

Prevent crabs from being wasted

Over 175,000 crabs a year are estimated killed by lost crab pots in Puget Sound waters

#1 — Prevent Pot Loss

- Know your depth, and use line that is 1/3 longer than the depth
- Use sinking lines on your buoys
- Avoid areas of heavy vessel traffic when setting pots
- Add weight to lighter pots so the current does not move them
- Use additional buoys in areas with heavy current
- · GPS your pot locations or stay nearby to watch them if possible

#2 — Use Escape Cord

IT'S THE LAW! : All crab, shrimp, and crawfish pots are required to have escape cord to disable them if lost.

Four examples showing proper escape cord use on the back. Learn more at http://www.escapecord.org.

- Escape cord <u>must</u> be 100% natural fiber (cotton, sisal, jute, hemp)
- Escape cord should be 1/8 inch diameter or less
- · Once the cord degrades it must allow a 3 inch by 5 inch opening for escape

#3 — Report Derelict Pots and Nets

 Call the WDFW hotline 1-855-542-3935, call the Northwest Straits hotline 360-428-1045, or report online at http://www.derelictgear.org.

