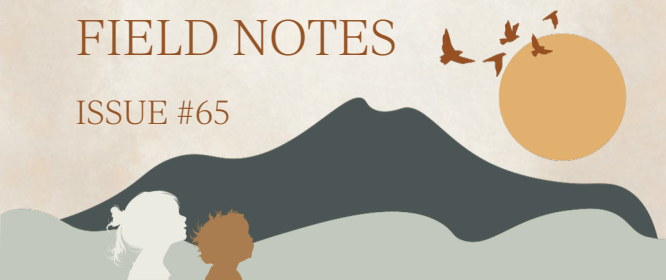


Nat Theo Club

FIELD NOTES

ISSUE #65



Salmon

FISH

HABITAT

Born in a stream, salmon leave the stream for the ocean when they are small. Young salmon “fingerlings” migrate to the ocean because it has food to help them grow.

FUN FACT

Salmon return to the place that they were born to lay eggs. They will leave the ocean and swim upstream travelling many miles so that the young will be safe from predators.



HAVE YOU HEARD OF A FISH LADDER?

While in Seattle, Washington, I visited the Chittenden Locks. This Lock has two doors that hold back water. They open and close, allowing boats through while keeping fresh water from mixing with the salty ocean water in the Puget Sound.

I saw two boats enter the Lock from the ocean. The lock doors closed, and fresh water was pumped into the Lock to raise the ships to the level of the canal. The canal doors opened, and the boats moved through to Lake Union and Lake Washington.

Although this was exciting, I was more interested in seeing the salmon ladder. As salmon return to their birthplace, they encounter the Locks and a change in water height. The canal is 22 feet higher than the ocean. Since salmon cannot jump 22 feet, a salmon ladder was created to help them slowly move up to the canal level.

Seals and sea lions will wait for the salmon to arrive at the Lock because many will arrive at the same time. As the fish look for an escape, the predators will chase and eat some of them. Most of the fish will escape by entering the ladder and swimming up each step, to reach their egg-laying destination in the freshwater canal or lakes.

← Salmon ladder, Seattle

Have you ever been tempted to do something that you shouldn't? God knows this will happen and so He will give us a way out so that we have another choice. I Corinthians 10:13b says that “with the temptation He (God) will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.” If you look for the exit door, like the salmon ladder, you will escape from making a choice that will hurt you or others. God is always with you and will always help you!

