

# OREGON FISHERMEN'S CABLE COMMITTEE, INC.®

March 2019  
Volume 7, Issue 1



## UNDERSEA CABLE UPDATE 2019 Port Meetings

OFCC Version 10.0  
Thumb Drives will  
be available at the  
Port Meetings.  
They include plot-  
ter info for  
Maptech, Coastal  
Explorer,  
P-Sea WindPlot,  
ECC-Globe, OLEX,  
and Nobeltec.

### TRAWLER OWNERS, CAPTAINS AND CREW (Draggers, Shrimpers & Whiting Fleet)

You are invited to an **OFCC Noon Luncheon Meeting**  
at any of the following locations — lunch is provided:

<b>Warrenton</b>	El Compadre Restaurant 119 S. Main Ave.	Tues. March 19
<b>Brookings</b>	Blue Water Café & Lounge 97900 Shopping Center Ave.	Mon. March 25
<b>Charleston</b>	Fisherman's Grotto 91149 Cape Arago Hwy	Tues. March 26
<b>Newport</b>	Englund Marine Supply 880 SE Bay Blvd.	Wed. March 27

Take your crew to lunch—on us. Watch underwater video of the fishing grounds and get a quick update on Oregon submarine cables while you eat. Attendees can enter a drawing for **\$300, \$200, and \$100** gift cards from **Cabela's** or **Englund Marine Supply**. **Grand Prize** is a **GPS EPIRB** from **SubCom**. Drawings held on March 27 include all entries. Information on a new cable coming offshore from Pacific City will be discussed at each meeting, which lasts about 45 min. Thumb drives with cable routes will be available. Please note the new location for our Brookings meeting. **Scott will be available for several hours after each Port Meeting to help you back up your data and install routes on your plotters.** You should have a high capacity thumb drive (32-64 GB) to back up your fishing information.

### Our 2018 Port Meeting Prize Winners:

Andrew Rodgers, F/V Lady Helen, \$100 Englund Marine card  
Colby McKibben, F/V Jaka-B, \$200 Cabela's card  
Casey Wagner, F/V Ocean Beaut, \$300 Englund Marine card  
Lloyd Jones, F/V Ms. Julie, GPS EPIRB Grand Prize, donated by SubCom



Casey Wagner



Colby McKibben



2018 Warrenton Port Meeting

## Jupiter Cable

Facebook joined the OFCC on June 20, 2018, becoming the ninth submarine cable owner, joining General Communications, Inc. (GCI), Alaska Communications (ACS), Verizon, Tata Communications, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, GU Holdings Inc. (Google), Microsoft Infrastructure Group, LLC., and Hawaiki Submarine Cable USA LLC. Facebook is one of the consortium owners of the Jupiter cable system. The Jupiter system will land in California and in Oregon. The Oregon landing of the Jupiter system will be in Pacific City. Jupiter will cross the Pacific Ocean to Japan and the Philippines, a total length of 4,860 nm. The cable has a design capacity of 60 Tbps. SubCom will be manufacturing and installing the Jupiter cable. They are targeting late summer for installation off Oregon. Facebook worked with the Oregon fishing industry to get the best route crossing the shelf and slope.

**At least one OFCC vessel will be needed for patrol boat duty ahead of the cable ship during installation.** Additional vessels may also be needed for patrol or guard boat services during the installation period. OFCC member vessels that have submitted a Statement of Interest are entered in a random drawing for each cable project. Vessels that haven't served in a cable installation under their current owner are given priority. Vessels must be in seaworthy condition as determined by the OFCC and required equipment needs to be in good working order and on board prior to mobilization. Patrol vessel charters are usually up to 10 days and the current rate is \$57.50/foot/day up to a maximum of \$4887.50 per day (85 ft).

