



State of Washington

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

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Main Office Location: Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington Street SE, Olympia, WA

August 29, 2013

The Honorable Randy Dorn
Superintendent of Public Instruction
P.O. Box 47200
Olympia, WA 98504

**RE: Permit for Limited Use of Live Prohibited Crayfish in Washington State 2013-2014
School Science Curriculum**

Dear Superintendent Dorn:

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) appreciates the continued dedication and commitment to using native crayfish shown by your office and the Crayfish in Schools work group. Although the Crayfish in Schools work group is now ready to implement a full transition to native Signal crayfish (*Pacifastacus leniusculus*), there continues to be an insufficient supply to meet teacher needs. The Department will continue to work with the group to resolve this last issue. To bridge this gap, the Department will issue a new permit for limited use of live prohibited Red Swamp (*Procambarus clarkii*) crayfish to ensure that teachers are able to meet basic 2013-14 school year science curriculum needs.

We look forward to continuing our work with you and appreciate your efforts in science education and preventing the release of any live organisms into Washington's aquatic or terrestrial ecosystems. Please contact Allen Pleus, the Department's Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator, at (360) 902-2724 if you or your staff have any questions.

Sincerely,

Philip Anderson
Director

Enclosure

Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife

Permit

**Limited Use of Live Prohibited Crayfish
for
Washington State 2013-2014 School Science Curriculum**

This document serves as a limited permit for Washington State schools, school districts, and biological supply businesses to transport and possess the prohibited aquatic animal species *Procambarus clarkii* (common names Louisiana or Red Swamp crayfish). The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) is authorized to issue this permit under RCW 77.15.253 and WAC 232-12-016. This permit is valid only for the dates listed below and only if all provisions are followed.

Please disseminate as appropriate.

Permit valid: September 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014

- Provisions:**
1. Restricted to species *Procambarus clarkii*;
 2. Possession and transportation for use by Washington State schools and school districts;
 3. Species may only be used for established 2013-2014 science curriculums requiring live crayfish;
 4. Crayfish must be kept in secure facilities and containers to prevent escape or release;
 5. Upon completion of the curriculum all nonnative crayfish must be euthanized and either preserved or properly disposed; and
 6. Release is prohibited.

The Department contact for this permit is Allen Pleus, Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator (360-902-2724 or Allen.Pleus@dfw.wa.gov).

Authorized by:

Philip Anderson, Director

Date