

The Guide's Forecast - volume 12 issue number 16

Northwest Oregon and Washington's most complete and accurate fishing forecast

Forecasting for the fishing week of **April 16th – April 22nd, 2010**

Oregon Fisheries Update:

Willamette Valley/Metro - Although action has been consistent for spring chinook trollers from the I-5 Bridge to Frenchmen's Bar, catch rates slowed on Tuesday despite edging closer to the peak of the run. With huge angler participation and good catch rates last week and through the weekend, anglers are uncertain how long the season will last. Managers are likely to maintain the April 18th closure date but hopefully, passage numbers at Bonneville continue to climb which could warrant further opportunities.

Brad Tucker of Newberg took home his first salmon last Friday. The 12-pound fish took a trolled herring on Davis Bar in about 24 feet of water. Brad stated how important it was to have your bait right on the bottom to draw interest.

With the Willamette finally clearing, the fleet, once concentrated in a short stretch from the I-5 Bridge to just below the mouth of the Willamette, can once again spread out and fish confidently downstream to the estuary. Catch rates should continue to climb as we near peak season.

Sturgeon effort remains high for bank anglers fishing in the gorge. Keepers became more available in shallow waters this time last year and anglers are beginning to figure out these "untraditional" gorge hot spots.

The Willamette began fishing late last week with effort starting to shift over from the over-burdened Columbia. Action was fair in the Portland Harbor on Tuesday but good at Sellwood. With water visibility over 30 inches, spring chinook passage remains in the single digits in the cold water at the Falls while steelhead passage is strong and numbers increasing daily.

March Browns and caddis continue to make periodic appearances on the McKenzie. Fishing has been fair to good.

Steelheading is slow on the North Santiam. The stretch below Shelburn is hazardous.

Springers are not yet in the Clackamas where steelheading has been spotty although fair action was reported late last week.

Spring chinook numbers remain low in the Sandy with only the occasional hookup at various locations. Mostly wild steelhead are being caught.

Alton Baker Canal, Cottage Grove Reservoir, Dexter Reservoir, E. E. Wilson Pond, Foster Reservoir, East Freeway Lake, Green Peter Reservoir, Junction City Pond, Timber Linn Lake, Waverly Lake and Haldeman Pond are scheduled for trout planting.

Northwest – Steelheaders had one last quality chance at wild and broodstock steelhead on the larger systems over the weekend. River levels remained favorable into the mid-week with fair action reported from the Wilson, Trask and Nestucca Rivers.

Although most anglers now have spring chinook on the mind, on years of good returns, steelheaders can encounter good numbers of fish well into April. Although most consider this an average year, sporadic catches of adults were witnessed over the weekend. Most of the catch was late winter fish but summer steelhead should become more readily available on the Wilson and Nestucca Rivers.

Side-drifters did best on the early part of the drop but plug pullers should come on strong as the flows subside and fish become more territorial. Dropping river conditions are likely through the weekend and crowds are likely to dissipate. The Nestucca and Wilson will remain top bets.

There may be a few spring chinook arriving but they will be a rare catch in the Tillamook district until mid-May. Although the district doesn't put forth a forecast, many are anticipating a fair to good return given the number of jacks witnessed in the fresh water fishery.

Anxious offshore enthusiasts are looking for any opportunity to take advantage of lingcod and seabass as rough ocean conditions have kept the fleet at bay for much of the spring. Another week of combined swells and wind waves will likely keep anglers inshore again this weekend.

Estuary crabbing remains challenging but razor clam diggers may have some good opportunity along north coast beaches beginning tomorrow.

Scheduled for trout planting are Carter Lake, Cleawox Lake, Coffenbury Lake, Devil's Lake, Lost Lake (Clatsop County), Thissel Pond, Vernonia Lake, and Woahink Lake.

Southwest – Early morning outgoing tides will make for challenging offshore launches this weekend.

Southwest rivers are fishing again with water conditions fair to good and dropping but action will improve when water temperatures increase to the mid-50-degree range. Fishing success should improve dramatically.

Spring chinook results started to improve late last week on the mainstem Umpqua and has remained productive since. Anchovies fished near the banks have been most productive.

The lower Rogue is providing steady results for boaters, most of which are anchor fishing. One or two hatchery springers per boat is about the current average with about half the catch wild fish, which must be released. On days when the ocean lays down, spring chinook are crossing in good number and catch rates in the river increase dramatically. Action has been most consistent on outgoing tides. The upper river is fishing well for steelhead.

Emigrant Reservoir, Lost Creek Reservoir, Lake Selmac, Willow Lake, Hyatt Lake, Bradley Lake, Lower and Middle Empire Lake, Powers Pond, Marie Lake, North and South Tenmile Lake are scheduled to be planted with trout this week.

Eastern – The Crooked River has been fishing very well recently. While the water has come up and is high this week, fishing should be excellent when the flow returns to normal.

SW Washington – Although spring chinook catches have yet to get good, better numbers of fish are beginning to show and steelhead are still available on many of the district streams.

The Cowlitz will remain the top target, especially with a healthy forecast of spring chinook and summer steelhead due back. Action should begin to pick up substantially this week if the run is going to materialize.

The Lewis River is also supposed to be a good option with a heavier emphasis on large, wild steelhead this time of year.

The Kalama should fish well for salmon with less intensive pressure due to a smaller return.

The Drano Lake and Wind River fisheries should begin to produce good catches this week with Bonneville Dam passage starting to kick into high gear. Be sure to check regulations for new rules effecting all anglers. Early season anglers seem to enjoy the best catch rates before the word gets out that there are fish available.

Columbia River Fishing Report – It's full steam ahead for Columbia River spring Chinook anglers. After a couple of slow days in the most fishable stretch of river, the bite took off again and consistent catches are now coming river-wide. With the Willamette and lower Columbia taking on some of the burden of effort for excited anglers, catches should improve this weekend for anglers using herring. The bulk of the fleet is still trolling herring with one of the most popular stretches being Davis Bar. My Tuesday started off from the I-5 Bridge to the Railroad Bridge and paid dividends for the 6 rods hanging off of my boat. By about 10:30, we had around 8 bites with only 2 fish in the box. We managed a third in the deep water just downstream of the barges below the railroad bridge.

