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Siuslaw News



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Fishing from 1B

Park to Siletz and bank anglers are catching hatchery fish in the Siletz gorge.

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

WILSON RIVER: Steelhead

The Wilson is in decent shape, but is starting to get pretty clear. Steelhead should be winding down, and the catch definitely dropped off last week.

On the up side, summer steelhead should be showing up by the end of the month.

YAQUINA RIVER: Steelhead

The Yaquina River and Big Elk Cr. closed for steelhead on April 1 to protect spawning wild steelhead.

COOS COUNTY LAKES AND PONDS: Trout

Trout were recently stocked in **Bradley Lake, Empire Lakes, Butterfield Lake, Eel Lake, Saunders Lake, Tenmile Lakes, Powers Pond and Sru Lake.**

The road to **Bluebill Lake** is closed due to flooding and the lake has not been stocked. Anglers are having success catching trout using small spinners or Powerbait.

Trout have been stocked in the **Millicoma Pond** at the Millicoma Interpretive Center and fishing is excellent for young children.

Millicoma Pond is intended for children under the age of 12. Please call before traveling to Millicoma Pond to make sure the gates are open. The phone number is (541)267-2557.

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. Some of the tags will be worth a \$50 gift card. This study is an effort by ODFW to compare stocking of "larger" trout to last year's stocking of "legal" size trout.

COOS RIVER BASIN:

Dungeness crab, bay clams, rockfish

Trout fishing in streams is

closed until May 22, 2017.

Anglers are still catching a few rockfish and surfperch along the jetties and submerged rock piles. Fishing for rockfish in the bay has been spotty. The marine fish daily bag limit for bottom fish (rockfish) is seven fish and a separate daily limit for lingcod (2). The 7-fish marine bag limit will remain in place, with these adjustments for 2017:

- Create a sub-bag limit of 6 black rockfish, Remove the sub-bag limit for canary rockfish, add China/quillback/ copper rockfishes to the sub-bag limit with blue/Deacon rockfish and change the limit from 3 to 4.

- Remove the 10-inch minimum size for kelp greenling. Retention of cabezon is not allowed until July 1.

Recreational crabbing is open inside the Coos Bay estuary. Crabbing has been good one day and slow the next day in Coos Bay. Even when crabbing is good, crabbers will need to sort through lots of crab to get a limit.

Recreational harvest of bay clams remains open along the entire Oregon coast. Clamming is excellent during low tides near Charleston, off Cape Arago Highway, and Clam Island.

There are also good places to dig clams even on positive low tides in Coos Bay.

Recreational harvest of razor clams and mussels is closed from the entire Oregon coast due to elevated levels of domoic acid. This includes all beaches and all bays.

Before any shellfish harvest trip, make sure to check the Oregon Department of Agriculture website for any updates.

UMPQUA RIVER, SOUTH: Closed

The South Umpqua is closed from May 1 through May 22 to protect migrating fish..

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.

Anglers have been catching trout in Eel and Tenmile lakes trolling wedding ring spinners tipped with a worm.

Largemouth bass fishing has been good and will continue to pick up as the water temperatures warm up.

Anglers are catching bass in shallow water near structure or on the deep end of the weed lines using jigs or rubber worms.

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 now restricted to inside the 30-fathom curve. A few black rockfish have been seen feeding on/near the surface recently.

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

The recreational harvesting of mussels is open along the entire Oregon Coast from the

Columbia River 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.

NOTICE: Razor clams remain closed along the entire

Oregon coast due to elevated levels of domoic acid. This includes all beaches and bays.

OCEAN SALMON:

The Cape Falcon to Humbug Mt. Chinook salmon recreational fishing season is open until Oct. 31. This season is open for all salmon except coho salmon, with a bag limit of two salmon per day, and minimum sizes for Chinook at 24 inches or larger, and steelhead at 20 inches or larger.



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