

Personal and Public Testimony

Advisory committees receive an opportunity to testify on the proposals at Board Meetings (see “Guidelines for Advisory Committee Meeting Testimony” in this manual). Individual members of advisory committees may also testify on their own behalf, so the following are some guidelines for individual testimony, and a note on some differences between the way the Boards of Fisheries and Game conduct their meetings.

Persons planning to testify before Board of Fisheries or Board of Game hearings must fill out a blue PUBLIC TESTIMONY SIGN-UP CARD and turn it in to the board’s staff. Persons providing written material for the Board of Game members must provide hard copies to the staff (20 copies to the Board of Game, and 25 to Board of Fisheries); and submit them with their testimony card. Do not wait until it is your turn to testify to submit written material, as it may not be distributed to the board in time for your testimony. Provide a name and date on the first page of written material and identify the source of graphs or tables, if included in materials.

If you wish to give testimony for more than one group (i.e., yourself plus an organization), you only need to turn in one sign-up card, listing who you will be representing. When you begin your testimony, state for the record the group you are representing. Keep your comments separate for each group. For example: give comments for the first group you are representing, then after stating clearly that you are now testifying for the second group, give comments for that group.

Please be aware that when you testify you may not ask questions of board members or of department staff. This is your chance to make comments on proposals before the board. If board members and/or department staff need clarification, they will ask you questions.