



# Mid-Willamette Valley Angler's Club

Web site: [www.mwvaclub.org](http://www.mwvaclub.org) Email: [mwvaclub@gmail.com](mailto:mwvaclub@gmail.com)

Facebook: MWVA Club - Mid Willamette Valley Angler's Club of Salem, Oregon

## CLUB NEWS

- Board met on Feb 26<sup>th</sup>, results as follows:
- Attending were:
  - o Jay W- President
  - o Dick W- Vice President
  - o Linda C- Treasurer
  - o Vacant- Secretary
- Board members (with duty specialty in parens)-
  - o Robert M (Ticket Chair)
  - o Tim H (Ticket Asst)
  - o Larry N (Membership & Dues Chair, Prizes Asst)
  - o Ralph N (Prizes Chair)
  - o Dave W (Derby Chair)
  - o Pete F (Derby Asst)
  - o Robert B (Activities Chair)
  - o Vacancy 1 (Recently held by Steve W)
- Honorary members:
  - o Steve A (Past Pres)
  - o Craig N (Past Pres)
- Absent:
  - o Adam F (Social Media Chair)
  - o Norm M (Past President)
- Treasurer report: Balance of \$5989 (but no rent invoiced for last 2 years, holding in escrow)
- Speaker forecast report:
  - o Mar- Swap meet- bring something to sell, swap, or trade, ODFW biologist

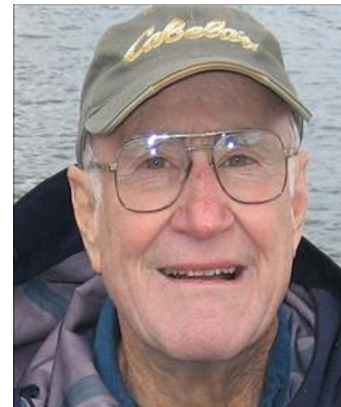
- o Apr- Guide raffle- Jason's fishing adventures
- o May- TBD
- o Jun- TBD
- o July- None, picnic Maud Williamson State Park
- o Aug- None, dark
- o Sep- OSU Extension service (food preservation- smoking, canning, drying)
- o Oct- TBD
- o Nov- TBD
- o Dec- TBD

- Derby report:
  - o Reiterated 1 prize per person (may have caught more than one fish)
  - o Springer Derby- 5 Apr- weigh in at Fred's at 3 pm- Dave W POC
  - o Devil's Lake in May- feasibility
  - o Walleye in May- feasibility
  - o Detroit- Rainbow only in June- feasibility
  - o Willamette- July- feasibility
  - o Siletz/ Nestucca- deconflicting for 20 Sep
  - o Diamond Lake and Walling Pond are out for derbies

