

The NORTHWEST STEELHEADER

SPRING 2016 FREE

Sandy River Memories
Legislative Report
Spring Chinook
Classic



SAVE THE DATES!



**Saturday, June 4
Sandy River
Spring Chinook
Classic**

Fish and Benefit the Sandy River

Awards BBQ with Live Music

**Register by May 25 for a
FREE T-Shirt**

**Saturday, November 12
29th Annual
Hall of Fame
Banquet and Auction**

**Honor Those Who Have Done Exceptional Work
for Northwest Steelheaders**

**Enjoy an evening reconnecting with old friends,
remembering special days on the river,
finding a special rod/reel or booking a great trip**

THE NORTHWEST STEELHEADER

Volume 31, No. 2

Winter Issue, 2016

THE NORTHWEST STEELHEADER
is published quarterly by the
Association of Northwest Steelheaders.

Staff

Executive Director Bob Rees
Office Manager Leslie Hinea
Outreach Coordinator Joyce Sherman
Education Coordinator Molly Orr

Editorial Board

Trey Carskadon, Joe Domenico,
Ian Fergusson, Brad Halverson,
Bill Kremers, Bob Oleson, Bob Rees,
Norm Ritchie, Joyce Sherman, Tom Smoot

Design/Production

Advertising Sales

River Graphics

ANWS Officers/Directors

President Bill Kremers
Vice President Joe Domenico
VP Conservation Brad Halverson
Secretary Matt Dennis
Treasurer Brannan Hersh
Communications Joyce Sherman
Development Norm Ritchie
Education Mike Myrick
Government Affairs Trey Carskadon
Membership OPEN
Resources Ian Fergusson
River Rights Art Israelson
Watersheds Doug Hunt
Regional Bill Hedlund,
Tim Wilson,
Gary Lutman

Chapter Presidents

Ty Campsey, Carol Clark, Bill Hedlund,
Don Hyde, Ken Johnson, John Laing,
Yancy Lind, Bob Rees, Steve Rothenbucher,
Tom VanderPlaat, Brian Winn,
Sam Wurdinger

Honorary Directors

Frank Amato, Nick Amato, Bruce Belles,
Jack Glass, Liz Hamilton, Eric Linde,
Hobart Manns, Jim Martin, Buzz Ramsey

About the Cover

Bill Nyara with a Sandy River steelhead—
see the article on page 16.
Photo courtesy of Bill Nyara

- 4 2016 Sandy River Spring Chinook Classic Joyce Sherman
- 6 Will Work For Fish Bill Kremers, Bob Rees
- 8 Quest Photos and Results Joyce Sherman
- 10 Legislative Report Bob Oleson
- 11 Regulations Limit Building in Flood Zones Joyce Sherman
- 12 Fishing With Buzz Buzz Ramsey
- 14 Lower Deschutes River Update Yancy Lind
- 15 Raffle Drawing Winners
- 16 Sandy River Memories Bill Nyara
- 18 Sea Lions: Out of Control! Norm Ritchie
- 19 She's Coming Around the Mountain Bob Rees
- 20 Pleasant Valley Boat Ramp and Access George Larson
Boy Scout Fishing Derby Kim Dowe
- 22 New Life Members; Ordering Clothing Joyce Sherman
- 23 It's a Complex Food Web Out There Bob Rees
- 24 Activities, Angling, and Activism
- 25 Mid Valley Wounded Warrior Fishing
- 26 Conservation Conversation Brad Halverson
- 27 Chapter Reports
- 28 Mid Valley School Fishing Event; Dahl Beach
- 29 Eggs to Fry Program Joyce Sherman
- 30 Events Calendar; Business Members; Advertisers
- 31 Chapter Meeting Information

The Association of Northwest Steelheaders

*Anglers dedicated to enhancing and protecting fisheries
and their habitats for today and the future.*

Visit our website: www.nwsteelheaders.org

Your letters, photos, and articles are welcome and will be printed as space permits. Please call or e-mail River Graphics, 541-614-1252 or rivergraphics@spiritone.com, for article specifications.

THE NORTHWEST STEELHEADER is published quarterly by the Association of Northwest Steelheaders, 6641 SE Lake Road, Milwaukie, OR 97222-2161; 503-653-4176, outreachcoordinator@anws.org. Opinions expressed in these pages are those of the authors, chapters, and committees who submit and/or write material, and may or may not reflect the views of the Association of Northwest Steelheaders. The editorial board reserves the right to edit all material in the interests of clarity, good taste, or to meet space requirements. Reprint rights reserved. Please contact the Association office and the author for permission before reprinting any material. Distributed free of charge.

Sandy River Spring Chinook Classic, Saturday, June 4



Want to fish in a casual metro-area tournament that ends with a huge barbecue party complete with live music? Would you like to win one of the cash prizes? Register now for the 2016 Sandy River Spring Chinook Classic!

Only hatchery salmon caught in Oregon or Washington Saturday, June 4, will be counted. All anglers must have their fish at the Historic Springdale Pub, 32302 East Historic Columbia River Highway in Corbett, for the 2:00-4:00 weigh-in. To maintain suspense during the weigh-in, please keep your fish hidden until you weigh it in. If you have included \$10 for the Big Fish Contest when you registered, you could win a trophy and cash prize.

Rules are straightforward, beginning with the obvious rule that you must comply with ODFW or WDFW regulations. All anglers in the boat must be registered, or the entire boat will be disqualified. Only salmon will be weighed and



measured for a total individual score. Greatest total fish weight wins, two fish allowed per angler. In the event of a tie, combined length will be the tie breaker.

Pre-register before May 25 at the special early price of \$65, and include the size you need for your FREE t-shirt.

Those who register after May 25 will need to pay \$75 and will not receive a free shirt, although they may special order one for \$10 when they check in.

Listen to the live music of the Eric Savage Band while you enjoy your burger and chips. Watch the salmon being weighed in to determine the three winners plus the Big Fish winner. This is an event that not only provides funding for a healthy fishery, but is downright fun.

Thanks to all of our sponsors for making the 2016 Salmon Classic possible! Patronize these companies whenever you can—they understand how important healthy runs of fish are to our region.





2016 SANDY RIVER SPRING CHINOOK CLASSIC

HELP SAVE OUR FISHERY BY FISHING!

SATURDAY, JUNE 4

**Proceeds used to protect Oregon's
Fishing Heritage, Wild and Hatchery
Historic Springdale Pub - Corbett, Oregon**

**Fish can be caught anywhere
in Oregon or Washington**

Cash Prizes • Door Prizes

Beer Garden • Eric Savage Live Band

Boat Parking and Security

Burger, Chips, and Drink for participants

**FREE T-Shirt for
those who register
by May 25!**

**Enter the
BIG FISH
CONTEST
when you register**



Early Registration \$65 (\$75 after May 25)

**Call 503-653-4176, mail the form below,
or go to www.anws.org/sandy-river-spring-chinook-classic/**

SPONSORS

**Abbott Construction
John Aho Fishing Adventures
AMG Fiber Optic
Technologies
Argus Network Solutions
Bear Electric
Cousins Rods
Crescent Electric
Eagle Claw
EZ Marine Products**

**Fisherman's Marine
Fritz Concrete Cutting and
Coring
Historic Springdale Pub
Hometown Hearth and Grill
Lamiglas
Lanware Technologies
Northwest Data
Northwest Steelheaders and
Sandy River Chapter**

**Pro-Cure
Red's Guide Service
R2M2
Salmon Trout Steelheader
Sandy River Investments
John L Scott, Sandy
Sowles Steel Erectors
Paul Swift Guide Service
Weston Buick Kia GMC
Wright & McGill**

	By 5/25	5/26-6/3	Amount Due
Please register me for the 2016 Sandy River Spring Chinook Classic	\$65	\$75	\$ _____
I want to register additional anglers	@ \$65	@ \$75	\$ _____
I want to enter the Largest Salmon Contest for an additional \$10 per Angler	@ \$10	@ \$10	\$ _____
Total Amount Due			\$ _____

NAME _____ T-SHIRT SIZE(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

**Registration must be paid and received
by Friday, June 3.**

Shirts available in S to 3XL.

**Participants whose registration is
RECEIVED by May 25 will receive a
T-Shirt in the size they order when
they check in. Late registrants may
order a shirt for \$10.00.**

Association of Northwest Steelheaders

6641 SE Lake Road, Milwaukie, OR 97222-2161 • 503-653-4176 • www.nwsteelheaders.org

WILL WORK FOR FISH

We Work and Play For Fish



While we work on your behalf for fish, we also play for fish. As one of our chapter presidents is constantly reminding me, “people join the Steelheaders because they want to fish and to become better anglers.” Or, to paraphrase the nursery rhyme, “all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.” We do not want an organization of dull Jacks and Jills. This is one of several reasons why our chapters and their activities are so important as they offer a variety of fishing-related activities throughout the year and they feature guest speakers at their monthly meetings who offer

the latest fishing techniques and fishing tips.

This why many of you joined the Steelheaders. That is why I joined in 1978. The guest speaker at the first meeting I attended was a young upstart in the tackle industry wearing a cowboy hat—Buzz Ramsey. As a novice steelheader at the time, I learned so much from that first meeting, that I kept going back. Even when I switched jobs and moved, one of the first things I did was find out where and when the local chapter was meeting. I soon met some of the local guides and chapter members who took me out on the Siletz and Alsea rivers.

I did not get too involved in any leadership position until a cause I could really get behind came along, the purchase of the lower 10 miles of the Deschutes River. With the help of Rod Brobeck and the Oregon Wildlife Heritage Foundation the people of Oregon purchased the property on the lower Deschutes and now and forever it belongs to the public for the benefit of us all. In fact, this project was so successful there was money left over to build Heritage Landing.

The success taught me a couple of valuable lessons. First, we *can* make a difference, we just have to be willing to get involved. Every time I fish the lower Deschutes, I’m proud that I helped make this possible. Second, it helped me connect dots in that if we have a passion for our fishery and we want to pass that on to future generations we need to protect and enhance the environment for fish. Salmon and steelhead need a healthy river and an ocean to survive just like we need a place called home with food on the table.

