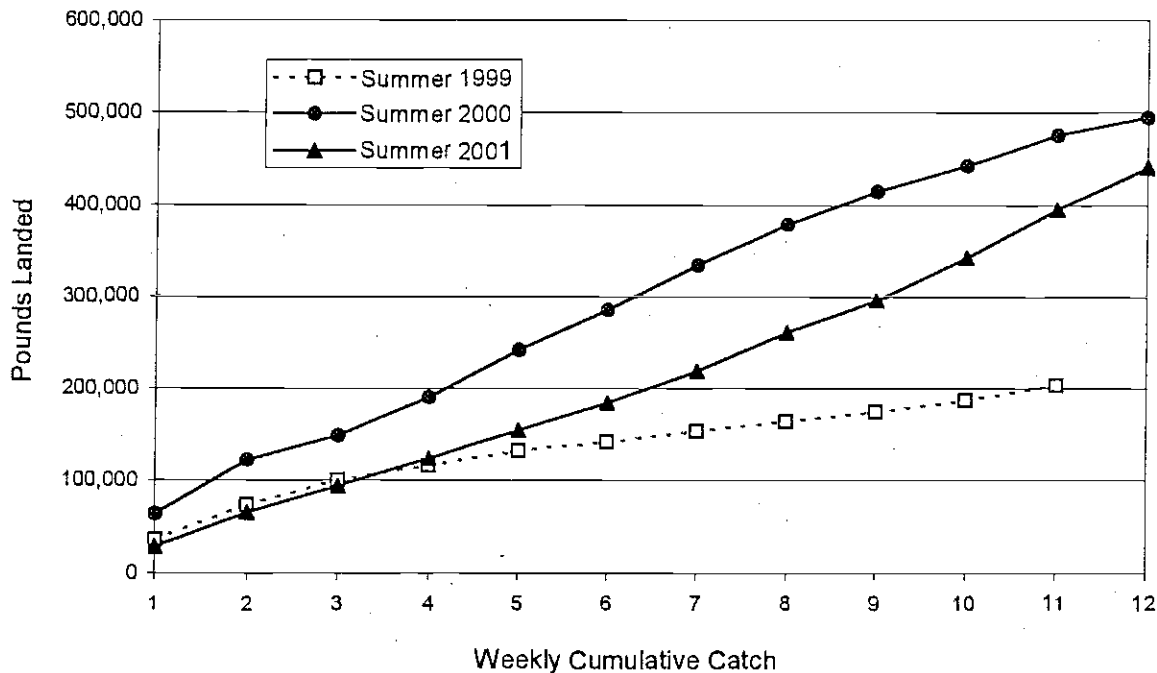
Table 5. Summer (June 1 - August 14) participation and landings in the Oregon commercial Dungeness crab summer fishery, 1985 through 2001 seasons. 2001 data is preliminary.

Season	Season Total Number of Vessels	Number of Summer Vessels (6/1-8/14)	Percent of Fleet in Summer Fishery	Number of Vessels Landing in June	Number of Vessels Landing in July	Number of Vessels Landing in August	Average Number of Summer Deliveries per Vessel
1985	318	113	36%	102	74	50	7
1986	339	81	24%	71	52	30	8
1987	330	85	26%	70	60	52	9
1988	330	92	28%	72	47	45	7
1989	345	90	26%	69	58	45	9
1990	454	135	30%	102	87	78	10
1991	367	135	37%	108	102	94	11
1992	374	138	37%	103	114	93	11
1993	354	122	34%	84	103	91	13
1994	386	142	37%	127	107	96	12
1995	424	173	41%	127	131	101	10
1996	346	147	42%	120	116	100	10
1997	332	113	34%	88	80	71	9
1998	314	112	36%	84	74	66	14
1999	306	135	44%	121	86	61	7
2000	327	152	46%	126	127	38	8
2001	322	120	37%	99	82	78	9

Season	Pounds Landed in Summer Fishery (6/1-8/14)	Percent of Pounds Landed in the Summer Fishery	Number of Summer Deliveries	June Landings in Pounds	July Landings in Pounds	August Landings in Pounds
1985	162,293	3%	736	66,930	49,072	46,291
1986	222,230	3%	646	108,697	72,523	41,010
1987	317,485	7%	786	89,247	147,485	80,753
1988	350,009	4%	643	143,986	137,713	68,310
1989	526,380	5%	832	187,504	239,226	99,650
1990	541,859	6%	1,389	177,542	221,934	142,383
1991	554,203	7%	1,435	184,387	234,626	135,190
1992	809,322	11%	1,540	206,182	346,772	256,368
1993	956,540	9%	1,559	224,876	379,469	352,195
1994	885,060	9%	1,685	202,537	372,064	310,459
1995	681,977	5%	1,652	185,773	283,825	212,379
1996	601,866	3%	1,505	258,553	210,026	133,287
1997	356,824	5%	1,044	68,422	150,213	138,189
1998	449,661	6%	1,538	48,744	220,574	180,343
1999	203,556	2%	1,002	122,033	49,788	30,600
2000	494,486	3%	1,290	221,278	195,460	75,938
2001 ¹	429,433	6%	1,081	137,860	164,385	127,188

¹ Data for the 2001 season is preliminary

Figure 10. Cumulative weekly landings (in pounds) in the Oregon ocean commercial summer Dungeness crab fishery, by week¹, June 1 - August 14, 1999 and 2000. The 2001 data is preliminary.



Landings in Pounds

Week	Summer 1999		Summer 2000		Week Ending	Summer 2001 ³	
	Weekly	Cumulative	Weekly	Cumulative		Weekly	Cumulative
1 ¹	36,179	36,179	63,794	63,794	06/03/01	28,018	28,018
2	37,152	73,331	58,592	122,386	06/10/01	37,001	65,019
3	26,869	100,200	25,803 ²	148,189	06/17/01	28,419	93,438
4	15,780	115,980	41,856	190,045	06/24/01	29,975	123,413
5	15,704	131,684	51,784	241,829	07/01/01	30,619	154,032
6	10,032	141,716	42,956	284,785	07/08/01	29,822	183,854
7	11,605	153,321	48,979	333,764	07/15/01	34,513	218,367
8	10,191	163,512	45,212	378,976	07/22/01	41,885	260,252
9	10,621	174,133	36,541	415,517	07/29/01	35,064	295,316
10	12,298	186,431	27,851	443,368	08/05/01	46,777	342,093
11	17,125	203,556	32,739	476,107	08/12/01	53,775	395,868
12 ⁵			18,379	494,486	08/14/01	44,555	440,423*
Summer Catch Ceiling ⁴		623,777		1,062,437			487,000

* projected catch

** total landings calculated by months (instead of weeks) for June, July and August total 429,433 lbs.

¹ data week ends on Sunday; the first week of June includes several days in May resulting in higher values

² first week of landings under summer catch regulations limiting catch to 1,200 pounds per vessel per week

³ figures are preliminary weeks 9-12 are projected estimates

⁴ based on 7% of total December (previous year) through May landings

⁵ partial week; end of season

III. OREGON POT LIMITATION DISCUSSIONS

Introduction

At the October 2000 OFWC meeting, staff was given direction to begin a comprehensive dialogue with the Oregon crab industry on the issue of pot limits. This was based on considerable industry concern that Oregon needed to quickly address this issue given the adoption of a pot limit system for the Washington ocean crab fishery and the significant increase in pot usage in the Oregon fishery in recent years. The Commission asked staff to report back to them on progress.

