



Kokanee Karnival Youth Education Program

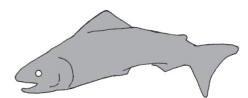
History – The Spawning of Ideas

The outdoor environment is a significant factor in the Central Oregon economy and life-style. The multitude of outdoor activities lures more and more visitors and permanent residents each year. These people help sustain the local economy. However, the ever-increasing number of people can place a significant burden on the environment.

To help sustain, improve, and develop an appreciation of Central Oregon's unique outdoor environment, it is important to teach young students about the region's natural resources, especially its water and fisheries resources. Central Oregon elementary schools do not have sufficient funds or manpower to plan, organize, equip, and conduct educational projects with a field component.

During 1996, a cooperative planning effort involving teachers, representatives from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Salmon-Trout Enhancement Program (ODFW-STEP) and the Deschutes National Forest (DNF), and members of The Central Oregon Flyfishers took place. The result is the Kokanee Karnival Youth Education Program, a multipart, hands-on program that fills the gap in natural resource education and helps students achieve Oregon's Education Standards. Although limited by funding and the number of volunteers who participate, the program is available to as many schools as possible within the Central Oregon tri-county area.

Since 1996, an average of 30 classrooms have participated in the program each year. One of the program's goals is to increase the number of schools that participate.



Kokanee Karnival activities help students achieve Oregon's Education Standards.

Kokanee Karnival Activities



If the budget allows, Kokanee Karnival pays the school district for the cost of transportation to the Streamside, Hatchery, and Angling Clinic sites. Kokanee Karnival receives a discount for using the school district's buses.

Kokanee Karnival consists of the following activities, which provide opportunities for learning about clean water, healthy watersheds, fish conservation, and community stewardship:

- Streamside Experience
- Hatchery Experience
- Angling Clinic Experience
- Classroom Projects

Streamside Experience

The purpose of the Streamside Experience is to involve students in a field trip to a local stream to observe spawning kokanee salmon (landlocked sockeye salmon). Students rotate among stations where trained volunteers give presentations about salmon life cycles (The Incredible Journey⁺), fish habitat (Comforts of Home⁺), and food requirements (Nature's Restaurant⁺). Each presentation focuses on conservation and preservation of resources and habitat, in addition to details specific to each station. Students view fish in their native habitat, play games that are lesson-based, and engage in interactive activities at each station. The goal of the Streamside Experience is to help students connect the natural fish spawning and development process to the Fish Eggs to Fry egg incubation classroom project later in the year. For more information about the Streamside Experience, see **Chapter 4. Streamside Experience.**



Hatchery Experience

During a field trip to a local fish hatchery, students learn about the role of Oregon's hatcheries, hatchery operations, and how hatchery fish are transported. They also learn about the importance of salmon to Native Americans. At stations set up at the hatchery, trained volunteers and hatchery personnel give presentations to students about Broodfish, Eggs and Milt Spawning,

⁺ Titles courtesy of *Discovering Salmon: A Learning and Activity Book*, by Nancy Field and Sally Machlis, Dog-Eared Publications, Middleton, WI, and used with permission.

Incubation—Hatch House, Feed Room, Rearing Ponds and Liberation, Stocking, Llamas, and Salmon People. For more information about the Hatchery Experience, see **Chapter 5. Hatchery Experience.**

The Hatchery and Streamside Experiences are combined into a day-long field trip for students. Near the end of September, when kokanee salmon spawn, the Streamside Experience takes place at Brown's Creek and the Hatchery Experience at the Fall River Fish Hatchery, which is a few miles away.

The Central Oregon Flyfishers provide volunteers for the Streamside Experience; the Sunriver Anglers and Central Oregon Llama Association provide volunteers for the Hatchery Experience. Volunteers and personnel from ODFW, the hatchery, and the DNF also participate.



