

# Discovery Series to focus on whales as spring migration nears

YACHATS — Have a whale of a good time at the next Cape Perpetua Winter Discovery Series installation.

Joy Primrose, president of the Oregon Chapter of the American Cetacean Society, will discuss the diverse species of whales, dolphins and porpoises found off the Oregon Coast at 2 p.m. today, Feb. 27, at the Visitor Center, 2400 S. Highway 101, three miles south of Yachats.

“It’s the perfect time to learn about our coastal marine mammals before the gray whales’ spring migration and the upcoming Whale Watch Week,” said Brian Hoeh, Visitor Center manager at Cape Perpetua.

This spring’s Whale Watch Week runs March 19-26. More than 1,600 gray-whale sightings were reported during this past winter’s Whale Watch Week as the whales traveled to their warm calving grounds off



NED HICKSON/SIUSLAW NEWS

Baja California, Mexico.

The Cape Perpetua Winter Discovery Series is an opportunity to explore topics and

resources relevant to the Oregon Coast during the off-season months between November and March.

**A pair of whale watchers look for spouts from a viewpoint near Sea Lions Caves. Whale Watching Week will take place March 19-26.**

All presentations and guided walks are free, but a Northwest Forest Pass, Oregon Coast Passport, federal recreation pass or \$5 day-use fee is required within to the Cape Perpetua Scenic Area.

For more information, contact the Cape Perpetua Visitor Center at 541-547-3289.

Upcoming Winter Discover Series events:

- March 5 (2 p.m.) — The Amanda Story and Trail: Learn the tale behind the trail. Doc Slyter, an elder, flutist and tribal council member for the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians, along with Yachats resident and trails enthusiast

Joanne Kittel, will tell the story of a native woman and her people’s forced march over Cape Perpetua’s rocky headland to a resettlement camp and the legacy they left behind.

- March 20 (2 p.m.) — Children’s Stories and Tidepool Walk: Children’s author Kizzie Jones will read from one of her latest books, and then lead families down to the tidepools for a guided tour.
- Jones blends her love of dachshunds and the ocean to create whimsical tall tales.
- Titles to her credit include “How Dachshunds Came to Be: A Tall Tale About A Short Long Dog” and “A Tall Tale About A Dachshund And A Pelican: How A Friendship Came To Be.”
- March 21 (11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.) — Experiencing Gray Whales: Cape Perpetua volunteer interpreter and naturalist Michael Noack has studied gray whales for many years,

assisting with whale research missions and training Whale Watch volunteers.

Visitors will enjoy hearing about his first-hand encounters with these iconic creatures of the Oregon Coast.

- March 26 (2 p.m.) — Oregon Dunes: They’re more than just sand. Learn about the origins, shapes and future of the longest stretch of coastal dunes in the United States.
- Dina Pavlis, author of “Secrets of the Oregon Dunes,” will share photos, stories and knowledge gained from living and playing within the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area.
- No RSVPs are necessary for any of the Discovery Series events.
- For information, call the Cape Perpetua Visitor Center at 541-547-3289.

# Annual Fly Fishing Expo featuring expert fly tiers in Reedsport today

Anyone interested in learning fly tying, casting and fishing can come to the annual Fly Fishing Expo at the Reedsport City Hall, 451 Winchester Ave., in Reedsport today to learn from the experts.

The expo has been offered to the public annually for the past 25 years by the Lower Umpqua Flycasters organization at no charge and offers fun for the whole family.

Open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., there will be more than 24 expert fly tiers demonstrating their craft, and explaining the different flies and showing how to create them.

Children and adults are encouraged to learn how to cast in the indoor casting pool with expert assistance from internationally know flycaster, Frank Moore.

Presenters include Ralph

Glazier on steelhead fly tying and fishing, and Lloyd Thurman, who will discuss Oregon lake fly fishing.

Specialists from the Salmon Trout Enhancement Program (STEP), the Tenmile Lake Basin Partnership and ODFW of Coos County will have booths at the expo to answer questions about their programs.

Some of the newest and best in fly fishing equipment will be

on view at the expo including flies, rods and float boats.

Other exhibitors include wild flower exhibits, fishing antiques, bamboo rods, fly tying equipment and even fish art.

This free annual expo is an educational and fun family event with raffle drawings every hour throughout the day, a silent auction, and a concession stand for meals and

snacks.

The Lower Umpqua Flycasters is a nonprofit fly fishing club based in Reedsport.

It was founded in 1990 to accommodate persons with all levels of fly fishing and fly tying skills.

Club meetings and special sessions have featured activities including fly tying, rod building, construction of fish-

ing leaders, fly casting and fishing outings.

In addition the club hosts an annual Tube-O-Rama float trip on the Umpqua River.

This organization works with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife on projects that pertain to the conservation and restoration of coastal streams and the enhancement of local fisheries.

# the spotlight

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