

"STEDCO," (continued from p. 1)

of Aug. 1 to Aug. 31 the net loss totaled \$15,494. For the month of June, the Enterprise showed a net loss of \$21,357.

On the up side, sales were \$56,147 while payroll (including subcontracting costs) was \$17,234 for August. Shoemake also expects the end of the year sales of Christmas trees and related seasonal items to be enough to "bring Evergreen back into line."

Eight Evergreen production employees are currently taking business skills classes through the Oregon Coast Community College.

Bingo Enterprise

The Siletz Bingo Operation showed a net profit of \$697.83 for the month of August after posting a \$289.36 net loss for the month of June. According to Shoemake, Bingo will introduce a new paper games when their current gaming supplies run out.

Seafood Division

STEDCO Salmon showed losses for the same reporting periods, with a \$7,742 deficit for August and a \$5,203 net loss for June. August sales were recorded at \$6,199 while the enterprise paid out \$5,874 in payroll.

Production continues at the salmon plant. "The sales are what we're lacking in," Shoemake said. "We're putting out small orders — kind of treading water until the new manager gets on board."

The good news, according to Shoemake, is that "the product is perfected. We made a major investment in fish. We bought 30,000 lbs. of salmon at an excellent price."

The fish is being stored in an Albany warehouse.

Timber

In August, the STEDCO Board awarded the Cerrine Creek Timber Sale to Philomath Wood Products. In late September, the buyer was attempting to renegotiate the price, citing a drop in demand for lumber. STEDCO rebuffed the attempt. In early October, Philomath Wood Products shut its gates to tribal timber.

"We're negotiating with two buyers," Shoemake said. "It looks promising. Logging is shut down. If we end up selling the lumber to another buyer, they'll open it back up. 1 million board feet is on the ground."

The logging contract for the Cerrine Creek sale was awarded to low bidder Kent Strickler, a tribal member from Siletz. It was the first time that a Siletz tribal member had been awarded a logging contract on tribally owned timber.

At the October 20th Tribal Council meeting, Council members Manuel Rilatos and Frank Simmons

voiced concerns over the level of timber breakage on the Cerrine Creek Sale. Timber Manager Gene Russell stated that the loggers had a rate of damaged timber approaching 15% early in the project due to steep terrain and inexperienced timber fallers. Russell said that corrective measures had been taken and that timber breakage was down to about 8%.

Russell also reported that STEDCO was moving ahead with plans to setup a portable sawmill in the Siletz area to process hardwoods. The STEDCO industrial site — located at the old Sand and Gravel property — will be home to the sawmill, a deck for hardwood and cull logs, and the STEDCO Timber Division.

Commission Notes

2 tribal member Commissioner positions remain vacant around the STEDCO Board meeting table. No formal qualifications are required, though Shoemake said that "a background in business is desirable."

Not So Funnies

Not too long ago, two white men were down on their luck. They were broke. They saw a sign. "Wanted Indian Scalps. Ten dollars a piece." They thought that sounded like a good idea. So they asked someone, "How do you get Indian scalps?"

"Well, you go out in the woods," someone told them. "Then you build a fire and wait for an Indian to come by."

So these two went out into the woods and built a fire.

And after a while an Indian comes by. They hit the Indian on the head.

They went farther into the woods and built another fire. After a short time, two Indians come along. They shot them both.

They kept this up, going farther into the woods and killing Indians who they meet up with.

After a few days they made camp in a big meadow. They built a fire. Pretty soon they saw a Indian move out of the timber into the field. Then more and more Indians appeared. In a little while, there were Indians all around that meadow and those two white men sitting by the fire.

"There must be thousands," the one said to the other.

"Lordy, Lordy. We're going to be millionaires," said the other.