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# ***NEWS RELEASE***

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Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife  
For more information call Brandon Ford, 541-867-4741 ext. 277  
Internet: [www.dfw.state.or.us](http://www.dfw.state.or.us)

**For immediate release**

**Monday, Sept. 19, 2005**

## **Stakeholder group to discuss coho recovery in Newport**

SALEM – Oregon’s Coastal Coho stakeholder group will meet Friday, Sept. 23, in Newport to discuss management and limiting factors on the central coast. The group is charged with helping state and federal agencies shape a conservation plan for coastal coho salmon.

The meeting is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Shilo Inn, 536 SW Elizabeth Street. A public comment period scheduled for 3 p.m.

At the Newport meeting representatives of the mid-coast watershed councils and the forestry industry will present information on management and limiting factors for wild coho in the central coast. They will help identify the top priorities for management in the central coast.

The Oct. 27 meeting in Bandon will focus on the south coast coho populations and the Nov. 14 meeting in Tillamook will look at north coast populations.

The stakeholder team advises both the State of Oregon and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) on the Coastal Coho Project. Members of the team represent fish conservation, fishing, private land, timber, agricultural, tribal and other interests.

The group will offer suggestions on policy and management of coastal coho as officials work to craft future conservation efforts. Once completed, the draft plan will be available for comment at a series of public meetings along the coast.

More information of the Coastal Coho Project and the stakeholder team can be found at [www.oregon-plan.org](http://www.oregon-plan.org).

The state of Oregon and the National Marine Fisheries Service began the collaborative project last year to address the conservation of coastal coho. The objectives of the project are to:

- Assess the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds effort to conserve and rebuild coastal coho populations.
- Use the assessment to assist NOAA Fisheries with a status review.
- Use the assessment as a basis to seek legal assurances for local participants.
- Use the assessment as a foundation for developing a conservation plan for coho.

Reasonable accommodations are provided as needed for individuals requesting assistive hearing devices, sign language interpreters or large-print materials. Individuals needing these types of accommodations may call the ODFW Director's Office at 800-720-6339 or 503-947-6044 at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

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