



"Deschutes Steelhead" courtesy of Josh Udesen

Spring 2011

The Native Fish Society is a forward-thinking organization guided by the best available science to advocate for historically abundant wild, native fish and promote the stewardship of habitats that sustain them.

Featured Articles

**Native Fish Society and Pacific Rivers Council
say Sandy River Hatchery is Illegal**

15th Annual Banquet + Auction: Homewaters Evolve

Home Rule on the Upper Willamette

**Naturally Spawning Hatchery Salmon and Steelhead Reduce the
Reproductive Performance of Wild Fish**

An Update from the Oregon Legislature

NFS Board Co-Presidency

Greetings

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Welcome to the latest issue of our e-newsletter! This quarter you will find details on our ongoing Sandy River Campaign, a synopsis of Mark Chilcote's latest scientific report by Bill Bakke, updates from our legislative watchdog, Jim Myron, and much more.

We hope you enjoy it and thank you for all your support!

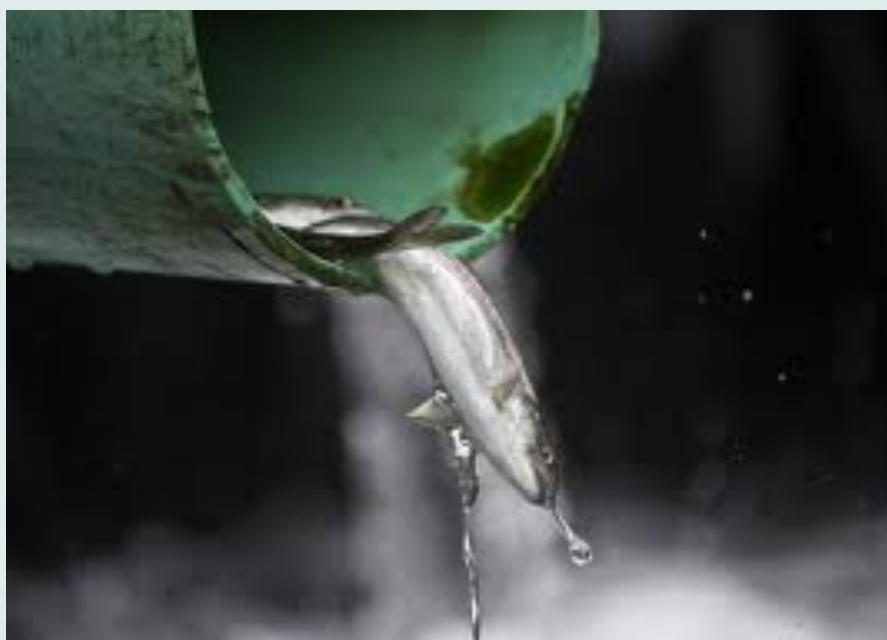
Event Calendar

- **TWO EVENINGS WITH BOB CLAY AND JEFF BRIGHT**
 - Sunday, May 15th in Portland at Ecotrust
 - Monday, May 16th in Bend at McMenamins Old St. Francis School
- **PAT FURRER ANNUAL STEELHEAD EVENT**
 - August 1st and 2nd in Maupin at the Imperial River Co.
 - Two days of guided fishing provided by Deschutes Angler

Featured Articles

NATIVE FISH SOCIETY & PACIFIC RIVERS COUNCIL SAY SANDY RIVER HATCHERY IS ILLEGAL

State and feds' operations at Sandy River Hatchery harm threatened wild salmon and steelhead, violate the ESA



Benjamin Brink, The Oregonian

Earlier this month Native Fish Society and Pacific Rivers Council issued a 60-Day Notice of Intent to sue state and federal agencies over the operation of the Sandy River Hatchery and its impact on ESA listed salmon and steelhead.

"There is no ambiguity left on the Sandy. The dams are gone, the habitat is some of the best we have, fishing and logging have all changed for the better, but wild salmon and steelhead are still in trouble. The hatchery is the only factor that has not changed," said Native Fish Society Executive Director Bill Bakke.

[READ ARTICLE](#)
[VISIT SANDY RIVER LITIGATION PAGE](#)



15th Annual Native Fish Society Benefit Banquet + Auction

A great thanks to all attendees, donors and volunteers for making this year's Benefit Auction and Banquet a terrific success for wild fish. With over 310 wild fish advocates in attendance, this year's event was the largest gathering of the adipose-ssed ever!

