

'Pounder' trout stocked in Coos Bay area lakes

ROSEBURG — This week, ODFW is stocking "pounders," rainbow trout averaging just over a pound each, into Coos Bay area lakes for a great fall trout fishing opportunity. The weather is cooling, but

the trout are still biting. Within the city limits of Coos Bay, Upper Empire Lake is getting 3,500 trout. Lower Empire is choked with weeds and has a low water level with water temperatures too high to

safely stock rainbows. Those fish instead will be split between Saunders and Butterfield lakes which will each receive 1,200 trout. Saunders Lake is about five miles north of North Bend and

is an easily accessed place for family fishing. Next to the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area, Butterfield Lake is accessed through Riley Ranch County Park. Anglers at Butterfield

Lake might also hook into a warmouth, an unusual fish that looks like a crappie with a bass head. Bradley Lake, just three miles south of Bandon and Powers Pond are also being

stocked this week with these pounders. The lake rainbow trout harvest limit is five fish per day, two daily limits in possession.

Viks from 1B

When the rankings were frozen Tuesday at 10 p.m., Hornung, assistant coach Dan Bartlett and the rest of the team feverishly checked the final standings. And the volleyball gods deliv-

ered. Ranked No. 22 meant the Lady Viks season would continue with a trip to Cascade High School today. "Now it's time to step things up," said Hornung. "We definitely have the potential and ability. The girls came into the season feeling like they could win the

league title. When we didn't, it was tough. But they realize we still have an opportunity to do something that hasn't been done in quite a while, which is win a play-in game. "None of the girls on this team have ever advanced beyond the first play-in game of state." Cascade, ranked No. 12, went

11-7 overall this season and tied for second place in the Oregon Western Conference at 7-3 in league play. While the win would certainly be considered an upset by most standards, Hornung said the team has a solid chance if it just does one simple thing. "We just need to play our game," Hornung said. "We just

have to focus on what we do on our side of the court and believe." With a win, Siuslaw would advance to the second round of state play-in competition for the first time in nearly a decade — most likely on the road at either Sisters or Valley Catholic. Considering that Cascade lost to Philomath twice this season,

and Siuslaw played Philomath tough earlier this season, "We know we have the potential to do something special," said Hornung. And maybe give something back to the volleyball gods. First serve for today's play-in game at Cascade is set for 4 p.m.

Little from 1B

1971 — The Pacific University Boxers beat the Linfield Wildcats. It was my first game starting on defense for the Boxers. Pacific has only defeated Linfield one time since then. 1973 — I led the NAIA in interceptions my senior year at Pacific University. I received letters to try out for the Dallas Cowboys and the San Diego Chargers. To this day they are

my favorite professional football teams. 1975 — I sent to Sports Illustrated faces in the crowd statistics of one of my Spray High School players. This senior scored touchdowns six different ways and passed for another. Alas, they chose not to honor his gridiron feats. 1977 — I am coaching at Siuslaw High School. It is mid-September and I glanced towards the gymnasium from the practice field. I saw the

moon rising for the first time in my football career that early in the season. I understood then the dedication required to wear the Blue and Gold for Coach Lutero. 1981 — The seniors on this state championship team were 3-6 during their sophomore and junior seasons. Their theme of "WE" contributed to the sharing of responsibility on the field. Most of us remember the state championship game against South Umpqua; I

remember the comeback victory over North Valley as the path to state. Trailing 7-24 at the half, an opening second-half kick-off return for a touchdown woke the crowd up. The defense shut-out the Knights in the second half. The offense scored two times in the fourth quarter to complete the come-from-behind win, 26-24. 1985-1989 — The Vikings dominate the Far West League with five titles in a row. This would be the longest string of

league titles in school history. 1987-90 — I coached the Siuslaw J.V. football team to 28 straight Far West League victories. 2001 — The Vikings defeat the Reedsport Braves at Hans Petersen Memorial Field. The last league game played on this field and coach Tim Dodson's first — of many — league titles. 2006 — The Vikings go undefeated for the state 4A title. The Vikings defeated Sisters in overtime. Coach Dodson now

has the distinction of winning a state title as a player and coach at Siuslaw. 2014 — The Marshfield players tilted the field in Far West League game on Oct. 10, 2014. Their roster needed two pages. The Vikings were defeated that night 28-29 in overtime, but three weeks later Siuslaw traveled to Marshfield in a rematch in the first round of the state play-offs — and won 14-0 to make the quarter finals in state.

Dam from 1B

Biologists, conservationists, anglers and others hailed the removal of Marmot Dam as a victory for imperiled native runs of Chinook and coho salmon and steelhead. The hope was that fish would benefit from better flows, better water quality and unrestricted access to prime spawning grounds in

the uppermost reaches of the river. So has 10 years of a free-flowing Sandy River been good for fish? The answer is an unqualified "yes," according to Todd Alsbury, ODFW district fish biologist for the Sandy, and one of the partners in the removal of Marmot Dam. For the past three years,

when other runs of salmon and steelhead around the region have been down, the Sandy has been seeing increasingly strong returns; in some cases, double what they were a decade ago before Marmot Dam was removed. "While not solely due to dam removal, returns of wild spring Chinook, winter steelhead, and coho have increased signifi-

cantly as compared to their abundance before the dam was removed," said Alsbury, who noted that in the 10 years since Marmot Dam was removed ODFW has observed the largest returns for all three species in the 40 years. For example, the number of wild spring Chinook increased from an average of 809 before dam removal to 2,086 after-

wards. Similarly, coho increased from 784 returning fish before dam removal to 1,959 afterward, and wild winter steelhead increased from 898 to 2,757. To really gauge how successful removal has been, though, it helps to look at how the fish were doing prior to removal of the dam. Wild spring Chinook were nearly extirpated in the

1950s and '60s by dam operations, habitat losses, and other human impacts. During this period, fishery managers tried to rebuild the population with hatchery Chinook, which were intercepted in a trap at Marmot Dam and trucked to Sandy Fish Hatchery, where the next generation of fish was spawned and reared.