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- Board notes:
  - o Quarterly Board meeting, not synched to club meeting (rec late Aug, Nov, Feb, May). Next Board meeting 1 May 2025 @ 6:00pm @ Center 50+
  - o If material support provided by a speaker or host (eg table space at a show, or donated guide seats), then they get mention in newsletters, on the website, on social media, and club membership for a year (Jason's Fishing Adventures, GDF most recent recipients)
  - o Add/ update board information to website and newsletter
  - o Need annual budget plan
  - o Approved \$600 quarterly for raffle prizes (about \$200/ month)
  - o Pizza feed- need event ticket clarity-
  - o Jay will upload/ create the derby sign-up sheets
  - o Board had a "No" vote to attend Salem CCA Benefit Auction with a group or sponsor table
- Membership: New year to pay your dues- please check in with Linda to settle. Larry N is the Board Membership chair.
  - o 106 Members NOT current for 2025. 70 Members were not current for 2024.
- Derby info: The entry fee for derbies (in advance and at a monthly meeting) is \$10 and the payouts are \$100, \$50, and \$25 (dues must be current to win).
  - o Reminder that any club member can be in a derby, even if they are a guide, and you can't hire a guide for a derby.
  - o The 2024 Steelhead and Salmon Derbies are closed as of Dec 31, 2024. The 2025 Derbies are open- sign up and pay.
- Speaker tracker for 2024/2025:
  - o January 2024- CCA Oregon Dave Schamp and Pat Hoglund
  - o February- Pizza Feed, no speaker
  - o March- Ron Bird, Nestucca Anglers (Volunteer Program)
  - o April- Elise Kelley, ODFW biologist AND Walleye clinic
  - o May- Wayne Parker, Good Day Fishing
  - o Jun- Randy Bales (Lured) AND ODFW Rep
  - o Jul- 28<sup>th</sup>- Picnic, Maud Williamson State Park
  - o August- Dr. Debbie Colbert, ODFW Director
- o September- ODFW Hatchery meeting review, Denny (Club member)
- o October- ~~Bass fishing discussion~~
- o November- Jason Hambly, Pro-Cure Rep
- o December- Jay Yelas, BassMaster Champion
- o January 2025- Tom Rumreich, ODFW Biologist/ STEP, Bob Spelbrink, ODFW Commissioner
- o **February- Pizza Feed @ Wallery's, 6 PM,**
- Activities/ outings under dev:
  - o Jan- TBD
  - o Feb- Pizza feed, Sportsman's Show, Table at Saltwater Sportsman's Show in Salem
  - o Mar- Swap meet at meeting, Herring jigging
  - o Apr- Surf perch, Walleye, Kokanee
  - o May- Teach a kid to fish, Pikeminnow, Walleye
  - o Jun- Fin clip, Springer, Walleye, Club brood trout derby, Shad
  - o July- Bass, Club Picnic, Take a Vet
  - o Aug- Salmon
  - o Sep- Siletz, Nestucca
  - o Oct- Yaquina
  - o Nov- TBD
  - o Dec- Crabbing
- In Memorial: GI Wilson passed away Feb 16<sup>th</sup>. A memorial service is planned for Mar 15<sup>th</sup> at Center50+ at 1 PM.



#### Recent Supporters:

[Jason's Fishing Adventures](#)

[Home - Good Day Fishing](#)

[Pro Cure Baits – Pro-Cure, Inc](#)

# ODFW Fishing Report

## (As of Mar 5th)



Oregon anglers are blessed with year-round fishing opportunities.

- North coast steelhead fishing was moderate to slow last weekend despite excellent conditions in most places. This week flows are dropping to lower levels on the small streams while the bigger basins should fish well. There are winter steelhead throughout the fisheries. The Nestucca, Wilson and North Fork Nehalem Rivers will offer the best opportunities for catching hatchery steelhead.
- Surplus winter steelhead have been released into Coffenbury Lake, Vernonia Pond and Lost Lake, and surplus summer steelhead were released into Town Lake last week. These fish can be a great alternative when conditions in the rivers are less than ideal, and fighting a steelhead in still water is a unique and fun experience.
- After our big rains last week, the Mid Coast shaped back up into fishable water. Steelhead are moving throughout our basins as the temperatures rise!
- With spring on the way, trout in Detroit Reservoir, and other waterbodies, are getting more active in searching for food.
- Trout stocking in the Willamette Valley has begun in earnest.
- Kokanee fishing has been excellent on Lake Billy Chinook with fish averaging 13 inches.
- Excess brood rainbow trout from Wizard Falls Hatchery have been released at Pine Nursery Pond in Bend and Haystack Reservoir, this is a unique opportunity to catch trophy-size fish.

- Columbia- Spring Chinook. Effective March 1 – April 6: the following area, retention, and daily bag limit regulations apply:
  - Area definition: Buoy 10 line upstream to Beacon Rock plus only the Oregon and Washington banks from Beacon Rock upstream to the Bonneville Dam deadline.
  - Legal upstream boat boundary defined as: A deadline marker on the Oregon bank (approximately four miles downstream from Bonneville Dam Powerhouse One) in a straight line through the western tip of Pierce Island to a deadline marker on the Washington bank at Beacon Rock.
  - Retention allowed: open for hatchery Chinook and hatchery steelhead. Shad may also be retained.
  - Daily bag limit: two adult hatchery salmonids (Chinook or steelhead) per day, but only one may be a Chinook.
  - All other permanent regulations apply.

