

The Guide's Forecast - volume 16 issue number 39

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

Forecasting for the fishing week of **September 26<sup>th</sup> – October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014**

**Oregon Fisheries Update:**

**Willamette Valley/Metro** – With the bulk of the chinook run past Bonneville, action for wobbler anglers in the Portland reach should taper. The Bonneville backtrollers should continue to do well into mid-October however.

Fish counts at Willamette Falls demonstrate the seasonal urge of anadromous fish which are pushing their way upstream. Moderating water temperatures are prime factor. Over 1,000 fall Chinook have been tallied although at the rate coho are crossing, their numbers will eclipse the Chinook counts shortly. Steelhead are ticking along at a rate of roughly 25 a day with over 22,000 upstream as of September 19th.

McKenzie water levels have been impacted by showers this week but only enough to barely move the gauge. It remains to be seen what effect the beginning of fall showers ultimately has on the river.

North Santiam water level and flow increased significantly with rain over the past weekend, It's forecast to remain stable for the coming week, then increase again around the first of October.

Rain started to have an impact on the Clackamas River mid-week and coho responded. While this isn't the long-term solution and it won't be lights-out fishing from here forward, it has finally started and has been seen as a blessing by many who fish the Clack.

While precipitation had less of an effect on the waters of the Sandy River, there was a slight increase on Wednesday, September 24th but probably of equal effect is the calendar; it's just time for these fish to run and coho will enter as much by the time of year as by water conditions. Plus, Sandy River fish seem to bite better.

Originally scheduled for Sept. 27, ODFW biologists decided to postpone the free Family Fishing Event at St Louis Ponds by two weeks due to prolonged warm, dry weather. The new date will be October 11th from 9 Am to 2 PM. The ODFW will release 1,700 rainbow trout, including 400 one-pounders, likely be split between Ponds 1, 3 and 6. ODFW will provide everything people need to go fishing – rods, reels, tackle and bait and instructors will be on hand. People who want to bring their own fishing gear are welcome to do so.

**Northwest** – Chinook trollers working Tillamook Bay continue to be frustrated by seaweed and eelgrass fouling gear. That would be ok if good numbers of chinook were present but they're not. Wild coho are prevalent throughout the estuary but only remain open for the taking on Friday's and Saturday's. Action for these fish should only improve in the coming weeks.

Nehalem Bay trollers are taking good numbers of wild coho and an occasional chinook. Wheeler to Fisher Point is the best but the stretch in front of the city of Nehalem should also produce good results. The North Fork Nehalem has received a wad of coho but as is typically the case, they are not biting well.

Although the Salmon River is tapering, the Nestucca system should continue to produce well into October. Bobber and bait casters should have a good week in tidewater and trollers working the mouth should fare well on the waning tide series.

Coho remain plentiful in the lower Columbia. Three fish limits are still the rule for persistent anglers and crabbing should pick up too over the weekend. Not many people are participating and fresh bait may be hard to come by, unless you jig your own anchovies.

**Southwest-** Most central coast charters shut down mid-week with wind and wave making offshore forays an impossibility. Hopes are high for ocean conditions to moderate with fishing to resume over the weekend to come.

There will be no depth restriction for lingcod fishers beginning October 1. On that date, offshore anglers targeting ling may do so in whatever depths they wish. Some large lings are expected to hit the docks.

Crabbing has been fair out of Depoe Bay and Newport, much better in the ocean from Bandon to Winchester Bay.

Once the ocean settles down again, tuna hunters will know if their quarry remain within reach. Fishing was very good last week.

Halibut fishing remains open seven days a week in waters 40 fathoms or shallower off the central Oregon coast with 35% of the quota remaining.

Participation in ocean salmon fishing has dropped off for boats launching out of Reedsport now that the coho season is closed. Chinook are still being taken in fair to good number. Trollers using herring and bank anglers throwing spinners are taking Chinook. Bay crabbing is good. Smallmouth fishing is good on the Umpqua mainstem and South Umpqua while steelheading is fair on the North Umpqua.

