Crab season delayed again in Oregon

Crabbers on hold until at least the end of the month

By KATIE FRANKOWICZ
The Daily Astorian

Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

Crab pots sit ready at the Warrenton Marina.

Oregon's Dungeness crab fishery will not open until at least Dec. 31 after testing by state fishery managers revealed crabs are still too low in meat yield in some areas of the coast.

The valuable commercial fishery traditionally opens on Dec. 1. In November, fishery managers announced the season would be delayed until mid-December because crabs were not plump enough.

The most recent delay is not a big surprise, said Tim Novotny, the spokesman for the Oregon Dungeness Crab Commission, which advocates for the industry.

"It was completely justified," said John Corbin, a commercial fisherman in Clatsop County and chairman of the crab commission.

Testing showed low meat yield in crabs in the southern part of the state. Then — "what really made things look a little bleak for us getting the fishery open," Novotny said — tests at the Washington state border near Long Beach also came back similarly short.

"When that happened it really kind of limited our options for ensuring a quality product going to market," he said.

The commercial Dungeness crab fishery is managed under a tri-state agreement between Washington state, Oregon and California. In early December, multiple areas within the region still did not meet the criteria for an opening, according to Oregon fishery managers.

The state will continue testing crab to determine if the season should open Dec. 31 in Oregon or be delayed further. It is possible Oregon could be split into two areas with different opening dates.

For fishermen, the delay means even more uncertainty around an already difficult and dangerous occupation.

"The uncertainty of the opener has been going on for a few years now," Corbin said. "It just used to be we knew we were going Dec. 1."

But the fishery got off to a very late start last year, at first, because of meat quality and then, later, because of divisive price negotiations and bad weather. Seasons have also been delayed in recent years because of elevated levels of the marine toxin domoic acid.

Still, Corbin noted, Oregon saw a record $74 million ex-vessel value last season.

"While the opening of the season is painful … the fishery has still been very lucrative, and it's pretty hard to deny," Corbin said. "Yeah, there's a little extra pain for another couple weeks but it's still panning out and turning into a viable fishery. It's just tough on everybody, the nerves and waiting all this stuff out.

"I can't say we're getting numb to it. I'm not. But it is what it is."

In some areas, the crabs are very close to the minimum 23 percent meat requirement, so Novotny and others are hopeful that the fishery could open by Dec. 31.

"We're just going to remain optimistic that we get some good numbers on those areas where we're just shy (of the requirement)," Novotny said. "Hopefully the next round of tests will get us there."

Price negotiations are expected to begin later this month and have the potential to further complicate or even delay when commercial crab pots hit the water. Last season, the fishery was open, but crabbers had yet to go out and fish after rejecting initial offers from processors to pay crabbers $2.30 a pound.

Corbin has heard that tribal crabbers in Washington state have been getting around $3.50 a pound while crabbers in San Francisco, which opened in mid-November, are seeing around $4.25 per pound.

Corbin said he knows some fishermen who are trying to remain flexible, keeping gear on their boats so they can hop into other fisheries in case the crab season opener is delayed further.

"You've just got to be prepared," he said, "and hold on to the opening of the crab season loosely because you just don't know when it might be."

Commercial harvest of Dungeness crab in Oregon bays is closed for the remainder of the year. Crab closures due to elevated levels of domoic acid are in effect from Cape Blanco to the California border.

DEATH

Dec. 3, 2018

KISTLER, Kevin Ray, 57, of Naselle, Washington, died in Naselle. Ocean View Funeral & Cremation Service of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

BIRTH

Nov. 27, 2018

ROOS, Nicole and Cody, of Warrenton, a girl, Rose Marie Roos, born at Columbia Memorial Hospital in Astoria. Grandparents are Greg and Christine Riehl of Hammond and Bruce and Sandi Roos of Cloverdale.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

MONDAY

Youngs River Lewis & Clark Water District Board, 6 p.m., 34583 U.S. Highway 101 Business.

Cannon Beach Rural Fire Department Board, 6 p.m., Fire-Rescue Main Station, 188 Sunset Ave.

