

Coos River S.T.E.P. News

P.O Box 5907 Charleston, Oregon 97420

January 2016

Directors

PRESIDENT

Clyde Haga 267-3563

VICE PRESIDENT

Harold Brown 756-6958

SECRETARY

Ray Lee 267-4176

TREASURER

Mickey McCreedy 888-5906

S.T.E.P. BIOLOGIST

Gary Vonderohe 888-5515

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

JOHN O'NEILL 267-7874

MARJORIE BROWN 756-6958

MARLA O'NEILL 267-7874

JAMES DAVISON 756-3142

Shorty Burcher 888-5369

Charlie Gross 267-7979

Bob Fleming 290-7828

Paul Merz 888-4425

Harold Brown 756-6955

Lee Hockema 290-8666

Vickie Fleming 290-7828

Marla O'Neill 267-7874

Dorothy Haga 267-3563

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.**

HATEHERY 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.



December 1st. This is one of our last days at the hatchery for 2015. Very few people showed up. That's OK as we only had 140 fish total. None were spawned. They all go back into the streams to feed bugs and baby fish for the future.



The lines from the pond upstream a quarter mile away get full of mud somehow. We let them run for about a half hour to clear the lines. It's a mystery. How does this happen?



Each year the bio rings are full of flies. They crawl into the net bags used to store the bio rings when not in use. They seem to be dormant as they don't fly when the bio rings are dumped out of the bag. We wash them off the rings and down the drain to Noble Creek. Probably they are food for the Cutthroat trout below the hatchery. Life goes on for some!



A couple of bags of bio rings then the screen to hold all of the eggs above the bio rings. When the eggs hatch and turn into alevins they swim down through the holes in the screen and hide in the bio rings. They're just fake rocks — the fish don't seem to care.

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 3rd but we maybe went through less than a third of the fish. We will be spawning again Saturday, November 7th and again on Tuesday, November 10th. 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!)

See order form at left
E-mail news items or questions about Coos River STEP to

WEB SITE
Noblecreekfish.net

E-MAIL
cehaga@charter.net

Coos River S.T.E.P.

**P.O.Box 5907
Charleston, Oregon 97420**

