



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 73 Members 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 this month to maximize your chances.
- 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, 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 14 Jan 2025 @ 6:30pm @ Center 50+

- o 2025 Derbies, speakers, and other information.
- 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

Inside This Issue

Club News	1
Pictures and Fishing Report	2
Take a Vet Fishing Notice	2
Fishing Notices	3-6
ODFW Trout Stocking Snapshot	7
Non-Club News	8
Meeting reminder	Cover

ODFW Fishing Report

(As of Jan 8th)



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 are starting to enter the Clackamas. It's early but there are fish throughout the system.
- There are reports of early winter steelhead in the lower Sandy.
- On the Middle Fork Willamette, anglers have been catching steelhead below Dexter Dam.
- Brood trout and summer steelhead are being released into Row River Nature Park Pond as they become available.
- Winter steelhead fishing should be good on the North Coast this weekend as most rivers are dropping back into shape. The Nestucca, Wilson, Necanicum, North Fork Nehalem and Lower Columbia tributaries will be the best bets for encountering hatchery fish.
- Big Creek released surplus winter steelhead into Coffenbury Lake last week to provide some additional fishing opportunity.
- The holiday rains have brought winter steelhead into most Mid Coast rivers.
- Depoe Bay: Only one day last week presented favorable conditions to get out on the water. The fishing was fair with about 2 fish per angler. Lingcod was good with an average of 1 fish per angler.
- Newport: A few good days last week allowed for decent fishing with catch rates around 3 fish per angler. Lingcod landings were close to 1 fish per angler.
- Charleston: Effort was very low last week with challenging ocean conditions. The boats that made it out saw near limits of rockfish and half limits of lingcod.
- Brookings: Ocean conditions last week resulted in very minimal effort.

Recent Member Pictures:

None

Nada

Fishing Notices:

COLUMBIA RIVER: Closed for Sturgeon.

ALSEA RIVER: Trout, Chinook

Fall Chinook fishing on the Alsea has been fair to good. Recent rains have moved some fish out of the bays and upriver.

The wild coho retention closed on Nov. 10th.

Hatchery steelhead opens on Nov. 1 from the mouth to the confluence of the North and South Forks. Anglers should avoid encounters with spawning Fall Chinook. The entire North Fork Alsea is closed to all angling on Nov. 1 through Nov. 30. *Last updated 11/13/24.*

NESTUCCA BASIN (Nestucca, Three Rivers, and Little Nestucca): Steelhead,

It's slow fishing on the Nestucca River right now, but winter steelhead should start showing up towards the end of the month. The Nestucca gets a large hatchery steelhead release and those fish will be returning and providing good fishing opportunity late December through early April. Fall Chinook season ended Nov. 30 (See [regulation updates](#) for details). *Last updated 12/4/24.* River levels and predictions for the Nestucca are available [here](#).

SILETZ RIVER: Steelhead, chinook

Fall Chinook is open on the Siletz and fishing has been fair to good in tidewater. Many fish have moved upriver with the recent rain. Expect fish to be available throughout tidewater and the lower river. The wild coho retention closed on Nov. 15. *Last updated 11/20/24.*

WILSON RIVER: steelhead,

The Wilson is going to be slow right now, but winter steelhead should start showing up towards the end of the month. The Wilson gets a large hatchery steelhead release and those fish will be returning and providing good fishing opportunity late December through early April. Fall Chinook season ended Nov. 30 (See [regulation updates](#) for details). *Last updated 12/4/24.*

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

DETROIT RESERVOIR: trout

The water level in Detroit is above prescribed levels from recent heavy rains. Anglers can launch boats from Mongold State Park for the next few weeks and take advantage of any breaks in the weather. 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 1/8/25.*

SANTIAM RIVER (NORTH FORK): Salmon, steelhead

River levels best for fishing are at or below 3,000 cfs, and the river is currently running over 10,000 cfs at the gage in Mehama.

The historic coho salmon run is done. There are still a few summer steelhead in the upper sections of the river. Fishing for steelhead is open year-round, but the use of bait is not allowed between Nov. 1 and April 21. *Last updated 1/7/25.*

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 8,000 cfs at the gage in Waterloo. Drier weather is in the forecast for the next week so this is likely to change.

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 1/8/25.*

WALLING POND: trout, panfish

This eight-acre privately-owned pond has been **closed** since 11/8/23. Stocking scheduled to begin in November 2024.

