

Handout A

Short term measures to reduce risk of whale entanglements in Dungeness crab gear – Phase II

A. Target implementation – Apr/May 2020

1. ODFW DRAFT recommendation

- Late season pot limit reduction and separate seasonal buoy tag
 - a. April 1 reduce all pot limits by 30% or,
 - b. May 1 reduce all pot limits by 30% or,
 - c. Either April 1 or May 1, reduce all pot limits by a different % reduction or flat reduction (i.e. all limits to 200)
- Permanent elimination of the two-week gear clean-up period after the season ends

Alternatives for consideration for substituting for the above approach

2. Close the season April 1, May 1 or June 1
3. Season intermission - close the season as of April 1, then re-open with a late season buoy tag on May 1

B. Target implementation – Dec 2020

1. ODFW DRAFT recommendation

- Initiate “late season” derelict gear removal program, incentivized by allowing ownership of retrieved pots (will require legislative changes)
- Eliminate replacement tags
- Require line marking

Additional short term measures to consider:

- Define maximum length and number of buoys allowed for use in surface gear (new CA reg)
- Require lines to be taut (new WA reg under consideration)