

The Newsletter of the Oregon Salmon Commission

January 2021

**Ocean Salmon Industry Group Meeting - Virtual  
Thursday, February 25, 2021**

Materials will be available on ODFW's website  
[dfw.state.or.us/mrp/salmon/](http://dfw.state.or.us/mrp/salmon/)  
 Scroll to Recent Management Actions & Updates  
 The online meeting is planned to start at 10:00am with  
 a lunch break from 12-1 giving participants time to  
 formulate concepts for proposals.  
 OSIG – February 25, 2021  
 Join ZoomGov Meeting  
<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1615325489>  
 Meeting ID: 161 532 5489  
 Phone: 669-254-5252

**IPHC Halibut License Information**

All applications must be completed on the IPHC  
 website – no applications will be mailed. The deadline  
 for Incidental Commercial Pacific Halibut during  
 Salmon Troll is March 15, 2021.  
 Here is the link for the online application:  
<https://www.iphc.int/management/fisheries/commercial-fisheries/license-application-information-license-types>  
 Click on Next at the bottom of the page and continue  
 from there.

**PFMC Meetings**

Both the March and April meetings will be virtual.  
 More specific information (draft agendas) is  
 available on the PFMC website (pcouncil.org)  
 March 3-5 and 8-10  
 April 6-9 and 12-13

**2020 Salmon Season**

Month	Pounds	Value
April	6,584	\$57,819
May	15,398	\$134,053
June	34,969	\$317,868
July	71,002	\$566,283
August	32,687	\$255,386
Sept.	8,083	\$72,204
Oct.	12,252	\$112,206
Nov.	287	\$2,583
<b>Total</b>	<b>181,262</b>	<b>\$1,518,402</b>

The average price for the season was  
 \$8.38/lb.

How 2020 compared to prior years:

2016	518,420	\$4,266,900
2017	266,874	\$2,219,300
2018	288,259	\$2,441,890
2019	319,356	\$2,100,100
2020	181,262	\$1,518,400

2016 and 2017  
 Disasters declared & paid to fishermen

2018 and 2019  
 Disasters requested of Governor

2020 – requesting disaster of Governor

The Oregon Salmon Commission is an industry-funded state  
 commodity commission under the OR Department of Agriculture.  
 P.O. Box 983, Lincoln City, OR 97367 541-994-2647  
[nancy@oregonsalmon.org](mailto:nancy@oregonsalmon.org) [www.oregonsalmon.org](http://www.oregonsalmon.org)

If you aren't receiving email updates, then we  
 probably don't have your current email  
 address. Please contact Nancy to add you to  
 the list. Thanks

## Sea Grant Survey on COVID-19 Impacts

During Spring 2020, Oregon Sea Grant surveyed the Oregon seafood industry on COVID-19 impacts. 131 surveys were completed, primarily from businesses and individuals on the Oregon Coast. Responses came from Harvesters (commercial fishermen 61%), Integrated Businesses (respondents identified as more than one seafood industry sector) (15%), Retailers (8%), Industry support organizations (6%), Processors (5%), and those who preferred not to say (5%).

61% of respondents had worked in the seafood industry for 21+ years; 27% for 6-20 years; 12% were new to the industry (5 years and under).

The top three seafood products handled were Dungeness crab, albacore tuna, and salmon.

Industry members expressed multiple concerns: a) loss of livelihoods especially for younger harvesters, b) downstream and longer-term impacts from current market disruptions, c) failure of state and federal safety nets, and d) pressures from financial hardship potentially leading to additional risks to worker safety.

Survey respondents were highly reliant on their work in Oregon seafood industry, with an average of 83% of their household income tied to their work in seafood.

Business owners/managers across all sectors, except retailers, identified lost domestic sales as the most common COVID-19 impact they were currently experiencing. As the pandemic progresses, workers expect job losses and challenges balancing family and work to be critical challenges.

