

Fisheries Council nominees deadline approaching

NEWPORT — The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is accepting nominations for a seat on the Pacific Fishery Management Council. The deadline to request nomination materials is Friday, Feb. 13, and the three-year term begins August 2015. The Council manages about 119 species of groundfish, pelagic species (sardines, anchovies and mackerel) and highly migratory species, including tuna, sharks and swordfish off the shores of the west coast, from Washington to

California. It includes 14 voting members representing tribal and state fish and wildlife agencies, and private citizens knowledgeable about sport fishing, commercial fishing and/or marine conservation. Several advisory councils and PFMC staff members also participate in Council meetings. The ideal candidate would be knowledgeable of fishery resource conservation and management in marine waters off the West Coast. Specific

knowledge of and experience in management issues and fisheries is important, as is a strong conservation ethic. The successful candidate also must work collectively with other council members, often making difficult decisions and fulfilling the standards set forth by the Magnuson-Stevens Act. Council members make a substantial time commitment to fully participate in council business and related activities. The Oregon seat is currently held by Dorothy Lowman of

Portland, who is eligible for re-appointment to a third term. ODFW will send all nominations to the Governor's office, which will then forward the names of at least three candidates to the National Marine Fisheries Service and U.S. Department of Commerce for consideration. Successful appointees must pass an extensive FBI background check. Anyone interested in being considered, or wishing to nominate someone, must contact Cyreis Schmitt at 541-867-

4741 or cyreis.c.schmitt@state.or.us no later than Feb. 13. The Pacific Fishery Management Council is one of eight regional fishery management councils established by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to manage fisheries from three to 200 miles offshore of the United States coastline. The Pacific Council is responsible for fisheries off the coasts of California, Oregon and Washington.



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Sandpines from 1B

OB Sports Golf Management. "This famous golf facility has many wonderful attributes. We are eager to get started with a host of initiatives to enhance the overall experience for all customers visiting Sandpines." Scottsdale, Arizona-based OB Sports Golf Management has a history in the Pacific Northwest dating back to 1995, when the company built Langdon Farms Golf Club in Portland and established its corporate headquarters there for several years. OB Sports manages 56 golf courses nationwide including four others in Oregon: Tetherow Golf Club in Bend,

Langdon Farms in Portland, and Medford courses Centennial Golf Club and Quail Point Golf Course. "We look forward to a great relationship with OB Sports," said Maureen Huntley, of SPG Properties LLC, owners of Sandpines Golf Links. "Their track record in Oregon as well as across the western United States gives them a good perspective on best practices and industry trends both on a local and national level." Michael Pearson, who stayed on as general manager after SPG acquired Sandpines, will leave Sandpines at the end of February to pursue his own private business interests in the Florence area. "My wife Nancy and I have

truly fallen in love with the people here and town of Florence over the last six years," said Pearson. "We are looking forward to pursuing other business and personal endeavors here. "We have recently purchased a home and are looking forward to making Florence our home for good." Sandpines Golf Links is noted for its scenic location among the sand dunes and towering pines of the Oregon coast, offering 18 holes of Rees-Jones-designed, links-style golf measuring to 7,190 yards from the Tournament Tees. The outward nine is reminiscent of golf commonly found on the Monterey Peninsula or the woods of the Carolinas,

while the inward nine provides more of a traditional links-style challenge. Its 9,000-square-foot clubhouse is open to the public and serves as the centerpiece of a 250-acre planned community with more than 650 residential units to be developed. Tavolo Restaurant and Lounge at Sandpines serves lunch Monday through Sunday overlooking the golf course. Dick Shores, who will remain the course's Director of Golf, said as of right now, all other Sandpines employees will be retained by OB Sports and become employees of the OB Sports Management Company. "I personally believe this will be positive for all of us

who work and play at Sandpines," said Shores, who added that one example of the course's continued commitment to golfers is a lease agreement for a new cart fleet that has been approved and should be available near the end of March. "In the interim, the cart distributor is lending us another 25 carts to hold us over until the new fleet arrives," said Shores. "The loaners are expected to be here sometime next week." For more information about Sandpines Golf Links, visit www.sandpines.com or call 541-997-1940.

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Fishing from 1B

up to date information. Fishing for the various warm water fish species can still be productive during the winter months but anglers may need to target different areas of a lake (typically deeper) versus when fishing in the spring or summer.
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The winter steelhead fishery has produced fair to good results recently. This week should be productive in the mid to lower reaches of the river while flows are low and river temperatures are warming.
SALMON RIVER: Steelhead
Winter steelhead fishing is starting to pick up in many coastal basins. The Salmon River is now open to harvest of wild winter steelhead (Jan 1 - March 31). Anglers are advised to read the new regulations as there are harvest restrictions and new deadlines in effect.
SILETZ RIVER: Steelhead
Steelhead fishing is slow to fair but should start to pick up in the coming weeks. Fish can be found throughout the river for both bank and boat anglers. River conditions should be good through the

weekend.
SIUSLAW RIVER: Steelhead
The winter steelhead fishery is producing fish in both the Siuslaw and Lake Creek. The next few weeks should see a good push of fish. River conditions should remain good through the weekend. Typical steelhead angling tactics apply.
YAQUINA RIVER: Steelhead
The winter steelhead fishery is fair to good in the Big Elk. River conditions should remain in good condition through the week. Anglers are advised to watch for private property. Typical steelhead angling tactics apply but the Big Elk is bed rock dominated and does have a lot of snags.
COOS RIVER BASIN: Dungeness crab, bay clams, steelhead
Steelhead fishing is good. There is bank access on the West Fork Millicoma at the Millicoma Interpretive Center and on the East Fork Millicoma at Nesika Park. Access to the South Fork Coos River is through Weyerhaeuser property and anglers must have the appropriate permit from Weyerhaeuser. In the Coos Basin starting one additional fin clipped steelhead may be retained per day for a total aggregate of three adult fish harvested daily.
UMPQUA RIVER, SOUTH: Steelhead
The South Umpqua is open for steelhead fishing. Although the peak numbers of fish normally show up from February to late March, the recent rains have moved fish into the Canyonville area and hatchery

fish have been reported. The South Umpqua offers the best chance for catching an adipose-fin clipped steelhead for harvest. The hatchery program for winter steelhead is centered in the South Umpqua. Most hatchery fish are caught from Canyonville downstream. All wild fish must be released unharmed. As the river drops from last weekend's rain, plunking should be good at places such as Lawson Bar, Myrtle Creek and behind Seven Feathers.
WINCHESTER BAY: Bottomfish
Fishing for bottomfish in the Triangle and South jetty has been successful. Crabbing has been slow recently.
PACIFIC OCEAN and BEACHES: Bottomfish, Dungeness crab, surf perch
The ocean is open for harvest of Dungeness crab. A few anglers have been catching surf perch from the beaches near Bandon and Coos Bay. Sand shrimp is one of the best baits to use when fishing for surf perch. Fishing for bottom fish, including rockfish and lingcod is open to all depths. The marine fish daily bag limit is seven fish and a separate daily limit of two lingcod. Anglers are only able to keep three blue rockfish as part of their daily limit and there will be no harvest of China, quillback or copper rockfish. Sometime in March, once a parallel federal rule is adopted, ODFW will announce that anglers can retain one canary rockfish as part of the marine fish daily bag limit.

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