**Oregon Chapter American Fisheries Society**

**Marine Ecology and Habitat Committee 2022 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. An important component to this mission is to support the development of aquatic science professionals, including but not limited to students or professionals in fisheries science, marine biology, marine ecology, oceanography, environmental science, and habitat restoration.

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

1. Develop a marine themed session for ORAF annual conference
2. As appropriate, participate and comment on Oregon’s coastal planning processes administered by the Oregon’s Department of Land, Conservation and Development, as well as Marine Reserve planning and monitoring and assessment processes administered by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.
3. Liaise with similar committees of the Western Division and parent society on coastal planning and marine conservation matters.
4. Expand the membership of the Marine Habitat Committee and identify roles and responsibilities among members.

* Increase in student involvement
* Table at future State of the Coast conference