



A tide gate at a dairy farm near Nehalem was installed in 2017 at a cost of \$460,000, improving drainage and complying with fish passage rules.

Tide gates: ‘What we can’t do is rewrite the different authorities’

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Helping fish

The Coquille Watershed Association, which developed the pipe-sizing tool, is also studying fish passage to verify that new tide gates actually help these species and their habitat.

“Our monitoring results have been very exciting. There really has been this response from fish,” said Melaney Dunne, the association’s executive director. “We’re really encouraged by our initial results.”

Young fish that can access estuary habitat are better able to survive ocean conditions, since food is more available in these areas and currents aren’t as strong. “They are able to get fatter, get bigger, and not expend the energy they would in the main part of the river,” she said.

River estuaries also help fish transition from freshwater to saltwater conditions, said Mallon, of the Lower Nehalem Watershed Council.

“They need that to figure out how to breathe saltwater,” he said. “They go through the process where they need to duck back and forth to train their gills.”

Apart from allowing fish to travel upstream, properly functioning tide gates also prevent fish from getting trapped in wetland areas with little water when tides recede.

“If it’s a hot day, the water gets way too hot and it would become lethal,” said Tom Josephson, the habitat restoration program manager with the Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce, which helped conduct the tide gate inventory.

“Impounded water heats up a lot faster than water that keeps moving,” due to its exposure to solar radiation, said Narayan Elasmr, the nonprofit’s habitat restoration biologist.

The barriers to tide gate replacement aren’t only technological, but also regulatory. Projects typically require approval from nine levels of federal, state and county government, according to experts.

Simplifying the regulatory process for landowners is an important goal of the Oregon Tide Gate Partnership, but whether it can be achieved invites skepticism.

“The regulatory streamlining piece is the biggest question mark in my mind,” said Mary Anne Cooper, the vice president of public policy for the Oregon Farm Bureau.

The regulatory checklist for permits is lengthy and farmers must also contend with contradictory instructions regarding state and federal fish passage requirements, she said.

“The agencies are asking two things that actually conflict with each other, and they don’t know which to follow,” Cooper said. “It’s not a real solution for most people.”

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is now working with the National Marine Fisheries Service to resolve inconsistencies at the outset of tide gate replacement projects, said Greg Apke, the state’s fish passage coordinator.

“We have recognized some challenges with our tide gate rules. We’re trying to provide clarity with our rules,” Apke said. “What we heard from most people is this process is tough: ‘We don’t understand it and we don’t have money for it.’”

Even as they try to boil down the regulatory process, state and federal regulators are limited in the changes they can make, he said. They must still comply with state and federal laws that deal with fish passage.

“What we can’t do is rewrite the different authorities,” Apke said.

State regulations pertain to the passage requirements of native fish, while the federal rules are geared toward those protected under the Endangered Species Act, he said. Those species may have different life cycles and needs.

“There are contradictions sometimes, and conflicts,” Apke said. “We try to manage those authorities as best we can without causing conflicts among those authorities.”

Secret motives?

When asked about the perception that some government workers actively impede replacement projects, Apke said he didn’t want to speculate about the secret objectives of individual people.

“I’m not sure how to best answer that, and maybe I don’t answer that,” he said.

Lagomarsino, the senior policy adviser with the National Marine Fisheries Service, said federal regulations are less specific and more flexible than those imposed by the state, but she acknowledged there have been “unaligned processes that lead to conflicts.”

Such problems will recede now that the agencies are working together from the beginning to understand landowner goals and how to achieve them, she said. “That early involvement is super important,” she said.

The agency is committed to upholding the requirements of the Endangered Species Act without stopping landowners from making a living, Lagomarsino said. “We understand things are not going to go back to those pristine conditions before tide gates,” she said. “We believe we can recover salmon and still have tide gates.”

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OBITUARIES

George E. Crandall Gresham

June 23, 1924 — Sept. 11, 2021

George E. Crandall was born in Astoria to George H. and Hilja Crandall on June 23, 1924.

