

Pacific Northwest













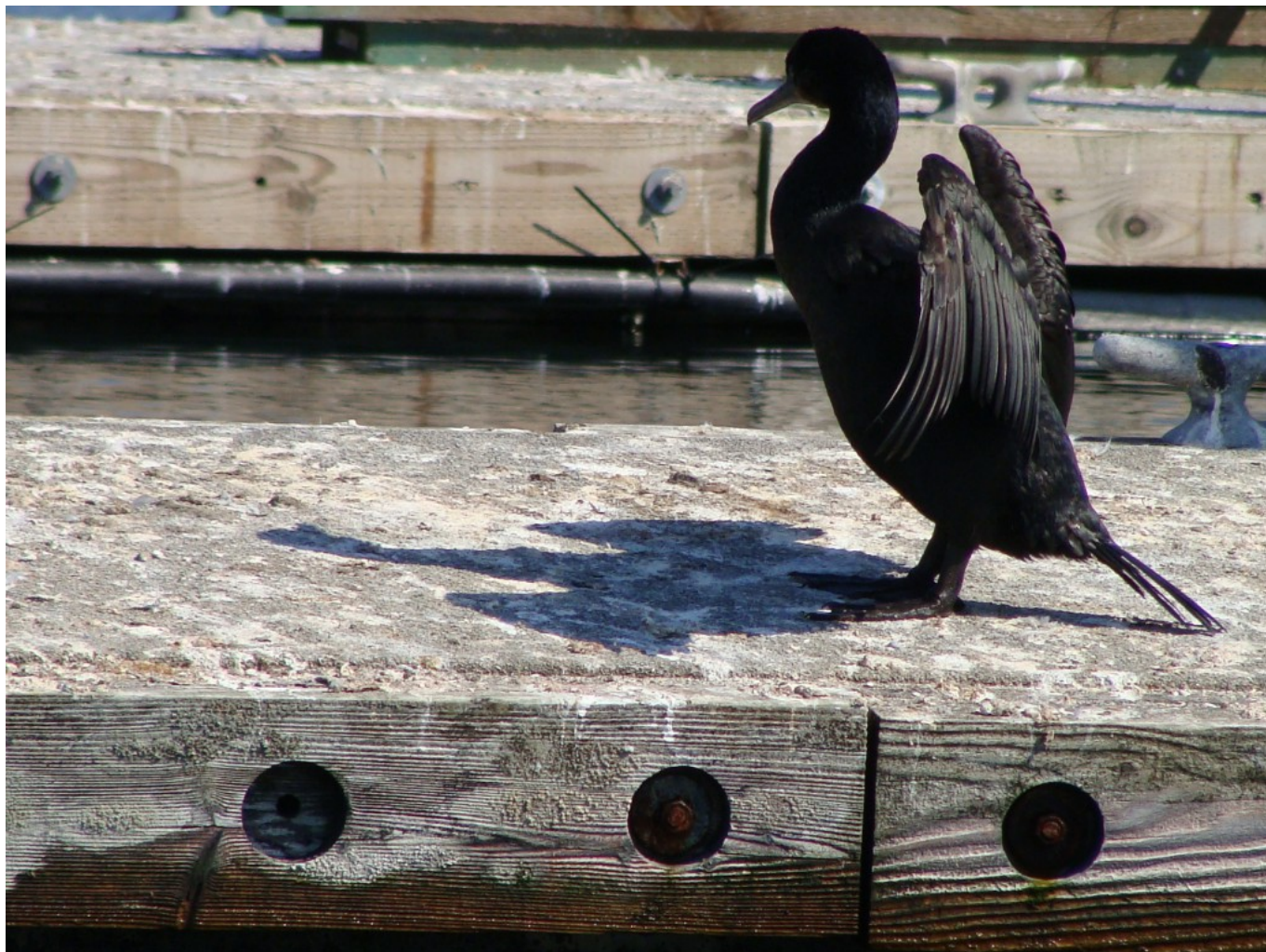












Identification:

- Dungeness crab have white-tipped claws and 10 spines on each side of carapace.
- Dungeness, are typically brown to purple, however like all other crab color can be variable.
- Abdominal flap of males is long and narrow, in females it is short and rounded.



Identification:

- Red rock crab have black-tipped claws
- Carapace is fan shaped.



Identification:

- Similar and closely related to red rock crab, but more brown in color, with spots covering underside, and with more hair on legs.
- Antennae much larger than in red rock crab.



Identification:

- Long legs and shield shaped carapace.
- Disproportionately large claws in mature males.
- Color can vary from green/ brown to red, underside generally has some deep red color.
- Can grow very large.



Other native bay crabs

Slender crab *Cancer gracilis*

- Similar to Dungeness, but with no spines on upper claw, and is widest at 9th spine.
- Far less common than Dungeness crab.



Pygmy rock crab *Cancer oregonensis*

- Also known as Oregon cancer crab.
- Often found near docks and rocky intertidal areas.
- Round carapace, hairy legs and black tipped claws.



Graceful kelp crab *Pugettia gracilis*

- A small spider crab occasionally found crawling on crab gear.
- Claw tips are usually orange.



Pea crab *Pinnixa* sp.

- Several species exist in Oregon, and can be found in a variety of bivalves such as gaper clams.



Non-native crabs**

Green crab *Carcinus maenas*

- Native to Europe.
- Occasionally found in Yaquina Bay
- Young Dungeness and shore crabs are often misidentified as green crab due to color similarities.

- Identification:**
- 5 spines on each side of carapace
 - 3 bumps between eyes.
 - Color most often dark green.



Harris mud crab *Rhithropanopeus harrisi*

- Native to the Southeast coast of North America.
- Found in brackish waters of large estuarine systems.

- Identification:**
- Unequal size claws characteristic of this species.
 - 4 spines on each side of carapace, no notch between eyes.



Purple shore crab *Hemigrapsus nudus*

- Purple color, hairless legs.



Yellow shore crab *Hemigrapsus oregonensis*

- Yellow to green color, hairy legs.



Striped shore crab *Pachygrapsus crassipes*

- Stripes across carapace.



Black clawed crab *Loxophanesopus bellus*

- Large, black tipped claws.
- Plays dead when handled.



Chinese mitten crab *Eriocheir sinensis*

- Native to China.
- Not found in Oregon as of 2007

- Identification:**
- White tipped claws with dense patches of hair.
 - 4 spines on each side of carapace.
 - Notch between eyes.



*Color can be highly variable in crabs and should not be used solely for identification.
All sizes are approximate for average adult carapace width.

**If a non-native crab is found, please turn it in to ODFW with information on date and location.



































































