



NEWS

MEMBERSHIP MEETING NOVEMBER 20

NOVEMBER 2008 Issue

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GOOD NEWS ON NUTRIENTS



Gary Loomis

I want to follow up on last month's column about the absolute need for adequate nutrients in our streams. We at Fish First know adequate nutrients are absolutely necessary to growth and the ability of the fish to move downstream and to the ocean. We can increase nutrients by putting dead carcasses back in then streams or planting Nutrient Analogs that are from out-of-watershed fish, other kinds of fish etc. Getting an adequate supply is becoming tougher and tougher.

Just a few weeks ago I attended a meeting in Olympia that was about the fish from hatcheries. Andy Applebee from WDFW was there and is in charge of fish from the hatcheries in Washington. Also attending was Andy Vitaljic from the American-Canadian Co which has the contract to buy spawned out carcasses and Jim Coats who has a contract to supply the better quality carcasses to Food Banks around Washington. Andy's company pretty much gets what Jim Coats can't use.

It was a very cordial and promising meeting. I made the point as emphatically as I could that the streams need more carcasses for nutrients. *(cont. on page 2)*
(Gary continued) I pointed out that unless the fish runs survive –and adequate nutrients in the stream

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Thursday Nov 20th at 7p.m. at the
Oak Tree in Woodland.

Other Fish First Meeting Dates

November 20, 2008
December 18, 2008
January 15, 2009
February 19, 2009
March 19, 2009
April 16, 2009
May 21, 2009

**On the Internet: www.fishfirst.org
New videos of Fish First work on the
East Fork of the Lewis are now up
and available for viewing.**

Jerry Sauer, Membership Chairman, 360-607-1646
Harry Bresnahan, Membership meetings 360-225-9836
Jerry Brown, Newsletter Editor 360-600-8559

are key to that—no one will have any fish to get eggs to hatch or carcasses to feed the poor or carcasses for nutrients. All present had to agree with that point. I also brought up that fish carcasses were going out of the US to Canada and was told by Andy Applebee “that is not possible.” I told him a truck with carcasses had been followed into Canada and Andy Vitaljic said it was taking carcasses to an Analog Nutrient manufacturing plant. The only one in the entire multi-state region is in Canada. Hard to complain about that but we need our own analog manufacturing facility in the US. With the right incentives, that could happen quickly.

The good news was when we got down to trying to figure out how many additional carcasses could be made available the group came up with 115,000 more that could be made into nutrients for streams and an added 60,000 more that could go into analog processing and be put into streams. Now we just gotta get that to happen.

Fish First Work Inspires Others Willamette CCA Members Start up Nutrients By Danny Raymond

Back in the late 1970s, the ODF&W started a run of steelhead in Little Fall Creek, located southeast of Eugene Oregon. At some point the Forest Service did some stream enhancement, and that is still intact. However, the run never really took off and had only sustained its original numbers over the years. I always thought that this creek had more potential to be a highly productive stream, and for many years I talked to other people and agencies trying to come up with ideas to help this stream.

A year or so ago, I discovered the Fish First website. I read about the successful Cedar Creek nutrient enhancement project conducted in Washington and I realized that this could work for our stream in Oregon. It all made sense that the salmon carcasses were the missing link to successfully create a healthy stream.

Thanks to ODF&W, Weyerhaeuser Company,

and volunteers from Northwest Steelheaders and Coastal Conservation Association, we placed our first carcasses in Little Fall Creek on September 17, 2008. We distributed approximately 850 salmon carcasses over a three week period. I have never seen a group of volunteers so fired up about a project, and all of them have signed up to do it again next year!



Planting Nutrient Carcasses, Little Fall Creek



Eugene Area Nutrient Planting Volunteers

ODF&W and Weyerhaeuser Company have been very supportive of this project and have assured the volunteer groups that they intend to further cooperate in this effort. Currently, we are working toward increasing the steelhead numbers by creating a healthy stream. In the future, we hope to possibly introduce Chinook salmon back into the stream.

As a member of the CCA (Coastal Conservation
(continued on page 3)

Association), I want to thank Gary Loomis for developing Fish First as a model to show that we can build healthy and productive fish runs, and for bringing the CCA to the west coast. What's good for Salmon is great for Steelhead is awesome for Trout

Danny Raymond
Membership Chairman
CCA – Emerald Empire Chapter
Eugene, Oregon

NET PENS AND NUTRIENTS



By Dan Balch
Chairman of Net Pens

October 21st and 28th Bob Schneider, Roy Pickner and Dan Balch put logs in to make a boom for the Echo Net Pens to keep river debris away from pen seven. We also nailed down roofing on bare decks at the pens to prevent slipping when they are wet or frosty. An anchor has been made but it hasn't been placed at the end of the new boom in order to leave a boat passage beside the net pens for now.

We'll be putting 78,000 Spring Chinook in pens on December 8th starting at 7:30 a.m. until done. The fish truck will be coming from the Speelyai Hatchery.

On November 19th we'll be repairing nets at the Speelyai Hatchery at 9:30 a.m.

The plan for this year is to put Steelhead in all nine pens on December 5th at 7:30 a.m. at the boat

launch. The Kokanee will be raised this year in Hatchery Raceways to see if we can cut down on predation problems we have had in the last five years. I will be sending around a sign up sheet at the November 20th meeting at the Oak Tree in Woodland for help on Dec. 5th and 8th.

Nutrients:

We have been hauling and freezing fish most every Tuesday and Wednesday around 2 p.m. Workers have been Alan Fulcer, Dennis Frantz, Bob Schnieder, Roy Pickner, Tom Golick, Richard Potenski, Dan Balch, Greg Glass and Ed Wickersham and his crew that work the East Fork of the Lewis River.

Contacts:

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Alan Fulcer 360-225-5690 Nutrients
Dennis Frantz 360-225-5116 Nutrients

SUPREME COURT REFUSES TO HEAR APPEAL

Board Member Dan Balch tells us that The Washington Supreme Court has refused to hear the appeal by Clark County, Fish First and Friends of the East Fork against Storedahl's rezoning so they could mine additional land on the East Fork Lewis drainage.

Background: Storedahl appealed a decision of the Clark Co. Commissioners which reversed the county hearing examiner's decision to grant Storedahl's requested rezone which would allow mining expansion at their EFL mining site. The County, FF and FOEF prevailed at the Superior Court level and Storedahl appealed. The Appeals court held that the Commission was required to approve the rezone in light of failure to disagree with any findings of fact by the hearing examiner.

The case was then appealed to the Washington Supreme Court which declined to hear it. The case has been going on for some time and can be difficult to follow but from the FF point of view the latest news is not good for the fish.

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