

New OMR website offers glimpse beneath ocean

NEWPORT — Ever wondered what lies beneath the surface of Oregon's ocean? Curious about marine scientific research?

The new Oregon Marine Reserves website, www.oregonmarinereserves.com, provides a rare glimpse below the surface of Oregon's ocean waters and a behind-the-scenes peek at scientists in action.

The website revamp was headed up by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, which oversees the management and scientific monitoring of Oregon's system of five marine reserve sites located off the Oregon coast.

The website went live March 31.

The new website offers quick and easy access to research news, underwater videos and information



ODFW COURTESY PHOTO

Rockfish swimming through the Oregon Marine Reserves are captured on the new OMR website.

about each marine reserve site, along with a comprehensive look at the science and management efforts underway by ODFW and partners.

Additionally, the website offers user friendly features such as interactive maps, e-notifications and downloadable GPS coordinates.

"We are excited that we can now showcase life below the surface of Oregon's nearshore waters" said Cristen Don, ODFW Marine Reserves Program Leader. "We hope people dive in and check out the new website and learn about the important marine research efforts that are underway."

In 2012, Oregon completed designation of five marine

reserve sites. These are areas in Oregon's coastal waters dedicated to conservation and scientific research. Fishing and ocean development are prohibited in these areas.

For a state famous for exploration, Oregon has only skimmed the surface of its coastal waters. The marine reserves are living laboratories where scientists are learning about Oregon's nearshore ocean environment and the effects that protections (no fishing and conservation) have over time on species and habitats.

This long-term research and monitoring program conducts research to support the management of marine reserves and sustainable nearshore ocean resources in Oregon, now and into the future.

For more information about Oregon's marine reserves, call ODFW's Newport Office at 541-867-4741.

Artist-in-residence Janet Essley begins at Cape Perpetua

YACHATS — Janet Essley uses nature to create art in nature.

The 2016 Cape Perpetua artist-in-residence made her debut last weekend at the Cape Perpetua Visitor Center, 2400 S. Highway 101, three miles south of Yachats.

She will spend the year helping visitors connect with nature through her unique form of environmental art.

"Making art in nature gives one time to connect with place in unexpected and rewarding ways," Essley said. "Time slows. One becomes aware of sounds, smells, light, textures, colors, movement and the extraordinary diversity of ordinary things."

"No two fir cones are alike." Essley will lead groups, families and individuals in the process of creating art using

found natural objects, such as sticks, rocks, sand, moss and bark.

No live materials will be cut, moved or damaged.

Once created, artwork will be left where it was created to be enjoyed by others and eventually recycled by nature.

Photographs will be the only permanent record of the creations, such of which will be displayed at the Visitor Center.

"Making art from and within the natural world affirms the individual's ability to be a steward of the environment," Essley said.

Essley resides in the Columbia Gorge, but spent 10 years in the Coast Range participating in scientific studies of gray whales and Brant geese.

She has 25 years of experience teaching art and leading groups in the creation of murals

and other forms of art, both nationally and internationally.

The Cape Perpetua artist-in-residence program is free to participants, but a Northwest Forest Pass, Oregon Coast Passport, federal recreation pass or \$5 day-use fee is required within the Cape Perpetua Scenic Area.

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

Mapleton from 1C

and ninth in the long jump at 11 feet, 1.25 inches.

In the boys' division, AJ foster, Tyler Packebush, Evan Moso and

Simington teamed up to finish second in the 4x100-meter relay in 47.68.

Each went on to have other top finishes on the day, beginning with Foster, who ran the 100 meters in 11.98 for fourth place.

Simington was fifth in the 200 meters (24.41); Packebush was fifth in the 110-meter hurdles (19.11) and fourth in the pole vault (9 feet); Moso was 11th in the javelin (91 feet, 5 inches), and 12th in the long jump (16 feet,

5.25 inches).

In the 800 meters, sophomore Cole Spencer was ninth with a time of 2:27.97.

Thursday, the Sailors will compete at the Taft Invitational in Lincoln City, beginning at 3:45

p.m.

Next Thursday, April 21, the Sailors will be back on their home course to host the MWL Mapleton Invitational.

Events begin at 4:15 p.m.

Fishing from 1C

and have both boat and bank access.

SIUSLAW RIVER:

The river basin is closed to all fishing above the head of tide and will reopen for cut-throat trout fishing on May 22.

ALSEA RIVER: Steelhead

Winter steelhead fishing is slow. This time of year does tend to be dominated by more wild fish and post spawn run backs. Casting spinners / spoons, floating bait or a jig, or bouncing bottom with an egg pattern are good options.