Progress to Date

The dialogue with the Oregon crab industry on the issue of pot limitation was developed to encompass four elements. First, a survey of the Oregon crab fleet was developed and sent to all limited entry permit holders to solicit opinion and comment. Second, a representative fisherman's crab advisory committee from coastal ports was formed to address this issue. Thirdly, the MRP staff developed a technical report that profiled the crab fleet and its fishery, and suggested approaches and sample options for discussion on the issue of pot limitation. Finally, a public process was established to develop the public and fisherman discussion on this issue.

To date, the following actions has taken place and work completed or anticipated:

1. Mail Survey Questionnaire: Mailed to all Oregon Dungeness crab limited entry license holders in January 2001. A preliminary report sent to license holders in March 2001 and final report sent in September 2001. A total of 259 license holders responded (64%) from the 404 questionnaires mailed. Eight seven percent across all ports and vessel size categories support some kind of pot limitation and stated that Oregon should move ahead to develop options. A copy of the final survey results is attached in Appendix A.
2. Creation of Crab Advisory Committee: During the February-March, 2001, The MRP staff working with Oregon coastal port crab fishermen as "port coordinators," helped coordinate selection of port representatives for the Advisory Committee. Twenty port and crab representatives were selected by fishermen themselves. The ODFW added two crab association presidents that represent large memberships and two processors bringing the total voting membership of the committee to 24. One other nonvoting advisor, a crab fisherman from Washington, ODFW, and OSP staff are also supporting the committee process. Committee membership is geographically split evenly from Newport north, and Florence south. Port representation by "vessel" size approximates the active fleet (see Appendix B). Members were selected based on being active fishermen with limited entry licenses, live in the port community they represent, and be able to attend and participate in crab advisory meetings over the coming months.
3. Staff Technical Report: In late winter 2002, the MRP staff began developing a technical report on the crab fishery, emphasizing a profile of fleet catch and pot use information in recent years since limited entry (1995) and a discussion of pot limitation approaches with sample pot limit options developed for several approaches suggested by the fisherman survey. A draft report was completed and sent to all Oregon crab limited entry license holders, and other interested participants in September 2001.
4. Public Process: The first crab advisory committee public meeting took place on September 18, 2001 at Newport, with 20 representatives present. The purpose of this first meeting was to

“start” the process, evaluate the staff technical report and other information, discuss the goal and objectives of the committee, look at major issues related to considering pot limits, and discuss the approach and scheduling necessary to meeting a 2002 start date for pot limitation. Another meeting is scheduled at Newport for October 16. Staff will also hold six local port meetings (with local advisors) in October at Brookings, Port Orford, Coos Bay, Newport, Tillamook, and Astoria.

Issues To Be Considered Prior to Building Options

The Crab Advisor’s and staff began discussion on several issues that will need to be answered by the crab advisory committee prior to drafting options for ODFW review. These include, but are not limited to:

- Objectives of pot limitation
- License/vessel control or participation date
- Qualification period
- Base period “catch area” qualification
- “Latent” nonactive limited entry permits
- Compatibility with Washington pot limit system
- Legal questions on jurisdiction
- Administrative, pot identification, enforcement costs and procedures

Approaches and Options

Several approaches for pot limitation, based on the mail survey results, have been evaluated for crab advisory committee review and consideration. These are sample options and examples only! They do not indicate a preferred approach by ODFW, or any specific group.

The 11 options developed are based on an evaluation of estimated 1999-00 pot usage by the Oregon fleet, pounds landed, or vessel length criteria of the 327 active vessels that season. Options are intended to show a relative decreases or increases in pots resulting from a particular option. Options are based on approaches most recommended in the ODFW mail questionnaire on pot limits. These include:

- Single pot allocation for all vessels
- Multiple tier pot allocation based on current pot usage
- Allocation based on catch (pounds landed) history
- Allocation based on vessel length

Another “approach” not evaluated in this report, but that merits consideration, is a combination of multiple criteria to determine a pot allocation. This approach allows vessel characteristics, crab landing history, and/or other fishermen or vessel factors to be combined in determining an allocation. One option that illustrates this approach was suggested by the West Coast Fisherman’s Association that uses the factors of a base number of pots per vessel, variable pots based on vessel length, and participation (landings) for “base” years. Other approaches and options are available. A summary of options is outlined in the table below:

A summary of options is outlined in the table below:

Table 6. Pot limit approaches and options evaluated for Crab Advisory Committee discussion. Options are examples only, used to illustrate relative gain or loss of pots from the estimated level in the Oregon crab fleet during the 1999-00 season based on active vessel's pot "declarations" by fishermen during pre-season vessel hold inspections and estimates for noninspected active vessels.

Pot Limitation Option	Number of Pots Allocated	Reduction/Increase in Pots for Fleet
Type 1: Single Tier (same for all vessels)	300	- 33%
	400	- 10%
	500	+ 12%
Type 2: Base-Period Landings (lbs.)		
• 2 Tiered		- 13%
≤ 35,999 lbs.	300	
≥ 36,000 lbs.	500	
• 3 Tiered		- 7%
< 14,000 lbs.	275	
14,000 – 49,999 lbs.	400	
≥ 50,000 lbs.	575	
• 4 Tiered		- 14%
≤ 6,999 lbs.	250	
7,000 – 30,999 lbs.	300	
31,000 – 69,999 lbs.	425	
≥ 70,000 lbs.	575	
Type 3: Based on Current Pot Use		
• 2 Tiered		-13%
≤ 450 pots	300	
≥ 451 pots	500	
• 3 Tiered		- 14%
< 400 pots	300	
400 – 599 pots	425	
≥ 600 pots	550	
• 4 Tiered		- 15%
≤ 299 pots	250	
300 – 499 pots	350	
500 – 699 pots	450	
≥ 700 pots	550	
Type 4: Based on Vessel Length		
• 2 Tiered		- 12%
< 45 ft.	300	
≥ 45 ft.	500	
• 4 Tiered		- 12%
< 35 ft.	250	
35 – 44 ft.	350	
45 – 59 ft.	450	
≥ 60 ft.	550	

Some observations and conclusions on pot limit options evaluated:

- A reduction of 10-20% from the current estimated 1999-00 level of 146,000 pots, seems attainable depending on the structure of a specific option. Cuts at this level would be generally moderate and stabilize the fishery for at least the near future.
- Reductions above 20% are more difficult to achieve and would require larger cuts across vessel size groups.
- Multi-tiered allocation approaches (three tiers or more) allow for more “fair and equitable” reductions in pot use among various components of the crab fleet.

