

Thirty-foot fishing leaders: Are you kidding me?

Bumped into longtime friend, Rod Harder, at our monthly fishing club meeting. He whips out his iPhone and shows me pictures of some beautiful big rockfish.

"Had a new experience last week," he explains with his usual big grin. "Went on one of those 30-foot longleader trips with Dockside Charters. Landed nice ones, 5-10 pounds." Suddenly the meeting begins and Rod is gone. I never get a chance to find out more about this new fishery.

Thirty-foot leaders? Now, I have fished all my life for about any species available, but 30-foot leaders?

Leader length has long been



On the Wild Side

by G.I. Wilson

a topic of debate with steelhead and salmon anglers. Countless articles have been written debating the issue. Steelhead anglers vary from 18 inches up to 2-3 feet. Sidedrifting and bobber dogging comes onto the scene using 4-6 foot leaders.

Leader length of 2-9 feet trolling for salmon has raged on and on for years. Thirty-foot leaders? I must be missing something. I know Harder is a straight shooter and catches a lot of fish. He wins competitions in our fishing derbies.

Can't get him on the phone. Must be on another fishing trip.

Curiosity about this longleader fishing keeps gnawing at me. When all else fails, turn to I-Fish. Always someone there willing to share information on any fishing topic. Bingo. First up, three guys out of Charleston longleader fishing.

"We fished 300 to 360 feet of water using 31' leaders, homemade shrimp flies, with three flies per rig," he explains. "Once we found a school of larger rockfish, we put three limits on

the boat in short order." They did talk about having tangle problems in the beginning. I still can't visualize this fishing with a 30-foot long leader. But no explanation of "how." We are driving through Depoe Bay and decide to stop in and ask the folks at Dockside Charters. When I mentioned longleader fishing to Loren, the owner, his eyes lit up like he had just hooked into a keeper lingcod.

"We completed a three-year study out of Newport, Depoe and Garibaldi. We landed 5.4 metric tons of rockfish-with rod and reel-and only caught two protected fish. That's two, protected fish," he adds with heavy emphasis with two fin-

gers in the air.

"You know, ODFW has cut back our limit on rockfish again," he adds. "We needed to come up with another fishery and save our protected species at the same time. This longleader fishery can do that."

This is a busy time for his business. Weather has turned nice and people are calling about trips. I leave, still without a picture in my head of how this 30-foot longleader thing works. But, he had said the key words. ODFW. And there it was; <https://myodfw.com/articles/recreational-longleader-gear>. Recreational Longleader Gear. "This gear is used to target mid-water species like yellowtail, ca-

nary and widow rockfish, while avoiding bottom-dwelling species like yelloweye rockfish."

Looking at the ODFW graphic, most of us "leader addicts" would say it is some what of a misnomer to call it a leader. We would call the 30-foot plus line, a dropper with the weight attached. The "leaders" would be the three with hooks attached. Thirty feet comes from the distance from the terminal sinker to the lowest hooks.

Recreational longleader gear has proven to be effective in catching these targeted species. Kudos to ODFW and the teams that did all that "dirty work" research. Had to spend some time in the gym reeling in that 5.4 metric ton of fish from 300 plus feet. Or, maybe they did like my buddy Rod and used an electric reel.

KEIZERTIMES SENIOR HOUSING GUIDE

 Harmony House of Salem PACIFIC LIVING CENTERS, INC. <i>A Loving Home for the Memory Impaired</i>	DIRECTIONS FROM KEIZER: From Verda Ln or Parkway, take Hyacinth to Portland Rd. Cross intersection, take right after gas station	UNIT TYPES: • semi-private memory care rooms • private memory care rooms	MONTHLY RENT: starting at \$4,650	ALZHEIMER'S & DEMENTIA CARE: yes
	AMENITIES: • Respite & Short Term Care Available • Individualized Care • Secure Building • Common Gardens & Recreation Area • Home-like with short hallways to common areas • Watch & be part of the cooking process • Wholesome & Nutritious Meals • Feeding Assistance • Medication Management • Hygiene Assistance			
3062 Hyacinth St NE, Salem, OR 97301 • 503-409-2426 • www.harmonyhousesalem.com • michelen@pacificlivingcenters.com				

 Willamette Lutheran Retirement Community	DIRECTIONS FROM KEIZER: Drive north on River Rd. Turn left on Wheatland Rd. Go 1.5 miles. On left side of road.	UNIT TYPES: • independent living includ. studio and 1-bedroom apartments, 2-bedroom cottages	MONTHLY RENT: starting at \$1,676	ASSISTED LIVING AVAILABILITY: yes
	AMENITIES: • Not-for-profit, Christian community serving all faiths • Pets allowed • No Extra Charge for a 2nd person • 24-hour nurse on staff for emergency response • 3-delicious homecooked meals daily • Van service for shopping & medical appts • Housekeeping • Great Social Activities • Church Services			
7693 Wheatland Rd N, Keizer, OR 97303 • 503-393-1491 • www.willamettelutheran.com • e-mail: kay@willamettelutheran.com				

