

WASHINGTON SHELLFISH OPPORTUNITIES –CLASS REFERENCE GUIDE

Prepared by Roger Urbaniak-Lake Washington Chapter Puget Sound Anglers

Guide is intended for reference only-regulations are per WFDW 2008 rules and the new Fishing in Washington Pamphlet for 2008-2009 should be available May 1, 2008

REFERENCES AND CONTACT NUMBERS:

Clam and oyster Seasons and Information (click on the map for info on particular areas)

<http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/shellfish/beachreg>

WDFW plans some beaches with oysters, clams, and geoduck.

WDFW recommends storing clams, oysters and muscles in salt water and then cooking them until they open. If they do not open throw them away.

Mill Creek WDFW 425-775-1311, Use this for WDFW website: <http://wdfw.wa.gov>

CRAB: Dungeness 6-1/4" limit 5 hard shell male, catch record card required. Endorsement required. Rock Crab six-5" any sex, normal season July to Sept., Wed-Sat-must check regs and shellfish info line for seasons-closures. 2 pots or ring nets per person, red-white float-fresh bait = Dungeness Old bait=rock crab Sunrise to sunset, name/address on floats-2 per person, pull pots
Crab seasons and information (click map for particular areas)

<http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/shelfish/crabreg/crabindex.shtml>

Shellfish Rule Change Hotline 866-880-5431 for emergency changes (Crab/shrimp)

Register your boat of any size if Federal Waters (salt water or Lake WA), wear life jackets

Carry first aid kit and band-aids

SAND SHRIMP: Year-round 10 dozen **SCALLOPS:** Year-round, limit =12 minimum 4"

SHRIMP 1st Sat May-limited seasons and catch-200-300 feet deep, cat food, check mesh size, yellow floats, 80 shrimp, 2nd opener=June 1, 10 pounds Spot, Pink, Coonstripe (125-150 feet), check regs seasons <http://wfdw.wa.gov/fish/shelfish/shrimpreg/shrimpindex.shtml>

CLAMS: 40 clams 10 pounds limit, Manila, Butter, Cockle, Littleneck, Softshell 1-1/2"+

Razor Clams: daily first 15 dug, open beaches only, check season on websites, best=south sound

Horse Clams: first 7 dug, Razor Clams: first 15 dug, shovel (separate ocean season TBA), rake, and fork. Refill holes-push in small, Low Tide, each shoveler =separate container. Year-round

MUSSELS: 10 pounds in shell, no min size, Year-round, open beaches only

CRAYFISH: May-Oct min 3-1/4"min, 10 pounds, and return egg females no license needed

OYSTERS: min 2-1/2", 18 per day, prying tool okay –no hammer, leave shells on beach, need your own separate container, year-round season- open beaches only.

SQUID: Year-round (Nov-Dec), 5-quarts or 10 pounds, 5 Humboldt, max 4 lures, dip net.

GEODUCK (1st-3), seaweed, goose barnacles, moon snails, sea cucumbers, octopus=check regs

Other Species regs/info: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/shelfish/crabreg/otherspecies.shtml>

Current Resident License fees: Shellfish, \$19.71, combo shell&fish=\$41.61, Dungeness Crab

Endorsement \$2.50

Shellfish Biotoxin (red tide) hotline 800-562-5632 or <http://www.doh.wa.gov/eph/sf/biotoxin.htm>