

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

P.O Box 5907 Charleston, Oregon 97420

June 2013

## Directors

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	
Harold Brown	756-6958
<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	
Dorothy Haga	267-3563
<b>SECRETARY</b>	
Ray Lee	267-4176
<b>TREASURER</b>	
Mickey McCready	888-5906
<b>S.T.E.P. BIOLOGIST</b>	
Gary Vonderohe	888-5515
<b>BOARD OF DIRECTORS</b>	
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
Paul Merz	888-4425
Clyde Haga	267-3563
<b>NEWSLETTER</b>	
Ray Lee	267-4176
Clyde Haga	267-3563

## DONATIONS

Marla O'Neill won the 50-50 drawing at the May meeting. She donated her 50% winnings back to Coos River STEP.

## THANKS

## VOLUNTEERS

This hatchery is run by volunteers of all ages. We can always use help at any of the work parties. Call any of the Directors for more information.

## HATCHERY NEWS

With the release of all of the Chinook babies from the hatchery it's time now to clean every thing up and get it put away for next season. In the next few weeks we will have all the dam boards out and put away. We need to clean and put away the tables and pipe that were used for the fin clipping. After we get everything picked up, we will use the fire hose to wash everything clean.

Harold has been working on setting the new hatchbox in place. He has the stand built for it now and still has to get the water plumbed to it, with a valve for control of the water flow through it. This new hatchbox will make it lots better for the salmon eggs, as it will give us the ability to spread out these eggs in six boxes so they aren't so crowded. We do have a divider in one of the six hatchboxes so we can put two different spawning in it at the same time. These new hatchboxes have been a learning experience, we are getting better each year that we have them.

## HATCHERY WORK PARTIES

The open House here at Noble Creek Hatchery had a very good group of volunteers turn out to help with the fin clipping. We had pastry and coffee, pop and water for everyone that came out to watch and help. It was good to see that a lot of the public is interested in helping to create a better fishery in Coos Bay. We would like to make Coos Bay the best place on the Oregon coast to fish for and catch Chinook salmon.

We have been gaining in the effort to bring these salmon numbers up in Coos Bay, over the years. With the knowledge we have gained about Coos River salmon we are getting the job done.



Amazing! Little girls grow up and become beautiful young women. It seems like it was just a few years ago that Tearyn Lee rode quads at Horsfall Beach or was barefoot at Sacchi Beach looking for Sand Dollars. Bridesmaids and Groomsmen in St. George, UT celebrate her recent wedding with Ryan.



Jan and I decided that if we were going to St. George, UT for Tearyn's wedding we would see some other scenery. One of our choices was Yosemite Falls on our way back from St. George. We also went to Grand Canyon, Zion National Park and Hoover Dam on the Colorado River. Our final leg of the trip was to Fort Bragg to see the Mendocino Coast Botanical Garden.



Yosemite National Park has many amazing mountains and cliffs of granite. One of our day trips was to Glacier Point at over 8,000 feet where we could get a nice picture of Half Dome.



Clyde and Dorothy had a barn where the roof leaked and got things wet that should be dry. After all it tends to rain here in Coos County. We all know this isn't a Coos River STEP barn but Clyde and Dorothy have many friends. On May 25th a work crew helped put new metal roof on the north side of the barn. The south side roof was completed on May 30th. Friends!! Nice!!

May 30<sup>th</sup> was our last day of fin clipping juvenile Chinook salmon at Noble Creek this year. I had a good group of 8 volunteers that helped fin clip for 3 hours and ended up clipping over 8,000 fish in that short time frame. Overall we released just under 135,000 fish that were Adipose clipped this year from Noble Creek. Big thanks to everyone that helped with the fin clipping this year. After we finished fin clipping last week, I opened the lower half of the raceway up to release the juvenile Chinook to the bay. Today I checked the retention rate of the group of Coded Wire Tagged fish to see what percentage of the fish still had tags in them. This year we had a tag retention rate of 91%, which is a little down from years past. I also pulled the rest of the screens today to release the remainder of the Chinook in the raceway. I anticipate that the remainder of these fish will stick around the hatchery for probably less than a week before they also head down the bay on their way to the ocean.

This summer I will spend a couple days every two weeks sampling fish in the lower Coos Bay and Coquille estuaries with a 125 foot beach seine. During this sampling I collect information about the number and size of salmon that are captured. I also keep track of all the different species of fish we collect. Some are very common like surf smelt or shiner surfperch but occasionally we sample a fish that most people rarely see (a few years ago we collected a Silver Spotted Sculpin, a very cool looking fish).

I will also be busy with some other fish sampling projects and of course catching up on paperwork/data entry. In the meantime I will be thinking about those nice days in late August and September trolling for returning adult fall Chinook.

As always stop by our office in Charleston or give us a call at (541)-888-5515 if you have any questions.

Gary Vonderohe  
Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

**POTLUCK 6:00 PM MEETING 7:00 TUE. JUNE 11th  
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

[clyde@noblecreekfish.net](mailto:clyde@noblecreekfish.net)  
[www.noblecreekfish.net](http://www.noblecreekfish.net)

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