

LISTENING TO THE LAND

How we can live in harmony with the Oregon beaver

By KATHERINE LACAZE
For Seaside Signal

For several years, wild-life biologist and Beaver State Wildlife Solutions owner Jakob Shockey has developed and implemented anti-lethal solutions to help property owners deal with beavers and the challenges they can present when they take up residence.

Shockey, who grew up on a farm in the Siskiyou Mountains, shared various ideas and solutions during his presentation “Resolving Conflicts with Beaver Using Natural Science and Design” at the Necanicum Watershed Council’s Listening to the Land event at Seaside Public Library on March 20.

Beavers can create problems for land owners in two primary ways: Building dams that block water-ways and/or cause flooding, and tree mortality, or cutting down trees, in particular. To resolve these conflicts, land owners have a number of options, including trapping,

relocating or killing them. Currently, killing beavers is easily accomplished from a legal standpoint, Shockey said. For public land purposes, they are classified by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as “furbearers,” which allows hunters to kill them with a furbearer license. When it comes to private property, the Oregon Department of Agriculture defines the beaver as a “predatory rodent”—similar to a mouse or an opossum—which allows land owners to kill them without limit.

Shockey’s goal, however, is to help residents instead pursue predictive management, which includes working within the ecosystems of streams, rivers and wetlands and implementing long-term and cost-effective solutions that serve as alternatives to bullets and bait.

“If you’ve got beaver at your site, that means it is good beaver habitat,” he said. “If you open that niche up, there is going to be another population at some point.... You start getting



Jakob Shockey, a wildlife biologist and owner of Beaver State Wildlife Solutions, gives a presentation on March 20 about resolving land owner conflicts with beavers as part of the Necanicum Watershed Council’s Listening to the speaker series, presented in partnership with the Seaside Public Library.

on a treadmill of removal — doesn’t matter if it’s lethal removal or relocation. If you’re taking animals out of a territory that’s been deemed high-value by the animal, there are going to be more that come in.”

Preventing tree mortality, flooding

When it comes to tree-cutting, Shockey said, effective solutions include surrounding the base and root collar with welded 2”-by-4” wire at least 30” inches above the ground and 24” above the snow line; and covering the surface of a tree base with a mixture of latex paint and clean, dry sand. For large areas, such as orchards or crop fields, land owners also can consider electric fences, as long as they maintain the vegetation beneath the fence.

To address flooding—the other primary conflict, which can cause impoundment and damage to urban infrastructure and cropland—Shockey suggests installing flow devices. They fall into three main categories: flexible pond levelers; trapezoidal culvert fences; and fence and pipe systems.

In all cases, the devices capitalize on natural science and beaver behavior to address potential negative ramifications of damming without relocating or harming wildlife. Shockey pointed out a potential issue

with flow devices is property owners can be held liable if they alter a beaver dam and it causes flooding on neighboring property. “If you mess with a natural system that’s stable, you’re taking on the liability for potential failure,” he said.

It’s also important, Shockey added, to work with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and the National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration to ensure the systems don’t inhibit fish passage.

Protecting a keystone species

Other predictive management strategies seek ways for beavers and land owners to live in harmony by protecting priority trees while leaving enough forage for wildlife or compelling beavers to relocate their dams to more optimal sites in the waterway, to name a few.

The endeavor is worthwhile, in Shockey’s estimation, because beavers are a keystone species in the Pacific Northwest. Their

dams create wetland ecosystems that provide nesting sites for birds and increase fish and waterfowl populations. “There is a myriad of animals that depend on the systems the beavers build,” he said. With beaver being an animal whose presence is quantifiably proven to increase water supplies, suitable habitat and fish populations, he added, a question to ask is, “How can we kind of get out of their way and let that happen?”

Listening to the Land is a monthly winter speaker series presented by the Necanicum Watershed Council in partnership with the library at 6 p.m. the third Wednesday of each month through May.

On April 17, Oregon Wild Wildlife Coordinator Danielle Moser with present on “Lost and Imperiled Species of the Oregon Coast: An Exploration of Oregon’s Iconic, Recovering and Threatened Wildlife.” For more information, visit necanicumwatershed.org.

Community Calendar

Friday, March 29

Senior Lunch Program
11:45 a.m., Bob Chisholm Community Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside, 503-738-7393, www.sunsetempire.com. \$3 suggested donation, for those 60 and over; \$6.75 for those under 60.

Open swim

1-3 p.m., spring break open swim, Sunset Pool, 1140 Broadway, Seaside.

Music at McMenamins

7 p.m., Billy D., McMenamins Gearhart Hotel, 1157 N Marion Ave, Gearhart; 503-717-8159.

Karaoke

8 p.m., American Legion, 1315 Broadway, Seaside, 503-738-5111.

Saturday, March 30

Dance Fitness

8:30 a.m., Bob Chisholm Community Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside; 503-738-3311.

Play the ukulele

9:45 a.m., learn to play the ukulele, for beginners, conference room, Bob Chisholm Community Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside, 503-738-7393.

TOR Rock band

7 p.m., American Legion, 1315 Broadway, Seaside, 503-738-5111.

Oregon Ghost Conference

All day; ghost tours from 7:30 p.m., Seaside Civic and Convention Center; www.oregonghostconference.com.

Monday, April 1

Coffee, Crafts and Conversation

10 a.m., Bob Chisholm Community Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside; visit www.sunsetempire.com, or call 503-738-3311.

Tai Chi for Better Balance

1 p.m., Bob Chisholm Community Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside. For more information, visit www.sunsetempire.com, or call 503-738-3311.