There was good distribution of anglers and success with fish coming from the 3 most popular areas downstream of I-5. These areas include the I-5 to Railroad Bridge, the deep water just upstream and downstream of the powerlines and Davis/Frenchmen's Bar. There were a few anchor anglers in the stretch, using bait wrapped plugs for offerings and although they did see some action over the course of the day, overall, the action was better for those pursuing salmon by trolling herring.

Although 90% or better of our bites are coming from fishing RIGHT on the bottom, some fish are being taken with suspended herring just a few feet off of the bottom. My overall rule is if it's 40 foot of water or less, drag the bottom, and it's paying dividends.

Although I am running green label herring (and they are running on the large side), several other guides are running the smaller red label herring and finding better strike to land ratio's than my 4 for 13 bites on the 14th of April. I am using 4/0 hooks with my baits and red label trollers are using 2/0 hooks.

There sure is a lot of "bling" on anglers fishing rods out there. And yes, we certainly see success coming from those people but I'm fishing "naked" with no flashers or attractants in this fishery and feel like I'm fishing more effectively since I'm not having to spend time untwisting leader material all day.

The morning has been better than the afternoon. Consistent action was witnessed from sun-up through about 10:30 on Tuesday with only a sporadic fish taken after that. Some fish are being taken on spinners with chartreuse/green dot working the best. Water temperatures have warmed to 49 degrees which bodes well for weekend prospects.

Bonneville Dam counts are now consistently over 1,000 fish per day but should climb significantly in the coming week to verify a record return. Water temperatures, flow and run timing are all lining up for a big push of fish this week. Wouldn't you like to be backbouncing eggs at Bonneville about now?

Downriver, what few anglers fishing in the clearing waters, are reporting good action, mostly be anchor anglers working plugs on the outgoing tide. It should be a lights out fishery as that section of river should be laden with salmon.

With so much attention focused on salmon, sturgeon get largely overlooked but catches are beginning to improve from the gorge through the Longview stretch. In recent years, anglers have been finding keepers in the shallower water in search of food and safety, where they are relatively predator free (except for anglers). Smelt will remain top bait here but shrimp should also be effective.

The Guide's Forecast – Well, this season is almost a wrap. One last weekend will put the sportfleet at its quota as the fishery is likely to close on Sunday, April 18th. Overall, it's been a good season as catch rates can attest but passage at Bonneville needs to speed up in order for managers to look at future potential possibilities for the sportfleet. It should be a good weekend to fish but expect LOTS of company to be there beside you. The one great factor is the Willamette is clearing, also giving good opportunity to folks wanting to fish more familiar water. There will be lots of good opportunities for spring Chinook anglers this weekend.

Although it's my belief that the Columbia will remain the best bet for anglers, Multnomah Channel and the Willamette should be strong options. Historically, the Willamette peaks this week but we all know run timing has shifted in recent years. It's anyone's guess when peak passage will happen this year, on both the Willamette and Columbia Rivers.

Use the tips above to improve your catches but most importantly, keep your baits spinning and keep them on the bottom of the river where most of the biters are actually traveling. Also, the larger your herring, the lower your strike to hook ratio is apparently being compromised.

Although trollers will dominate the landscape, don't be afraid to fish confidently with plugs. Just wrap them with sardine fillets and sit back to relax only to hear the scream of the reel when a fish jumps on it.

If you're going to try sturgeon fishing, the gorge will likely be your best bet. Take smelt and don't be afraid to fish close to shore where the sturgeon seem to be actively feeding. Catches should only improve from here through the closure.

Willamette, McKenzie & Santiam Rivers Fishing Report – Water has continued to clear in the lower Willamette while the water temperature has been on the rise and is about 52 degrees as of Thursday, April 15th. This is very good news for anglers. Spring Chinook counts accelerated with the rise in water temperature from none to five the first eight days of April to 176 on the 13th. It's safe to say the floodgates are now officially open. Good news, ain't it? Expect to see about 25,000 of the estimated return of 60,000 cross in the next couple of months. Those fortunate enough to do so will intercept a few in the McKenzie and Santiam systems. Interestingly (to those of us who

keep track of such things), steelhead counts jumped a bit the first week of the month but seem to be unaffected by the recent increase in water temp. For those following along, 5,784 winters and 2,147 summers have been accounted for at

the Falls. Anglers will find the water level up a little on the McKenzie with water temperature right in the mid-40s.

Trout fishing has been slow at Henry Hagg Lake despite heavy stocking (30,000 trout) in March and April. It's likely to improve as the water warms.

Cascade Family Flyfishers and the McKenzie Flyfishers are holding a free fly-tying festival on Saturday from 9 AM to 4 PM at the Campbell Community Center, 155 High Street in Eugene. Fly tying, casting and fishing will all be covered.

The Junction City Moose Lodge's annual youth fishing derby will be held Saturday, April 17th from 8 AM to 2 PM. Junction City Pond has been stocked with over 3,000 trout for this free event. Rods, reels and bait will be available to young anglers who do not have their own.

The Guide's Forecast – Springer fishing is improving on the lower Willamette and Multnomah Channel, the word is out and crowds are building. Expect to find boats in abundance from Oregon City to the mouth of the river as anglers anxiously await the next hookup. Trolling plug-cut herring has been far more effective than anchor fishing. Spring Chinook fishing will remain open through Sunday, April 18th.

While March Browns are hatching on the McKenzie, be sure to pack some attractor flies in addition the regular assortment of nymphs. While nymphing is usually quite effective here, attractors have been working effectively for late for fat McKenzie reddsides.

Flows have moderated at the North Santiam so the entire river is fishable now. Steelheading has been fair with numbers of summer steelhead slowly increasing. Trout fishing should be excellent on the North Santiam above Detroit is expected to be excellent on the opener. Summer steelhead are showing in the South Santiam although numbers are still pretty low. If you try for them, avoid using bait as the river is jammed with smolt which should be downstream in a week or so. Try bobber and jig here as a proven technique. Steelheading should be worthwhile the last week of April or first week in May and will hold up for some time. About 175 steelhead had been counted at Foster Dam as of April 13th.

Clackamas and Sandy River Fishing Reports – Winter steelhead are cooperating with anglers on the Clackamas and with spring Chinook on the move in the improved water conditions and temperatures on the Willamette, it won't be long until salmon reports appear in this space. Water conditions are excellent at Eagle Creek and the fishing ain't bad, either.

Steelheaders have been enjoying improving results in the Sandy.