When your local chapter offers a fishing activity, sign up and meet some wonderful people. Each chapter has its own unique event. With social media, chapters promote their events online, inviting and welcoming all Steelheaders to their events. As an Association, we did have a couple of fishing weekends a few years ago, but we only had limited success as most chapters already had their own summer events. We are always open to new ideas on how we can get together, do some fishing, become better friends, share our experiences and build a better organization. I have to warn you however, that one fishing trip just might lead you down the path to working and, yes, playing for our fishery for years to come.

Bill Kremers, President

Going Against the Flow

Our office remains busy, and, as usual, we couldn’t do what we do without our members, and especially our dedicated board and volunteers, who really make it all happen. Again, we find ourselves going against the flow to get things done. Here are some of our recent accomplishments, with the help of our members!

Over-Reaching Multnomah Channel Proposal

Long-time Steelheader supporter Gary Kish alerted the Steelheaders to the over-reaching proposal to make nearly 50% of the Multnomah Channel a no-wake zone. Gary did an incredible job of getting the word out on this damaging proposal, and we sent out a member action alert to get folks involved. We showed up at the

Oregon State Marine Board meeting, where the proposal received overwhelming opposition based on key factors that made this a bad idea. Besides being a proposal that had little collaboration with major stakeholders (anglers for example), enforcement is already lacking in the Channel so why make more unenforceable rules? A good place to start would be the removal of illegally placed no-wake signs already in place.

The end result was the Oregon State Marine Board denied the petition, and boating will go on as usual for this much revered spring Chinook fishery on the lower



Willamette. With such an expansive membership reach, it’s important that our members bring these issues to light, especially if they are happening locally, so that we can get the power of our 56-year old organiza-

tion and its foot soldiers behind them. Remember, we're here to help you!

Expressing Importance of Sportfishing to the Legislature

Although I was asked to testify as a small business representative in front of the House Special Committee on Small Business Growth, the theme was identical to many of the issues we work on as Steelheaders. It was a rare opportunity to have the undivided attention of this body of legislators when there is no session underway. Consistency in fishing seasons, access to abundant stocks of fish while not compromising sensitive stocks of fish, the Columbia River Policy Shift to a sportfishing priority, hatchery lawsuits, and a closer working relationship with our federal government, particularly on sea lions and cormorants, were some of the themes I expressed to the legislature. You can view my full presentation by clicking here (if you're really bored): http://oregon.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?clip_id=21603.

Linn County Lawsuit

The board understood the value of intervening in the Linn County Lawsuit. The lawsuit asks for the state of Oregon to pay \$1.4 billion dollars for revenues not generated on state lands due to managing these public lands for multiple use. Although the lawsuit asks for a direct payment, the implications for the state and these public lands is immense. Not only would this type of payment cripple the state budget, it would force lawmakers to consider increased timber harvest rates on these lands that also produce abundant runs of wild salmon that fuel our coastal fisheries.

Water temperatures are already at lethal levels in these watersheds, for weeks at a time during the summer. Increasing timber harvests on these lands will only further compromise our watershed's abilities to produce salmon for the fisheries we love to participate in.

Just like the frivolous hatchery lawsuits we're forced to deal with, a win in the Linn County lawsuit will further strap natural resource agen-

cies and compromise conservation programs that these agencies already have to fight for.

By the way, *the Department of Forestry's new Annual Operating Plan is calling for larger clear-cuts in the next harvest plan.*

Exposing the True Cost of Coal

I'm writing this column from the Billings, Montana airport after testifying to the BLM in Casper, Wyoming about what needs to be incorporated into the preliminary Environmental Impact Statement.

When considering how coal leases on federal lands benefit the greater public, we need to consider the jobs associated with mining, but we also need to take into account the effects of ocean acidification on the tiny organisms that feed our forage fish and juvenile salmon when they first enter the sea. Science is already proving that the fragile shells of pteropods (tiny, free-floating snails) are already disintegrating in our acidic Pacific Ocean.

Furthermore, we made sure that the BLM knew of the extensive pollution that comes from coal trains traveling down the Columbia and Deschutes Rivers. Data shows that *coal trains spew one pound of coal dust per car per mile*, while traveling to their final destination. That coal dust leaches into the Columbia, affecting water quality, which may lead to further restrictions for food fish consumption from the species we appreciate most. Did you know that there is now a state-wide restriction on bass consumption?

LNG Finally Bites the Dust

It's been a long battle and one fought by many, including the Steelheaders. The proposed LNG terminal at the mouth of the Skipanon River in Warrenton has finally given up the ghost. It now looks like a project is an impossibility and we should all be saying good riddance!

As if the destruction of critical saltwater marsh habitat and a huge exclusionary zone around the plant itself as well as around incoming and outbound tanker traffic wasn't enough, this project was a boondoggle from the beginning. Its pipelines would have cut through hundreds of miles of private property, endangering local residents.

We keep winning these fights against LNG and coal and oil terminal projects that will do very little for local economies and further threaten the already sensitive habitats that juvenile salmonids utilize in the estuary and beyond. More importantly, we'll keep fighting them on behalf of sport anglers!

Stick to Chocolate, Nestle

Thanks to dedicated citizens, the welcome mat for Nestle in the Columbia River Gorge has been rolled up. Nestle, now in the water business, had a bright idea to tap into groundwater sources at Cascade Locks, from a spring that feeds a local fish hatchery. Although I've heard that this particular spring isn't the best for growing fish, it obviously has high quality if the food giant is that interested in it.

Bob Rees, Executive Director

Step Up: Become a Budgeted Life Member

Support the continuing efforts of the Association of Northwest Steelheaders by becoming a Life Member through five equal annual payments of \$100 each. All proceeds from this program are put into the Chuck Voss Endowment Fund and invested for the future. You are providing the Association with a stable membership to add your voice to our efforts to improve fishing and fish habitat, while adding to the endowment fund to ensure financial stability.

To become a Budgeted Life Member, select the Budgeted Life Member box when you renew, fill out a membership form (see page 31), go to www.nwsteelheaders.org/support/membership/, or contact the Association Office, (503) 653-4176. As soon as you have made your final payment, you will receive a Life Member pin and special Life Member card.

Salmon Quest



The Columbia River was open during the 2016 Salmon Quest. The 29 teams landed a total of 20 salmon. The weather was so nice that most people checked in later than usual.

The two D&G Bait teams were guided by Greg Frogner, ready to net a fish.



Scott Kappes snapped this photo of Doug Hunter's fish.

John Shmilenko and his dog weren't the only ones who needed sunglasses. Not only John, but three of the anglers in his boat own Labs, meaning that there were many dog stories exchanged.
Photo by Dan King



Jim Martin guided the youngest angler, Jackson Curran, and his father Paul, who took this photo of Jackson's salmon.



Jerry Dilling won the Big Fish award for 2016. Jeff Stoeger, left, presented all the awards.

A team from NSIA won First Place: Ham Hamilton and Chuck Hamilton were guided by Art Martin.





Second Place team of Kim Howard and Jack Dowty was guided by Chuck Borgen.

Bob Toman guided George Okulitch and Matt Markee to a Third Place win but didn't attend the awards dinner.

Co-Chairman Jeff Stoeger presented the awards.



BENTLEY'S BOAT TOPS AND UPHOLSTERY
Quality Marine Products Since 1967

CUSTOM BOAT TOPS & UPHOLSTERY
BOAT SEATS & MARINE CARPETING
DO-IT-YOURSELF SUPPLIES
BOAT ACCESSORIES

www.bentleymfg.com
(800) 515-1275 or 503-659-0238
14020 SE McLOUGHLIN BLVD.
In Milwaukie, 1/4 mile south of The Bomber

LINE KEEPER & MORE

Fits all sizes of line and trailer spools.
Works great with both mono and braided lines.
This product is made for the fresh and saltwater fisherman.

LINE KEEPER | **LINE KEEPER**

PRODUCTS
Garret wrap for drift boats & stools (all sizes)
Lead sinker holder for 1oz-10oz (3/4" to 1")
Rubber car catches (yugate & anchor stop style)
Molded rubber mat holder (waterproof back, breaks 3 ways)
Boat drain plugs for 1" hole + Foam key holder (3" x 0.5")
Fish Hangers + Lead Storage Bin

Online at www.linekeeper.net
Rubber Resources, Inc.
Portland, Oregon

Also available at Frymeyer's Marine & Outdoor
Cody Park 503.263.0044 • Deschutes City 503.527.3037
and other fine tackle stores.

3 PER PACKAGE

HOME LOANS BY STEVE SALVESON
Get your home loan from an experienced Mortgage Broker and NW Steelheader member!

- In house underwriting and funding
- Conventional and FHA loans
- Purchase
- Refinance

Steve Salveson, GRI, CRMS
MLO- 88726 ML-137
NMLS 88726 Co. NMLS 1854
ssalveson@stearns.com

16100 NW Cornell Rd. #210
Beaverton, OR 97006
503-716-5910
971-250-4510

Stearns®
Stearns Lending, Inc. | Home Loans Division

Two Great Vacation Homes
Spend your next vacation with friends or family!

Dew Sweeper Inn, at Eagle Crest Resort adjacent the Deschutes River.

Mi Casa Sue Casa, located at Winchester Bay overlooking the mouth of the Umpqua only 800 yards away.

Just mention you saw this ad—Steelheader members get up to a 20% discount!

Call 503-936-0620 now to book your reservation

dew-sweeper-inn.com micasa-sucasa.com

Vote for Fish!

This is your notice that the 2017 legislative session is just around the corner. Actually, it is already here if one counts the elections process. Sometimes featuring unprepared candidates and silly campaign behavior, primary elections are just ending. So the warm-up drills are over and the higher stakes, more serious general election campaigns are already gearing up. In addition, this summer official and unofficial committees will be working on the initial drafts of proposed legislative bills. All of us who fish and recreate outdoors will be affected by the many new laws and rules that will eventually come out of the state Capitol.

The government affairs committee of Northwest Steelheaders will soon provide you a preliminary list of at least a dozen policy issues and projects. Although it will continue to be a work in progress, the list will represent the initial outline of our agenda for the 2017 session. Here are some of the policy areas we expect to cover:

- Continue the implementation of the Columbia River Sports Fishing Reforms
- Support interim task force bills leading to a long term sustainable ODFW budget
- Work with state agencies to improve regulation over such things as suction dredge mining, establishing any new artificial beaver dams,

improving our state's predator management activities, and providing greater watershed protection and stream access for anglers.

Also, expect numerous ideas to surface regarding climate change, drought preparation and in-stream water management.

