

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

P.O Box 5907 Charleston, Oregon 97420

February 2011

## Directors

### PRESIDENT

Clyde Haga 267-3563

### VICE PRESIDENT

Harold Brown 2676958

### SECRETARY

Ray Lee 267-4176

### TREASURER

Mickey McCready 888-5906

### S.T.E.P. BIOLOGIST

Gary Vonderohe 888-5515

### BOARD MEMBERS

JOHN O'NEILL 267-7874

MARJORIE BROWN 756-6958

GLYNN MCCREADY SR. 888-5906

JAMES DAVISON 756-3142

Shorty Burcher 888-5369

Charlie Gross 267-7979

Paul Merz 888-4425

Dorothy Haga 267-3563

### NEWSLETTER

Ray Lee 267-4176

Clyde Haga 267-3563

## DECEMBER DONATIONS

Richard	Moen
Jerry & Carol	Goude
Richard	Buchanan
Jerry & Priscilla	Wyatt
Reese	Dixon
Scott & Judy	Callaway
Don & Shirley	Perkins
Mr. & Mrs.	Oldham
Sally	Jones
Aquatic Resources Inc.	
Helen	Erickson

These members have made very generous donations along with their annual dues to Coos River STEP. All dues and donations are tax deductible.

## HATCHERY NEWS

The flooding waters that we had last month have gone back down to a normal winter flow now. The high water did leave lots of silt on the walks and in our spawning area, but there was no damage done that we have found. Harold came out and we got our fire hose going so he could clean up the hatchery. It did take two different days to do this job as there was no need to hurry. We have just let the creek water flush out most of the debris that was still in the trap and holding ponds.

On February 1, we took the screens out of 3 hatchboxes so the swim up fru that wanted to could go out to Nora's pond.

We had 528,786 eyed Chinook eggs in these three hatch boxes. It probably will take 2-3 weeks maybe longer for all of these fish to be ready for feed and leave their home for Nora's pond where we can feed them.

We are planning on putting in a 2 inch pipe to bring more water over from the new water tank to our inside rearing tanks. We don't have a filter for this water line, but this water is pretty clean anyway.

## COOS RIVER STEP NEWS

Coos River STEP, held their elections for directors and officers at the annual January 2011 membership meeting. The vote was to keep the officers and directors that we had in 2010. The members at the meeting after some discussion liked the direction that Coos River STEP was going in, decided to keep everyone in place.

These STEP meetings, along with the POTLUCK are very good places to visit your friends and catch up on some news.

Come on out and see the salmon that we are raising at the hatchery, and the work that is being done. Bring a friend and their family, especially the kids and show them what we do for our salmon here at this hatchery.

## NEWS FROM OUR S.T.E.P. BIOLOGIST

With the recent weather pattern we are in I'm not sure if we are still in winter or if spring has started early. Jen Feola (Fish Habitat Biologist) and I along with a group of students from the Harding Learning Center will be out at Noble Creek Hatchery improving the riparian along Ferry Creek. We will be cutting the blackberry bushes along the stream and planting willows. The willows we will be planting will be from branches cut from other willow trees and then we will place cages around the trees for a little extra protection. Our plan is plant the willows on Friday, February 11<sup>th</sup>. If anyone is interested in helping out we should be at the Hatchery between 9-10 AM.

If you haven't seen the 2011 Fishing Regulations yet there are a couple new regulations for this area. 1) you can no longer keep any green sturgeon and 2) you can no longer take or attempt to take smelt from inland waters, including bays, estuaries, rivers, and streams. These regulations are meant to protect the southern population of green sturgeon and Pacific smelt (Eulachon), which are both on the Threatened species list.

Even though you can't keep smelt inside the bays you can still keep herring, anchovies, and sardines. It's still legal to keep up to 25 pounds of smelt while in the ocean.

Just a reminder the 2011 STEP Conference has been set for March 26-27 at Twin Rocks Friends Camp near Rockaway Beach. If you are interested in attending you can find more information at the ODFW website or stop by our office.

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

## STEP GARAGE SALE

The Coos River STEP garage SALE will be held on June 10- -11 at Shorty and Loretta's garage on Travis street off Bar View Drive, close to Charleston. This is where we have held this 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. We are already starting to have some things donated and will pickup most items from around the area, just call 267-3563 or 756-6958 for pickup, thanks for your support.

Shorty and Loretta will be starting to set this garage SALE up a week before sale time. You can bring donated items to this sale then, and preview everything that will be on sale.

## ANNUAL COOS RIVER STEP DUES 2011

To keep your annual membership current you need to pay \$15. before the March issue or your name will be dropped from our mailing list. Coos River STEP needs your support. If your not sure about your dues please call Mickey at 888-5906 and she can help explain about the dues. She keeps a complete file on Coos River STEP'S membership, also makes up all the mailing labels for our news letter, besides being the treasure for Coos River STEP.

### MORE NEWS

The room for our new toilet and sink, to be in is almost completely done, walls and ceiling. There has been a lot of work done lately as we have promised to have it working by our meeting on February 8. Charlie Gross has been in the hospital for a short stay for a checked up. He has not been able to do the things that he wanted to do without being short of breath. He was our chief plumber for this project that we are working on. Now John and Harold are going to finish up the work that Charlie has started for Coos River STEP. It looks like they could make it by then if all goes well. When we get this done we will start on the room to lock up our equipment in. We will also have a place for the waders and all the tools that are now in our meeting room. We have most of the building materials that we will need to build this room already on site just waiting to go.

Our biologist Gary Vonderohe brought out a bag of #1 crumb for the fish on Wednesday 2nd so we could feed these swim up fry as needed. The order for this years fish feed will delivered on the 9th to the Department , so we should get all our feed on the 10th of February. We felt it would not be good for these fish do without any feed for that long, Gary agreed and found this feed for them. We put some on the water and some started feeding right away.

The screen that we had in Nora's pond to keep these fish from leaving had too big of openings in it for these small swim up fry. We built a new screen today with smaller holes, and got it put in place which should solve this problem. It may tend to plug up easier but it won't take very long for these fish to grow enough so we can use the screen again that we had to take out. The water in Nora's pond is all filtered, and you can see the bottom it so clear. This does help keep the fungus from growing which really helps keep the oxygen level up in the water for the fish.