Schedule to Meet a December 1, 2002 Pot Limit Start Date

If the Oregon Crab Fishermen Advisory Committee choose to move ahead with pot limitation options for OFWC consideration and adoption of a limit system for December 2002, the following schedule is suggested for completing the decision-making process:

1. September-October 2001 & January-March 2002 - Several Crab Advisory Committee meetings at Newport during September-October 2001 and again during the late January-March 2002 period (following the main part of the winter crab fishery) to develop options for Commission. All meetings open to fishermen and the public.
2. October 2001 - Six port fisherman meetings at Brookings, Port Orford, Coos Bay, Newport, Tillamook, and Astoria in October 2001 and possibly again in late February-March 2001
3. October 2001 - A progress report on pot limit discussions (no action or rule making) at the October 19, 2001 Seaside Commission meeting.
4. October 2001-March 2002 -- ODFW convenes an internal working group to plan an implementation process for pot limitation, if enacted by the Commission in spring 2002.
5. Late February - Early March -- Crab advisory committee completes pot limitation option (s) for Commission review in April or May.
6. May 2002 - Commission consideration and action on pot limits no later than May 2002 meeting to allow time (6 months) for ODFW to notify and qualify fishermen for pot limit allocation and to develop all administrative and enforcement details related to a “start up” process.
7. December 1, 2002 -- Pot limitation program starts.

APPENDICES

**Oregon Dungeness Crab Limited Entry License Holder Survey
On Implementing a Crab Pot Limitation System for Oregon**

A Mail Questionnaire to Assess Preferences and Opinions

A Final Report

Conducted by

**Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Fish Division
Marine Resources Program**

Survey Prepared by

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**Oregon Dungeness Crab
Limited Entry License Holder Survey
On Implementing a Crab Pot Limitation System for Oregon**

Questionnaire Background and Results

Background

In January 2001, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's (ODFW) Marine Resources Program (MRP) developed a mail out questionnaire intended to survey Oregon commercial Dungeness crab limited entry license holders on the issue of a crab fishery pot limitation system for Oregon. The questionnaire asked several general questions directly related to pot limits. This issue has been discussed both historically and in more recent years as more gear has entered the fishery from the current crab fleet and outside vessels that are entering the fishery from other West Coast and Alaska fisheries. In 1999, Washington implemented their crab pot limit system, changing the Oregon/Washington border area fishery dynamics between the two states, and adding more gear to Oregon's north coast crab fishing areas.

This mail survey is intended to be the first step in the discussion on the potential for crab pot limits in Oregon. A second step will be to distribute a crab fleet profile report being developed by MRP that profiles past and current crab fleet characteristics. Results and information from both documents will provide significant information for a discussion of this issue. A third step, the formation of an Oregon Crab Fisherman's Advisory Committee, is now completed with representatives from Oregon's crab fishing ports and selected by the port fishermen themselves. Under direction from the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission (OFWC), the Department's MRP staff was asked to begin a discussion with industry on this issue, work with the crab advisors, and through a series of coastal port area meetings, seek comment from local crab fishermen. These meetings will begin in the near future.

Survey Procedures

This questionnaire was mailed January 12, 2001 with a requested deadline of February 28, 2001. The mailing was sent to every Oregon (resident and nonresident) crab LE permit holder as noted on the most current ODFW crab LE permit listing at the time of the January questionnaire mailing. Surveys were mailed to permit holders in nine different states, though the vast majority were sent to Oregon addresses (83%).

Multiple permit holders received only one questionnaire. A self addressed stamped envelope was included to facilitate a higher return rate. Questionnaire respondents were to remain anonymous. It asked for general vessel and port information only and contained two parts. Part one asked seven questions directed towards pot limits. Part two sought comments on other non pot-related topics of concern to fishermen. Each survey was stamped with an "original" stamp and to eliminate multiple photocopies being made and returned.

Results

Survey results are detailed in the following pages. A total of 259 questionnaires were returned by the deadline date. Responses were from Oregon (202), Washington (26), California (7), Alaska (4), and other nonlisted locations (20). This attached report represents an evaluation of all questionnaire responses.

Information related to the mailing and return rate is as follows:

Total LE permits listed in ODFW summary	444
Number of multiple permits in summary	34
Total Surveys mailed to permit holders	410
Questionnaires returned as "nondeliverable"	6
Number of surveys successfully mailed	404
Total surveys returned	259
Survey response percentage	64%

Several general observations and conclusions can be drawn from the survey. These are:

- Respondents represented a cross section of permit holders from all Oregon coastal ports (Table 1).
- The survey indicated 86% of fishermen were both owner and operator of their vessel (Table 2) and responses were representative of the entire fleet by vessel size class (Table 3 and Figure 3).
- A total of 86% of those responding to question 1 indicated they favor some form of Oregon crab pot limit system. Fishermen supported pot limits from 57% to 100% by location coastwide. Oregon fishermen supported pot limits from 71% to 100%, by port location. The 64 respondents from the combined port areas of Coos Bay-Charleston, and Brookings voted 100% in favor of pot limits (Table 4 and Figure 2)).
- Opinions on to how construct a "fair and equitable" system were about evenly split between a single versus a multi-tiered approach (question 2). Several other options were mentioned.
- 63% of respondents indicated that we should "match up" with the existing Washington pot limit program in terms of similar maximum number of pots (question 3).
- A majority of license holders supported individual vessel limits (76%) and an overall fishery pot cap (62%). Opinion was supportive to start an overall fishery pot ceiling immediately for the 2001-02 season (71%) or phase it in over time (77%) (question 4).
- On the issue of determining the basis for allocating pots to a vessel (question 5), a "base period" catch history was most often cited and was the leading single criteria suggested. Other factors such as vessel length received significant support, and even the use of hold inspection pot data, was suggested by many. Several other suggestions were made. The "multiple criteria" approach noted by the West Coast Fisherman's Marketing Association Crab Committee may indicate that perhaps several factors could be considered for determining allocation (see a footnote to question 2 for description of the FMA proposal).

