January 2021

The Association of NW Steelheaders Anglers dedicated to enhancing and protecting fisheries and their habitats for today and the future.

Cancelled - Sandy River Chapter January and February 2021 meetings.

With Oregon Covid-19 numbers where they are, lack of broad availability of a vaccine, State and Local restrictions on social activities, and other unknowns it is not practical for us to hold a highly social activity like one of our meetings, in the near future.

We hope to be able to recommence later in 2021. We will keep you informed here and on our Facebook page.

August 21st, 2021, Saturday – Annual Sandy River Chapter picnic - Location: Sam Cox Building & Glenn Otto Community Park area B, Troutdale, OR Time to be announced in upcoming newsletter.

Statewide ODFW

The Beaver State podcast Episode 28: Myth-Busting Oregon Hatcheries

October 1, 2020

The Beaver State Podcast is a product of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife that takes a look at hunting, fishing and wildlife viewing in Oregon through conversations with Oregonians, ODFW staff and luminaries throughout the conservation world. Each half-hour to forty-five minute podcast will explore complex fish and wildlife topics broadly and in detail, and future episodes will feature weekly information from the Recreation Report.

Episode 28: Myth-Busting Oregon HatcheriesODFW Hatchery Program Manager Scott Patterson walks us through a half-dozen of the most common misconceptions about Oregon's fish hatcheries including why so many people talk about closing hatcheries, when only one hatchery has closed in the last decade. This episode will debunk a lot of the fish tales that you see floating around the Internet and give you a much better understanding about Oregon's hatchery program.

https://myodfw.com/articles/beaver-state-podcast-episode-28-myth-busting-oregon-hatcheries

For first time in years, chinook salmon spawn in upper Columbia River system

December 18, 2020

https://www.oregonlive.com/environment/2020/12/for-first-time-in-years-chinook-salmon-spawn-in-upper-columbia-river-system.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook&utm_campaign=theoregonian_sf&fbclid=IwAR01I228VIIVXgPxaaOZbLxljvBPc7UpXXhnSKZtHWjIz6ksWZhaECCJh0A

By The Associated Press

SPOKANE, Wash. — For the first time in more than a generation, chinook salmon have spawned in the upper Columbia River system.

Colville Tribal biologists counted 36 redds, a gravely nest where female salmon lay eggs, along an 8-mile stretch of the Sanpoil River, a tributary of the Columbia, in September, the Spokesman Review-Journal reported.

"I was shocked at first, then I was just overcome with complete joy," said Crystal Conant, a Colville Tribal member from the Arrow Lakes and SanPoil bands. "I don't know that I have the right words to even explain the happiness and the healing."

The news is a step toward full reintroduction of the migratory fish and another watershed cultural moment for the region's tribes. Since the Chief Joseph and Grand Coulee dams were built in the 1950s and 1930s, respectively, salmon have been blocked from returning to spawning beds in the upper Columbia River.

Cascade Locks, Oregon--Sept. 2, 2012-- Chinook and other fish fill the viewing windows at Bonneville Dam in this Oregonian/OregonLive file photo.LC-

For decades, tribal leaders and scientists have dreamed of bringing the fish back to their native beds. Since 2014, the Columbia River tribes have worked on a plan that examines habitat, fish passage and survival among other things.

"It's an exciting project. It's been rewarding to work on," said Casey Baldwin, a research scientist for the Colville Tribe. "The long-term process of reintroducing salmon above Chief Joe and Grand Coulee is going to take a long time."

In 2019, about 60 salmon were released above the Grand Coulee and Chief Joseph dams in a cultural event.

As a continuation of that project, tribal biologists released 100 fish 35 miles up the Sanpoil River in August to see how well they survived. Each fish was outfitted with a PIT tag, a type of passive tracking device. Biologists checked on the hatchery-bred fish throughout the summer and in October started noticing that the fish were spreading out and spawning.

