

# Wildlife Commission to discuss sub-bag limits for rockfish

The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission will meet Friday, Dec. 2, beginning at 8 a.m. at the ODFW headquarters building, 4034 Fairview Industrial Dr. SE in Salem.

ODFW will live-stream portions of Friday's meeting via Periscope on Twitter feed at [twitter.com/MyODFW](http://twitter.com/MyODFW).

The complete meeting agenda and supporting materials are online at [www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/16/12\\_dec/index.asp](http://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/16/12_dec/index.asp).

The Commission will receive a Director's Report containing an update on ongoing analyses related to

Columbia River Fisheries Reform policy, and will consider adopting rules to extend the transition period for the policy by one month (through Jan. 31, 2017). The Commission had been scheduled to consider rulemaking on the policy at the December meeting, but requested the extension to allow for more staff analysis and additional review by the Commission.

The Commission is now scheduled to consider rulemaking on the policy on Jan. 20, 2017.

The Commission also will consider proposed regulations

for 2017 groundfish fisheries. Commercial and recreational groundfish fisheries are based on federal regulations and the Commission may adopt additional or more conservative regulations. For the recreational angler, the proposed regulations would retain the seven marine fish bag limit but would:

- Create a sub-bag limit of six black rockfish.
- Remove the sub-bag limit for canary rockfish.
- Add China/quillback/copper rockfishes to the sub-bag limit with blue/Deacon rockfish and change the limit from

three to four fish.

- Remove the 10-inch minimum size for kelp greenling.
- Require anglers to carry a rockfish descending device and use it when releasing most rockfish outside 30 fathoms.

Other items to be considered by the Commission:

- Appointment a new public-at-large representative to the Restoration and Enhancement Board.
- Appointment of a new chair and hunter representative to the Access and Habitat Board.
- Approval of expenditures of \$103,885 for six enhance-

ment project approved by the R&E Board in September.

• An informational briefing on recent changes to the state's Sensitive Species List resulting from a recent staff review. The changes will be posted on the ODFW website in December 2016.

The Commission is the policy-making body for fish and wildlife issues in the state.

Public testimony before the Commission will be held first thing Friday morning, just after the adoption of temporary rules.

Persons seeking to testify on issues not on the formal agenda

may do so by making arrangements with the ODFW Director's Office at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

Contact the Director's Office by calling 800-720-6339 or 503-947-604.

Reasonable accommodations will be provided as needed for individuals requesting assistive hearing devices, sign language interpreters or large-print meeting materials.

Individuals needing special accommodations can call 800-720-6339 or 503-947-6044 at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

## 'Sea of Lights' to brighten Oregon Coast Aquarium with spirit of season

NEWPORT — SCUBA Santa, sparkling lights and an ocean of holiday cheer will greet visitors every weekend this December at the Oregon Coast Aquarium's Sea of Lights celebration.

Over half a million colorful lights and holiday decorations will surround visitors with the spirit of the season as they explore the aquarium after hours.

Santa will be present every night of Sea of Lights until Christmas to pose for photos

and note visitors' Christmas wishes.

This family-friendly event kicks off with a special celebration on Dec. 2 and 3, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Admission to the first weekend of Sea of Lights is \$2 with two cans of nonperishable people or pet food for the local food bank.

Sea of Lights will illuminate the Newport Aquarium each Friday and Saturday of December from 5 to 8 p.m.

Entry is \$10 per person without donation. Admission is free for aquarium members, but they are encouraged to bring an

item to donate.

Sea of Lights will continue to illuminate the aquarium every following Friday and Saturday of December from 5 to 8 p.m., with the exception for Dec. 24.

Admission is \$10, or free with same day paid admission.

"Sea of Lights is a fun way for the aquarium to give back to the community. There are few places to go see a big light dis-

play on the central Oregon coast, and you can simultaneously help stock the shelves of our local food bank," said Lance Beck, Director of Marketing at the aquarium.

This year's Sea of Lights is presented by Walmart.

Customers who spend more than \$100 at Walmart's Newport location since Nov. 21 will receive a voucher for one free admission to Sea of Lights at the aquarium.

Offer valid while supplies last and certain dates are sub-

ject to blackout. See store for details.

Attendees using a voucher are encouraged, but not required, to make a food or toy donation.

Join in the merriment this December at the Oregon Coast Aquarium, 2820 SE Ferry Slip Road, in Newport.

The aquarium is open every day, except Dec. 25, this winter from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information visit [www.aquarium.org](http://www.aquarium.org) or call 541-867-3474.

# Holiday Gift Guide

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16th Annual 'Tree of Giving' ready November 28th.  
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