Angling Clinic Experience

Students participate in a day-long field trip to a local pond where they learn about fish biology, water safety, and angling skills. Students play Hooks and Ladders, a game that illustrates the natural and man-made hazards salmon may encounter during their lifetime. Trained volunteers and representatives from the ODFW and Deschutes National Forest give presentations at Knot Tying, Casting and Water Safety, Fish Biology: Care of the Catch, and Fishing Tackle and Methods stations. Volunteer coaches assist students while they fish at the pond. The program and its sponsors provide lunch and all fishing gear. For more information about the Angling Clinic, see **Chapter 6. Angling Clinic Experience.**





The Angling Clinic Experience takes place at Shevlin Pond during the last week of April. Adjacent to the pond is an indoor facility with restrooms.

The Sunriver Anglers provide volunteers who prepare and serve lunch, and members of The Central Oregon Flyfishers and the Central Oregon Llama Association provide volunteers who conduct activities at each station. Volunteers and personnel from ODFW and the DNF also participate.

Classroom Projects

Classroom Projects, which occur throughout the year, are designed for elementary, middle, and high school students. A teacher may enroll his or her classroom in one or more of the following projects:



- **Fish Eggs to Fry** - Students hatch trout or salmon eggs in the classroom, control development of the eggs, and release the fry into an approved local waterbody. This project models events that occur within a trout nest (redd) in natural stream conditions.
- **Fish Dissection** - Students learn basic anatomy by examining external and internal features of the salmon while discussing how fish, other animals, and humans behave in their environment.
- **Angler Education** - Students complete a course that emphasizes basic fishing skills, principles of stewardship, responsible and ethical conduct, and safety around water.
- **Community Stewardship Projects** - Students participate in one or more projects that encourage and demonstrate caring for natural resources.

For more information about classroom projects, see **Chapter 7. Classroom Projects.**

Classrooms enrolled in Kokanee Karnival at the Comprehensive Level must participate in the Fish Eggs to Fry, Angler Education, and Community Stewardship classroom projects. The Fish Dissection classroom project is optional. For more information about the Comprehensive Level, see **Chapter 3. Participation.**



School Participation

In the spring, teachers apply to have their fourth or fifth-grade classrooms participate in Kokanee Karnival at the Comprehensive Level during the following school year. The Comprehensive Level requires a classroom to participate in the Streamside, Hatchery, and Angling Clinic Experiences, as well as Fish Eggs to Fry, Angler Education, and Community Stewardship classroom projects. The Fish Dissection classroom project is optional.

Teachers of students at any other grade level may apply to participate in Kokanee Karnival at the Elective Level. Classrooms enrolled at the Elective Level may participate in one or more of these classroom projects: Fish Eggs to Fry, Angler Education, Community Stewardship, and Fish Dissection.

For more information about school participation, see **Chapter 3. Participation.** For an overview of Kokanee Karnival activities and levels of school participation, see Figure 1. Kokanee Karnival Activities and Levels of School Participation.

Organization, Administration, and Responsibility

The Kokanee Karnival Youth Education Program is a tax-exempt program supported solely by donations, grants, and volunteer service. The Central Oregon Flyfishers, a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) corporation dedicated to broadening the public's knowledge and understanding of Oregon's aquatic resources, administers the program. The ODFW-STEP Biologist provides technical advice. The Program Director reports to the Kokanee Karnival Steering Committee Chairman, who is a member of the COF Board of Directors.

Kokanee Karnival Activities and Levels of School Participation

Comprehensive Level*

Streamside Experience
(Fall)

Hatchery Experience
(Fall)

Fish Eggs to Fry Classroom Project
(Twice/year, Fall or Winter)

Angler Education Classroom Project
(Spring)

Angling Clinic Experience
(Spring)

Community Stewardship Classroom Project
(anytime during school year)

Fish Dissection Classroom Project
(optional, usually Spring)

Elective Level**

Fish Eggs to Fry Classroom Project
(Fall or Winter)

Fish Dissection Classroom Project
(usually Spring)

Angler Education Classroom Project
(Spring)

Community Stewardship Classroom Project
(anytime during school year)

* Classrooms enrolled at the Comprehensive Level are required to participate in all the activities except the Fish Dissection classroom project, which is optional. The Streamside and Hatchery Experiences are combined into a day-long field trip.