"Considering they weren't from the Sanpoil, we were pleasantly surprised with the high rate of survival and the amount of spawning we were able to observe," Baldwin said. "You never know if the fish are just going to turn around and swim away."

— The Associated Press

Clackamas River Basin Council

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Replant the Riverside
10 Trees for the Clackamas

December 11, 2020
P.O. Box 301114
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Thank you for your support of the Clackamas River Basin Council with your $500.00 donation to **Replant the Riverside: 10 Trees for the Clackamas**. Your donotion helps us restore some of the areas burned in the recent wildfires. Your generosity will help our community come together to heal.

As a Steelhead Supporting donor, you are protecting natural resources that are important to our quality of life, our health, and our economy. The Clackamas watershed provides drinking water for nearly 400,000 people. The Clackamas River and its tributaries are home to significant runs of Coho, Spring Chinook, winter steelhead, cutthroat trout and native lamprey. These species - and our water quality - depend on healthy riparian forests. Our work to Replant the Riverside will help improve our riparian forests.

The Clackamas River Basin Council is a non-profit, volunteer watershed council that fosters partnerships for clean water, to improve fish and wildlife habitat, and enhance the quality of life for those who live, work and recreate in the Clackamas River Basin.

We are successful in progressing towards this mission thanks to the support and participation of our local partners, volunteers, and community members. Thank you for your donation. We will be in touch to advise you when we have scheduled the date and location to invite you to plant these trees with us.

Warmest regards,

Cheryl D. McGinnis
Executive Director

The Clackamas River Basin Council is a registered 501(c)(3) organization, federal tax # 91-1838169. Your gift may be tax-deductible, no goods or services were received in exchange for your gift.

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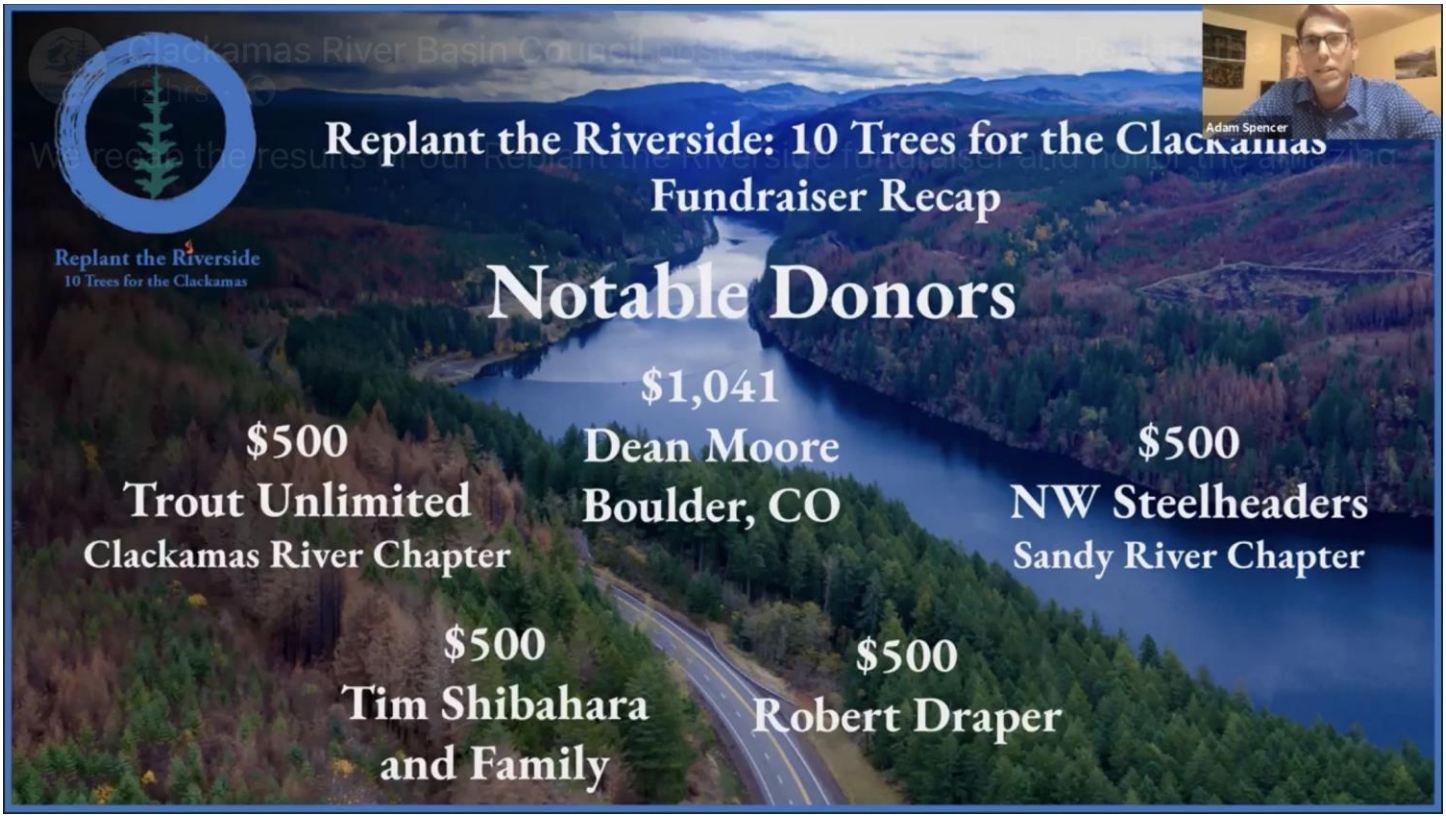