Growing up in Astoria, he became involved in sports, with his first love being basketball, and played for Astoria High School when they won their record fifth and sixth Oregon state championships in 1941 and 1942.

After graduating from high school in 1943, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy, and served during World War II on Oahu, Hawaii, with the rank of electrician’s mate, second class.

George was honorably discharged from the Navy in 1946, and returned to Astoria, where he married his high school sweetheart, Frances Erickson.

In his last years, he would write about these times: “It was my first objective to get home from the Navy and to marry Frances, my one and only girlfriend that I loved.

“That love still is alive after three daughters and a son — all great people. Oh, how happy I was to join her in marriage, and the happiness remains solid. What is better than that?”

In 1947, with the help of the GI Bill and a basketball scholarship, the couple moved to Corvallis, where George enrolled at Oregon State University and played as the defensive lock-down specialist for legendary coach Slats Gill, including for the 1949 Pacific Coast championship team.

He completed his college education in 1951, and became the head basketball coach at Fortuna High School in California, beginning a 33-year head-coaching career spanning four decades.

As a first year coach, he led the team to an undefeated season, in which they were invited to the California Tournament of Champions in Berkeley, California, featuring sports legends Bill Russell and Frank Robinson, among others.

Following three successful seasons in Fortuna, George returned to Oregon and became the head coach at Milwaukie for 12 years, and at Wilson (now Ida B. Wells) for 18 years, taking numerous teams to district

playoffs and state tournaments.

He concluded his career in 1984 as the state of Oregon Coach of the Year, culminating with an outstanding team earning the fifth place tournament trophy, losing only to champion Corvallis in a close battle of arguably the tournament’s best two teams.

George was a skilled listener, teacher, storyteller and counselor to young and old. As a coach, he was exceptional, not only imparting the fundamentals of the game and employing brilliant strategy, but building life values and memories that his players would cherish in the decades to follow. He was well admired by his coaching peers.

George and Frances spent years in retirement traveling, visiting and entertaining family and friends, and hosting fishing excursions throughout Oregon. George also participated in several men’s golf groups around the Portland area into his mid-80s. He was a lifetime member of the Astoria Elks.

George was a faithful servant of our Savior Jesus, a member of Milwaukie Lutheran and St. Luke Lutheran churches, serving on building committees, ushering and greeting.

To all the students, family and adults he served and worked with, George was a great example of integrity, grace, patience, fairness, positivity and of the Golden Rule, to treat others the way he would want to be treated.

Above all, George was a faithful husband to Frances, loving and adoring her for 75 years, and he was a devoted, caring and instructive father to his daughters and son, even to his passing. He now rests with our glorious God in heaven.

Preceding him in death were his parents, sister, Irene, sister, Jane Lokan, and brother, Clifford.

George is survived by his wife, Frances; his daughters, Connie McKay, Gini Miller (Randy) and Robin Crandall; and a son, Craig Crandall (Connie). Also surviving are grandchildren, Arin, Seann and Connor McKay, R.J. Miller (Kari), Jeff Miller, Ryan Miller, Courtney Schwagler (Mike), Megan Crandall and Jake Crandall (Danielle).



George Crandall



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SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR ASTORIA

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
						
64 51	59 51	62 49	58 47	56 48	56 44	55 47
Partly sunny	A little rain; breezy	A shower	Cloudy with a shower	Rain possible; breezy	Cloudy, rain possible	Showers possible

ALMANAC

Astoria through Sunday

Temperatures

High/low	57/45
Normal high/low	60/45
Record high	78 in 1942
Record low	31 in 1984

Precipitation

Sunday	0.74"
Month to date	1.78"
Normal month to date	3.11"
Year to date	44.76"
Normal year to date	44.90"

Forecasts and graphics provided by
AccuWeather, Inc. ©2021

UNDER THE SKY

Tonight’s Sky: Before midnight, Aries, the Ram, is high in the eastern night sky.

