



## **Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Indians Department of Culture & Natural Resources Guided Fishing Trip Program Policy**

### **1. Purpose**

The Guided Fishing Trip Program is administered by the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw (CTCLUSI) Department of Culture and Natural Resources (DCNR) to provide subsistence fishing opportunities for eligible participants, promote responsible and sustainable resource use consistent with miluk, hanis, quuiich, and sha'yuushtł'a stewardship values, and support community engagement in traditional and recreational fisheries that sustain Tribal lifeways.

Participants are encouraged to share harvested fish with elders, families, and community members in keeping with Tribal values of reciprocity and stewardship.

Guided fishing trips may also provide opportunities for the sharing of traditional knowledge, fishing practices, and stewardship values across generations.

### **2. Eligibility**

Participation in the Guided Fishing Trip Program is intended to support subsistence fishing opportunities for CTCLUSI Tribal members and their households. Participation priority will be provided in accordance with the eligibility categories below.

#### **2.1 Tribal Members**

Enrolled members of CTCLUSI are eligible to participate in the Guided Fishing Trip Program.

#### **2.2 Tribal Household Members**

Individuals residing in the same primary residence as an enrolled Tribal member are eligible to participate.

For the purposes of this program, a Tribal household member is defined as an individual who resides in the same primary residence as the enrolled Tribal member at the time of trip registration.

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## **2.3 Guests**

Each participating Tribal member may bring one (1) guest per trip. Guests are not required to be Tribal members.

Priority for participation will be provided in the following order:

1. Tribal Members
2. Tribal Household Members
3. Guests

## **2.4 CTCLUSI Employees**

CTCLUSI employees may participate only when last-minute vacancies occur due to cancellations and when no eligible Tribal members or Tribal household members are available to fill the open seat. Employee participation may not displace eligible Tribal participants.

## **3. Accessibility and Assistance Needs**

If a Tribal member requires assistance to safely participate in a guided fishing trip:

### **3.1 Assistance Requirements**

- The Tribal member must bring an individual capable of providing the necessary assistance.
- The assisting individual must be at least eighteen (18) years of age.
- The assisting individual will count as the Tribal member's guest for that trip.
- The assisting individual is responsible for providing the needed support throughout the trip.

## **4. Licensing and Fishing Requirements**

### **4.1 Tribal Member Participants**

All Tribal members participating in the program are required to possess:

- A valid CTCLUSI Hunting and Fishing License; and
- Appropriate fishing tags required for the species being harvested.

### **4.2 Non-Tribal Participants**

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All non-Tribal participants (including Tribal Household Members, guests, assisting individuals, and staff) must possess:

- A valid fishing license issued by the State of Oregon, and
- All applicable state fishing tags required for the species being harvested.

Participants are responsible for ensuring their licenses and tags are valid prior to the trip.

All participants must fish under their own license and applicable harvest limits. Harvesting fish on behalf of individuals not present on the trip is not permitted.

Fish harvested during guided fishing trips are intended for personal and household consumption consistent with the subsistence purpose of the program.

### **4.3 Release**

All participants shall be required to sign a release of liability prior to the trip.

## **5. Youth Participation**

Youth participants must be at least eight (8) years of age to participate in guided fishing trips. Trip guides or vessel operators may establish higher minimum age requirements at their discretion based on safety considerations.

- Youth participants under the age of fourteen (14) must be accompanied by an adult who is at least eighteen (18) years of age.
- Youth participants fourteen (14) to seventeen (17) years of age may participate independently without an accompanying adult. A parent, guardian, or authorized adult must be available as an emergency contact, able to make medical decisions, and able to respond to the drop-off or pick-up location within thirty (30) minutes.
- Youth participants fourteen (14) to seventeen (17) years of age may bring one (1) guest per trip. If the guest is under the age of eighteen (18), a parent, guardian, or authorized adult must be available as an emergency contact, able to make medical decisions for both participants, and able to respond to the drop-off or pick-up location within thirty (30) minutes.

The trip guide or vessel operator may determine that a youth participant is unable to safely participate in the trip and may deny participation based on safety considerations.

## **6. Trip Registration and Cancellations**

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## **6.1 Registration**

Participants must register for guided fishing trips through the Department of Culture and Natural Resources in accordance with program scheduling procedures.

Registration requests will be processed in accordance with the participation priority outlined in Section 2 to ensure Tribal members have primary access to program opportunities.

DCNR may limit the number of trips a participant may register for within a season in order to ensure fair access for Tribal members.

## **6.2 Cancellations**

Participants who cancel a scheduled trip without adequate notice, or who fail to appear for a scheduled trip, may be subject to suspension from the Guided Fishing Trip Program for up to six (6) months.

Adequate notice and cancellation procedures will be determined by the Department of Culture and Natural Resources to allow sufficient time to fill open seats.

DCNR, the trip guide, or the vessel operator may cancel or reschedule a guided fishing trip due to weather conditions, ocean or bar conditions, safety concerns, vessel issues, or other circumstances beyond the Department's control. The vessel operator retains final authority regarding vessel safety and trip operations.

## **7. Compliance**

### **7.1 Regulatory Compliance**

All participants are required to comply with:

- CTCLUSI fishing regulations and harvesting guidelines
- Applicable State of Oregon fishing laws (for non-Tribal participants)
- Safety instructions provided by DCNR staff, trip guides, or vessel operators
- Program policies and trip guidelines established by DCNR

### **7.2 Drug and Alcohol Policy**

Guided fishing trips are drug and alcohol free program activities. The possession or use of alcohol, illegal drugs, or intoxicating or hallucinogenic substances during program activities is prohibited.

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### **7.3 Participant Conduct**

Participants must conduct themselves in a safe and respectful manner toward other participants and guides while participating in the trip, including while aboard vessels.

Participants are responsible for complying with all vessel rules and may be held responsible for damages resulting from negligent or intentional misuse of equipment.

### **7.4 Enforcement**

Failure to follow program rules, safety instructions, or applicable fishing regulations may result in removal from the trip and possible suspension from future program participation.

## **8. Program Administration**

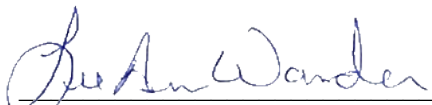
The CTCLUSI Department of Culture and Natural Resources reserves the right to:

- Manage trip schedules and participant lists
- Fill vacant seats due to cancellations
- Enforce program policies and safety requirements
- Modify program procedures as needed to ensure safety, fairness, and responsible resource management

## **9. Program Availability**

Participation in the Guided Fishing Trip Program is subject to the availability of funding, staff capacity, vessel availability, and applicable fishing seasons and regulations.

The Department of Culture and Natural Resources reserves the right to adjust, limit, or suspend program activities as necessary.



Lee Ann Wander, CEO

4/28/2026

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