SALMON RIVER:

The river basin is closed to all fishing above the head of tide and will reopen for cut-throat trout fishing on May 22.

SILETZ RIVER: Steelhead

Winter steelhead fishing is slow. This time of year is typically dominated by mostly wild fish. Side drifting, bouncing bottom or bobber fishing can be productive.

WILSON RIVER: Steelhead, Chinook

Steelhead angling has slowed in the low clear water. Scale your gear down and choose techniques that fit low water. Bobber and jigs should be an effective technique. Spring Chinook opened April 1, but fishing is generally very slow until later in the season.

YAQUINA RIVER: Steelhead

The river basin is closed to all fishing above the head of tide and will reopen for cut-throat trout fishing on May 22.

COOS COUNTY LAKES and PONDS: Trout

Trophy trout were stocked last week into Empire Lakes, Bradley Lake, and Johnson Mill Pond. Legal size trout are also stocked into Empire Lakes, Bradley Lake, Butterfield Lake, Eel Lake, Powers Pond, and Johnson Mill Pond. Fishing in the area lakes for trout has been ok

with anglers having the best success using small spinners, spoons, or Powerbait. The daily trout bag limit in these lakes is five trout per day with only one trout over 20 inches.

TENMILE BASIN: Trout, steelhead, bass

Streams in the Tenmile Basin are now closed for trout fishing until May 22. Tenmile Lakes is open all year for trout but trout fishing has been slow.

Steelhead angling is open in the Tenmile Basin until April 30. In the Tenmile Basin 1 additional hatchery steelhead may be retained per day for a total aggregate of 3 adult fish harvested daily.

Largemouth bass fishing has been a little slow in Tenmile Lakes but should pick up as the weather and water temperatures warm up. Bass will be biting on slower retrieved baits like jigs, jerkbaits, and spinnerbaits.

UMPQUA RIVER, SOUTH: Steelhead

The South Umpqua is currently open to adipose fin-clipped steelhead harvest, and winter steelhead fishing will improve as water levels recede.

There are still excellent hatchery steelhead harvest opportunities on the South Umpqua especially around Stanton Park in Canyonville.

WINCHESTER BAY: Bottomfish, perch

Fishing for bottomfish in the Triangle and South jetty has been successful.

PACIFIC OCEAN and BEACHES: Bottomfish, Dungeness crab, surf perch

Recreational harvest of crab is open along the entire Oregon Coast. It is still recommended you discard the crab viscera (guts/butter) before cooking.

A few anglers fishing the beaches near Coos Bay have been catching redbait surf perch. The ocean has been

very rough lately so picking days with lower swells is key to catching fish. Sand shrimp or Berkley Gulp sand worms have been working the best for bait.

Recreational ocean salmon fishing from Cape Falcon to Humbug Mt. runs through April 30.

The season is open for all salmon except coho salmon. Anglers are allowed two salmon per day with a minimum size for Chinook at 24 inches or larger.

A salmon season from May 1, 2016 through April 30, 2017 is currently being developed.

Fishing for bottom fish is closed outside of a line approximating the 30-fathom curve.

The marine fish daily bag limit is seven fish and a separate daily limit for lingcod (two). Anglers can only keep 3 blue rockfish and 1 canary rockfish as part of their daily limit and there will be no harvest of China, quillback, or copper rockfish.

Retention of cabezon is prohibited through June 30.

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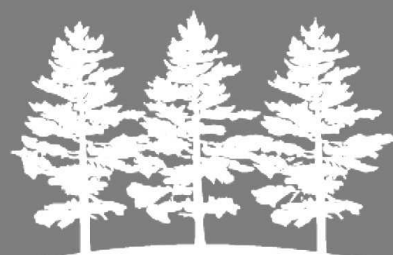
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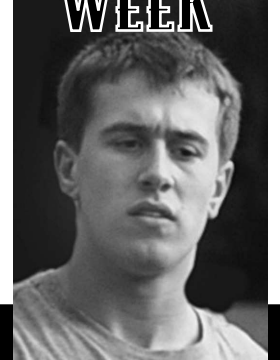


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ATHLETE

OF THE WEEK



Hunter Simington

Mapleton H.S.

Track & Field

The junior vaulted 10'6", his highest of the year, to win the pole vault title at last week's Aaron and Marie Jones Invitational at McKenzie High School. Simington also ran a leg of the 2nd place 4x100 relay team at the same meet.

Honorable Mention Taylor Dotson

Dotson belted her second home run of the season while going 3-for-4 at the plate in a Viking loss to Tillamook.

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