**To become a member**, the owner or captain of a trawler signs an *Individual Fisherman's Agreement* (IFA) form on behalf of the vessel. This agreement protects the vessel, the owner and the skipper. There is no cost or fee. Every vessel that has a West Coast Federal Groundfish permit, or an Oregon, Washington, or California Shrimp permit is eligible. If a member vessel wishes to be included in the patrol boat drawings, the *Patrol Boat Statement of Interest* needs to be submitted. To become a member or for more information, call (503) 325-2285 or email us at: [staff@ofcc.com](mailto:staff@ofcc.com).

### Patrol boat required equipment:

AIS (class A or B)	Sat phone (rental ok)
2 radars	2 plotters
2 GPS	2 VHF radios

For complete requirements list, contact the OFCC

## Regional Cabled Array Science Pod and Tangled Fishing Gear Recovered

On September 16, 2016, one of the two anchor legs of a Regional Cabled Array (RCA) scientific platform was struck by trawl gear. The platform is at the 328 fm deep Endurance science station a little north of Cape Perpetua about 36.5 nm offshore. The scientific platform, which is normally held at 109 fm below the surface, was snagged and pulled to ~200fm below the surface and then was hauled to ~50 fm before communications with the instruments were lost. Fishing gear from a boat that did not have up-to-date cable route plotter data was the cause. The skipper was not aware that these large instruments, which are well-marked cable exposures on our OFCC thumb drives, were there. Fortunately for the fisherman, he cut away his gear or this could have ended tragically for him.

The F/V Last Straw conducted sonar surveys of the area on September 17 and 23, 2016. There was no visual contact but there were two strong targets by sonar. During the RCA 5-year cable inspection at this location in September 2017, the cable ship Global Sentinel's ROV became entangled. During recovery of the ROV, an instrument float broke free and was recovered.



Last July, Pelagic Research Services, using the M/V Bold Horizon and the deep-water ROV system Odyssey, recovered the underwater platform and the trawl gear fouled on it. Two original mooring anchors were not recovered, but are believed to remain in the red safety zone area. The whole system was replaced by a spare this summer. Gary Wintersteen was the OFCC rep on board assisting in the recovery, which benefited greatly from his knowledge and expertise.

## Patrol Boats

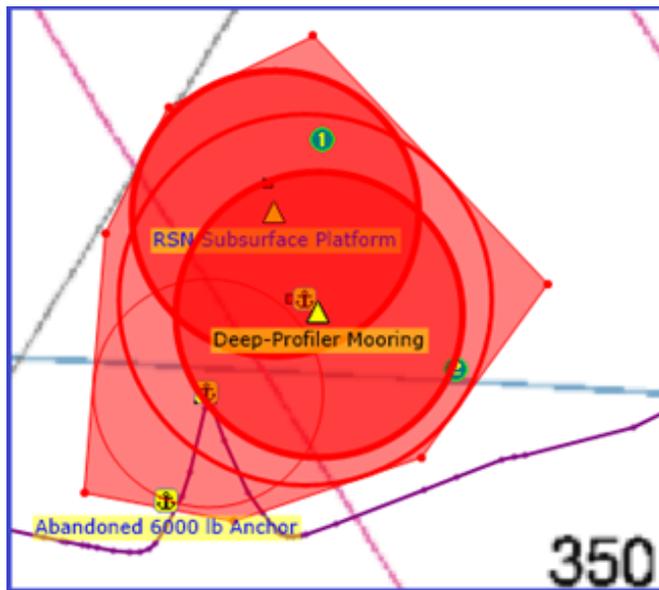
When cables are laid off the Oregon coast, the OFCC asks that the patrol or guard boats involved in the installation be selected from the OFCC member vessels. This insures that information about the cable is spread to our trawl fleet by the vessels that fish here. Patrol vessels run in front of the installation vessel, keeping a watch for any fixed gear and letting fishing vessels and other mariners know about the installation and safe passage. Guard vessels are chartered, if needed, to stand watch at an area where the cable was unburied until a cable ship can get back to the site to complete burial. Vessels usually serve up to 10 days of active duty. Vessel names are drawn in a random drawing of OFCC member boats giving preference to boats that have not served before or that have new owners since last serving. In 2017 four vessels served on OFCC cable projects, collectively earning nearly \$154,000. Call the OFCC at 503 325-2285 or email us at: [staff@ofcc.com](mailto:staff@ofcc.com) to make sure your vessel is signed up for future cable project drawings.