This link will give you access to the report:  
[https://seagrant.oregonstate.edu/sites/seagrant.oregonstate.edu/files/s-20-003\\_impacts\\_of\\_covid-19\\_oregon\\_seafood\\_industry\\_spring\\_2020.pdf](https://seagrant.oregonstate.edu/sites/seagrant.oregonstate.edu/files/s-20-003_impacts_of_covid-19_oregon_seafood_industry_spring_2020.pdf)

## Eat Oregon Seafood Initiative

COVID-19 presented many challenges for the seafood industry. Nationwide, the #EatSeafoodAmerica campaign encouraged consumers to buy and cook more seafood in their homes. The campaign asked consumers to buy local seafood and post a photo of their meal.

Oregon Sea Grant worked with the Oregon Department of Agriculture and other partners (including the seafood commissions) to develop the #EatOregonSeafood project. The initiative is continuing to grow and will be expanding the website (the current version is at [www.eatoregonseafood.org](http://www.eatoregonseafood.org)) and educational materials that have been developed to help connect consumers directly with Oregon seafood products. In addition to showing where to buy local seafood via an interactive map, the webpages offer tips on when and what types of seafood to purchase and how to freeze, smoke and prepare it at home. The vendors list and map are continuously being updated. The site also has a growing archive of recipes. Everyone is invited to share recipes online using #EatOregonSeafood.

## OSC Scholarships

The OSC is again offering three \$1,000 scholarships for fishing family students with applications available through the Office of Student Access and Completion (OSAC) at [oregonstudentaid.gov](http://oregonstudentaid.gov)

The Early Bird deadline is February 15, 2021 for a chance to win a \$1,000 OSAC scholarship. The final deadline is March 1, 2021. The OSC Scott Boley Memorial Scholarship is #310.

### Who can apply:

1. Dependents of licensed commercial Oregon troll salmon permit fishermen and/or captains of the vessels of licensed commercial Oregon troll salmon permit fishermen who have paid assessments to the OSC within the past three years.
2. Graduating high school seniors, high school graduates, and undergraduate students

### Eligibility Criteria:

1. College: Any accredited 2- or 4- year nonprofit or for-profit (includes vocational and trade schools) that participate in Title IV financial aid programs located in the U.S.
2. FAFSA is required to determine financial need. For these scholarships financial need may be considered, but is not required.
3. Must enroll full-time

Renewal – can apply and compete annually for a maximum of four years

## U.S. Coast Guard Lifeboats

This past fall, the U.S. Coast Guard contacted the office to provide an update on their vessels, in particular the 52' motor lifeboats.

Invincible II – Grays Harbor; Triumph II – Columbia River; Victory – Newport; Intrepid – Coos Bay

These four have all been around since the late 1950's and early 1960's. Due to their age, they are deteriorating and the Admiral of the Pacific NW has restricted the use of them. One 52' was towing in a vessel, when it lost its own steering.

How will this impact the fleets?

The 52's can go out to around 150 miles offshore and are now on restricted usage.

The 47' motor lifeboats are faster, but are limited to 50-70 miles offshore as their fuel capacity becomes an issue for distance traveling.

There are also cutters, but it takes longer for them to be deployed, up to 24 hours.

This 2021 season the fishing fleets need to be aware that the 52's may not be able to respond, but the 47' motor lifeboats, the helicopters, and the cutters are still available for rescues and assistance.

As we learn more, we will keep you posted.

## Salmon fishermen financial assistance in 2020

**Disaster:** Qualifying fishermen finally received their disaster assistance for the 2016/17 disaster years with 260 salmon trollers receiving over \$2 million.

**STRP:** U.S. fishermen were able to apply for the Seafood Trade Relief Program (STRP) from September 14, 2020 - January 15, 2021 (original deadline of December 14, 2020) through the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The STRP is part of a relief strategy to support fishermen and other producers while the administration continues to work on free, fair and reciprocal trade deals to open more markets to help American farmers compete globally. STRP provides all qualified applicants with relief for 2019 landings of eligible seafood. Payment rates for the program were determined by looking at the average domestic landings reported by all commercial fishing operations in the U.S. for 2019 and comparing it to 2017 landings. From that they determined payment rates per pound for eligible seafood commodities. Those payment rates reflect the estimated severity of the impact of trade disruptions to U.S. seafood caught and sold commercially, and the adjustment to new trade patterns for certain types of seafood products.

