

Fishing from 1B

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

NESTUCCA RIVER and THREE RIVERS: *Steelhead*

Fishing was fair to good on the Nestucca last weekend. It should be fishable throughout the week. There should be good numbers of broodstock hatchery fish and wild steelhead throughout the system.

Float fishing jigs, beads, or bait, drift fishing, nymphing, and swinging flies or spinners are all good techniques.

Three Rivers is getting on the low side, but a little rain predicted for Thursday may help. There are fish throughout the system.

SALMON RIVER: *Steelhead*

Wild winter steelhead can be retained on the Salmon River. Daily and annual bag limit on wild winter steelhead are 1 per day and 3 per year. Casting spinners, drifting bait or using a bobber and jig can be effective.

Winter steelhead has picked up throughout the river. Rain over the weekend has raised the river level and got fish moving again.

SALMONBERRY RIVER: *Steelhead*

The Salmonberry is getting

low and clear, but the rain predicted for Thursday should put it in good shape for the weekend. There should be some big wild steelhead showing up this time of year, but be prepared to catch and release.

Check with the Port of Tillamook Bay for access restrictions.

SILETZ RIVER: *Steelhead*

Winter steelhead has picked up throughout the river. A mix of wild and hatchery fish are being caught. Rain over the weekend has raised the river level and got fish moving again.

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

• Note: The 3.5 mile bridge (aka Steel Bridge) in the Siletz gorge is *now open* to motorized vehicles. The road is open as far as we go, MP 13 but is only open to public vehicles on the weekend.

Anglers can walk/bike in the road during the weekdays. If anglers do walk in they can park at the one mile gate and start from there.

TRASK RIVER: *Steelhead*

Fishing was slow on the Trask last weekend, there were a few fish caught, but not great numbers. The Trask is getting a little on the low and clear side, but rain predicted for Thursday

should keep it fishable through the weekend.

This is mostly a wild fish river, although some hatchery strays are caught. Float fishing jigs, beads, or bait, drift fishing, nymphing, and swinging flies or spinners are all good techniques.

WILSON RIVER: *Steelhead*

Fishing was fair to good on the Wilson last weekend and some nice fish were caught, including some broodstock hatchery fish.

The Wilson is getting a little on the low and clear side, but the rain predicted for Thursday should get fish moving and keep it fishable through the weekend.

Float fishing jigs, beads, or bait, drift fishing, nymphing, and swinging flies or spinners are all good techniques.

Y A Q U I N A R I V E R : *Steelhead*

Wild winter steelhead can be retained on the Big Elk. Daily and annual bag limit on wild winter steelhead are 1 per day and 3 per year. Casting spinners, drifting bait or using a bobber and jig can be effective.

Winter steelhead fishing has improved as more fish have moved in to the river. Rain over the weekend has raised the river level and got fish moving again.

COOS COUNT LAKES and PONDS: *Trout*

Spring trout stocking began around March 1.

COOS RIVER BASIN: *Dungeness crab, bay clams, rockfish, steelhead*

Streams and rivers are now closed to trout fishing until May 22.

The steelhead rivers in the Coos Basin are running a little high after the rain over the weekend but are clearing quickly. Steelhead anglers are having success fishing eggs or yarn balls along the bottom or by fishing a jig suspended below a bobber.

In the Coos Basin, 1 additional hatchery steelhead may be retained per day for a total aggregate of 3 adult hatchery fish harvested daily.

Anglers fishing the South Fork Coos River above Dellwood will need a permit from Weyerhaeuser, which allows the angler access up to the Seven Mile Bridge.

Permits can be obtained at Weyerhaeuser's Coos Bay office.

• Recreational fishing for bottomfish is open in the ocean along with bays and estuaries. The daily bag limit will be 5 marine fish plus 2 lingcod.

• There will be no retention of cabezon until July 1.

• Anglers have reported catching rockfish and lingcod inside Coos Bay near the north jetty.

• Crabbing and clamming updates can now be found in the Crabbing and Clamming section of the Recreation Report.

TENMILE LAKES: *Trout,*

warmwater species, large-mouth bass (Located 10 miles north of North Bend alongside Highway 101, at the town of Lakeside. County park with camping, boat ramp and a fishing dock.)

