



For Immediate Release: March 5, 2022

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49th ANNUAL BODEGA BAY FISHERMAN'S FESTIVAL ***"Gone Fishing Weather or Not"***

BODEGA BAY, CA – After a two year absence, an event that has long been a backbone of the community, the 49th annual Bodega Bay Fisherman's Festival will be held April 30 & May 1 at Westside Park, 2400 Westshore Road in Bodega Bay. The Fisherman's Festival honors and supports local fishermen and also raises funds for numerous local not-for-profit organizations. "This amazing event brings together the entire Bodega Bay community," stated Josh Perucchi, 2022 Chairperson. "Our volunteers put in endless hours to create a fun festival for the public that in turn raises money for numerous worthy local causes including supporting our men and women who fish for a living."

The Bodega Bay Fisherman's Festival is filled with entertainment for the whole family and includes live music, great food, numerous craft booths and much more. A favorite attraction is the wine tasting booth featuring Sonoma County wines along with a beer booth featuring numerous local Sonoma County ales. When asked about crowd favorites, Wine Booth Chairperson Suzann Mathers answered, "Every year the mimosas are a big hit along with all the numerous other wonderful wines. We are so grateful for all the donations we receive from many of the Sonoma County wineries. They help make the Wine Booth a big part of the event fundraising effort."

The Wooden Boat Challenge – one of the crowd favorites at Fish Fest - will be held on Saturday. "This is truly one of the most fun part of Fish Fest and we were really glad to be able to share this unique on-the-water "competition" with festival-goers," said Perucchi.

There is something at the Fisherman's Festival for every palate including barbecued oysters, local fish' n chips, clam chowder and a variety of interesting food trucks. Live music and

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The Bodega Bay Fisherman's Festival is a 501 (c) (3) California nonprofit charitable organization.

entertainers perform all day on the main stage along with a separate kids stage . Artisans and vendors from all over California and beyond offer a wide selection of arts and crafts.

The Festival has its origin as a celebration of the opening of salmon fishing season and the annual Blessing of the Fleet which takes place on Sunday at noon. The fishermen decorate their boats and take a ceremonial parade lap in the harbor before proceeding out to the bay for the actual blessing - which is performed by all the different local clergy. Each year's Festival theme is chosen by the Bodega Bay Fisherman's Marketing Association. This year's winner was "Gone Fishing Weather or Not".

The Bodega Bay Fisherman's Festival is a great venue for kids, with a play area that includes face painting, games, a touch tank tide pool and pony rides. Guest pets (well-behaved and leashed) are welcome. Demonstrations by the Sonoma County Sheriff Rescue helicopter and US Coast Guard will take place in the harbor. Live music and performances will be on the Main Stage both days, with Saturday's headliner PETTY THEFT and Sunday's headliner POPROCKS SF.

Presale tickets (\$15) and daily event schedule available online at www.bbfishfest.org. General admission available at the gate is \$18 for adults, seniors over 65 are \$15, kids 11 and under are free. Two-day passes are available for \$25. Festival hours are 10:00am to 5:00pm daily. There is free parking and handicap accessibility.

The Bodega Bay Fisherman's Festival is a 501(c)(3) California non-profit charitable organization and is 100% volunteer run by local community members. Proceeds from the Bodega Bay Fisherman's Festival benefit Bodega Bay Area community services. For more information visit www.bbfishfest.org or email bodegabayfishfest@gmail.com. For additional press information contact Castle Communications, Inc. at (916) 635-2728.

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