

Crabs in a Changing Ocean

The ocean absorbs about 1/4 of the carbon dioxide we emit into the atmosphere when we burn fossil fuels for energy.



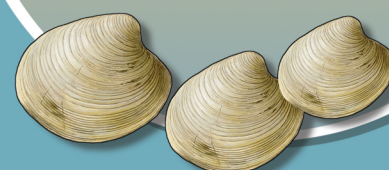
As a result, ocean chemistry is changing and making the ocean more acidic. This is called ocean acidification.



Small changes in ocean chemistry can make it difficult for shelled organisms like Dungeness crab to survive at different stages in their life cycle.



Ocean acidification lab studies have also shown declines in the food that Dungeness crab rely on like mussels and clams.



How YOU Can Help!

Choose

to use less energy generated by burning fossil fuels such as coal, oil, and gas. This will reduce carbon dioxide emissions, making ocean life healthier.

Find out

what your local government, schools, and businesses are doing to reduce use of fossil fuels and transition to clean, renewable energy such as wind and solar.

Educate

others about how carbon dioxide emissions are impacting ocean life.

Support Research

to inform management decisions that will best protect Dungeness crab populations and all ocean life into the future.

This could lead to a decline of Dungeness crab and the industry that supports the jobs and livelihood of many fishermen and coastal communities.



For more information, visit: <http://oceanacidification.noaa.gov>