**CARES Act:** Section 12005 of the CARES Act made funds available to assist fishery participants affected by COVID-19. Information, criteria, and applications were available through the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC). See CARES Act article for more information.

\*\*\*\*\*

## SB 592 – Prohibits Lead Weight Usage

Senate Bill 592, sponsored by Senator Lew Frederick, representing North and Northeast Portland, will prohibit the use of lead weight in waters of this state for the purpose of angling or commercial fishing. It also states that the violation is punishable by a maximum of 364 days' imprisonment, \$6,250 fine, or both. It also prohibits the use of lead shotgun pellets for the purpose of hunting. The same penalties apply.

It has been referred to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery. The OSC is tracking this bill. Until the OSC has a meeting to take a stance on this bill, we cannot comment to our legislators at this time.

However, anyone can provide comments. A list of your coastal legislators and Senator Frederick is included in this newsletter.

## CARES Act Update

Many of you filed paperwork for the CARES Act funds and haven't heard about distribution. Below is updated information from the PSMFC website.

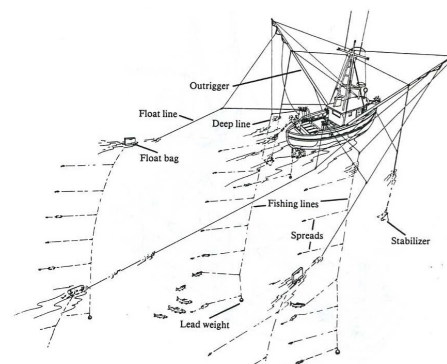
Fishing businesses are a vital part of Oregon's economic and cultural health, and impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic have taken a serious toll on these businesses and the communities they support. Consistent with Section 12005 of the federal CARES Act, NOAA Fisheries allocated nearly \$16M to eligible Oregon businesses participating in marine and/or anadromous fisheries. ODFW developed a Spend Plan for eligibility and claim requirements consistent with the CARES Act after extensive input from the fishing industry. NOAA approved the Spend Plan, which allowed the application period to begin.

In recognition by coastal legislators and other state leaders that these federal funds would be unlikely to address all of the COVID-19 impacts to Oregon's fisheries industry, an additional \$2.5 million of state CARES Act relief funds were distributed by the Oregon Department of Administrative Services to PSMFC for support. Since the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission is the fiscal agent, they will distribute the funds as supplemental payments to recipients of the federal CARES Act funds that were distributed directly to the PSMFC by the U.S. Department of Commerce. Eligibility and claims for these funds will generally follow the same requirements and timelines as the \$16 million, which is outlined in Oregon's Spend Plan and application materials.

PSMFC will review applications and disburse payments of approved claims to eligible applicants. It is anticipated that total claims will exceed available funds. If so, all disbursements will be scaled to available funds as described in Oregon's Spend Plan.

There has been a delay because many applications (over 90%) have errors or omissions requiring tedious follow up with applicants. This is taking more time to resolve than anticipated. The PSMFC is nearing completion and now anticipate disbursing checks for eligible claims by the end of January. You can view their website for more information.

<https://www.psmfc.org/cares-act-the-coronavirus-aid-relief-and-economic-security-act>.



## Ocean Climate Congressional Bills Affecting Fisheries

Both a House Bill and a Senate Bill have been introduced in Congress relating to Ocean Climate change/solutions. Below is information on both of them. I don't know the current status of H.R. 8632 or whether it will be reintroduced into the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress, whereas the Senate bill will be reintroduced according to Senator Merkley's office. Full copies of the bill are available, contact the office if you wish to read through them. We will monitor the bills and keep you posted as some parts of them directly affect the fishing industry and your businesses.