** Classrooms enrolled at the Elective Level may participate in one or all of the classroom projects listed above. None are required.

Figure 1. Kokanee Karnival Activities and Levels of School Participation

Producing Partners

Producing Partners plan, organize, and operate Kokanee Karnival through the Steering Committee. Producing Partners also provide manpower, equipment, resources, specialized services, and technical advice. Each Producing Partner provides at least one representative to serve on the Kokanee Karnival Steering Committee.

Kokanee Karnival's Producing Partners are The Central Oregon Flyfishers, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Salmon-Trout Enhancement Program, Sunriver Anglers, Deschutes National Forest, and Central Oregon Llama Association. Some Producing Partners also make a cash contribution to the program.

Donors and Grantors

In addition to Producing Partners, Kokanee Karnival is supported by donors and grantors. A donor is an individual or organization that donates cash. A grantor is a foundation or agency that grants or awards funds for the program.

Kokanee Karnival Steering Committee

The Kokanee Karnival Steering Committee is comprised of at least one representative from each Producing Partner and is responsible for program development and operations. Individuals from elsewhere in the community, who can bring balance, expertise, and energy to the Steering Committee are also welcome to participate. The committee should have approximately nine members.

The committee's function is to develop and operate, within the approved budget, the Kokanee Karnival Youth Education Program and foster its growth. The Steering Committee has the following responsibilities:

- Report to the COF Board of Directors
- Manage the operation of the program
- Ensure adequate funding by acquiring grants, donations, and other types of financial support
- Identify potential sponsors, assist in soliciting their support, and provide recognition
- Encourage more community involvement and recognition

- Establish goals for growth and organization of the program and define methods to reach goals
- Direct activities of the Program Director and ensure Program Director attains growth and organizational goals
- Evaluate each activity upon its completion
- Develop an Annual Plan of Operations that includes month-by-month activities
- In conjunction with the Program Director, develop an annual budget, present the budget to the COF Board of Directors for approval, and periodically monitor reports of income and expenditures
- Meet on a regular basis

Kokanee Karnival Program Director

The Program Director reports to the Kokanee Karnival Steering Committee Chairman and has the following responsibilities:

- Develop a Kokanee Karnival Program Plan that includes capacity requirements, operations, and financial plans
- Establish a rapport with the educational community and identify specific requirements, program improvements, and classrooms that want to join the program
- Explore new relationships with other organizations to share ideas, minimize duplication of effort, realize efficiencies, and reduce costs
- Generate enthusiasm within Producing Partners through personal contact, meeting presentations, and requests for additional financial and volunteer support
- Increase fundraising capacity and identify sources for recurring operational support
- Develop a five-year program cost and funding plan that includes donations from local businesses, government agencies, corporate and private giving programs/foundations, events, and planned giving
- Explore the possibility of obtaining nonprofit 501(c)(3) status for Kokanee Karnival

- Plan, organize, oversee, and assist in the recruitment of volunteers from the Producing Partners and other entities
- Organize and direct activities of volunteers and administrative personnel
- Develop and implement a training program for volunteers and teachers who participate in Kokanee Karnival
- Explore the possibility of providing assistance to other groups that want to start a program similar to Kokanee Karnival
- Direct the planning, organization, and implementation of activities and classroom projects for the Comprehensive and Elective Level and participate in activities and projects
- Manage publicity of program activities by preparing and distributing press releases and establishing a public relations/advertising plan
- Report to the Kokanee Karnival Steering Committee as required
- Ensure all activities are consistent with the policies and procedures of the COF Board of Directors and the mission of the program
- Prepare and distribute written and electronic meeting notices, meeting records, project instructions, and reports to teachers, volunteers, agency representatives, and others as needed
- Maintain an up-to-date database of all equipment, its location, and condition
- Ensure all equipment designated as property of Kokanee Karnival remains with the program
- Process applications from schools that apply to participate in the program and decide which schools may participate at the Comprehensive and Elective Levels

Insurance

Each Producing Partner maintains an accident and liability policy for its volunteers.

