



Industry Notice

Commercial Market Squid

March 20, 2023

To all Oregon commercial squid fishers and processors:

The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) adopted new rules for the commercial market squid fishery at their March 17, 2023, meeting. The Commission voted unanimously to prohibit the use of light boats in the market squid fishery. A light boat is a vessel that uses lights to attract squid for any purpose other than to catch those squid itself. It continues to be legal for a catching vessel, or its seine skiff, to attract squid by light if those squid are taken by the same catching vessel displaying lights. Commission meeting materials, including recorded video of the meeting, can be found here:

https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/23/03_Mar/index.asp

All new rules adopted by the Commission are effective **March 17, 2023**, and include:

- Definition of a seine skiff – Oregon Administrative Rules [635-004-0215\(36\)](#) & [635-005-0240\(34\)](#)
- Light boat prohibition – Oregon Administrative Rule [635-005-0931\(4\)](#)

In addition to adopting regulations, the Commission directed ODFW to develop an interim report about the market squid fishery and potential qualifications to implement a limited entry system. In [February 2022](#), Commissioners set Jan. 1, 2022 as a control date should they consider limited entry in the future, meaning only boats participating prior to Jan. 1, 2022 could be eligible. ODFW will work with MSAP and the affected public to evaluate qualifications and the potential costs and benefits.

Management of the fishery has been discussed at public meetings in 2016 and each year from 2018-2022. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) also established the Market Squid Advisory Panel (MSAP) in 2021 to provide ODFW with information and industry perspective on the effectiveness and impacts of existing and proposed fishery management measures and identify emerging issues. MSAP meetings are also open to the public, and more information can be found on the ODFW website here: https://www.dfw.state.or.us/MRP/market_squid/index.asp. Discussions at public and MSAP meetings were considered in the Oregon Department of Fish Wildlife's (ODFW) report to the Commission.

An updated "Frequently Asked Questions" document regarding squid regulations is available on the ODFW website here: https://www.dfw.state.or.us/MRP/regulations/commercial_fishing/index.asp

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