



Conor McLure/Idaho Department of Fish and Game

Fisheries biologist Eli Felts looked down at Loon Creek to count Chinook salmon spawning beds in the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness Area.

Protections for Idaho salmon, steelhead are here to stay

By KEITH RIDLER
Associated Press

BOISE — A five-year review by U.S. officials has determined that Endangered Species Act protections for oceangoing salmon and steelhead that reproduce in the Snake River and its Idaho tributaries must stay in effect.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's fisheries division review made public Thursday found that steelhead, spring and summer Chinook, sockeye and fall Chinook that return to Idaho in rivers from the Pacific Ocean still need their federal protections.

The protections include limits on fishing, restrictions on how much water can be used for irrigation, pollution controls for industries and dam operations on the Columbia and Snake rivers.

The review said that threats from climate change increase the urgency of completing recommended fish recovery actions — including improving fish passage at hydropower dams, restoring their habitats, controlling predators and changing hatchery practices.

Of the four species that return to Idaho, sockeye salmon are considered the most imperiled and were classified as endangered in 1991. The fish reproduces in high mountain lakes in central Idaho and they teetered on extinction for much of the 1990s.

An elaborate hatchery program operated by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game that tracks the genetic history of individual fish is aimed at restoring the species.

HISTORICALLY, THE FISH SPAWNED IN IDAHO AREAS THAT THEY CAN NO LONGER REACH, INCLUDING ABOVE THE HELLS CANYON DAM AND PARTS OF THE CLEARWATER RIVER BASIN, THE FEDERAL REVIEW SAID.

But the population of the sockeye salmon has not improved much since it was listed as endangered, the review said. The species remains "at high risk of extinction" amid challenges from climate change, a lack of food in oceans blamed on water warming and because of sea lion predation.

Snake River spring and summer Chinook, classified as threatened in 1992, include fish populations in part of the Snake River and in Washington state in the Tucannon, Grande Ronde and Imnaha rivers. The fish are also deemed threatened in parts of Idaho's Salmon River.

Historically, the fish spawned in Idaho areas that they can no longer reach, including above the Hells Canyon Dam and parts of the Clearwater River basin, the federal review said.

"Overall, the information analyzed for this five-year review indicates an increased level of concern in the risk status" for the fish, researchers wrote.

The researchers cited declining population trends and that no fish populations are reaching a minimum threshold set by the Interior Columbia Technical Recovery Team. The team works to interpret information

related to fish recovery.

Fall Chinook were classified as threatened in 1992 and include fish in the main stem Snake River below Hells Canyon Dam, the Salmon River and Clearwater River basins and in the Tucannon, Grande Ronde and Imnaha rivers in Washington state.

Those fish could be recovered by reintroducing them above the Hells Canyon Dam complex. But Idaho officials have fought that option, fearing protections for fish above the dams could limit river-side farming and ranching operations.

The review found that the fish extinction risk has decreased for Snake River fall Chinook, but "the implementation of sound management actions to address hydropower, habitat, hatcheries, harvest and predation remain essential to recovery."

Steelhead, a favored sport fish classified as threatened in 1997, include fish in the Snake, Salmon and Clearwater rivers and in the Tucannon, Grande Ronde and Imnaha rivers in Washington state. The review noted that there are no longer any steelhead that once spawned in tributaries above Hells Canyon Dam.

OBITUARIES

Marion Dale Hostetler

Gearhart

Jan. 1, 1938 — Aug. 5, 2022

Marion Dale Hostetler was born Jan. 1, 1938, to Dan and Viola Hostetler in Hartsville, Ohio.

Beloved husband, brother, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, Marion went to be with the Lord on Aug. 5 while surrounded by family at his home in Gearhart.

Marion is survived by his wife of 64 years, Emma; his nine children, Deb, Don, Rhonda, Jim, Doyle, Brian, Lamay, Shelly and Denny; his 19 grandchildren; and his 11 great-grandchildren.

He was loved beyond words, and will be dearly missed.

Hughes-Ransom Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements.



Marion Hostetler

Reneé Marie Smith Skeels

Warrenton

March 1, 1956 — Aug. 9, 2022

Reneé Marie Smith Skeels was born March 1, 1956, in Portland. She was adopted as an infant by Robert and LaVina Smith.

She grew up in Lebanon, Milwaukie and Madras. She graduated from high school and was married for a short time. She had a daughter, Kelly, a son, Jeremy, and a daughter, Kristen.

Reneé graduated with her associate's degree while working two to three jobs to make ends meet. She began working at Mountain View Hospital in Madras. She moved from central Oregon to Walla Walla, Washington. Continuing to advance her career, she moved to Spokane, Washington, working at Rockwood Clinic.

She continued her education while working full time, and earned her bachelor's degree at Eastern Washington University in 2001. In 2002, she accepted a position at a remote hospital in Kotzebue, Alaska. This ended up being an 11-year adventure.