### Recent Member Pictures:

None

## Fishing Notices:

### **COLUMBIA RIVER: Closed for Sturgeon.**

### **ALSEA RIVER: Steelhead**

Hatchery steelhead is in full swing on the Alsea! After a shaky start due to weather, fish moved into the basin and have been migrating about. This past week the bite has slowed down, but fish are still moving throughout the basin. After the rains we got last week, we saw lots of fish push in, and the river will be fishable going into the weekend!

There's a lot of bank fishing access, and fish have been getting caught, near the hatchery holes! Drift fishing in the lower basin has also been productive for anglers in the Alsea Basin. Last updated 3/5/25.

### **NESTUCCA BASIN (Nestucca, Three Rivers, and Little Nestucca): winter steelhead**

The Nestucca is in good shape as of this writing and should remain so through the weekend. There are both hatchery and wild winter steelhead (catch-and-release only for wilds) throughout the fishery with fresh fish still coming in. *Last updated 3/5/25.*

### **SILETZ RIVER: winter steelhead**

Winter steelhead slowed down a bit on the Siletz. Like its neighbors, it's been a fair season on the Siletz, with fish seemingly being caught in big waves this year. Fish are taking advantage of the warmer weather and moving higher up into the basin. Fish have been caught in the upper gorge area and throughout some of the lower drift floats.

The upper gorge offers bank access for targeting winter steelhead, though with the icy winter conditions it could be a tough drive – but worth the effort. The gorge road has cleared out quite a bit since our snow and ice storms over the past few months, making the area accessible once again. Just a reminder that the gorge road is closed to public driving access during the weekdays M-F but opens for the weekend for the public to access!

The Siletz is a truly unique system offering multiple opportunities for a variety of species. *Last updated 3/5/25.*

### **WILSON RIVER: winter steelhead**

The Wilson dropped into prime shape last weekend and fishing effort was high, surprisingly the fishing was a little slow with a few fish being caught. It does appear to have picked up the last couple days judging from broodstock collections. It'll be getting a little low and clear over the weekend. These conditions will be a good time to fish smaller beads, throw hardware or pull plugs. There are both hatchery and wild steelhead (catch-and-release only for wilds) throughout the fishery. *Last updated 3/5/25.* Wilson River levels and predictions are available [here](#).

### **DETROIT RESERVOIR: trout**

The reservoir is slowly filling up in preparation for the busy summer recreation season. Mongold boat ramp is currently open and available to launch watercraft. Now that spring is around the corner fish are starting to get hungrier and become more active in searching for food. Pretty much any technique will catch fish, but it might take some experimenting to find out what is most effective on the day you're out there. The reservoir gets stocked with trout during the spring and summer with many of these fish still available throughout the fall and winter and into next year. As a reminder,

anglers are allowed to keep up to five trout, with an additional five fish kokanee bag limit. Also, as a reminder to anglers, fishing for and harvesting Chinook in the lake and the rivers above is prohibited. Any Chinook caught in Detroit must be released unharmed. Make sure you can tell the difference between a Chinook and a kokanee before you get out on the water.

It's always a good idea to check the water levels at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers website before using the boat ramps. For the latest information on water levels at Detroit Reservoir check with the Army Corps of Engineers' [website for more information](#). Anglers are encouraged to report their catch on an [on-line form](#). Remember to indicate whether the fish you catch have their adipose fin or not. This information will allow ODFW to manage the fishery for the benefit of both recreational anglers and the resource. *Last updated 3/5/25.*

**SANTIAM RIVER (NORTH FORK):** Salmon, steelhead

River levels best for fishing are at or below 3,000 cfs, and the river is currently running at about 3,600 cfs at the gage in Mehama.

