



Volunteers Raising Salmon
Curry Anadromous Fishermen

Gold Beach, Oregon

THE RIFFLE

A Monthly Publication of Curry Anadromous Fishermen
P.O. Box 903
Gold Beach, Oregon 97444



September, 2015

Issue #97

INDIAN CREEK HATCHERY IS RUN BY
CURRY ANADROMOUS FISHERMEN,
AN ALL-VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION.

www.rogueriversalmon.org

**Next GENERAL MEETING Thursday,
September 10, 2015 – 10:00 AM
Jot's Resort (West conf. rm.)
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**Next BOARD MEETING Thursday,
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ODFW BUILDING**

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\$72.00 - annual sponsorship

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Upcoming Events

Sept. 8-13th - CAF Salmon Derby

Oct. 1st - Seining @ Huntley begins

Nov. 4th - Pizza Fundraiser @ SUNSET PIZZA

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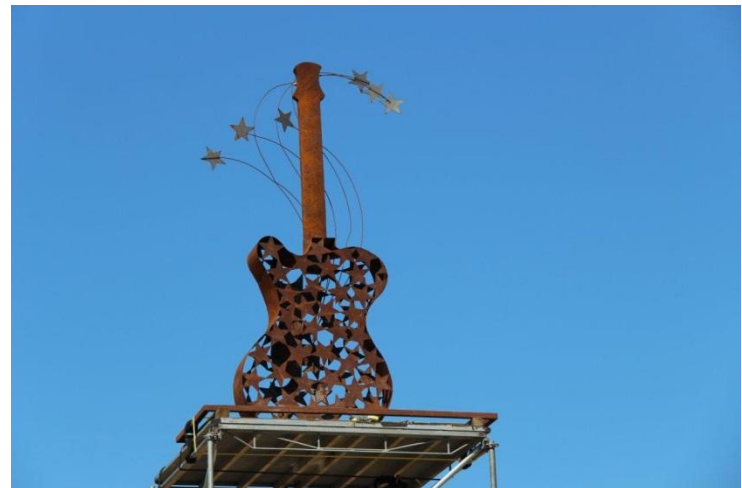
"News and Events" - Keep up to date on the
latest happenings at the hatchery. Go to

www.rogueriversalmon.org

President's Corner

By David Sophusson

Like the rest of the west coast we are in a bit of a drought situation and due to the lack of water we've had to release our fish in raceways #1 and #2. We ran our emergency pumps for nine days trying to hold the fish for as long as possible to give them the best chance of survival when released. We released raceway #1 towards the end of July and were able to hold #2 for a few weeks longer, #3 will be released on or around Sept. 1st. Just like teenagers the fish in #3 are eating us out of house and home chowing down almost 25 pounds of food a day! So it won't be long now and we will all get to take a break for a couple of months before doing it all over again. I want to thank everyone involved for all their hard work and dedication, Great Job Folks!



Cape Blanco Music Festival
Photo by Rich Watson

CAF General Meeting

July 9, 2015

President- David Sophusson called the meeting to order at 10:10am. Minutes from the June meeting were approved as printed in the July edition of *The Riffle*.

Treasurer- Barbara Jorge's informal report was a monthly loss of approx. \$550. Jim Hutchins of Oregon Stewardship thanked CAF for the \$300 donation to help with expenses for maintaining the hatchery grounds and the riparian areas of Elephant Bar trail.

HATCHERY- Gary Underhill reported: water pressure and oxygen levels are low; the oxygen system was activated after fin clipping; the high mort rate is now happening in raceway 1; fish are feeding well and are sizing up nicely; there were quite a few tours on July 4th.

Fireworks- The fireworks booth netted close to \$1,900 thanks to many hours of volunteer time. The volunteers expressed a well-deserved thank you to Dave and Becky for all the organizing, ordering, preparing *and* working the booth.

ODFW- John Weber explained that some of the scale damage may be happening from frenzied feeding. Fish in raceway #1 will be released before the end of July. The ODFW cormorant study is conducted at random times to determine predation levels. In response to a question about catching Indian Creek Hatchery smolts in the bay, John explained that there are many fin clipped coho smolts in the bay at the same time and it's very difficult for most people to determine the difference from the chinook. Because of the late timing of the county fair, 4-H is having their livestock auction on July 25th and ODFW may bring in a fish tank exhibit.

BiMart Country Music Festival- Becky Sophusson had a lot of good news.

