



Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission Agenda

Workshop:
Thursday, December 12, 2024 -1:00 PM
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Commission Room
4034 Fairview Industrial DR SE
Salem, OR 97302

Meeting:
Friday, December 13, 2024 - 8:00 AM
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Commission Room
4034 Fairview Industrial DR SE
Salem, OR 97302

Friday, December 13, 2024

The Fish and Wildlife Commission has moved to hybrid meetings, meaning that you have the option to attend in-person or virtually. Those who would like to provide **virtual testimony** on an Exhibit scheduled on this agenda must **REGISTER** no less than 48 hours in advance to receive a testimony link to the meeting. To provide testimony on an agenda item in-person, registration will be available at the meeting.

To be added to December 13 agenda to provide testimony **virtually or in-person** during **Public Forum** you must **contact** the Director's office no less than 48 hours advance of the meeting for approval.

This meeting will be live streamed to YouTube and can be viewed at
<https://www.youtube.com/user/IEODFW/videos>

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

No Commission Action: Informational Only

FIELD REPORTS – in written form only

EXPENDITURE REPORT

Ken Loffink, Interim Deputy Director of Administration

COMMISSION ROADMAP 2025

Shaun Clements, Deputy Director of Fish and Wildlife Programs

ADOPT TEMPORARY RULES

Commission Action: Rule Ratification

Debbie Colbert, Director

1.) 635-041-0075

Authorize sales for Columbia River Treaty commercial fall gillnet fisheries

Adopted 9/18/2024: effective 9/23/2024 through 12/31/2024.

These amended rules authorize the sales of fish caught in Zone 6 treaty commercial gillnet fisheries. This modification adds two fishing periods from September 23 through September 28 and from September 30 through October 4.

2.) 635-042-0032, 635-042-0060

Modify Columbia River late fall commercial gillnet fishery and modify commercial tangle net fishery

Adopted 9/18/2024: effective 9/19/2024 through 12/31/2024.

This rule authorizes four commercial non-treaty gillnet fishing periods in the mainstem Columbia River commercial Zones 4-5 for September 19-20, September 22-23, September 24-25, and September 26-27. Additionally, this rule adds an additional period to the on-going late-fall commercial tangle net fishery for September 19.

3.) 635-023-0130

Modify recreational fall-season salmon fisheries in the Columbia River

Adopted 9/18/2024: effective 9/20/2024 through 12/31/2024.

This amended rule adds Chinook retention to the daily adult bag limit for the Columbia River recreational salmon fishery from the Buoy 10 line at the mouth of the river upstream to the west Puget Island line from September 23 through September 30. It also opens a Chinook and coho retention period for the fishery from the west Puget Island line upstream to the Warrior Rock/Bachelor Island line from September 20 through September 30.

Additionally, it extends the on-going Chinook and coho retention period from the Warrior Rock/Bachelor Island line upstream to the Oregon/Washington border (upstream of McNary Dam) through September 30.

4.) 635-017-0090

Modify areas open for retention of coho salmon and allow use of Two-Rod Validation

Adopted 9/18/2024: effective 9/21/2024 through 12/31/2024.

This amended rule will open retention of coho salmon in areas of the Willamette Zone where retention is not currently allowed under permanent rule. The rule will also allow use of two rods while angling in specific areas of the Willamette Zone upstream of Willamette Falls.

5.) 635-023-0101

Close recreational sturgeon retention in the John Day Pool

Adopted 9/23/2024: effective 9/24/2024 through 12/31/2024.

This amended rule will close the recreational white sturgeon retention fishery on the mainstem Columbia River in the John Day Pool (John Day Dam upstream to McNary Dam) and all adjacent tributaries.

6.) 635-019-0500

Close Recreational Steelhead Angling and Retention in Portions of the John Day River

Adopted 9/25/2024: effective 9/25/2024 through 12/31/2024.

This amended rule closes retention of steelhead in portions of the John Day River from September 25 through December 31.

7.) 635-023-0130

Modify recreational fall-season salmon fisheries in Columbia River and tributaries

Adopted 9/26/2024: effective 9/27/2024 through 12/31/2024.

This amended rule extends the on-going Chinook retention period from Buoy 10 upstream to the OR/WA border through October 13. This rule also clarifies the regulations in effect for the Columbia River Zone section of several tributaries of the Columbia River from the mainline railroad bridge on those creeks downstream to the confluence with the Columbia River.

8.) 635-041-0075

Authorize sales for Columbia River Treaty commercial fall gillnet fisheries

Adopted 9/26/2024: effective 9/30/2024 through 12/31/2024.

This amended rule authorizes the sales of fish caught in Zone 6 treaty commercial gillnet fisheries. This rule modifies the already adopted fishing period from September 30 through October 4 to remove the gillnet mesh size restriction and adds a fishing period from October 7 through October 11.

