

Dip into science, with World Oceans Day

Oregon State University will celebrate World Oceans Day this Monday, June 8, with a special Science Pub featuring marine videos, a panel of expert guests, trivia, music, art and a children's book reading.

The free, virtual event will focus on Heceta Bank, a biodiversity and fishing hotspot about 35 miles off Cape Perpetua near Yachats. Oregon State University scientists have conducted research on the bank for more than 60 years to understand how ocean processes set the stage for Oregon's fisheries and coastal ecosystem.

"We depend on the ocean for food, livelihood, recreation and the key role it plays in regulating our weather and the planet's climate," said Jack Barth, OSU oceanographer and executive director of the university's Marine Studies Initiative. "OSU scientists, fishermen, government partners and coastal communities work together to understand these vital resources and manage them for the future. World Oceans Day celebrates their accomplishments."

World Oceans Day began as a global grassroots movement for ocean conservation and was formally recognized by the United



Nations in 2008. This year's theme is "Innovation for a Sustainable Ocean" and is expected to encompass more than 2,000 events in 150 countries.

The OSU Science Pub will feature a screening of a half-hour documentary about Heceta Bank, a short film, "Sense of

Place," by Oregon State Productions and a performance of "Currents," composed by Dana Reason of the OSU Music Department. Participants can test their ocean knowledge in a trivia quiz and ask questions to a group that includes scientists, a filmmaker and an OSU student. The evening

will end with a special children's book reading.

The Science Pub, which is free and open to all, will run from 6 to 7:30 pm on Facebook Live and YouTube Live. Registration is required and can be completed at <https://beav.es/4bi>.

This one's a keeper

The Lower Nehalem Watershed Council and Trailkeepers of Oregon will come together on Thursday, June 11, for an online presentation about the future of Soapstone Lake, a popular hiking destination in the Clatsop State Forest.

Managed by the Oregon Department of Forestry, this loop trail goes through second growth coastal forest, past the pioneer homestead of Erik Lindgren and around the lake. Old beaver dams are located at the south end of the lake and its home to trout, newts and a variety of waterfowl.

The presentation, "Soapstone Collaborations: Creeks, Salmon, and Trails," will discuss the habitat around Soapstone Lake, a new community trail maintenance proposal, fish habitat enhancements and ways to get involved. Soapstone Creek and its tributaries look pristine but, on closer examination, have been impacted in ways characteristic within the Coast Range. Hiking activity inadvertently brings in invasive weeds which a new community group hopes to

manage as volunteers.

Brandon Tigner and Josh Durham with Trailkeepers of Oregon are helping to guide this new community partnership. Tigner has spent the past two seasons as a trail crew leader with the Washington Trails Association and recently became the North Coast stewardship coordinator for Trailkeepers of Oregon. Durham, born and raised in Oregon, is the organization's South Coast stewardship coordinator and has trail experience in the Columbia River Gorge, on Mount Hood and in the Willamette National Forest.

Tigner and Durham will be joined by Zac Mallon, council coordinator with the Lower Nehalem Watershed Council, has spent the past 10 years doing fish and habitat surveys all over the Pacific Northwest and working in habitat restoration from planting trees to project management.

The presentation, which is free and open to all, will begin at 7 pm on Facebook Live www.facebook.com/events/538534710146889.

