

Mid-Willamette Valley Angler's Club

Web site: www.mwvaclub.org Email: mwvaclub@gmail.com

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

CLUB NEWS

- Membership: New year to pay your dues- please check in with Linda to settle up.
 - 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/ forecast 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- 28th- 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**, no speaker
 - o March- Swap meet- bring something to trade or sell
 - o April- Guide Raffle
 - o May- TBD
 - o Jun- TBD
 - o Jul- Picnic, Maud Williamson State Park

- Next Board meeting 11 Mar 2025 @ 6:00pm @ Center 50+
 - o 2025 Derbies, speakers, etc.
 - o Membership- Bring a friend to a meeting and get extra raffle tickets, improve social media,
 - o Activities/ outings under dev:
 - Jan- TBD
 - Feb- Pizza feed, Sportsman's Show, Table at Saltwater Sportsman's Show in Salem
 - Mar- Herring jigging
 - Apr- Surf perch, Walleye, Kokanee
 - May- Teach a kid to fish, Pikeminnow, Walleye
 - Jun- Fin clip, Springer, Walleye, Club brood trout derby, Shad
 - July- Bass, Club Picnic, Take a Vet
 - Aug- Salmon
 - Sep- Siletz, Nestucca
 - Oct- Yaquina
 - Nov- TBD
 - Dec- Crabbing

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ODFW Fishing Report (As of Feb 5th)



Oregon anglers are blessed with year-round fishing opportunities.

- The 2025 sturgeon retention dates have been set for above Bonneville. Check the [fishing regulation update page](#).
- Sturgeon retention is now closed in the Bonneville and The Dalles pools. Check regulations for updates as there may be future sturgeon fishing opportunities in The Dalles pool.
- Winter steelhead are making an appearance in the Lower Columbia River. There may be some opportunity to catch steelhead on the beaches this time of year.
- Winter steelhead fishing on the North Coast picked up the end of last week after a little rain and there was a good bite on Saturday. Unfortunately, the weather has returned to cold temperatures and the rivers are low again, which will make conditions challenging this week. The Nestucca, Wilson, and North Fork Nehalem will be the best bets for finding hatchery fish.
- 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.
- With the recent rains the Mid Coast rivers have seen a fresh push of fish in the basins! Lots of folks reporting good catch numbers as fish are moving throughout the systems
- Anglers should find winter steelhead throughout the Sandy and Clackamas.
- Dry weather and lower water levels has put Quartzville Creek in pretty good shape for some trout fishing. But with snow in the forecast, be aware the road is not plowed.
- Trout stocking in the Willamette Valley has begun in earnest.
- Kokanee and bull trout fishing is picking up at Lake Billy Chinook.
- Excess brood rainbow trout from Oak Springs Hatchery have been released at Haystack Reservoir, this is a unique opportunity to catch trophy-size fish.
- The Metolius River continues to be excellent for mountain whitefish, redband trout and bull trout. The Metolius from Allingham Bridge to the headwaters closed for the season on Nov. 1.
- The Crooked River is fishing well; however, flood control releases are forecasted from Bowman and Ochoco Dams.
- If you're headed out to the lower Deschutes, bring your nymphing setup.

Recent Member Pictures:

None

Nada

Fishing Notices:

COLUMBIA RIVER: Closed for Sturgeon.

ALSEA RIVER: Steelhead

Hatchery steelhead opened on Nov. 1 from the mouth to the confluence of the North and South Forks. The run is finally started back again! We have had a decent amount of rain the past weekend and going into this week. Although it wasn't enough to really move fish we have seen more fish being caught in the basin. The hatchery holes have continued seeing decent catches! *Last updated 02/5/25.*

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

The Nestucca is dropping back to low and clear conditions this week. Coupled with cold water temperatures fishing will likely be challenging. That said there are both hatchery and wild winter steelhead (catch and release only for wilds) throughout the fishery. *Last updated 2/5/25.*

SILETZ RIVER: winter steelhead

Winter steelhead are definitely in the Siletz! Last weekend we got a few reports coming in of fish being caught throughout some of the more productive floats around the upper system. It's still early in the season, but fish have taken advantage of the recent rains and spread further out in the system.

The upper gorge offers bank access for targeting winter steelhead, though with the icy winter conditions it could be a tough drive - worth the effort! The gorge road is currently icy and covered in quite a bit of snow, so be prepared for icy wintery conditions heading up into those bank areas. The Siletz is a truly unique system offering multiple opportunities for a variety of species. *Last updated 02/5/25.*

WILSON RIVER: winter steelhead

The Wilson River had a good steelhead bite last Saturday after a little rain with some really fresh fish showing up. Unfortunately, it is already back to very low and clear conditions and fishing has slowed down as a result. There are both hatchery and wild steelhead (catch and release only for wilds) throughout the fishery but getting them to bite may be challenging this week. *Last updated 2/5/25.*

Wilson River levels and predictions are available [here](#).

DETROIT RESERVOIR: trout

This waterbody currently has no boat access because the recent spell of dry weather has dropped the elevation of the water below the point where the boat ramp has become unusable. 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. Now that fall is here, activity on the lake will be quieter. Fishing can be surprisingly good, even during mid-day. 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. Kokanee fishing is mostly done for the year as the adults are moving up into the tributaries to spawn. 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 1/22/25.*

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 1,900 cfs at the gage in Mehamma.