The forgotten Hawaiian islands in Canada

By Diane Selkirk - http://www.bbc.com/travel/story/20201123-canadas-forgotten-hawaiian-islands
24 November 2020

Canada's Gulf Islands are scattered across the Salish Sea between Vancouver and Southern Vancouver Island (Credit: Bloomberg Creative/Getty Images)

British Columbia's Gulf Islands are testament of an era when, during a period of internal strife, Hawaiian royalty left their tropical home for distant islands.

Located off a faded game trail on uninhabited Portland Island, the orchard waited. Though the trees were gnarled and twisted, moss-covered and forgotten, the apples were surprisingly crisp; tasting of the kind of nostalgia you don't find in a modern supermarket apple. The orchard also held a story. But over time, as the forest encroached and the trees grew older, the story itself threatened to disappear.

But time turned out to be on the old orchard's side, and recently in September, when I returned after a 15-year absence to British Columbia's Portland Island, the land around the orchard had been cleared.

In 2003, Portland Island, with its winding trails, sandstone cliffs and shell-midden beaches, had become part of the Gulf Islands National Park Reserve (GINPR), a sprawling national park made up of protected lands scattered across 15 islands and numerous islets and reefs in the Salish Sea. Over the next 15 years, 17 abandoned orchards, on eight of the islands, were studied by Parks Canada archaeologists and cultural workers in order to gain a glimpse into the lives of early settlers in the region. On Portland Island, a new park sign told me, the heritage apples including Lemon Pippin, Northwest Greening, Winter Banana and Yellow Bellflower had been planted by a man called John Palau, one of the hundreds of Hawaiians who were among the earliest settlers in the region.

The Gulf Islands are comprised of dozens of islands scattered between Vancouver and Southern Vancouver Island. With a mild climate and bucolic landscapes, it's been the continuous unceded territory of Coast Salish Nations for at least 7,000 years. The Spanish visited in 1791 and then Captain George Vancouver showed up, claiming the Gulf Islands for the British Crown. Not long after, settlers began arriving from all parts of the world. Many of them were Hawaiian, while black Americans, Portuguese, Japanese and Eastern Europeans also settled on the islands.