Trollers in the Rogue estuary have been doing fairly well. On the lower Rogue near Agness, catches of adult steelhead and half pounders have been ongoing despite skinny water conditions. Chinook catches on the middle Rogue have been fair to good for boats long-lining plugs. With low water deterring the movement of fresh fish into the upper Rogue, steelheading in the flies-only section has been slow.

Boats out of the Port of Brookings were still chasing tuna over the past week. Catches of rockfish and lingcod have been excellent just outside the harbor entrance. Chinook fishing has been slow to spotty inside Brookings Harbor.

**Eastern** – Fewer daylight hours at this time of year combine with seasonably cooler nights to improve conditions for steelheaders on the Deschutes.

Crooked River fly fishers have been taking fish recently by matching the periodic hatches of Blue-Winged Olives and Pale Morning Duns.

Odell Lake is still producing bright kokanee to downrigger trollers working depths of 50 to 80 feet.

**SW Washington-** Most district streams are producing fair catches of fall chinook and coho are starting to show in good numbers. The Cowlitz remains the best bet but the Lewis is a good second choice. Coho numbers should improve in the coming weeks here.

Drano Lake remains a good option for fall chinook and summer steelhead. Some coho are also being taken.

The Klickitat mouth is starting to produce good catches of chinook with coho likely to follow. Bobbers and eggs often produce the best results but jigs can also take coho with good success.

**Columbia River Fishing Report** – Coho continue their march on the lower Columbia. Limits for persistent anglers is still the rule for those seeking out good action. On Thursday, most guides limited by working the incoming tide although the outgoing produced some action as well. One guide reported taking 3-fish limits for his customers in shallow water (16 to 18 foot) on the Washington side of Desdemona Sands on the incoming tide. The anchorage (Oregon side) had been producing good results on even the outgoing tide recently but incoming has been more consistent in recent days. Fresh anchovies are hard to come by but are still the bait of choice for those serious about taking limits. Herring will work ok and spinners are simply not getting the job done. There's only a skeleton crew left in Astoria but their customers are walking away happy.

Crabbing is picking up in the estuary but the softer tides after the weekend should prove most effective.

Upriver, action remains fair to good for anchor anglers and trollers although it's clearly past peak season. It's not uncommon for anglers to witness great action one day and see it taper significantly the next. With the bulk of the run over Bonneville and numbers tapering, so will the action. Bonneville backtrollers are finding more action in the cooling waters and slowing migration. October is typically the peak month for backtrollers working plugs and fresh fish should be available through mid-October.

Good numbers of coho continue to pass Bonneville Dam and impressive numbers of jacks are present. Too bad these fish are hard to catch upstream of the estuary.

**The Guide's Forecast** – With October the peak month for B-run coho, action in the estuary shouldn't slow down anytime soon. With 3-fish limits still an option for the remainder of the year, it will be a great place to take advantage of productive fishing. Also, October 1 marks the chinook re-opener although no one expects great numbers to be present. Maybe we'll be surprised.

Softer tides mean concentrate your effort downstream of the bridge. You may find decent action on the outgoing tide but to make the most of your day, wait for the first part of incoming tide and work your way from Buoy's 20 or 22 and upstream to the bridge for the middle of the incoming tide. Don't be afraid to fish the shallow waters between 14 and 16 feet as fish should be present here, especially on the stronger tides. Stick to bait, buy fresh ahead of time (Tiki Charters may be able to get some for you) or jig your own with a herring jig. You can also use small herring for best results. Spinners have not been productive lately.

Estuary crabbing should improve on the softening tide series around Buoy's 20 and 22. Use fresh salmon carcasses!

Upriver, the wobbler fishery above Warrior Rock should continue to taper as the run peters out. Check regulations for the liberalization of the lower river for chinook beginning October 1<sup>st</sup>. The best bet will remain the Bonneville stretch for backtrollers using large Kwikfish or Flatfish, wrapped with sardines or tuna bellies. You'll have to use divers with this rigging.

