

**Eligible Participant Screener for Focus Group (to be conducted over the phone by recruiter)**

Good news. You are eligible to participate in this project.

If you agree to participate in this project, we will ask you to take part in a web-based focus group. We will ask a series of questions about shellfish safety. This focus group will take about 60 minutes. To thank you for your time, you will receive a \$75 gift card for your participation.

Do you have any questions?

Are you interested in participating in the focus group?

- ☐ Yes (*CONTINUE*)  
☐ No, okay, thank you for your time today. (*STOP HERE*)

**CONFIRM NAME, DEMOGRAPHICS, EMAIL, AND PHONE**

1. Could you please spell your first and last name?
2. Are you
  - a. Female
  - b. Male
3. How old are you?
  - a. 18–34 years old
  - b. 35–49 years old
  - c. 50–64 years old
  - d. 65 years or older
4. What is your race and/or ethnicity [select all that apply and enter additional details in the spaces below]
  - a. American Indian or Alaska Native  
*Enter, for example, Navajo Nation, Blackfeet Tribe of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation of Montana, Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Traditional Government, Nome Eskimo Community, Aztec, Maya, etc.*

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b. Asian [provide details below.]

- ☐ Chinese
- ☐ Vietnamese
- ☐ Asian Indian
- ☐ Korean
- ☐ Filipino
- ☐ Japanese

*Enter, for example, Pakistani, Hmong, Afghan, etc.*

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c. Black or African-American [provide details below.]

- ☐ African American
- ☐ Nigerian
- ☐ Jamaican
- ☐ Ethiopian
- ☐ Haitian
- ☐ Somali

*Enter, for example, Trinidadian and Tobagonian, Ghanaian, Congolese, etc.*

d.

His  
spanic

ic or Latino [provide details below.]

- ☐ Mexican
- ☐ Cuban
- ☐ Puerto Rican
- ☐ Dominican
- ☐ Salvadoran
- ☐ Guatemalan

*Enter, for example, Colombian, Honduran, Spaniard, etc.*

e.

M  
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e Eastern or North African [provide details below.]

- ☐ Lebanese
- ☐ Syrian
- ☐ Iranian
- ☐ Iraqi
- ☐ Egyptian
- ☐ Israeli

*Enter, for example, Moroccan, Yemeni, Kurdish, etc.*

f.

N  
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Hawaiian or Pacific Islander [provide details below.]

- ☐ Native Hawaiian
- ☐ Tongan
- ☐ Samoan
- ☐ Fijian
- ☐ Chamorro
- ☐ Marshallese

*Enter, for example, Chuukese, Palauan, Tahitian, etc.*

g.

W  
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e [provide details below.]

- ☐ English
- ☐ Italian
- ☐ German
- ☐ Polish
- ☐ Irish
- ☐ Scottish

*Enter, for example, French, Swedish, Norwegian, etc.*

5.

What is

the highest level of education you have completed?

- a. Never attended school
- b. Attended some school between kindergarten and high school
- c. High school diploma
- d. Some college or associate's degree
- e. Bachelor's degree
- f. Advanced degree
- g. Prefer not to answer/Decline

6.

What is your current occupational status? Would you say...?

- a. Employed full time
- b. Employed part time
- c. Unemployed
- d. Stay at home parent
- e. Student
- f. Retired
- g. Disabled
- h. Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- i. Don't Know/Not Sure *[DO NOT READ]*
- j. Prefer not to answer/Decline

7.

Last year, in 2024, what was your total household income from all sources, before taxes?

- a. Less than \$15,000
- b. \$15,000 to \$24,999
- c. \$25,000 to \$34,999
- d. \$35,000 to \$49,999
- e. \$50,000 to \$74,999
- f. \$75,000 to \$99,999
- g. \$100,000 to \$149,999
- h. \$150,000+
- i. Prefer not to answer/Decline

8.

In which region of the U.S. do you currently live?