Seaside City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 989 Broadway.

TUESDAY

Cannon Beach City Council, 5:30 p.m., work session, City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.

Warrenton City Commission, 6 p.m., City Hall, 225 S. Main Ave.

Astoria Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m., City Hall, 1095 Duane St.

Clatsop Community College Board, 6:30 p.m., Columbia Hall Room 219, 1651 Lexington Ave., Astoria.

Lewis & Clark Fire Department Board, 7 p.m., main fire station, 34571 Highway 101 Business.

Robert Glenn Howell Jr.

Seaside

April 13, 1942—Nov. 10, 2018

Robert Glenn Howell Jr., 76, beloved husband, father, brother and friend, passed away surrounded by family on Nov. 10, 2018 in Seaside, Oregon.

Robert Glenn Howell

Robert is survived by his wife of 47 years, Tricia Howell; sons, Trent Christopher and Morgan Nicholas Howell, and his brother, James Howell.

Robert was born in San Diego, California, to Robert and Gladys Howell. He was the second of three children in the family. Upon graduation from Helix High School, he explored a number of occupations and then decided to go to college and enrolled at Fullerton Junior College in the mid 1960s, where he earned an associate of arts degree in psychology. He transferred to Cal State University, Fullerton and earned a bachelor's degree in psychology in 1969.

By that time he knew his calling. He assisted the director of the Special Education Clinic at CSUF and in 1970 earned a master's degree in special education. In 1981, he furthered his education, earning a doctorate in educational leadership at United States International University in San Diego.

Robert taught students with a wide variety of disabilities: severely handicapped, communicatively handicapped, visually handicapped and learning handicapped in both public and private school settings. His students ranged in age from early elementary to high school.

Robert was always interested in teaching, training, coaching and helping others to grow and develop. This motivation led him to become a school district administrator of special education programs in the Orange Unified School District.

During his decades in Orange he devoted his energies to support administrators and programs throughout the state and held administrative leadership positions at the state level. In 2000, he became the assistant superintendent of human resources in the Fairfield-Suisun School District.

While Robert loved working in the schools, he also loved working in the community. He coached soccer for many years, served on the soccer board and also served as a park and recreation commissioner in Yorba Linda, California. He also became a lay minister at Garden Grove Community Church during that period.

Throughout his busy life, Robert found time to build his skills in landscaping, gardening and cooking. He was an inventive chef who never made the same recipe twice. He enjoyed beach camping with the family and always was most at home by the ocean.

In 2015, Robert moved to Seaside, Oregon, and found a wonderful place for retirement. Sadly, health concerns related to a neurological disorder continued to grow during his final years. He and his family greatly appreciated the help provided by the Seaside Providence Home Health providers: Marianne, Christy, Connie, Lucy, Susan, Diane and Angela. He and the family also thank Clatsop Care givers Sharon, April, Lea, Meagan, Sarah and Jennifer for all of their support. The Lower Columbia Hospice team provided tremendous support to Robert and family in his final weeks.

Funeral arrangements are in the care of Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary in Astoria, Oregon. Memorial services will be held Sunday, Dec. 16, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. at the Seaside Evergreen Masonic Lodge at 201 N. Holladay Drive in Seaside. Graveside services were held at an earlier date.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests a donation to his name to the Lower Columbia Hospice 2111 Exchange St, Astoria, OR., 97103.

Please sign the online guest book at www.caldwellsmortuary.com

FIVE-DAY FORECAST FOR ASTORIA

AccuWeather DOWNLOAD THE FREE APP

TONIGHT	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
45	54 / 43	52 / 43	51 / 43	52 / 38
Some clouds; breezy late with rain	Windy with rain	Mostly cloudy with a bit of rain	Periods of rain	Periods of rain

ALMANAC

Astoria through Sunday.

Temperatures

High/low	48°/43°
Normal high/low	49°/37°
Record high	61° in 2014
Record low	16° in 2009

Precipitation

Sunday	0.82"
Month to date	1.32"
Normal month to date	3.09"
Year to date	54.71"
Normal year to date	60.46"

SUN AND MOON

Sunset tonight	4:30 p.m.
Sunrise Tuesday	7:48 a.m.
Moonrise today	10:29 a.m.
Moonset today	7:43 p.m.

