

**SWC** from 2B

wildlife species.

The tribes have been consulted on where and what to plant as the ranch is converted back to more natural uses. Plus, CTCLUSI Water Protection Specialist Ashley Russel is interested in leading ethnobotany tours on the property. According to Tome, she often brings traditional tools for harvesting and baskets created to catch lamprey.

“Waite Ranch has been an awesome project to work on,

and McKenzie River Trust just acquired another property across the river from there, so we’re looking at a restoration feasibility study out there,” Tome said.

McKenzie River Trust is the only land trust in the area, working with coastal properties from Reedsport to Yachats. It eventually plans to open a central coast office.

According to Tome, land trusts work with community members to retain good habitat in perpetuity or buy properties for restoration. These properties either remain with the trust or are sold to forest services, public lands or local tribes.

“They are a really key part to the conservation equation,” Tome said. “They have the ability to protect lands that are high-functioning habitat now or purchase land to then restore.”

Each of the watershed council’s partners bring something unique to restoration in the Siuslaw.

“A lot of our work at the council is bringing folks and organizations together to do good work on the ground,” Tome said. “It’s all about

connections, and change, and embracing change.”

Change will continue to come to the SWC’s website, this time in the form of unique interactive story maps, which will be published later this year. These include blocks of text, unique photographs, videos from the film project, maps and historic images.

“It’s a really cool product that we’re excited to get out to the community,” Tome said. “People will be able to go through our plans, see why we’re working with coho and find other cool statistics.”

The website also includes the council’s current and future projects: phase five of the Fivemile Bell Restoration Project, culvert replacement with U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management and bridge replacement at Cleveland Creek.

“It’s a lot of fun stuff,” Tome said.

ing a strategic plan and training for the new executive director.

One of those projects is “Stories of the Siuslaw,” a team-up with Eugene-based photographer Kate Harnedy to capture portraits of regional residents and record people’s recollections.

“We’re looking for people who have been in the area a long time to tell us about the changes they gave seen in their lifetimes,” Tome said. “There have been a ton. ... We want to find representatives from the timber industry and people who can talk about how things have changed; representatives from the tribal community to talk about traditional management and stewardship of the land; and from a fishing perspective, too, of folks who have been fishing on the river for years and how that changed since the 1970s and ‘80s. We’re trying to find those representatives.”

Some of those stories will be shared with an audience, and the project will continue as long as there is interest.

In his last week, Tome sat outside the watershed council’s office on Mapleton School District property, near Sailor Creek, where birds sang and children played in the distance. He talked about his vision of restoration of the Siuslaw and what people can be doing to manage lands to make sure that the watershed remains resilient. He also talked about his satisfaction of the SWC’s accomplishments.

“What I am probably the most proud of is really getting to work more with our tribal partners and learning more about their history and their management and stew-

ardship of these lands,” he said. “Getting to work with them on restoring different processes, and to make habitat better for salmon, preserve water quality for people in our area and hear their perspective on all that is so invaluable. It’s a partnership that we’ve built. Getting to work with the CTCLUSI as much as I have has been an amazing experience.”

His second point of pride was the film series about the watershed’s partners.

Working with dozens of partners and funding from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the council created the films with videographer Brian Kelly and photographers Sean Gutierrez and Morgan Heim. The films were made in the course of one week in September 2018 as a “snapshot” of the many projects happening concurrently in the watershed.

“The film project really got to tell everyone’s story,” Tome said. “The folks we worked with on that did an amazing job. It showed everybody’s unique life history and how they came to this line of work, and connected the dots between all those different communities. That project was just so cool to work on. I hope those videos continue to get shared and are out there from people to learn about the Siuslaw and how special it is.”

This week, the SWC announced the temporary closure of its office while team members continue to work in the field and from home. Phone messages and emails will continue to be checked. For more information, visit [siuslaw.org](http://siuslaw.org).

# the spotlight

A weekly roundup of shopping, savings and doings around town.

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**Fishing** from 1B

steelhead  
Winter steelhead fishing

has slowed down on the Siuslaw system as well. The river is low and clear, making the conditions tougher for catching steelhead.

Anglers are still catching fish around the Whitaker Creek area and things should improve when we get another shot of rain.

**WEEK #7 UPDATE**

**LOSE!**  
to WIN!

Contestant Name	Weekly % Lost	Season %Lost
Patricia Ann Timothy	2.23%	13.89%
Robyn Barrett	1.65%	3.49%
Angie Burns	1.20%	11.12%
Samantha Milbrett	1.10%	2.25%
Vickie Hunt	1.01%	3.88%
Lori Coffindaffer	0.85%	4.87%
Nancy Robinson	0.56%	4.94%
Linda Harklerode	0.29%	2.61%
Brad Koehn	2.51%	7.98%
Tyrell Hunt	2.33%	3.22%
Dustin Williams	1.52%	9.31%
Lloyd Little	1.38%	7.29%
Ed Wasco	1.16%	4.85%
Jim Hecker	-1.09%	4.86%

**Hi Everyone!**  
We have been informed that Coastal Fitness will be closing their doors until April 1st “in response to our President’s and Governor’s advice about public spaces”. We are still accepting home weigh-ins (instructions below) if you want to keep your momentum going, but we will also be waving this week and next from the penalties of missing the weigh-in for the contest.

**HOME WEIGH-IN INSTRUCTIONS**

- Use your scale at home
- Have your camera phone ready
- Place the piece of paper in view on the scale and then weigh yourself
- Send the pic by 6pm tomorrow to 541-590-9093 or email [jbartlett@thesiuslawnews.com](mailto:jbartlett@thesiuslawnews.com)
- Please include your name in the text or email.

*Most of all, stay safe and healthy friends. We will see you again soon!*

“It is always wonderful for us at Coastal Fitness to see the determination, discipline and progress of those taking charge of their health, even in the face of adversity. As are normal lives have been disrupted, may we encourage you to not just “hunker down” but that you KEEP MOVING!

The best way to boost your immune system that fights off disease and lower your stress is through exercise! It is such an important part of our mental and physical health. Keep Moving!”

~Coastal Fitness & Aquatics

**632+**

**Diet Tip #7**

Never fill your stomach when you eat; always leave some room. You will stop feeling hungry long before you feel full. ‘Filling’ your stomach means you are eating too much.

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