This year within the electorate there is a strong under current of populism and opposition to the political establishment. As a result, it will be difficult to predict results in some of the general election races. Moreover, with so many open seats and competitive races for the Oregon legislature, it is very possible that a record number of freshmen will be elected. Several of these candidates have a strong background in conservation and natural resources. Worth noting is composition by party in the two state houses is not expected to see much change next year. The Democrats are likely to retain control of the legislature. (Yet keep mind it will be important to continue to work closely with rural Republicans because they tend to be deeply involved in the natural resource topics that dominate much of our agenda.) At the statewide level odds favor Governor Brown fending off an aggressive challenge this fall, and many of us hope she will start paying more attention to fisheries and outdoor conservation issues so important to our Association and its members.

Vote for Fish! Fish is not really the name of my favorite candidate, but we can feel like we are voting for fish if when we vote we keep them and their habitat in mind. It is important for us to step up efforts to develop solid relationships with our local legislative candidates and then help educate all legislators about issues that are important to anglers, and to do this before they head to Salem early next year for a new legislative session. We now have an improved ability to help shape good public policy. Please let me know when you have questions or suggestions.

ODFW Policy Packages

On May 13 the ODF&W commission reviewed the development of policy option packages (POPs) within their next budget request. In addition to tracking with a legislative task force now planning for a long term sustainable budget, this important agency (especially in our world of fish and habitat) is trying to be responsive to major initiatives being advocated by the sports consumption and outdoor environmental communities. In recent years these two powerful interest groupings have often competed with each other over how our fees and other funds will be spent on important public programs. At this time there is a renewed effort to cooperate on long term budget development and to seek more broad sources of revenue. There is growing recognition that all Oregonians must pay more to help maintain our diverse collection of critters and habitat.

Some examples of key POPs now being finalized:

No. 136 finally gives a priority to starting to address the deferred maintenance costs for hatcheries and other facilities.

No. 139 would also use general fund dollars to provide additional trout production for the Portland metro area.

No. 123 involves ocean acidification and climate change policy analysis, which will increase our under-

Legislative Contacts

State Legislative Websites - Information about bills, hearings

www.leg.state.or.us/ for Oregon

<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/billinfo/> for Washington

ANWS Government Affairs Team

Bob Oleson, boboleson@hotmail.com, 503-329-9528

Trey Carskadon, trey@bdcadvertising.com, 503-723-5723 Ext. 102

Bob Rees, 503-653-4176, executivedirector@anws.org

Legislators

To find your state legislator, go to:

www.leg.state.or.us/findlegsltr/ for Oregon

<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/districtfinder/> for Washington

Get to know your legislators by attending their Town Halls, held throughout the year. Sign in so that your legislators know you attended. Send your legislators e-mails if you didn't speak or if your topic wasn't covered.

standing of impacts on fish and wildlife.

No. 125 Near shore fisheries research to provide more reliable management decisions involving marine fish stocks.

No. 141 is a new marine mammal effort to provide resources for agency

efforts to evaluate and manage sea lion predation on endangered salmon.

No. 108 Continues to implement water strategies for understanding and addressing out of stream and in stream water needs.

No. 145 Continues support of the Oregon Conservation Strategies; along

with other things, this policy package will provide expertise and information to help minimize impact to at risk species.

With No. 136 being a big ticket item, just these seven items add up to over 12 million dollars in next biennial budget.

New Federal Recommendations Limit Building in Flood Zones

By Joyce Sherman

Environmental groups filed a lawsuit in 2009 to limit building in flood zones. Dan Siemann of National Wildlife Federation (NWF) urged the Northwest Steelheaders to join the other groups in the litigation and provided ongoing technical assistance to Norm Ritchie and other plaintiff representatives during the process. NWF deserves most of the credit for this change in FEMA flood insurance.

Will Stelle, regional administrator for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), said the agency recommends FEMA make several efforts to change the flood insurance program. The aim is to protect salmon and steelhead habitat. The recommendation is for a “no net loss” policy that would require mitigation for any salmon lost.

According to FEMA, there are 251 communities in Oregon with flood plain areas along steelhead and/or salmon streams, in all parts of Oregon except the central and southeastern areas. Community leaders have expressed concerns about restrictions on future development and rights of property owners.

FEMA will prepare new maps and explain new rules, working with the State of Oregon and local governments.

Rep. Peter DiFazio garnered support in the US House for legislation potentially blocking FEMA from following the recommendations. Environmental groups, however, support the biological opinion. There is hope that the changes to flood insurance could improve recovery efforts

for threatened salmon and steelhead.

NOAA and FEMA will have to work out differences in the way they anticipate the revised program should work. For example, NOAA wants to include erosion zones that are not within the actual flood plain areas. Requests by property owners for map revisions will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

Not only will the new FEMA insurance program prevent net loss of habitat, but it will prevent development within flood plains that would result in FEMA claims to cover additional buildings, roads, etc. following floods. We’ve had multi-million-dollar claims following floods like those in 1996 or 2007, where not only private property owners but cities, counties, and other entities requested assistance.



This county bridge across the Salmonberry river and the Port of Tillamook Bay Railroad were destroyed by the December 2007 flood. The bridge has been rebuilt, but the railroad wasn't able to come up with their 25% share of the estimated \$57 million to repair flood damage. The railbed narrowed the canyon, exacerbating the fury of the flood.

Opportunities Close to Home

There are more close-to-home fishing opportunities now than at any time earlier this year. While fisheries for trout, shad, sturgeon (mostly catch and release), and the warm-water clan consisting of bass, crappie, bluegill and perch have been going on for weeks, several major fisheries have or will soon open. For example, during June fisheries will open for Columbia River Summer Chinook and the opportunity for Summer Steelhead will be expanded.

Columbia River Summer Steelhead

Although the season on the lower Columbia (west of the Interstate I-5 Bridge connecting Portland and Vancouver) opened May 16 to the catching of fin-clipped summer steelhead, and is scheduled to open upstream of I-5 to the Oregon and Washington border beginning June 16, the season could open early if the spring chinook run comes in at or above prediction (this may have already happened).

High flows and lower-than-normal water temperature could cause summer steelhead numbers to build in the

lower Columbia prior to crossing the first big dam. Keep in mind that these fish will generally migrate close to shore, in sometimes surprisingly shallow water—four to six feet. The numbers passing Bonneville Dam will increase dramatically during late June, which will signal the beginning of action on the lower Deschutes River and other Mid-Columbia tributaries open to the taking of fin-clipped steelhead.

If you try your luck for summer steelhead, keep in mind that ocean tides affect the lower Columbia and can influence the bite; for example, when tides are running (causing current), still fishing from shore or boat may be the most productive fishing method. When ocean tides cause the current to slow or stop, you should consider trolling a spinner or plug.

A size 4 Spin-N-Glo tipped with sand or coon shrimp threaded on the hook is what many bank and boat anglers rely on when targeting summer steelhead along the lower Columbia. High action plugs like a medium size FlatFish, Kwikfish, or Mag Lip is what many boat anglers employ. Most rig their mid-size plug on a 48-inch leader combined with a 24- to 30-inch weight dropper line.

Columbia River Summer Chinook

If you haven't tried this close-to-home fishery, you should. Summer Chinook were once the most plentiful of the Chinook clan returning to the Columbia River system, but habitat loss, due mostly to dams, cut their numbers to such low levels that the big river was closed to commercial and sport harvest for 29 years. Increased flow (to move young, out-migrating fish between the dams) and increased spill (to move smolts over the top of Federal dams instead of through dam turbines) by a Federal Judge is what finally allowed the fish numbers to strengthen enough for managers to re-open the river to sport fishing in 2002 and every year since.

The year's forecast for summer Chinook is predicted to be nearly 100,000 fish. The season is currently scheduled to open June 16 and last until at least the end of the month with a daily limit of two fin-clipped Chinook. As mentioned above, providing the run of spring salmon meets or exceeds the initial pre-season forecast, the Columbia could open for chinook prior to the now scheduled June 16 opener, which would allow anglers access to late returning spring chinook and early run summers. This opportunity might represent a chance to catch some of the spring chinook left on the table due to the 30 percent buffer that closed the spring salmon season in early April.

In past years, I've had excellent success for summer Chinook anchor fishing between Bonneville Dam and Beacon Rock. With the water temperature in late June averaging in the mid 60-degree range, we've had the best success anchoring in water depths ranging from 14 to 25 feet. How deep these fish might run is really dependent upon water temperature; for example, if the flows are high and cold, say in the low 60's, you might find them migrating closer to shore.



Jason Bick holding a summer chinook taken from the Columbia River near Bonneville.



Not one, but two summer steelhead taken from the Columbia River.

Spinners have been our top producer when rigged on a 50-inch leader and 18-inch weight dropper line. Since line twist can be an issue, we always rig a swivel half way down our leader. The best spinner colors have been metal finishes (when the sun is bright)—copper, fluorescent red, flo green, chartreuse,

and rainbow colors produce better early in the day or when it's overcast.

If you intend to target summer Chinook near Portland or Longview, where the river current can be slow moving, you might rig your spinners differently than above. Weight dropper lines for the lower river, at least when

you're fishing upstream from steep drop offs are generally longer and leaders shorter than near the dam or in areas where the bottom is flat and current moving faster. For example, the typical spinner set up for the lower Columbia might include a 30-inch weight dropper line and 24-inch leader.

While spinners produce best near Bonneville and work on the lower river, too, many anglers employ salmon-sized plugs for summer Chinook. The favorites include Mag Lip and high action FlatFish with a fillet of sardine added to the plug belly. Most anglers rig their salmon-sized plug with a 24-inch dropper line to their weight and 50- to 60-inch leader. The dropper line to your weight should be 30 to 36 inches when rigging a Mag Lip as this plug dives deeper than other styles.

Columbia River summer Chinook represent a real prize when it comes to size, with many fish in the 25-to-35 pound range. Every year some lucky angler, perhaps your neighbor, lands a fish weighing in at 40 pounds or more.


Tim Wilson
 Broker
KNIPE REALTY NW
 timwilson@kniper Realty.com
 503-201-3525
 7420 SW Bridgeport Road
 Suite 210
 Portland OR 97224



Tim Wilson and his son Alex with a summer steelhead caught by Alex
 As an Affiliate Member of the Northwest Steelheaders, Tim will donate \$1,000 of his commission for any property if purchase or sale by a Steelheaders' member closes.
 Call Tim today, 503-201-3525.