- 72% of respondents supported some type of pot limit program in place for the start of the 2001-02 season (question 6) instead of waiting to the following season (2002-03).
- Most respondents supported single registered brand (86%), buoys tagged for identification (74%), a single color scheme for each license holder (63%), and the idea of a unique set of colored / numbered tags issued yearly (56%) (Question 6).
- The most frequently stated comment surrounding the pot limit issue was enforcement. There is strong support for enforcement as a critical element in a pot limit program. Most respondents support several options to identify crab pot/gear to assist in this effort (Question 7). Enforcement issues were also the most commented on topic in part two of the questionnaire.

Results in part II of the questionnaire, issues not specifically related to a pot limit system, were constructive and covered a large list of concerns. Responses in part II of the results are summarized into major sections in the following format:

1. **Summary of major issues:** Responses are tallied for 19 major issue area or categories identified by the respondents. This summary is a general “topic” list of these categories. Issue areas are listed in descending order of the number of responses where there were two or more responses within a category.
2. **Summary by major issue category with all comments under each category:** This summary shows each response that can be identified and reasonably listed under a major issue area or category. A total of 211 responses were received.
3. **Uncategorized response summary:** These “noncategorized” responses represent a long list of added comments by fishermen in addition to those noted above in the first two “categorized” listings. They are listed as received and have received only minor editing to clarify what is being said. Comments have not been edited or changed in any way to alter the statement of intent by the respondent. These comments cover a wide range of issues and may, or may not, relate to the question of pot limits. There were an additional 79 responses received.

The reader is encouraged to read through the detailed responses listed in part I (pot limit issues) and in the general review of “other” responses in part II.

Discussion

In a mail type survey such, a 64% response rate is unusually high. This high return is an indication of the level of importance Oregon crab fishermen currently place on the issue of pot limitation in Oregon and reflects their desire for an active discussion on the subject. The preferences and responses were represented by a large cross section of ports, vessel size classes, and individual fishermen. They provide important data for a serious discussion on specific elements to define such a system. As noted in the overview above and in comments listed in the detailed summary that follows, there appears to be wide support for conducting a thorough discussion of this issue, define areas of agreement on which to develop one or more options for Commission review. The upcoming meetings of the Crab Fishermen’s Advisory Committee and port meetings will provide a discussion forum to respond to this issue.

Results of January, 2001 Oregon Dungeness Crab Limited Entry License Holder Questionnaire on Implementing Crab Pot Limitation for Oregon.

Table 1. Home port and state of questionnaire respondents

Home Port	State	Number
Juneau	AK	1
Kodiak	AK	2
(blank)	AK	1
Subtotal	AK	4
Chinook	WA	7
Ilwaco	WA	10
Lopez Island	WA	1
Seattle	WA	5
Vashon	WA	1
Westport	WA	2
Subtotal	WA	26
Astoria	OR	14
Bandon	OR	2
Brookings	OR	25
Coos Bay	OR	34
Depoe Bay	OR	2
Florence	OR	7
Garibaldi	OR	13
Hammond	OR	3
Harbor	OR	4
Newport	OR	44
Pacific City	OR	5
Port Orford	OR	11
Portland	OR	4
Seaside	OR	2
Warrenton	OR	19
Winchester Bay	OR	13
Subtotal	OR	202
Crescent City	CA	5
Fort Bragg	CA	2
Subtotal	CA	7
(blank)	(blank)	20
Total	All	259

Table 2. Vessel length and owner/operator status of questionnaire respondents.

Vessel Length (ft)	Number (includes respondents with more than one vessel)	Vessel Owner/Operator Status	Total Number
20-29	36	Operator	5
30-39	61	Owner	29
40-49	85	Owner/Operator	224
50-59	58	(blank)	1
60-69	25	Grand Total	259
70-79	17		
80+	5		

Table 3. Port of origin of questionnaire respondents.

Home Port Area	Vessel Length Category (ft)							Total Number
	<=29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	>=70	(blank)	
Alaska -Washington	2	5	12	5	2	4	0	30
Astoria-Warrenton-Hammond-Seaside	4	6	14	10	5	1	1	41
Garibaldi-Pacific City	8	2	2	4	0	2	0	18
Newport-Depoe Bay	1	6	16	11	6	5	0	45
Florence-Winchester Bay	3	4	2	7	2	2	0	20
Coos Bay-Charleston	0	7	12	9	0	6	0	34
Port Orford-Bandon	6	6	1	0	0	0	0	13
Brookings-Harbor	2	7	17	2	1	1	0	30
California	0	0	0	4	2	0	1	7
Unknown	3	6	5	3	4	0	0	21
All Areas	29	49	81	55	22	21	2	259

Questionnaire-Part I – Pot Limitation Questions and Responses

Question 1. Washington, Alaska and British Columbia have implemented crab pot limits in part or all of their ocean commercial fisheries. Do you favor, in some form, a commercial Dungeness crab pot limitation system in the Oregon ocean fishery?

224 Yes responses (86.5%) 35 No responses (13.5 %)

Table 4. Oregon Dungeness crab pot limitation mail survey response to Question 1 by port area and vessel length category.

Home Port Area	Favor Pot Limit?	Vessel Length Category (ft)							Total Number
		<=29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	>=70	(blank)	
Alaska -Washington	Yes	2	4	12	3	1	3	0	25
	No	0	1	0	2	1	1	0	5
Astoria-Warrenton-Hammond-Seaside	Yes	3	5	13	8	4	0	1	34
	No	1	1	1	2	1	1	0	7
Garibaldi-Pacific City	Yes	8	2	2	3	0	1	0	16
	No	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2
Newport-Depoe Bay	Yes	1	5	12	8	4	3	0	33
	No	0	1	4	3	2	2	0	12
Florence-Winchester Bay	Yes	2	4	2	7	2	2	0	19
	No	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Coos Bay-Charleston	Yes	0	7	12	9	0	6	0	34
	No	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Port Orford-Bandon	Yes	6	5	0	0	0	0	0	11
	No	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
Brookings-Harbor	Yes	2	7	17	2	1	1	0	30
	No	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
California	Yes	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	4
	No	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	3
Unknown	Yes	3	6	5	2	2	0	0	18
	No	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	3
All Port Areas	Yes	27	45	75	45	15	16	1	224
	No	2	4	6	10	7	5	1	35

