

State stocks South Yamhill with rainbow trout

The South Yamhill River just upstream of Willamina was stocked with approximately 2,000 rainbow trout on June 9.

This is the second year the state Department of Fish & Wildlife has released hatchery trout in the South Yamhill River to provide additional angling opportunities in this area.

The South Fork Yamhill trout fishing season required special consideration and approval by the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission. The upper limit of the stocked section is at the Gold Creek Road Bridge, located about two miles downstream of Fort Hill.

The trout were reared over the past winter at the department's Roaring River Hatchery near Scio and range from 8 to 12 inches long.

Trout stocking in Oregon's rivers was common 20 years ago. However, the practice has nearly ceased out of concern over possible effects to threatened salmon and steelhead populations. Since the late 1990s, trout stocking has taken place almost exclusively in lakes and ponds, where trout do not compete with salmon and steelhead for food and cover.

Tom Murtagh, District Fish Biologist for the department's North Willamette Watershed, said he believes that it is important for children to get to know their local rivers, and fishing is a great way to help them do that.

"I just remember how much river fishing meant to me when I was a



Photo courtesy of Rebecca McCoun

Tribal member Torey Wakeland, Oregon Youth Conservation Corps youth crew supervisor, prepares to release rainbow trout into the South Yamhill River, just upstream of Willamina, on June 9. Tribal Biologist Rebecca McCoun and Wakeland, both with the Tribe's Natural Resource Department, assisted the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife with its South Yamhill River fish stocking effort.

kid," said Murtagh. "The whole purpose of this program is to reconnect people from local communities to the rivers in their back yards and the wonderful opportunities they

can find there."

By carefully planning the timing of releases so as not to overlap with the out-migration of steelhead smolts and by using triploid trout, which are unable to reproduce, Murtagh garnered the support of federal agencies and key stake-

holder groups. Managers carefully planned the releases to occur after most winter steelhead smolts had departed to the ocean.

The South Fork Yamhill trout fishery will be open through Oct. 31 from its confluence with the North Yamhill near McMinnville, upstream about 20 miles to Rock Creek near Grand Ronde. Anglers may harvest up to five hatchery rainbow trout, which have had their adipose fin removed for easy identification.

In addition, the state Department of Fish & Wildlife recently adopted a temporary rule allowing anglers to keep two wild cutthroat trout, 8 inches or greater in size in all tributary streams in both the Tualatin and Yamhill basins.

Therefore, anglers fishing in the South Yamhill near Willamina have the unique opportunity to retain five trout, of which three may be hatchery rainbow trout and two may be wild cutthroat trout. Fishing is limited to artificial flies and lures to protect native fish.

Murtagh said the trout were released in multiple locations between Gold Creek Road Bridge and Willamina because that is the stretch of the South Fork Yamhill that has the most public access.

Yamhill River Road runs parallel to much of this section and provides adequate turnouts and parking at several locations near the river.

The remaining 15 miles of river open to trout fishing has some public access but also meanders across private lands. Murtagh reminds anglers to be aware of and respectful toward private property rights along the river. ■

Team Eagle wins



Courtesy photo

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Recreation Department hosted a 10-team 3-on-3 open basketball tournament in the Tribal gymnasium on June 4-5. Team Eagle was the winners of the tournament, going through the tournament undefeated. Team members include, from left, Leo Ayala, Anthony Brooks III and Tribal members Eagle Dog Eastman and Devere Eastman.

Class of 1950 sets 60th reunion

The Willamina High School Class of 1950 will hold its 60th reunion on Saturday, Aug. 21. Other Willamina High classes and friends also are invited to attend.

For more information, contact Glenva Clark at 928-271-9544. ■



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HELP WANTED

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Tribal members, descendants, spouses of Tribal members, parents of a Tribal member, and legal guardians of Grand Ronde Tribal member children interested in assisting with filling temporary vacancies on an "on-call" or an "extended duration" basis or are interested in the upcoming construction jobs, are encouraged to contact the CTGR Human Resources office.

For Federally funded construction projects, the Tribe will also be accepting applications from non-Grand Ronde American Indians and local low-income residents.

Employment applications are available at the Human Resources office located in the Governance Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road.

Applicants must pass the following background checks:

- Criminal background
- Work history
- References
- Tribal membership
- Drug screen

Temporary employees will be subject to the CTGR's Employee Handbook.

This is an excellent opportunity for our membership to supplement their income and gain experience while aiding us in continuing a smooth delivery of services.