

Trophy steelhead — now

Want to go for that trophy steelhead you have always dreamed about? Your chances are better in January through March than any time of the year.

We are talking about world-class steelhead, 14-20 pounds, now coming into our coastal rivers.

These rivers have always had runs of native, or wild-fish. For many years, they were not considered game fish. There were no restrictions. Anglers were able to harvest them for market.

Finally, they were given legal status. Seasons and restrictions were adopted. The species became popular with a demand for more fish.

Hatcheries were built and flourished. Word spread. Our rivers became a mecca for anglers eager to do battle with exciting game fish.

Millions of smolts were released. Anglers flocked to Oregon's rivers. For a number of years, the Nestucca River was listed as the number one producer of steelhead fish in the world.

Hatcheries initially obtained their smolts from the Alsea River; soon, all hatcheries began producing the Alsea strain.

This continued for decades. Gradually the strain began to weaken. On low water years, the surviving fish became the ones that raced upriver. A strain developed that raced back to the hatchery. Harvest numbers dropped. Fish were trapped and hauled back downriver to give anglers another shot at them.

Anglers became increasingly frustrated.

Wild fish continued to be harvested. Numbers dropped dramatically, and biologists became concerned. Wild fish had to be protected by law.

The next few years became a blur of court battles. Environmental groups wanted all hatcheries closed.

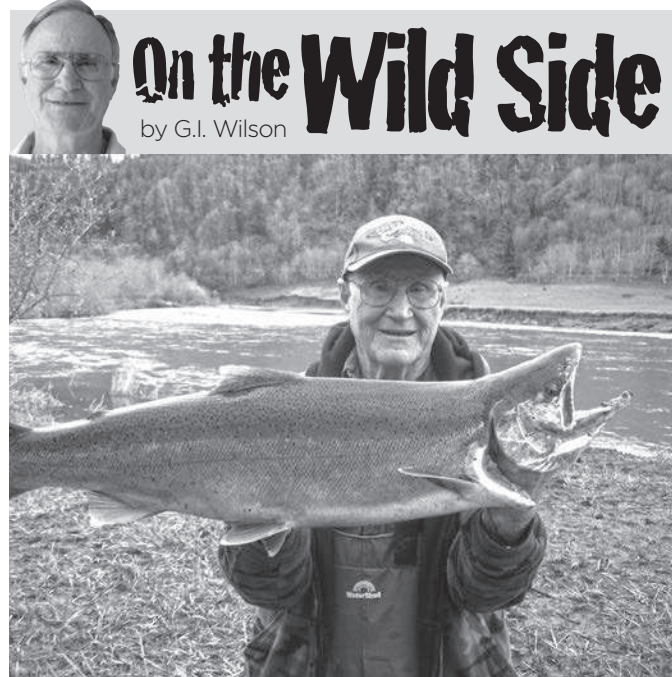
Smolt releases plummeted. Court battles raged. Conflicting scientific studies attempted to deal with the issue.

Anglers, who simply wanted to be able to catch a fish and eat it, raged on all fronts.

Out of all this chaos, in 2002, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODF&W), with the support of river guides and groups in Tillamook County, came out with a project that has satisfied all governing restrictions, as well as the special interest groups that were involved.

The highly successful Wild Broodstock Collection Project was then formed.

Wild fish were captured by rod and reel, placed in



G.I. Wilson nabs a 16-pounder

Submitted

holding/transportation containers and delivered to the hatchery.

These fish are live spawned and returned to the river. Smolts are reared, adipose fin clipped, and released into the river.

Anglers have bought into the project. They must obtain clearance from State Police before they may capture wild steelhead and transport them to the local hatchery. But if you have game violations in the past? Forget it.

Boat anglers pick up battery-driven transport boxes to keep fish safe during the trip to the hatchery.

Bank anglers, after clearance, may pick up live-tubes and hold captured fish until ODF&W staff takes them to the hatchery.

Bill Monroe, longtime outdoor writer for the *Oregonian* said, "Not only does this breathe new life into the fishery, but gives anglers an opportunity to become involved."

River guides have bought into the project and have found that clients get excited about capturing a beautiful wild fish and delivering it to the hatchery.

Jack Smith of All Seasons Guide Service has provided powerful leadership to the project. He approaches it this way, "Land a wild fish. We can take this fish to the hatchery. Two years from now, you can return and have a chance at catching its progeny to eat. Or, we can release it and hope it spawns on its own."

There is still a lot of work to do. Hatcheries continue to struggle with buildings and equipment built in the 1940s. In most cases, they can only survive with the help of volunteers.

