

Oregon Chapter American Fisheries Society Marine Habitat Committee 2019/20 Work plan

Co-Chairs Michael Harte and Kelly Lawrence

Mission of Oregon AFS

To improve the conservation and sustainability of Oregon fishery resources and their aquatic ecosystems for long-term public benefit by advancing science, education and public discourse concerning fisheries and aquatic science and by promoting the development of fisheries professionals.

1. Identify potential areas of interest for the Committee's focus area or areas. For example:
 - Climate change and Oregon's coastal and marine systems.
 - Catch and release fishing and its role in the conservation of Oregon fish stocks.
2. Develop a marine themed session or similar for ORAFS conference in Eugene in 2021.
3. As appropriate participate and comment on Oregon's coastal planning processes administered by the Oregon's Department of Land, Conservation and Development and Marine Reserves planning and monitoring and assessment processes administered by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.
4. Liaise with similar committees of the Western Division and parent society on coastal planning and marine conservation matters.
5. Expand the membership of the Marine Habitat Committee and identify roles and responsibilities among members.
 - Increase engagement with students at OSU's Hatfield Marine Lab in Newport
 - Increase engagement with the public at the Hatfield Visitor Center and the Oregon Coast Aquarium
 - Increase engagement with users and visitors to the OSU Field Station in Port Orford
 - Increase engagement with students in the marine sciences at Oregon's universities