

Oregon Hatchery Research Center Meeting Room Named after Founding Director

In December of 2020, the longtime Director of the Oregon Hatchery Research Center (OHRC) Dr. David Noakes, passed away. To honor his memory and his commitment to the facility and its mission, ODFW and OSU are dedicating the large meeting room at the OHRC as the “David L. G. Noakes Meeting Room”.

Dr. Noakes was an exceptional scientist whose contribution to fisheries science over a career that spans many decades are too numerous to list. Dr Noakes was hired as the Senior Scientist at OHRC when the facility opened in 2005. He spearheaded many of the early projects at the OHRC and continued to have a strong presence in the research done over the years. He was the principal investigator on the Olfactory Imprinting project which developed an odor cocktail to add to the water at Elk River Hatchery to improve homing, the Geomagnetic Homing project which helped to understand how salmon use the Earth’s magnetic field to navigate the ocean, and the Surrogate project which grows fish the with wild-like phenotypes to act as surrogates for wild fish that the Army Corps of Engineers use in testing their juvenile downstream passage evaluations. He was a champion of good science, a mentor, and a friend to so many, and often the voice of common sense in the room, ensuring that projects were done for a reason, not just because we could. His calm and organized presence will be missed.



