

Fishing from 1B

Anglers are catching most of the bass along the deeper weed lines and submerged trees.

Yellow perch are cruising on the deep-water mud flats. Most of the fish are under 10-inches long but anglers are catching a few 12 inch-plus fish.

Trout anglers continue to troll for trout. A few trout have been caught on bait by anglers targeting yellow perch.

UMPQUA RIVER, SOUTH: Steelhead

The mainstem South has reopened. Fishing usually picks up in January and there should be a few around in the lower sections. The river may be in decent shape with some rain in the forecast. Make sure to turn in snouts from hatchery fish for a chance to win a gift card.

ALSEA RIVER: Winter steelhead

Winter steelhead fishing has been fair over the last few weeks. After the recent rainstorms anglers caught fish throughout the system, all the way up to the hatchery located on the NF Alsea.

Dry conditions have slowed fishing again this last week but forecasted rainstorms should get fish moving throughout the system again and create better conditions for winter steelheading. When the river starts to drop back into shape there will be good opportunities for both boat and bank anglers. The NF Alsea offers good bank access for the bank angler.

The Alsea River receives two different stocks of hatchery steelhead, one "traditional" stock that is an early returner and

peaks in December/January and a later returning wild broodstock that peaks January-March. These two stocks combine to provide winter steelhead fishing opportunities from late November through March.

Trout fishing in streams will reopen on May 22, 2020.

SALMON RIVER: Winter steelhead

Winter steelhead fishing is open on the Salmon River. The majority of the winter steelhead on the Salmon River are wild and the run usually peaks around mid-December through February.

SILETZ RIVER: Winter steelhead

Winter steelhead fishing has been fair for the last few weeks on the Siletz River. Low and clear conditions have slowed things down but forecasted storms should bring the river back up and into good fishing shape.

Expect fish to be spread throughout the system from tidewater up to the gorge. Winter steelhead fishing typically peaks January through March.

The 4-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.

YAQUINA RIVER: Winter steelhead

Winter steelhead is open on the Yaquina and Big Elk systems for the season. January through March is the typical peak for winter steelhead in the Yaquina/Big Elk.

PACIFIC OCEAN AND BEACHES: Bottomfish, salmon, hali-

but, surfperch

Bottomfishing is now open to fish at all depths. The daily bag limit for marine fish is 5 plus 2 lingcod.

The harvest of cabezon along with copper, quillback, and China rockfish are now all closed to boat anglers. Shore anglers will still be able to harvest these rockfish species (but are encouraged to release them) and 1 cabezon a day.

Anglers may also choose to fish the offshore longleader fishery outside of the 40-fathom regulatory line, which is open year-round. The longleader fishery has a daily bag limit of 10 fish made of yellowtail, widow, canary, blue, deacon, 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.

Both halibut and ocean salmon fishing are now closed.

BOTTOM FISHING: As usual, winter finds bottomfish anglers pursuing other activities, but some level of effort is common throughout the winter months when safe ocean conditions allow. When ocean conditions have allowed, anglers have been having good success with lingcod and mixed success with rockfish. Anglers should carefully check the weather forecast before venturing out to go ocean fishing.

Beginning Jan. 1, 2020, there is now a one-fish sub-bag limit for China, copper, or quillback rockfish. That means that out of the 5-fish daily bag limit, no more than one may be a China, copper, OR quillback rockfish. Cabezon will open July 1, 2020 with a one-fish sub-bag limit. Lingcod has a separate 2-fish bag limit.

Siuslaw Youth Soccer Association annual meeting set for Feb. 24

The Siuslaw Youth Soccer Association (SYSA) will be holding its annual general meeting on Monday, Feb. 24, at 7 p.m. in the Siuslaw Middle School Commons.


The meeting is open to the public.

All members (people with kids registered Fall 2019 or Spring 2020) will

be eligible to vote for officers.

The positions of president and treasurer are up for reelection; both incumbents are running again.

If any member wishes to run for one of these positions they must notify the SYSA by 5 p.m., seven days prior to the meeting.



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ATHLETE OF THE WEEK 


HAYDEN MULLER
SOPHOMORE WRESTLING

HIGHLIGHT:

The Sports Club, the Siuslaw News and Coast Radio Sports congratulate sophomore wrestler **Hayden Muller** as this week's Athlete of the Week, Hayden defeated three opponents by fall in last weekend's Cottage Grove Invitational to take the title in the girls 135 pound class.

Honorable Mention: Heather Wierichs - Mapleton Basketball

Highlight: Honorable mention goes to junior **Heather Wierichs** who had a season high 17 points on Saturday as the Mapleton Sailor Girls basketball team defeated McKenzie 37-18.

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