Personalized Service with Savings Every Day
SALMON • STEELHEAD
TROUT • BASS • WALLEYE
TUNA • HALIBUT • STURGEON
Rod & Reel Repair
We Have What YOU Need to Succeed!
Tackle You Won't Find Elsewhere; Special Tuna Selection
Mike Potts and Joe Borba
 Hours, Mon.-Thurs. 9 am to 7 pm, Fri. 9 am to 8 pm, Sat. 7 am to 8 pm
 Sun. 10 am-5 pm after March 22
 362 SW Oak Street, Hillsboro, OR 97123
971-245-6284

Lower Deschutes River Update

By Yancy Lind, Deschutes Basin Chapter

The Deschutes Basin Chapter of the ANWS was formed years ago primarily to work on the reintroduction of anadromous fish into the upper Deschutes Basin. We have successfully worked with partners like WaterWatch, Trout Unlimited, and American Rivers to pass legislation through the US Congress to change the manner in which flows in the Crooked River are managed in order to assist with fry and smolt migration and adult returns. Under ANWS' non-profit charter, we launched www.OpalSpringsPassage.org to raise awareness and money for fish passage at Opal Springs dam on the Crooked, the last remaining major barrier to upstream returning adults. Construction on that ladder is set to being within the next two years.

Reintroduction of salmon and steelhead into their historical habitat has not been without criticism in the angling community, however, as some prefer the prior artificial environment that created a premier summertime dry fly trout fishing experience.

Background

In 2009 the Selective Water Withdrawal (SWW) and fish capture and transfer facility in Lake Billy Chinook operated by Portland General Electric and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs became operational. Required as part of their FERC relicensing, the SWW had two primary objectives: to help with the reintroduction of native, anadromous fish into the upper Deschutes Basin and to approximate naturally occurring water temperatures in the lower Deschutes.

Since the installation of the Pelton Round Butte (PRB) hydroelectric facility in the 1960s, the lower Deschutes had been artificially cold due to exclusive bottom water withdrawal from the reservoir. The SWW allows for surface as well as bottom water withdrawal, and the lower Deschutes now has a temperature profile that approximates what would occur if the PRB complex were not in place, one that is beneficial to outward anadromous juvenile

migration and adult returns. Changing the temperature profile of the river was a primary goal of the project, not an adverse consequence, as some have stated.

You can learn a lot more about PRB's relicensing by reading about it at www.OpalSpringsPassage.org.

Controversy

The operation of the SWW has been controversial. Some have argued that the river below PRB is now seeing fewer macroinvertebrates (an important salmonid food source) and a higher amount of nuisance algae. They claim that this has led to a degradation in the health of the fishery.

The SWW is controlled by PGE/CTWS under the terms of their FERC license and with input from "The Fish Committee." The Fish Committee is composed of biologists from agencies like Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife, US Forest Service, US Fish & Wildlife, as well as NGOs who helped negotiate the terms of the FERC license. This group functions as a watchdog with an allegiance to fish and river health, not power generation or PGE and/or the Warm Springs.

The FERC license requires multiple ongoing studies of the river. One of those studies is on macroinvertebrates and algae (periphyton). This study began in 1999, well before the installation and operation of the SWW, with two years of data collection and two more years, concluding in 2015. The Deschutes River Alliance, a vocal critic of the operation of the SWW, made comments on study design which were incorporated.

Results were published in April 2016 after being peer reviewed by scientists from members of the Fish Committee. This study measures before and after conditions of the river and uses locations above the



SWW on the Crooked River, middle Deschutes, and Metolius River for control. If changes occur below and above the SWW, then the SWW is not the cause.

In April there was a public discussion with the study's author, a consultant who has worked on rivers all over North America. His findings are detailed and technical, but the summary is that the lower Deschutes is as least as healthy as it was before SWW operation and maybe healthier. In fact, he stated that the amount of macros in the water was "extraordinary," among the highest of any river he has seen. Also, while the amount of nuisance algae may have temporarily increased in some shallow, slow-moving areas of the river for short periods, there is no evidence of lasting increases or any increases at all in deeper, faster moving sections. Overall, it appears that the river has less algae post-SWW in the spring than pre-SWW and about the same in the fall.

The temperature changes in the river have altered the timing of some insect hatches, but the total abundance is at least as great, and may have increased, post SWW. It is true that craneflies have largely disappeared from the lower Deschutes, but they have also disappeared from control sites on the middle Deschutes and the Crooked above Lake Billy Chinook. Cranefly disappearance is not a function of the SWW facility.

You can learn more about the SWW project at www.PortlandGeneral.com/DeschutesPassage.

A synopsis of the study can be found at: www.PortlandGeneral.com/MacroSynopsis.

The complete 279-page study can be found at: www.PortlandGeneral.com/MacroStudy.

Fish Health

As an angler, my main concern is the health of the fishery. The PGE/CTWS study did not address this. ODFW, however, has recently completed their third resident fish sampling study since the operation of

the SWW. Samples are taken in various places from Warm Springs to Macks Canyon. This is continuation of work that has been going on for decades, and there is a robust data set. The results of this latest sampling are not final, but appear to be similar to prior results. Per ODFW, there has been no detectable change in fish health or abundance post SWW outside of the normal fluctuations inherent in a wild population. In addition, there seems to be no post SWW degradation of returning anadromous fish stocks. Summer steelhead and fall Chinook populations fall within the ranges of the past with natural fluctuations.

Angler Complaints

The primary controversy with the SWW seems to be centered on changes in the timing of certain insect hatches. With the river exhibiting a more natural temperature profile, it is warming earlier in the spring and cooling earlier in the fall. This changes the lifecycle of various insects and moves some desirable dry fly hatches into less angler-friendly months. This may represent

an inconvenience for anglers, but it is not reflective of a less healthy river.

Real Problems

While the SWW does seem to be accomplishing its goal of approximating a natural temperature profile, and is doing so with no detectable adverse effect on the fishery, all is not well. Anadromous fish reintroduction above the PRB complex is occurring at a disappointing pace. The number of downstream migrating fish being captured and released into the lower Deschutes is unacceptably low.

The primary issue at this point appears to be the inability for downstream migrating fish to successfully find the SWW. There is insufficient surface current in Lake Billy Chinook to direct fish to the tower. This problem reflects a tension between reintroduction efforts and power generation. During the spring PGE/CTWS needs to provide increased water releases to create favorable currents for smolts to find the SWW. PGE/CTWS is reluctant to do so as they want to keep water stored for release later in the summer to meet higher electricity demands.

Raffle Drawing Winners



Association Vice President Joe Domenico congratulated Tim Rotter, winner of the trip to Yakutat Lodge.

Lodge in Yakutat, Alaska for two people was Tim Rotter, ticket no. 04108. Second Prize, a Lamiglas Kenai Kwik rod, was won by Greg Wellington, no. 07408. The Third Prize Pendleton Blanket was won by E. P. Harrison, no. 12452. Fourth Prize, a Lamiglas X11 rod, was won by John Putman, no. 04543. Fifth Prize, an ANWS hoody, was won by Henry Lavigne, no. 04265.

The trip was donated by Yakutat Lodge, with airfare provided by Steel-headers. Both rods were donated by Lamiglas, Inc. The blanket was donated by the Tom McCall Chapter.

A week later, May 4, winning ticket no. 0317, Steve Knutson, was drawn for the ClackaCraft High Side Drift Boat package. We'll post a photo of the winner when he picks up his new boat. The complete package of boat and trailer was donated by ClackaCraft Drift Boats.

Sandy River Memories

By Bill Nyara, Mid Valley Chapter

After listening to a Jack Glass program about winter steelhead fishing on the Sandy River last winter, my friend Jay Chase and I thought a trip with Jack might be a good idea. Having grown up in Gresham, I spent a lot of time fishing the Sandy River for steelhead. I caught my first steelhead in the fall of 1971 under the Dabney Bridge. My second steelhead was just a few days later just upstream of the Oxbow Park boat ramp, where the river completes a bend and settles into a long, progressively deeper, classic steelhead drift that the locals called the “turn around hole.”

From Thanksgiving through February, my dad and I fished that spot most every weekend. We shared the hole with others, quite a few at times. Everyone would cast in order to avoid crossed lines. We were sometimes standing close enough to touch each other with our fiberglass rods. Frozen rod guides often required a sloshing in the river between casts. Fresh-caught steelhead even hung in the willows. There was a stop at Larry’s Sporting Goods on the way home to check in your fish if you were fortunate. The heaviest fish each day earned a \$5 reward.

These are my memories of my first few years of winter steelhead fishing the Sandy River. Oxbow Park and the turn-around hole. In 1999, it became the final resting place of my father.

We met Jack Glass at Lewis and Clark Park on the lower Sandy. After introductions, I pointed to the fishing rod I’d brought along with me. I told Jack that I’d really like to catch a steelhead on that rod—it was my dad’s rod that had been hanging in my garage for 16 years. I’ve been afraid that I might break it if I used it. I had decided that he would have wanted me to use it, not store it in my garage for the rest of my life. His son-in-law had made the rod for him sometime back in the ‘80’s. It bore the name Bill Nyara Sr. just above the reel seat. I’m 60 years old, on my

way to Oxbow Park for the first time in 16 years to fish with my friend Jay and a guide that has been fishing the Sandy River since he was a boy. What better



way to start fishing dad’s rod again and maybe even catch a fish with it!

The upper end of the turn-around hole looked pretty much the same as the day I had waded out and poured the ashes into the current. I reflect on all the hours he and I spent fishing there, he much more than I. I remember the long, white strip of his ashes on the river bottom that day. I wondered how long the river had taken to completely wash them away. Maybe it never had, completely.

Memories flooded back as we floated downstream, through the park, past some of the other places I had fished with my dad. The last place I remembered fishing with my dad, the log jam drift, went by as we fished our way downstream and left Oxbow Park. Side-drifting (drift fishing with a light weight while the boat moves at the same speed) and bobber-dogging (letting the bobber pull the a drift gear setup along) were the methods we used. Jack worked the oars enough to steer and keep the boat moving at the same speed as our tackle. These two methods of catching steelhead were unheard of to me the last time I had fished here. Of course, these are boat fishing techniques for the most part and we were always bankies back then.

