

# ODFW to 'harrass' cormorants and protect young fish

Harassment, or "hazing," of double-crested cormorants is set to begin soon in several areas along the Oregon Coast in an effort to improve survival of juvenile salmon.

Double-crested cormorants are fish-eating waterbirds that occur throughout the state. The species is an Oregon native, and is particularly prevalent on the state's estuaries during April through October.

Research indicates cormorants can consume significant numbers of juvenile salmon during this time period.

To reduce the threat to young fish, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) is

working with several nonprofit and local governmental organizations to haze cormorants on six coastal estuaries over the next two to four months.

Hazing will involve driving the birds from locations where juvenile salmon are seasonally concentrated, toward areas where non-salmon fish species are more abundant.

Workers will use boats and, on some estuaries, small pyrotechnics, to accomplish the task.

Hazing is intended to increase the survival of both

wild-spawned and hatchery salmon juveniles as they

ly threatened in Oregon under the Endangered Species Act.

Hazing workers are being provided by the Clatsop County Fisheries Project, Port of Nehalem, Port of Bandon, North Coast Salmon and Steelhead Enhancement Fund and the Alsea Sportsmen's Association.

ODFW will provide a portion of the funding and program oversight, and will conduct some hazing operations itself to protect hatchery releases on the lower Columbia River.

ODFW has coordinated the cormorant hazing project for the last eight years, although cormorant hazing in some form has occurred at some Oregon estuaries intermittently since 1988.

Hazing will continue through May 31 on the Nehalem, Nestucca, and Coquille river estuaries, and on Tillamook and Alsea bays.

The program will continue through at least July 31 on the lower Columbia River, where hazing will occur at a variety of locations, including Young's Bay, Blind Slough, and Tongue Point.

Hazing will involve driving the birds from locations where juvenile salmon are seasonally concentrated

migrate to the ocean.

Some of these spring migrants represent species that are experiencing conditions of conservation risk, including coho salmon, which is federal-

## Fishing from 1B

the Wilson should be dropping into prime shape by mid-week

and into the weekend, and there are plenty of hatchery and wild fish throughout the system.

It's always a good idea to

check the river levels before heading out. There are still some big fish coming off the Wilson this year. All the usual techniques such as side drifting, float fishing, drift fishing, or pulling plugs or divers and bait should be effective.

During high water use brighter colors and larger presentations.

### YAQUINA RIVER:

#### Steelhead

The Yaquina River and Big Elk Cr. are open for steelhead. Fishing is fair. Wild winter steelhead can be retained on Big Elk Cr. with a daily and annual bag limit of 1/day and 3/year. The Yaquina River is open for hatchery winter steelhead. Casting spinners, drifting bait or using a bobber and jig can be effective.

### COOS COUNTY LAKES and

### PONDS: trout

Excess hatchery steelhead have been stocked into Saunders Lake, Middle Empire, and Lower Empire lakes. Fishing regulations for these stocked steelhead in Empire Lakes and Saunders Lake are just like the trout regulations: anglers can keep 1 fish over 20-inches per day and only need their fishing license.

Trophy trout were stocked last week in Bradley Lake, Empire lakes, and Johnson Mill Pond.

Fishing for trophy trout was good in Empire Lakes this past week for anglers using small spinners or using Powerbait.

ODFW is implementing a tag reward trout study on Empire Lakes for 2017 in which anglers will be asked to report tagged trout that are caught. Anglers can report tags on the ODFW website.

### TENMILE BASIN: Trout, bass, steelhead

Trout fishing in the streams of the Tenmile Basin are closed until May 22. Trout fishing in Tenmile Lakes, Eel Lake, Saunders Lake are open all year.

Steelhead season is open in Tenmile Creek and Eel Creek until April 30. Steelhead fishing has been very slow in the Tenmile Basin. In the Tenmile Basin, one additional hatchery steelhead may be retained per day for a total aggregate of three adult fish harvested daily.

Largemouth bass fishing has been slow but will be picking up as the water temperatures warm up. Anglers are catching bass near structure or on the deep end of the weed lines using jigs or rubber worms.

### UMPQUA RIVER, SOUTH: Steelhead

Good numbers of steelhead are being caught up to and above Canyonville and anglers are hooking into a few hatchery fish. Pay attention to river gages for the South as it has been high and unfishable a large portion of the time this season.

The South Umpqua will likely be a little high for most anglers this weekend.

### WINCHESTER BAY:

#### Bottomfish, perch

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

### PACIFIC OCEAN and BEACHES: Bottomfish, surf

### perch, crab

Recreational crabbing is open along the entire Oregon coast.

Bottom fishing has been good when the ocean conditions allow. Fishing for bottom fish is restricted to inside of the 30-fathom curve.

Recreational harvest of razor clams is closed on the entire Oregon coast due to elevated levels of domoic acid.

The recreational harvest of mussels is closed from Cape Arago (south of Coos Bay) to the California border. Before any shellfish harvest trip, make sure to check the Oregon Department of Agriculture website for any updates.