The Guide's Forecast - Try dark-colored jigs on the Clackamas for late-run winter steelhead and hopes for a hookup with a summer. Targeting springers will be worth a shot in a week or two.

Summer steelhead numbers are rapidly increasing in the Sandy River and, of course, these fish are all hatchery-reared keepers. Go get 'em. Springers are being spotted here and there between Oxbow and Dabney but hookups have been rare. It won't be long, though.

North Coast Fishing Report – Steelheader effort is dwindling with the oncoming peak season for spring Chinook. There was a good turnout for the Wilson and Nestucca Rivers stemming from the last high water event last weekend. Although clearly not in the peak season, anglers fared

well for broodstock steelhead and a fair number of wild fish for the program. Collection looks good for the future of this great hatchery option.

Sidedrifters dominated the waterways and those drifting eggs did well on the drop last week. There was a fine mix of wild and hatchery broodstock steelhead with the Wilson, Nestucca and Trask high on the target list.

As flows subside, plugs will become more effective and seem to produce exceptionally well for these late season fish. Adult steelhead should begin to settle into the deeper, more defined holes when the Wilson drops below 5 foot in height.

Unfortunately, the mainstem Nehalem has been high for much of the season, keeping only the most keen anglers (mostly bank anglers) in pursuit of consistent success. It's getting late for this watershed although fair action can still be expected in the higher reaches of the mainstem Nehalem.

Spring Chinook are due to arrive in Tillamook and a few are likely already present. In recent years however, the peak seems to be getting later with the end of May being the new traditional peak season in this watershed. I've caught Tillamook Bay springers as early as April 14th however.

Offshore anglers are chomping at the bit to get outside and the forecast seems to be changing all the time. There may be a slight chance for offshore recreation on Friday but the weekend is predicted to be shot with big wind waves and a moderate swell.

The Guide's Forecast – This may be the last hurrah for in-river steelhead with the Nestucca and Wilson the best bets for anglers. In the dropping flows, smaller baits and drift-bobbers can certainly produce results but plug pullers may also have some great opportunities as well. These late season steelhead really seem to become more territorial as they close in on their spawning season.

Although a bit early for spring Chinook, they should be present in both the rivers and upper Tillamook Bay. It'd be a bit of a prayer to get one but you can't catch if you don't try! Spinners in the upper bay and plugs worked through likely holding water on the Trask and Wilson if you're motivated. Don't overlook steelhead water in higher flows either but summer run or late winter fish may still be available.

Friday morning may be your best shot at offshore crabbing and bottomfishing. Both should be good but my guess is that crabbing won't be as good as you think it should.

Razor clam tides begin on Friday and digging should be good along Clatsop Beaches.

Central & South Coast Reports – Moderate swells at long intervals combine with light winds should make for safe bar crossings this weekend. Check the tides as a morning ebb is occurring and time your launch accordingly.

Fishing for ling cod and rockfish has been good offshore and ocean crabbing has improved. Keep in mind that bottom fishers must stay within 240 foot depths but at this time of year, productive water is frequently found at 100 feet or less.

Those (not too early) morning minus tides this weekend should be good enough to produce some limits for clam diggers.

Crabbing has been poor at Yaquina Bay although the jetty has been producing a few ling cod.

Expect plenty of company on the Umpqua around Scottsburg and spring Chinook enthusiasm builds. Catches have been fair to good here. Springers are crossing at Winchester Dam and the majority that can be seen at the fish ladder are of

hatchery origin. Sturgeon have been sighted in tidewater but catches remain slow. Sand shrimp is the best bait with which to tempt the gators. Steelheading is good on the North Umpqua and spring Chinook are being taken from Winchester Dam downstream. Smallmouth bass started biting on the lower Umpqua at the end of March but have been uncooperative since with the water cold here.

Crabbing and bottom fishing has been worthwhile for boats launching out of Charleston. Sturgeon fishing has been slow for the few who are trying it. The Coos River remains open for steelhead through the end of the month but fishing has been slow.

Spring Chinook fishing has been good all week on the lower Rogue with the best results coming below Quosantana Park. Whole anchovies are responsible for the greatest number of hookups. Water temperature is critical to the quality of the spring Chinook bite. The temp has been in the 40s and is currently just under 50 degrees. If the water warms just another degree or two for the weekend, it will be reflected in and increase in Chinook landed. Plug-pullers on the Grants Pass stretch has been effective for steelhead recently. The retention of one native steelhead per day (up to five per year) on the Rogue below Hog Creek will no longer be allowed at the end of April. About a dozen springers have crossed Gold Ray Dam but targeting the thousands of steelhead on the upper river is more productive.

With the ocean laying down and light breezes this weekend, surf perch fishing will be rewarding on area beaches,

As of Thursday this week, Diamond Lake remains completely covered with ice. At the rate the thaw is taking place, it appears the ice won't provide much open water for the opener on April 24th.

Central and Eastern Oregon – The John Day River has started fishing for smallmouth with soft plastics responsible for the majority of hookups.

Deschutes fly fishers have been doing well on nymphs for trout around Maupin.

Lake Billy Chinook has been slow to fair for kokanee with trolling more effective than jigging. A few bull trout have been caught recently.

Washington fishing reports:

From the WDF&W Weekender Report for April 14th - April 28, 2010

North Puget Sound

The blackmouth salmon season is winding down in the region, but halibut fisheries in Puget Sound are coming up soon. For freshwater anglers, one of the most anticipated fishing opportunities occurs later this April, when the lowland lakes trout season kicks off.

Beginning April 24, anglers can cast a line in many of the region's lakes, where thousands of legal-sized **trout** have been planted. Information on stocking schedules for rainbow, cutthroat and triploid trout is available on WDFW's website (<http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/plants>).

"This is our biggest fishing season opener and it traditionally draws more than 300,000 anglers of all ages," said WDFW Director Phil Anderson. "It's a good time to gather family and friends at local waterways to cast off winter and celebrate spring."

Because the lowland lake trout opener traditionally draws the biggest crowds, it's especially important for everyone to be patient and safe at boat launches and docks, Anderson noted. "Everyone in boats, and all children on shore, should use personal flotation devices," he added.

This year's opener offers a new opportunity for lake fishers. Anglers may purchase a 2-pole endorsement which allows them to fish with two rods in most of Washington's lakes. Gear rules and daily limits still apply. Many anglers will see the use of two poles as a way to double their fun by using two different types of tackle, or fishing at two different depths. Go to <http://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/twopole/lakes.php> for a list of lakes where two poles are not allowed.