I tied a side-drifting setup on the rod and set it aside while we bobber-dogged along. I had put my Shimano Curado reel on it the day before. After

bobber-dogging awhile and Jay briefly getting into a fish, Jack suggested that we switch to side drifting. It wasn’t long before we had a double!

Unfortunately, my fish was a large sucker and Jay’s was a spawned out summer steelhead. Both went back into the river, one a little more gently than the other. Two fish to the boat, we chuckled. I think Jay asked if maybe I had something different in mind for that rod than a sucker.

We continued on, fishing, enjoying good conversation. Jack pointed out a small school of sturgeon.

He believes that they have learned to come up into the Sandy river to escape the predatory sea lions. He has fished the Sandy since he was a boy and had never seen sturgeon until recently.

Jack got us into position on a long, nice looking drift. As he got the boat moving slowly downstream, Jay and I cast out. A slight pull, a little harder pull, and I set the hook. I saw the fish, flashing silver-white below the surface about 40 feet away, a nice, bright steelhead, for sure. A few runs, no jumps, as Jack pulled the boat near shore and was below the boat with the net at the ready. Jack said, “On your dad’s rod. That’s great!” When the fish was about 15 feet away, Jack could see it was a clipped fish.

Jay was already snapping pictures as I climbed out of the boat to claim that gorgeous fish, a mint-bright, 12 pound hen caught on dad’s rod. I had fantasized about this for the past few days and to have it actually happen was pretty special. Dad’s rod sat dormant for 16 years and then landed this wonderful fish the first time out and on his river, the Sandy. The trip, the day was a total success as far as I was concerned. It just doesn’t get any better—good company, good conversation, good fishing and one very special memory.

Editor’s Note: See cover for a photo of Bill with his “memory” steelhead.

YAKUTAT LODGE

TRULY AFFORDABLE
WORLD CLASS
FISHING

Best
Steelhead Fishing
in the World!
April-May, and
October-December
We promote
Catch & Release



2015
SPECIALS
Special Fishing
Packages

★ Kids Stay FREE July 15-August 15, kids under 18, 1 per Adult

★ Group Leader FREE April 10-20, June 1-15 - bring 3 paying guests and your trip is FREE

SPECIAL FISHING PACKAGES

Includes food, lodging, rental vehicle, boats to float the river each day, plus one day guided halibut or fly out fishing

AS LOW AS \$1,349 per person, 4 days/3 nights

\$1,460 per person, 5 days/4 nights

\$1,845 per person, 7 days/6 nights

Based on four persons per room



Ask about our Lodge and Deluxe Fully Guided Packages!

A deposit of 25% per person confirms dates and reservations on all special packages. Prices do not include any taxes, gratuities, personal gear, fishing equipment, liquor, or air fare to Yakutat. Package prices are \$75 more per person August 15-September 30.

WRITE, CALL OR FAX TODAY FOR RESERVATIONS

CALL 1-800-YAKUTAT FOR RESERVATIONS



THE YAKUTAT LODGE
Box 287, Yakutat, Alaska 99689
www.yakutatlodge.com

PHONE (907) 784-3232 • FAX (907) 784-3452

Sea Lions: Out of Control!

By Norm Ritchie, Development Director



Sea lions consume as many as seven salmon or steelhead per day with some unfortunate sturgeon consumed as well.

The correct answer to the question "Why not manage the out of control sea lions?" is that Federal law currently prohibits this. The U.S. Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) protects all marine mammals, including cetaceans (whales, dolphins, and porpoises), pinnipeds (seals and sea lions), sirenians (manatees and dugongs), sea otters, and polar bears within the waters of the United States.

The MMPA Defined

Congress passed the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 based on the belief that some marine mammal species were in danger of extinction or depletion and that those species should not be permitted to fall below their optimum sustainable population level. The MMPA was amended in 1994 to provide for small takes in specific situations, including commercial fishing operations.

The MMPA is flawed because *it does not address recovery*. It simply prohibits take. The current very small sea lion "take" at Bonneville is allowed under a provision of the MMPA requiring approval from the

Department of Commerce. The specified take method after dealing with the courts is unnecessarily costly and limits effectiveness. During the recent spring season, 54 sea lions were lethally removed from below Bonneville Dam. ODFW has been hazing sea lions at Willamette Falls since 2009, an expensive program that has not prevented sea lions consuming salmon, steelhead, and sturgeon at Willamette Falls.

Cost of Sea Lion Predation

Millions of dollars have been spent restoring spawning habitat. Millions more have been spent to make hydroelectric dams more "fish friendly." Hatchery programs have been modified to reduce the impact of hatchery fish on wild populations, and fisheries have been reduced substantially to protect wild salmon, steelhead, and sturgeon. Millions of your tax dollars are being spent to recover these wild populations, and the sea lion impacts are severely limiting the success of these efforts.

On the Columbia River, some estimates of the total predation rate suggest it could be as high as 16-20 per-

cent of the total run. Biologists estimate these animals consume four to seven salmon/steelhead a day. Sea lion predation is a major risk that needs to be addressed.

What Can Be Done?

So what can be done to properly manage marine mammal populations? *Get the MMPA changed*. Several strategies can be or have been attempted.

- Remove or reduce protections when specific populations have reached a defined level.
- Replace the current take permit process with one that is managed by wildlife agencies using best science.
- Pass legislation to address specific populations in specific locations at specific times to protect specific ESA listed species
- Pass legislation that acknowledges the sovereign rights of tribes to harvest marine mammals and convince the tribes to engage—in spite of the public outcry the tribes would endure.

Media Perception

Whatever outcome strategy is deemed winnable, the strategy needs to include changing the media conversation. The issue is currently painted as sea lions vs. anglers sharing the harvest. This is false. Yes, there is direct confrontation caused by sea lions attacking sport angler catch, but *the real issue is wild fish impacts*. While fishermen only harvest hatchery salmon and steelhead, sea lions are indiscriminate, taking a significant portion of ESA-listed wild fish.

Many organizations exist to encourage protection of seals and sea lions. An appeal with a photo of the big brown eyes of a seal or sea lion is extremely effective. They are perceived to be lovable, even cuddly.

The Association of Northwest Steelheaders has limited resources. We have been working on the sea lion issue, bringing it up with every federal legislator we meet. We have even co-

hosted public meetings with legislators. The opportunity to go to DC or attend campaign events with these legislators comes at an expense that has been paid for by NWF, TU, individual donations, and absorbed expenses. Most of these opportunities were funded to discuss other issues such as water quality, but we were permitted to bring up our own issues. There is currently no funding specifically to help us address the MMPA.

ANWS Position Regarding Pinniped Predation

In 2005, the Association adopted a position regarding pinniped predation impact management. Little has changed since 2005. The existing policy will be updated during our 2016 Annual Meeting July 30 to reflect changes in the way ODFW is currently managing sea lions. Not only is it time to review our position: it is time to actively work for a reduction in the overpopulation of sea lions.

Steelheaders, with its successful local and federal collaborations and affiliations, is in a better position to succeed in

this effort than any other group in the Northwest, but we need the strategies and resources to do this.

She's Coming Around the Mountain By Bob Rees, Executive Director

Fishing the North Platte River out of Casper Wyoming: check! Not that fly fishing for trout in Montana or Wyoming was high on my bucket list but when in Rome...

We were there to comment on the Preliminary Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) was developing on the government's federal coal leasing program on public lands. But we'll get to that in a bit. Fishing first, right?

During the long drive to meet our guides, we saw some of the open pit strip mining that goes on in coal country. It was amazing to me how the landscape can be altered so easily in the pursuit of coal. In our casual conversation with our guides on the way to the put in, we were hesitant to say what our real mission in Wyoming was. After all, coal is king here. Like the rural counties in Oregon where timber contributes significantly to the communities, not everyone is a fan for slowing fossil fuel consumption. Geared up for the cold, stiff wind, we left the bank with a couple of fly rods. Our trout adventure was about to begin. We were running high on anticipation.

It wasn't long before we were into nice trout. They seemed downright "hangry." We had a double rig tied up, mine with a cream colored egg on the top and a rock worm on the bottom. I was blown away with how small the rock worm imitation was. Our goal was to just present, as naturally as possible, two free-float-

ing offerings to entice these motivated fish. By day's end, we were cold, tired, and impressed with what this desert stream had to offer.

I wasn't sure we'd be greeted with such enthusiasm at the PEIS coal hearing the next day. After all, these hearings in the Pacific Northwest often draw over 600 people to testify. We didn't have that kind of competition in Casper, but pro-coal suits, lawmakers, and workers dominated the landscape. It's good to feel outnumbered sometimes. It puts a more human feel on the issue, giving us a better sense of how hard the outcome to this process may be for some communities.

Overall, the session went well. The BLM panel listened respectfully and intently to what the participants had to say. The idea behind the listening session was to hear input on what information should be incorporated into the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). For Pacific Northwesterners, that's not a big reach. The three-pronged approach revolved around ocean acidification, pollution from coal dust along our river banks and climate change.

Ocean Acidification (OA): Science is showing that the sensitive exoskeletons of pteropods are already being compromised off the Pacific coast. These tiny free-floating snails are the base of the food chain for the forage prey base and juvenile salmonids that are just now hitting the ocean. The greatest

amount of mortality for juvenile salmonids takes place during the first 30 days of their ocean entry. OA is killing juvenile oysters, so what's it doing to the much more fragile shells of crab, clams and shrimp that feed us and the fish we most care about? Salmon fishing, sportfishing alone, is a multi-billion dollar fishery in the Pacific Northwest.

Pollution from Coal Dust: Do I need to say much more than one-pound of coal dust PER rail car PER mile is expelled from every 100-rail car locomotive during the 150-mile trek down the Columbia River? Even hillbilly math raises red flags here.

Climate Change: Couple the warm water blob that scientists have never seen before in what we thought were our untouchable Gulf of Alaska waters with the recent intensive El Niño event that's just ending, and we're in for a few tough salmon years ahead. Whales in the lower Columbia, changes in spring chinook timing, 80-degree days in April and May, hundreds of thousands of sockeye salmon dying in the Columbia...I could go on and on.

The bottom line is that it's our job as US citizens to tell our government the best way to utilize our public resources. Whether on land or sea, let's be a part of the conversation and solution and not let corporations decide how best to utilize OUR resources.

