



Industry Notice

Commercial Dive Clam

August 24, 2026

To Oregon commercial dive clam harvesters, permit holders, and dealers:

The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission (OFWC) will hold a public meeting on **December 11, 2026** to consider adopting proposed permanent rules to prohibit the commercial subtidal (dive) bay clam fishery in Yaquina Bay. A temporary rule, [OAR 635-005-0290](#) (13), to close the dive clam fishery in Yaquina Bay was effective on July 1, 2026.

Recent ODFW survey data indicates a significant reduction (84%) in biomass of subtidal gaper clams in the commercial subtidal harvest area of Yaquina Bay compared to the 2019 survey. There were also low abundances of subtidal cockle and butter clams. A complete data summary report of the subtidal bay clam biomass estimates in Yaquina Bay from the 2026 survey is posted here:

https://www.dfw.state.or.us/mrp/shellfish/seacor/docs/YaquinaBay_SubtidalSurvey_2026DataSummary.pdf.

While there has been low subtidal effort and harvest for these species in recent history, closing the commercial dive fishery is necessary to maintain the sustainability of bay clam populations in Yaquina Bay.

If you have feedback that you would like ODFW to evaluate as we develop the materials for this OFWC agenda item, please email Eric Anderson (contact information below) by **September 15**.

The December OFWC meeting will be held in-person at ODFW headquarters in Salem (4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE, Salem, OR 97302) and will have an option for written and virtual participation. An agenda for the meeting will be posted in **late October** here:

<https://myodfw.com/commission-meeting-schedule-agendas-and-minutes>. Complete instructions on how to submit public comment and register for public testimony can be found here:

<https://myodfw.com/meeting-procedures>.

For more information, please contact:

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