

Dunes detour at Siltcoos established to protect snowy plover

REEDSPORT — A new seasonal detour is now in place for off-highway vehicle riders at Siltcoos Beach, south of Florence, to protect the winter habitat of western snowy plover while continuing to provide year-round beach access.

Beginning this week and annually from Sept. 16 to

March 14, riders will be directed to access the beach via the newly constructed Breach North OHV Trail, 600 feet north of the traditional Breach access point.

This winter detour provides alternate access to Siltcoos Beach and does not affect use of the beach itself.

Western snowy plover are small, threatened shorebirds that utilize open sand for nesting, feeding, and overwintering.

"We're committed to providing great recreation opportunities on the dunes and beach throughout the year, while also protecting these sensitive

birds," said Shane Gill, recreation lead for the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area. "We appreciate riders' willingness to use the new beach access point so that these plovers have a better chance of surviving the winter undisturbed."

After a multi-year analysis

and review, including input from thousands of members of the public, in 2015 the Siuslaw National Forest published the final Record of Decision designating motorized travel routes and areas in the Oregon Dunes NRA.

This seasonal detour is one of the management directions

included in the decision, and, with completion of construction of the new access route, is being implemented for the first time this year.

For more information, contact the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area at 541-271-6000.

Sailors from 1B

looked back, eventually winning it 72-22.

"We've got one more game to put it all together," said Crook, whose team will host the Mountain West's top-ranked team from Siletz on

Tuesday. "We've got the potential to do well this season, but we have to learn to deal with pressure defense."

Last night, the Sailors were

back on the road to play Perrydale (after press deadlines) for the final preseason game.

The girls' matchup with the

Braves on Wednesday was canceled due to a lack of players from injury and illness.

The Lady Sailors will be back on the hardwood for the

league opener Tuesday night.

Tipoff for Tuesday's game against the Warriors is 5:30 for the girls, followed by the boys' game at 7 p.m.

Fishing from 1B

town of Alsea. Casting spinners, drifting bait or using a bobber and jig can be effective.

- Open for hatchery steelhead through Dec. 31.

- No fishing from a floating device upstream from Mill Creek.

SALMON RIVER: *Chinook*

The Salmon River and bay is open for Chinook salmon. The run is near the end but a

few fish are still entering the system.

Trolling herring in the lower bay is an effective technique. Eggs and bobber can be productive in the upper bay and river as the season progresses.

Parking can be limited at Knight Park during the fall salmon return. Anglers are reminded that from Knight Park boat ramp to Sulphur Creek through Dec. 31,

angling is restricted to single point hook metal lures, fly

angling, or salmon bobber angling.

SILETZ RIVER: *Steelhead, Chinook*

The Siletz River and bay is open for Chinook salmon. Fishing is slow.

Fish are throughout the bay and river. Trolling herring in the lower bay is an effective technique. Eggs and bobber or drifting eggs can be productive in the upper bay and river as the season progresses.

Consult the regulations for changes in deadline locations through the season.

Steelhead fishing is slow. Casting spinners, drifting bait or using a bobber and jig can be effective. For cutthroat trout, casting small spinners, spoons or fly fishing streamers or dry flies can be very effective.

WILSON RIVER: *Chinook*

Fall Chinook fishing is fair on the Wilson River. The Wilson has fished well for fall Chinook this season, and although things will probably start to slow down toward the end of the month, there are still some good fish coming in.

Keep an eye on the weather and River conditions. All of the usual techniques, such as

bobber fishing, divers and bait, and back bouncing should be effective.

Although it's still a little early, Thanksgiving is time to start thinking about winter steelhead on the lower Wilson. This basin has some early returning hatchery fish and they should start trickling in towards the end of the month.

YAQUINA RIVER: *Chinook*

The Yaquina River and bay is open for Chinook salmon. Fishing is slow. Trolling herring in the lower bay is an effective technique.

Eggs and bobber can be productive in the upper bay and river as the season progresses.

COOS COUNTY LAKES AND PONDS: *Trout*

Rainbow trout were stocked in Upper Empire, Bradley, Saunders, Powers and Butterfield lakes last month.

Anglers have been catching lots of trout on Powerbait, flies, or by trolling spinners. This was the last stocking of these lakes until the spring.

Trout anglers are also catching trout in Eel and Tenmile lakes. Trolling wedding ring spinners tipped with a night-crawler has been really effective.

UMPQUA RIVER, SOUTH: *CLOSED*

The South Umpqua is now open.

WINCHESTER BAY: *Bottomfish, perch*

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

TENMILE BASIN: *Trout, bass, yellow perch, coho*

Trout fishing in the streams of the Tenmile Basin are now closed until May 22, 2017.

Trout fishing in Tenmile Lakes is open all year.

There is no wild coho fishery in Tenmile Lakes this fall.

Largemouth bass fishing has been decent over the past couple weeks. Anglers are catching bass near structure or on the deep end of the weed lines using spinner baits, jigs, or rubber worms.

Fishing for yellow perch has picked up in Tenmile Lakes. Anglers have been catching a few yellow perch measuring 14 to 15-inches long.

Worms fished near the lake bottom work very well for catching yellow perch. Anglers should fish in water depths of 15 feet or deeper to consistently find the bigger yellow perch.

PACIFIC OCEAN AND BEACHES: *Bottomfish, surf perch, salmon*

The ocean remains closed for Dungeness crabbing due to high toxin levels.

Recreational harvest of razor clams is closed on the entire Oregon coast due to elevated levels of domoic acid. Harvest of mussels is open on the entire Oregon Coast. Before any shellfish harvest trip, make sure to check the Oregon Department of Agriculture website for any updates.

Recreational ocean salmon fishing from Cape Falcon to Humbug Mt. is closed for salmon fishing, except the Elk River Chinook Terminal Season is closed.

Both the All Depth and the Nearshore Halibut seasons are now closed.

Fishing for bottom fish

opened back up to all-depths.

Fishing for black rockfish has been good from Coos Bay south to Bandon. Fishing for ling cod has been decent.

The marine fish daily bag limit is seven fish and a separate daily limit for lingcod (2). 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. Anglers may harvest 1 cabezon per day.

BOTTOM FISHING:

Fishing for bottomfish was limited last week due to weather conditions. For those few who did venture out, there was some success with lingcod and rockfish.

The recreational groundfish fishery is open at all depths through March.

ODFW encourages anglers to release all prohibited rockfish by using a descending device to safely return fish to a depth of 60 feet or more. Even fish that are severely bloated can survive after being released at depth.

For more information and videos, please see the rockfish recompression webpage.

There's a new rockfish in town: the Deacon rockfish. Deacon rockfish is a newly identified species that was formerly referred to as the solid version of blue rockfish. What does that mean for anglers?

Nothing in 2016.

Every rule that refers to blue rockfish (like the daily bag limit of 3 now applies to blue rockfish and deacon rockfish combined).

PACIFIC HALIBUT:

Recreational halibut fishing in all Oregon subareas are now closed for the remainder of 2016. This year, anglers were able to catch approximately 95 percent of the Oregon recreational quota of just over 220,000 pounds.

The 2017 quota will be determined in early January 2017.

MUSSELS

NOTICE: Mussels harvesting is closed along the entire Oregon coast due to elevated levels of biotoxins.

Razor Clams:

NOTICE: Razor clam harvesting is closed along the entire Oregon coast due to elevated levels of domoic acid.

This includes all beaches and bays.

BAY CLAMS:

Bay clamming is open along the entire Oregon Coast from the Columbia River to the California border. Check the ODFW Shellfish website for where and when to harvest your favorite bivalves. Updated maps on where to clam.

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