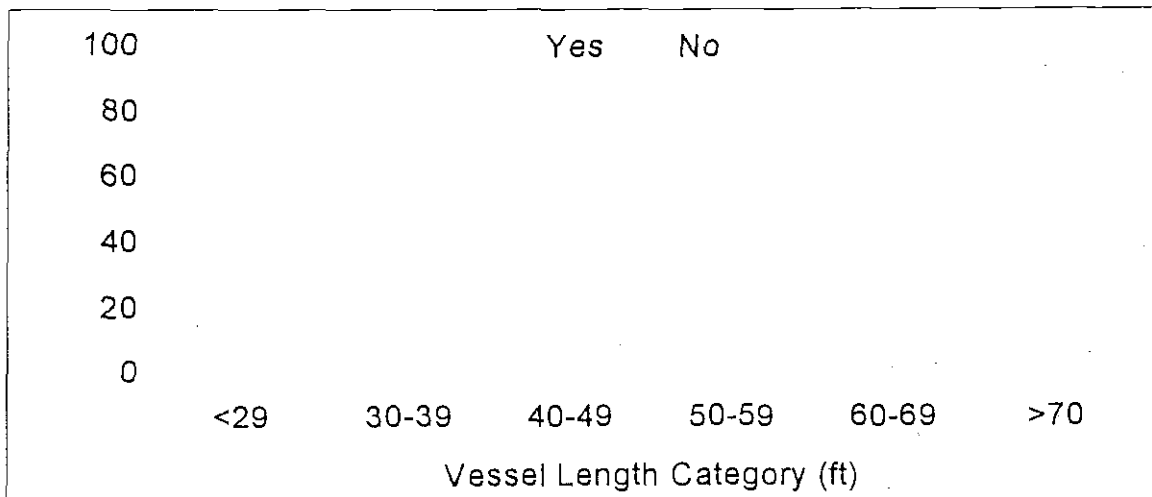


Figure 1. Response to question 1 by vessel length category

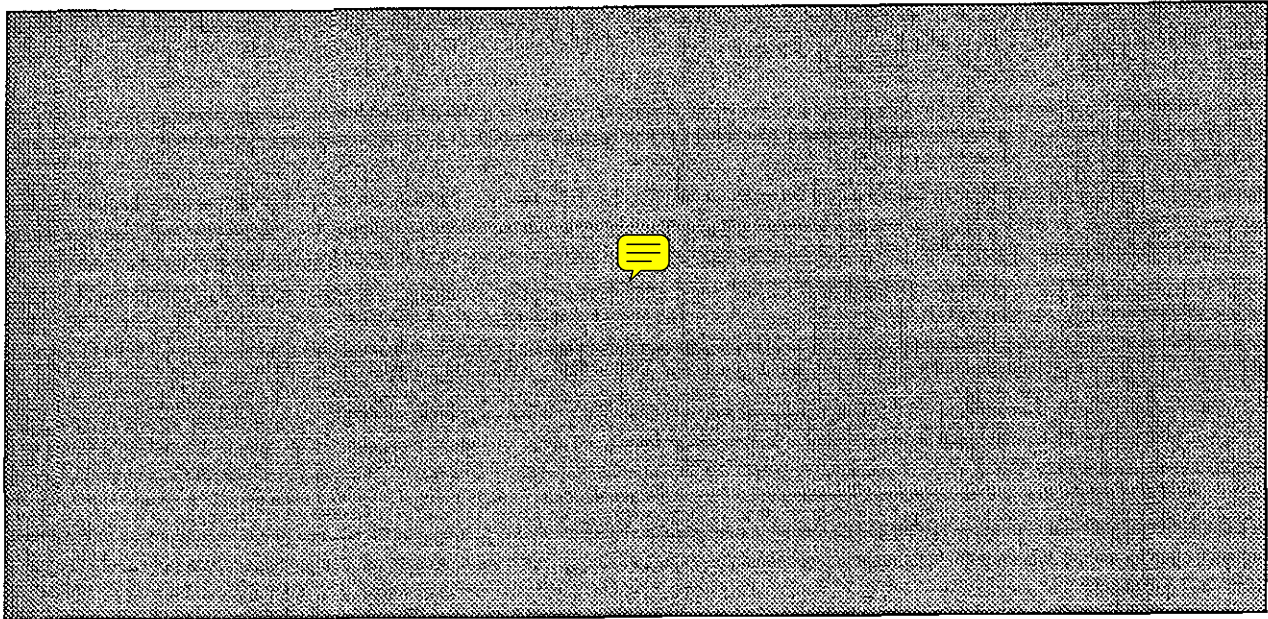


Figure 2. Oregon pot limitation mail survey response to question 1 by port area.

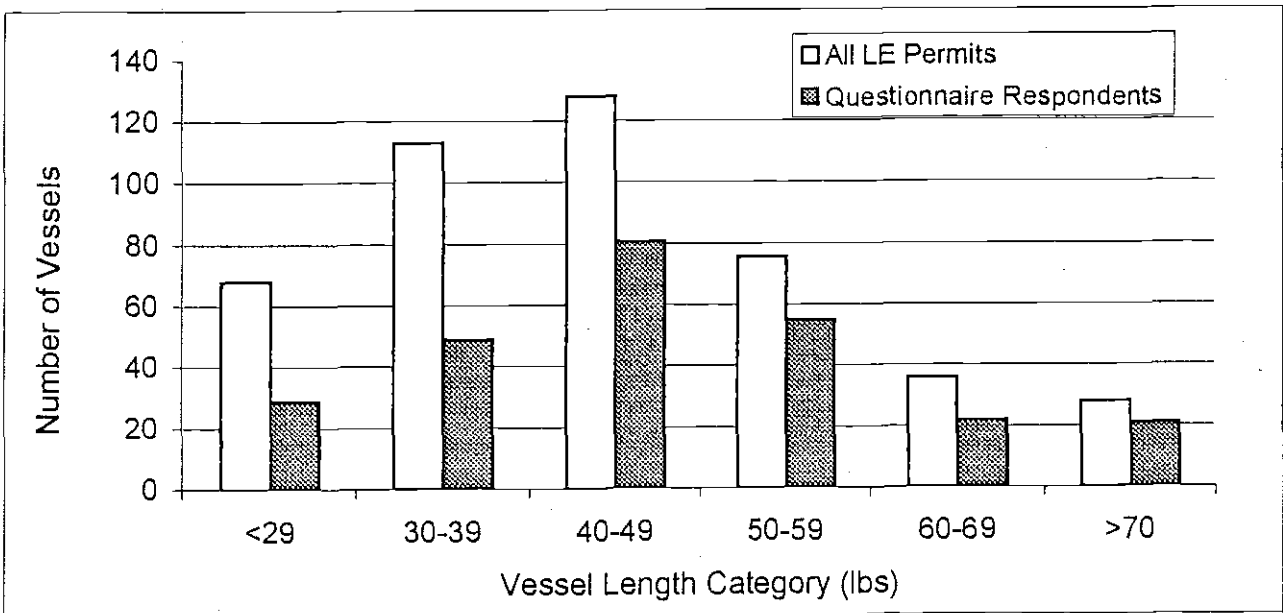


Figure 3. Distribution of vessel lengths of respondents to pot limit questionnaire compared to all LE permitted vessel lengths.

