

# Coastal Gem Walkers announce next jaunt

The Coastal Gems invites everyone to come walking Tuesday, Feb. 3, in Depot Bay. The 10K walk is rated 2b for some hills and non-paved surfaces. This walk is difficult for

wheel chairs and strollers. Three separate loops allow for walkers to adjust the course to meet their needs. The group will meet at 8:55 a.m. at the Commons in Yachats to car-

pool to Depoe Bay. Walkers can also meet at the Sea Hag restaurant in Depoe Bay at 10:15 a.m. The group walks in any weather, so come prepared.

As always, leashed pets are welcome on walks. Be sure to carry water and cleanup materials for pets. For more information, call Jean White in Florence at 541-997-8577.

## Fishing from 1B

is starting to pick up in many coastal basins. The Salmon River is now open to harvest of wild winter steelhead (Jan 1 – March 31). Anglers are advised to read the new regulations as there are harvest restrictions and new deadlines in effect.

**SILETZ RIVER:** *Steelhead* Steelhead fishing is slow to fair but should start to pick up in the coming weeks. Fish can be found throughout the river for both bank and boat anglers. River conditions should be good through the weekend.

**SIUSLAW RIVER:** *Steelhead* The winter steelhead fishery is producing fish in both the Siuslaw and Lake Creek. The next few weeks should see a good push of fish. River conditions should remain good through the weekend. Typical steelhead angling tactics apply.

**YAQUINA RIVER:** *Steelhead* The winter steelhead fishery is fair to good in the Big Elk. River conditions should remain in good condition through the week. Anglers are advised to watch for private property. Typical steelhead angling tactics apply but the Big Elk is bed rock dominated and does have a lot of snags.

**COOS RIVER BASIN:** *Dungeness crab, bay clams, steelhead*

Steelhead fishing is good. There is bank access on the West Fork Millicoma at the Millicoma Interpretive Center and on the East Fork Millicoma at Nesika Park. Access to the South Fork Coos River is through Weyerhaeuser property and anglers must have the appropriate permit from Weyerhaeuser. In the Coos Basin starting one additional fin clipped steelhead may be retained per day for a total aggregate of three adult fish harvested daily.

**UMPQUA RIVER, SOUTH:** *Steelhead* The South Umpqua is open for steelhead fishing. Although the peak numbers of fish normally show up from February to late March, the recent rains have moved fish into the Canyonville area and hatchery fish have been reported.

The South Umpqua offers the best chance for catching an adipose-fin clipped steelhead for harvest. The hatchery program for winter steelhead is centered in the South Umpqua.

Most hatchery fish are caught from Canyonville downstream. All wild fish

must be released unharmed. As the river drops from last weekend's rain, plunking should be good at places such as Lawson Bar, Myrtle Creek and behind Seven Feathers.

**WINCHESTER BAY:** *Bottomfish* Fishing for bottomfish in the Triangle and South jetty has been successful. Crabbing has been slow recently. **PACIFIC OCEAN and BEACHES:** *Bottomfish, Dungeness crab, surf perch* The ocean is open for harvest of Dungeness crab. A few anglers have been catching surf perch from the beaches near Bandon and Coos Bay. Sand shrimp is one of the best baits to use when fishing for surf perch.

Fishing for bottom fish, including rockfish and lingcod is open to all depths. The marine fish daily bag limit is seven fish and a separate daily limit of two lingcod. Anglers are only able to keep three blue rockfish as part of their daily limit and there will be no harvest of China, quillback or copper rockfish.

Sometime in March, once a parallel federal rule is adopted, ODFW will announce that anglers can retain one canary rockfish as part of the marine fish daily bag limit. Retention of cabezon is not allowed through June 30.

**PACIFIC HALIBUT:** The Pacific halibut seasons have all closed for the remainder of the year.

The International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) will set 2015 quotas for all areas in later this month. More information on the 2015 seasons will be available after that time.

**BOTTOM FISHING:** The ocean is open to bottom fishing at all depths. This time of year, whenever the weather permits, bottom fishing can be great fun and very productive.

Calm seas have brought good fishing, with anglers bringing home mostly lingcod,

black rockfish, yellowtail rockfish, and a few blue and other nearshore rockfish.

Cabezon fishing is closed through June 30.

The marine fish daily bag limit is seven fish. China, copper, and quillback rockfish may not be retained; and only three blue rockfish may be retained per day (as part of the seven-fish bag). Sometime in March, once a parallel federal rule is adopted, ODFW will announce that anglers can retain one canary rockfish as part of the marine fish daily bag limit.

There are separate daily

limits of two lingcod and 25 flatfish other than Pacific halibut.

Remember: yelloweye rockfish and canary rockfish can not be retained.

**RAZOR CLAMS:** Due to the large number of small razor clams on the beach, diggers should be highly selective about which shows they pursue. Harvesters are reminded they must retain the first 15 clams regardless of size or condition.

**CRABBING:** Sport ocean crabbing in the ocean and bay remains slow.

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## Siuslaw News garage sale GUIDE

Fri. 1/30-Sat. 1/31  
9am-6pm  
5561 Huckleberry Lane  
Tools, miscellaneous.  
To much to list.



Downsizing  
Sat.-Sun.  
10am-2pm  
U-Store Mini Storage  
4425 Highway 101  
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