

OUTDOOR LIFE

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CATCH FREE FISHING WEEKEND JUNE 6, 7



FLORENCE and REEDSPORT — The public is invited to join Siuslaw National Forest staff and agency partners Saturday, June 6, or Sunday, June 7, for free fishing day activities during Oregon's statewide Free Fishing Weekend.

An opportunity for free family fun is planned for the Florence and Reedsport areas that weekend, with the first being in Florence on Saturday, June 6, in the day use parking lot on the Cleawox side of Honeyman State Park.

The event, which is from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., is a collaboration between the U.S. Forest Service, Oregon State Parks, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Florence Salmon and Trout Enhancement Program.

Salmon Trout Enhancement Program (STEP) members will have more than 200 fishing rods available to borrow that day and ODFW supplies power bait. STEP volunteers will be available to help new anglers learn how to cast, bait a hook and catch a fish.

Volunteers will assist on the shoreline

as families line the banks to try to catch some of the thousands of rainbow trout that have been planted into Cleawox Lake for the event.

Others will staff a fish cleaning station, so that the catch can be taken home, ready to cook.

There will be a free hot dog barbecue, fish print tee-shirt making and a practice casting station.

Last year, more than 200 young anglers participated in the day's activities.

The following day, June 7, families in the Reedsport area can come to Lake Marie in Umpqua Lighthouse State Park from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for a day of fishing activities.

There will be a casting contest and free hot dog lunches for kids, as well as a fishing lure raffle.

The first weekend in June is Free Fishing Weekend throughout Oregon.

No license is required to fish that weekend, in an effort to invite more people to try their luck and learn the delights of fishing.