**Willamette, McKenzie & Santiam Rivers Fishing Report** – Fish counts at Willamette Falls demonstrate the seasonal urge of anadromous fish which are pushing their way upstream. Moderating water temperatures are prime factor. Over 1,000 fall Chinook have been tallied although at the rate coho are crossing, their numbers will eclipse the Chinook counts shortly. Steelhead are ticking along at a rate of roughly 25 a day with over 22,000 upstream as of September 19th.

McKenzie water levels have been impacted by showers this week but only enough to barely move the gauge. It remains to be seen what effect the beginning of fall showers ultimately has on the river.

North Santiam water level and flow increased significantly with rain over the past weekend, its forecast to remain stable for the coming week, then increase again around the first of October.

**The Guide's Forecast** – The lower Willamette is still a "phenomenal bass fishery" according to **Robert Campbell at Fisherman's Marine in Oregon City (503-557-5600)**, who also alerts anglers to a burgeoning fishery upstream as coho numbers build. Campbell advises keeping an eye on the mouth of the Tualatin and Yamhill rivers "especially as water temperatures in these tributaries start to drop.

There are trout to catch on the McKenzie if one has a mind to do so. Caddis are the staple here but PEDs, BWOs and PMDs will make an appearance at times. Fishing is expected to be slow to fair.

According to local guides, there just aren't a lot of steelhead in the Santiam system. While this creates a fishery they refer to as challenging, most of us just think of it as tough. There are better options but the river is beautiful in the fall. Fish the upper sections for the best chance of finding one of these fish.

**Clackamas and Sandy River Fishing Reports** – Rain started to have an impact on the Clackamas River mid-week and coho responded. While this isn't the long-term solution and it won't be lights-out fishing from here forward, it has finally started it has been seen as a blessing by many who fish the Clack.

While precipitation had less of an effect on the waters of the Sandy River than the Clack, precipitation did cause a slight increase on Wednesday, September 24th but probably of equal effect on coho movement is the calendar; it's just time for these fish to run and coho will enter as much by the time of year as by water conditions. Plus, Sandy River fish seem to come in looking for something to bite.

**The Guide's Forecast** – The best chance for a coho encounter on the Clackamas River will be from Eagle Creek to the mouth. While most everyone is throwing spinners, **Robert Campbell at Fisherman's Marine in Oregon City (503-557-5600)** noted that with the water cooling, twitching jigs are most effective. A newer technique, these heavier jigs are fished without a bobber "similar to bass fishing" according to Campbell, the lure is "fished with a yo-yo retrieve" and can be highly effective at times. Use a fast-action Hot Shot rod 7.5 to eight feet in length. Stop in & see Campbell at Fisherman's for specifics on the technique. For fly anglers, try swinging egg patterns on a moderate-length leader in the riffles. This has accounted for several fish over the past week.

Coho have been moving into the Sandy River en masse with high tides. According to **Robert Campbell at Fisherman's Marine in Oregon City (503-557-5600)**, cool overnight temperatures and subsequent lower water temps are a major contributing factor to this influx of salmon. Now that coho are entering in large numbers, most anglers are targeting them with spinners. Use a silver blade with a pink or orange hoochie or Blue Fox style spinners in pink or orange. Marabou jigs fished under a bobber will also entice coho. When they're on the bite, they can be very grabby; when they're not, it won't matter anyway. For bank anglers, any of the many parks on the Sandy hold promise with the nod going to the area around the mouth of Cedar Creek.

**North Coast Fishing Report** – Tillamook Bay fishing took a drastic downturn when the ocean opportunity went away after Tuesday (9/23). It wasn't all that friendly of an ocean anyway on Tuesday but there were hordes of coho (all catch and release) that were at least available for anglers. Chinook action has tapered dramatically since late last week. Effort has also dropped with the early coho closure in the ocean, not to mention an angry ocean to boot. The bar has been restricted since Wednesday; seaward of the Coast Guard Tower too.