Pleasant Valley Ridge Boat Ramp Angler and ADA Improvement Project

By George Larson



The Mid Valley Chapter has completed work to improve angler access, including an ADA Fishing Platform, in Sweet Home at Pleasant Valley Boat Ramp on the South Santiam River. May 21st from 10:00-2:00 we will turn over this completed project to the City of Sweet Home.

The project was funded by a \$23,000 grant from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Restoration and Enhancement Program (from our fishing license fees) and

~\$7,000 worth of volunteer labor and travel from our members. The R&E Grant funds allowed us to build a concrete fishing platform with railings and parking to allow ADA access to fishing at this location. The project funding was developed using an initial design drawing from K&D Engineering, Inc. (donated) to support the grant application. Upon discussion of the project concept with the City of Sweet Home Public Works, a final design was agreed to and implemented. Work commenced in December 2015 with improvements to the park's parking lot (going from three positions to 10). Site prep work continued in January with forms installed and cement placement for the platform, sidewalk, and ADA parking. Repair of the asphalt paving to integrate the ADA parking to the ramp roadway was performed recently to complete the project.

We would like to acknowledge the following businesses and organizations:

- K&D Engineering, Inc. (Albany) provided conceptual design drawing for grant application (donated).
- B.A.D.D. Enterprises, Inc. (Lebanon) provided subcontract site prep and finish work.
- Liberty Rock Products, Inc. (Sweet Home) provided gravel for site prep and non-ADA parking improvement.

(continued on page 22)

Boy Scout Fishing Derby at Timber Linn Park

By Kim Dowe, Mid Valley Chapter

On a beautiful Saturday morning in Albany, young people lined the bank for the joy of fishing. The Calapooia District of the Boy Scouts of America held their annual fishing derby on April 30th. The Mid-Valley Northwest Steelheaders were on hand to pass out rods, bait up hooks, and share techniques with the young anglers.

A family of six with no fishing experience at all came early. The young girls were reluctant to try until an older brother landed a fish. Then, they all wanted to bait up and get in the water. The Boy Scout troop invited all local young people to the fishing event. Many were introduced to the sport for the first time.

Many Boy Scouts were there to earn a fishing merit badge. Most requirements for the fishing merit badge involve study and demonstrating knowledge. Two examples: "Ex-



plain how to remove a hook that has lodged in your arm," and "Demonstrate how to tie the following knots: improved clinch, palomar, turtle, blood loop (barrel knot), and double surgeon's loop. Explain how and when each knot is used." The big requirement for the day was, "Catch at least one fish and identify it." Of the nearly 100 participating scouts, about 20

raised their hands when the scoutmaster asked the group, "Who caught a fish?"

Scouts on the bridge, scouts on the dock, and scouts on the grassy banks enjoyed the sunshine with family and friends, all seemed to get it: fishing is fun but you don't always catch a fish. ODFW provided fishing tackle. Albany Bi-Mart provided bait and prizes.



CLACKACRAFT™ DRIFT BOATS

PREFERRED BY PROFESSIONAL GUIDES



DAVE MANNERS - WILSON RIVER LODGE
Coastal Streams and Bays



GRANT SCHEELE
Siletz, Alsea, Nestucca

SCOTT AMERMAN
Willamette,
Coastal Streams



STEVE LEONARD
Washougal, Kalama,
Cowlitz



16' Steelhead Deluxe



18' ClackaMax

NEW! 17' Magnum



Designed for *all* fishing techniques

Many seating options

ClackaCraft:

Tunnel Hull™ • Tracking Channels • Gulfstream™ Bottom

100-Year Warranty against bottom leaks and punctures.

13111 SE Highway 212
Clackamas, OR 97015

clacka.com

(503) 655-9532

ClackaCraft has
generously donated
a 16' Old School
High Side for the 2016
ANWS Boat Raffle

Boat Ramp Project *continued from page 20*

- Green and White Concrete (Lebanon) provided cement mixing and delivery.
- Chuck's Concrete Pumping, Inc. (Tangent) provided transport of the cement from truck to final placement.
- City of Sweet Home Public Works provided guidance and compliance inspection of the site prep, cement work, and signage.
- The Mid-Valley Chapter provided grant application, project manage-

ment, and labor—all volunteer actions.

The Mid-Valley Chapter is proud that we could provide improved fishing access for disabled local residents with ADA access. Monthly meetings the first Wednesday of each month (except July and August) are at the Albany Senior Center. Speakers discuss fishing, teaching technique and location as well as keeping our members informed of current events. We volunteer our support to many events in our area, including scouting and school fishing days, classroom egg to fry learning, and free fishing day. We con-

duct many projects in cooperation with ODFW programs. We also volunteer to perform fishing access and habitat improvements on local rivers and lakes.

Other projects Chapter volunteers have contributed to include: Foster Dam Boat Ramp; Waterloo Park Boat Ramp; Cheadle Lake Park boat ramp, pump station, and fishing platforms; River Edge Park Boat Slide Renewal; EE Wilson Pond Aeration Windmill installation; Blackberry Boat Ramp Extension; Ernie Walters Boat Ramp Extension; and Five-Rivers Ramp Grading/Graveling.

New Life Members By Joyce Sherman

Eight more people have paid their Budgeted Life Membership in full, most by accelerating their payments in less than five years. In fact, three of our new Life Members paid the entire \$500 in one payment! We welcome these new Life Members:

Brandon Glass (Sandy River Chapter)
Mike Moore (At Large)
Jerry Neitz (Deschutes Basin Chapter)
Russell Dunham (Sandy River Chapter)
Yancy Lind (Deschutes Basin Chapter)
Tim Heath (Sandy River Chapter)
Jerry Stratton (Sandy River Chapter)
Michael Brochu (Emerald Empire Chapter)

In addition, three more people have decided to begin a Budgeted Life Membership: Barry Rager, Aaron Bento, and Ryan Morrow. We look forward to adding them to the list of Life Members in the future.

During a recent Mid Coast Watershed Council meeting, Brad Halverson was wearing his Life Member pin plus a Life Member hat and shirt. It says a lot when we “go public” wearing pins and clothing that says we have done something extra for fish and fishing by investing in Northwest Steelheaders. If you're a Life Member and you have been thinking about ordering some clothing that indicates you are a Life Member, simply call our clothing supplier, Bob Stancell, tell him the Life Member code, and place your order.

Ordering Clothing with the ANWS Logo By Joyce Sherman

It's never been easier to order clothing with the Northwest Steelheader logo than it is now. If you want one of the standard items on our section of Bob Stancell's website, simply go to www.stancellgraphics.com/nws to see the items available (shirts, hats, and hoodies in various colors and styles). Ordering is quick and easy.

However, if you want a custom item, something special, you need to call Bob at 971-344-5804. We have a copy of Bob's 2016 catalog in the office, plus I have one in my own office. If you're looking for a specific type of clothing, you may call me and ask me to scan the appropriate catalog page. You can order virtually any item of cloth-



ing plus other soft goods, like packs, coolers, towels, aprons, to name a few items. Hats alone take up 62 pages of the catalog—far more than the standard baseball cap style!

You can order clothing with the special half circle logo (shown above) or with our usual round logo (at right). Printed logos are in standard colors, while embroi-



dered logos can have virtually any color used for the lettering. You can add the name of your chapter beneath the logo, or your own name on the left breast or back of caps—it's up to you to decide.

It's a Complex Food Web Out There; Precautionary Speed Ahead

By Bob Rees, Executive Director

I just finished reading an article on the anomaly of pink salmon actually returning in larger sizes than they did historically, and subsequently affecting the size and abundance of other, more highly sought-after salmon species in the region. It's a true testament as to how complex our ocean ecosystems really are. If there's one thing that fisherman can all agree on, it's how challenging fisheries science is.

Bonneville Dam counts are fluctuating wildly but managers breathed a sigh of relief when adult spring Chinook started passing in masse over the facility recently, indicating that the run was safe from a collapse that many of us had blamed on the growing abundance of sea lions. I too, prematurely called the run a bust before the big passage came on line. What do I know, I've only been paying attention to fish issues for two decades.

There is a lot at risk when fisheries biologists start punching numbers through the models. Economically important sport and commercial fisheries are crafted based on these return numbers, and we have a catch sharing agreement with the Columbia River Treaty Tribes that we have to pay attention to as well. Due to past mis-predictions, the fish and wildlife departments have to hold back a buffer, to ensure adequate escapement for tribal harvests. Once the run size update happens, typically in the first week of May, managers can "release" that buffer, and we can go about our business of attempting to land one of these prized fishes that is so pleasing to the palate.

Just now, coming off of the effects of a pretty intense, but thankfully, not long-lived El Nino event, we have some tough times ahead, showing us that indeed, these strong salmon returns of recent years are still susceptible to ocean anomalies. We'll suffer another year of bad coho returns and likely another one after that. Since Chinook are longer lived, it will be another year (hopefully) before we see this stock of fish return to more modest returns.

In times like these, and as you've seen in the last several years from Columbia River biologists, it makes sense to manage conservatively. Since we've become aware that these salmon returns are volatile and hard to predict, the buffer on the Columbia River sport and especially the commercial fleet, is darn important. Managing conservatively is the tool of the future, especially as ocean conditions become more radical.

There are not too many times where we can say as a community that we're sorry we "under-managed" a fishery. There have been a few times where we've left a few fish on the table, fish could have withstood some additional harvest, but should we really be upset that we didn't get all that we were allotted? That management strategy always perplexed me in Alaska. ADF&G always wanted "excess" sockeye taken from the Kenai system so there wasn't an over-abundance of them. There may be some method to their madness, however, as when there is an over-abundance of juvenile sockeye fry that puts a strain on available forage

during their freshwater life cycle, similar to the article I referred to at the beginning of this blog. An ecosystem, whether it be saltwater or freshwater, only has a certain carrying capacity.

In a recent meeting of the Columbia Basin Partnership, I saw a graph that explained the Pacific Decadal Oscillation and the recent interruption that we're experiencing. Perhaps that's a good thing. The graph shows that interruption, going from what traditionally is a 10-year cycle (hence "decadal") into a sporadic pattern that mimics the extremely good and extremely bad events we've had in recent years. It's hard to complain about the good events as that has provided us some pretty spectacular salmon returns, but it's a view into the window of how climate change will be affecting our ocean ecosystems.