First	Full	Last	New
Dec 15	Dec 22	Dec 29	Jan 5

UNDER THE SKY

Tonight's Sky: Auriga, the charioteer, is low in the northeast at nightfall and passes directly overhead by around midnight.

Source: Jim Todd, OMSI

TOMORROW'S TIDES

Astoria / Port Docks

Time	High	Time	Low
4:15 a.m.	7.8 ft.	9:37 a.m.	3.6 ft.
3:05 p.m.	8.5 ft.	10:08 p.m.	0.3 ft.

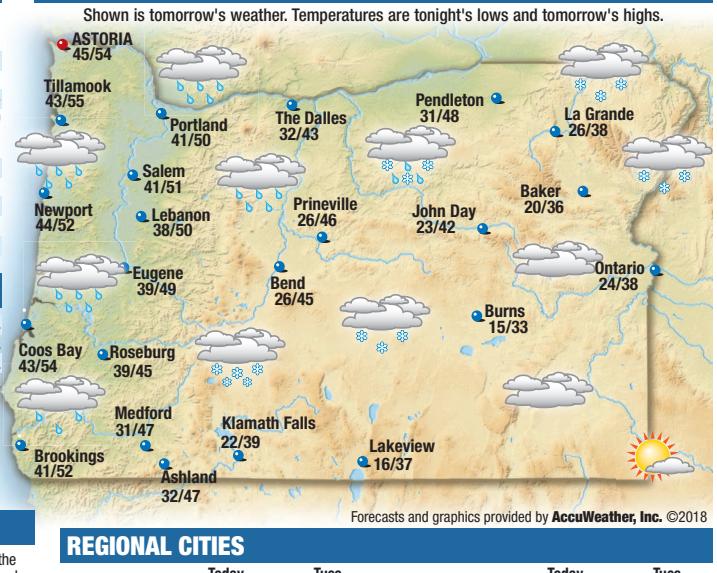
NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi	Lo	W	Tues. Hi	Lo	W
Atlanta	40	32	r	51	30	s
Boston	37	24	s	36	26	s
Chicago	34	25	s	37	29	pc
Denver	54	30	s	50	29	pc
Des Moines	33	21	s	42	26	pc
Detroit	34	25	pc	36	24	pc
El Paso	56	38	c	59	44	c
Fairbanks	10	3	pc	15	-4	sn
Honolulu	82	72	pc	81	72	pc
Indianapolis	33	20	s	40	28	pc
Kansas City	40	26	s	50	28	pc
Las Vegas	59	45	pc	64	41	s
Los Angeles	71	50	pc	69	49	s
Memphis	42	24	c	51	37	s
Miami	76	52	c	68	51	s
Nashville	44	21	c	48	33	s
New Orleans	55	36	s	56	40	s
New York	40	28	s	39	30	s
Oklahoma City	51	28	s	55	34	pc
Philadelphia	40	24	s	40	29	s
St. Louis	37	27	s	49	37	s
Salt Lake City	39	27	pc	37	29	c
San Francisco	57	45	sh	58	51	s
Seattle	49	43	sh	51	42	r
Washington, DC	42	28	pc	43	31	s

Weather (W): **s**-sunny, **pc**-partly cloudy, **c**-cloudy, **sh**-showers, **t**-thunderstorms, **r**-rain, **sf**-snow flurries, **sn**-snow, **i**-ice.

REGIONAL WEATHER

Shown is tomorrow's weather. Temperatures are tonight's lows and tomorrow's highs.