Fishing for steelhead is open year-round, but the use of bait is not allowed between Nov. 1 and April 21. *Last updated 3/5/25.*

There are several large, downed trees in the river creating some dangerous hazards for boaters in the lower river. For more information check out the Oregon State Marine Board website.

**SANTIAM RIVER (SOUTH FORK):** steelhead, bass, trout,

Fishing is generally best when flows are below 3,000 cfs. Flows are at 3,100 cfs at the gage in Waterloo.

There are still some scattered summer steelhead in the river, but everything else is catch-and-release. Spring chinook and the next run of summer steelhead will begin to arrive in April. Anglers should be aware that bait is not allowed from Nov1 to April 21. *Last updated 3/5/25.*

**WALLING POND:** trout, panfish

This eight-acre privately-owned pond has been **closed** since 11/8/23. Stocking scheduled to begin in November 2024, but not currently listed.

**WALTER WIRTH LAKE:** trout, bass, panfish.

This urban lake usually gets stocked from about Thanksgiving through May. The rest of the year anglers can target bluegill and bass. It will be stocked this week with about 1,500 trout. Only one fish out a 5-fish bag limit may be longer than 20 inches.

Walter Wirth is a 20-acre lake located within the City of Salem's Cascades Gateway Park with good access all the way around. *Last updated 2/5/2025.*

**WILLAMETTE RIVER:** sturgeon, steelhead, spring Chinook, coho, small and largemouth bass  
North Willamette – From the mouth upstream to Keizer Rapids Park

Anglers can monitor the [Willamette Falls fish counts](#) at the link below for a more up to date understanding of what salmon and steelhead are doing in the system. *Last updated 12/03/24.*

Mid-Willamette – From Keizer Rapids Park upstream to the mouth of the McKenzie River

Now that flows in the spawning tributaries are high, adult coho are much more evenly distributed throughout the basin. The better action is now primarily in the larger tributaries such as the North Santiam, Little North Santiam, and the Molalla. Other tributaries such as the Luckiamute River and Rickreall Creek are closed to salmon fishing. Anglers are allowed to keep up to two adult coho per day.



The upstream section between Albany and Harrisburg is open year-round for trout fishing, which can be very good when flows are cooperating. Look for deep slot pools and the tail-end of long riffles and the head of pools where the fish are likely stacked up in feeding lanes.

Smallmouth bass can be a lot of fun to catch and are plentiful between Salem and Corvallis during the spring and summer. Trout prefer the cooler temperatures upstream of Corvallis. From Salem downstream there are plenty of largemouth bass in the deeper, quieter sections. *Last updated 11/6/24.*

South Willamette – from the mouth of the McKenzie River upstream to the headwaters of the Willamette River.

Summer steelhead can be caught almost any month of the year. Trout fishing is open all year fishing with flies and lures – cutthroat fishing should be good when the river is not blown out. Sturgeon fishing is open – 1 per day and 2 per year (38 inch minimum, 54 inch maximum). *Last updated 11/27/24.*

### OCEAN:

HALIBUT- Nearshore Season, Central Oregon, Quota = 10,000 lb Open May 1, 7 days per week, inside the 40-fathom line, until October 31 or the quota is caught, 2 fish per day, 6 fish annually.

SALMON- The 2024 ocean salmon season is closed. Update in March

### BOTTOMFISH-

Port by port reports:

- Depoe Bay: Ocean conditions kept the bar restricted and anglers off the water last week.
- Newport: When conditions allowed, anglers landed about 3 fish with a mix of black, deacon, copper and yellowtail rockfishes. Lingcod landings were quite low compared to previous weeks.
- Charleston: Ocean conditions kept anglers in port last week.
- Brookings: Ocean conditions were tough last week, but fishing was decent with about 3 rockfish per angler; mostly black, blue, and deacon rockfishes brought in. No lingcod were observed.