Now that you have a firm grip on ecosystem management, a precautionary approach is what the Magnuson Stevens Act is all about, proactively managing our forage fish base and implementing precautionary measures that ensure the opportunity for depressed stocks of fish to recover. Furthermore, we can't overlook the benefits of ecosystem based management (EBM). To look at the entire system versus single species management, which is how our fisheries have historically been managed.

As summer approaches, so does our harvest season. I'm still springer-less, but I can't believe I'll go all season without getting one for my family. We also just got off a strong upwelling event on the Pacific Coast. Let's hope this translates into a friendly ocean for the newly arriving coho and steelhead smolts just now entering the ocean.

We now know more than we ever did about ocean ecosystems. Fishermen, both sport and commercial, are the real observers. It's up to us to be the advocates for healthy, abundant stocks of fish that our children can fish on. Another issue everyone agrees on: we don't want to be the generation that takes the last fish. It's up to us to tell those that sit behind the desk for all too long that these fisheries need special attention because we all intend to do this for as long as our bodies will allow us to.



ANGLING, ACTIVITIES, ACTIVISM



Paul Curran and his eleven-year-old son Jackson joined Joyce Sherman in mid-April for a winter steelhead spawning survey in the lower Salmonberry River, and again in mid-May to place temperature monitors that will measure the temperature every two hours until they're removed in September. Left, Jackson is checking the temperature after helping place a monitor in Belfort Creek.



Sam Wurdinger, President of the Molalla River Chapter, and his daughters Avery, 6, and Grace, 4, did a river cleanup along the Molalla River April 16. They picked up trash at a boat ramp that has recently been closed to any access due to the trash dumping. They have cleaned this spot up for a couple of years, but there seemed to be just as much trash this year with the boat ramp closed.



John Snelling receiving a President's Award certificate from President George Larson during the Mid Valley banquet.



Al Wentland won the bid for this rod during the Mid Valley banquet April 9.

MID VALLEY WOUNDED WARRIOR FISHING



The Mid Valley Chapter recently held our Annual Wounded Warrior Family Day of Fishing at Sunny Side Park, just above Foster Reservoir.

The day started with recognition of the Wounded Warrior families by honoring them and showing our gratitude for the many sacrifices they have made to protect our country, as well as the many hardships they continue to endure.

To add to the fun, prizes were given for the first fish caught, the largest fish caught, and most fish caught. After a fun morning of fishing, we all enjoyed a catered BBQ lunch. Gifts were then handed out to the Wounded Warriors, including gift bags loaded with multiple items, including raffle tickets for a fishing trip for two to Alaska, and a guided Kokanee fishing trip for two on Odell Lake. Gift bags were also given to the children.

Although the weather was less than stellar, we all had a great time. Fish were caught, priceless smiles were abundant, and wonderful memories were made.

Well worth mentioning are the local support groups that make these events possible. Included are volunteers from the Mid Valley Chapter of

the Northwest Steelheaders, the Wounded Warrior Projects, including our local WW mentors, retired Kim Fox, and retired Joe Liddell. Also included are ODFW (Alex Farrand), Linn County Parks and Recreation (Brian Carroll and team), and the Linn County Sheriff's Office.

George Larson



Steelheaders and Climate Change

By Brad Halverson, Vice President of Conservation

Earlier this month, the Midcoast Watersheds Council hosted Dr. Rebecca Flitcroft, Fish Research Ecologist, as their guest speaker. She works for the U.S. Forest Service in their Research Station in Corvallis; and spoke on how salmon may be affected by predicted changes in climate.

Dr. Flitcroft's research deals specifically with aquatic systems from their headwaters to the ocean. Through her efforts, and others dedicated to this cause, we have learned that native aquatic species are very adaptable to a wide range of environmental conditions within their natural habitats; and few species are as adaptable as wild salmonids. Is past survival and reproduction a prelude to their adaptability to what will surely be challenging future climatic conditions effecting their spatial distribution all the way from the headwaters of tiny spawning streams to the ocean? That is the \$60,000 question scientists such as Dr. Flitcroft and her associates are asking.

While salmonids have been present since the last Ice Age (22,000 years ago), are they now on a trajectory to becoming a Marine only species in the far off future (four million years hence?) Though in the past they have demonstrated a muscular resiliency to geomorphic events, including significant sea level increases, human disturbances (dams, destructions of estuarine habitats, etc.) that now characterize their landscapes may prove chronic, and impair their ability to rebound.

With the exception of when they spawn, salmon are not habitat specific. Rather, they demonstrate a more opportunistic behavior to embrace habitats favorable to their comfort, safety and health. Indeed, this behavioral diversity reflects an approximate 20% stray rate, especially when disturbances effect their natal streams. It's interesting that through substantial



research we are trying to minimize stray rates or eliminate them altogether in hatchery stocks. But, in the wild, it is precisely this ability to stray from perilous settings that will lead to at least a portion of their population surviving mans' disorders.

What are the options for salmon in light of climate change?

1. Adapt—random mutation of genes. But human caused changes are now happening faster than natural disturbances did. So, genetic modification is not probable.
2. Tolerate—use existing variations.
3. Move—change their distribution. We are seeing a northern migration to colder waters in many species. In fact, a NOAA representative speaking at the recent Columbia Basin Partnership symposium predicted

that the only salmon friendly habitat remaining before the turn of the next century will be at the mouth of the Bering Sea.

4. Die—self-explanatory. We are seeing this now.

But, to all these options, thermal conditions (water temperatures) provide a hard stop. As a side note, that is why we observe dedicated Northwest Steelheaders such as Bob Rees, Joyce Sherman and Ian Fergusson working so diligently on our behalf (really on behalf of our treasured anadromous salmonid stocks) to reform forest harvest practices to protect streamside habitat for safe juvenile rearing.

Observed oceanic climate variations are demonstrated in El Nino and La Nina years, and the recent Warm Blob off the West Coast. In addition, predictors show a huge sea level rise which is unlikely to recede ever again. And, this will likely lead to greater coastal erosion during storm surges, as well as the potential loss of estuarine habitats (key salt marshes) if they flood during these surges. The coastal mountains here provide a natural barrier to these floods being able to migrate upstream; so flooding estuaries is plausible.

Nevertheless, Dr. Flitcroft offered hope in the face of this destiny. Reexamining the options pallet, we can turn to the tolerate option and focus on restoration projects that will facilitate their adaptive resiliency, and hence better tolerate the changing landscape. 85% of Oregon coastal salt marsh habitat is gone. But, by re-scouring historic drainages to reposition channels, and removing ditches and dikes, we can restore the diversity of these habitats and reconnect them according to their use during the various life cycle stages of migrating salmonids.

Future articles will continue this theme of climate change influence on salmon survivability.

CHAPTER REPORTS

Columbia River Chapter

Our chapter held our annual Veterans Fishing Event March 26. It was our biggest event yet! This year we teamed up with The Fallen Outdoors; which is where the veterans came from. They are a nationwide non-profit organization with the sole purpose to get veterans outdoors and do any type of hunting and fishing. This year our event was held at the Port of Kalama boat launch. The event was from 6:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. We had a total of 61 volunteers from our chapter and the public. We were able to get 28 boats/boat captains, and 23 of them had a volunteer deckhand. We had 15 volunteers to help run the booth, registration, hand out event t-shirts, and pass out lunches. We took a total of 78 veterans spring chinook fishing on the Columbia River. Between the veterans and our volunteer staff who wanted to fish we were able to fill every seat on every boat. It worked out perfectly.

The catching wasn't the greatest, but a total of 10 salmon were caught/kept with twice that many missed/lost or were natives that were released. We made and supplied a total of 125 boxed lunches to all volunteers and veterans who wanted one, along with water and soft drinks. After fishing from 7:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. everyone came back to the dock where we took group pictures and gave away door prizes of three rods and a bunch of gear. It was an amazing time and event.

April 7 the chapter participated in Ladies' Night at the Vancouver location Sportsman's Warehouse. The event was from 6:00-8:00. No new members signed up at the event, but we talked to and handed out info to dozens of up and coming fishermen. It was a great event put on by Sportsman's Warehouse with lots of good information and raffles/prizes.

Our chapter was a sponsor of the Kline Kids Fishing Event held in Vancouver at Kline Pond April 9. Unfortunately this year we were unable to have a booth due to lack of volunteers; all our board members were busy that day. However we were still a sponsor of the event and our

chapter name was on fliers, banners, and event t-shirts.

Don Hyde, President

Mid Valley Chapter

The Mid Valley Chapter Annual Banquet was held April 9th at Lum-Yuen's restaurant. The event kicked off with a social hour and silent auction containing a grand assortment of items. Thirty-eight members/spouses attended. Vicky and Don Heintzman, along with Bill Pavlisick organized the festive evening. (Many Thanks!!)

The new officers were introduced at the banquet. The Steelheader of the Year revolving trophy and an award certificate went to Larry Bell in recognition of all he has done to revitalize the Chapter. In the prior years, Larry has served as board member, Chapter President, mentor to new officers, and has headed many events and projects. He has involved many new people in leading our Chapter. His efforts increased the annual ANWS raffle sales, and he has served as our interface with several communities that we serve and many local businesses.

President's Award certificates were issued to 18 members who have repeatedly stepped up and worked events, parades, officer positions, and chair positions. These certificates provide recognition keepsakes and are a way of thanking them for their fine efforts keeping the Chapter operating.

Following dinner, a video provided by Oregon Public Broadcasting's *Oregon Field Guide* "Discovering Valhalla: Oregon's Hidden Gorge" was shown. This gorge had not been discovered or explored before it was found in 2010 by firefighters passing overhead in a helicopter. The ground exploration took nearly five years to prepare and plan. The gorge is within an hour of our homes. We want to express our thanks to OPB for making the effort to provide this DVD to us before it was publically released for sale. Their staff made an extra effort to allow us to enjoy this program!

A verbal auction was held for four two-seat, professionally guided, fishing trips donated in whole or in part by our local guides. Our thanks to the pros in our

area: Curt Currey, Grant Scheele, Trevor Smith, and Damon Struble for their generosity and support of our Chapter. There will be eight happy anglers out there this season!

At the end of the evening, there were lots of door prizes, ranging from the flowers on the tables to gift certificates from local retailers. Kudos to Vicky and Don Heintzman and Bill Pavlisick for acquiring the wide range of donated items for the auction and the door prizes. Profits from the event went into our treasury.

