



Dungeness Crab Line Marking

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Purpose of Line Marking



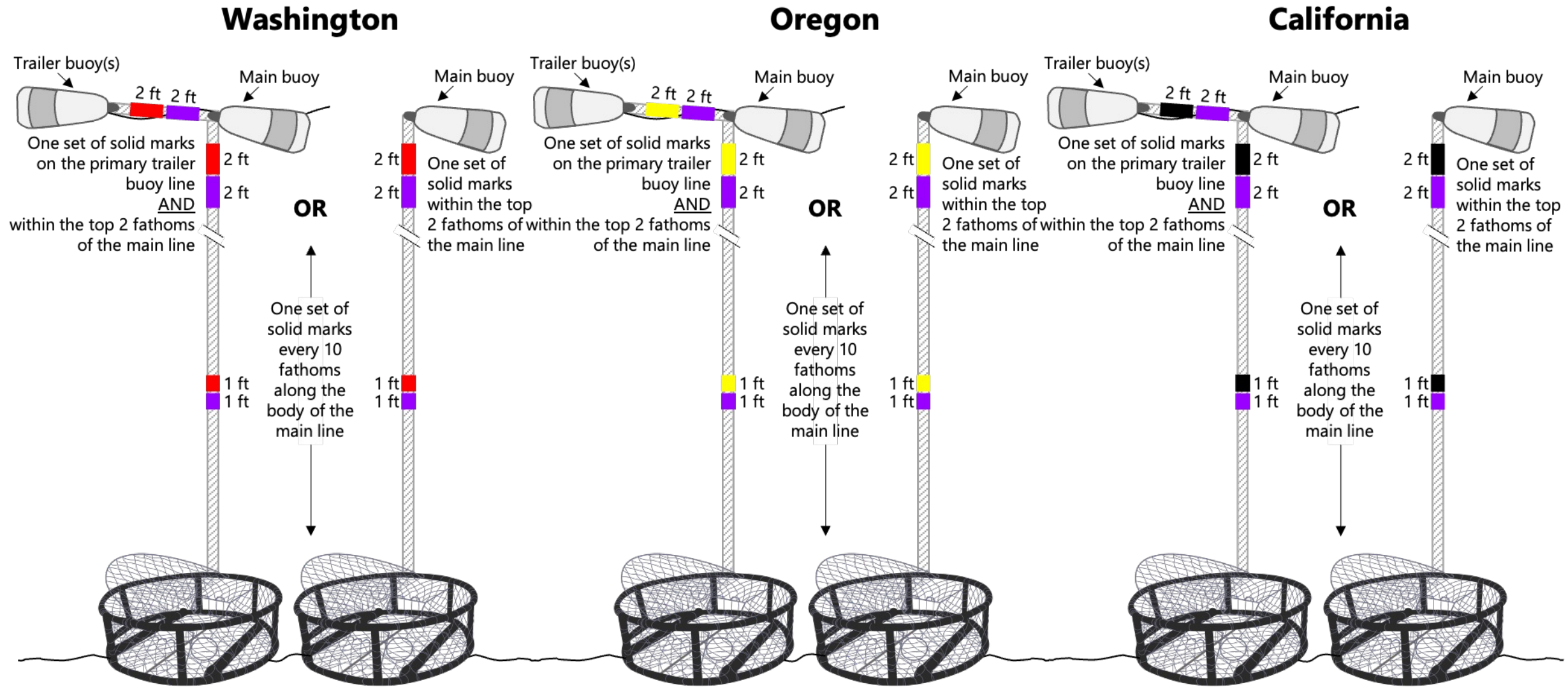
- **Line marking is a tool that can help better identify entanglements to state and fishery origin**
- **Could also be used to exclude or eliminate fisheries from confirmed unknown entanglements through a NMFS determination**
- **Line marking may not always be fail-safe, but it could in time incrementally improve and reduce the likelihood of unknown entanglements being attributed to the Dungeness crab fishery under RAMP**

Line Marking Specifications & Rationale



- **Size**
 - Larger marks at surface increase likelihood that marks can be seen from platforms of opportunity (vessels, small planes, etc.)
 - Smaller marks along body of main line reduce the burden (materials + labor) for fishers
- **Colors/Solid Marks**
 - Distinct state colors improve likelihood that state of fishery origin can be determined, or that a fishery can be eliminated (negative attribution)
 - Solid marks increase likelihood that marks can be seen from platforms of opportunity
- **Number/Placement**
 - Marks in the surface system and upper portion of main line cover the portion of gear set that has been most likely to be documented for potential detection of marks
 - Marks along body of main line provide identification information when surface gear is not present
 - Marks in/near the surface system and along body of main line provide opportunities for eliminating fisheries (negative attribution)
 - Minimal space between marks increases likelihood that marks are seen together

Strawman: West Coast Commercial Dungeness Crab Fisheries Line Marking



*Space between different colored marks should be ≤ 6 inches within each set

Tri-State: Current Line Marking Requirements

Mark specifications	Washington	Oregon	California
Size (12in, 18in, 36in, etc.)	≥12 inches	TBD	TBD
Color	Red	TBD	TBD
Number (1, 2, 3, etc.)	2	TBD	TBD
Placement	≤1 fathom from main buoy & ≤1 fathom from pot	TBD	TBD
Marking technique/type	Not specified/Not necessarily solid	TBD	TBD