With a piece of Marmot Dam at every place setting, NFS Board co-director Rob Elam pledged, "The Native Fish Society will take direct action in our campaign on the Sandy River to ensure that all stakeholders are brought to the table."

The night's festivities were focused on the immense public and private involvement already underway on the Sandy River and our complimentary campaign to encourage federal and state agencies to match those successes with corresponding management practices.

The evening also featured a toast by Bill Bakke for two board members who passed away in the Fall of 2010, Pat Furrer and Richard Kennon. Both men were ardent wild fish advocates and core members, volunteers and supporters of the Native Fish Society and our wild fish mission.

In large part, we attribute the success of this year's event to our incredible donors. Please acknowledge their great generosity with your patronage throughout the coming year.

2011 DONORS

HOME RULE ON THE UPPER WILLAMETTE

by Alan Moore, NW Director of Habitat Programs for Trout Unlimited in Portland

The revised draft of the Upper Willamette Conservation and Recovery Plan will be up for public comment this fall. Alan Moore has put together a great call to action for the NFS River Stewards, TU leaders and concerned members who live in the Upper Willamette watershed and want to be part of the future recovery of its wild fish.

[Read Article](#)

[2010 Draft of the Upper Willamette Recovery Plan](#)

NFS comments on the Upper Willamette Recovery Plan



Prior to the arrival of Europeans it is estimated that more than one million salmon and steelhead returned to spawn in Oregon's rivers and streams in the Upper Willamette basin. Over the last two centuries, the combined effects of fish harvest, hatchery fish interactions, hydropower development and habitat alterations have led to drastic declines in these populations.

Learn more, speak up
As development of the Upper Willamette River Salmon and Steelhead Conservation and Recovery Plan proceeds you will be asked to speak up, attend public meetings and provide your input. The plan, as well as the opportunities for you to comment on it, will be posted at http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/CRP/Upper_Willamette_river_plan.asp.

Oregon's Upper Willamette River Salmon and Steelhead Conservation and Recovery Plan
A blueprint for recovery



OREGON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

NATURALLY SPAWNING HATCHERY SALMON AND STEELHEAD REDUCE THE REPRODUCTIVE PERFORMANCE OF WILD FISH

Science continues to reveal the repercussions of hatchery and wild interactions

by Bill Bakke, NFS Executive Director



Through our newsletter and website NFS offers you access and review of the latest science affecting the policies and management practices we advocate. Here Mark Chilcote's latest peer reviewed study is available with summary notes by Bill Bakke.

We believe that an informed membership creates empowered advocates for wild fish.

[Read Article](#)
[Read Chilcote Study](#)

AN UPDATE FROM THE OREGON LEGISLATURE

by Jim Myron, NFS Lobbyist

SB 626 Quality Waters Angling Program

This bill directs the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to develop a proposal to create a Quality Waters Program that would focus resources on developing and promoting quality fisheries throughout the state. The concept would be to capitalize on the economic benefits of these fisheries, while protecting and restoring the fish and their habitat. The Department would be required to prepare a proposal for the program and deliver it to the Legislature by November of 2012. The bill unanimously passed the Oregon Senate in early March and awaits action in the Oregon House of Representatives.

HB 2338 Felt Soled Wader Ban

The bill that would have phased out the use of felt soled boots and waders in Oregon ran into some opposition from one of the angling groups and from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Even though the bill has failed, many boot manufacturers have already begun to eliminate felt from their products and are replacing it with other alternatives that do not serve as a vector for the transport and spread of invasive aquatic species. We encourage our members to replace their felt soled boots with one of the newer alternatives. In the meantime, you can help to control this problem by thoroughly cleaning and drying your boots between fishing trips.

NEW NFS BOARD CO-PRESIDENCY

Rob Elam and Kaitlin Lovell to lead NFS Board of Directors

In March, Peter Tronquet stepped down from his position as Native Fish Society board president. "We have talented folks on the board, people who need a chance to talk and lead," said Tronquet about his decision. Tronquet will continue to serve on the NFS board and operate as Treasurer.

Tronquet nominated two board members to share the responsibility of leading the NFS board of directors; Kaitlin Lovell, former board vice-president and Rob Elam, current board member. Both Elam and Lovell are excited to get down to work with NFS staff and the other members of the board. It goes without saying, both Lovell and Elam have a tremendous passion for wild fish and we are honored to have them at the head of the board.



We hope you enjoyed our newsletter, to keep current on NFS projects, campaigns and initiatives please visit our website at www.NativeFishSociety.org

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