Public meetings on future halibut, bottomfish seasons being held

ODFW will host a series of public meetings this week to gather input on the 2020 recreational halibut season and start discussing the 2021-2022 recreational bottomfish seasons.

People who can't attend meetings can also listen in via Webcast (details below).]

At the 2019 annual meeting, the International Pacific Halibut Commission approved a 1.5 million-pound catch limit for Area 2A for 2019-2022. This is the first-time fishery managers know the quota going into this series of public meetings, which should help guide the discussions for the 2020 halibut season.

Additionally, the Pacific Fishery Management Council is starting the process to set quotas and seasons for the 2021-2022 bottomfish seasons.

No major changes to the fishery are being proposed, but ODFW is looking for input from anglers on adjustments to sport bottomfish regulations.

"It's important that we hear from a wide range of anglers before making decisions on the upcoming seasons," said ODFW Recreational Halibut and Bottomfish Project Leader Lynn Mattes.

The next meeting will be held tomorrow, Aug. 8, from 6 to 8 p.m., in North Bend at the North Bend Public Library, 1800 Sherman St.

Anglers who wish to provide input but cannot attend a meeting in person or via the webcast can contact Lynn Mattes at 541-867-4741 ext. 237 or lynn.mattes@state.or.us or Christian Heath at 541-867-4741 ext. 266 or Christian.t.heath@state.or.us.

To join the webcast of the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone at www.global.gotomeeting.com/join/545952877.

Cape from 1B

summer programs aimed at providing education and context to the area's natural wonders.

Throughout the summer, at Cape Perpetua Scenic Area, visitors can choose from any of the activities:

- Mondays through Sept. 2 — Walk with a Ranger: Noon; meet at the Visitor Center

Join, retired Chief Park Ranger, Michael Noack, for an easy to moderate hike where he will be sharing information about the local flora and fauna. Hikes will last 75-90 minutes.

- Wednesdays through Aug. 28 — Under the Sea: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; meet at the Visitor Center.

Take a deeper dive into the Cape Perpetua Marine Reserve by joining, Tara DuBois, Communications Coordinator for the Cape Perpetua Collaborative, for interactive exhibits at the Visitor Center.

- Thursdays, through Aug. 28 — Lunch with Dr. Jim Nechols: Noon; at the Visitor Center

Dr. Jim Nechols, retired professor of Entomology from Kansas State University, will present "Alien Invaders: Invasive Plants of Siuslaw National Forest" and "Self Defense 101 for Insects: Insect Defense Mechanisms"

- Saturdays, through Aug. 31 — Ranger F.E.D Talks: Noon; at the Visitor Center

Join Siuslaw National Forest Field Rangers for a fun and informative "Forest, Explore, Discover" Siuslaw National Forest presentation

- Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, through Sept. 5 — Walk with a Ranger: Noon; meet at the Visitor Center

Explore a variety of natural history topics on The Giant Spruce Trail, Discovery Loop, or Captain Cook Trail on a guided hike lead by Siuslaw National Forest Field Rangers.

These events are free, but a Northwest Forest Pass, Oregon Coast Passport, federal recreation pass, or $5 day-use fee is required within the Cape Perpetua Scenic Area and at some trailheads and day use sites.

For more information on these events, contact the Cape Perpetua Visitor Center at 541-547-3289.

To learn more about family-friendly activities on the forest, visit www.go.usa.gov/x5Xrq.

Fishing from 1B

Trout fishing in streams is open. Check regulations for open areas and gear restrictions.

SALMON RIVER: *Cutthroat trout*

Trout fishing is open in rivers and streams. Check the regulations for open areas and gear restrictions.

SILETZ RIVER: *Summer steelhead, spring Chinook, cutthroat trout*

The Siletz River is open year-round for steelhead. Summer steelhead fishing continues to be slow so far this season but did pick up last week with some better fishing. Although it has been a slow year so far, anglers are catching summer steelhead everyday primarily in the gorge area and pressure continues to be light.

The 4.0 mile bridge (aka Steel Bridge) in the Siletz gorge is open to motorized vehicles, 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.

Trout fishing is open. Check the regulations for open areas and gear restrictions.

SILTCOOS & TAHKENITCH LAKES: *Warmwater species*

Warmwater fishing has been good on Siltcoos and Tahkenitch lakes as well as many other lakes in the Florence area. Water temperatures are warm and fish can be found throughout the lake in a variety of habitats. Warmwater fishing will continue to be good through the summer and into the fall.

Siltcoos also gets stocked rainbow trout, check the stocking schedule for numbers and dates of stockings.

SIUSLAW RIVER: *Cutthroat trout*

Open to trout fishing. Check the regulations for open areas and gear restrictions.

COOS RIVER BASIN: *Trout, marine perch species, salmon*

Fishing for rockfish inside the bay has been good near the submerged rock piles. Fishing is typically best near slacktide. A jig with a twister tail can be a great bait for catching rock-fish.

Temporary fall Chinook salmon regulations started Aug. 1. Salmon anglers in Coos Bay will only be able to harvest 1 wild Chinook per day and 5 wild Chinook for the season in aggregate from all waters from Coos Basin,

Coquille Basin, Sixes River and Elk River. The South Fork Coos River will be closed to salmon fishing upstream of Myrtle Tree Boat Ramp, and the Millicoma River will be closed to salmon fishing upstream of Rooke Higgins Boat Ramp.

Marine perch species are available around rocks, riprap, pilings, and docks at this time of year.

COQUILLE RIVER BASIN: *Striped bass, smallmouth bass, trout, marine perch species*

Striped bass fishing is slowing down some but is still good in the Coquille River from Riverton to Bullards, with most anglers using cut bait or nightcrawlers fished with sliding sinkers on the river bottom.

The smallmouth bass bite is also good at this time in the mainstem and South Fork Coquille rivers. Smallmouth bass will bite on worms, jigs with a twister tail, crankbaits and small spinners.

TENMILE LAKES: *Trout, warmwater species, largemouth bass*

Bass fishing has been good on Tenmile Lakes. Yellow perch fishing is picking up with anglers catching yellow perch along the edges of weedlines.

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September 13-15, 2019

How To Participate

The fee to participate is $20. An ad for the Community Wide Garage Sale with a map of all participation sales will be published in the Siuslaw News on September 11th and 14th. Because of print deadlines, the registration deadline is 5pm Thursday August 30 2019.

You will also receive two official Community Wide Garage Sale signs as well as a tip sheet on how to have a great sale. Maps will be available in the Siusalw News, online and at the Florence Visitors Center.

Please post signs only on private property with the owner's consent.
Posting signs on City utility poles, street or signal light poles, and median strips is against the municipal code.

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Subdivision name (if any) _____

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Siuslaw News

Bring form and payment to 148 Maple St in HIstoric Old Town or mail to Siuslaw News PO Box 10, Florence, OR 97439
Call 541-902-3526 | florencechamber.com
Deadline is August 30th at 5pm to be included on the map.

Oregon Coast Florence Area Chamber of Commerce