Question 2. Developing options for vessel pot limits requires consideration of how to construct a "fair and equitable" system. The Oregon crab fleet is very diverse in its vessel size composition. Without getting into the details of a "how many pots per boat" discussion, which general approach would you prefer as a starting point for discussion.

Pot Limitation Options	Number
Single (same) pot limit for each vessel	126
A two-tiered "low and high" limit approach	87
A three-tiered "low-medium-high" approach	30
Other Suggested Approaches	
A four-tiered approach	4
Set number of pots per foot of vessel length (suggestions ranged from 5 to 10 per foot)	14
Fixed percentage reduction on existing pots	3
Multi-tiered	1
Point system using length, production and participation	2
Single tier plus a number of pots per foot of vessel	1
Use FMA proposal ^a	1
Single tier with 50 pot reduction at 2 year intervals until acceptable	1

- Comments edited to fit into selected categories. Comments unrelated to the question were moved to Questionnaire part II.

Question 3. The implementation of Washington's "tiered" pot limit system for the 2000-01 season creates several "consistency" problems for Oregon in developing a similar program, as an adjoining state. Do you think Oregon should "match up" with Washington's program that allows a maximum of 500 pots?

Should Oregon match up with Washington's pot limitation program?	Number
Yes	162
No	92
Unsure	1
(blank)	4
Total	259

^a Fishermen's Marketing Association, Inc. (FMA) proposal: California and Oregon would both establish a pot limitation system. The maximum number of pots that any fisherman could fish would be limited to 500 pots. The number of pots that each licensed fisherman would be entitled to fish would be based on three components. 1) A base number of pots of 150 would be assigned to each permit. 2) A length component of 2 pots per foot for the vessel assigned to the permit, up to 150 pots. 3) A history component assigned in 50 pot increments up to 200 pots. The assignment of pots would relate to the relative production of crab during the 199x to 200x season. Production by vessels would be ranked from high to low. Vessels in the top 25 percent would be assigned 200 pots, vessels in the 50 to 75 percentile would be assigned 150 pots, and vessels in the 25-50 and 0-25 percentile groups would be assigned 50 and 100 pots respectively. Data from each state would be used to construct the percentile rankings. Any pots assigned beyond the base number are transferable to another license holder.

Question 4. In the discussing of pot limits, the following issues could be considerations: (1) individual vessel pot limitation, (2) an overall Oregon fishery pot limitation, and (3) a "phase-in" period for a new pot gear level for the fishery. Please indicate if you do or do not support these concepts.

Pot Limitation Issue	Total Number	Yes	Yes %	No	No %
Individual vessel pot limits	220	167	76%	53	24%
Oregon fishery pot limit cap	210	131	62%	79	38%
Start fishery cap immediately	204	143	71%	61	29%
Implement fishery cap over time	174	130	77%	44	23%

Question 5. The basis for determining what number of pots to assign to a LE license holder in a pot limit system is a primary consideration for both fishermen and fishery managers. Which of the following options (or others) do you feel should be taken into serious consideration as a basis for determining pot limit levels.

Options for Determining Pot Number Assignments for Each Limited Entry License Holder	Number of responses
Catch history	97
Vessel overall length	75
Vessel hold inspections	45
Vessel gross tonnage	19
Other Suggestions for Determining Pot Number Assignments	
Years participating in fishery	6
Length/catch history formula	2
Percent of actual pots fished	1
9 year average landing history	1
Confirmed pot count on next hold inspection	1
hold inspections prior to 98-99	1
If both parents born in OR	1
Include 99-00 in landing window	1
Landing history using most recent years	1
Landing history, one season owners choice	1
Landings in 1980-1989	1
Last 5 years catch history	1
Number of deliveries	1
Point system using several factors	1
Same as WA	1
Sustainable fishery number, same for all	1
Total tri-state yearly catch history	1
Number of days fished (landings)	1
Lower limit: 300 pots, upper limit: 700 pots	1

- Most comments were condensed but respondent's intent was preserved. Comments unrelated to the question were moved to the comment section of a relevant question or to the Questionnaire part II section.

Question 6. As ODFW staff and the crab industry begin to discuss pot limits, many fishermen have indicated they would like to see some sort of limit for the 2001-02 season (starting December 1, 2001). When the ODFW staff briefed the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission in October 2000, they indicated that implementation could be a 1-2 year process given the potential complexity of this issue, need for a thorough discussion with industry, and to evaluate the “start up” and administration of a program.

Would you prefer:	Number	Percent
Beginning some type of limitation for 2001-02 season even it is only a “first phase” of a program that will need additional considerations for 2002-03	164	71.9%
Wait and start “complete” program in 2002-03	64	28.1%

Question 7. Enforcement issues are an important component in the implementing a pot limit system. Which of the following options do you think would be important to assist in enforcing vessel pot identification, in addition to the presently required buoy brands?

Pot Identification Method	Yes	No
Require single registered pot brand for each license holder	164	26
Tag each pot’s “buoy set” with owner ID	115	40
Require single registered pot color scheme for each license holder	98	57
Unique set of numbered/colored buoy tags issued yearly	84	65
Other Comments Regarding Pot Identification Methods: Enforcement – Next Page		
	Number	
Pot tags, not buoy tags	3	
Place buoy on mast of vessel to show colors used	1	
Brand pot weight bars with buoy number. Buoy colors matched with colored pot tunnel openings	1	
Buoy color and number painted on top and sides of boat	1	
Dock count and inspection of pots prior to opener	2	
Hearing for tag replacements due to loss	1	
No new pot ID, buoy brands and name tags are adequate	1	
ODFW observers during pot loading	1	
Tag buoy and pot	1	
Unique buoy number/color and yearly pot tag	1	
Use pot number similar to AK	1	
Yearly colored pot tags	1	
Study impact of pots according to amount used	1	
Need to find a way to replace or recover lost gear	1	
License revoked for one year if caught fishing more gear than allowed	1	

Questionnaire Part II: -Additional Comments not Specifically Related to Pot Limitation Issues in Part I

Table 5. Categorized comments not related to pot limitation issues in descending order

Selected Categories With More Than One Comment	Number
Enforcement concerns	49
Pot barging limitation	27
Increase or change regulations on sport crabbing	21
Delay or shorten commercial season	14
Support for some sort of poundage or trip limit	13
Ban commercial night crabbing	13
Support buyback program to reduce fleet	11
Support for some sort of area fishery	11
Support for increased or industry based quality testing	9
Eliminate or shorten presoak period	7
Anti big boat sentiment	6
Eliminate or increase summer 1,200 lb. Weekly limit	6
Positive comments on permit stacking	6
Increase commercial size limit	5
Negative biodegradable twine comments	3
Negative comments regarding permit stacking	4
Fill crab biologist position	2
Retain 1,200 lb. Weekly summer limit	2
Limitation on maximum depth for crabbing	2

Table 6. Questionnaire part II, summary of all non-pot limit comments by issue category in descending order of number of responses.