Officers for 2016-17 will be:

President - George Larson

Vice President - Ron Pockrus

Secretary - Randy Raggon

Treasurer - Kim Dowe

Past President - Larry Bell

Board of Directors - One year term, will be John Snelling and Al Wentland. Board, Two-year term, Kenny Kent and Jan Oden.

Chair Positions:

Communications - open

Volunteer Coordinator - George Larson

Annual Raffle - Al Wentland

Door Prizes - Don Heintzman

Membership - John Snelling

Refreshments - Ellen Compton

Banquet - Don and Vicky Heintzman

Wounded Warrior Events - Ron Pockrus

George Larson, President

Sandy River Chapter

The Chapter held their annual dinner and auction May 4. Leslie Hinea organized the auction over a period of several weeks, and the preparation paid off. Joli Ritchie, Kathryn Israelson, and Stevie Parsons catered dinner, which ended with some of Robert Wisher's fine pastries. Bob Rees and Jeff Stoeger shared the emcee duties, to the enjoyment of the crowd. Almost all of the auction items were claimed by enthusiastic bidders, resulting in the most successful auction the chapter has held.

The chapter is now preparing for the Sandy River Spring Chinook Classic. Net proceeds will be split between the chapter and the Association.

Mid Valley Chapter School Fishing Event

By George Larson

ODFW and the Mid Valley Chapter hosted a fishing event for about 100 Philomath School students at the E.E. Wilson Pond April 19, from 9:00 to 2:00. Volunteers helped the students fish for trout. Four Chapter members supported Karen Hans (ODFW) to conduct this event by baiting hooks, setting up rods, and helping to teach casting technique to individual students.

Karen Hans presenting an orientation to the students.



Karen also demonstrated how to clean fish to prepare them to be cooked.

*Here's an example of a person dependent upon a wheelchair fishing at Dahl Beach, which Steelheaders helped save as fishing access.
Photo by Judy Munroe*



Eggs to Fry Program

By Joyce Sherman

Steelheaders have provided incubation tanks for classrooms for not just years but decades. Members volunteer to set up tanks, deliver eggs donated by ODFW, and accompany the students when they take the fry to a nearby river for release. The program earned the name Eggs to Fry, which is often abbreviated to E2F.

At first, the program was simply placing a tank in a classroom, but the program has expanded over the years into a well-rounded learning experi-

ence that includes releasing the fry in a nearby body of water. Steelheaders have prepared booklets for students and teachers as well as instructional guides for the volunteers who keep the tanks operating smoothly. They've even prepared a DVD! The idea is to use the program to capture interest in reading, math, and art that otherwise might not be reached.

All of these photos were taken by Tim Wilson, a member of the McLoughlin Chapter and father of a

Milwaukie student. The McLoughlin Chapter has tanks in classrooms throughout the area. Other chapters, particularly Tualatin Valley, provide tanks to schools in their areas and maintain them.

Steelheaders' Education Director, Mike Myrick, is the overall coordinator for the Eggs to Fry Program. In addition to keeping track of where all the tanks are placed, Mike also sets up tanks in our booth at major shows, like the Boat Show or Sportsman's Show.



Matt Rockweit fills a tank, getting it ready for eggs.



The tank set up to incubate the eggs until they're fry.



Eyed eggs on the gravel in a tank.



Fry emerging from the eggs inside the tank.



Each student has a foam cup with a few fry to be released.



Children crowding along the boat ramp to watch the fry.

CALENDAR

- May 21 Quarterly Board Meeting, 10:00, City of Keizer Community Center (at City Hall), 930 Chemawa Rd. NE, Keizer
- May 21 Dedication of Pleasant Valley Boat Ramp, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. north of Hwy 20 in Sweet Home
- May 28 Timberlinn Scout Fishing Derby, 8:30 a.m.-2:00p.m., Timberlinn Lake (Mid Valley Chapter)
- June 4 Sandy Salmon Classic, Springdale Pub for weigh in and awards
- June 4 Lebanon Strawberry Festival Parade, 8:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. (Mid Valley Chapter)
- June 4 Free Fishing, 8:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. at the Roaring River Hatchery (Mid Valley Chapter)
- June 4-5 ODFW Free Fishing Weekend
- June 11 Learn the River Trip—North Santiam, Fisherman's Bend to Lyons (Salem Chapter)
- June 15 Executive Committee Meeting, Association Office, 6:30
- June 25 Learn the River Trip—North Santiam, Packsaddle to Fisherman's Bend (Salem Chapter)
- June 25 Wounded Warrior Kokanee Fishing Event, Sunnyside Park in Foster (Mid Valley Chapter)
- June 25 Rhoades Pond fin clipping party (100,000 spring chinook), 9:00 a.m., east of Hebo (N. Coast Chapter)
- July 9 Sweet Home Sportsman Holiday Parade, 8:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. (Mid Valley Chapter)
- July 30 Annual Meeting, 10:00, location TBA

Note: You may participate in meetings via teleconferencing; check meeting agendas or call the office, 503-653-4176.

To have your chapter's events included in the calendar, provide the date, time, and location when you are prompted for chapter news prior to each issue.



Business Members

These companies have business memberships, which means that they are supporting Northwest Steelheaders on a regular basis by paying \$100 annually (instead of a \$35 regular membership). These businesses deserve your support in return, so please patronize their businesses.

- | | |
|--|---|
| Bay Side Guided Adventures, Bay City; Greg Hublou | Knipe Realty, Portland, Oregon; Tim Wilson |
| D & G Bait, Inc., Clackamas, Oregon; Dan and Cindy Pickthorn | Maupin Market, Maupin, Oregon; Randy Bechtol |
| Danz Outdoors, Eugene; Matt Danz | Netarts Bay Rental, Bend; Gordon and Joyce Boon |
| Paul E. Davis Construction, Albany; Paul Davis | Nickles Media, Salem |
| Farmers Insurance/Joe Domenico Agency, Milwaukie, Oregon; Joe Domenico | Tom Posey Company, Tigard, Ron Hiller |
| <i>Freshwater News</i> , Portland; Jolene Coats | Poulsen-Cascade Tackle, Clackamas, Oregon; Tom Hester |
| Hook Up Guide Service, Fairview, Oregon; Brandon Glass | Pro-Cure, Inc., Salem, Oregon; Phil Pirone |
| | Rubber Resource, Inc., Portland, Oregon; Robin Olson |

Support Our Advertisers

These companies help support our mission. By advertising in the Steelheaders' magazine, they are demonstrating that they have a huge interest in healthy fisheries and encouraging more people to fish. *These companies have earned our support!*

- ANWS Membership31
- ANWS Spring Chinook Classic5
- ANWS Save the Date2
- Bentley Boat Tops9
- ClackaCraft Drift Boats21
- Steve Hershberger9
- Hoggs/Jo-Mar13
- Knipe Realty (Tim Wilson)13
- Lamiglas32
- Line Keeper9
- Stearns Lending, Inc.9
- Yakutat Lodge17

CHAPTERS

West Region

Regional Director Bill Hedlund, billh@ifish.net

Newberg

Second Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.
Chehalem Senior Center, 101 Foothills Drive, Newberg
Contact President Ty Campsey at 503-705-8296,
ty.campsey@fei.com

North Coast

Call for information about next meeting
ODFW Tillamook Office, 4907 3rd St., Tillamook
Contact Co-President Bill Hedlund at 503-815-2737,
billh@ifish.net

Tualatin Valley

Second Thursday, 7:00 p.m.
Aloha American Legion Hall, 20325 SW Alexander, Aloha
Contact President Tom VanderPlaat at 503-357-4825,
tvanderplaat@msn.com

Central Region

Regional Director, Gary Lutman, goduckies@hotmail.com

Deschutes Basin

Meetings scheduled based on fishery needs
Contact President Yancy Lind at 541-788-5514,
yancy_lind@ml.com

Emerald Empire

First Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.
Eugene Elks Lodge, 2470 W. 11th, Eugene
Contact President Ken Johnson at 541-520-9082,
kenmjohnson@msn.com

Mid-Valley

First Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.
Albany Senior Citizens Center, 489 Water Ave. NW, Albany
Contact President George Larson at 541-971-1033,
larsong1f@mindspring.com

Salem

Third Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.
City of Keizer Community Center (at City Hall), 930
Chemawa Rd. NE, Keizer
Contact President Bob Morton, 971-388-8913, robert.
morton65@yahoo.com

Columbia River Region

Regional Dir. Tim Wilson, timwilsonsellshomes@gmail.com

Columbia River (Vancouver)

Second Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.
Pied Piper Pizza, 12300 NE Fourth Plain Rd., Vancouver
Contact President Don Hyde at 360-835-3372, donyde88
@yahoo.com

McLoughlin

Second Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.
Denny's, 15815 SE 82nd Drive, Clackamas
Contact President Carol Clark at 503-632-6974, clark
carol533@gmail.com

Molalla River

Third Thursday, 6:30 p.m.
Farmstead Restaurant, 28313 S. Highway 213, Molalla
Contact President Sam Wurdinger at 503-932-8386,
dingerjigs@yahoo.com

Sandy River

First Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.
Glenn Otto Park, 1208 Historic Columbia River Hwy.,
Troutdale
Contact President Steve Rothenbucher at 503-255-6232,
rothenbuchers@gmail.com

Tom McCall

Third Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.
Old Spaghetti Factory, 0715 SW Bancroft St., Portland
Contact President John Laing at 503-730-4662,
johnlaing1@comcast.net

Please call the office, 503-653-4176, if you are interested in developing a new chapter.

JOIN THE NORTHWEST STEELHEADERS!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

E-Mail Address _____

Chapter of Choice OR Member At Large _____

Introductory Rate, \$25 **NEW MEMBERS ONLY**

Regular, \$35

Senior (65 and over), \$20

Family, \$45

Youth (18 and under), \$20

Business, \$100

Handicapped, \$20

Budgeted Life—five annual \$100 installments; total of \$500

Contribution of \$ _____

Total charged/enclosed \$ _____

VISA MasterCard

Card No. _____

Exp. _____

Signature _____

Association of Northwest Steelheaders
6641 SE Lake Road, Milwaukie, Oregon 97222-2161
(503) 653-4176 • www.nwsteelheaders.org

*A portion of your membership may be tax deductible.
Check with your tax advisor.*



INFINITE WISDOM

13 New Models. Intelligently Designed. Practically Priced.



Infinity

Facebook

Lamiglas

FISH WITH CONFIDENCE