So, we've been stuck in the estuary and it's been very weedy lately. There are only a few small windows of opportunity to effectively fish; the last few minutes of outgoing tide/first 1/2 hour of incoming and the last half of incoming tide although there has been some eelgrass present to foul your lines. Total effective fishing time may be 2 to 2.5 hours in a given 8 hour day and it hasn't given up many chinook in recent days either. The Ghost Hole remains the primary target so that's where most of the fish are being taken. There has been a few fish at Bay City for the few fishing there and the west channel is giving up a rare chinook and some coho at low slack as well as at high tide. There has been some fair at best action and effort at Ray's Place Piling but only near low slack and the first part of incoming and no, you won't escape the seaweed and grass here either; it's everywhere, especially with a rough ocean. The upper bay has produced some fish on the last part of outgoing tide (which is usually weed free) and at high tide for spinner and bait trollers here.

Coho are present throughout the bay but very few are hatchery fish. The bulk of the hatchery run scooted upstream on the rain freshet we had early this week. Although the river rose only 1/2 a foot but it wouldn't take much to get coho salmon to move given the unusually long period of dry weather we've had. Of the last 5 coho we've landed, just one has been wild. Most of the coho have been coming from the east side of the bay (Ghost Hole/Bay City) but the coho began to show a bit more in the west channel on Thursday. They seem to be taking both spinners and herring equally well, it's just that you can more effectively fish spinners for longer periods of time in the weedy conditions.

Tidewater bobber tossers haven't been that impressed with results lately, especially since the small rain freshet. It's clear that the bulk of the Trask hatchery run has come through as many are awaiting their fate near the hatchery hole. There are exceptional numbers of coho and spring chinook still in this reach as well. There is a proposed rule to open this fishery by mid-October, stay tuned to see how that conversation goes. Some fish are available in the Tillamook River tidewater as well but don't hold out high hopes as action has slowed recently.

Systems to the south have also experienced a slowdown. Although it's likely not over just yet, the Salmon and Nestucca often produce equally well this time of year. Trollers working these systems recently have not been producing outstanding catches; another indicator that maybe the chinook run isn't all that it was supposed to be for this year. Tidewater anglers are also doing just fair in the Nestucca tidewater (mostly bobber and bait) or bank anglers working the holes just upstream of the Highway 101 Bridge near Lincoln City on the salmon. This should be peak action for these two systems although they will get fish into October.

The Nehalem has been producing fair results lately. Recent reports indicate a fair number of wild coho being taken as well as an occasional chinook. The Wheeler to Fishery Point area has been the most productive but anglers fishing the jaws on the softer tides last weekend also produced good action. Seaweed hasn't been near the problem here but there were reports of significant seaweed on Wednesday but not so bad on Thursday. Like the Tillamook system, wild coho far outweigh the hatchery stock right now.

Not much word on the Necanicum River but some chinook should be available in tidewater and in the lower, deeper reaches above tidewater. It's sister system, the North Fork Nehalem did get a slug of coho on the last rain freshet but as you might guess, the river system dropped back to really low levels by Thursday. These coho are notorious for not biting baits or lures when they get this high in the system.

Crabbing reports are sporadic. One ocean crabber I had talked to reported 3 keepers one day and 13 the next, for 3 pots. Overall, the ocean crabbing has been relatively poor this month with only another 20 days left in the season. Historically, ocean crabbing is awesome this time of year but maybe with all the nice weather and effort during the coho season, we've finally made a dent in the nearshore population. Bay crabbing is obviously not much better but some persistent crabbers are reporting near limits on the

softer tides. More will be revealed when the weather calms hopefully after the weekend. Tillamook and Nehalem remain primary targets with the small boat fleet working Netarts more regularly.

