



California Whale Entanglement Discussion Agenda
Thursday, August 20, 2015
8:30AM – 4:30PM

Location: Elihu M Harris State Building, 1515 Clay St Oakland, CA 94612, Conference Room 1

[Parking & Travel Information:](#)

Meeting Goal: To engage in an open exchange of information and ideas related to the topic of whale entanglements off California. Discussions will aim to capitalize on the expertise and knowledge of meeting participants by sharing information and exploring short- and long-term strategies to reduce the risk of entanglements in the California Dungeness crab fishery.

Welcome and Introductions

Morning Presentations – Presentations will allocate time to respond to participant’s questions, and to capture ideas to help inform afternoon discussions.

Overview of the California Dungeness Crab Fishery – California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Presentation will address general operations and management of the commercial fishery.

Overview of Whale Management and Entanglement History in California – National Marine Fisheries Service

Presentation will address current management of whale entanglement information and history of entanglement data along the U.S. West Coast with a focus on California.

Whale Science, Entanglements Science and NMFS Outreach Efforts – National Marine Fisheries Service

Presentation will address current information about whales and entanglement science, understanding on how entanglements occur, co-occurrence modeling efforts.

Understanding Recent Entanglement Activity – National Marine Fisheries Service

Presentation will address recent documentation of entanglement reporting.

West Coast Marine Mammal Disentanglement Response Network – National Marine Fisheries Service

Presentation will address the structure, function, and performance of the Disentanglement Response Network along the U.S. West Coast with a focus on California.

Whale Entanglement Team (WET) – Whale Entanglement Team

Presentation will address the activities of the WET team in recent years responding to large numbers of reported entangled whales in California.

California Lost Gear Retrieval Program – California Lost Gear Retrieval Program

Presentation will provide an overview of the program including the role of Dungeness crab industry in reducing lost gear in California waters.

Afternoon Discussion

Participants will be invited to engage in a discussion about topics and themes that may emerge from the morning presentations, which may include, but are not limited to, existing data, gaps in available information, priority questions, potential options to reduce entanglement risk, continued outreach, and next steps.

Next steps

Adjourn