



Unified Command Statement: No Known Impacts to Dungeness Fisheries from Olympic Pipeline gasoline spill Conway, WA

Conway, WA (December 15, 2023/5:00 PM)

There are no known impacts to recreational and tribal Dungeness crab fisheries from the release of gasoline from a vault associated with the Olympic Pipeline in Conway, Washington. The pipeline was shut down and the leak was stopped on Sunday, December 10. After regulatory approval, the pipeline system was restarted on December 13.

On Monday, December 11, response crews conducted a boat survey of the Skagit River from the Milltown boat ramp to Fisher Slough. No gasoline was observed on the river or banks.

Recreational crab fishing for Marine Area 7 is open daily through December 31. Crab Management Region 2E will open to commercial harvest on December 19, 2023, at 8:00 am. This fishery will be conducted in common with the 2E treaty crab fishery operating at the same time. Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife provides information about recreational and commercial fisheries on their website (<https://wdfw.wa.gov/>).

Unified command is conducting water sampling in the Skagit River and Skagit Bay, and will collect samples of Dungeness crab. When results of this sampling are available, it will be shared with tribes, public health agencies, and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. Any impacts to recreational, tribal, or commercial fisheries will be included in Unified Command updates.

If people see an oil sheen on the water, they should not enter sheen areas and should not fish from areas where sheening is visible. This would include placing and pulling up crab pots and crabbing in intertidal areas where sheen is present.

For further information on this incident, contact:

Scarlet Tang/Ecology: 206-920-2600

Bill Dunbar/EPA: 206-245-7452

Jenn Rogers/Skagit County: 360-630-6604

Pamela Brady/BP: 360-920-1171

#