**The Guide's Forecast** – Poor chinook action can't last long on the north coast. Although many would say that it's unusually slow for this period of September, the run is far from over on Tillamook Bay. The seaweed however will continue to challenge estuary trollers so many of us are anxious for a calming ocean. As long as we're stuck in the bay however, the only two productive periods of time will be around low slack, the first part of incoming tide and an hour on each side of high tide. You need to be prepared to check your baits regularly if you plan on being successful. The stronger tide series that peaks on Friday will bring all kinds of seaweed with it. For this reason, versed trollers may want to look at spinners as a more viable option to work through the weeds when they are present. Both chinook and coho are taking red/white and white/pink blades with some regularity. You won't escape the weeds in the south channel but keep it as an option because there has been a few fish taken over there, particularly in the upper reaches of the channel.

Let's hope that the ocean forecast improves as it states. We're all anxious to get away from the seaweed but ocean trollers out of Tillamook also have access to chinook destined for other watersheds to the south. There are still a lot of chinook to come back to our estuaries, unless we've once again over-predicted the north coast numbers like the Columbia run. Here is the ocean forecast:

**FRI**

SW WIND 10 TO 15 KT WITH GUSTS TO 20 KT. WIND WAVES 5 FT...SUBSIDING TO 3 FT IN THE AFTERNOON. W SWELL 9 FT AT 12 SECONDS. CHANCE OF SHOWERS.

**FRI NIGHT**

NW WIND 5 TO 10 KT...EASING TO 5 KT AFTER MIDNIGHT. WIND WAVES 1 FT. NW SWELL 8 FT AT 11 SECONDS. CHANCE OF SHOWERS IN THE EVENING.

**SAT**

N WIND TO 5 KT. WIND WAVES 1 FT. NW SWELL 6 FT AT 10 SECONDS.

**SAT NIGHT**

N WIND 10 TO 15 KT...EASING TO 5 TO 10 KT AFTER MIDNIGHT. WIND WAVES 2 FT. NW SWELL 5 FT AT 9 SECONDS.

**SUN**

N WIND 5 TO 10 KT. GUSTS TO 15 KT IN THE MORNING. WIND WAVES 2 FT. NW SWELL 4 FT AT 9 SECONDS.

**SUN NIGHT**

NW WIND 5 TO 10 KT. GUSTS TO 15 KT IN THE EVENING. WIND WAVES 2 FT. W SWELL 4 FT.

**MON**

W WIND 5 TO 10 KT. WIND WAVES 2 FT. W SWELL 7 FT.

**TUE**

NW WIND 5 TO 10 KT. WIND WAVES 2 FT. W SWELL 7 FT.

The Nehalem should continue to put out salmon, particularly wild coho. With the numbers of wild coho that we're seeing right now on the Nehalem, it's clear that it's going to be a great run, maybe even better than predicted. Chinook should still be in the mix until at least mid-October but it's common for the chinook run to taper by mid-month. With the stronger tides, action should remain best in the Wheeler/Nehalem stretch, at least until the tides begin to weaken around Sunday.

This could be the last productive week for lower bay/tidewater anglers on the Salmon River and the Nestucca down low may slow as well. Although the Nestucca run can last well into October, it seems that September fish typically bite a bit better. Softer tides early next week may bode well for bobber tossers as well as those working the mouths of both of these systems.

Crabbing may pick up on the North Coast estuaries as well. You should find ample amounts of fresh salmon carcasses but shad and chicken will certainly work as well. Hopefully, the ocean will start to produce better results as well, it's been a less-than-impressive start to the fall crabbing season.

Razor clam season opens once again on October 1<sup>st</sup> although the first minus tide series of the month doesn't happen until the 7<sup>th</sup> of October. It should be a good opener.

**Central & South Coast Reports** – Most central coast charters shut down mid-week with wind and wave making offshore forays an impossibility. Hopes are high for ocean conditions to moderate with fishing resuming over the weekend to come.

There will be no depth restriction for lingcod fishers beginning October 1. On that date, offshore anglers targeting ling may do so in whatever depths they wish. Some large lings are expected to hit the docks.