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 right before Christmas with another 1,500 hatchery 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 12/18/24.*

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-

General Marine Species:

- 4-fish bag limit January 1 through June 30
- 5-fish bag limit July 1 through December 31
- Canary rockfish: 1-fish sub-bag limit
- Cabezon: 1-fish sub-bag limit
- Opens July 1, 2025, 16-inch minimum size limit
- Lingcod: 2-fish bag limit- 22-inch minimum size limit
- Flatfish: 25-fish bag limit
- Sablefish: 10-fish bag limit

Longleader gear fishery: 10-fish bag limit

- Canary rockfish: 1-fish sub-bag limit
- For a 10-fish bag limit to apply, longleader gear must be used outside (seaward) of the 40-fathom regulatory line

Port by port reports:

- Depoe Bay: Only one day last week presented favorable conditions to get out on the water. The fishing was fair with about 2 fish per angler. Lingcod was good with an average of 1 fish per angler.
- Newport: A few good days last week allowed for decent fishing with catch rates around 3 fish per angler. Lingcod landings were close to 1 fish per angler.
- Charleston: Effort was very low last week with challenging ocean conditions. The boats that made it out saw near limits of rockfish and half limits of lingcod.
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DUNGENESS CRAB- Bay crabbing in **Newport** has been fair. Bay crabbing in **Waldport** has been good. 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

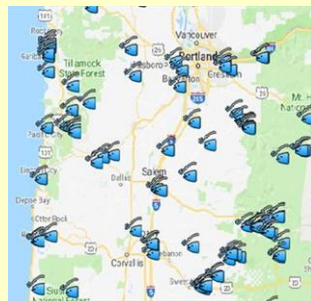
ODFW Trout Stocking Schedule:



Week of	Waterbody	Zone/Office	Legals	Trophy	Brood	Total
Jan. 27, 2025 - Jan. 31, 2025	SHERIDAN PD	Willamette / Clackamas	232	0	0	232
Jan. 27, 2025 - Jan. 31, 2025	JUNCTION CITY PD	Willamette / Corvallis	1,455	0	0	1,455
Jan. 27, 2025 - Jan. 31, 2025	HUDDLESTON PD (FMR HAMPTON PD)	Willamette / Clackamas	232	0	0	232
Jan. 27, 2025 - Jan. 31, 2025	EE WILSON PD	Willamette / Corvallis	1,300	0	0	1,300
Jan. 27, 2025 - Jan. 31, 2025	WALTER WIRTH LK	Willamette / Corvallis	1,500	0	0	1,500
Feb. 03, 2025 - Feb. 07, 2025	ROW R NATURE PK-Fmr Cott. Grv. Pd	Willamette / Springfield	1,000	0	0	1,000
Feb. 03, 2025 - Feb. 07, 2025	SUNNYSIDE PARK PD	Willamette / Corvallis	1,000	40	0	1,040
Feb. 03, 2025 - Feb. 07, 2025	WAVERLY LK	Willamette / Corvallis	900	0	0	900
Feb. 03, 2025 - Feb. 07, 2025	JUNCTION CITY PD	Willamette / Corvallis	1,400	0	0	1,400
Feb. 03, 2025 - Feb. 07, 2025	TIMBER LINN LK	Willamette / Corvallis	1,800	40	0	1,840
Feb. 03, 2025 - Feb. 07, 2025	WALTER WIRTH LK	Willamette / Corvallis	1,875	0	0	1,875
Feb. 03, 2025 - Feb. 07, 2025	ALTON BAKER CANAL	Willamette / Springfield	1,993	0	0	1,993
Feb. 03, 2025 - Feb. 07, 2025	EE WILSON PD	Willamette / Corvallis	1,400	0	0	1,400
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. 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. 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	ROARING RVR PARK PD	Willamette / Corvallis	125	0	0	125

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 \(solveoregon.org\)](https://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.

[Willamette Sportsman Show](#)- Feb 7-9 in Albany.



Mid-Willamette Valley Angler's Club

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

Next meeting: Jan 14, 2024 @ Center 50+
Tom Rumreich, ODFW biologist who introduced the Salmon-Trout
Enhancement Program and Bob Spelbrink, ODFW Commissioner

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:
www.mwvaclub.org

Mid-Willamette Valley Angler's Club
1097 Cordon Rd NE
Salem, OR 97317



Customer Name Street Address City, ST ZIP
Code