FV South Bay on Patrol Vessel duty in 2017

## RCA Annual Maintenance

The Regional Cabled Array (RCA) [formerly called the Regional Scale Nodes (RSN)] cable off Oregon is the only cabled part of the Ocean Observatories Initiative (OOI), a large global science project funded by the National Science Foundation. OOI has projects in six sites throughout the world's oceans. OOI/RCA is managed by Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in Massachusetts and partners with the University of Washington, Oregon State University, and others. The RCA science cables connect seven ocean research sites with shore, streaming data from still and video cameras, hydrophones, seismometers, current and temperature sensors, and other devices. Each summer a research ship visits the sites to exchange instruments. Last year, the annual Cabled Array maintenance expedition was conducted from mid-June to early August on the R/V Revelle, using ROV Jason. Over 100 instruments were swapped out. All data reported is public. For more information see these websites: <http://oceanobservatories.org/> <http://www.interactiveoceans.washington.edu/>



Ocean Observatories Initiative (OOI)/RCA site off Cape Perpetua. The position of the 6000 lb steel plate anchor will be on the next edition of our thumb drive.

OOI is investigating the use of a Virtual Automatic Identification System (AIS) Station to allow the remote marking of deployed infrastructure with Virtual Aids to Navigation (ATON) so that deployed cabled and uncabled infrastructure would be "visible" to vessels in the area through their on-board AIS.



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The Oregon Fishermen's Cable Committee Inc. is an organization of trawl fishermen and representatives from companies that operate fiber optic cables off the Oregon coast. Membership is free of charge and open to all west coast trawl fishermen that have either a west coast federal groundfish permit or an Oregon, Washington or California Pink Shrimp permit. Members that follow operating protocols receive replacement gear and compensation for lost time and catch if asked to sacrifice fishing gear to protect an undersea cable. In addition, such members may receive a release of liability for accidental damage to an undersea cable. Members also are eligible to participate in drawings for patrol vessel charter opportunities during undersea cable installations. To join, contact the OFCC office.

The OFCC tries to monitor an email address and phone number for use in a submarine cable emergency:

**OFCC:** **911@ofcc.com**  
**Scott McMullen** **(503) 440-3569**

**Emergency Contacts for Possible Cable Hang-ups**

CABLE	EMERGENCY EMAIL	CABLE OWNER	EMERGENCY #
<i>When you can't call the Emergency #</i>			
AUFS-W	nocc2@gci.com	GCI	(888) 442-8662
TGN SEGMENTS 1, 5, 6	nmcwall@tatacommunications.com	TATA	(732) 282-4001
RSN SEG 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	ooi-ofcc@uw.edu	WOODS HOLE	(855) 665-1424
NORTHSTAR AKORN	acscsnocc@acsalaska.com	ACS	(888) 734-1888
TRANS-PACIFIC EXPRESS (TPE)	acscsnocc@acsalaska.com	VERIZON	(888) 734-1888
SOUTHERN CROSS	acscsnocc@acsalaska.com	VERIZON	(888) 734-1888
NEW CROSS PACIFIC (NCP)	NCPSubsea@Centurylink.com	MICROSOFT	(844) 278-6966
HAWAIKI (HAW)	ofcc@hawaikicable.co.nz	HAWAIKI	(877) 242-9245
China-US TPC-5		AT&T	(866) 466-2288, prompt 5
FASTER	FASTER-NOC@kddia.com	GOOGLE	(877) 520-0800