



Industry Notice

Commercial Market Squid

March 1, 2022

To all Oregon commercial squid fishers and processors:

The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) adopted new rules for the commercial market squid fishery at their February 18, 2022, meeting. Commission meeting materials, including recorded video of the meeting, can be found here:

https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/22/02_Feb/index.asp

Management of the fishery has been discussed at public meetings in 2016 and each year from 2018-2021. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) also established the Market Squid Advisory Panel (MSAP) in 2021 to provide ODFW with information and industry perspective on the effectiveness and impacts of existing and proposed fishery management measures and identify emerging issues. MSAP meetings are also open to the public, and more information can be found on the ODFW website here:

https://www.dfw.state.or.us/MRP/market_squid/index.asp. Discussions at public and MSAP meetings were considered in the Oregon Department of Fish Wildlife's (ODFW) staff recommendations to the Commission.

In addition to adopting regulations recommended by ODFW staff, the Commission directed ODFW to develop a proposal to **prohibit use of independent light boats in the fishery** for implementation in 2023. ODFW will work with MSAP and the affected public to develop a proposal and evaluate the potential costs and benefits. The public can also provide testimony directly to the Commission when the proposal is heard, likely in late 2022 or early 2023. ODFW has developed a light boat logbook for the 2022 season, which is required by rule. Since ODFW has no other way to track light boat activity, **completing and submitting light boat logbooks in a timely manner** will be important for evaluation. Light boat logbooks are not preprinted, but can be downloaded to print here: https://www.dfw.state.or.us/MRP/regulations/commercial_fishing/index.asp, or printouts can be requested from ODFW by calling the Newport office at (541) 867-4741.

An updated "Frequently Asked Questions" document regarding squid regulations is available on the ODFW website here: https://www.dfw.state.or.us/MRP/regulations/commercial_fishing/index.asp

All new rules adopted by the Commission are effective **February 25, 2022**, and include:

- Limited Entry Control Date
 - If the Commission adopts a future license limitation measure, **January 1, 2022**, will be used as the control date for establishing eligibility related to past participation in the commercial market squid purse seine fishery
 - The Control Date is intended to limit further capitalization and speculative fishing or "fishing for a permit"
 - The Commission did not direct ODFW to move forward with developing a limited entry permit system now

- If a limited entry permit system is pursued in the future, there will be additional public process to develop qualifying criteria and other program elements
- Rib line specifications
 - No purse rings or purse ring bridle can be attached to the net less than 36 inches above the lead line
 - Steel cable purse lines are not allowed
 - Rib lines help reduce bycatch of animals living on the bottom such as Dungeness crab, disturbance of squid egg cases, and impacts to habitat
 - These changes help ensure that rib line requirements are effective and enforceable
- Maximum net size
 - It is unlawful to take market squid using a purse seine net (including lampara net) that
 - Exceeds 1,800 feet in length
 - Exceeds 2,600 meshes in depth, excluding chaffing strip and corkline strip
 - Exceeds 1 ¾ inch mesh size, excluding chaffing strip and corkline strip
 - Has a chaffing strip or a corkline strip that is more than 25 meshes wide
 - Has purse rings or a purse ring bridle attached less than 36 inches above the lead line
 - The limit on net size is a precautionary measure intended to cap net size at the maximum size used in the Oregon fishery to date to prevent squid harvest in deeper waters before they reach shallow water spawning areas, prevent excessive concentration of harvest, while minimizing costs by allowing continued use of most if not all nets used in the Oregon fishery.

For more information, please contact:

Troy Buell | State Fishery Management Program Leader
541-961-8135

troy.v.buell@odfw.oregon.gov

Greg Krutzikowsky | Nearshore Project Leader
541-961-5303

greg.krutzikowsky@odfw.oregon.gov