History, though, can become obscured. And the story of the Gulf Islands became an English one. "People think of the islands as a white place," BC historian Jean Barman told me by phone. "Time erases stories that don't fit the preferred narrative."

During my early autumn visit to Portland Island, I began reading more about its early Hawaiian settlers, sometimes known as Kanakas, after the Hawaiian word for person. I learned that in the late 1700s, during a period of strife when Indigenous Hawaiians (including royalty) were losing their rights and autonomy at home, many of the men joined the maritime fur trade.

Employed by the Hudson Bay Company, hundreds, if not thousands, of Hawaiians found their way to Canada's west coast. By 1851, some estimates say half the settler population of the Gulf Islands was Hawaiian. Then in the late 1850s, as the border between the US and present-day Canada solidified, many Hawaiians who had been living south moved north, where they were afforded the rights of British citizenship.

Once in BC they became landowners, farmers and fishermen. Gradually, they intermarried with local First Nations or other immigrant groups and their Hawaiian identity was almost lost. But during the years when the land containing the orchards was researched and studied, their story was revived, and Hawaiian Canadians began reclaiming their heritage.

Curious as to why this part of island history had faded from general knowledge – and how it had been rediscovered – I asked Barman. As a historian she's made a career of looking for excluded histories. "I found the story by chance during a cocktail party," she said. In the late 1980s, a provincial politician named Mel Couvelier told her he believed he had Indigenous ancestors and asked what she could find out.

Starting from a two-line obituary, Barman began research. She learned Couvelier had an ancestor named Maria Mahoi, a woman born on Vancouver Island in about 1855 to a Hawaiian man and a local Indigenous woman. Mahoi's story intrigued Barman. "Her ordinary life adds to BC's story of diversity," Barman told me – something she says is more important than ever.

"When people share the stories of who they are, they're partial stories. What gets repeated is based on how ambivalent or how proud you are," Barman said, explaining this is why many British Columbians of Hawaiian decedent she's spoken to claim royal heritage. It was a story they were proud of.

While royal heritage might be likely (Hawaiians from the royal family certainly came) – it's harder to trace. Part of the problem is the fact that the records of Hawaiians who came to the west coast are particularly challenging. Newly arrived Hawaiians often went by a single name or just a nickname. Even when a first and last name was recorded, a name's spelling often changed over time. So it became difficult to track a specific Hawaiian royal through his or her lifetime.

For Barman, the stories of regular people like Mahoi have more to offer. In her 2004 book, Maria Mahoi of the Islands, she writes that, “By reflecting on Maria Mahoi’s life, we come to realize that we each, every one of us, do matter. Stories about the everyday are as important to our collective memory as a society as is the drama and the glamour. Maybe the easy dismissal of Maria’s worth lies not with her, but with how we think about the past.”

The restoration of Mahoi’s story ended up helping to shape part of a national park.

Maria Mahoi spent her young adulthood sailing a 40ft whaling schooner with her first husband, American sea captain Abel Douglas. As they had children and their family grew, they settled on Salt Spring Island. Here a large number of Hawaiian families had formed a community on the western shore extending south from Fulford Harbour to Isabella Point, overlooking the islands of Russell, Portland and Cole.

Mahoi’s first marriage ended, leaving her a single mother with seven children. She then married a man named George Fisher, the son of a wealthy Englishman called Edward Fisher and an Indigenous Cowichan woman named Sara. The two had an additional six children and made their home in a log cabin on 139 acres near Fulford Harbour.

By 1851, it's estimated that half the settler population of the Gulf Islands was Hawaiian (Credit: Bloomberg Creative/Getty Images)

This changed in 1902, when Hawaiian farmer and fruit grower William Haumea left Mahoi 40 acres on Russell Island. This land was superior to their land on Salt Spring Island, so the family moved, and within a few years they’d built a house and expanded the orchard to six to eight rows of four types of apples and three types of plums (some which came from nearby Portland Island and farmer John Palau). They also had fields of berries and raised chickens and sheep. The family stayed in the home until 1959, enjoying a legacy of apple pies and dried apples as well as clam and fish chowders.