9.) 635-042-0060

Authorize additional periods for the Columbia River late fall commercial gillnet fishery

Adopted 9/26/2024: effective 9/29/2024 through 12/31/2024.

This rule authorizes nine 12-hour commercial non-treaty gillnet fishing periods in the mainstem Columbia River commercial Zones 4-5 on Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday nights from September 29 to October 18.

10.) Eagle Creek (Clackamas) angling closure from Southeast Dowty Road downstream to the Clackamas River confluence.

Adopted 9/26/2024: effective 9/27/2024 through 12/31/2024.

This amended rule will temporarily close the lowest reach of Eagle Creek (Clackamas basin) to angling to provide coho with a safe resting area during current low flows.

11.) 635-070-0000

Adjust season dates for western Oregon elk General Season Antlerless Elk Damage hunts in 2024.

Adopted: October 1, 2024 – Effective Dates: October 1, 2024 through January 13, 2025

Oregon Administrative Rules establishing seasons and tag numbers for 2024 western Oregon elk hunts were adopted in September 2023. Season dates presented in a map for one western Oregon elk General Season Antlerless Elk Damage hunt area are incorrect as printed in the 2024 Big Game regulations. These rule amendments are needed to correct the seasons published in the referenced Big Game regulations to reflect the accurate dates adopted by the Commission.

12.) 635-042-0160

Rescind remaining Knappa Slough Select Area commercial fishing periods

Adopted 10/2/2024: effective 10/2/2024 through 12/31/2024.

This temporary rule is being amended to rescind the remaining 17 fall-season fishing periods scheduled for the Knappa Slough Select Area commercial fishery beginning 6PM Wednesday, October 2.

13.) 635-004-0290, 635-006-0205, 635-006-0210, 635-006-0211, 635-006-0215

Allow catcher/processors to report round weight taken at sea, exempt from logbooks

Adopted 10/3/2024: effective 10/7/2024 through 12/31/2024.

ORS 506.109, ORS 508.535, ORS 506.129, ORS 506.450 through 506.465

14.) 635-041-0075

Authorize sales for Columbia River Treaty commercial fall gillnet fisheries

Adopted 10/11/2024: effective 10/14/2024 through 12/31/2024.

This amended rule authorizes the sales of fish caught in Zone 6 treaty commercial gillnet fisheries. This rule adds a fishing period from October 14 through October 17.

15.) 635-023-0130

Modify recreational fall-season salmon fisheries in Columbia River Zone

Adopted 10/11/2024: effective 10/14/2024 through 12/31/2024.

This amended rule extends the on-going Chinook retention period in the mainstem Columbia River from Buoy 10 upstream to the OR/WA border (upstream of McNary Dam) through December 31.

16.) 635-042-0060

Authorize additional periods for the Columbia River late fall commercial gillnet fishery

Adopted 10/11/2024: effective 10/20/2024 through 12/31/2024.

This rule authorizes six 12-hour commercial non-treaty gillnet fishing periods in the mainstem Columbia River commercial Zones 4-5 on Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday nights from October 20 to November 1.

17.) 635-067-0000

Amend rules to expand 2024 Oregon hunting opportunity for specific bighorn sheep hunts.

Adopted: October 17, 2024 – Effective Dates: October 17, 2024 through November 20, 2025

Oregon Administrative Rules establishing hunt season dates and hunt areas for 2024 bighorn sheep were adopted September 2023. Season dates and hunt area descriptions adopted at that time did not account for access closures from 2024 wildfires.

18.) 635-016-0090

Modify steelhead retention in the Rogue and Illinois Rivers

Adopted 10/24/2024: effective 12/1/2024 through 4/30/2025.

This amended rule will reduce the season bag limit to one fish for wild steelhead in the Rogue River up to the confluence of the Illinois River. The rule will also require all wild steelhead to be released in the Illinois River and remaining sections of the Rogue River.

19.) 635-019-0500

End temporary steelhead closure in portions of the John Day River

Adopted 10/31/2024: effective 11/1/2024 through 12/31/2024.

This temporary rule is no longer needed. Suspending this temporary rule will return the lower portion of the John Day River to permanent rules found in the 2024 Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations book.

20.) 635-023-0130

Modify recreational fall-season steelhead regulations above The Dalles Dam in Columbia River Zone

Adopted 10/31/2024: effective 11/1/2024 through 12/31/2024.

This amended rule will allow retention of hatchery steelhead above The Dalles Dam in the Columbia River.

21.) 635-016-0520

Lift Temporary Low Flow Angling Closure for the Sixes River

Adopted 11/1/2024: effective 11/1/2024 through 12/31/2024.

This amended rule lifts a temporary closure that went into effect on October 1 on the Sixes River from the Hughes House Boat Ramp upstream to the mouth of Crystal Creek to protect fall Chinook that were vulnerable due to low water conditions. The closure will end on November 1.

