



Northwest Steelheaders

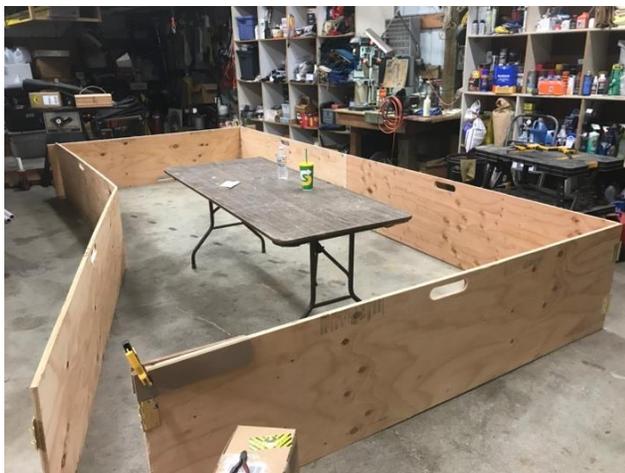
Mid-Valley Chapter Newsletter

2021, Vol 1

PORTABLE FISHING POND

After two years of borrowing equipment from McLoughlin Chapter, late this summer Ron Pockrus, Harold Fisher, Bill Pavlisick, Rita Russell, Hank Keehner, Jim Sallee, Billie Giddens, and George Larson all participated in making Mid-Valley's own portable fishing pond. Procurement was by grant and donations.

Six 2'x8'x $\frac{3}{4}$ " plywood panel walls with hand holds cut to make them easy to carry, and hinges with removable pins on each end placed to allow easy assembly/disassembly. Bill Pavlisick and Devon Stokesbary secured the steel support metal, cut it to length, and welded the side supports on the five metal structural pieces. The rest of us assembled all the parts to confirm fitment.



Wood panels being fitted with hinges



Metal side and end supports in place



Metal end support shown interlocking with cross-support (steel is all painted)



PVC liner holders act as top edge to hold the liner in place on the plywood walls and protect it from abrasion from the fishing poles and many hands.



Two buckets with holes drilled in their sides will be filled with coarse prefilter fabric media for both the aeration pump (center) with manifold (left) and the intake for the sand filter/pump (right). The aerator manifold has removable endcaps to allow for cleanout. The sand filter will be used for multiday events to improved water quality for the fish. The sand filter is attached to a handcart for portability. Bill and George each donated a sump pump to ensure there will be a spare available for emergencies.





Sand filter multi-valve allows *back-flush*, *disposal*, and *filter* flow settings. The pump must be shut off when making changes to the flow setting. In addition, a tool box with appropriate wrenches has been assembled to make sure setup goes without hitches. Pool liner is 45 mil EPDM vinyl, which is fish safe. The test fitting of the liner onto the pool support frame allowed it to be marked to simplify centering of the liner on the support framework structure and to remove the excess length shown on the left hand side.

Layout requires placing the steel supports starting with the ends first, then placing cross-supports and moving components to interlock. The plywood support walls are added and locked into place with hinge pins. Finally, the liner is placed in the bottom of the space and unfolded over the walls using the PVC liner holders to secure it in position. Once filled with water, the water pressure holds the liner in place and flattens wrinkles. The aeration pump is fitted with power cord tied to the center top support to keep it out of the water. Filling the pool with water from city source requires addition of about 16 oz of *Prime*TM concentrated water conditioner for chlorine removal (our pond is about 2000 gallons) and roughly the same amount will be required to detoxify ammonia, nitrate, and nitrate (fish waste) to keep the fish active on the second and third days

if it is a long duration event (three bottles total = \$60). The sand filter attaches to the coarse prefilter for intake water with the unit setting outside the pool near a pond corner. Until we have gained some experience with the sand filter, the backflushing frequency is unknown. Pressure drop on the filter must be monitored and should indicate when needed. We have included a long hose that can lead outside for disposal of the backwash (roughly 1 minute of pump operation) required to flush and replenish the filter. The aerator must operate full time while fish are present.

Shut down after the event comprises removing the fish (usually with the provider taking the remaining fish back) we have fabricated a pusher screen that concentrates the fish for easier netting, draining the water, removing the pumps, rinsing the coarse filters and sand filter, removing the PVC liner holders, folding the liner, removing hinge pins and taking down the wood side walls, and finally removing the steel supports. When removing the liner, look for punctures (wet spots on the floor) and mark so that patching can be performed. The trailer is set up to store the entire assembly. **Rinsing and drying** all components is required to prevent freeze damage as well as strong odors from developing. Repair of equipment and liner is a must. Inspecting and repairing all poles and tackle is also regularly required.

2020 February Willamette Sportsman's Show at the Albany Expo Center where the fish pond was the great hit at the show (about 1,000 kids got to fish with their parents...note the line center top where there was no complaining).

For the portable fishing pond, only bamboo poles with fixed lengths of line and a hook with bait are used. The poles were prepared and donated by Chapter members. Short poles and limited length of line limits tangles and casting issues when so many kids are in such close proximity.