Moving to Warrenton in 2013 fulfilled her dream of living on the Oregon Coast. Working at Columbia Memorial Hospital in Astoria, she was the health information manager. She belonged to the state and national Health Information Management Association, holding office at times and receiving awards. She had many health challenges and, unfortunately, she never reached her goal of retirement.

Reneé loved to spoil her grandkids. She was generous and giving to all. She loved Disney. She enjoyed time at the beach, clamming, crabbing, camping and fishing with her dad. She loved reading, fine dining and traveling. She loved frogs and had a huge collection of anything with a frog on it.

In recent years, she was excited to discover the identity of her birth parents. She has since met three of her biological brothers, and connected over the phone to build relationships with other family members. It was especially exciting for her to learn of her Alaska Native heritage and belonging to the Tlingit Tribe.

Over the last few years, rekindling her relationship with her companion, Jim Surface, has brought her much happiness.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Robert and LaVina Smith.

She is survived by her daughter, Kelly (Rob), and grandchildren, Ashley, Rylie and Ryan, of Honolulu, Hawaii; son, Jeremy (Krystal), and grandchildren, Hailey, Allison, Nichole and Brandon, of Madras; daughter, Kristen, and grandson, Zackary, of Culver; brother, Don Smith (Janice), of Madras; siblings, Don Starbard, Robert Starbard, Howard Starbard, Lynell "Pixie" Starbard and Jodi Wise, all of Alaska.

Hughes-Ransom Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements.



Renee Skeels

OBITUARY POLICY

The Astorian publishes paid obituaries. The obituary can include a small photo and, for veterans, a flag symbol at no charge. The deadline for all obituaries is 9 a.m. the business day prior.

Obituaries may be edited for spelling, proper punctuation and style. Death notices and upcoming services will be published at no charge. Notices must be submitted by 9 a.m. the day before publication.

Obituaries and notices may be submitted online at DailyAstorian.com/obituaries, by email at ewilson@dailyastorian.com, placed via the funeral home or in person at The Astorian office, 949 Exchange St. in Astoria.

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SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR ASTORIA

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
73 59	74 59	73 60	70 58	69 56	71 58	75 58
Partly sunny	Partly sunny and nice	Partly sunny and nice	A thick cloud cover	Low clouds may break	Mostly cloudy	Mostly sunny

ALMANAC

Astoria through Sunday

Temperatures

High/low 74/58

Normal high/low 69/54

Record high 86 in 2018

Record low 42 in 1988

Precipitation

Sunday Trace

Month to date 0.22"

Normal month to date 0.65"

Year to date 43.10"

Normal year to date 38.65"

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2022

UNDER THE SKY

Tonight's Sky: Asteroid 4 Vesta at opposition.

Source: Jim Todd, OMSI

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today 6:25 a.m.

Sunset tonight 8:11 p.m.

Moonrise today 2:15 a.m.

Moonset today 6:55 p.m.

New	First	Full	Last
Aug 27	Sep 3	Sep 10	Sep 17

TODAY'S TIDES

Astoria / Port Docks

Time	High (ft.)	Time	Low (ft.)
12:22 p.m.	6.0	6:00 a.m.	0.0
11:25 p.m.	7.1	5:38 p.m.	3.1

Cape Disappointment

12:07 p.m.	5.7	5:20 a.m.	0.2
11:07 p.m.	7.2	5:08 p.m.	3.5

Hammond

12:26 p.m.	5.9	5:34 a.m.	-0.1
11:15 p.m.	7.3	5:22 p.m.	3.3

Warrenton

12:17 p.m.	6.4	5:44 a.m.	0.0
11:20 p.m.	7.5	5:22 p.m.	3.2

Knappa

12:59 p.m.	6.3	7:01 a.m.	0.0
none		6:39 p.m.	2.7

Depoe Bay

11:40 a.m.	6.1	4:49 a.m.	0.3
10:23 p.m.	7.6	4:36 p.m.	3.9

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Wed.
	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	85/70/t	84/71/t
Boston	79/69/t	85/68/pc
Chicago	82/64/s	83/66/pc
Dallas	86/72/t	87/73/t
Denver	86/60/pc	88/61/pc
Honolulu	87/75/sh	89/75/sh
Houston	85/74/t	86/73/t
Los Angeles	85/66/s	86/67/s
Miami	92/81/c	92/80/t
New York City	84/70/t	87/72/s
Phoenix	101/82/s	99/80/t
San Francisco	73/58/pc	72/57/c
Wash., DC	87/70/s	87/72/pc

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, l-ice.

REGIONAL FORECAST

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

City	Today	Wed.	City	Today	Wed.
	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W		Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W
Baker City	89/51/s	89/52/t	North Bend	71/59/pc	70/58/c
Brookings	71/57/c	71/57/pc	Roseburg	90/62/s	91/64/s
Ilwaco	71/60/pc	74/59/pc	Seaside	73/59/pc	78/59/pc
Newberg	84/60/s	91/61/s	Springfield	88/59/s	91/60/s
Newport	67/55/pc	65/56/c	Vancouver	84/64/s	89/66/s