



# Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

## Department of Fish and Wildlife

Marine Resources Program  
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March 4, 2008



Dear past and present Developmental Fishery Board members and permit holders,

The Developmental Fisheries Program has and will go through a few changes in the next year and a half. First, Brett Wiedoff is leaving the Marine Resources Program and a new project leader, Gway Kirchner, is heading up the program.

We would also like to introduce new staff hired to work in the Developmental Fisheries Program. Kelly Corbett has accepted the position of Assistant Project Leader with the Developmental Fisheries Project and officially began her new role in February, 2008. Kelly has been assisting with the design, organization and implementation of the evaluation of the Developmental Fisheries Program. In addition, at the start of this year, we hired Trent Hartill to fill the North/Central coast sampling position, stationed here in Newport. Trent has been compiling logbook information from developing fisheries to assist with program evaluation. We currently are in the process of filling a second sampling position which will be stationed on the south coast.

Currently, staff is beginning an evaluation of the Developmental Fisheries Program which will continue through June 2009. In this evaluation, staff, with guidance from the Developmental Fisheries Board, will examine how the program and the board operate, where we might improve efficiencies, and how to manage this program on an extremely limited budget. The staff and the Board will also be examining our permitted fisheries ("A" list) to determine which fisheries may be candidates for limited entry programs, and which fisheries may need to be moved to the "B" (non-permitted) or "C" (covered under other fishery management plan) lists. We plan to begin review and assessment of select permitted developmental fisheries, mainly hagfish and spot prawn, and deploy observer/samplers aboard boats in these fisheries.

At this time we are seeking candidates to fill vacant positions on our Developmental Fisheries Board, and asking current Board members if they are still interested in continuing in their positions. This is an advisory board to the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission on matters dealing with developing fisheries and consists of various representatives from the commercial fishing industry including harvesters and processors. Currently, we have two Board meetings planned for this year (tentatively in April and August) and are in great need of participation and feedback from this board for the evaluation of the program to be successful. At the April meeting, we plan on discussing the progress and timeline for the evaluation, results from the phone survey discussed below, Board guidelines, and fishery review/assessment designs for a core group of developmental fisheries. Board meetings are generally held in Newport but



we will give advance notification and have conference call capabilities to facilitate the most participation possible at both meetings.

If you are interested in serving in any capacity as a new board member or if you are still interested in serving as a current board member please send a completed Board Member Application (enclosed) to ODFW, Marine Resources Program, 2040 SE Marine Science Dr., Newport, OR 97365 or contact Gway Kirchner at 541.867.4741 for additional information.

As an initial step of the program evaluation, we would like some input from past and present Developmental Fisheries Board members and permit holders regarding the Developmental Fisheries Program. At this time, we ask each of you to think over the five questions below in the context of your involvement with the Developmental Fisheries Program. We plan on following up this letter with a phone survey to obtain feedback on these questions from any of you who are willing and interested in participating in this survey.

1. Do you think it important for Oregon to have a Developmental Fisheries Program? Please explain.
2. What do you think is the intent of the Developmental Fisheries Program?
3. Do you think the management of the developmental fisheries program meets this intent?
  - a. If not, what adjustments could be made to alleviate the discrepancy?
4. Can you think of funding mechanisms that could assist in keeping a low income program, such as the Developmental Fisheries program, functional, ie. meeting the described intent of the developmental fisheries program?
5. If you participated in the developmental fisheries program in the past, either as a board member or permit holder, and do not anymore, why have you stopped participating as a board member or in certain fisheries?
  - a. What would encourage you to participate more, in either instance?

Feel free to call us as well, at your convenience to discuss these topics. Thank you for all your time and efforts and we look forward to hearing from all of you soon.

If you have any questions please call me at 541-867-0300 ext. 267 or email [Gway.R.Kirchner@state.or.us](mailto:Gway.R.Kirchner@state.or.us)

Sincerely,

  
Gway Kirchner

Developmental Fisheries Project Leader