



Managing Fish Ponds in Oregon

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Topics for today:

- ❖ **Thoughts on successful pond management**
- ❖ **Useful internet resources for pond owners**

Ponds for many purposes:



Fish Production



Recreation



Water Supply



Esthetics



**Wildlife
Habitat**

*The single most important
management principle:*

**“An ounce of prevention is
worth a pound of cure”**

Successful pond management:

1. **Build your ponds correctly**
2. **Stock your ponds wisely**
3. **Manage your ponds well**
4. **Harvest your fish!**

Build your ponds correctly:

- Include clay cores in embankments
- Use anti-seep collars on pipes
- Deepen the edges around the pond
- Always include a drain
- Include an adequate spillway
- Consult an engineer before starting

Good pond construction can help you:

- Minimize construction costs
- Minimize adverse environmental effects
- Avoid problems such as leaking/
seepage, dam breaches, washouts
- Minimize problems such as weed and
algae infestations
- Generally make management easier

Stock your pond wisely:

- Match species to pond conditions (temperature, depth considerations)
- Choose species that will be easy to manage
- Stock the correct numbers
- Avoid bringing in exotics

Manage your pond well:

- Avoid planting rooted plants, especially exotics
- Consider fertilizing the pond
- Consider feeding the fish
- Monitor pond conditions frequently (daily)

Harvest your fish!

- In bass/bluegill ponds, failure to harvest can lead to stunted populations (many small fish)
- In many trout ponds, un-harvested fish eventually die and have to be replaced anyway



Happy Fishing!

Internet resources (1):

❖ “AquaNIC”—

Aquaculture Network Information Center

<http://www.aquanic.org/>

[Aquaculture Network Information Center.htm](#)

Internet resources (2):

- ❖ the Regional Aquaculture Centers (RACs)
http://aquanac.org/publicat/usda_rac/racpubs.htm
- ❖ the Western Regional Aquaculture Center
<http://www.fish.washington.edu/wrac/>

Internet resources (3):

- ❖ “e-answers”—
the *American Distance Education Consortium’s*
“extension information source”

<http://e-answers.adec.edu/>

[ADEC E-Answers Search 250,000+ documents at 50+ land grant institutions.htm](#)

- ❖ **Alternative Farming Systems
Information Center**

<http://www.nal.usda.gov/afsic/afsaqua.htm>

[AFSIC Aquaculture Resources.htm](#)

Internet resources (4):

- ❖ **Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife**
<http://www.dfw.state.or.us/>
[Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Salem, Ore.htm](#)
- ❖ **Oregon Water Resources Department**
<http://www.wrd.state.or.us/>
[State of Oregon Water Resources Department.htm](#)
- ❖ **Oregon Department of Agriculture**
<http://egov.oregon.gov/ODA/>
[State of Oregon Oregon Department of Agriculture.htm](#)

Internet resources (5):

- ❖ Oregon Department of State Lands
<http://statelands.dsl.state.or.us/>
- ❖ Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
<http://www.deq.state.or.us/>

Internet resources (6):

❖ USDA Aquaculture Page

http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/!ut/p/s.7_0_A/7_0_1OB?navid=AQUACULTURE&parentnav=AGRICULTURE&navtype=RTAquaculture.htm

❖ Natural Resources Conservation Service

Formerly the *Soil Conservation Service (SCS)*

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/NaturalResourcesConservationService.htm>