On the saltwater, selective fisheries for hatchery **blackmouth** - resident chinook - continue through April 15 in Marine Area 9 (Admiralty Inlet), and through April 30 in marine areas 7 (San Juan Islands), 8-1 (Deception Pass, Hope Island and Skagit Bay) and 8-2 (Port Susan and Port Gardner). Anglers fishing in any of those areas have a two-salmon daily limit, but must release wild chinook.

The **halibut** season is just around the corner. The season is scheduled to run from May 1 through May 30 in marine areas 6-10, where fishing will be open three days a week - Thursday, Friday and Saturday - and closed Sunday through Wednesday except for Memorial Day weekend when those marine areas will be open Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Current regulations for all freshwater and saltwater fisheries are available in WDFW's Fishing in Washington pamphlet (<http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/regs/fishregs.htm>).

South Sound/Olympic Peninsula

Anglers have so many options this time of year that they should consider taking time off from whatever less important activity keeps them off the water. Freshly stocked lowland lakes will open Saturday, April 24, to an estimated 300,000 anglers, and youth fishing events are in full swing. The **halibut** and **shrimp** seasons open beginning May 1, and a morning **razor-clam** dig begins Friday, April 16, at three Washington beaches.

Regional lakes stocked with thousands of **trout** await South Sound anglers. Devereaux Lake in Mason County is being stocked with 5,000 **rainbows** - 500 of them 14 inches or larger. In Clallam County, Sutherland Lake is being stocked with 10,000 rainbows, and Bogachiel Pond will be getting 4,100 rainbows in advance of a Kid's Day event. Clear, Kapowsin, Spanaway, Tanwax and Ohop lakes in Pierce County also will be getting upwards of 10,000 fish each. Silver Lake will be stocked with over 31,000 fish, 1,300 of them 14 inches or longer. Find WDFW's stocking schedule by county and lakes here <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/plants> . For tips on fishing options by water and county take a look at Washington Fishing Prospects (<http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/prospects/>).

In Thurston County over 600 kids are expected to show up Saturday, April 17, for the Kids' Klassic Family Fish-in at Woodland Creek Community Park. Registration for the event is closed.

The next South Sound Kids' Fish-In event will be held Saturday, May 15, at American Lake in Lakewood. Advanced registration is required. To register go to Go Play Outside Washington's web site (http://www.gopaw.org/kids_fish-in_program) and download a registration form.

Meanwhile, people looking forward to digging **razor clams** can do so at the following times and beaches:

- Friday, April 16, (8:32 A.M., -0.7) Long Beach and Twin Harbors only
- Saturday, April 17, (9:12 A.M., -0.7) Long Beach, Twin Harbors and Kalaloch only
- Sunday, April 18, (9:56 A.M., -0.6) Long Beach, Twin Harbors and Kalaloch only

All of the digs start in the morning and end at noon. WDFW also has announced a tentative razor-clam dig for late April and early May. A final decision on the dig will be based on tests for marine toxins to determine if the clams are safe to eat.

Prospective clammers who live north of Lacey should be forewarned that overnight and weekend repairs to Interstate 5 will make it considerably more difficult to get to and from Washington's coast. The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) announced that repairs to the highway between Lacey and Tacoma will close north and soundbound lanes between now and September, resulting in traffic backups that could stretch for miles. For a schedule of closures go to WSDOT's website (<http://bit.ly/dgnuQy>).

Two other fisheries scheduled to open soon are **halibut** and **shrimp** .

The 2010 recreational halibut season - which starts May 1 off Ilwaco and May 2 off Westport - will be cut a little short this year. The largest single factor affecting this year's fishery is a 15 percent reduction in the Pacific coast halibut quota set by the International Pacific Halibut Commission, said Michele Culver, a WDFW regional director. In Washington, sport anglers will be allowed to catch 192,699 pounds of halibut, compared to 214,110 pounds last year.

Constraints on fishing opportunities will be most apparent in Puget Sound, due to the combination of this year's reduced quota and an excessive catch last year. WDFW estimates that Puget Sound anglers caught more than 114,000 pounds of halibut in 2009 - well over the 57,393-pound quota.

Opening for Washington's marine areas are:

- **Columbia River (Ilwaco):** Marine Area 1 will open May 1, three days a week, Thursday through Saturday until 70 percent of the quota is reached, or through July 18. The fishery will then reopen on Aug. 6 and continue three days a week (Friday through Sunday) until the remaining quota is reached, or the end of the day on Sept. 26, whichever occurs first. The 2010 catch quota is 13,436 pounds.
- **South Coast (Westport/Ocean Shores):** Marine Area 2 will open on May 2, two days a week, Sundays and Tuesdays. During the fourth week in May the fishery will be open Sunday only (May 23). Beginning the following week the fishery will resume the Sunday, Tuesday structure until the quota is reached. The northern nearshore area will be open seven days per week, until the quota is reached. The 2010 catch quota is 35,887 pounds.
- **North Coast (La Push/Neah Bay):** Marine areas 3 and 4 will open on May 13, two days per week, Thursdays and Saturdays, through May 22. If sufficient quota remains, the fishery will reopen June 3 and 5. If sufficient quota remains after that opener, the fishery will reopen starting June 17. The 2010 catch quota is 101,179 pounds.

- **Strait of Juan de Fuca/Puget Sound:** Marine Area 5 (Sekiu) will be open May 28 through June 19. Marine areas 6 through 10 (Strait, Port Angeles Admiralty Inlet and Everett) will be open May 1 through May 30. These fisheries will be open three days a week, Thursday, Friday and Saturday closed Sunday through Wednesday except for Memorial Day weekend when they will be open Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The 2010 combined catch quota for these areas is 50,542 pounds.

Shrimp seasons open May 1 in all marine areas and for most species. The length of the season varies by area. The rules and dates for shrimping will be published in the state's annual *Sport Fishing Rules* pamphlet, which comes out later this month. Information is available now at WDFW's recreational shrimp page (<http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/shelfish/shrimpreg/shrimpindex.shtml>).

One change from previous years is that Discovery Bay will be open to shrimping for the first time since 2005, when it was closed due to low abundance. The Bay will be open at least two days, May 1 and May 5.