22.) 635-005-0465

Delay Oregon Commercial Dungeness Crab Season Opening

Adopted 11/20/2024: effective 11/27/2024 through 3/31/2025.

This amended rule delays the opening date for the Oregon 2024-2025 ocean commercial Dungeness crab fishery.

23.) 635-005-0465

Commercial Dungeness Crab Season Partial Opening

Adopted 12/6/2024: effective 12/12/2024 through 3/31/2025.

This amended rule sets the opening date for the Oregon 2024-2025 ocean commercial Dungeness crab fishery from the Oregon-California border to Cape Falcon, Oregon, and continues to delay the season from Cape Falcon, Oregon, to the Oregon-Washington border until further test fishing is conducted off WA.

COMMISSION UPDATES

No Commission Action: Informational Only

OTHER BUSINESS

Commission Action:

PUBLIC FORUM

*Note: **This part of the agenda is for comments of any topic except those related to exhibits involving rulemaking or Commission approval listed elsewhere on this agenda.***

Effects of cougar hunting
Jessica Church

Whale entanglements in Oregon Dungeness crab fishery
Ben Enticknap, Oceana

Whale entanglements
Francine Kershaw

Winchester Dam fish passage
Jim McCarthy, WaterWatch

Please **REGISTER** the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Office of the Director before 8:00 AM, Wednesday, December 11, 2024 (at least **48** hours prior to the meeting) to be included in the public forum.

EXHIBIT A: COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

The Commission will be asked to approve draft Commission meeting minutes from September 13, 2024.

Commission Action: Approval of Minutes

EXHIBIT B: 2025 GROUND FISH FISHERIES REGULATIONS

The Commission will be asked to adopt regulations for the 2025 recreational and commercial groundfish fisheries and to review the 2023 commercial nearshore logbook report.

Commission Action: Rulemaking

Lynn Mattes, Marine Fisheries Management Section Manager
Public Testimony: 48-hour Advance [REGISTER](#) required for virtual participation.

EXHIBIT C: PURPLE SEA URCHINS: RECREATIONAL AND COMMERCIAL TAKE

EXHIBIT D: R&E BOARD APPOINTMENT & PROGRAM UPDATE

The Commission will be asked to appoint a new representative to the R&E Board to represent public interests. The R&E Board chair and STAC Board chair will each provide a brief program update.

Commission Action: Appointment/ Informational

Martin Olson, R&E/STEP Coordinator

Public Testimony: 48-hour Advance [REGISTER](#) required for virtual participation.

EXHIBIT E: ACCESS & HABITAT PROJECT FUNDING

The Commission will be asked to approve the Access and Habitat Board recommendations for project funding.

Commission Action: Approval

Travis Schultz, A& H Coordinator

Public Testimony: 48-hour Advance [REGISTER](#) required for virtual participation.

EXHIBIT F: WILLAMETTE WILDLIFE MITIGATION PROGRAM PROJECT APPROVAL

The Commission will be asked to review and approve the Willamette Wildlife Mitigation Program (WWMP) projects

Commission Action: Approval

Jennifer Ringo, South Willamette Watershed District Manager

Kelly Reis, Willamette Fish and Wildlife Policy and Program Manager

Public Testimony: 48-hour Advance [REGISTER](#) required for virtual participation.

EXHIBIT G: OREGON AGRICULTURAL HERITAGE COMMISSION, FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTMENT

The Commission will be asked to approve a recommendation for the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board's appointment to Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission (OAHC).

Commission Action: Approval

Sarah Reif, Habitat Division Administrator

Public Testimony: 48-hour Advance [REGISTER](#) required for virtual participation.

EXHIBIT H: PRIVATE FOREST ACCORD GRANT APPROVAL

The Commission will be asked to approve the Department Staff recommendation to provide additional funding for a previously funded PFA Grant Project titled Rock Berm Removal and Blue Heron Channel Connection along the Bear Creek corridor in Phoenix, OR.

Commission Action: Approval

Andrew Spyрка; Private Forest Accord Grant Coordinator

Public Testimony: 48-hour Advance [REGISTER](#) required for virtual participation.

EXHIBIT I: UPDATES TO FEES FOR REPRINTING, OR MAILING HUNTING AND ANGLING TAGS, OR HUNT UNIT MAPS

The Commission will be asked to amend the rule to eliminate the standard \$2 shipping fee for most documents, provide flexibility to charge fees to cover the true cost of shipping larger documents or special orders, and maintain fees for specific documents such as landowner preference and reprinted hunting and angling tags.

Commission Action: Rulemaking

Ken Loffink, Deputy Director for Administration

Public Testimony: 48-hour Advance [REGISTER](#) required for virtual participation.

