



Commercial Salmon Fishermen Job Opportunities

The Oregon Salmon Commission (OSC) with the Coastal Oregon Marine Experiment Station (COMES), Oregon Sea Grant, OSU Seafood Lab, and Oregon State University is working on a pilot project to collect and use genetic information to address the Klamath weak stock crisis for Oregon's ocean salmon fishery. This Collaborative Research on Oregon Ocean Salmon (CROOS) project, composed of Oregon-based fishermen and scientists, has applied to the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) for funding the pilot project for this season. This funding is contingent on approval by the Legislative Emergency Board on June 23, 2006. If the funding is approved, the pilot project will take advantage of new genetic science technologies to gather more information on harvested stocks.

The project will consist of fishermen participating in sampling Chinook fin-clip tissue, scales and length (for aging), date, location, and other oceanographic data. Four vessels will use a digital technology system for datalogging individually harvested fish. The rest of the vessels will collect the data and record it using paper-based logbooks. Data from all sampled fish will be recorded and tracked using barcodes. This is an important job that could yield much information about the ocean stocks.

Up to 50 boats will be hired to collect the data. The proposed budget will pay up to \$1,200 for each boat, plus \$300 for a crewmember per opener for up to 4 openers. The project will spread out the collection times so that the entire season (through October) is covered. Each fisherman in this project will also be allowed to sell his own fish.

These boats will work through four port liaisons who will answer questions, help get materials to the vessels, be in communication with the vessels when fishing, etc. The proposed pay for these coordinators is \$3,000 for the season (\$2,000 for July/August, \$1,000 for September/October). Since this is a pilot project, there will be many questions and fine-tuning of the protocols and sampling techniques. The port coordinators play a very important role in communication with the fishermen.

Criteria for Selection:

Vessels (Ocean)

Oregon Resident (Since the money is coming through OWEB, only Oregon residents qualify)

Communication Capacity – to communicate with Port Liaison

Necessary Equipment – GPS, VHF radio, possibly temperature gauge

Diligent about entering data on logbooks, collecting samples for each individual fish according to the protocols, attaching barcodes to the fish

Geographic Representation (boats will be selected from various geographic locations)

Port Liaisons (up to 4)

Oregon Resident (Since the money is coming through OWEB, only Oregon residents qualify)

Geographic Representation – one south coast, two central coast, one north coast

Fisherman on the water to communicate with vessels in their group of boats

Communication Capacity – to communicate/coordinate with vessels and Fleet Liaison

Necessary Equipment – cell phone

Willing to work through the season (through October)

Deadlines for contacting the OSC:

Friday, June 16, 2006 to be eligible to collect data for the June 25, 2006 opener

Friday, June 30, 2006 for the July/Aug/Sept/Oct openers

Please give your name, address, phone numbers, e-mail, job interested in, other pertinent information.

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