Out on the coast, fishing for **lingcod** , **rockfish** and other species is beginning to pick up. After a few weeks of terrible ocean conditions, boats were finally able to get out of Westport late last week.

"After having to cancel about 10 days in a row the ocean has finally laid down," said Erica Crust, WDFW's ocean port sampler. "Charter boats are back to targeting rockfish and lingcod. A few charters got their limits of lingcod over the weekend, with some in the mid to upper 20 pound range."

The lingcod season opens on Friday, April 17 in Marine Area 4 (Neah Bay).

Crust reminds anglers that recreational fishing for bottomfish or lingcod is not allowed in waters deeper than 30 fathoms in Marine Area 2 (Westport/Ocean Shores) from March 15 through June 15. However, anglers may retain sablefish and Pacific cod in these waters from May 1 through June 15. Retention of canary and yelloweye rockfish is prohibited in all areas.

The minimum size for lingcod in marine areas 1-3 is 22 inches, while the minimum size in Marine Area 4 is 24 inches. All areas are open seven days a week. Additional information about the lingcod fishery and other bottomfish is available on the WDFW Fishing Hotline (360) 902-2500 or online at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/regs/fishregs.htm> .

It's a good thing these other fisheries are picking up because **steelhead** and **salmon** fisheries have been slow. A creel check counted conducted at boat ramps in Port Angeles and Port Townsend counted 11 **chinook** April 10. Elsewhere, there were few anglers and even fewer fish taken.

Creelers checked only about a dozen **wild steelhead** on the Lower and Upper Hoh River during the second weekend in April, and creel counts ended April 1 on the Quillayute system. Retention fishing closes at the end of the day April 15 on the Hoh River, but will remain open through April 30 on the Quillayute River system.

To take advantage of all these opportunities, anyone 15 years and older must have an applicable 2010-11 fishing license. Licenses can be purchased on-line at <https://fishhunt.dfw.wa.gov> , by phone (866) 246-9453, or in person at more than 600 license vendors throughout the state. A list of vendors is at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/vendors> . Updates on the razor clam season are at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/shelfish/razorclm/season.htm>

Southwest Washington

Columbia River anglers have been reeling in over 1,400 **spring chinook salmon** per day during the first full week of April, raising questions about how long the lower river would remain open to fishing. After some deliberation, fishery managers from Washington and Oregon agreed that the fishery below the I-5 Bridge will remain open as planned through Sunday, April 18.

But that doesn't necessarily mean that will be the last day to catch spring chinook on the lower river this year. In establishing this year's season, fishery managers set aside a "buffer" until this year's near-record run forecast of 470,000 upriver fish can be verified by dam counts. If the count looks good, WDFW will announce additional fishing time in early to mid-May, said Cindy LeFleur, WDFW Columbia River policy coordinator.

"At this point, the upriver run is definitely looking strong, but we'll have to see how the count at Bonneville Dam shakes out over the next few weeks," LeFleur said. "After our experience during the past two years, we need to make sure that the forecast is on track before we reopen the fishery."

So what's an angler to do between now and then? Joe Hymer, a WDFW fish biologist, has some ideas:

- **Fish a tributary:** Anglers are picking up spring chinook in the Cowlitz, Kalama and Lewis rivers, although winter-run steelhead are still providing most of the action on the Cowlitz. Thirty-one boat anglers reported catching 23 hatchery steelhead (plus one released) and one adult spring chinook in a recent creel check focused around the trout hatchery and Blue Creek. The 47 bank anglers surveyed had two hatchery steelhead and three springers.
Meanwhile, summer steelhead also are moving into several tributaries to the lower Columbia - including the lower Washougal and East Fork Lewis rivers. Both of those rivers open for fishing April 16 under selective gear rules (no bait). Check the *Fishing in Washington* rules pamphlet (<http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/regs/fishregs.htm>) for catch limits and other regulations applicable to these rivers.
- **Head upriver:** Time may be running short for spring chinook fishing on the lower Columbia River, but the fishery from Bonneville Dam to McNary Dam is scheduled to remain open seven days a week through May. With upwards of 1,000 fish per day now moving up the fish ladders, anglers fishing the mainstem above Bonneville are starting to catch some spring chinook. Bank fishing only is permitted from Bonneville Dam to Tower Island powerlines, located about six miles below The Dalles Dam.
Boat anglers at Wind and Drano Lake have also been taking a few springers, while bank anglers fishing the Klickitat River downstream from Fisher Hill Bridge have been catching newly arriving summer steelhead. Drano Lake is closed to all fishing on Wednesdays through May. Also, effective April 16, bank fishing only will be allowed west of a line projected from the eastern-most pillar of the Highway 14 Bridge to a posted marker on the north shore of the lake. Check the *Fishing in Washington* rules pamphlet (<http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/regs/fishregs.htm>) for catch limits and other regulations applicable to these waters.
- Dig some razor clams: Diggers recently got a green light to proceed with a morning razor-clam dig running Friday, April 16, through Sunday April 18, at Long Beach and Twin Harbors. Kalaloch Beach, further north will also open for digging April 17-18. Low morning tides will be at 8:32 a.m. (-0.7) April 16, at 9:12 a.m. (-0.7) April 17, and at

9:56 a.m. (-0.6) April 18. No digging will be allowed after noon any of those days.

Diggers are reminded that they must have a valid 2010-11 license to participate in the dig. Fishing and hunting licenses may be purchased by phone (1-866-246-9453), over the Internet (<https://fishhunt.dfw.wa.gov/>), or from license vendors throughout the state (see <http://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/vendors> for a list).

- **Catch some trout:** Hundreds of lowland lakes open for trout fishing April 24 throughout the state, drawing tens of thousands of anglers out for their first cast of the year. While most lakes in southwest Washington are open year-round, "opening day" does mark the start of trout fishing in such perennial favorites as Mineral Lake (Lewis County), Swift Reservoir (Skamania County) and Rowland Lakes (Klickitat County). Meanwhile, WDFW recently stocked several year-round lakes with catchable-size rainbows, some weighing up to a half-pound apiece: South Lewis County Park Pond near Toledo (3,042 fish), Lake Sacajawea in Longview (3,016 fish), Kress Lake in Kalama (2,067 fish) and Lacamas Lake in Camas (3,500 fish). A complete trout-stocking schedule for all lakes in Washington is posted on the WDFW website at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/plants>.