Much of what we think of as Hawaiian culture – hula dance, lei making and traditional food – are the customary domain of women. So those parts of the Hawaiian culture didn’t come to the Gulf Islands with the first male arrivals. But the Hawaiians left their mark in other ways. The community provided both the land and the volunteer builders for the St Paul’s Catholic Church at Fulford Harbour; and Chinook Jargon, the local trade language of the time, included many Hawaiian words. The culture also showed in where the Hawaiians chose to live: most settled in the islands where they were able to continue their practices of fishing and farming.

In Mahoi's case, she also left behind the family home. The small house – with doorways that were just 5'6" – reflects the small stature of the original inhabitants, something that intrigued later owners. Over time, as more of Russell Island's unique history became clear, it was acquired by the Pacific Marine Heritage Legacy in 1997 and then deemed culturally distinct enough to become part of GINPR in 2003.

I visited Russell Island in the middle of learning about the Hawaiian legacy in the islands. Wandering down a gentle trail that weaves through a forest of Douglas fir, arbutus, Garry oak and shore pine, I looked out over the white-shell beaches where Indigenous people once had their clam gardens. Stepping over the wildflowers that were blooming on the rocky outcrops, I took the trail into the forest that leads to the small house where Mahoi's family had lived. These days, descendants present their history (during non-Covid times) by inviting visitors into the small home where they share their memories and tell stories about Mahoi's life on the island.

Beside the house is what remains of the large orchard. A sign invited me to pick a handful of the small apples. Crunchy and tart, the flavour was similar to the apples I'd sampled on Portland Island so many years ago. Yet this time they tasted sweeter. Later, when I cooked them into an apple crumble, I wondered if the extra sweetness came from knowing the history and understanding a bit more about the diverse cultures that built this province I call home. I wondered if the richer flavour came from finally learning Maria Mahoi's name.

Chinook Salmon Weight Conversion Chart

Taking the guesswork out of weight of a Chinook

Summarized from an article in "*Salmon & Steelhead Journal* – Tips & Tailouts" by Mike Lunde

….. Using various lengths and girth measurements … you will find a comprehensive Chinook Salmon weight conversion chart. Weight estimates were calculated from a 750 divisor. Although a small degree of bias is associated with the length-girth formulas, it is important to begin by measuring the fattest region of the fish, either slightly in front or back of the dorsal fin where most fat and muscle is accumulated and stored. Overestimation error is frequently common with larger proportioned fish, so it is recommended to measure total length and not for or mid-eye-to-fork length. This weight conversion chart is recommended for fisheries characterized by strict catch-and-release regulations where fish cannot be physically removed from the water.

Each weight estimate is calculated from using a standardized length-girth formula which is expressed as follows: W=(LxG^2)/(750) with L = total length of fish in inches, and W = calculated weight in pounds. Some divisors are taken into consideration due to differences amongst populations because of growth varies geographically. For example. Biologists and Guides on Alaska's Kenai River favor a divisor of 740 for the formula whereas other in British Columbia and Washington will select a divisor of 800.

There will be instances where girth measurements are not recorded. When this occurs it is recommended using the following equation: W= ALB in which A and B parameters and L is the total length. The accompanying chart, on the next page, is provided for quick reference.

NOTE: For an online calculator with near similar results go to:
https://www.piscatorialpursuits.com/resourcecenter/weightcalculator.htm

Chinook salmon weight chart (lbs.)