Crabbing has been fair out of Depoe Bay and Newport, much better in the ocean from Bandon to Winchester Bay.

Once the ocean settles down again, tuna hunters will know if their quarry remains within reach. Optimism is high with good catches last week out of Winchester and Coos bays with warm water and albacore within 16 miles of the beach. Tuna fishers out of Newport have had it a little slower although there have been catches of yellowtail and bluefin over the past week.

Wild coho fisheries are ongoing in the Siletz, Yaquina, Alsea, Siuslaw, Coos, and Coquille rivers without quotas but are still subject to daily and annual bag limits.

Halibut fishing remains open seven days a week in water 40 fathoms or shallower off the central Oregon coast with 35% of the quota remaining as of the week ending September 21st. If the quota doesn't fill, this fishery is scheduled to continue through October 31st.

Yaquina River trollers have been picking up salmon although high water temps have put the bite below Sawyer's Landing. Drop crab gear in the bay if you try it as results have been good lately. This fishery will continue into October.

Chinook fishing has been good in Siuslaw tidewater but boat pressure in the area has accentuated limited parking and long wait times at the boat ramp.

Participation in ocean salmon fishing has dropped off for boats launching out of Reedsport now that the coho season is closed. Chinook are still being taken in fair to good numbers. Inside the bay, boats trolling herring are having their way with Chinook. Bank anglers throwing spinners report hooking mostly coho although a few large Chinook have been hooked though rarely landed. **UPDATE:** A bulletin from the ODFW came in as this newsletter was being completed. The Wild coho fishery on the Umpqua is

"Pending" which means the quote is nearing fulfillment and closure is imminent. Low water levels on the Umpqua have had a positive effect on crabbing in Winchester Bay; it's just the opposite of those times when a freshet chases the crab out of the bay. In these circumstances, the salinity level rises to maximum and the crabs do a happy dance, so to speak. The peak of the season is approaching so crabbers are reminded to turn in any tags they find affixed to Dungeness to the Sportsman Cannery in Winchester Bay, You'll get a hat or a T-shirt and be entered in a drawing for a \$1,000 top prize. And, hey, there's no sign up for this and no entry fee. Dock crabbing has been fair to good as well. Upriver on the Umpqua Mainstem and into the South Umpqua, smallmouth bass fishing has been holding up well for those throwing soft plastics to deep water structure. Summer steelhead are being taken in the flies-only stretch of the North Umpqua although there are also opportunities for hardware steelheaders in the Narrows and Swiftwater areas.

Bottom fishing has been excellent out of Coos Bay. Warm water and tuna were reported within 16 miles of port at times. Trollers out of Charleston have been doing very well over the past week with plug-cut herring. Best results have been coming from the Highway 101 Bridge up to the mouth of the Millicoma. Anglers have had some success targeting wild coho by wither trolling or casting pink spinners. Limits of Dungeness crab are being taken regularly by boaters.

Trollers in the Rogue estuary have been doing fairly well. It's not action-packed but no one is knocking fair, steady catches of fall Chinook averaging better than 20 pounds. The eponymous Rogue Spinner Rig, upon which anglers are impaling an anchovy, remains the lure de jour. Numerous jacks have been caught with numbers only expected to increase as the calendar moves into October. While there are coho in the bay as well, the vast majority are wild and only hatchery fish may be kept. Many local anglers look forward to trolling Rogue Bay at this time of year as it can be productive and the fish can run large. Rain this week is forecast to have only a momentary effect on extremely low flows near Agness, where catches of adult steelhead and half pounders have been ongoing despite skinny water conditions. Fly fishers are taking them as are hardware fishers throwing spinners. Chinook have also been moving through despite less-than-optimal conditions for upstream migration. Catches of these fish in the middle Rogue have been fair to good for boats long-lining plugs. With low water deterring the movement of fresh fish into the upper Rogue, steelheading in the flies-only section has been slow. No Chinook may be kept here.