Bookkeeping

The COF Board of Directors maintains separate checking and savings accounts for Kokanee Karnival. The funds in these accounts are for the exclusive use of the program. A certified public accountant conducts an annual review of the accounts. Auditors prepare all 501(c)(3) filings.



An annual review or audit of accounts is often helpful and sometimes required for grant funding.

The Program Director authorizes all expenditures consistent with the approved Kokanee Karnival budget. The Kokanee Karnival Steering Committee approves payment of bills and then forwards the bills to the COF Treasurer for payment. The Program Director and the Steering Committee Chairman must approve all unbudgeted expenditures. The Steering Committee reviews financial records, monthly cash flow, budgeted expenses, and actual expenses.

Grant foundations typically donate funds for a specific purpose, such as special equipment and lunches for students. It is essential to maintain a usage record of these restricted funds so they remain available for the intended purpose and for reporting back to grantors.

The Kokanee Karnival budget runs on a calendar-year basis. The budget is set near the end of the year, usually in conjunction with the COF budget.



With its current annual budget, Kokanee Karnival supports eight schools enrolled at the yearlong Comprehensive Level, plus approximately twenty schools enrolled in various classroom projects at the Elective Level.

Historically, Kokanee Karnival has received about \$3 worth of volunteer and in-kind donations for every dollar contributed by a donor.

Training

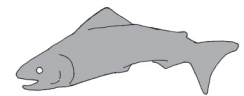
Depending on the number of volunteers and teachers who are participating in Kokanee Karnival for the first time, the regional ODFW-STEP Biologist and the Kokanee Karnival Program Director coordinate the preparation of materials and training. Occasional training classes, “refresher” programs, and evaluation sessions are held as needed.

Equipment, Props, Teaching Tools

Various types of equipment and supplies are needed to operate Kokanee Karnival. Chapters describing the Streamside, Hatchery, and Angling Clinic Experiences and Classroom Projects list the equipment needed for each activity.

Applying Oregon’s Education Standards

Teachers today need resources and opportunities to help connect classroom lessons to real world events. Natural resource topics provide a thematic tie to many of Oregon’s academic content area standards across several disciplines. Kokanee Karnival activities, supplemented with activities provided by the teacher, can help students achieve success in most of the academic content areas. To see how Kokanee Karnival activities help students achieve Oregon’s Education Standards, see Table 1. *Achieving Oregon’s Education Standards With Kokanee Karnival Program Activities.*



It is often useful to include information in Table 1 when applying for a grant.

Table 1. Achieving Oregon's Education Standards With the Kokanee Karnival Program

Kokanee Karnival Activities That Help Students Achieve Oregon's Educational Standards						
Content Area	Strand	Streamside & Hatchery Experiences	Fish Eggs to Fry	Fish Dissection	Angler Education & Angling Clinic	Community Stewardship
English	Reading, Literature		■		■	
	Writing	■	■		■	■
	Communication		■		■	■
Mathematics	Calculations & Estimations		■			
	Measurement		■		■	
	Statistics & Probability		■		■	
	Problem Solving		■			
Science	Unifying Concepts & Processes	■	■	■	■	■
	Physical Science		■			
	Life Science	■	■	■	■	■
	Scientific Inquiry		■		■	
	Science in Personal & Social Perspectives	■	■		■	■
	History		■		■	
	Civics				■	
Social Science	Geography		■		■	
	Economics		■		■	
	Social Science Analysis		■		■	
	Create, Present, and Perform		■		■	■
The Arts						
Career-Related Learning						
Physical Education						
Character Education		■			■	■