Eastern Washington

April 24 marks the start of the most popular fishing season in Washington, including dozens of trout-stocked lakes in this region. It is also the opening day of **spring chinook** season on three sections of the Snake River, where fishing will be expanded this year. Daily catch limits will also be raised, thanks to the abundance of hatchery chinook expected to return.

In all, four sections of the Snake will open to spring chinook fishing this year - starting April 20 with the stretch starting just below Ice Harbor Dam on the Walla Walla/Franklin county line, just east of the Tri-Cities. That section of the Snake River runs from the southbound Highway 12 Bridge upstream about seven miles to the fishing-restriction boundary, about 400 feet below Ice Harbor Dam.

The three sections of the Snake that open April 24 are:

- From Railroad Bridge, about half-mile downstream of the Tucannon River mouth, up about nine miles to the Corps of Engineers boat launch (about a mile upstream of Little Goose Dam along the south shore). This zone includes the area between the juvenile bypass return pipe and Little Goose Dam along the south shoreline of the facility (includes the walkway area locally known as "the Wall" in front of the juvenile collection facility);
- From Casey Creek upstream about six miles to the fishery restriction area below Lower Granite Dam; and
- From Blyton Landing Boat Launch along the Snake River Road in Whitman County (about 12 miles upstream of Lower Granite Dam) upstream about 19 miles to the boat dock behind the Quality Inn in Clarkston (boundary line is from the white sign for Hells Canyon Tours (about 100 ft upstream of the boat dock that has the small green roofed shed on the south shore) across to the culvert with tanks and trailers on the north shore).

Only adipose fin-clipped spring chinook adults or jacks can be retained in these fisheries. Chinook harvest or retention is limited to two adults and four jacks per day. One exception is the area between the juvenile bypass return pipe and Little Goose Dam along the south shoreline of the

facility - including the walkway area locally known as "the Wall" in front of the juvenile collection facility - where the daily catch limit is one jack and one adult.

The minimum size of any retained chinook is 12 inches. Jacks are less than 24 inches long. The adipose fin-clipped fish must have a healed scar at the location of the missing fin. Fishing must cease as soon as the adult chinook daily limit is retained. All chinook with the adipose fin intact, and all steelhead, must be immediately released unharmed.

All of these chinook fisheries will run through June 30, unless catch rates warrant an earlier closure. See all details at <https://fortress.wa.gov/dfw/erules/efishrules/>.

Meanwhile, the April 24 lake opener should provide lots of catch limits at most of the traditionally popular trout-fishing waters throughout the region. Some of the best are in Spokane, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Stevens and Ferry counties where WDFW fish hatchery crews have been especially busy stocking **rainbow**, **cutthroat**, **brown**, **eastern brook**, and **tiger trout**. (All details of fish stocking by water by county are available at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/plants> and complete information about all lakes is available at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/prospects/>.)

WDFW central district fish biologist Chris Donley of Spokane expects that Badger and Williams lakes in southwest Spokane County will again be among the top producers. Both rainbow and cutthroat trout to 18 inches will be available. Although both should be excellent on the opener, the Mayfly hatch in mid-May is usually the peak fishing time for these waters.

Donley also predicts West Medical Lake, just west of the town of Medical Lake in southwest Spokane County, will be one of the best opening-day trout lakes in the state. West Medical has been stocked with fry, catchable-size, broodstock and triploid rainbow trout, so catches will run the gamut size-wise.

Fish Lake, northeast of Cheney, should provide excellent fishing on stocked brook and tiger trout on the opener and throughout the season. Two years ago the state record tiger trout, over 14 pounds, was harvested from this lake.

Clear Lake, south of the town of Medical Lake, is also expected to see good action on stocked yearling rainbow, broodstock rainbows, and brown trout. Donley notes that Clear also has good **largemouth bass** and black **crappie** fisheries.

Chapman Lake, south of Cheney, usually provides good catches of rainbow trout and **kokanee** on the opener, but it's best known for late-season action on largemouth and **smallmouth bass** and other warm water species.

Amber Lake, southwest of Cheney, which opened March 1 as a catch-and-release fishery, shifts to a harvest fishery on April 24. Amber is under selective gear rules and a two fish over 14 inches limit, designed to maintain a quality rainbow and cutthroat trout fishery. Anglers must release all trout with missing adipose fin - only unmarked trout may be retained as part of the legal limit.

Donley expects Fishtrap Lake, on the Spokane-Lincoln county line, to be among the best opening-day trout lakes in the state. Fishtrap has fry planted rainbow trout, with larger carryover, **broodstock** and **triploid rainbows** available.

Deer or Deer Springs Lake, northeast of Odessa in Lincoln County, has annual fry and catchable-size rainbow trout plants, along with some brown trout. The access area can be muddy early in the season, but it could provide decent catches on the opener. Fishing for **yellow perch** and **black crappie** can be good, too.

WDFW northeast district fish biologist Bill Baker of Colville expects good performance starting April 24 from a number of Pend Oreille and Stevens county fisheries, many which lie on national forestlands, some with campgrounds.

In Pend Oreille County, Davis Lake, south of Usk, has good early and late season fishing for rainbow and eastern brook trout, kokanee, largemouth bass, and sunfish. Diamond Lake, southwest of Newport, has a cooperative net pen project that releases 12,500 rainbow trout, in addition to WDFW hatchery-stocked catchable-size rainbows and browns. This year, 950 larger triploid and a few broodstock rainbows have been added to Diamond, which also offers action on largemouth bass, yellow perch, and bullheads. Frater Lake, southwest of Ione, should be good for planted cutthroat trout since it was rehabilitated in the fall of 2008 to eliminate illegally introduced tench and pumpkinseed sunfish. Big Meadow Lake, west of Ione, should provide 10-15-inch rainbows from annual spring fry plants.

Other Pend Oreille County lakes that open April 24 and are well stocked with rainbows and/or cutthroat trout include the North and South Skookum lakes, northwest of Usk; Browns Lake northeast of Cusick (fly-fishing only, all motors are prohibited); Carl's Lake, southwest of Tiger; Crescent Lake, north of Metaline Falls, Fan Lake, northeast of Deer Park; Halfmoon Lake, northeast of Usk; Horseshoe Lake, northwest of Elk; Ledbetter Lake, north of Metaline Falls; Leo Lake, southwest of Ione; Marshall Lake, northwest of Newport; Mystic Lake, east of Usk; Nile Lake, southwest of Ione; and Sacheen Lake, southwest of Newport along Highway SR-21.

