

State wildlife dept. announcing policy to shield wild fish

By KATHLEEN MONJE
Of the Emerald

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife announced the formulation of a new policy to protect wild fish in the state's streams and rivers Tuesday.

"The commission is concerned about the condition of Oregon's wild fish populations," the proposed policy's preamble read. "Environmental degradation, dams and increasing fishing pressures have serious adverse impacts on many stocks of wild fish."

To combat these effects on fish found naturally in the state, the commission proposes three separate fish management plans: management exclusively for wild fish, management for wild plus hatchery fish and management for hatchery fish only.

Harvesting for the wild fish population will be regulated to maintain "production potential, genetic integrity and genetic diversity of the fish populations," according to a commission spokesman. Fish stocks that have declined will be given extra protection while being revived.

Waters where wild and hatchery fish co-exist will be regulated so added fishing pressure "created by and for the hatchery fish does not significantly reduce future production of wild fish."

The commission contends "managing for wild fish encourages man to do what is best for the resource and it places environmental concerns ahead of proposed trade-offs."

The presence of cold-water wild fish usually indicates good water quality and a healthy ecosystem, commission members said in a prepared statement.

Guidelines for implementing the proposed policy include:

- The active protection, rehabilitation and enhancement of aquatic and terrestrial habitats.
- The development of written management plans for all the state's waterways. The plans will be tailored to each area, will identify physical and biological capacities and limiting environmental factors of each stream or river.
- The investigation of instream competition between wild and hatchery fish.
- The publication of Fish and Wildlife Department activities that will create adverse impacts on wild fish and explanation of any trade-offs before implementation.
- Use of indigenous stocks wherever possible when stocking with hatchery fish.
- A minimum of three streams established to be managed exclusively for wild fish, within 12 months of the policy's adoption.
- A periodic review of progress in implementation of the new policy.

Library's obstacles hamper handicapped

By RICHARD SEVEN
Of the Emerald

How would you like to go into the library and find out that the card catalog was too high for you to reach, that the telephones were inaccessible, that you only had one exit and entrance and that you couldn't get in on weekends?

These problems are faced every day by the 165 handicapped persons on campus.

The Office of Student Services and the library access committee are currently working to remedy the complications though, as mandated by a federal regulation that stipulated equal educational and physical accessibility to all students.

The Department of Health, Education and Welfare has told institutions they have until August, 1978 to comply except for "substantial physical changes," which must be completed by April 29, 1980.

According to Dan Ferguson and Ray McCready, some improvements in the library's service for handicapped students will be implemented this term, while others are being discussed.

Starting next term a work-study student will be on duty to help students who are visually impaired or confined to wheelchairs to use the card catalog system.

Ferguson says there are closed-circuit TV screens available for handicapped use. By putting the reading material under the TV camera the text can either be enlarged or have its background shading reversed.

Probably the biggest problem handicapped students face in using the library is that there is no front entrance for them.

Currently their only way into the library is a ramp through the in-

structional media center. However, that portion of the library is closed on weekends, obviously limiting those students access.

The library access committee is currently discussing the installation of a ramp in the front entrance of the library.

Other innovations include special telephones and storage lockers for the handicapped.

Ferguson says there will also be brochures printed illustrating ramps and elevators leading to the rare book collection of the library.

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Jobless rate 'inaccurate'

Lane County's unemployment rate does not accurately reflect the number of people looking for work, according to Ed Whitelaw, associate professor of economics at the University.

Whitelaw told the Joint Legislative Committee on Trade and Economic Development at its all-day meeting in Eugene Tuesday that the composition of the labor force in the county is changing from an employment base that was previously concentrated in manufacturing to one identified with service industries, government and retail sales.

He said because of this shift unemployment statistics are "deceptively high." Employment opportunities, he said, are actually better than in other places in the state.

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