

# Coos River S.T.E.P. News

P.O Box 5907 Charleston, Oregon 97420

February 2016

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### NEWSLETTER

Ray Lee 267-4176

Clyde Haga 267-3563

NOVEMBER 2015

DECEMBER 2015

**Are the months to update  
your yearly dues for Coos  
River STEP NEWS**

**You can check the year  
you are paid for by looking  
at the mailing label. After  
your name is a number of  
the year that is paid for.**

**We appreciate your sup-  
port for this news letter.**

**You can also donate some  
time here at the hatchery,  
especially while we are  
spawning these Chinook  
salmon, or come out with  
your camera and take some  
pictures of the many salmon.**

## HATCHERY NEWS

Harold with some help has been fixing us a place to hang our new waders and rain pants and jackets, it will also hold most of the used waders also. We will be able to lock this place up for security which will help to keep the honest people honest.

There will be lots of shelf room for the storage of lots of other items.

Our tool room that we have, was getting pretty crowded to work in, this will really help give us back our work space. It was getting hard to find some of the tools that we might need for working on the different projects that we have.

It looks like we will have enough wood in our storage area that is seasoned well, so it will heat our meeting room easily most of this spawning and rearing season. We need a warm room, especially right after we have been out in the cold spawning these salmon.

**THANKS TO ALL THE  
VOLUNTEER HELP**

## SPAWNNG TIME .AGAIN

We had quite a time getting everything working on our first spawning day. Most everything worked OK except for the 1 1/2 pump that we depend on the most. We tried and tried to get it primed so it would pump for us and it just wouldn't work. It turned out that it was getting air leaks in the suction side so it couldn't possibly work at all. We finally got it fixed and working after some of us got really wet from all the spraying water all over us.

The other two pumps we use worked good with no trouble at all. The big 3 inch aerator pump also had to be put in place and hooked up so it could do it's job for the salmon, it's working good at this time.



Clyde called for a January 15th work party. Lots of things to keep us busy. Harold uses two different methods to clean out dead eggs from our hatch boxes. When there are a lot of eggs still in the box, tongs work best to pick out individual dead eggs. Once most of the eggs are gone the dust pan is fine.



The raceway side of the trap has filled up with mud from recent high water events. The best way to remove it is to flow more water to that side and wash it out. Here, Scott Brown is blocking off flow in the trap side to increase flow in the raceway side. Let the water do the work!



The spring above Clyde's house has filled in the small reservoir with mud and moss. This pump runs a 4" diameter line and can pump mud, moss and rocks. A lot easier than trying to shovel it out. As long as the motor stays running we get to watch it do the work.



The Dellwood trap that has been in the way has now found a new home. This is on the new wader room wall that we built a few months ago. It still looks new and shiny since Paul Merz built it last year. This is our fallback trap. As long as ODFW has their trap in we can use it to get wild Chinook milt from Dellwood. This brings wild DNA into Noble Creek hatchery Chinook.

As many of you already know I missed the first spawning day at Noble Creek Hatchery this last month because I was elk hunting in northeast Oregon with my brother (who lives out of state). Things looked good for me to be gone since we did not have any significant rain for months. But of course it had to rain (and quite a bit) while I was gone. Thanks to the guys that showed up and spawned the Chinook while I was busy looking for elk. And yes I did get an elk, although my brother did not find anything to fill his tag with.

At the end of October we had well over 1,000 Chinook that made their way into Noble Creek Hatchery. We had a great day spawning on November 3<sup>rd</sup> but we maybe went through less than a third of the fish. We will be spawning again Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup> and again on Tuesday, November 10<sup>th</sup>. So far we seem to be right on track for the numbers of Chinook eggs we need to have to meet our egg take goal.

Paul Merz and I set the fish trap at Dellwood to attempt to collect some wild Chinook brood stock to be used at Noble Creek Hatchery. A very big group of Chinook moved up the past weekend and are spawning near the fish trap. Paul and I have checked the trap this morning and we caught a few Chinook, along with a few coho, and a chum salmon. We will check the trap again tomorrow morning to see how many more Chinook we can capture and haul back to the hatchery.

Bill Sigler, who has worked seasonally for ODFW, is working as an employee for Coos Watershed Association for the next month conducting coho spawning surveys in the Catching Slough basin. Bill will be collecting spawner numbers and hopefully otoliths from coho carcasses to see if they are from the coho eyed egg injection project. At the end of the salmon spawning season I will send off all the collected otoliths to be sectioned and look for thermal marks.

Gary Vonderohe  
Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

**POTLUCK 6:00 PM MEETING 7:00 TUE. NOV. 10th  
NOBLE CREEK HATCHERY**



**Coos River S.T.E.P. Association**  
Coos River S.T.E.P. needs your help to insure that there will be rivers to fish and salmon and steelhead to fish for into the future. Sign up today as a **SUPPORTER** & volunteer! Oregon's fish need your help!

MEMBERSHIP:  \$15.00 Family

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make checks payable to: Coos River STEP P.O. BOX 5907 CHARLESTON, Oregon 97420*

**JOIN STEP!**

You can **SUPPORT** Coos River STEP Association and receive this news letter for only \$15.00 per Family! (Tax deductible!)

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**cehaga@charter.net**

**Coos River S.T.E.P.**

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