Yocum Lake, another popular Pend Oreille County lake that opens April 24, has some access limitations early in the season. Lying north of Ruby, across the Pend Oreille River and up LeClerc Creek Road, Yocum has road access on both its north and south ends. But the south road is not available until after May 30 due to road protection efforts by Simpson Lumber Company. A Forest Service road to the north end of the lake provides an alternative route, but it is not suitable for trailers.

In Stevens County, three popular lakes open April 24 for a short catch-and-keep season (through May 31) under selective gear rules - Bayley Lake northeast of Chewelah, Rocky Lake south of Colville, and Starvation Lake southeast of Colville. Both receive annual rainbow trout fry plants that should provide excellent catches before they shift to catch-and-release fishing June 1.

Potter's Pond, north of Colville on the Little Pend Oreille National Wildlife Refuge, usually grows large trout from rainbow plants. Baker notes, however, it nearly went dry last fall, so there are no larger carryover fish this year and anglers can only expect fair numbers of 8-10 inch trout.

Waitts Lake, west of Valley along Highway US-395 with a newly improved access area, has seen an increase of rainbow and brown trout plants from a net-pen project, so there's good carryover potential. Largemouth bass, yellow perch, and numerous pumpkinseed sunfish are available as well.

McDowell Lake, southeast of Colville on the Little Pend Oreille National Wildlife Refuge, opens April 24 for fly-fishing only and catch-and-release and should provide good angling on large rainbows. McDowell was rehabilitated in the fall of 2006 to eliminate tench and restocked with various rainbow age classes in the spring of 2007.

The Little Pend Oreille chain of lakes northeast of Colville near the Pend Oreille county line - including Gillette, Heritage, Sherry and Thomas - usually produce decent catches of rainbow and tiger trout throughout the season.

Other Stevens County waters that open April 24 that could be good destinations are Cedar Lake, north of Leadpoint; Mudget Lake, south of Fruitland; Black Lake, east of Colville; Deep Lake, southeast of Northport; Elbow Lake, west of Northport; Jump-Off-Joe Lake, south of Chewelah;

Little Twin Lake, east of Colville; Loon Lake, northwest of Deer Park; and Summit Lake, northeast of Orient.

A traditional favorite for the opener in Ferry County is Ellen Lake, north of Inchelium, on the Colville National Forest, and it should produce especially well this year. Baker explained that Ellen was rehabilitated in fall 2008 and re-stocked with rainbow trout catchables and fry, so anglers can expect good numbers of fair-sized fish and an occasional larger carryover on the opener.

Long Lake, southwest of Republic, in the Scatter Creek drainage on the Colville National Forest, opens April 24 for fly-fishing only on fry-planted cutthroat trout.

Other good bets in Ferry County for the opener, depending on road access conditions, are Davis Lake, northwest of Boyds; Swan Lake, southwest of Republic; Trout Lake, west of Kettle Falls; Empire and Ward lakes, north of Republic; and Renner Lake, west of Barstow.

In the southeast end of the region, Hood Park Pond in Walla Walla County closes to fishing April 16 - at least for anglers 15 years of age and older. A youth fishing event, coordinated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, takes place at Hood Park Pond on April 17. WDFW hatchery crews will stock trout for the event on April 16, so the closure is to prevent premature harvest of trout dedicated to the kids. Hood Park Pond will re-open to all fishing at 1 p.m. April 17.

Youngsters can still be registered for the "Kids Fish-In" event scheduled for May 1 on Clear Lake in southwest Spokane County. For \$5, kids 5 to 14 years of age can fish and catch up to three trout, and receive a t-shirt and rod and reel. Registration forms are available at WDFW's Spokane Valley office, 2315 N. Discovery Place, or on-line at www.gopaw.org. The event is co-sponsored by the Go Play Outside Alliance of Washington, Fairchild Air Force Base Outdoor Recreation program, Inland Northwest Wildlife Council, Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club, Spokane Fly Fishers, Spokane Walleye Club, White Elephant Stores, Zebco and Eagle Claw.

Northcentral Washington

WDFW Columbia Basin district fish biologist Chad Jackson of Moses Lake says some of the best and most popular lakes in the state that open April 24 are in Grant County.

"The best of the bunch are the large lakes," Jackson said, "like Park, Blue, Warden, and Deep lakes. But don't overlook the smaller waters like South Warden, Perch, and Vic Meyers lakes. They offer some excellent fishing, too. "

Jackson says all lakes have been stocked heavily with **rainbow trout** in preparation for the big opener. Overall, anglers should expect good to excellent fishing for yearling and carryover trout. Catch rates should be around three to four fish per angler at most or all of the opening day lakes.

"Anglers fishing opening day at Warden Lake the last two years have averaged 3.5 fish each," Jackson said. "Warden Lake should fish well again on the opener for fry origin and catchable rainbow trout, now ranging from 11 to 13 inches in length. Carryovers averaged 11.5 percent of the total trout checked in the creel during the last two years and ranged from 15 to 18 inches in length. Hopefully, this trend will occur again for the upcoming opener. Tiger trout are also planted in Warden Lake and should run 12-20 inches by the opener."

South Warden Lake is a much smaller water body at just 24 acres, Jackson says, and those interested in fishing it must make a short hike to the lake from the access site at the south end of Warden Lake. Rainbow trout fry stocked in the spring should average around 12 inches in

length. South Warden Lake is best fished from a small hand-carried boat or float tube, but shore fishing can be effective as well.

"Since they were rehabilitated in 2006, Park and Blue lakes have been fishing quite well the past couple years," Jackson said. "Anglers fishing these lakes in 2008 and 2009 averaged near limits of trout, and I expect them to be good again this opening day with three to four trout per angler. Boat anglers usually have higher success than shore anglers at both lakes. Yearling rainbow trout should average a very robust 12 inches with carryovers being at least 15 inches. To sweeten the pot, we'll be adding a small number of 15 to 20-inch triploid rainbow trout just prior to opening day."

Jackson says Deep Lake is probably the region's most unpredictable late April opening fishery.

"For some unknown reason," he said, "Deep Lake anglers either average near limits of trout or less than one trout per angler. Hopefully, anglers fishing Deep Lake this year will experience excellent fishing for fry origin and catchable rainbow trout ranging from 11 to 13 inches."