 The Springs at Sunnyview	DIRECTIONS FROM KEIZER: I-5 South, exit left on Market St, left on Lancaster, right on Sunnyview, right on 45th Ave NE	UNIT TYPES: • independent living apartments • studio • 1-bedroom • 2-bedroom • cottages	MONTHLY RENT: Cost Varies	ASSISTED LIVING AVAILABILITY: Call
	AMENITIES: • Staff on site 24/7 • Maintenance & Housekeeping • All utilities (except phone) includes basic cable • Transportation to appointments, shopping, events • Washer/Dryer hook ups and coin-free laundry • Salon on site • Daily activities • Chef-inspired meals and flexible dining			
1950 45th Ave NE, Salem, OR 97305 • 503-589-1200 • www.thespringsliving.com • e-mail: ismall@thespringsliving.com				

 THE ARBOR at Avamere Court A PART OF THE AVAMERE FAMILY OF COMPANIES	DIRECTIONS FROM KEIZER: The Arbor is off River Rd, located back behind Saint Edward Church	UNIT TYPES: • private studio apartments with private bathrooms	MONTHLY RENT: Cost Varies	TYPE OF CARE: Memory Care
	AMENITIES: • 24-hour staff • Basic medication management • Nutritious meals & snacks • Weekly housekeeping • Wireless Monitoring System • Indoor Courtyard • Cognitive and Behavioral Support • Beauty Salon • Daily activity & life enrichment programs • Activities of Daily Living Assistance			
450 Claggett Ct N, Keizer, OR 97303 • 503-856-7440 • www.arboratavamere.com				

 AVAMERE COURT at KEIZER A PART OF THE AVAMERE FAMILY OF COMPANIES	DIRECTIONS FROM KEIZER: From I-5, turn west on Lockhaven. Turn left at River Rd, then left on Claggett St. Immediately turn in driveway at left.	UNIT TYPES: • 1 bedroom apartment with 2 large walk-in closets • 2 BR, 2 BA with washer & dryer hook-ups	MONTHLY RENT: starting at \$1,847	ASSISTED LIVING AVAILABILITY: yes
	AMENITIES: • Home-like culture to embrace those Senior years • Beautiful 5-acre campus • Pet-friendly • 4 levels of care in our continuing care community • Restaurant with on-site chefs • Exercise center • Happy Hour • Karaoke • Casino Trips • Covered Parking • Arts and Crafts • Family Night • Social Activities			
5210 River Rd N, Keizer, OR 97303 • 503-393-3624 • www.avamerecourtatkeizer.com				

 the Village at Keizer Ridge ASSISTED LIVING AND MEMORY CARE	DIRECTIONS FROM KEIZER: On River Road, one-half mile north of McNary Estates. Right on McGee Ct, take second driveway on left.	UNIT TYPES: • Assisted Living • Memory Care	MONTHLY RENT: starting at \$2,775	ASSISTED LIVING AVAILABILITY: Yes
	AMENITIES: • State-of-the-art theater • Self playing piano • Raised garden beds • Personalized care plan • Freshly prepared gourmet meals 3 times daily • Life enriching, meaningful, stimulating activities • Enclosed courtyard with walking path • Private & semi-private Memory Care apartments			
1165 McGee Court NE, Keizer, OR 97303 • 503-390-1300 • www.VillageAtKeizerRidge.com				

 CAPITAL MANOR	DIRECTIONS FROM KEIZER: Take Marion St. bridge, then take Rosemont Ave exit, then left on Edgewater St. We are 3 blocks down on the right.	UNIT TYPES: • Independent living residences • Residential care facility units • Memory care	MONTHLY RENT: Cost varies	RESIDENTIAL CARE AVAILABILITY: yes
	AMENITIES: • Only Life Plan Community (CCRC) in the area • Pool & Wellness Center • Wine & Coffee Bar • Beauty Shop & Nail Salon • Card & Game Room • 2 Libraries • Art & Crafts Center • Ceramics Studio • Woodworking Shop • Auditorium • Bistro • Art Gallery • Branch Bank • Guest Rooms • Fiber Arts Room			
1955 Dallas Hwy NW, Salem, OR 97304 • 503-589-3734 • www.CapitalManor.com • e-mail: nlacy@capitalmanor.com				

 Emerald Pointe Senior Living Community	DIRECTIONS FROM KEIZER: On River Road, one-half mile north of McNary Estates.	UNIT TYPES: • Studio • 1 BR w/ deck or walk-in closet • 2 BR, 1 BA • 2 BR, 2 BA w/ deck or walk-in closet	MONTHLY RENT: starting at \$1,350	ASSISTED LIVING AVAILABILITY: no
	AMENITIES: • Full kitchens in every apartment • Free WiFi • Flexible Optional Meals • Waist High Gardens • Full Activities Calendar • Weekly Excursions • Special Dietary Needs Met • Coffee Lounge • Housekeeping • Community Room • Activity Rooms • Resident Lounge • Beauty Salon • Transportation			
1125 McGee Ct NE, Keizer, OR 97303 • 503-390-7700 • www.EmeraldPointeKeizer.com				