Trout anglers trolling spinners and wedding rings have been catching holdover hatchery rainbow trout in Tenmile Lakes. In the spring anglers on Tenmile Lakes will occasionally catch large wild coho smolts (sometimes up to 14-inches).

These coho smolts need to be released alive immediately.

Trout fishing is open all year in Tenmile Lakes.

Fishing for largemouth bass has been slow. Water temperatures are cold so anglers will need to slow down there presentations. Most bass will be found in deeper water near structure or weed edges.

Anglers have reported the fishing for yellow perch has slowed down. There are lots of small yellow perch so anglers will have to sort to find larger perch.

UMPQUA RIVER, SOUTH: *Steelhead*

Fishing has been good recently and, with recent rains, fishing should be good throughout the South.

WINCHESTER BAY: *Bottomfish, perch*

Fishing in the Triangle and South jetty has been successful.

PACIFIC OCEAN and BEACHES: *Bottomfish, crab, surfperch*

The All-Depth recreational fishing for bottomfish is open through March 31 in the ocean.

Starting April 1, bottomfish anglers will need to fish inside

the 30 fathom curve. The daily bag limit will be 5 marine fish plus 2 lingcod.

There will be no retention of cabezon until July 1. Anglers have been catching big lingcod fishing in deep water outside of Coos Bay, Bandon, and Winchester Bay.

• Anglers also are catching lots of rockfish. Anglers may also choose to fish the offshore longleader fishery outside of the 40-fathom regulatory line January-March and October-December.

• The longleader fishery has a daily bag limit of 10 fish made of yellowtail, widow, canary, redstripe, greenstripe, silvergray, and bocaccio rockfish.

• No other groundfish are allowed and offshore longleader fishing trips cannot be combined with traditional bottomfish, flatfish or halibut trips.

• Surfperch fishing has been decent when the ocean swells have been small. Anglers are having the best luck fishing the beaches with sand shrimp or Berkley Gulp sand worms. Anglers need to be careful of rough ocean conditions and sneaker waves.

SALMON:

In May/June start thinking spring Chinook in rivers and basins from Tillamook south to the Siletz. By August attention turns to fall Chinook and coho. There is a rare opportunity to fish for chum salmon (catch-and-release only) on the Kilchis and Miami rivers beginning in mid-September.

STEELHEAD:

These ocean-going rainbow trout are divided into two runs: winter and summer. For those that prefer frost bite to sunburn, winter steelhead begin entering area rivers and streams from November and December (depending on the timing of the fall rains) and runs can continue through April.

Summer steelhead returns begin in early April to early June in the Nestucca, Siletz, Trask and Wilson rivers. Summer fish will continue to arrive through late summer and early fall, sometimes overlapping with winter returning fish.

TROUT:

Cutthroat trout live in these coastal rivers and streams. Although resident fish may be small, they are feisty and fun to catch. Fishing these cool, shaded waters also can provide a welcome respite from the summer heat. In late summer, look for sea-run cutthroat to migrate from the estuaries back to freshwater to spawn. These can be large, hard-fighting fish.

Dozens of lakes and ponds throughout the zone are stocked with rainbow trout from February through May and, for some, again in October.

Tenmile Lakes located north of Coos Bay is renowned for its crappie and trophy bass fisheries, and the site of bass tournaments. Anglers should also try one of the many smaller lakes scattered along Highway 101 and throughout the coastal dunes area, or Triangle Lake closer to the Willamette Valley.

CRAPPIE:

Anglers catch crappie in both lakes with good fishing in the spring and throughout the summer. Best fishing is in the calm water along the shoreline, in the many small coves and inlets. Crappie anglers should target shaded areas with wood structure including submerged brush and trees, downed logs and docks. The fish are often found in schools at depths of 10-15 feet.

A good set-up is light spinning tackle with 4-pound test line and a light-colored 1/32-ounce jig. Have an assortment of garland-style and curly tail jigs in a variety of bright, neutral, and dark colors and sizes.

Use a tapered panfish bobber and change the depth of the jig until you find fish.

Allow the jig to sink then retrieve slowly. Fishing is best early and late in the day, but a mid-day breeze can also trigger a bite.

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