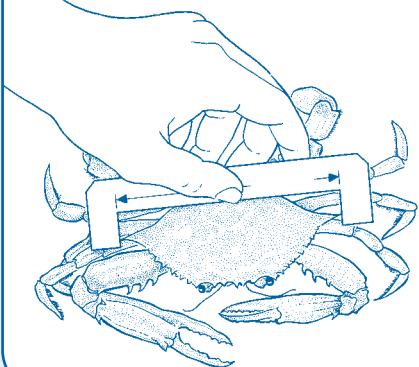


Crabbing

for Blue Swimmer Crabs in the West Coast Region

Minimum Size

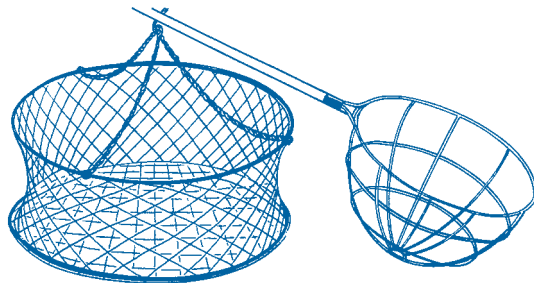
127 mm across the widest part of the shell. Return all undersize and berried (egg-carrying) crabs to the water.



Gear

Only wire or plastic scoop nets, drop nets or hand-held blunt wire hooks may be used to catch crabs.

It is illegal to take crabs using fishing or prawning nets. Any crab caught accidentally this way must be released.



Boat Limit

There is a boat possession limit of 20 crabs if there are two or more people in the boat.

If there is one person in the boat, a limit of 10 crabs

applies. These limits apply regardless of the method of capture.

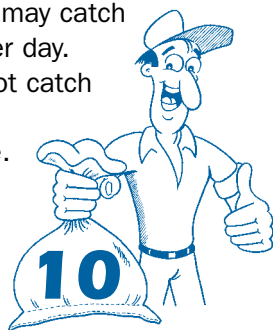
There is also a limit of 10 drop nets per boat.



Bag Limit

Each fisher may catch 10 crabs per day.

You must not catch crabs for anyone else.

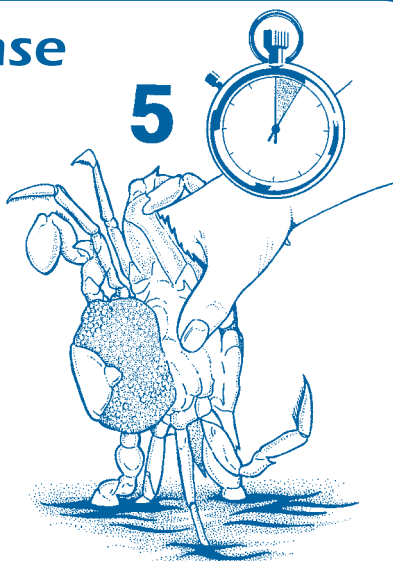


Crab Care

Remember that any mutilation of sea creatures is an offence (carrying a maximum fine of \$5,000 for an individual) so only take legal-size crabs and treat those you return to the water gently.

Quick Release

You must return unwanted crabs to the water within five minutes of catching them. Crabbers are required to release any undersize or spawning crabs caught in a drop net before pulling another. This will reduce the mortality of small and spawning crabs and help preserve breeding stocks for the future.



Closed Areas

Peel-Harvey Estuary – Closed season, 1 September to 31 October. The Peel-Harvey Estuary near Mandurah is closed to all crab fishing during this period.

Cockburn Sound – Closed season, 1 April to 14 December. Cockburn Sound is closed to all crab fishing during this period.

Department of Fisheries

3rd floor The Atrium,
168 St George's Tce, Perth WA 6000
Ph: (08) 9482 7333 Fax: (08) 9482 7389
Website: www.fish.wa.gov.au
Email: headoffice@fish.wa.gov.au



Government of Western Australia
Department of Fisheries