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Fishing from 1B

continues and there should be some nice cutthroat around. Remember the limit on streams and rivers is two per day over 8-inches. Anglers are reminded the two-rod validation is only valid while angling in standing water bodies excluding coastal lakes with wild coho seasons. Two rods are prohibited on all coastal rivers, tidewater, estuaries and bays. **SALMON RIVER:** *Chinook, trout* Fall Chinook fishing is starting to pick up in the estuary and upriver to the hatchery. Trout season continues and there should be some nice cutthroat around. Remember the limit on streams and rivers is two per day over 8-inches. Anglers are reminded the two-rod validation is only valid while angling in standing water bodies excluding coastal lakes with wild coho seasons. Two rods are prohibited on all coastal rivers, tidewater, estuaries and bays. **SILETZ RIVER:** *Steelhead,*

Chinook, trout

The Siletz River remains open for fall Chinook and fishing is starting to pick up in tidewater. Anglers are reminded the two-rod validation is only valid while angling in standing water bodies excluding coastal lakes with wild coho seasons. Two rods are prohibited on all coastal rivers, tidewater, estuaries and bays. Trout remains open and there should be some nice cutthroat around. Remember the limit on streams and rivers is two per day over 8-inches. **WILSON RIVER:** *Chinook, steelhead, trout* Fall Chinook fishing opened on the Wilson River Sept. 16. With the recent rains, there are probably a few fish sneaking in. Bobber fishing bait, back-bouncing, back-trolling plugs or divers and bait, or casting spinners can all be effective methods. Anglers are reminded the Wilson River is closed to salmon angling until Dec. 31, upstream of Jordan Creek (River Mile 21.9). Summer steelhead fishing

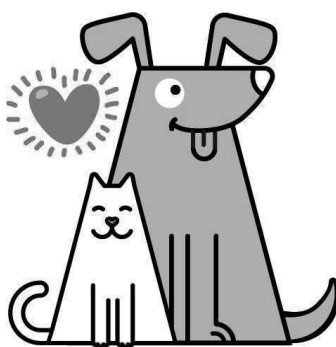
on the Wilson has been moderate to slow, but there are good numbers of fish throughout the system. Late September can be a great time to target these fish as cooler nights lower water temps, and fish that have been holding get more active. Target riffles and the top of pools during first and last light, and concentrate on deeper holding pools once the sun is on the water. Fishing stealthy, with light gear, and targeting first and last light is often the key to success with these fish. Trout season continues with some cutthroat around, but fishing for them in the Wilson's clear summer flows can be tough. Remember, the limit on streams and rivers is two per day over 8 inches. **YAQUINA RIVER:** *Chinook, trout* Chinook is open and with the rain early this week fishing is starting to pick up in tidewater. Trout season opened May 22, and there should be some nice cutthroat around. Remember, the limit on streams and rivers is two per day over 8-inches. Anglers are reminded the two-rod validation is only valid while angling in standing water bodies excluding coastal lakes with wild coho seasons. Two rods are prohibited on all coastal rivers, tidewater, estuaries and bays. **COOS COUNTY LAKES AND PONDS:** *Warmwater fish, trout* Largemouth bass fishing has been good in many of the area smaller lakes. Bluegills can be found in area lakes right along the weed lines. Rainbow trout are scheduled to be stocked in **POWERS POND, BRADLEY LAKE, BUTTERFIELD LAKE, EMPIRE LAKES, and SAUNDERS LAKE** during the month of October. **COOS RIVER BASIN:** *Dungeness crab, bay clams, rockfish, salmon* Streams and rivers are open to trout fishing until Oct. 31. Anglers are allowed to use bait in streams above tidewater. Anglers may harvest two

trout per day that are a minimum of 8 inches long. Anglers were catching Chinook salmon from the BLM boat ramp in the lower estuary up through the Coos River and South Fork Coos River. The bite was best a couple hours before the slack tides. A few wild coho have been caught lately. There is not a wild coho season inside Coos Bay this year so all wild coho must be released but anglers may keep an adipose fin-clipped hatchery coho. Salmon anglers are having the best luck trolling cut plug herring behind a flasher. As of Sept. 18, fishing for lingcod, rockfish, cabezon, greenling or other bottomfish are closed because the quotas for several species have been reached. This includes the ocean along with bays and estuaries. Crabbing continues to be good for those crabbing from a boat and from the docks in Charleston. Crabbing has been best near Charleston but legal crab can be caught all the way up the bay to the BLM boat ramp off of the North Spit. There was a mixture of hard and soft shelled legal Dungeness crab. 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. The recreational harvest of razor clams is CLOSED from Cascade Head to the California Border for elevated levels of domoic acid. This includes all beaches and all bays. **COQUILLE RIVER BASIN:** *Crab, trout, smallmouth bass, salmon* Streams and rivers are now open to trout fishing until Oct. 31. Anglers are allowed to use bait in streams above tidewater. Anglers may harvest 2 trout per day that are a minimum of 8 inches long.

PET ADOPTION EVENT

Saturday, October 21st
12:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Mini Pet Mart
2630 Hwy 101

Loved Again Pets, a local home-based non-profit animal rescue, will be holding an adoption event at Mini Pet Mart, the 3rd Saturday of each month. Please stop by and meet some adorable dogs and fall in love, again! Foster homes are always needed and we have several fur babies looking for their forever home. Is that yours?



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