We have provided the fishing poles, line, hooks, and bait (most of the time bait is donated), the chemicals, and the labor for past events. The sponsoring organization procures the fish and reimburses for the chemicals used. We have handled up to 500 fish in this 8'x16'x2' (~2,000 gallon) tank. Keeping ice and zip-lock bags for those that want to take their catch home has been another of our group's donations. About 150 fish were caught in the three day event in 2020. Kids should be limited to fish for 10-15 minutes in groups of about 10 in order to minimize the backlog of kids and parents waiting in line. A working timing system has yet to be devised to make this more equitable. It takes about 6 staff to operate with a couple of teams needed to break the duty up into doable durations. The Expo runs from 9 to 8 on Saturday which would really be three teams on 4 hour shifts. It is very busy. The staff includes ticket taker/bait and pole provider, runner, and three fishing helpers (to both guide the newbies and handle the hooked fish) and icing station at the exit. We have found that the icing station must control use of resources. The runner is to provide help for whatever needs to get done. For a three day weekend 20 volunteers would be ideal.

In addition to the many hours provided by board members, we give special thanks for Burcham

Metal, Albany, OR. For donating the fish tank hardware,
Also, a very special thanks to the McLaughlin Chapter, for generously lending us their fish tank for the last two years, as well as providing a template for building our fish tank.

From the last two years, making fish tanks available have put smiles on hundreds of children's faces, as many of them catch their first fish.

It is our intent it make the new fish tank available to local events. This will not only introduce many children and parents to fishing and outdoors, it will also provide a great venue for moving forward.



ANWS Mid-Valley Chapter's 6'x12' trailer for the portable fishing pond transport was purchased by the Chapter during 2019.

About 40 Zebco reels and poles are housed in the trailer that originated from ODFW STEP sources. We keep them at the ready for outdoor lake fishing events to supplement ODFW free fishing events when we are called upon to help facilitate these events.

All of this equipment should give us capabilities to support kid's learning to fish for many years to come. Don't be shy about volunteering!

COST BREAKDOWN FOR ASSEMBLY AND FABRICATION

ITEM DESCRIPTION	COST	CUM TOTAL	DONATED BY
45 mil 12'x23' EPDM Pond Liner	\$344.77	\$344.77	
3 4'x8'x3/4" CDX Plywood	\$135.68	\$480.45	
Fabrication and Assembly Labor	~70 hours ~450 miles		George Larson, Ron Pockrus, Harold Fisher, Bill Pavlisick, and others
Sand Filter, Sand, and Hoses	\$253.79	\$734.24	
PVC Pipe and Fittings	\$77.47	\$811.71	
Metal for Pump/Filter Platform	\$9.00	\$820.71	
Specialty Pressure Fittings for Press Gauge	\$41.56	\$862.27	
Steel for Support Structure			Bill Pavlisick and Devon Stokesbary
Aeration Pump, PVC Pipe, and Fittings	\$80.00		George Larson and Bill Pavlisick
Bamboo Poles, Line, and Hooks	\$50.00		Rita Russell and Hank Keehner with help from Jim Sallee and Billie Giddens
ODFW STAC Mini-Grant, reimbursement applied for 1/3/2021	<\$518.00>		
Total Cost to Chapter	\$344.27		

ODFW Project to Post Information at Local Fishing Ponds

During the summer and fall of 2019, the ANWS Mid-Valley Chapter provided aid to Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife by assembling five kiosks at various local fishing locations. The kiosks are designed as long-lifetime structures with plastic lumber and aluminum pieces. The project initially started with our group adding seating benches and finishing platform and ramp railings around EE Wilson Pond near Corvallis, then branched out to include St Louis Ponds near Gervias and Woodburn Pond north of Woodburn. More recently, the Chapter has helped with releveling the walkways around EE Wilson Pond for better handicapped access.



Woodburn Pond



St Louis Ponds



St Louis Ponds

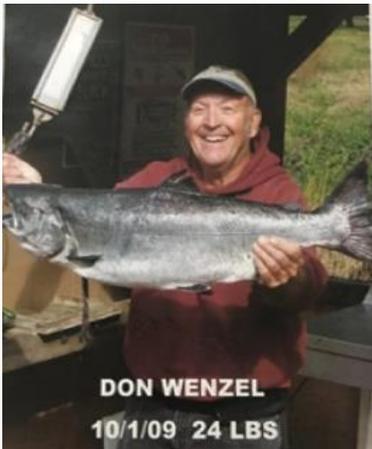
Fishing Report



Kim Dowe's big catch!

This little guy was returned to get a little bigger.

In Memory of those members who passed in 2020



February 4 1943 October 8 2020.
Donald E. Wenzel, age 77, died Thursday, October 8, 2020 at his Albany home.



Donald Paul Heintzman was born on Saturday, February 06, 1937 and passed away on Saturday, April 18, 2020.

For questions about the chapter, please contact the chapter president, Jim Sallee at jasallee10@gmail.com

Please email George Larson (larsg1f@gmail.com) renewal information so we can update our chapter records.

To share pictures or other news items, send to: Billandaj@centurytel.net.



JOIN THE ASSOCIATION OF NORTHWEST STEELHEADERS

Anglers dedicated to enhancing and protecting fisheries and their habitats for today and the future.

Check one:

- Annual Member..... \$30 per year
- Sustaining Member..... \$10 per month
- Lifetime Member..... \$500 one time
- Budgeted Life Member.... \$100 in 5 annual installments

These are the standard rates as of January 1, 2020

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Chapter or Member at Large

*A portion of your membership may be tax deductible.
Check with your tax advisor.*

Mail this membership forms to:
George Larson, 414 12th Ave SW, Albany, OR 97321

Memberships received by the Mid-Valley Chapter will be forwarded to the NW Steelheaders main association.