On October 20, 2020, the **US House introduced H.R. 8632 Ocean-Based Climate Solutions Act** which includes the following:

Title I: Blue Carbon – create a Blue Carbon program within NOAA

Title II: Marine Protected Areas – Prohibit any commercial extractive or destructive activity on 30% of the ocean by 2030. (The bill is also known as the 30 x 30 Bill.)

Title III: Offshore Energy – strongly encourages offshore wind development

Title IV: Climate-ready fisheries, efficient fishery vessels, and buy American seafood

401 – Emphasizes importance of U.S. caught seafood

402 – Provides grants for research on seafood harvesting, processing, marketing promotion

403 – Prohibits subsidies that contribute to overcapacity, overfishing, or IUU fisheries

404 – Calls for an increase in fuel efficiency for fishing vessels

Title V: Coastal Barrier Resource Act Amendments – amends the Act to include the West Coast and Pacific territories – relates to sand mining, coastal islands, coastal hazard projects

Title VI: Coastal Zone Management Act Amendments

Title VII: Insular Affairs

Title VIII: Strengthening Marine Mammal Conservation

Title IX: International Agreements

Title X: Coastal Resiliency and Adaptation

Title XI: Ocean Health: Ocean Acidification and Harmful Algal Blooms

Title XII: National Ocean Policy, Data, and Coordinated Website for Grant Programs

Title XIII: Wetlands

Title XIV: Measures to address greenhouse gas pollution from shipping vessels (over 5,000 gross tons)

Title V: Studies

**Senator Merkley** introduced in the Senate the **Ocean Climate Emergency Action Now (OCEAN) Act of 2020** which eliminated some of the House sections including Title II, Title III, and 404 under Title IV. According to their office, the bill focuses on areas of likely bipartisan agreement in the Senate and that the Senator is deeply committed to addressing climate change and ocean health and is looking forward to working with the fishing industry towards that end. He will reintroduce this bill in the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress.

The bill includes:

Title 1: Marine and Coastal Blue Carbon

Title 2: Climate-Ready Fisheries and Buy American Fish

Title 3: Coastal Zone Management Act

Title 4: Coastal Resiliency and Adaptation

Title 5: Ocean Health: Ocean Acidification and Harmful Algal Blooms

Title 6: National Ocean Policy, Data, and Coordinated Website for Grant Programs

Title 7: Wetlands and Estuary Coastal Restoration and Resiliency

Senator Ron Wyden – Staff Fritz Graham  
[fritz\\_graham@wyden.senate.gov](mailto:fritz_graham@wyden.senate.gov)

Senator Jeff Merkley – Staff Stacey Jochimsen  
[stacey\\_jochimsen@merkley.senate.gov](mailto:stacey_jochimsen@merkley.senate.gov)

### Representatives:

District 1 – Suzanne Bonamici  
Ali Mayeda – [ali.mayeda@mail.house.gov](mailto:ali.mayeda@mail.house.gov)

District 2 – Cliff Bentz  
Medford Office – 541-776-4646

District 3 – Earl Blumenauer  
Portland Office – 503-231-2300

District 4 – Peter DeFazio  
Coos Bay Office – 541-269-2609

District 5 – Kurt Schrader  
Suzanne Kunse – [Suzanne.kunse@mail.house.gov](mailto:Suzanne.kunse@mail.house.gov)

## Oregon Coastal Legislators

Representative Suzanne Weber  
District 32 – Tillamook  
Capitol Phone: 503-986-1432  
Capitol Address: 900 Court St., NE, H-483  
Salem, OR 97301

[Rep.SuzanneWeber@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:Rep.SuzanneWeber@oregonlegislature.gov)  
[www.oregonlegislature.gov/weber](http://www.oregonlegislature.gov/weber)

Representative David Gomberg  
District 10 – Central Coast  
Capitol Phone: 503-986-1410  
Capitol Address: 900 Court St., NE, H-480  
Salem, OR 97301

