

# States close Columbia River salmon, steelhead seasons

Recreational salmon and steelhead fishing will close starting today, Oct. 22, on the Columbia River from Buoy 10 to the Highway 395 Bridge near Pasco, Wash., under rules adopted Thursday by fishery

managers from Oregon and Washington. The closure is based on the latest fall Chinook run forecast, which indicates the Upriver Bright component, which includes ESA-listed Snake

River wild Chinook, is tracking at 71 percent of the preseason forecast of 579,600 Chinook. Coho salmon and steelhead returns have also been revised downward from pre-season forecasts.

Based on the revised run-size projection, fishery managers estimate that combined non-treaty fisheries have exceeded the allowed harvest limit on Upriver Bright Chinook.

The states opted to also close the recreational coho salmon and steelhead seasons to prevent any additional Chinook mortalities that might have occurred as the result of incidental bycatch.



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## 'WHALE WATCHING' VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) is seeking whale-lovers to participate in its annual Whale Watching Spoken Here program.

The program places trained volunteers at 24 whale-watching sites along the Oregon coast during winter and spring watch weeks, when approximately 20,000 gray whales migrate on their way to and from feeding areas off the Alaska coast and birthing areas near Baja, Mexico.

Volunteers who complete the one-day training may select a whale-watching site where they will be stationed to assist visitors in spotting gray whales

and maintain a count of whales spotted.

The dates for upcoming whale watching weeks are Dec. 27 through 31, and March 25 through 31, 2017.

New this year, volunteers can register for the training online at [www.whalespoken.wordpress.com](http://www.whalespoken.wordpress.com), as well as select a watch site.

The training is required for new volunteers. Returning volunteers are encouraged to repeat the course every few years to learn the latest gray whale research results.

The first of three sessions is set for Saturday, Dec. 3, at the Hatfield Marine Science Center in Newport.

The training will be delivered by Dr. Bruce Mate, an expert on whales and director of the Oregon State University Marine Mammal Institute.

Additional volunteer training is scheduled for Jan. 14, 2017, at the Oregon Institute of Marine Biology in Charleston, and also Feb. 11, 2017, at the Warrenton Community Center in Warrenton.

Whale Watching Spoken Here has been around since 1978 and is one of the most organized onshore whale-watching programs in the United States.

For more information, call 541-765-3304.

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## Three-person officiating approved for basketball

The Oregon Schools Activities Association (OSAA) Executive Board has approved the use of three-person officiating crews for the 6A, 5A and 4A basketball playoffs beginning in 2017.

The expansion takes effect with this season's early round playoff games at high school sites, as well as the quarterfinals through the state championship games at final and neutral sites.

Schools and leagues in all classifications will continue to have the option of using three or two-person crews during the regular season, provided the local officials associations are

able to cover the games.

This option was allowed, for the first time, during the 2015-16 season with nine of 38 leagues choosing to use three-person crews.

"Cooperation between the 17 local associations and OSAA member schools and leagues made the first year a positive one and we are excited to move forward," said Cindy Simmons, OSAA Assistant Executive Director in charge of basketball. "A strong commitment to training at the local association level has been a key to the success along with the financial commitment from schools and the OSAA

Executive Board in adding an official.

"The vast majority of state high school associations in the country are using three-person crews during the regular and post season and we're looking forward to joining them."

At the conclusion of the 2016-17 season, information will be gathered from schools at all classification levels and a thorough review of the effects of using an additional official will be conducted.

According to Simmons, the goal is to implement the use of three-person crews in the post-season for all classifications as soon as feasible.

## ODFW seeks four new members for Oregon Hatchery Research team

ALSEA — Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is seeking four new board members to represent the Columbia River gillnetters, Oregon Salmon Commission, the agricultural industry and Oregon Indian Tribes respectively on the Oregon Hatchery Research Center (OHRC) Board. The successful candidates will serve four-year terms.

The board is charged with advising the OHRC director on operational, budget and research priorities at the research center.

Candidates must submit an application and provide three references by Friday, Nov. 4.

The ODFW director will appoint the new members by the end of the year. The application is available on the ODFW website, [dfw.state.or.us/fish/OHRC/recruitments.asp](http://dfw.state.or.us/fish/OHRC/recruitments.asp).

ODFW is consulting with the Legislative Council on Indian Services to recruit an Oregon Tribe representative.

For more information about the OHRC Board or how to apply, contact Kerrie Tarkinton at [Kerrie.J.Tarkinton@state.or.us](mailto:Kerrie.J.Tarkinton@state.or.us) or call 541-757-5301.

For more information about the OHRC, visit [dfw.state.or.us/fish/OHRC](http://dfw.state.or.us/fish/OHRC).

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## In Honor of All Veterans

The staff at the Siuslaw News are preparing to publish the annual Veterans Day publication, which is a special supplement to the newspaper that is devoted to all military veterans who currently are Florence-area residents or have a connection to this area.

If you are interested in sharing your military background information in the annual tribute publication, or in updating information that we have published previously, please complete this form and submit it to the Siuslaw News. Service photographs are also welcome.

Submit forms and photos by e-mail to [rconk@thesiuslawnews.com](mailto:rconk@thesiuslawnews.com), by regular mail to Siuslaw News, Attn: Ned Hickson, P.O. Box 10, Florence, OR 97439; or drop off materials at the Siuslaw News office in Old Town, 148 Maple St.

If your profile was published in the 2015 Veterans tribute and you do not wish to make any changes to the profile, there is no need to resubmit this form or your military information.

Please be sure that all materials are carefully labeled with your name and phone number and are submitted by **October 26, 2016**.

Thank you for participating in this project to remember and honor our veterans.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Branch of Service: \_\_\_\_\_

Rank Achieved (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Dates Served: \_\_\_\_\_

Where did you serve? \_\_\_\_\_

Special Information (E.G., POW): \_\_\_\_\_

Has your veterans information been published previously in the Siuslaw News Veterans Publication?  
YES NO

Do we have your military photo(s) on file? YES NO  
*(Note: If you have submitted photos in the past, we will still have them on file.)*