

Coos River S.T.E.P. News

P.O Box 5907 Charleston, Oregon 97420

August 2011

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Dorothy Haga 267-3563

NEWSLETTER

Ray Lee 267-4176

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MYSTERY DONATIONS 50-50

The ticket drawn for our 50-50 drawing had C.R.S. which was worth \$21.

DONATION

Harold & Marge Brown have donated a good ladder to the Hatchery. THANKS

HATCHERY NEWS

We are working on a lot of different things, some have been in the planning stage for quite a while, others is starting to get ready for a place to park the helper that we want to have here in time for our spawning, and all the work that goes along with it. We have closed off a place that we can lock up to store our tools and equipment in. We're still working on this area by putting shelves up on the walls. Harold has built a rack to hold several of our chest waders, and plans to build another rack to extend the one he has already built to hold the rest of these waders. Hopefully we can separate the waders whenever there is a pair that leaks, so we know which pair leaks. Then we can try to patch any hole that causes the leak.

We also had to fight some wasps that had built several nests in this area. One did sting Harold while he was driving a nail, that is when the fight started. The Wasp spray sure did a good job of stopping them, but there seems to be some more someplace yet. It is safe to work on the wall, just watch and don't get stung.

HATCHERY WORK PARTIES

Dorothy has been our wall painter. She has been trying to fill the nail holes and gouges in the wall that has happened over the last 20 years from hanging the tools on this wall. Harold has helped her by donating a really sturdy 5 foot work ladder with wide steps and the top step is built to hold a paint roller pan. This wall was where all the tools and equipment has been kept for years, it really needed to have some TLC work done to help it look good. Harold has moved our desert counter across the room to the wall by the refrigerator, a better place for it. Marge has been trying to keep things cleaned up as they work on this meeting room, she's doing a good job considering all the mess this work is creating. The meeting room is looking real nice all cleaned up. Come out to our potluck and take a look at their work.

Dear STEP Volunteers, ODFW and Friends of STEP

Please join us to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of S.T.E.P in Oregon at the 5th Annual South Coast S.T.E.P. barbecue to be held on the 20th of August, 2011 at Tugman State Park at Eel Lake off Hwy 101 , Lakeside. Festivities will begin at 12:00 pm with informative presentations and serving beginning at 2:00 pm.

This years host will be South Coast Anglers S.T.E.P. They will provide, hamburgers, drinks, plates and utensils and everyone is asked to bring a Potluck side dish, salad or dessert to share.

Rick Mason owner of Salmon Harbor Tackle & Marine Charters in Winchester Bay will be the featured presenter with guide captains who will cover fishing for Tuna, Halibut and Salmon in the ocean. Even if you don't fish in the ocean it will be an interesting presentation you don't want to miss.

S.T.E.P volunteers from Florence to Brookings will be attending this growing Fun Day event celebrating our 30th Anniversary of Volunteerism and giving all our volunteers a chance to get to know each other and share ideas. We'll have a great day to kick back and celebrate all the hard work our volunteers and ODFW do over the year through education, enhancement and restoration work.

Hope to see you all there.

Sincerely,
Armand Pena
Salmon Trout Advisory committee (STAC)
Tenmile, Coos, and Coquille District

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541-759-2709

STEP Bio's Article, August News Letter

This past month I have been catching up on paperwork, preparing for our fall sampling, and seining the lower Coos and Coquille estuaries every two weeks. For those that have not helped out with seining in the past, we sample 5 or 6 sites on each trip. I typically have two or three people with me to help pull the 125 foot beach seine. Once the seine is pulled to the beach we count all the fish that are captured in the net and record them on our data sheets. All the salmon we capture are put into a bucket and measured. This year I decided to also weigh all the salmon rather than just measuring these fish. With the length and weights of individual salmon, I can calculate a condition factor to see how healthy these fish are. So far this year, the condition factors have been really good for Chinook salmon in both the Coos and Coquille estuaries. I will continue to seine this year into September and if you are interested in helping out please give me a call.

Later this month I will be picking up an electro-fishing boat from the ODFW Roseburg office. This boat uses a generator to create an electrical current that stuns the fish in the water so the person in the front of the boat can net the fish to be measured. This type of sampling is mostly conducted after dark when the fish move into shallower water and can't see the boat as easily. I am planning on sampling two or three lakes with the electro-fishing boat before it moves onto the Gold Beach office.

Salmon season has definitely started in the south coast. I have heard a few reports of fall Chinook being caught in the Coquille River and fishing on the Coos Bay bar has been very good at times. It won't be long and the boat ramps in the area will be full.

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