- a. Northeast (Maine to New York)
- b. Mid-Atlantic (New Jersey to Virginia)
- c. Southeast (North Carolina to eastern Florida)
- d. West Coast (Washington, Oregon, California)
- e. Gulf Coast (Texas to western Florida)
- f. Alaskan Coast

- g. Prefer not to answer/Decline
9. How many years have you been collecting shellfish?
- a. Less than 1 year
  - b. 1-2 years
  - c. 3-5 years
  - d. 6 or more years
10. How often do you typically collect shellfish during the year?
- a. Once or twice
  - b. Three to five times
  - c. Six to ten times
  - d. Eleven or more times
  - e. Not sure/Don't know
11. Why do you collect shellfish? [select all that apply]
- a. Cultural reasons
  - b. Subsistence (for food)
  - c. Recreation (as a hobby, for fun)
  - d. Other (please specify)
  - e. Prefer to not answer/Decline
12. What type of shellfish do you collect? [select all that apply]
- a. Cockles
  - b. Scallops
  - c. Oysters
  - d. Clams
  - e. Mussels
  - f. Other [open-ended response]
  - g. Not sure/Don't know
  - h. Prefer not to answer/Decline
13. On a scale of 1-10, how familiar are you with harmful algal blooms (HABs)? [where 1 means you are not familiar at all, 5 means you are somewhat familiar, and 10 means that you are extremely familiar]
14. Where do you go for information about safely collecting shellfish?
- a. Signage near water; park signage
  - b. Park, water body, or beach website
  - c. State or local government website
  - d. Federal government website (CDC, EPA, NPS)
  - e. Family or friends
  - f. Social media
  - g. News (online, TV)
  - h. Location, weather, or business app (e.g., Google Maps, Yelp)
  - i. Academic or nonprofit organization website (water research center, ocean nonprofit)
  - j. Other [*Ask to Specify*]
  - k. Probe: Where would you like to see information about shellfish safety?

15. Who do you trust as a reliable source of information on safely collecting shellfish?
  - a. Beach or park staff
  - b. Local or state government
  - c. Federal government (CDC, NOAA)
  - d. Academic or nonprofit organization (water research center, ocean nonprofit)
  - e. Sports or recreation organization (fishing club, scouts)
  - f. Local news station
  - g. Friends or family
  - h. Doctor/healthcare professional
  - i. Other *[Ask to Specify]*
  
16. Thinking of the social media platforms you use, where would it be most helpful to get information about safely collecting shellfish?
  - a. X (formerly Twitter)
  - b. Facebook
  - c. Instagram
  - d. TikTok
  - e. YouTube
  - f. Pinterest
  - g. Snapchat
  - h. Nextdoor
  - i. Something else *[Ask to Specify]*
  
17. How would you want to learn more about safely collecting shellfish?
  - a. Print materials (posters, factsheets)
  - b. Webpages
  - c. Videos
  - d. Email listservs
  - e. Text messages
  - f. Something else *[Ask to Specify]*
  - g. I don't want to learn more about safely collecting shellfish
  
18. If you are interested in participating in a discussion about safely collecting/harvesting shellfish, please give us your contact information (*interviewer will fill out the contact information card*) below. Your contact information will only be used to arrange focus group participation and will not be shared with third parties. If you are chosen for the project, a team member will contact you to arrange a convenient time for the focus group.

| PARTICIPANT PREFERRED CONTACT INFORMATION                               |                            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>PARTICIPANT NAME:</b>                                                |                            |
| <b>Cell:</b>                                                            | <b>Home (other phone):</b> |
| <b>EMAIL (<i>must be an email address that is used frequently</i>):</b> |                            |
| <b>Best time and way to reach:</b>                                      |                            |

**Segmentation Table (for recruiter use)**

| Population                                            | Number of FGDs | Number of Participants |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| General public in Alaska who collect shellfish to eat | 1              | 8                      |

| <b>Population</b>                                                                                      | <b>Number of FGDs</b> | <b>Number of Participants</b> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| General public in Washington, Oregon, and California who collect shellfish to eat                      | 1                     | 8                             |
| General public on the East Coast (Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, and Southeast) who collect shellfish to eat | 1                     | 8                             |
| General public near the Gulf Coast who collect shellfish to eat                                        | 1                     | 8                             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                                                                           | <b>4</b>              | <b>32</b>                     |