



A Checklist of Alaskan Crabs

Alaska has long been known for its crab fisheries. King crab, pound for pound, is perhaps the most famous and valuable of these, although snow crab has supported the greatest landings and produced the greatest revenue in recent years. Nevertheless, there are many more crab species in Alaskan waters, some of which support incidental or small fisheries, and others that will never support viable commercial fishing due to their small physical size or scarcity.

This checklist of Alaskan crabs was originally compiled and assembled from a review of literature on inter-tidal and sub-tidal marine species in Alaskan waters (Stevens 2002). Species on the list are those that have been documented to occur in Alaskan waters, in a published reference. The exceptions are six species collected from Patton Seamount, and not previously reported from Alaskan waters, but which probably also occur on seamounts and the continental slope closer to shore. Among them, the giant large-clawed spider crab (*Macroregonia macrochira*) has not previously been observed north of 49 N. lat, but was found on Patton Seamount in the Gulf of Alaska at 54.5 N. lat., and probably ranges across the entire North Pacific sea floor below 1000 m.

This list has been updated with the latest family names from the American Fisheries Society Special Publication 31 (McLaughlin et al. 2005), and is ordered alphabetically by family, then by Genus and species. The present list contains 13 families and 80 species of crabs. Among these, 28 species are right handed hermit crabs (Family Paguridae), 18 are stone and king crabs (Family Lithodidae), 14 are spider crabs (Superfamily Majoidea-Family Oregoniidae, Pisidae, Epialtidae), 1 rubble or pebble crabs (Family Xanthidae), and 6 are pea crabs (Family Pinnotheridae). All common names are those accepted and published by McLaughlin et al. (2005), except for those species lacking common names where a name has been specified by Stevens (2002) and denoted with '**'. Many of the common names, especially for hermit crabs, were codified by Kessler (1985) and subsequently acknowledged by McLaughlin et al. (2005).

We invite you to examine and notify us of additions of species to this list as they are identified. Please contact AFSC webmaster afsc.webmaster@noaa.gov with your information.

Family	Scientific name	Common name	Source
Cancridae	<i>Cancer gracilis</i>	graceful cancer crab	5, 7
	<i>Cancer magister</i>	Dungeness crab	5, 7
	<i>Cancer oregonensis</i>	pygmy cancer crab	5, 7
	<i>Cancer productus</i>	red rock crab	8, 7
Cheiragonidae	<i>Erimacrus isenbeckii</i>	hair crab	2
	<i>Telmessus cheiragonus</i>	helmet crab	5, 7
Chirostylidae	<i>Gastroptychus iaspis</i>	seamount pinchbug	1
Epiplatidae	<i>Pugettia gracilis</i>	graceful kelp crab	9, 7, 10
	<i>Pugettia producta</i>	Northern kelp crab	7, 10
	<i>Mimulus foliatus</i>	foliate kelp crab	8, 7, 10
Galatheidae	<i>Munidopsis albatrossae</i>	Albatross squat lobster**	1
	<i>Munida quadrispina</i>	pinch bug**	1, 5
Lithodidae	<i>Acantholithodes hispidus</i>	spiny lithode crab	5, 10
	<i>Cryptolithodes sitchensis</i>	umbrella crab	7
	<i>Cryptolithodes typicus</i>	butterfly crab	3, 4
	<i>Dermaturus mandti</i>	wrinkled crab	4, 10
	<i>Hapalogaster grebnitzkii</i>	soft crab	5, 7, 10
	<i>Hapalogaster mertensii</i>	hairy crab	7
	<i>Lithodes aequispinus</i>	golden king crab	5, 10
	<i>Lithodes couesi</i>	scarlet king crab	5
	<i>Lopholithodes foraminatus</i>	brown box crab	5, 3, 10
	<i>Lopholithodes mandtii</i>	Puget Sound king crab	3, 4, 5, 10
	<i>Oedignathus inermis</i>	granular claw crab	7, 10
	<i>Paralithodes camtschaticus</i>	red king crab	5
	<i>Paralithodes platypus</i>	blue king crab	5
	<i>Paralomis multispina</i>	spiny Paralomis**	1
	<i>Paralomis verillii</i>	Verilli Paralomis**	1
	<i>Phyllolithodes papillosus</i>	heart crab	5, 10
	<i>Placetron wosnessenski</i>	scaled crab	5, 10
	<i>Rhinolithodes wosnessenski</i>	rhinoceros crab	5
Oregoniidae	<i>Chionoecetes angulatus</i>	triangle Tanner crab	5, 10
	<i>Chionoecetes bairdi</i>	Tanner crab	5, 10
	<i>Chionoecetes opilio</i>	snow crab	5, 10
	<i>Chionoecetes tanneri</i>	grooved Tanner crab	5, 10
	<i>Hyas coarctatus</i>	Arctic lyre (toad) crab	5, 10
	<i>Hyas lyratus</i>	Pacific Lyre crab	5, 10
	<i>Macroregonia macrochira</i>	long clawed spider crab**	1
	<i>Oregonia bifurca</i>	splitnose crab	10
	<i>Oregonia gracilis</i>	graceful decorator crab	5, 10

