



Pacific Fishery Management Council

Information Sheet:

Resources for fishing families and businesses

The groundfish fishery has suffered in recent years, most recently due to increasingly restrictive fishing regulations aimed at rebuilding certain rockfish stocks. Vessel owners and crew, processors and suppliers are all affected, as well as fishing families and communities as a whole. As a result, in January 2000 the U.S. Secretary of Commerce declared a disaster in the West Coast groundfish fishery. The programs below have been created to help families and businesses affected by the groundfish disaster.

Oregon Sea Grant's **Groundfish Disaster Outreach Program (GDOP)** helps people in the fishing community access training, resources and support, and helps community resource providers reach out to the fishing population. The program is based on Outreach Peers who are also fishing family members. The peers work on informing and mentoring people in groundfishing businesses who want to transition out of the industry. The program is run by the Oregon Sea Grant Extension Program. Funding comes from National Marine Fisheries Service, Oregon Employment Department, Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development, and Oregon Economic and Community Development Department. For more information on the GDOP, see the link below, or call Connie Kennedy, program coordinator, at (541) 265-3463 or email gdop@orst.edu.

California has a **Groundfish Disaster Relief Program**. It consists of three projects: reimbursement for safety equipment, enhancement for data collection, and a groundfish disaster/job retraining stipend. About \$2.5 million in federal and state funds have been allocated to aid displaced workers and vessel owners in California. Job retraining stipends account for approximately \$1.2 million of this. Stipends may total up to \$1,500 per month to qualifying individuals. For more information, see the link below.

Websites: help for fishing families and businesses

- ➔ Groundfish Disaster Outreach Program (focuses on Oregon, but helpful to all)
<http://www.heads-up.net/gdop/>
- ➔ Information for fishermen in transition
<http://www.heads-up.net/gdop/fishermen.html>
- ➔ Six-step process to help with transition
<http://www.heads-up.net/gdop/fivesteps.html>
- ➔ Success stories
<http://www.heads-up.net/gdop/successstoryindex.html>
- ➔ Setting up a small-scale business: A guide to women in fisheries (takes a while to load)
<http://www.spc.org.nc/coastfish/Sections/Community/english/publications/SmallBusiness.pdf>

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7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 200 | Portland, Oregon 97220

www.pcouncil.org | Phone 503-820-2280 | Toll free 866-806-7204 | Fax 503-820-2299

- Family Finance Management website (Oregon State University)
<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/multnomah/finance/>
- Military Sealift Command job opportunities (civil service marine jobs)
<http://www.msc.navy.mil/N1/>
- Worksource Washington
<http://www.wa.gov/esd/work/programs.htm>
- California employment resources
<http://www.mpic.org/resource/list.html>
- More resources (from the Women's Coalition for Pacific Fisheries)
<http://www.heads-up.net/gdop/resources.html>
- ...and even more resources (from Heads Up!)
http://www.heads-up.net/resources/hotlinks_display.cfm
- Free publications for fishing families. To order, call Oregon Sea Grant at (541) 737-2716.
<http://seagrant.oregonstate.edu/sgpubs/onlinepubs.html#families>
 - Family and business record checklist for fishing families
 - Fishing family and business resource kit
 - Fishing family expense tracking system
 - Getting unhooked from anger and conflict
 - Helping persons cope with change, crisis and loss
 - Seeking professional help with emotional stress and strain

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