Herring: In Oregon, **herring** come into bays and estuaries to spawn usually between Valentine's Day and St. Patrick's Day, though run timing has varied in recent years. We conducted our second acoustic survey on Feb. 20 and while we saw increased sign of herring in Yaquina Bay, the biomass remained low. We came across some small schools on our March 5 survey and even managed to catch a few fish after some effort. Our next survey is scheduled between March 18 and 21.

DUNGENESS CRAB- Due to inclement weather, crabbing effort in **Newport** and **Waldport** has been low. Crab catch is also low. Crab quality is good as shells have hardened and crabs are full of meat. When there has been a lot of rain, crabbing in bays is typically not good since the surge of fresh water from the rivers forces the crab to retreat to the saltier water of the ocean.

### RAZOR CLAMS

- OPEN from the WA border to Cascade Head.
- CLOSED from Cascade Head to the CA border.

MUSSELS and BAY CLAMS are OPEN.

EUROPEAN GREEN CRAB This invasive species now has a limit of 35 per day to encourage harvest. While they look like Oregon's native shore crabs, they have three prominent bumps between the eyes and 5 spines down the side of the carapace.

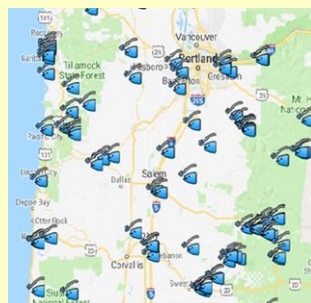
# ODFW Trout Stocking Schedule:



Week of	Waterbody	Zone/Office	Legals	Trophy	Brood	Total
Mar. 10, 2025 - Mar. 14, 2025	DORMAN PD	Willamette / Clackamas	1,000	0	0	1,000
Mar. 10, 2025 - Mar. 14, 2025	TIMBER LINN LK	Willamette / Corvallis	1,000	40	0	1,040
Mar. 10, 2025 - Mar. 14, 2025	BETHANY PD	Willamette / Clackamas	666	0	0	666
Mar. 10, 2025 - Mar. 14, 2025	BLUE LK	Willamette / Clackamas	1,500	0	0	1,500
Mar. 10, 2025 - Mar. 14, 2025	SHERIDAN PD	Willamette / Clackamas	466	0	0	466
Mar. 10, 2025 - Mar. 14, 2025	CANBY PD	Willamette / Clackamas	266	193	0	459
Mar. 10, 2025 - Mar. 14, 2025	COMMONWEALTH LK	Willamette / Clackamas	1,000	0	0	1,000
Mar. 10, 2025 - Mar. 14, 2025	BENSON LK	Willamette / Clackamas	2,000	0	0	2,000
Mar. 10, 2025 - Mar. 14, 2025	MT HOOD PD (MHCC CAMPUS)	Willamette / Clackamas	666	0	0	666
Mar. 10, 2025 - Mar. 14, 2025	HUDDLESTON PD (FMR HAMPTON PD)	Willamette / Clackamas	466	0	0	466
Mar. 17, 2025 - Mar. 21, 2025	HENRY HAGG LK	Willamette / Clackamas	0	1,000	0	1,000
Mar. 17, 2025 - Mar. 21, 2025	WAVERLY LK	Willamette / Corvallis	1,000	0	0	1,000
Mar. 17, 2025 - Mar. 21, 2025	TIMBER LINN LK	Willamette / Corvallis	1,000	40	0	1,040
Mar. 17, 2025 - Mar. 21, 2025	ST LOUIS PD	Willamette / Clackamas	0	1,000	0	1,000
Mar. 24, 2025 - Mar. 28, 2025	SUNNYSIDE PARK PD	Willamette / Corvallis	1,000	40	0	1,040
Mar. 24, 2025 - Mar. 28, 2025	CANBY PD	Willamette / Clackamas	570	411	0	981
Mar. 31, 2025 - Apr. 04, 2025	HUDDLESTON PD (FMR HAMPTON PD)	Willamette / Clackamas	932	25	0	957
Mar. 31, 2025 - Apr. 04, 2025	COMMONWEALTH LK	Willamette / Clackamas	1,000	0	0	1,000
Mar. 31, 2025 - Apr. 04, 2025	HENRY HAGG LK	Willamette / Clackamas	4,000	0	0	4,000
Mar. 31, 2025 - Apr. 04, 2025	SHERIDAN PD	Willamette / Clackamas	666	0	0	666
Mar. 31, 2025 - Apr. 04, 2025	TROJAN RECREATION LK	Willamette / Clackamas	2,000	0	0	2,000

