

# WEST COAST ENTANGLEMENT SCIENCE WORKSHOP

The purpose of the West Coast Entanglement Science Workshop is to identify opportunities for best available science to inform near-term development of whale and sea turtle entanglement mitigation strategies and adaptive management of entanglement risk along the West Coast. The workshop will be held as a 5-part series of virtual modules between August 25-September 3. Participation in all modules is encouraged, but not mandatory.

**Workshop webpage:** [opc.ca.gov/west-coast-entanglement-science-workshop/](http://opc.ca.gov/west-coast-entanglement-science-workshop/)

**For questions, contact the workshop planning team:** [entanglementscience@gmail.com](mailto:entanglementscience@gmail.com)

**For tech support, contact Dana Stefan:** [dstefan@rossstrategic.com](mailto:dstefan@rossstrategic.com)

## MODULE 4 AGENDA | TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 | 2 – 4 PM

**Join the workshop by computer (recommended):** [click here](#)

**Join the workshop by phone:** US Toll: +1-415-655-0001 | Access code: 126 822 4739

### SPECIAL TOPIC: GEAR INNOVATION BARRIERS & OPPORTUNITIES

The goal of this special topic session is to outline and discuss ideas for how to potentially overcome barriers that may be hindering the development of gear innovations in U.S. West Coast fixed gear fisheries. These barriers may be specific to certain innovations and fisheries or acting more broadly. This discussion will ultimately aim to help managers and stakeholders develop “plans” to incorporate these ideas into strategic frameworks and/or priorities for investment in and evaluation of future gear innovation efforts that may have fishery specific and non-fishery specific implications.

Specifically, this session will:

- Engage experts and key stakeholders in a discussion of obstacles and solutions facing the design and implementation of gear innovations, specifically and/or in general, that could be used to help address the US West Coast entanglement issue (and beyond).
- Summarize the state of gear innovation and important barriers on West Coast (and beyond) from various perspectives of attendees.
- Focus on identifying and discussing the barriers for some innovations that are already at the forefront of ideas that are being considered for further development.
- Discuss specific opportunities to complement gear innovation with other wants/needs/interests of the fishery, and vice versa.

**2:00 – 2:15 pm**

#### **Welcome and introductions**

- Dan Lawson, NOAA Fisheries, West Coast Regional Office
- WebEx orientation: Tess Wendel, Ross Strategic
- Fran Recht, PSMFC, background work on gear innovation

**2:15 – 2:45pm**

#### **Identifying barriers to gear innovation (Dan Lawson and panel)**

*Objective: Clearly identify and characterize barriers to gear innovation.*

Examples:

- Regulatory (current structure and purpose, law enforcement)
- Feasibility (cost, technical, practical)
- Cultural (resistance to change traditions and current practices, “social” interaction fishing with/around each other, fleet diversity)
- Incentives (uncertainty about them, how will they be realized, creation of negative ones)
- Effectiveness (will it work, how will we know/evaluate)
- Unintended consequences (can we think ahead?)

*(see next page)*

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2:45 - 4:00 pm

## Reviewing barriers and solutions to specific gear innovation

*Using a matrix of identified barriers, systematically review specific gear innovation ideas that are being considered for use on the U.S. West Coast. Review the pros/cons and identify/discuss the **barriers** and **ideas for overcoming** them with a goal of trying to find paths forward to innovation. Ideas for specific innovations include:*

- Longlining traps
- Yale grips/weak lines
- Pop-up gear with delay or demand systems
- Other ideas that connect to gear innovation from the panel discussion

### Moderators:

- Dan Lawson, NOAA Fisheries, West Coast Regional Office
- Lauren Saez, NOAA Fisheries, West Coast Regional Office
- Fran Recht, PSMFC, Whale entanglement project

### Panelists:

- Dan Ayres, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Caren Braby, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Ryan Bartling, California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Zed Blue, Commercial Fisherman, WA
- Larry Thevik, Commercial Fisherman, WA
- John Corbin, Commercial Fisherman, OR
- Calder Deyerle, Commercial, Fisherman, CA
- John Mellor, Commercial Fisherman, CA
- Dick Ogg, Commercial Fisherman, CA
- Sheila Garber, Englund Marine, OR
- Sean Hayes, NOAA, NE Fisheries Science Center
- Steve Johnson, CDFW Law Enforcement
- Doug Sandilands, SR3 Sealife Response, Rehabilitation and Research
- Geoff Shester, Oceana, CA

WORKSHOP WEBPAGE: [OPC.CA.GOV/WEST-COAST-ENTANGLEMENT-SCIENCE-WORKSHOP/](http://OPC.CA.GOV/WEST-COAST-ENTANGLEMENT-SCIENCE-WORKSHOP/)  
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