Enforcement Concerns (50)
500 pots/boat are easier to enforce
Better enforcement of commercial size limit needed
Brands and ID # are not enforceable
Crab pots not brought in timely manner after season closes
Crab theft problem and lack of enforcement
Enforce rotten cotton law
Enforcement concerns (9)
Enforcement concerns – fleet self-enforcement?
Enforcement concerns, pot stealing and crab theft
Enforcement concerns, stiffer penalties, enforcement committee
Enforcement issues, crab stealing, stiffer sentences
Enforcement issues: early trap setting, stealing crab, checking others pots to judge abundance in area
Enforcement problems, expect more crab stealing from other's pots
Fleet monitoring of pot limit (self enforcement)
Forfeit permit if caught stealing crab

Fund enforcement vessel
Harsher penalties for cheating
Increase enforcement (2)
Increase penalties/fines
Lose fishing right for 1 year if in violation
Lose license for repeat offenses
Opener during daylight (noon) with observer plane
Pot limit unenforceable without huge budget
Reward for info convicting violators
Stealing crabs from others pots
Stop illegal preseason scouting
Tax to fund crab enforcement officer
Too hard to enforce, IFQ's are better
Unenforceable (8)
Unenforceable, crab theft, pot theft
WA limit is unenforceable
Year round landing limit, pot limit to hard to enforce
AK makes the penalty so hard people don't chance cheating
Pot Barging Limitation (27)
All boats should be required to carry own gear
barging by LE permitted vessels only
No barging by non LE vessels
No barging without LE permit
No non LE vessel pot barging (6)
No non permitted vessel involvement (barging)
No pot barging (12)
No non LE vessels barging pots
Only LE permitted vessels can set gear
Safety concerns over small vessel barging
Vessel barges own pots only
Increase or Change Regulations on Sport Crabbing (21)
6 ¼ inch size limit for sport Ocean harvest
6 ¼ inch sport crab size (2)
Buoy/Pot ID for recreational crabbers
Charter crabbing, rings only, 6 ¼ ocean size limit, each person catches own crabs
Charters at 6 ¼ size limit (3)
Close recreational crabbing with commercial season
Increase ocean recreational to 6 ¼
Increase ocean sport to 6 ¼, bay crabbing remain at 5 ¼
Increase recreational size to 6 ¼
Increase sport size to 6 ¼
Limit charter crab
Ocean charter to 6 ¼ size limit, customer to pull own pots, no pots left overnight
Raise sport size to 6 ¼ inch
Reduce sport limit to 6
Reduce sport limit to 6 crabs daily
Require charters to take 6 ¼ inch crabs
Sport shellfish license

Delay or Shorten Commercial Season (14)
Close season June 1st, open Dec 15th
Close season when crabs are soft
Close season when pickout falls below 25%
Dec. 15th opener
Dec 15th opening date
End season earlier
Feb 1st season opener
No crabbing during molt
Not sport or commercial after June 30th
Shorten season
Shorten season to save soft shells
Shut down fishery earlier to avoid soft crab
Start season Jan 1
Support for Some Sort of Poundage or Trip Limit (13)
20,000 monthly limit on landings
20,000 pound weekly limit
Delivery limit of 1000 lbs./day, possession limit of 7000 lbs.
Monthly limits based on history instead of pot limit
Monthly poundage limitation
Poundage tier instead of pot limit tier
Pounds per month instead of pot limit
Trip limits all season instead of pot limit
Trip limits instead of pot limits (2)
Weekly landing limit instead of pot limit
Consider, area registration, poundage limits, trip limits as other options
Weekly or monthly delivery limits to stretch out season (2)
Ban Commercial Night Crabbing (13)
Ban lights for running gear, thievery is done at night
Daylight crabbing only (2)
Daylight fishing only
Daylight only
Limit or stop nighttime fishing
No night fishing (3)
Only as many pots as vessel could run during daylight
Stop fishing with lights
Ban night crabbing
Support Buyback Program to Reduce Fleet (11)
Buy back (6)
Buy back program
Buy back to reduce fleet
Funds from buoy tags to go toward permit reduction
Industry buyback
Industry sponsored buyout
Support for Some Sort of Area Fishery (11)
Area designations
Area fisheries
Area licensing (2)
Area permits (2)

Area permits, with 30 days between changing areas
Area registration (3)
Consider, area registration, poundage limits, trip limits as other options
Support for Increased or Industry Based Quality Testing (9)
Allow industry quality testing
Coastwide preseason testing with catch info released
Coastwide uniform meat pickout criteria
Early testing by each port before Dec 1
Improve recovery sampling prior to season
Increase preseason testing
Pretesting crab quality before opening area
State done domoic test
State is responsible for testing for soft crab for emergency closure
Eliminate or Shorten Presoak Period (7)
Eliminate presoak (4)
Eliminate or shorten presoak period
No presoak
No presoak period
Anti Big Boat Sentiment (6)
Anti big boat sentiment
Anti mega corporate processors and big operators (high level of waste)
Expect complaints of not enough pots to operate from the big boats
Anti big boat sentiment (protect small boats)
Limit big boats that "cream the crop" and leave for other fisheries
Problem of larger boats running the gear of smaller boats they also own
Eliminate or Increase Summer 1,200 lb. Weekly Limit (6)
Eliminate 1200lb summer limit
Existing weekly spring/summer landing limit unfair.
Increase 1,200/wk summer limit
Raise summer poundage to 2000 and 7% back to 10% (2)
Rethink summer fishery cap
Positive Comments on Permit Stacking (6)
Allow permit stacking (4)
Allow permit stacking of 100 pots, limit of twice
Allow permit stacking, 500 max
Increase commercial size limit (5)
Increase commercial size to 6 ½ like AK
Increase commercial size to 6 3/8 to 6 ½
Increase size to 6 ½
Raise commercial size ¼ inch
Raise commercial size to 6 ½ inches
Negative biodegradable twine comments (3)
Biodegradable cord rots too fast
Cotton breaks too soon
Rotten cotton breaks too soon, nylon blend better
Negative comments regarding permit stacking (3)
Against permit stacking
No permit stacking
No permit stacking or 1 time stacking of 100 extra pots

