



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Marine Resources Program

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July 8, 2024

Oregon Ocean Commercial Dungeness Crab Permit Holders, Processors, Buyers, and Interested Persons:

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) is providing information about the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) intent to establish a Take Reduction Team (TRT) on the West Coast to address fishery gear interactions with three strategic marine mammal stocks: Central America/Southern Mexico humpback whales, Mainland Mexico humpback whales, and Eastern North Pacific blue whales. After a public scoping period, NOAA announced that the TRT will include the Oregon Dungeness crab fishery, along with four other commercial fisheries: California Dungeness crab, Washington Dungeness crab, California spot prawn, and federal sablefish pot fisheries (<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/west-coast/marine-mammal-protection/west-coast-take-reduction-team>).

NOAA has requested that ODFW provide recommendations for Oregon Dungeness crab industry representatives for the TRT. In response, we have prepared an **interest declaration form** to identify interested individuals and make ODFW recommendations. The form is available at: <https://forms.gle/fzpcM1LTdwuYpc1o9>

NOAA's [TRT scoping notice](#) states that they recruit candidate TRT members based on the following:

- Ability to bring first-hand knowledge and perspective to bear on the relevant fisheries and/or marine mammal species;
- Ability to balance a regional perspective with localized knowledge;
- Willingness to express fundamental interests (as opposed to fixed positions) and to clearly convey the interests of one or more important stakeholder groups;
- Ability to work collaboratively, seeking to integrate the interests of a broad range of constituencies;
- Ability to access and use an effective communication network to reach members of their constituency not attending Team meetings;
- Availability and willingness to travel and participate in meetings;
- Proven track record of engaging in constructive dialogues on controversial resource management issues;
- Extent to which candidates' participation on other teams fosters or hinders deliberations; and,
- Ability to represent multiple factions of a constituency (e.g., multiple sectors of a fishery or a wide array of particular fishery).

By court mandate, the TRT will be established by October 31, 2025, and the first meeting will be convened by November 30, 2025. Team members will be expected to commit to participating in several multi-day meetings in a six-month period and will need to represent the complexity of the Oregon crab fishery adequately and equitably. If you are interested, please complete the online interest form linked above **by July 22, 2024**. Also, please consider discussing this opportunity and need for strong Oregon industry representation within your networks. NOAA has indicated that they prefer active fishery participants but will consider other industry representatives, such as professional consultants. ODFW will evaluate all submitted interest forms, seek input from industry and entanglement advisors, and provide recommendations to NOAA in early August.

Thank you for reviewing all this information and please contact us if you have any questions.

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