



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

March, 2012

Issue #61



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

www.rogueriversalmon.org

**Next GENERAL MEETING Thursday,
March 8, 2012 – 10:00 AM
JOT'S Resort (West Conf. Rm.)
Gold Beach, Oregon
Showing hatchery video of 1991
(Come, join us for good friends and an
interesting and informative meeting)**

**Next BOARD MEETING Thursday,
March 1, 2012 – 10:00 AM
ODFW BUILDING**

**DUES \$20.00 (annually)
Sponsorship \$72.00
Join or renew now!**

Upcoming Events

March 8th – Indian Creek Hatchery video of 1991

Feb. 15th - First release into raceway

**Feb. 22nd & 29th tentative release days into
Raceway 2 & 3**

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

www.rogueriversalmon.org

President's Corner

David Sophusson

As you may or may not have heard, we had a pretty major storm system with heavy rains blow through the state this past January. There were washouts and landslides everywhere you looked, and Indian Creek was no exception. Everyone I talked to has said they had never seen the creek so high. These heavy rains caused two major slides in the creek, one above the dam and one below. The slide above the dam sent dirt and sand down our 12- inch water supply line to the hatchery, which is our primary line to the raceways. That line is also our backup water supply to the incubators, should anything happen to the primary spring water line. We opened a valve just a little on the 12-inch line and ran water through the brooder tank just to keep the line flushed out.

Tom Tostenson got a call from the alarm company late one evening saying that the low water alarm to the incubators had gone off. Tom managed to get the flow back up enough so we could figure out the problem. When Gary Underhill arrived the next morning, he found that the spring water line was down to only two pounds of pressure and that the 12-inch line was about the same and that the backup pump had kicked in. He was astonished to find that dirt and sand had almost filled the brooder tank to a depth of over four feet! Upon further investigation, Gary found that there had been a slide in the small creek that feeds the spring line and that had buried the water intake and also sent sand and dirt down that line. On his way up to the dams, Gary found that the creek had washed out a section of the road just before the bridge that crosses the creek making the trip to the dams

extremely dangerous. Normally, the spring line runs along the ground on the edge of the road, but with the washout, about 45 feet of the line was just hanging out there in midair. A small emergency work party was put together, and under Gary's guidance, the spring line was pulled back to land and tied off. We then dug out the intake on the spring line and began flushing all the lines.



In the meantime, Tom got together with John Weber and got the ball rolling to get an emergency R&E grant to get the road to the dams repaired. The bill to repair the road was just under \$9000.00 with the hatchery putting up \$1000.00 plus some volunteer labor to remove and replace a section of the spring line during the rebuild process. A couple of days later Tom got another call very early in the morning from the alarm company telling him that the low water to the incubators had set off the alarm again. He got things going again as best as he could, but again, the spring water pressure and flow was very low. Another emergency work party was formed and we found that another slide up the creek buried the intake to the spring line again. So once again we dug out the intake and flushed out the line, but nothing we did would raise the flow to the

incubators. We checked and double-checked and flushed and flushed for hours. The water was there but not getting to the incubators. We cycled all the valves in the valve room - opened and closed many times and still nothing. We finally noticed a valve that was half hidden and we cycled it once, twice and it was like a dam broke; we got water! The next couple of days we spent checking and cleaning filters until all the debris in the lines cleared and pressures and flow returned to normal. Unfortunately, during all this low flow we lost approximately half of our fish in the first four trays in stack Number One. This is just a guess, but I would say around 4,000 fish. I feel we were very lucky. As of now, thanks to Tom and others, our grant was approved. The road up by the dam is repaired and the bridge crossing the creek has been put back on its footings. So once again, we have safe access to the dams and water lines. Mother Nature can be very nasty at times!



Gary U., David S., and Pat E. working on repairs.
Photos by Hassie Taylor

Treasurer's Corner

By Mike Kopec, CAF Treasurer

Treasurer's Report	Dec.	Jan.
Operating Capital	\$23,123	\$22,879
Jan. Income	\$ 660	
Jan. Expenses	904	

General Meeting

February 9, 2012

President- David Sophusson called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. The minutes of the last meeting were approved as printed in *The Riffle*.

