
NEWS RELEASE



Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
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For Immediate Release

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Science team to present biological criteria and limiting factors for coastal coho

SALEM – State of Oregon scientists will present the biological measures against which the health of Oregon coastal coho populations will be gauged at a meeting of the Coastal Coho Project Stakeholder Team next week. This advisory committee is helping state and federal agencies shape recovery planning for coastal coho.

The agenda of the Stakeholder Team includes an explanation of how the science team developed the biological criteria and applied them to assess the status of coastal coho. The criteria include abundance, productivity, persistence and distribution. In addition, the presentation will cover factors limiting coastal coho populations and conservation efforts to halt and reverse their decline.

The meeting will be held at the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Southwest Region Office Conference Room, 4192 North Umpqua Highway, on Monday, Nov. 15, from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Tuesday, Nov. 16, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Public comment will be taken Nov. 15 at 4:30 p.m. and Nov. 16 at 2:45 p.m.

The State of Oregon and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) began a collaborative project earlier this year to address the conservation of coastal coho. As part of that project, a number of state agencies are contributing to the Coastal Coho Assessment. Their objectives are to 1) assess actions under the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds to conserve and rebuild coastal coho populations; 2) provide information for NOAA Fisheries' federal Endangered Species Act listing determination; 3) establish a basis for mechanisms to recognize landowners' conservation efforts as an offset to potential effects of management activities; and 4) provide a blueprint for developing a recovery plan.

The Stakeholder Team is advising both the State of Oregon and NOAA Fisheries on all aspects of the Coastal Coho Project. Team members represent natural resource users, local governments, tribes, conservation organizations, and commercial and recreational fishers. Almost all members of the Stakeholder Team have close ties to the Oregon Coast. More information on the Coastal Coho Project and the stakeholder team can be found at <http://www.oregon-plan.org/cohoproject/index.html>.

Reasonable accommodations will be 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 Information and Education Division at 800-720-6339 Ext. 76002 or 503-947-6002 at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

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