Fill crab biologist position (2)
Fill project leader position immediately
Hire crab biologist soon
Retain 1,200 lb. weekly summer limit (2)
Keep 1200 lb. summer limit
Retain the 1200lb/week summer limit
Limitation on maximum depth for crabbing (2)
Close deeper fishing areas for refuge
Max depth limit (70 fathoms) crab refuge

II. Table 7. Questionnaire part II, additional comments not easily categorized

1 limit of pots for all states (e.g. 500 pots total for WA/OR/CA)
 10% of the fleet get the top tier. A transfer of a top tier permit reverts to the lower tier
 All boats required to get stability report (loaded?)
 Allow the existing 10-ft vessel length increase at transfer only once
 Allow 26' or less vessels to long line pots in Columbia R.
 Allow at least 2years for gear retirement after pot limit implemented
 Allow bay crabbers to use 15 rings in ocean
 Ban beach dragging during crab season closures
 Barging by non LE boats is good for safety
 Base pot limit on reliance on crab (how many months of the season fished)
 Boats from other states with OR LE permit get the OR pot limit
 Boats with multi-state permits should only fish one state
 Change 10ft. increase in transfer size to 5 ft., one time only
 Coast-wide consistency with CA & WA
 Coast-wide opener, Dec 1 or 15th depending on quality
 Concerns about leasing out "extra" pots if pot limit is beyond what a fisher normally uses
 Do not allow crab buyers to refuse purchasing crab
 Don't allow the 10ft vessel increase at transfer every 5 years
 Effort will reduce naturally in 2002
 Enough pots are needed for living wage
 Extension of "Fair Start" concept to include delays in WA fisheries to accommodate tribal sharing obligations
 Fears that Oregon caught crab landed in CA won't count when determining pot limit
 Higher permit renewal fee for permits with more pots
 Hold inspection numbers are false
 If 50% of the crab fleet is holding for higher crab quality, no pots in water
 Implement pot limit in 2002-03 season
 Inconsistent definition of OR/WA Columbia border line between states
 Increase 3-mile zone to 50 miles for non-OR permitted vessels
 Increase difficulty for out state vessels to fish OR waters
 It is 15-20 years too late for a pot limit
 Keep pot limit simple
 Let industry and economics dictate direction of fishery
 Limit crab vessels to 58' or smaller
 Limit pot size (volume)
 Limit soft crab harvest
 Limit vessel size
 Limited buoy tags need replacement option for pot loss
 Lowest number of pots (bottom tier) should go to unused permits
 Need replacements for lost buoy tags

Need to spread the catch more evenly throughout the season
No support in the fleet for pot limits
No vessel should have 1000 pots in the water for any reason
Non-fishing permit holders cannot answer this questionnaire competently
ODFW should stay out of economics and focus on biology
One license for entire coast (WA/OR/CA) with one controlling agency
One limit of pots for all states (WA/OR/CA)
Open and close entire state season (no split openers)
OR doesn't have the same problems as WA
Over-fishing resource concerns
Owner operators only
Penalty for holding crab too long with increased dead loss
Phase in new pots with AK size escape rings
Pot-free safe passage near port entrances
Pot tag replacement for lost pots
Pots will reduce next season naturally due to poor catch
Quality not quantity, spread harvest over entire season
Renewal of state authority outside 3 miles
Replacement of lost pot tags needed
Size limit on pot volume
Soft-shell crab demarcation line should be allowed to be anywhere in state
Some general validity should be given to hold inspections
Speed up pot limit before it's too late
Spreading production out through the season increases production costs
Stacked permits are permanent even if transferred
Stacking only at 50% at every transfer
Start season Dec 1
Stop draggers from destroying ocean bottom
Stop sales of summer soft shells
Stretch out production evenly through year
Summer crab on market is good for tourist trade, regardless of quality
Tiered system based on boat size, production record and years of production
Tribal fishing rights concerns
Uniform statewide opening
WA cap too high
Waited too long for pot limit, now its harder to do
Wants overlapping fishing grounds with CA (border too close)
Wants same opportunity as established crabbers
Where did all the larger than 60' permits come from?
Year round crab season

Appendix B

OREGON DUNGENESS CRAB FISHERMEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Crab Fishermen Advisory group consists of 24 voting members (20 port fisherman, 2 crab association presidents, and 2 coastal process or representatives) as noted in the attachment table. The 20 port advisors were selected by the individual Oregon coastal port fishermen groups or associations based on the following criteria:

- Currently active and have experience in the Oregon ocean commercial Dungeness crab fishery
- Should be a current active Oregon Limited Entry License
- Membership to reflect the geographical port areas and various vessel size group representation (see attached)
- Port advisory representatives should live at or near the local port area they represent
- Desire to actively participate in several public advisory group meetings over several months
- ODFW asked the two large association presidents and two processors to serve
- Four largest ports selected three advisors each
- All others, except Florence and Depoe Bay, which selected one advisor each, selected two advisors each.

Committee Composition

For the 22 port members (including association advisors) the following breakdown summarizes membership percentage by vessel size category compared to the active 1999-00 fleet. The geographic representation for the 22 fisherman is split evenly, 11 for Newport north and 11 Florence south.

<u>Vessel Size Category</u>	<u>Advisors Composition</u>	<u>1999-00 Fishery Representation</u>
Small (<45')	41%	54%
Medium (45'-64')	36%	33%
Large (>64')	23%	13%

Table 1. Oregon Dungeness Crab Fishermen's Advisory Committee membership and geographical composition by port areas. Vessel size noted below is a very general description of the "vessel classes" selected. Port representatives chosen by local port fisherman groups. Committee representation as of September 2001.

<u>Port</u>	<u>Vessel Class/Size</u>			<u>Total Port Advisors</u>
	<u>Large</u>	<u>Medium</u>	<u>Small</u>	
Astoria/N. Coast	x	x	x	3
Garibaldi/PC		x	x	2
Depoe Bay			x	1
Newport	x	x	x	3
Florence		x		1
Win. Bay	x		x	2
Coos Bay	x	x	x	3
Port Orford			x	2
Brookings	x	x	x	3
				20

Others (selected by ODFW):

- Russell Smotherman – NW Crab Marketing Assoc. Pres. 1
- Bob Spelbrink – Newport Crab Marketing Assoc. Pres. 1
- Doug Heater, Manager-Bornstein's Seafoods, Astoria 1
- Dave Wright, Manager-Pacific Shrimp, Newport 1
- Dale Beasley – Washington crabber (advisory - nonvoting) -
- ODFW staff -
- Oregon State Police (OSP) -

Grand Total 24