## 2025 Free Fishing Weekends:

- June 7-8, and
- November 28-29



Send in your fish/ fishing pictures to see if you make the newsletter! [mwvaclub@gmail.com](mailto:mwvaclub@gmail.com)

## Non-Club News and opportunities:

### **Nestucca Anglers/ Rhoades Pond:**

Collection and spawning was in October. See [Nestucca Anglers](#) for more information about upcoming events and opportunities to volunteer.

**SOLVE:** Beach & Riverside Cleanup locations here: [SOLVE | Beach & Riverside Cleanup \(solveoregon.org\)](#). Club members were cleaning up Walling Pond area on Fridays, but on hold for now- Craig N is looking into it, ODFW is reporting stocking again.

**Angler Education Training and Volunteer Opportunities-** ODFW Volunteer Instructor Amanda Boyles, Angler Education Coordinator for ODFW. Thank you all and please give me a call (503-580-5102) or email [Amanda.M.BOYLES@odfw.oregon.gov](mailto:Amanda.M.BOYLES@odfw.oregon.gov) if you have any questions!

**Coastal Conservation Association (CCA):** CCA Oregon Executive Director Pat Hoglund [Who we are | CCA OREGON](#). Statewide Raffle winners: DRIFT BOAT: Don New, GREEN MOUNTAIN GRILL: Molly Barrett, ENGEL COOLER: Jeff Springston, ROD & REEL: Seathl Ollgaard. Salem Chapter banquet is April 12, 2025 at Heritage Center – Mission Mill, Salem.

**ODFW: 3d Party Hatchery Review: They are currently recommending closing 3 hatcheries.** Phase 3: Roll-up- Winter 2024-25- Develop final report for legislature and present to legislature

**NW Steelheaders (Salem Chapter):** <https://salemnwsteelheaders.org/> for more info. Dues \$40/yr. Next meeting Tuesday, January 21st at 7:00 PM in Keizer City Hall.

**Mid-Willamette Outreach Group:** [Mid-Willamette Outreach Group - Marion SWCD](#) – Our River- the Willamette! Think about supporting their 3d Annual Learn to Fish event at Keizer Rapids May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025- put it on the calendar for next year.

**Walling Pond: Stocked in Nov and Dec 2024, sched again in January**

**Salmon Watch: World Salmon Council:** Want to help kids learn about salmon? Check out this Fall 2025 volunteer opportunity: [New Volunteer Registration | World Salmon Council](#)

**Report a Wildlife or Habitat Law Violation or Suspicious Activity**  
Call 1-800-452-7888 or \*OSP (\*677) from a mobile phone

Email [TIP@osp.oregon.gov](mailto:TIP@osp.oregon.gov) between hours of 8:00AM - 5:00PM, Monday – Friday





**Mid-Willamette Valley Angler's Club**

Meets the second Tuesday of the month at Center50+ in Salem at 7 PM

Next meeting: Mar 11, 2024 @ 7 PM- Center50+ with ODFW  
Assistant District Biologist, ready to talk hatcheries and health of  
returns

**We're on the Web!**

Visit us at:  
[www.mwvaclub.org](http://www.mwvaclub.org)

*Mid-Willamette Valley Angler's Club*  
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Code