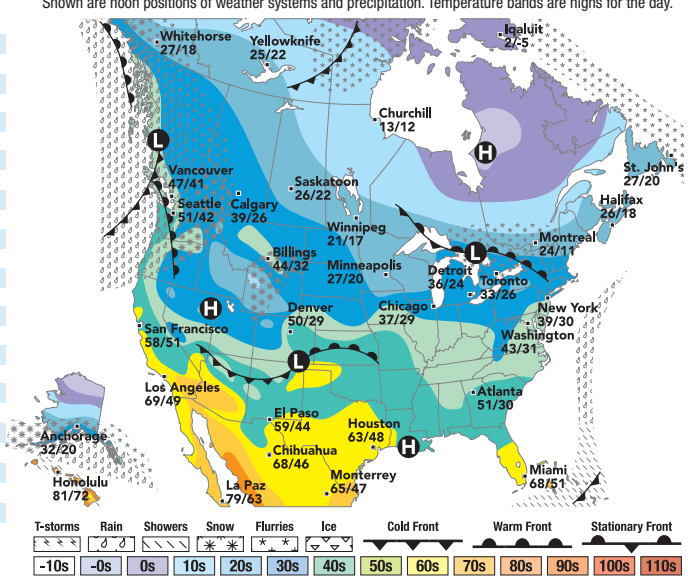
Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2018

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi	Lo	W	Tues. Hi	Lo	W
Baker City	37	20	sn	36	29	sn
Bend	42	26	c	45	28	i
Brookings	53	42	c	52	42	r
Eugene	49	39	c	49	40	r
Ilwaco	50	46	sh	53	44	r
Klamath Falls	40	22	sn	39	28	c
Medford	49	31	c	47	34	r
Newberg	47	41	sh	50	41	r
Newport	51	44	c	52	43	r
North Bend	53	44	c	55	43	r
Olympia	47	40	sh	50	38	r
Pendleton	42	31	c	48	39	r
Portland	48	41	sh	50	43	r
Roseburg	48	39	c	45	40	r
Salem	49	41	c	51	41	r
Seaside	51	45	sh	54	43	r
Spokane	34	29	sf	37	32	sn
Springfield	49	38	c	49	39	r
Vancouver	47	41	sh	50	41	r
Yakima	39	29	pc	39	32	c

TOMORROW'S NATIONAL WEATHER

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.



LOTTERIES

OREGON

Sunday's Pick 4:
1 p.m.: 5-7-3-5
4 p.m.: 4-2-7-1
7 p.m.: 1-3-8-2
10 p.m.: 9-6-9-0
Sunday's Lucky Lines: 3-7-9-14-17-21-28-29
Estimated jackpot: $11,000
Saturday's Pick 4:
1 p.m.: 0-0-2-8
4 p.m.: 7-1-3-3
7 p.m.: 2-7-7-6
10 p.m.: 0-3-8-6
Saturday's Lucky Lines: 4-7-9-16-19-24-28-30
Estimated jackpot: $31,000
Saturday's Megabucks: 4-6-8-15-17-35
Estimated jackpot: $5.2 million
Saturday's Powerball: 14-32-34-46-61, Powerball: 10
Estimated jackpot: $230 million
Friday's Pick 4:
1 p.m.: 6-1-3-2
4 p.m.: 9-8-9-1
7 p.m.: 8-0-2-1
10 p.m.: 4-6-0-3
Friday's Lucky Lines: 4-6-9-13-18-24-26-29
Estimated jackpot: $30,000
Friday's Mega Millions: 4-10-20-33-57, Mega Ball: 13
Estimated jackpot: $245 million

WASHINGTON

Sunday's Daily Game: 8-6-7
Sunday's Keno: 02-13-14-16-17-18-27-31-42-45-49-55-58-61-66-69-71-73-76-79
Sunday's Match 4: 01-02-08-23
Saturday's Daily Game: 1-7-2
Saturday's Hit 5: 05-13-18-25-39
Estimated jackpot: $270,000
Saturday's Keno: 04-08-10-16-17-19-28-30-32-37-46-48-50-51-59-66-67-75-78-80
Saturday's Lotto: 01-13-18-22-31-34
Estimated jackpot: $1.3 million
Saturday's Match 4: 02-12-15-23
Friday's Daily Game: 5-8-0
Friday's Keno: 03-08-13-15-18-21-22-23-28-30-31-45-47-52-54-57-67-68-74-76
Friday's Match 4: 03-11-21-22

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