Treasurer- Mike Kopec's report shows a loss for January of \$244.00 and an end of the month balance of \$22,879.

Hatchery – David Sophusson described the damage created at the hatchery from the last storm. Since David did an excellent job describing the events in the President Corner (page 1) and Philip's notes, I feel no urge to be redundant.

Video Showing – CAF plans to show a video of the construction of the Indian Creek Hatchery, which was made in 1991. So, come to the next CAF General Meeting and learn more about the construction of the hatchery or simply relieve a part of history. Some of you, like myself, will get a history lesson; others will reminisce on days gone by.

ODFW – John Weber informed us that Fletcher was laying out the first layer of rocks and stated that we need to clean up the muddiness caused by the

slides. We only have one main line running; however, we have two back-up pumps.

CAF Awards – CAF was awarded Non-Profit Organization of Year for 2011 by the Gold Beach Chamber. In addition, Gary and Chris Underhill were named Volunteers of the Year. Congratulations to CAF and to Gary and Chris. Awesome job!

The meeting was adjourned at 10:41 a.m.
Submitted by Hassie Taylor

Notes from Philip Dickson

Please note that Indian Creek Hatchery in Gold Beach, OR (est. 1877) suffered extensive damage due to the floods that hit Curry County recently. At this time estimates are that we may have lost upwards of 4000+ fish eggs in trays. There were major problems with all lines being clogged due to a landslide and wash out. Our alarm system caught the problem and triggered calls to volunteers in the middle of the night.

Much hard work by a great group of volunteers (being led by our president and vice president) deep into many nights has allowed us to save over 100,000 fish (King Salmon eggs). Our volunteers are hard workers, but this time we were forced to bring in heavy equipment (real big stuff). There have been at least five pieces of heavy equipment at the hatchery not including all the dump trucks. We have had to dive into our savings to come up with emergency repair money to cover costs to repair dam access road and rebuild water lines. If you are in a position to help with a contribution, please do so. You can mail a check to CAF PO BOX 903 Gold Beach, OR 97444. If you have a business or person in mind anywhere in the world who you think would like to help keep this hatchery running, please forward this information to them. Thank you very much.

Re: Indian Creek Fish Hatchery
<http://indiancreekfishhatchery.shutterfly.com/>



Fishing Quote of the Month

Fishing is a delusion entirely surrounded by liars in old clothes. ~ Don Marquis

Volunteer of the Month Profile

Randy Waters

I was born in Rigby, Idaho on March 17, 1951. I was raised in Idaho until 1968 when I joined the U.S. Army as a cook and I was stationed in Okinawa, Japan for 27 months. After my honorable discharge from the Army, I traveled to Havre, Montana where I met my first wife, Judy. We were married in June 1972. My son was born in March 1973 on the day I was at the induction center where I had re-enlisted in the U.S. Army as an Artillery Crewman. I was divorced from Judy just before my duty took me to Ansbach, Germany.

After another honorable discharge from the Army, I spent five years in Texas working for an air and hydraulics company. I returned to Idaho Falls in 1984 and did roofing for two years before moving to Gold Beach, Oregon on April 1, 1986. There I met my significant other, Barbara Jorge, in December 1986, and we are still together to this day. I worked at the cannery building cutting salmon and cooking crabs for Buck Coe. Then I was transferred to Oregon Pacific Salmon Ranch at Burnt Hill. I worked there for about two years before I was injured on the job and was disabled for 2 1/2 years. Since that time I've washed dishes at the Beach House Restaurant, clerked at Ace Hardware, worked at CTR for four years, and worked as a handyman for several different places. My last job was as a maintenance worker at Honey Bear RV Park, but my failing health caused me to quit and apply for SSI Disability. After three years of fighting for disability benefits, the Veterans Administration finally pensioned me off in October 2011.

