



# Community & Lifestyle

## ODFW REGIONAL FISHING REPORT

[www.dfw.state.or.us/RR](http://www.dfw.state.or.us/RR)

**SIUSLAW RIVER:** *Cutthroat trout Fall Chinook*  
 Fall Chinook fishing opens on the Siuslaw River on Aug. 1. Fishing is typically slow during the beginning of August but usually picks up by the end of the month. Anglers are reminded that due to low forecasted returns for the 2020 season bag limits have been reduced. The bag limit for the Siuslaw River is 1 wild Chinook per day and 1 per year for the 2020 season.

Trout fishing opened in the Siuslaw basin (including Lake Creek) on May 22 and has great opportunities to catch a trout throughout the summer months.

**ALSEA RIVER:** *Fall Chinook, cutthroat trout*  
 Fall Chinook fishing opens on the Alsea River on Aug. 1. The beginning of August is typically slow on the Alsea River but things start to pick up at the end of the month. Anglers are reminded that due to low forecasted returns for the 2020 season bag limits have been reduced. The bag limit for the Alsea River is 1 wild Chinook per day and 5 per year for the 2020 season.

See FISHING 2B

## Tide Tables

Entrance Siuslaw River

High Tide	Low Tide
<b>Aug. 5</b> 1:20am / 7.3 2:40pm / 6.2	8:12am / -1.0 8:16pm / 2.0
<b>Aug. 6</b> 2:01am / 7.0 3:13pm / 6.2	8:46am / -0.6 8:58pm / 1.9
<b>Aug. 7</b> 2:42am / 6.5 3:45pm / 6.2	9:20am / -0.1 9:41pm / 1.8
<b>Aug. 8</b> 3:24am / 6.0 4:18pm / 6.2	9:52am / 0.5 10:28pm / 1.8
<b>Aug. 9</b> 4:10am / 5.5 5:31pm / 6.2	10:26am / 1.2
<b>Aug. 10</b> 5:03am / 5.0 2:06pm / 6.2	11:02am / 1.7 7:34pm / 2.1
<b>Aug. 11</b> 6:09am / 4.6 6:14pm / 6.2	12:17am / 1.6 11:43pm / 2.4



# A berry good time

*The first harvest of local blueberries has begun as warm weather ripens a delectable favorite near Florence*

PHOTOS BY LENA FELT/SIUSLAW NEWS

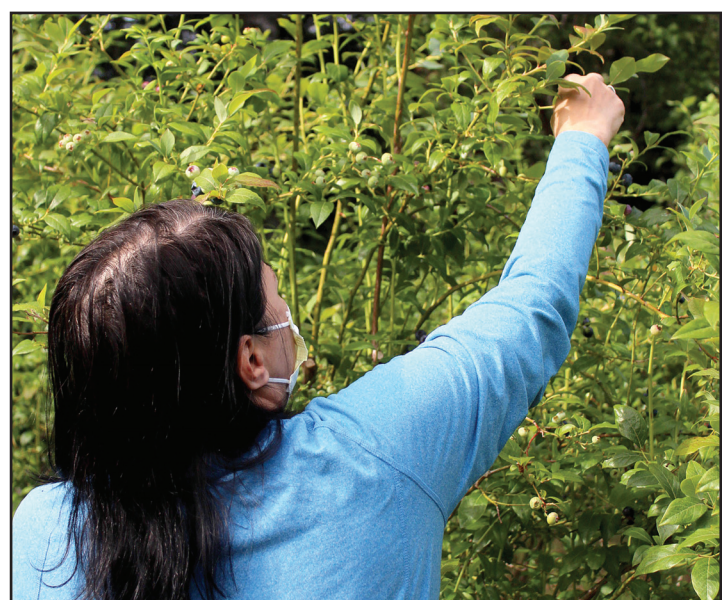
**Though July was officially National Blueberry Month, Mother Nature had other ideas, with ripe berries peaking over the next few weeks rather than in July.**

BY MARK BRENNAN  
SIUSLAW NEWS

**C**learlake Blueberry Farm is a small, family farm owned by Duane and Debbie Cray. The couple grows nine varieties of blueberries and opened their property to this year's seasonal pickers this past weekend, with customers already in line when the gates opened at 9:30 a.m. — some specifically timing their visit to the area coincide with the farm's opening day.

This is the fourth season the Crays have owned the Clearwater Blueberry Farm, having moved here in 2016, and the delicious fruit produced on the property has drawn customers from around Oregon and the Northwest.

The story of how the Crays ended up in this part of the country is a familiar one to many here: They initially came for a visit, really liked the people and the land, and



**A visitor to Clearlake Blueberry Farm picks fresh berries during Saturday's opening run.**

decided to make it their home. They looked at properties and the last placed they looked at was the Clearlake Farm. The couple made a quick decision and became the farm's latest owners.

Duane had retired from Shell Oil Company after 36 years, with he and Debbie settling here never having

run a business of this type — but discovered they liked the work that goes into growing crops for sale. Over the past few years they have worked to improve the number of varieties and increase the harvest of the plants under their care.

Though National Blueberry Month was in July, the calendar doesn't deter-

mine when the fruit in this area becomes ripe. During the month of July, the berries at Clearlake were still green.

"The season is starting a little later this year, there hasn't been as much rain and it looks like the first few weeks of August will be our peak this year," Debbie said during a Saturday run-through for the season. The Crays don't use pesticides and also are tolerant of the birds and bugs that eat at their farm.

The land at Clearlake Farm is naturally sheltered by a sloping hill and the nearly 600 blueberry bushes under cultivation have started to turn the perfect shade of blue. The Crays are not aggressive in deterring pests and the idea of a more integrated way of approaching business is evident.

"The birds have already had theirs," Duane said with a chuckle. "I think they left

See BERRIES 2B

## Oregon Emergency Management suggests residents prepare a '2 Weeks Ready' kit

The heat of summer is here across the state, and with extreme temperatures and dry conditions comes increased risks. Oregon's Office of Emergency Management (OEM) offers a few simple tips to help Oregonians keep cool, stay safe and prevent wildfires as we all navigate the continued impacts of COVID-19.

Staying home to prevent the spread of COVID? Keep windows and blinds closed to stay cool indoors and make sure to stay hydrated by drinking plenty of water.

When you need to be outdoors, stay close to home, bring a water bottle with you and limit activity to early in the day or later in the evening when temperatures are cooler.

Heading out to cool off in the water? Plan ahead, know the

risks and don't forget those life jackets.

Be sure to wear face coverings when you cannot maintain a distance of at least six feet from others. Switch to a cotton bandana or scarf if your normal face covering is too heavy or thick to wear in the heat.

Check on family members and neighbors, especially the elderly, those who live alone or who may need special assistance. Remember, you can visit in person as long as you stay at least six feet away, but a call, text or video-chat works as well and reduces the risk of COVID exposure.

It's everyone's responsibility to help prevent human-caused wildfires. Know your local fire restrictions and always pack a water source and a shovel. If you make a campfire, be sure it's



COURTESY PHOTO

**The Oregon Office of Emergency Management encourages individuals to be prepared with a '2 Weeks Ready' kit.**

dead out before leaving. To learn about restrictions and wildfire activities at home, at work and when you are out and about,

See READY 2B

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