

Coos River S.T.E.P. News

P.O Box 5907 Charleston, Oregon 97420

May 2016

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Harold Brown 756-6958

Clyde Haga 267-3563

Mickey McCready 888-5906

Dorothy Haga 267-3563

NEWSLETTER

Ray Lee 267-4176

Clyde Haga 267-3563

DONATIONS

Don & Shirley Perkins

Don is one of our regular workers at spawning time. His help and the donation is appreciated.

MONTHLY POTLUCK

Members are encouraged to bring their interested friends to this potluck, and meet the volunteers that help run Noble Creek Hatchery.

Coos River STEP GARAGE SALE

will be held on -

June 10- -11 at Shorty and Loretta's garage, 90797 Travis Ln., off Cape Arago Hwy. This is where we have held our annual garage sale for several years with good weather and lots of people shopping.

This is Coos River

STEP'S annual fund

raiser, and we need lots of good items donated to help support the Hatchery that we have, so start your spring cleaning now. We are already starting to have some things donated and will pick-up most items from around the area, just call Clyde at 267-3563 or Harold at 756-6958 for pickup, we have lots of room for storage here at the hatchery, thanks for your support. Bob & Vickie will be starting to set this Garage Sale up on June 6th, the week of the sale. We could use some help getting this sale set up and ready to start Friday, if you could help just give them a call 290-7828. You can call 888-5369 to bring donated items to Loretta & Shorty's this week, and preview everything that will be on sale.

SPECIAL THANKS

For all the donations & help to everyone involved.

HATCHBOX EGG PLATE

We have a new egg plate for our last Hatchbox. It has the larger holes so the Chinook alvins can get through easier. Paul had to do some welding to put it together. Now he is going to put a small rubber tube over the edge so it will fit closer to the hatchbox. This will help keep the eggs from just falling down into the substrate, where the Alvins need to go while they are living on the egg



The automated feeders have finally been installed. The very smallest feed won't feed correctly in the feeders. Clyde has to feed by hand for the first few sizes of feed before these feeders will work correctly.



The bio-rings we have been using for the last several years are a hassle to clean after all of the fish are hatched. This new matrix plastic mesh is supposed to be as good as the bio-rings and can be pressure washed to clean them. This is the latest from Tod Jones at Redd Zone in Astoria.



We expected a lot of un-eaten food and fish poop on the bottom of the raceway as it hadn't been cleaned for at least two weeks. We were pleasantly surprised as we didn't have much on the bottom of the raceway until about the last five feet.



Sweeping of the raceway by Bob, Ray and Harold is all through. Now Vickie is using the back pack pump as a vacuum to clean the last five feet of the raceway. We think that may be the best way to keep the screens clean. We may be able to skip sweeping the raceway if it stays this clean.

It's that time of the year for fin clipping. Fin clipping and Coded Wire tagging has been completed last week at the Millicoma Interpretive Center. The Auto Fin Marking trailer showed up this week and has started fin clipping at Morgan Creek Hatchery. The Auto Fin Marking trailer will be at Noble Creek by Monday, May 9th and we will start clipping fins on the 10th. The Auto Fin Marking trailer has received some upgrades and should run faster than it has the past couple of years.

I recently stopped by Noble Creek Hatchery to check on the Chinook juveniles. The fish are looking good and growing well. I weighed and counted the Chinook at Noble and they averaged 125 fish per pound. Our goal for release is to get the fish to 75 fish per pound, which we should easily reach this goal before the end of May.

Over the past few weeks, we have been using several 4 foot hoop traps to sample fish in Winterlake and Beaver Slough in the Coquille valley. This is a continuation of the fish sampling we have conducted the past few years to document the species and number of fish we capture in the drainage ditches. Hopefully by the summer of 2017 we will start a restoration project to restore some tidal influence back to the ODFW owned property in Winterlake. This restoration project will be a great benefit to coho salmon juveniles, cutthroat trout, and potentially fall Chinook juveniles.

If you know anyone that fish for trout in Empire Lakes, you may have heard that some of the trout are tagged and some of these tags are worth a \$50 gift card. This is all part of a tag reward project I am conducting in Empire Lakes to figure out the harvest rate of both legal size and trophy size trout we stock. I know the number of tags that are released each month and anglers report the tag number from a tagged fish they catch to ODFW. This tag reward project is much cheaper than the traditional angler creel survey we have used elsewhere to estimate harvest. Plus some lucky anglers get the added bonus of a \$50 gift card by just going fishing and catching fish. With the information we collect from this tag reward project we can determine if we are stocking Empire Lakes efficiently.

Gary Vonderohe
Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

**POTLUCK 6:00 PM MEETING 7:00 TUE. May 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

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