All the work positions are filled and she even has some backup volunteers. The event is better organized this year and the breakfast location is better than last year. All supplies will be purchased locally if possible. McKay's will order, slice and store the breakfast ham and Sunrise Distributors will be available for daily resupply needs. CAF purchased additional griddles/burners and line movement should go more smoothly this year. Becky and David expect to see their table top once the festival is over and all the paperwork can be put away!

The Riffle- There will be no edition in August. Elizabeth Watson and Marcia Frizzel will be helping Hassie with the Sept. edition.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50am
Submitted by Glen Kral, CAF Secretary

CAF General Meeting

August 13, 2015

President- David Sophusson called the meeting to order at 10:10am. Minutes from the July & August meetings will be published in the September edition of *The Riffle*. The board officially decided that CAF will not sell fireworks next year.

Treasurer- Barbara Jorge's 2015 year-to-date statement shows a loss of \$857 for June and a gain of \$198 for July. Although the profit from the fireworks booth netted about \$1,800, there were expenses for the upcoming BiMart Festival, increased electric use and insurance.

HATCHERY- Gary Underhill reported: the fish in raceway #1 were released at a weight of 18/# and there were very few mortalities in the process; the Boy Scouts from Redding were at the hatchery after the release and did a great job of cleaning the empty raceway and many other cleanup projects ; water pressure and oxygen levels are low, so the emergency pumps were needed for 9 days; there were 2 power outages on July 9th that required the use of our backup generator; the remaining fish are healthy and sizing up nicely.

ODFW- ODFW will begin seining Oct. 1st every MWF at Huntley Park and will be retaining brood stock for our next season. Volunteer help is always needed and welcome. A sampling of clipped fish showed a success rate of 91% for #1, 78% for #2 and 84% for raceway #3. The incomplete fin clipped fish will survive, return to be caught and will be legal to keep as long as the fishing regulations don't change for unclipped fish. ODFW recognizes the leadership role Chris Underhill had in making sure the fin clipping was successful and safe for both the fish and the volunteers.

BiMart Country Music Festival- Becky Sophusson was pleased to report that the festival went smoother this year and she was grateful for the improved equipment CAF purchased after last year. There were about 20

volunteers for each morning's breakfast. A few more items will be purchased for next year's festival that will help the breakfast run even better. The profit will be about \$11,000 plus \$760 in donations. Once again the BiMart representatives were very appreciative of the job done by the CAF volunteers. The members thanked Becky and Dave for all their time in making this a successful fundraiser.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am
Submitted by Glenn Kral, CAF Secretary



CAF serving breakfast at Cape Blanco Music Festival
Photos by Rich Watson



Expenses- In response to a question about how we spent the fundraising profits, David explained that we have work to do at the dam/vault intake upstream, our operating expenses average \$22,000/year, we have a deferred maintenance allowance of about \$12,000 and the board is considering a roof over the raceways. When we apply for grant funding, we almost always have a matching portion of whatever funds we are awarded.

Salmon Derby- Derby chairman, Harry Carlson, has worked closely with Jim Carey of The Rogue Outdoor Store and has most of the detail

work in order. Harry does need help in soliciting local business raffle contributions.

Pizza Night at Sunset Family Pizza on Nov. 4th- Hassie Taylor will be working on fliers, ads and tickets and will be seeking 12-15 volunteers to work 3 hours each on that evening.



Photo by Rich Watson

Hatchery Happenings

Submitted by:

Chris Underhill, CAF Volunteer Coordinator
(541) 425-0396 or 247-0396

I have been busy with family for the last few weeks so I've been out of the loop, but here's what's happened.

We were having problem keeping the oxygen levels up in both raceways the first week in August, the Dissolved Oxygen (DO's) would be 7.9 at noon and by 7pm when I'd go to do the PM hand feed they'd be down to 4.0. We had both oxygen systems running and turned up the water by turning on the pump, so we were utilizing all our backups at the hatchery. It was decided to do an emergency release of Rwy #2 on Monday Aug 10th. Thank you to everyone who showed up for the release! We also stopped the PM hand feeding to keep the DO's up but I went by last night at 7pm and DO's were 7.5 so I gave them some feed, and they liked it.

Can't believe how big they are 15 to a pound, right now, and still growing. They are eating 6 lbs of hand feed alone and we are planning on releasing Rwy #3 on Sept. 1st.

Thank you to all the volunteers and especially my hubby, Gary Underhill, for running in and giving tours of the hatchery every Wed. Fri. & Sat., it has been a great tourist season.

