



**REGION 6**

**48 Devonshire Road •Montesano, Washington 98563• (360) 249-4628 FAX (360) 664-0689**

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO: All Washington Commercial Coastal Dungeness Crab License Holders**

**FROM: Brandon Bryant, Fish Program - Region Six / Coastal Shellfish**

**SUBJECT: Increase in Buoy Tag Prices**

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Commercial Licensing Division was recently notified by The Sierra Group, the company that manufactures the buoy tags used by the coastal and Puget Sound commercial Dungeness crab fisheries, that they are raising the price of buoy tags from \$0.70 per tag to \$0.90 per tag due to rising production and shipping costs.

This notice is to inform you that this cost increase of \$0.20 per tag will apply to the purchase of your buoy tags (and replacement tags) for the upcoming 2008-09-crab season. This price increase will not apply to the cost of replacement tags purchased for the 2007-08 season.

In 2006, with industry support, the Washington State Legislature (HB2330) provided WDFW the authority to charge a fee to Coastal Dungeness crab license holders for a buoy tag system. The fee covers only the cost that WDFW pays to the manufacturer for the tags.

Regulations pertaining to the requirement that all commercial Dungeness crab pots must be equipped with a buoy tag are described in WAC 220-52-040-7b.

Cc. Carol Steadman  
Rich Childers