Girth	Length																
	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
20														25.1	25.6	26.1	26.7
21								24.1	24.7	25.3	25.9	26.5	27.1	27.6	28.2	28.8	29.4
22				23.9	24.5	25.2	25.8	26.5	27.1	27.8	28.4	29.0	29.7	30.3	31.0	31.6	32.3
23	24.0		25.4	26.1	26.8	27.5	28.2	28.9	29.6	30.3	31.0	31.7	32.5	33.2	33.9	34.6	33.3
24	26.1	26.9	27.7	28.4	29.2	30.0	30.7	31.5	32.3	33.0	33.8	34.6	35.3	36.1	36.9	37.6	38.4
25	28.3	29.2	30.0	30.8	31.7	32.5	33.3	34.2	35.0	35.8	36.7	37.5	38.3	39.2	40.0	40.8	41.7
26	30.7	31.6	32.5	33.4	34.3	35.2	36.1	37.0	37.9	38.8	39.7	40.6	41.5	42.4	43.3	44.2	45.1
27	33.1	34.0	35.0	36.0	36.9	37.9	38.9	39.9	40.8	41.8	42.8	43.7	44.7	45.7	46.7	47.6	48.6
28	35.5	36.6	37.6	38.7	39.7	40.8	41.8	42.9	43.9	45.0	46.0	47.0	48.1	49.1	50.2	51.2	52.3
29	38.1	39.3	40.4	41.4	42.6	43.7	44.9	46.0	47.1	48.2	49.3	50.5	51.6	52.7	53.8	55.0	56.1
30	40.8	42.0	43.2	44.6	45.6	46.8	48.0	49.2	50.4	51.6	52.8	54.0	55.2	56.4	57.6	58.8	60.0
31											56.4	57.7	58.9	60.2	61.5	62.8	64.1
32											60.1	61.4	62.8				

Salmon & Steelhead Journal – Tips & Tailouts

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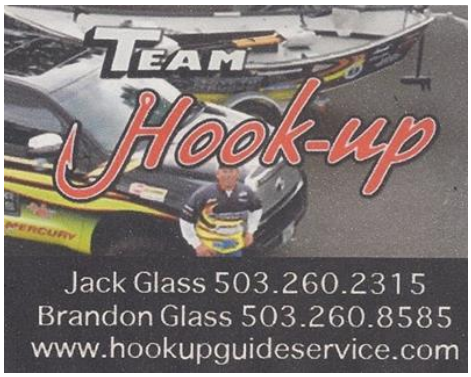
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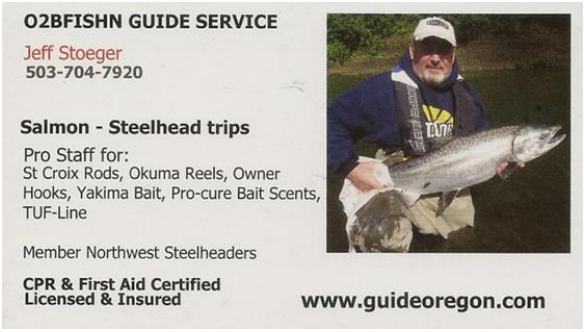
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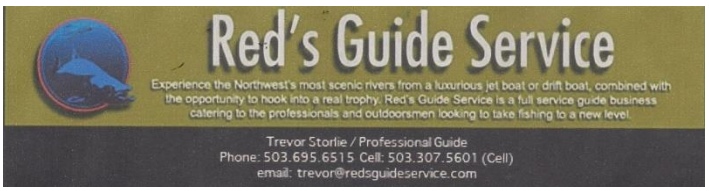
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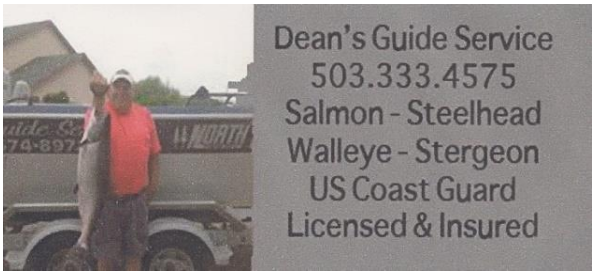
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