Fishing for steelhead is open year-round, but the use of bait is not allowed between Nov. 1 and April 21. *Last updated 1/29/25.*

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 1,600 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. *Last updated 2/5/25.*

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- The 2024 halibut season is closed. Update in February

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

BOTTOMFISH-

Port by port reports:

- **Depoe Bay**: Good conditions continued early last week and allowed passage out of the harbor for many vessels. Fishing was good with about 2.5 rockfish per angler. Lingcod was great with an average of 1.5 fish per angler.
- **Newport**: Calm ocean conditions early last week allowed for decent fishing with about 2.5 rockfish for most anglers. Anglers saw a mix of black, deacon, China, copper and canary rockfishes. Lingcod landings were good with just over an average of 1 fish per angler.
- **Charleston**: Great ocean conditions allowed anglers to get out and land an average of about 2.5 rockfish. A good mix of black, deacon, blue, yellowtail and canary rockfishes. Lingcod landings were excellent with close to 1.5 fish per angler.
- **Brookings**: Calm ocean conditions last week resulted in an average of 3 rockfish per angler. Lingcod picked up with close to 1 fish per angler.

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.

DUNGENESS CRAB- Bay crabbing in **Newport** has been slow. Bay crabbing in **Walport** has been slow. 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.

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 between hours of 8:00AM - 5:00PM, Monday – Friday

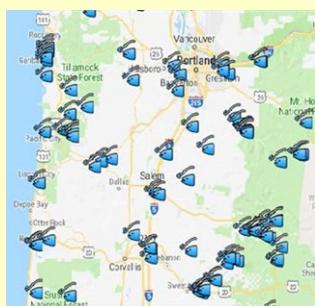
ODFW Trout Stocking Schedule:



Week of	Waterbody	Zone/Office	Legals	Trophy	Brood	Total
Feb. 10, 2025 - Feb. 14, 2025	MT HOOD PD (MHCC CAMPUS)	Willamette / Clackamas	666	0	0	666
Feb. 10, 2025 - Feb. 14, 2025	ST LOUIS PD	Willamette / Clackamas	0	1,000	0	1,000
Feb. 10, 2025 - Feb. 14, 2025	HENRY HAGG LK	Willamette / Clackamas	0	1,000	0	1,000
Feb. 10, 2025 - Feb. 14, 2025	ROW R NATURE PK-Fmr Cott. Grv. Pd	Willamette / Springfield	1,000	0	0	1,000
Feb. 10, 2025 - Feb. 14, 2025	SALISH PD, W	Willamette / Clackamas	0	500	0	500
Feb. 10, 2025 - Feb. 14, 2025	SILVER CR RES	Willamette / Clackamas	0	1,000	0	1,000
Feb. 17, 2025 - Feb. 21, 2025	HILLS CR RES	Willamette / Springfield	3,500	0	0	3,500
Feb. 17, 2025 - Feb. 21, 2025	WALTER WIRTH LK	Willamette / Corvallis	1,560	0	0	1,560
Feb. 17, 2025 - Feb. 21, 2025	TIMBER LINN LK	Willamette / Corvallis	0	40	0	40
Feb. 17, 2025 - Feb. 21, 2025	ALTON BAKER CANAL	Willamette / Springfield	1,250	0	0	1,250
Feb. 17, 2025 - Feb. 21, 2025	JUNCTION CITY PD	Willamette / Corvallis	1,330	0	0	1,330
Feb. 17, 2025 - Feb. 21, 2025	ROARING RVR PARK PD	Willamette / Corvallis	125	0	0	125
Feb. 24, 2025 - Feb. 28, 2025	ROW R NATURE PK-Fmr Cott. Grv. Pd	Willamette / Springfield	1,000	0	0	1,000
Feb. 24, 2025 - Feb. 28, 2025	SHERIDAN PD	Willamette / Clackamas	666	0	0	666
Feb. 24, 2025 - Feb. 28, 2025	COTTAGE GROVE RES	Willamette / Springfield	3,750	0	0	3,750
Feb. 24, 2025 - Feb. 28, 2025	EE WILSON PD	Willamette / Corvallis	1,390	0	0	1,390
Feb. 24, 2025 - Feb. 28, 2025	HUDDLESTON PD (FMR HAMPTON PD)	Willamette / Clackamas	1,001	0	0	1,001
Feb. 24, 2025 - Feb. 28, 2025	SHERIDAN PD	Willamette / N Willamette Watershed District	600	0	0	600

2025 Free Fishing Weekends:

- February 15-16,
- June 7-8, and
- November 28-29



No pictures here either!

Send in your fish/ fishing pictures to see if you make the newsletter! 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 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 10th, 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](#)

Shows:

[Saltwater Sportfishing Show - OceanEd](#)- GDF will provide MWVA a portion of their table/ booth for recruiting. Feb 22-23 in Salem.

[Pacific Northwest Sportsmen's Show | Portland | Fishing & Hunting Show](#)- Feb 12-16 in Portland.



Mid-Willamette Valley Angler's Club

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

Next meeting: Feb 11, 2024 @ 6 PM- Pizza Feed at Wallery's

We're on the Web!

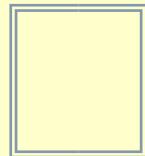
Visit us at:

www.mwvaclub.org

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