Tuesday, April 2

TOPS Meeting

9:15 a.m., Take Pounds Off SensiblyNorth Coast Family Fellowship, 2245 N Wahanna Rd, Seaside; 503-738-7453.

Happy Birthday Black Rabbit Red

All day, Toast to Edgefield Vineyard, McMenamins Gearhart

Hotel, 1157 N Marion Ave, Gearhart. For more information, visit www.mcmenamins.com/gearhart-hotel; 503-717-8159.

Wednesday, April 3

Good Morning Seaside

8 a.m., Weekly coffee and networking; Seaside Chamber of Commerce; contact for details, www.seasidechamber.com.

Preschool storytime

10 a.m., Seaside Library, 1131 Broadway; 503-738-6742.

Thursday, April 4

SDDA Breakfast

8:30 a.m., Pig ‘N’ Pancake, 323 Broadway, Seaside, 503-717-1914, www.seasidedowntown.com. Weekly speakers, discussions and a no-host breakfast.

Seaside Rotary Club

Noon, meets Thursdays, Angelina’s Pizzeria, 1815 S Roosevelt Drive, Seaside. Lunch is still \$15 for non-members.

Get Fit!

6-7 p.m., balanced strength and conditioning program, Bob Chisholm Community Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside, 503-738-7393.

Friday, April 5

Senior Lunch Program

11:45 a.m., Bob Chisholm Community Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside, 503-738-7393, www.sunsetempire.com. \$3 suggested donation, for those 60 and over; \$6.75 for those under 60.

Karaoke

8 p.m., American Legion, 1315 Broadway, Seaside, 503-738-5111.

Saturday, April 6

Dance Fitness

8:30 a.m., Bob Chisholm Community Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside; www.sunsetempire.com, or call 503-738-3311.

Treasure the Beach

9-11 a.m., beach cleanup, rain or shine; sign in at The Seashore Inn on the Beach, 60 N. Prom, Seaside.

Seaside First Saturday Art Walk

5 p.m., Seaside Chamber of Commerce, 7 N. Roosevelt Drive, Seaside.

Gearhart ArtWalk

2-5 p.m., featuring Teri Remington, Trail’s End Art Association, 656 A Street, Gearhart; 503-717-9458

Whale Spirit Drum Circle

7-8 p.m., all welcome to gather and drum together; no drumming experience is necessary. Check www.WhaleSpirit.com to confirm location each month. Bob Chisholm Community Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside.

Monday, April 8

Coffee, Crafts and Conversation

10 a.m., Bob Chisholm Community Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside; visit www.sunsetempire.com, or call 503-738-3311.

Tuesday, April 9

TOPS Meeting

9:15 a.m., Take Pounds Off SensiblyNorth Coast Family Fellowship, 2245 N Wahanna Rd, Seaside; 503-738-7453.

Taco Tuesday

6:30 p.m., American Legion, 1315 Broadway, Seaside, 503-738-5111.

Wednesday, April 10

Good Morning Seaside

8 a.m., Weekly coffee and networking; Seaside Chamber of Commerce; contact for details,

www.seasidechamber.com.

Preschool storytime

10 a.m., Seaside Library, 1131 Broadway; 503-738-6742.

Tuesday, April 9

TOPS Meeting

9:15 a.m., Take Pounds Off SensiblyNorth Coast Family Fellowship, 2245 N Wahanna Rd, Seaside; 503-738-7453.

Thursday, April 11

SDDA Breakfast

8:30 a.m., Pig ‘N’ Pancake, 323 Broadway, Seaside, 503-717-1914, www.seasidedowntown.com. Weekly speakers, discussions and a no-host breakfast.

Friday, April 12

Senior Lunch Program

11:45 a.m., Bob Chisholm Community Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside, 503-738-7393, www.sunsetempire.com. \$3 suggested donation, for those 60 and over; \$6.75 for those under 60.

Karaoke

8 p.m., American Legion, 1315 Broadway, Seaside, 503-738-5111.

Signal MARKETPLACE

To place a classified ad call 503-325-3211, log onto www.seasidesignal.com or stop in at 1555 N. Roosevelt in Seaside | Deadline is Monday at noon

504 Homes for Sale


PUBLISHER'S NOTICE
All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "Any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination."
Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians; pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.
To complain of discrimination call HUD at 1(800)669-9777. The toll free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1(800)927-9275.

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651 Help Wanted

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Part-Time Employment
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The Aquatics Director is responsible for coordinating and managing all staff, safety and activities of the Dunes Pool. This position is expected to work between 30-40 hours/week. Applicants may send a full resume, including at least 3 references. Resumes will be accepted through April 5th. ANNUAL SALARY - \$27,000-\$32,000 Ocean Park, Washington.(360)665-5380 joel@dunesbiblecamp.com

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\$8,668.82 - \$11,728.40 per month

Seeking a director to plan and direct Clatsop County's Public Works Department including engineering design and construction, road and bridge maintenance, water/wastewater systems, land acquisitions, etc. Requires Bachelor's in civil engineering or related field plus minimum seven years' experience as public works professional including two years' supervisory experience. Professional Engineer is highly desirable.

Visit
https://www.co.clatsop.or.us/hr. Job Openings, to apply online by April 8, 2019. AA/EOE

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Bill's Tavern & Brewhouse has an opening for a full-time line cook. We are a high volume, fast-paced brewpub and the potential candidate should have prior experience and be cooperative and self-motivated. Good starting wage with advancement opportunity, health benefits, paid time off, and bonuses. Please call or apply in person at 188 N. Hemlock St. Cannon Beach, OR. (503) 436-2202 billstavern@gmail.com


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www.SeasideSignal.com

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