Source: Jim Todd, OMSI

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	7:38 a.m.
Sunset tonight	6:22 p.m.
Moonrise today	6:22 p.m.
Moonset today	6:29 a.m.

Full	Last	New	First
			
Oct 20	Oct 28	Nov 4	Nov 11

TODAY’S TIDES

Astoria / Port Docks	Time	High (ft.)	Time	Low (ft.)
12:57 a.m.	7.4	7:13 a.m.	0.5	
1:17 p.m.	8.1	7:45 p.m.	0.8	
Cape Disappointment				
12:40 a.m.	7.3	6:29 a.m.	0.0	
12:55 p.m.	7.9	6:58 p.m.	0.1	
Hammond				
12:49 a.m.	7.6	6:45 a.m.	0.6	
1:05 p.m.	8.3	7:18 p.m.	0.0	
Warrenton				
12:52 a.m.	7.8	6:57 a.m.	0.6	
1:12 p.m.	8.6	7:29 p.m.	0.0	
Knappa				
1:34 a.m.	7.6	8:14 a.m.	0.4	
1:54 p.m.	8.4	8:46 p.m.	0.0	
Depoe Bay				
12:08 p.m.	8.5	5:55 a.m.	1.0	
none		6:28 p.m.	0.5	

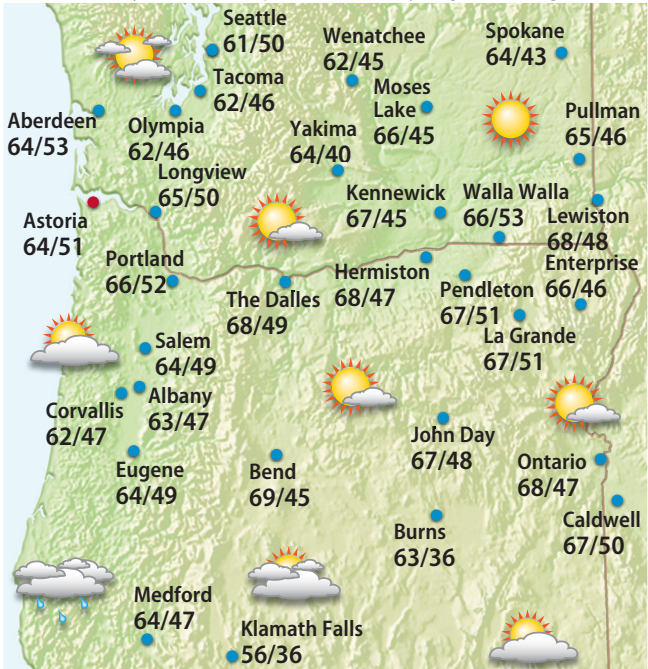
NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Wed. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	75/54/s	77/58/pc
Boston	64/54/s	70/53/s
Chicago	70/54/s	71/54/t
Dallas	80/65/pc	86/61/pc
Denver	60/34/c	61/38/s
Honolulu	86/71/s	85/71/pc
Houston	82/66/pc	86/65/s
Los Angeles	70/50/s	71/53/pc
Miami	85/76/pc	86/76/pc
New York City	66/55/s	73/56/s
Phoenix	79/60/s	84/63/s
San Francisco	65/56/c	65/58/c
Wash., DC	72/54/s	74/54/s
Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, l-ice.		

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REGIONAL FORECAST

Shown is today’s weather. Temperatures are today’s highs and tonight’s lows.



City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Wed. Hi/Lo/W	City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Wed. Hi/Lo/W
Baker City	64/40/pc	58/34/c	North Bend	64/51/r	62/53/sh
Brookings	61/51/r	58/52/sh	Roseburg	66/52/c	64/49/sh
Ilwaco	63/53/pc	57/54/r	Seaside	65/51/pc	59/53/r
Newberg	63/47/pc	60/48/sh	Springfield	65/51/pc	62/46/sh
Newport	61/50/pc	56/51/r	Vancouver	65/52/pc	62/49/sh