



Public Notice Oregon Entanglement Advisory Committee

September 2, 2026

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) is announcing the opening of an application period to fill one vacant membership seat on the Oregon Entanglement Advisory Committee (OEAC). This group advises ODFW on efforts to reduce the risk of whale entanglements attributed to Oregon Dungeness crab gear and supports ODFW commitments detailed in the Conservation Plan (CP) that is being developed for Oregon's commercial crab fishery, which is currently under review by the National Marine Fisheries Service. Additional information about OEAC can be found at <https://www.dfw.state.or.us/MRP/entanglement/oeac.asp>.

The OEAC provides ODFW with information and broad perspectives from individuals representing a range of interests and expertise. ODFW aims to maintain a committee size of 15 to 20 members, representing the commercial crab industry (including different roles, ports, and business plans), the recreational crab fishery, conservation organizations, researchers, the Oregon State Police, the Oregon Dungeness Crab Commission, and other subject matter experts (e.g., gear, disentanglement, citizen science).

To maintain this balance, ODFW is seeking to add a representative with commercial crab gear expertise. This representative will have specialized knowledge of crab fishing gear and be able to contribute to discussions about how gear is designed, supplied, maintained, improved, or adapted for different fishery conditions.

Member expectations

Members are expected to represent perspectives of stakeholders who are similarly situated, not limited to their own viewpoint. This means reaching out to contacts in their port, community, or professional network to get broader input on topics under discussion and sharing that with the committee. Members are expected to be courteous, professional, and respectful towards all OEAC meeting attendees.

Member names and affiliation are posted on the ODFW website. Member terms are for three years, and active members may be reappointed at ODFW's discretion. ODFW may also solicit applications for or appoint new members at any time to address gaps in representation or emerging needs.

OEAC meetings are held at least annually, with additional meetings as needed. Conference call options are available for all meetings, so that in-person attendance is not required. Meetings are open to the public and announced on the ODFW website. Meetings are not recorded, but ODFW staff do take minutes. Meeting summaries are posted on the ODFW website.

Application and appointment

An application form is available at: <https://forms.gle/K43kaXqWeCqDuQwZ7>. If interested in participating as a member of this advisory committee, please complete this form no later than **September 16, 2026**.

In selecting a member, ODFW will consider the submitted information, relevant expertise or past engagement in efforts to address marine life entanglements in fishing gear, and how an applicant aligns with the attributes that ODFW is seeking to represent. Priority will be given to applicants representing Oregon-based industries, businesses, or organizations.

ODFW plans to announce the appointment by the end of September. Please reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,

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