



## Crabber-Towboat Lane Agreement Fall 2024 Biannual Meeting Minutes

Friday, November 1st, 2024, 10:30 am  
Zoom

[wsg.washington.edu/crabber-towboat](https://wsg.washington.edu/crabber-towboat)

**Next hybrid meeting date:** Friday, March 7th - morning

### Attached documents:

- Educational posters
- Lane change request

### Attendees

Jenna Keeton (Washington Sea Grant), Robert Maw (Washington Sea Grant), Tim Tees (sailor), Troy Wakefield (fisherman), Jamie Fuller (WDFW), Steve Ackerman (Columbia River Bar Pilots), Mike Rudolph (USCG), Robert Hudson (sailor), Dough Schenk (sailor), Jill Lazo (USCG), Chris German (USCG), David Hanshaw (Towboat operator), Tori Thomas (Fairwater Marine Superintendent ATB Towing Barges), Sven Titland (GM Centerline Logistics), Dan Nutt (Kirby Offshore Marine), Dale Beasley (Columbia River Crab Fishermen's Association, Coalition for Coastal Fisheries), Katie Wrubel (Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary), Matt George (WDFW), Tia Godren (USCG), Lucia Ordonez (Vineyard Offshore Humboldt), Bob Edder (OR crabber). Jill Smith (ODFW)

### Partner Updates & Towlane Discussion

Q1: Is there a database or push announcements for crab openings that tow boats can use?

A1: Yes, WDFW has an email and text list for information dissemination. Jamie Fuller should receive contact requests [Jamie.Fuller@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:Jamie.Fuller@dfw.wa.gov).

### Educational Poster Feedback

See attached PDF

Move QR code and Sea Grant logo down, use larger font. Increase size of photos with towlanes. Do not use as a chart but a little more info for general intent. Add QR to WSG page. Share with Bar Pilots. Print both tug and fishermen version and post in different locations (marinas, marine supply stores).

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### **West Coast Tug and Fishermen Database**

For issues of noncompliance. Dale will provide contacts from Columbia River- Assign fisherman as contacts. Contact Peter Schrappen for tug contact information. Bob Edder is willing to help for Oregon fishermen contacts.

### **Lane Change Request**

See attached PDF

Troy Wakefield, fishermen of California presented a lane change request near Crescent City, California. See PDF for presentation.

Q1: Identified the change but what does this do to the crab fishery?

A1: Letters of support from crab industry with letters of support. Was satisfied with the letters of support.

Comment 1: Concerned with the voters and who has skin in the game.

Proposed primary vote via poll inclusive of fisherman and tow boat operators as valid voters. 7 yes and 0 no votes

Comment 2: We need more fishermen and affected people to make reasonable changes.

Comment 3: On fairway proposal, it was a mutual agreement in talking with the Coast Guard on the Fairways. Positive outcomes from the crab fairways for both industries.

Response 3: We need to get more involvement in locals and gov agencies in CA. WSG will connect Troy and California Sea Grant and Coast Guard has offered contacts.

### **Action items**

WSG will draft up voting rules and share via email. WSG will share primary vote response with active CA tug/tow companies (Sause and Brusco) as well as CA USCG.