We had a power outage the end of July, due to some power lines overheating and trying to start

trees on fire in the camping area, but I was at the hatchery and immediately called power company and hubby, and he came down 2 times and started up the generators for the oxygen units. That was the first DO scare, those fish are getting big and they takes more oxygen, if you ever visit the hatchery and see all the fish bunched up at the top of the raceways, that's not a good sign, all someone!

Don't forget the CAF Rogue River Salmon Derby Sept. 8 to 13, entry fee \$25 per person for 6 day blind bogey tournament tickets are available at the Rogue Outdoor Store, raffle boards will be on display at Rogue Outdoor Store too, with the winner ceremony/banquet being held Sunday Sept. 13 at the Fairgrounds.

The doors will open at 5pm with a bar available and dinner opinions will be a Tri Tip Dinner served by Mangia Buff or Fish & Chips by Woggy's. We'll have raffle items, silent auctions and games and also have a 50's & 60's band playing after raffles. Come join the fun! For more information call Rogue Outdoor Store,

[541-247-7142](tel:541-247-7142) / [800-525-2334](tel:800-525-2334)

or go to www.goldbeach.org.

Rogue River Renderings

Historical Bits of our Salmon Fishery

Submitted by Laurel Gerkman

HUME METHOD IS FINALLY ADOPTED

The Plan of Feeding Salmon Fry Before Liberating Them, Adopted Long Ago by R.D. Hume, Will be Employed by the United States Bureau of Fisheries Hereafter

Notwithstanding, the announcement by the associated press that the U.S. Fish Commission has determined to feed salmon fry until at least 3 or 4 inches in length instead of liberating them when first hatched. The credit for first attempting, and demonstrating and successfully conducting this innovation upon nature's program belongs to R.D. Hume.

Mr. Hume has spent a fortune in demonstrating the feasibility as well as the practicability of feeding young salmon until able to care for themselves, and credit should be given where credit belongs.

It is gratifying to note the commission has at last opened its eyes to the only method of keeping the salmon industry from total annihilation, and that an effort will be put forth to bring the

business back to its original magnitude and profit.

The Oregonian of the 11th contained the following telegram from Oregon City:

"The United States Bureau of Fisheries this season will change its methods, in the liberation of salmon until they attain a size of four to five inches in length, when they are liberated from the tributaries of the Columbia River. The same method will be followed in southern Oregon."

The bureau is preparing to make a shipment of eggs from the Finley Eddy station on Rogue river to R. D. Hume who will raise the young fry four to six inches in length before liberating them in Rogue river.

These innovations will be watched by those interested in fish culture or any branch of the business.

Formerly, the practice of the Bureau of Fisheries has been to turn out the young salmon just as soon as the yolk-sac was absorbed when the fry were about one inch long. By the new method, the young salmon will be kept in the hatcheries until June.

Indisputable evidence had recently been brought forward by Mr. H. S. McGowan that the fry that have been turned out of the government and state hatcheries for years, had in a remarkably large proportion been used for feed for trout and other foes of the diminutive fish.

From time to time, the Oregonian has been furnished with data by Mr. Hume of his work at Wedderburn, fish at different stages of development have been preserved and sent to its editor and the state Fish Commission but they would not see.

The government now awakened by Mr. McGowan accepts Mr. Hume's methods.

Two million eggs are enroute to Wedderburn from Mr. Hume's hatchery on Elk Creek at the head waters of Rogue River. The weather is so intermittent that it is uncertain when the ship will be able to get over the bar; to bring the eggs over land with the present condition of the roads is another very expensive, uncertain, and tedious undertaking.

In spite of the magnitude of work and enormity of expense Mr. Hume keeps up the work, knowing it is the only way to perpetuate the salmon industry.

*Excerpts from The Radium, Wedderburn, Oregon
Thursday, January 2, 1908*

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Submitted by Hassie Taylor

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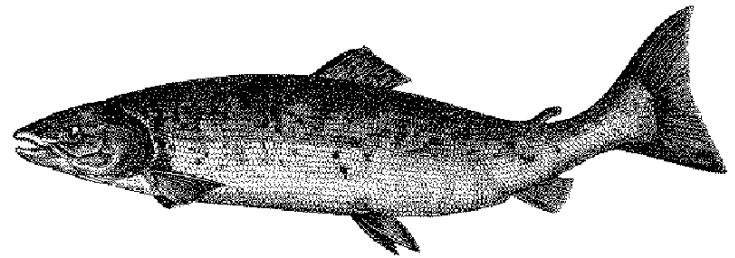


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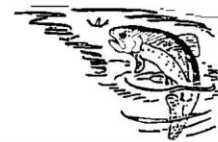
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