Boats out of the Port of Brookings were still chasing tuna over the past week and with a high degree of success. Then the wind came up, rain started to fall and the ocean got large and angry. While it's getting to be the time of year when that rotund woman is clearing her throat and warming up her vocal chords, she has yet to sing. The massive wall of warm water observed offshore last week was backed by even warmer water further out so when conditions once again allow, albacore hunting may well endure - for a while. Catches of rockfish and lingcod have been excellent just outside the harbor entrance. Chinook fishing has been slow to spotty inside Brookings Harbor although there are good numbers just outside which has local anglers all the more excited for the bubble fishery opening on October 1.

With the few inches of rain that fell in the Elk River area quickly absorbed by the dry ground, there was negligible effect on the water level of the river. In other words, no sign of fall Chinook. So far, the Elk has been providing a fair fishery for sea-run cutthroat trout.

Cooler weather has had a positive effect on the algae at Diamond Lake. While there has been no advisory, the algae has been a nuisance at times. A marshmallow and worm combination has been even more effective than Power Bait recently with best results occurring on the south end of the lake. Catches have been improving.

Of interest to all who boat is the new naming convention which will be in effect on Personal Flotation Devices starting October 22, 2014. Rather than the confusing Type I, II, III, IV and V, they will be plainly

labeled as wearable or throwable and display a weight limit. PFDs currently in service do not need to be replaced as long as they are serviceable.

**Central and Eastern Oregon** – Robert Campbell at Fisherman’s Marine in Oregon City (503-557-5600) referred to the fishery at the mouth of the Deschutes as "the bubble" and while similar restrictions may not apply, the description is apt. He went on to say the action for steelhead has been hot one day, off the next "as if the fish just moved on." In addition to steelhead, bright coho and at least one very large Chinook have been landed there. Fewer daylight hours at this time of year combine with seasonably cooler nights to improve conditions for steelheaders on the Deschutes. Summer steelhead are distributed from Maupin to the mouth although the lower river still holds a greater concentration of fish, hence the better chance of a hookup. The stretch below Mack’s Canyon has been heating up and will continue to improve. Steelhead and Chinook counts at Sherars Falls reflect the improvement in fish movement as both have been into the double digits over the past few days and this represents only a percentage of the actual passage. Steelheading above the falls has not been as rewarding as in years past but there are a few fish being taken and it will improve in coming weeks. Fishing for reddsides on the lower Deschutes is fair and is best in the evenings. Brief hatches of Pale Evening Duns are appearing along with some Caddie Pupae. Don't neglect terrestrials at this time of the year as there are plenty of buggy bodies in the water. There have been reports this week of the White River spewing so it's be a good idea to check on that situation before making the trip.

High Lakes continue to fish very well according to **Robert Campbell at Fisherman’s Marine in Oregon City (503-557-5600)** who also mentioned reports of excellent catches of trout this week from Timothy Lake.

Crooked River fly fishers have been taking fish recently by matching the periodic hatches of Blue-Winged Olives and Pale Morning Duns.

### **Write to the TGF staff:**

### **Reader Emails: The Inbox**

Sharp eyed readers Mr. H. and Daniel O. both spotted the gaff TGF South Coast Editor Michael Teague made regarding the opener of Siltcoos, Tahkenitch and Tenmile lakes, which were listed with an incorrect opening date in last week’s newsletter. It was corrected the next day but still, readers should expect better from a publication which prides itself in accuracy. Michael offers his sincere apologies for this error and hopes he never has to write about himself in third person ever again.

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### **Random Links**

The following video explains how it came about that we are able to fish the mouth of the Deschutes. Oregon Wildlife Heritage Foundation: The First 20 Years:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XOCN76-YLtg&feature=youtu.be>

The Perfect River Levels:

[http://www.rivertrailoutfitters.com/The\\_Perfect\\_River\\_Levels.php](http://www.rivertrailoutfitters.com/The_Perfect_River_Levels.php)

**GOOD LUCK!**