



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

## Department of Fish and Wildlife

Marine Resources Program  
2040 SE Marine Science Drive  
Newport, OR 97365  
(541) 867-4741  
FAX (541) 867-0311  
[www.dfw.state.or.us/mrp/](http://www.dfw.state.or.us/mrp/)

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



The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) is sending you this notice to provide you with information on the upcoming Tri-State meeting agenda items and the current crab fishery advisory list.

### **Tri-State Meeting – May 13-14, 2019**

The ODFW will be participating in a Tri-State Dungeness Crab Committee (Tri-State) meeting on May 13-14, 2019 to discuss crab management issues concerning the West Coast's commercial Dungeness crab fisheries. Coast wide recommendations are considered through Tri-State which is comprised of industry participants and state agency representatives from Washington, Oregon and California. The following topics are on the agenda:

- ❖ Season opening issues (see further discussion below)
  - Details of allowing for more than two areas (more than one line) with different opening dates based on meat yield within the Tri-State region
  - Change the latest possible opening date for meat yield delays from Jan 15 to Feb 1
- ❖ Finalizing a Tri-State Crab Biotoxin Management Plan
  - Agreement on a consistent Tri-State domoic acid action level (parts per million)
  - Buffer zone policy across borders
  - In-season testing and indicator species
- ❖ Reducing risk of whale entanglements in west coast crab gear
  - Gear-marking
  - Real-time whale location information sharing
- ❖ Increasing vessel location accountability.

Prior to this meeting we will be working with the Oregon Dungeness Crab Advisory Committee (identified below) to discuss Oregon industry views on how to implement the season opening agreements made at the last Tri-State meeting and develop alternatives to discuss with the other states. We welcome input on any of these issues (directly to us or through your port's advisors) if you have options or considerations you would like us to evaluate. In particular, we are soliciting fleet input on implementation of the following options:

1. **Status quo** - Only one line can be drawn in the Tri-State region, resulting in no more than two areas with different opening dates based on meat yield testing. Retain Jan 15 as the latest possible opening date for meat yield delays.
2. **More lines** - Allow for more than one line to be drawn in the Tri-State region resulting in more than two areas with different opening dates based on meat yield testing. Keep in mind that due to tribal agreements in Washington and current statutory restrictions in California, any lines implemented within the Tri-State area would most likely be in Oregon or at state borders at this time.

3. **Feb 1 season opening** - Change the latest possible opening date for meat yield delays from Jan 15 to Feb 1. Keep in mind that due to current statutory restrictions in California, this will likely only be an option for Oregon and Washington in the near future.

**Crab Fishery Management Outreach – Advisory committees and more**

ODFW incorporates a large degree of agency, industry and public involvement when making crab management decisions. We disseminate information and gather input from the crab industry through public meetings, surveys, workshops, mailings, and advisory bodies. The Oregon Dungeness Crab Advisory Committee (ODCAC) was formed to foster industry input on management decisions and is comprised of harvesters and processors from all of the major crabbing ports in Oregon. Participation is voluntary and we try to have representation of all sectors of the industry by including persons from all ports and a diversity of business plan types. **We ask members to actively engage with the crab industry in their ports and share the full diversity of perspectives as much as possible.** We also have a subset of ODCAC advisors that assist us in representing Oregon’s contingent at Tri-State meetings with the other states. The current ODCAC and Tri-State advisors are as follows (TR-Tri-State Representative, A-Alternate Tri-State Representative, and O-ODCAC advisor only):

<b>Astoria</b>	John Corbin (TR), Al Gann (A)
<b>Garibaldi*</b>	Emily Dunn (TR)
<b>Newport</b>	Bob Eder (TR), Al Pazar (O), Pogy Lapham (O), Bob Spelbrink (A)
<b>Charleston</b>	Scott Hartzell (TR), Mike Lane (O), Rex Leach (A)
<b>Port Orford*</b>	Paul Garrett (TR), Aaron McKenzie (O)
<b>Brookings</b>	Bernie Lindley (O), Bill Manning (O), Joe Speir (TR), Todd Whaley (A)
<b>Processors/Buyers</b>	Scott Adams (O), Jerry Bates (O), Susan Chambers (O), Doug Heater (O), Steve Fick (O), Mike Manning (O)
<b>Oregon Dungeness Crab Commission</b>	Hugh Link (O)

\*Garibaldi and Port Orford currently do not have designated Alternate Tri-State crab advisors.

If you are interested in **actively participating on this committee and/or as a Tri-State representative and feel that your interests are not currently represented**, particularly if you from Astoria, Garibaldi or Port Orford as these ports currently have the lowest number of participants, please give us a call to discuss any time.

Troy Buell – ODFW  
 State Fishery Manager  
 541.867.0300 ext. 225

Kelly Corbett – ODFW  
 Commercial Crab Project Leader  
 541.867.0300 ext. 244