EXHIBIT J: PREFERANCE POINT REINSTATEMENT APPEAL

The Commission will be asked to review an appeal of denied request to reinstate preference points for elk hunt 249R1 (Ukiah Unit Bow No. 1)

Commission Action: Approval

Ken Loffink, Deputy Director for Administration

No Public Testimony

EXECUTIVE SESSION

This Executive Session is held pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2)(f) to consider information or records that are exempt by law from public inspection, as well as to consult with legal counsel concerning legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed as authorized by ORS 192.660 (2)(h).

ADJOURN

FUTURE PROPOSED COMMISSION TOPICS

* Written public comments for future Commission Topics can be submitted in writing prior to the meeting date at ODFW.Commission@odfw.oregon.gov or mailed to 4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE Salem, OR 97302.

January 10, 2025 -Salem/Virtual

February 14, 2025 -Portland

*Written public comment period will open December 15, 2024
Private Forest Accord Rule Amendments- Rulemaking

March 14, 2025 -Virtual

*Written public comment period will open January 15, 2025
Access & Habitat Project Funding- Approval
OCRF Project Funding- Approval

April 18, 2025 -Reedsport/Florence (TBD)

*Written public comment period will open February 15, 2025
Oregon Game Bird Regulations- Rulemaking
Wolf Annual Report- Informational
2025 Sport and Commercial Pacific Halibut Regulations- Rulemaking
2025 Ocean Salmon Fisheries and Ocean Terminal Fisheries-Rulemaking
Private Forest Accord Project Funding- Approval

May 9, 2025 -No meeting scheduled

*Written public comment period will open March 15, 2025

June 13, 2025 -Pendleton

*Written public comment period will open April 15, 2025
Access & Habitat Project Funding- Approval
2025 Auction Raffle Tag Allocations - Approval
Southern Resident Orca: List of non-land-owning State agencies that can play a role in SRO
Conservation- Approval
2025 Statewide Priority Fish Passage Barrier List- Approval

July 11, 2025 -No meeting scheduled

*Written public comment period will open May 15, 2025

August 15, 2025 -Salem

*Written public comment period will open June 15, 2025

September 12, 2025 -Ontario

*Written public comment period will open July 15, 2025
Big Game Regulations - Rulemaking
Access and Habitat Project Funding – Approval

OCRF Project Funding - Approval

October 10, 2025 -Virtual

**Written public comment period will open August 15, 2025*

November 14 , 2025 -No meeting Scheduled

**Written public comment period will open September 15, 2025*

December 12, 2025 -Salem

**Written public comment period will open October 15, 2025*

Access and Habitat Project Funding – Approval

OCRF Project Funding - Approval

PLEASE NOTE

HOW TO REGISTER TO SPEAK AT THE COMMISSION MEETING

Public Comment and Public Hearing Testimony: Regular Commission meetings allow for in-person, virtual, or written public comment.

Comment and testimony are limited to three minutes or less. All parties interested in providing public comment or testifying as part of a public hearing shall participate using one of the following methods:

- In-Person Comment: Parties interested in providing in-person verbal public comment shall fill out a “Witness Registration” form available at the meeting.
- Video or Audio Conference Call: **If you wish to give virtual testimony on Exhibits scheduled on the Friday, December 13, 2024 you must REGISTER a minimum of 48 hour prior to the meeting.** Staff will collect contact your information and provide information on how to access the meeting to provide comment.
- Written Comment: Send to ODFW.Commission@odfw.oregon.gov or 4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE, Salem, Oregon, 97302. Materials delivered to the Director’s Office sufficiently in advance of the meeting, 72 hours or more, will be distributed to the Commission prior to the meeting day. Any correspondence or materials received less than 72 hours prior to the meeting will be entered into the record and when reasonably possible, will be provided to the Commissioners the day of the meeting.

PUBLIC FORUM: If you wish to give testimony virtually or in-person on any item not listed elsewhere on the agenda, **PLEASE REGISTER BEFORE 8:00AM WEDNESDAY December 11, 2024; a minimum of 48 hour prior to the meeting**. Please provide written summaries or other materials to the Commission Assistant prior to your testimony. The Commission is unable to act on items brought to their attention in this forum. Send to ODFW.Commission@odfw.oregon.gov or 4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE, Salem, Oregon, 97302.

If you have questions regarding this agenda, please contact [Michelle Tate](#), Director’s Office, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, 4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE, Salem, Oregon, 97302, or call 503- 507-5546.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION OF DISABILITIES

Reasonable accommodation, such as assistive hearing devices, sign language interpreters, and materials in large print or audiotape, will be provided as needed. To ensure availability, please contact the Director’s Office at 503.947.6044 at least 72 hours prior to the meeting to make your request. TTY users can reach ODFW by using the Oregon Telecommunications Relay Service. Please dial 711 and ask to connect to 503-947-6044.