Paguridae	<i>Discorsopagurus schmitti</i>	tubeworm hermit crab	4
	<i>Elassochirus cavimanus</i>	purple hermit crab	5, 6
	<i>Elassochirus gilli</i>	Pacific red hermit crab	5, 6, 8
	<i>Elassochirus tenuimanus</i>	widehand hermit crab	6, 10
	<i>Labidochirus splendescens</i>	splendid hermit crab	4, 5, 6
	<i>Pagurus aleuticus</i>	Aleutian hermit crab	4, 6
	<i>Pagurus armatus</i>	armed hermit crab	5
	<i>Pagurus beringanus</i>	Bering hermit crab	6, 7
	<i>Pagurus brandti</i>	sponge hermit crab	5
	<i>Pagurus capillatus</i>		6
	<i>Pagurus caurinus</i>	greenmark hermit crab	6
	<i>Pagurus confragosus</i>	knobbyhand hermit crab	6
	<i>Pagurus cornutus</i>	hornyhand hermit crab	5, 6
	<i>Pagurus dalli</i>	whiteknee hermit crab	6
	<i>Pagurus granosimanus</i>	grainyhand hermit	7
	<i>Pagurus hemphilli</i>	maroon hermit crab	9
	<i>Pagurus hirsutiusculus</i>	hairy hermit crab	4, 6, 9
	<i>Pagurus kennerleyi</i>	bluespine hermit crab	6
	<i>Pagurus mertensii</i>		6
	<i>Pagurus ochotensis</i>	Alaskan hermit crab	6
	<i>Pagurus rathbuni</i>	longfinger hermit crab	5, 6
	<i>Pagurus samuelis</i>	bluehand hermit	4, 8
	<i>Pagurus setosus</i>	setose hermit crab	6
	<i>Pagurus stevensae</i>	Stevens' hermit crab	6
	<i>Pagurus tanneri</i>	longhand hermit crab	5, 6
	<i>Pagurus townsendi</i>		6
	<i>Pagurus trigonocheirus</i>	fuzzy hermit crab	5, 6
<i>Pagurus undosus</i>	Pribilof hermit crab	5, 6	
Panopeidae	<i>Lophopanopeus bellus</i>	blackclaw crestleg crab	7, 10
Pinnotheridae	<i>Fabia subquadrata</i>	grooved mussel crab	7
	<i>Pinnixia faba</i>	mantle pea crab	7
	<i>Pinnixia littoralis</i>	gaper pea crab	7
	<i>Pinnixia occidentalis</i>	Western pea crab	7
	<i>Pinnixia schmitti</i>	Schmitt pea crab	7
	<i>Pinnixia tubicula</i>	tube-dwelling pea crab	7
Pisidae	<i>Scyra acutifrons</i>	sharpnose crab	8, 7, 10
	<i>Chorilia longipes</i>	longhorn decorator crab	3, 10
Porcellanidae	<i>Pachycheles rudis</i>	thickclaw porcelain crab	4
	<i>Petrolisthes eriomerus</i>	flattop crab	7
Varunidae	<i>Hemigrapsus nudus</i>	purple shore crab	7, 10
	<i>Hemigrapsus oregonensis</i>	yellow shore crab	7, 10

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