In my free time I enjoy prospecting. I'm currently a member of four gold prospecting clubs and have found gold in several places including Foster Bar in Agness. Barbara and I enjoy playing bingo at Lucky 7 Casino. This past year we traveled throughout the great U.S.

I also serve as treasurer for the local Moose Lodge and as a board member of the Curry Anadromous Fishermen. In the past I have also pulled nets for broodstock in the river.



Hatchery Happenings

Submitted by:

Chris Underhill, Volunteer Coordinator

We have babies in the raceways! We put 27,769 fry into raceway #1 on Feb. 15th. I've started hand feeding them every two hours during the day, getting them started and popping up to the surface to feed. We will start up raceway #2 on the 22nd and raceway #3 the 29th of February. If you're a daily feeder, you'll be taking temps in the incubator room and at the end of raceway #1. Remember to scrub the screens on the raceways. We have new brushes. Also remember to count and remove dead fish in each raceway. Instructions will be on the board for feeding; take your time hand feeding. When you're finished with the daily checks or if you have any questions, call me. Almost forgot, we put the extra five trays of fry into Libby Pond.

Thank you to everyone who voted for Gary and me for volunteers of the year! We won! CAF also took Non-Profit of the Year award. It takes volunteers like you to make that happen. I feel privileged to work with all of you and can't wait for our next BBQ. You know me; I'm always ready for a party, especially if it's potluck! My love of food is showing, in more ways than one. Thank you again for the votes; it means so much more when the community gets to pick the winners.

As you've all heard, we lost part of the road heading up to the vault. I've stayed out of that world, but thank you to Tom, David, Gary, Pat, Vern, and Bill B. for all the hard work.

I heard we're having a movie and popcorn at the next CAF General Meeting. I think it will be very interesting seeing how the raceways and hatchery were built. Hope to see you all at the meeting and if anyone is interested in co-managing the fireworks stand with me, call me. (541 247-0396). See you around the hatchery.

Sponsor's Corner

Submitted by Chris Underhill

The Crow's Nest Tavern is located in Gold Beach at 29850 Ellensburg Ave. with parking in the back. Paula and Hank have owned **The Crow's Nest** for more than ten years and provide a unique drinking atmosphere with great food and an awesome ocean view. CAF thanks **The Crow's Nest** for being a sponsor these past couple of years and providing menu specials such as TACO TUESDAY, which is enjoyed regularly by many of our volunteers. Stop by, have a drink, play the Oregon Lottery or Video Poker, pick up a pizza and say "hello" to the gang. Tell them "The Riffle" sent you.



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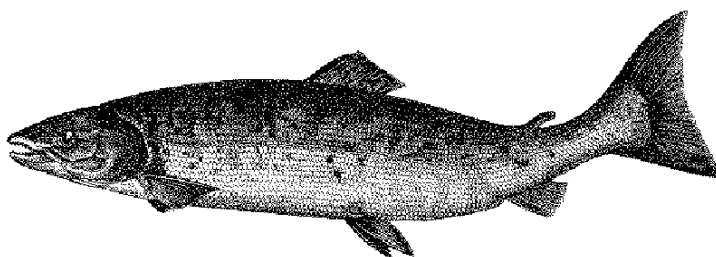
Keep The Riffle Coming

When moving, please call me or drop us a line to CAF P.O. Box 903, Gold Beach, Or 97444
Let us know your new mailing address.
Hassie Taylor 541-247-0733

Support those who support the Indian Creek Hatchery.

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	John Epps
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	Randy Waters
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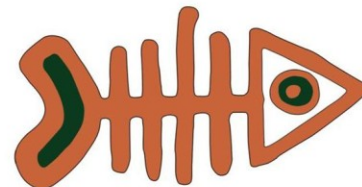
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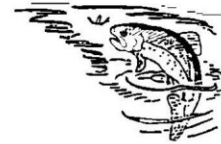
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