

Lake Simtustus Stocked With Steelhead



Homer Love, Assistant Manager of the Round Butte Hatchery, points out the carefully graded 5 inch steelhead being fed and raised in the hatchery rearing pond. Since the fish sunburn easily, water

is continuously sprayed over the pond which is kept at an even 50 degrees. The spray also creates a ripple on the water giving the fish a feeling of security.

(Sandy Rangila Photo)

In what is believed to be one of the largest plantings on record, 318,250 juvenile steelhead from the Round Butte Hatchery were released into Lake Simtustus August 23. The "grade-out" steelhead totaled 3,350 pounds and averaged three to four inches in length.

Since these fish originated from the Round Butte Hatchery and are native to the Deschutes, they have built up immunities and are resistant to diseases that have killed off fish trucked in from Idaho in previous years, according to Hatchery Manager Ray Hill and Assistant Manager Homer Love.

"The small steelhead released into Lake Simtustus were excess to our hatchery production purposes," said Love. He explained that during the grading process, which was done more carefully this year, the larger fish (about 5 inches in length) are separated from the smaller, less aggressive steelhead.

The larger steelhead are kept in the hatchery rearing pond where they will be fed and raised so that they will grow at a

fast rate. In the Spring, when they are about 6 inches, they will be put into the river below the dam and will "hopefully" go to sea, returning to fresh water for spawning in the Fall.

But there is no room in the rearing pond for the "grade-out" (smaller) steelhead, so rather than wasting them, hatchery personnel planted them in Lake Simtustus in the hope that they will grow and some will eventually go to sea.

"They will grow at a slower rate than those being fed in the rearing pond," said Love, "and there'll be a lot of competition for food so they'll have to fend for themselves."

But since they are disease resistant, Love said that they will perhaps provide some sports fishery and a number might mature enough to go to sea and return to spawn. "Because of dams and predators, they face quite a few hazards both coming and going (to sea)," noted Love.

The steelhead is a sea-run fish, and is defined as a large sea-run rainbow trout.

School to Start September 6

The first day of school for Warm Springs and Simnasho students will be Tuesday, September 6. The school day will be normal hours, and buses will run their normal run.

It is reminded that it is an Oregon law that all children must be immunized against DPT (Diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus), oral polio vaccine, measles, and mumps, before entering school for the first time. According to Lee Loomis,

records are now being put together for children who had their shots last year, when they were enrolled in the Headstart-Daycare. These record cards are imperative for enrollment.

At the Madras High School, September 6 will be for freshmen and sophomores only. Wednesday, the seventh will be just for juniors and seniors. No lunch will be provided at the high school these two days, so students will have to bring or provide their own lunch.

Portage Days to Feature Salmon Bake

by Roger Stwyer

An Indian Salmon Bake will be featured at the Third Annual Portage Days in Cascade Locks, Oregon, Saturday, September 17, at the Indian Reserve Park.

According to Neda Greene, the salmon will be prepared in the traditional way, filleted salmon cooked over an open fire.

The food will be served at approximately 4:00 P.M., Saturday evening. There will be a small fee charged for the dinner, but it is unknown what the price

will exactly be. According to a spokesman for the event, they will be serving until there is no more food. The expected number of people for the salmon bake is 1,000.

Other than salmon, there will be corn, potatoes, sturgeon, fried bread, watermelon, huckleberries, and many other delicious foods on the menu.

The salmon will be provided by Harold Greene and crew. The Portage Days is sponsored by the Cascade Locks Community.

Forests Cooled...

Rain Ends Long Heat Wave



Within a five-day time span the thermometer registered a dramatic 50 degree plunge here on the reservation this month. August 20's high was 102 degrees and on the 25th the high reached only 52.

The cooling spell which followed a two-month heat wave was highlighted by a half inch of rain Thursday, August 25, and temperatures have remained unseasonably chilly since then.

The impact of the rain on the reservation's range and forest lands has been to temporarily ease the extreme fire danger which had threatened to close down or restrict logging operations.

But there wasn't enough rain to soak into the parched soil, according to Dean Elliott of Land Operations. He said that another week of hot weather could put us right back to where we were before this recent cooler weather.

The rain, though it did wet things down, could prove to be a detriment to some of the more desirable grasses and plants.

"Following a dormant period, the moisture stimulates the plants sapping strength from the roots." All the energy and strength of the plant goes into the leaves - a process which Elliott terms "greening up". "This results in weaker plants and roots, and though there may be extra feed now, we may pay for it next year," he added.

There are also erosion problems since the ground is almost denuded in places causing moisture to run off into streams instead of soaking into the ground.

But the rain and cooler weather seems like a real treat right now, and to most, a welcome relief from 100-plus degree heat.

"When it rains, it pours." Extension Agent Sue Gangler almost looked as if she belonged in a 'Morton Salt' ad the day it rained, and she is probably the only person in Warm Springs who owns an umbrella. She appeared to be thoroughly enjoying the unusual, drippy event even though it amounted to only half an inch.

(Sandy Rangila photo)



Spilyay Tymoo

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