

**Workshop on Gear Innovations and Practices to Reduce Whale Interactions**  
**Who: Fishermen, Gear Developers, Marine Mammal Experts, Agencies, NGOs**

**March 29-30, 2017 Embassy Suites Hotel, Portland, Oregon**

**--SEE WORKSHOP NOTES --**

**(also Attachments and Presentations as Indicated)**

**Workshop Day 1**

- A. Welcome and Workshop Goals, Randy Fisher**, Executive Director, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission.
- B. Introductions of workshop organizers, note-takers; Fran Recht**, PSMFC Habitat Program **(Attachment 1)**
- C. Workshop participant list ((Attachment 2)**
- D. Handouts:**
  - **Best Management Practice Guide (CA) (Attachment 3)**
  - **2016 NOAA's Whale Entanglement Report (Attachment 4)**

**E. Understanding the Issues**

**What we know; what we don't**

1. Whales & fishing gear interactions-**Lauren Saez** (contractor, NOAA Protected Species) **(Presentation 1)**. (Also see Appendix 1).
2. How crab gear is fished (survey) and gear testing being conducted-**Pete Nelson** (H.T. Harvey and Associates) **(Presentation 2)**
3. What we know about whales and how that relates to entanglement **John Calambokidis**, Cascadia Research Collective **(Presentation 3)**

**F. What are some of the things being done on the west coast ?**

4. a. A series of speakers (5 min each). **(See Attachment 5, and workshop notes)**  
**Jim Anderson**: CA fisherman, CA whale entanglement working group, **Dan Ayers**: WDFW gear retrieval (also see Appendix 2), **Amanda Gladics** OR Cetacean Entanglement Working Group, **Justin Yeager**, OR fisherman, **Kortney Opshaugh**, Blue Ocean Gear, **Kyle Antonelis**, NRC

b. Open discussion – **all participants (see notes p. 9)**

**G. What innovations are being tried throughout world, east coast?**

5. **Tim Werner**, NE Aquarium big picture of work east coast, throughout world **(Presentation 4)**

**WORKING LUNCH ; PRESENTATIONS**

- H. East coast fishing industry perspective, Patrice McCarron**, Maine Lobstermen Association. **(Presentation 5)**

- I. **What are the range of potential options for reducing whale entanglement?**  
Dan Lawson, NMFS, Protected Species:  
(Presentation 6)

**BREAK OUT GROUPS- Keying up Ideas: What are the issues/ideas you would most want to discuss as we move forward in this workshop?) (See notes page 12)**

RECONVENE AS WHOLE GROUP - Report out: **IDEAS WORTH EXPLORING**  
**(See workshop notes page 22)**

### **Workshop Day 2.**

- J. **Co-Occurance Model: whales & fishing effort**, Lauren Saez (contractor, NMFS West Coast Regional Office, Protected Resources Division). (Presentation 7) (also Appendix 3).

- K. **Group Discussion (whole group) (See workshop notes page 25)**

### **Working lunch**

- L. **Survey of Potential Ideas for Reducing Whale Interactions & Research Ideas**, All Participants: (See Attachment 6 for blank survey and copies of all surveys organized by state).
- M. **Presentation of videos on whale behavior**: John Calambokidis, Cascadia Research Collective.
- N. **Presentation about Marine Mammal Protection Act; List of Fisheries**, Dan Lawson, NMFS, West Coast Regional Office, Protected Resources Division **(See workshop notes page 36)**. Also see Appendix 4, 5, 6.

### **Adjourn**