Powerful groups would still like to close hatcheries. The Legislature continues to

use hatcheries as a political football.

Want to see how successful the project is? Drive over to a boat launch on one of these rivers in January, February or March and look for a parking spot.

Better still, dust off that rod and reel and hook into one of the most exciting fish on the planet.

Our rivers are now producing these trophy-class fish that anglers can take home and eat.

Hatcheries are releasing more smolts that are the progeny of wild fish. After 2019 there will no longer be an Alsea Strain in our rivers.

Not only is this "Broodstock Project" producing trophy-class steelhead, but anglers can become involved.

On the Wild Side

by G.I. Wilson

McNary can't keep pace with South

By MATT RAWLINGS
Of the Keizertimes

Both of McNary High School's boys and girls swim teams had won their last three respective duals coming into their meet with South Salem.

However, the Celtics couldn't compete with one of the best programs in the Mountain Valley Conference as the boys squad fell to the Saxons 104-48, while the McNary girls were defeated 107-47 on Thursday, Jan. 17 at the Kroc Center.

Even though the results on the scoreboard didn't play in the Celtics favor, McNary head coach Casey Lewin felt like each of his teams put together high-quality times and are placing themselves in good position for the District Meet — which will take place Feb 8-9 in Bend.

"I feel like we swam very well. We had several kids get best times and show improvements with technique," Lewin said. "We have been putting in solid yardage at practice and the swims are showing that. If our taper

goes as planned, we will be fresh and ready to race in Bend."

Alex Beard picked up the only event victory for the McNary girls in the 200-yard individual medley, finishing with a time of 2:24.06.

Even though the Lady Celts didn't win any of their relay races, Lewin was particularly impressed with his 200-freestyle team of Beard, Paris Boyd, Kaylynn Villalobos and Alyssa Garvey — who just missed out on first place by less than a second (1:48.60).

Out of the four swimmers, Boyd was the one who swam the fastest 50-leg (26.65).

"I had several kids come out with big swims, but I would say Paris Boyd was one of the most impressive," Lewin said. "Paris led off the relay with one of her fastest 50 (times) and the other girls backed it up for an awesome team effort."

Kyle Hooper got the first individual victory on the evening for the McNary boys, winning the 100-but-terfly with a time of 1:00.11.



KEIZERTIMES/Matt Rawlings
McNary's Ben Anderson swims the breaststroke portion of the 200-yard individual medley relay at a meet last month.

Hooper and South Salem's Alistair Heringer raced identical times for the first 50 yards, but Hooper was just able to pull away down the stretch of the race.

"Kyle's 100-fly was a good race for him," Lewin said. "It was nice to see him challenged...He went out fast and was able to finish strong to get the win."

Harrison Vaughn was the only other Celtic to win an individual race, taking home the victory in the 500-free (5:16.65).

Vaughn and Hooper, along with Wyatt Sherwood and Jabez Rhoades, also helped McNary win the 200-free relay (1:41.43).

McNary returns to the pool on Tuesday, Jan. 29 for a 4:30 p.m. dual with McKay at the Kroc Center.

puzzle answers

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 9 | 4 |
| 7 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 2 | 9 | 5 | 1 | 3 |
| 2 | 9 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 7 | 6 | 8 |
| 9 | 5 | 7 | 1 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 6 |
| 6 | 4 | 8 | 9 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 2 |
| 3 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 9 | 8 | 5 |
| 5 | 7 | 9 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 6 | 4 | 1 |
| 4 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 9 | 1 | 8 | 2 | 7 |
| 8 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 9 |

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| ADM | LADED | SPOUT |
| TOE | ANITA | YALTA |
| LUDWIG | VAN | SWEEP |
| ABIE | LATEST | |
| SLASHES | TEDEDED | |
| TESTY | PREMIERE | |
| | MUSICAL | EMMA |
| JOHANN | SEBASTIAN | |
| OBOL | SERIES | |
| TIMELESS | APPAL | |
| STEELE | ASTAIRE | |
| | ANGELA | INGA |
| ALBUM | ALEXANDER | |
| RAISA | OMNES | ANN |
| EDGES | LOESIS | RTS |


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Dvořák's Eighth Symphony

FRI. FEB. 8, 2019 | 7:30 PM

Carlos Kalmar, conductor
 • **Simone Lamsma, violin**

Prokofiev: Symphony No. 1 "Classical"
 • **Khachaturian: Violin Concerto**
Dvořák: Symphony No. 8

Simone Lamsma
 Photo by: Otto van den Toorn


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