Jackson noted an extra 2,500 catchable rainbow trout and 221 triploids will be planted into Deep Lake just prior to opening day. A total of 5,000 rainbow trout fry and 7,500 catchables were already stocked, plus 40,000 **kokanee** fry.

"Kokanee can be anywhere from 12 to 16-plus inches," Jackson said, "and they'll take many of the same fishing gears used to catch rainbow trout. However, the better kokanee fishing usually occurs later in the spring through summer from June through August."

Perch and Vic Meyers lakes are usually pretty constant producers on opening day, Jackson says, both averaging three to four fish per angler. Both are mostly fished from shore, although small hand-carried boats or floats can be used. Yearling trout caught at both fry-stocked lakes usually average around 12 inches in length. The catch rate for carryover trout of 15 inches or greater is considerably better at Vic Meyers Lake.

WDFW Okanogan district fish biologist Bob Jateff of Twisp reports some of the best production trout waters on the April 24 opener are Pearygin Lake near Winthrop, Conconully Lake and Reservoir and Alta Lake near Brewster, Fish Lake on the Sinlahekin Wildlife Area, and Wannacut Lake near Oroville.

Good opening day selective gear waters are Big Twin Lake near Winthrop and Blue Lake on the Sinlahekin Wildlife Area. Two popular fly-fishing lakes opening April 24 are Chopaka near Loomis and Aeneas near Tonasket. Rainbow trout are the predominant species in all four of these lakes.

Jateff also reports that Spectacle Lake, which opened April 1, continues to provide good fishing for rainbow trout 11-13 inches.

"Most of these Okanogan County lakes have received some larger rainbows in the one to two pound range," Jateff said, "in addition to their normal fish plants. Year-round Patterson Lake in the Winthrop area will get a plant of catchable size rainbows, as will Leader Lake in the Okanogan area. These two lakes are managed as mixed-species fisheries, so both could also provide some good spiny ray fishing early on."

In Douglas County, Jameson Lake's water quality has improved over the last several weeks, Jateff reports. That means WDFW hatchery crews will be able to stock upwards of 20,000 catchable size rainbow trout in Jameson prior to the April 24 opener.

All details of fish stocking by water and by county are available at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/plants> and complete information about all lakes is available at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/prospects/>.

Southcentral Washington

Even though the big statewide late April opener is a "non-event" in this region of mostly year-round lake fisheries, anglers should be aware that WDFW fish hatchery crews do ramp up trout stocking at many waters now.

WDFW district fish biologist Paul Hoffarth of Pasco notes large **triploid rainbow trout** are going into three Tri-Cities area lakes - Dalton Lake, off the Pasco-Kahlotus Highway; Columbia Park Pond, a juvenile-only fishery in Columbia Park in Kennewick; and Powerline Lake, a walk-in only lake in north Franklin county near Mesa.

"These big trout weigh in excess of one pound each and are scheduled to be planted by mid-April," Hoffarth said. "In addition, large numbers of catchable-size trout will be planted in Dalton, Quarry, and Columbia Park Pond in mid-April."

All details of fish stocking by water by county are available at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/plants> and complete information about all lakes is available at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/prospects/>.

Hoffarth also notes the numbers of **spring chinook salmon** moving into the mid and upper Columbia River are starting to rise. Spring chinook seasons are open up to McNary Dam through April - and will open in the Tri-Cities area in late April and the first of May - including sport fisheries in the Yakima River and at WDFW's Ringold Hatchery. Many of these fisheries are listed in the WDFW Fishing Regulations, but others will open or be modified by emergency rule change; for the latest, see <https://fortress.wa.gov/dfw/erules/efishrules/>.

"A one-mile section of shoreline in the Columbia River adjacent to our Ringold Hatchery will open for spring chinook on May 1," Hoffarth said. "Original estimates for the hatchery return was 700-plus adult spring chinook, but it could exceed 2,000."

Hoffarth notes this is the final year the Ringold area will be open for spring chinook, and that it will open to bank-angling only. Daily limit is two hatchery chinook. For all details see the Fishing Rules of Washington at http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/regs_seasons.html.

The latest creel survey on the Columbia River John Day Pool (Lake Umatilla) showed an estimated 24 boat trips and 122 bank anglers fishing. The majority of the boats were fishing for **walleye** or **sturgeon** and the bank anglers were primarily fishing for chinook salmon. No catch was reported for salmon.

Fishing for walleye, **smallmouth bass**, and **channel catfish** is picking up in the Columbia, Walla Walla, and Yakima rivers.

Kids fishing events in the region are scheduled for May 1 at Columbia Park Pond in the Tri-Cities and May 8 in the Yakima area. Cost per kid five to 14 years of age is \$5, which includes fishing for stocked rainbow trout and a rod and reel. Pre-registration is required. For the Tri-Cities event, contact Kennewick Recreation at 509-585-4293 or online at www.ci.kennewick.wa.us. For the Yakima event, contact WDFW Southcentral Regional Office, 1701 S. 24th Ave., 509-575-2740 or Yakima Greenway Foundation, Office 111 South 18th St., 509-453-8280. Information on both events is also available at the Go Play Outside Alliance of Washington (GOPAW) website at http://www.gopaw.org/kids_fish-in_program.

TGF Inbox - Reader E-mail

We don't often get to hear from **Doug Rees**, not only Bob's brother but also the TGF webmaster and the guy responsible for transforming (and often spell-checking) our scribbling each week. He Emailed to me, "I got a call from subscriber Roland H. asking about a link to Bonneville fish counts. I see a few and don't know what you all think is best. He would love an e-mail with a link and I thought that the link and the e-mail may make good content for the report this week."

Great idea, Doug, and happy to do so. It happens that Bob and I (Michael) happen to use the same link:

http://www.fpc.org/currentdaily/HistFishTwo_7day-ytd_Adults.htm

Write to the TGF staff:

Bob Rees: brees@pacifier.com

Doug Rees: doug@TheGuidesForecast.com

Michael Teague: Michael@TheGuidesForecast.com

Random Links

Visually check bar conditions here:

http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/pqr/marine/bars_mover.php

2010 Spring Forecast for the Southwest Zone:

<http://www.mailtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100415/LIFE/4150305/-1/OREGONOUTDOORS02>

GOOD LUCK!