Surf perch fishing has been good when ocean swells are small. Surf perch anglers will do the best fishing with sand shrimp or Berkely Gulp sand worms.

### OCEAN SALMON:

The ocean recreational Chinook salmon fishery off Oregon is currently open from Cape Falcon to Humbug Mt. fthrough April 30.

Fishing effort and catch have been slow so far.

Ocean salmon fishing seasons for 2017 are still being developed. Look for updates on the 2017 seasons.

### BOTTOM FISHING:

When the weather allows, fishing in the winter months for lingcod and rockfish can be fun and successful. The ocean fishing is good, private boats had about 5 rockfish per angler and near limits of lingcod for everyone.

Charters had near limits of rockfish and at least one lingcod per angler.

### REMINDERS:

- Bottomfish is restricted to shoreward of the 30 fathom line (defined by waypoints).
- Cabezon season is closed; it will reopen July 1.

### MUSSELS:

The recreational harvest of mussels is open coastwide.

### RAZOR CLAMS:

Razor clams remain 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.

### CRABBING:

Ocean and bay crabbing is open coastwide. Bay crabbing has slowed down as it typically does this time of the year. Recent reports are about 2-3 crab per person in the ocean.

## Siuslaw News

### garage sale GUIDE

**HUGE ESTATE SALE**  
Fri./Sat, 4/7-4/8  
10am-3pm  
1655 W. 15th.  
Aunt's large estate was relocated from Eugene to empty her home. Contents include NEW clothes, kitchenware, misc. Household items, & décor. Lots of brand new items. Items are sold AS IS & CASH ONLY!

**Fri./Sat., 4/7-4/8**  
9am-3pm  
88038 Windy Leaf Way,  
Moving must downsize, jewelry, furniture, tools, household & misc. items.

**FREE**  
garage sale signs  
541-997-3441  
with your ad

**Do your part and volunteer today to help support these local non-profit organizations in our community!**

**Volunteer • Get involved • Donate**

**Florence Food Share**  
Ask us about volunteer opportunities.  
2190 Spruce Street • P.O.Box 2514  
Florence, Oregon 97439  
(541) 997-9110  
info@florencefoodshare.org

**Food Backpack for Kids**  
Together, No Child Will Go Hungry  
Your tax deductible donations helped us feed 84 Florence/Mapleton area children in March  
Mail donations to: PO Box 3347 Florence, OR 97439.  
Call 541-997-2497 for more information.

**Helping Hands Coalition**  
Assisting those in need in our Community.  
Free Hot Meals Mon-Wed-Fri: 11:30 AM - 1 PM  
NEW LOCATION SOON  
United Methodist Church, 333 Kingwood, Florence  
Call 541-997-5057 to Volunteer

**Meals on Wheels and Cafe 60**  
Meals on Wheels are available to people over the age of 60 who cannot get out much due to illness or advanced age and who are not eating properly, regardless of income. Cafe 60 is available for those who prefer to make new friends in a dining room setting.  
1570 Kingwood  
PO Box 2313, Florence  
541-997-5673  
lanesenior meals.org

**Peace Harbor Volunteers**  
Join the Peace Harbor Hospital Volunteers, you will find an area of interest in a caring organization.  
400 9th Street, Florence  
541-997-8412 ext. 209


**Us Too Florence**  
Saving men one PSA test at a time. "Someone to talk to...who understands!"  
541-997-6626  
maribob@oregonfast.net  
www.ustooflorence.org

To include your organization in this directory, please call us @ 541-997-3441


**Deadlines for press releases are Mondays and Thursdays by noon. Email them to:**

**PRESSRELEASES**  
@THESIUSLAWNEWS.COM.

**Get Results...List With Ed.**



**Ed Kopilec**  
Principal Broker  
541 991-8630



541-997-1200



**Dunewood Dr #54** - Wide elevated corner lot with privacy and views! Overlook dunes and wetlands in this beautiful development with underground utilities, septic approval and Heceta Water. \$110,000. #2627-16636856

**1749 Highway 101 • 541-997-1200**



**shoppe™**  
Keep it local.

**Bud's Upholstery**  
20% off  
Materials on any new job  
When you present this coupon. expires April 30, 2017  
541-997-4856  
4981 Hwy. 101 N., Florence

**DENTUREMASTERS & IMPLANT CENTER**  
45% OFF IMPLANTS NOW  
Dr. James Ridley, DDS  
(541) 997-6226  
206 Nopal Street - Florence

**Hobergs**  
Complete Auto Repair  
**FREE**  
SAFETY CHECK  
Lites-Horn-Battery  
(541) 997-2413  
345 Highway 101 - Florence  
Expires April 30, 2017

**KRAB KETTLE**  
Fresh Fish and Seafood in the case, Krab Kettle brand tuna.  
Enjoy a complimentary cup of chowder with purchase of \$25 or more.  
One per coupon/Expires April 30, 2017  
541-997-8996  
280 Hwy. 101 • Florence



**Siuslaw News**

+

**shoppe™**  
Keep it local.



www.shoppelocal.biz