[Rep.DavidGomberg@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:Rep.DavidGomberg@oregonlegislature.gov)  
[www.oregonlegislature.gov/gomberg](http://www.oregonlegislature.gov/gomberg)

Representative David Brock Smith  
District 1 – Curry and portions of Coos, Douglas, & Josephine  
Capitol Phone: 503-986-1401  
Capitol Address: 900 Court St., NE, H-379  
Salem, OR 97301

[Rep.DavidBrockSmith@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:Rep.DavidBrockSmith@oregonlegislature.gov)  
[www.oregonlegislature.gov/smithd](http://www.oregonlegislature.gov/smithd)

Representative Gerald D. “Boomer” Wright  
District 9 – Portions of Coos, Douglas, Lane, & Lincoln  
Capitol Phone: 503-986-1409  
Capitol Address: 900 Court St., NE, H-476  
Salem, OR 97301

[Rep.BoomerWright@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:Rep.BoomerWright@oregonlegislature.gov)  
[www.oregonlegislature.gov/wright](http://www.oregonlegislature.gov/wright)

Senator Dick Anderson  
District 5 – Lincoln and portions of Coos, Douglas, Lane, Polk,  
Tillamook, & Yamhill  
Capitol Phone: 503-986-1705  
Capitol Address: 900 Court St., NE, S-303  
Salem, OR 97301

[Sen.DickAnderson@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:Sen.DickAnderson@oregonlegislature.gov)  
[www.oregonlegislature.gov/anderson](http://www.oregonlegislature.gov/anderson)

Senator Dallas Heard  
District 1 – Curry, portions of Coos, Douglas, Jackson, &  
Josephine  
Capitol Phone: 503-986-1701  
Capitol Address: 900 Court St., NE, S-316  
Salem, OR 97301

[Sen.DallasHeard@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:Sen.DallasHeard@oregonlegislature.gov)  
[www.oregonlegislature.gov/heard](http://www.oregonlegislature.gov/heard)

Senator Betsy Johnson  
District 16 – Clatsop, Columbia and portions of Multnomah,  
Tillamook, & Washington  
Capitol Phone: 503-986-1716  
Capitol Address: 900 Court St., NE, S-209  
Salem, OR 97301

[Sen.BetsyJohnson@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:Sen.BetsyJohnson@oregonlegislature.gov)  
[www.oregonlegislature.gov/johnson](http://www.oregonlegislature.gov/johnson)

Senator Lew Frederick  
District 22 – North & NE Portland  
Capitol Phone: 503-986-1722  
Capitol Address: 900 Court St., NE, S-419  
Salem, OR 97301

[Sen.LewFrederick@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:Sen.LewFrederick@oregonlegislature.gov)  
[www.oregonlegislature.gov/frederick](http://www.oregonlegislature.gov/frederick)

## Commissioners

Dwight Collins, Chair • Eugene (Public Member)  
Barry Nelson, Vice Chair • Winchester Bay •  
(Fisherman)  
Mark Newell, Sec/Tr • Newport (Processor)  
Henry deRonden-Pos • Newport (Fisherman)  
Jerry McCloskey • North Bend (Fisherman)  
Ray Monroe • Pacific City (Fisherman)  
Jeff Reeves • North Bend (Fisherman)  
Don Snow • Newport (Fisherman)  
Jeff Werner • Gold Beach (Processor)

## Office

P.O. Box 983  
Lincoln City, OR 97367  
Phone/Fax 541-994-2647  
Email: [nancy@oregonsalmon.org](mailto:nancy@oregonsalmon.org)  
[www.oregonsalmon.org](http://www.oregonsalmon.org)

## Staff

Nancy Fitzpatrick, Executive Director

*Tagline is the official newsletter of the Oregon  
Salmon Commission*



**TROLL SALMON**  
**QUALITY IS KING**  
OREGON SALMON COMMISSION