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tant consideration of all parties. "Enhancement has to come first, we can't argue with the biologists whose recommendations are based on years of collected data."

Closure of the fishery above the I-5 bridge became necessary when it was apparent that the fall chinook run would not be as large as anticipated. Estimates had put the run at 270-280,000 fish, but by September 25 only 187,000 had reached Bonneville and the run was not expected to exceed 215,000.

Escapement of 100,000 adult fish for spawning was the goal but now it looks like only 80-90,000 will reach the hatcheries. Olhousen said that closure was "helpful — most definitely," and reported that the Spring Creek, Little White Salmon and Klickitat Hatcheries will have enough eggs for their needs.

The fingerlings of close to 50 million eggs will be released in the upper river and its tributaries next year.

By the time the estimate error was discovered, the lower river gillnetters had already caught a disproportionate number of upriver chinook. Since the fish count at Bonneville indicated that the peak came well before September 20, the lower river fishery below I-5 was left open.

According to Olhousen, the peak of the upriver run hit Bonneville on September 9, when 13,050 chinook (9277 adults) passed the dam. The count has decreased steadily since then, meaning that the fish below I-5 are mostly downriver bound.

Indians have been fishing in the sanctuary area at the Spring Creek Hatchery since the hatchery's needs were met. However, the catch is predominantly lower quality tules and darks, not the favored chinook.

Embarrassing miscalculations
Biologists are shaking their heads in embarrassment over their miscalculations. Bill Robinson of Oregon's Clackamas Labs explained: "Estimating the run size when the fish aren't in the river is not an exact science. Unfortunately it's not like counting pebbles. It's a living resource and it's hard to predict."

Run figures this year were based on the highest recorded number of fish released from hatcheries and the largest recorded return of jacks (young salmon) to Bonneville earlier this year, said Robinson.

The primary indicator of the fall run size is the catch during the first five days of lower river gillnetting in August. This year, for the first time in recent history, said Robinson, the catch didn't give an accurate estimate.

Robinson points to two unexpected factors that may have affected their run estimates. 1) Washington's report of a considerable amount of illegal gillnetting in the ocean at Willapa Bay; 2) About three days of illegal fishing after the August 23 closure on the Washington side of the river.

Water temperatures and other passage conditions which were abnormal for a time did not affect the run appreciably, said Robinson.

Robinson discounted fears of some that the ocean fishery causes a major depletion in salmon runs. "We haven't seen a correlation between the ocean catch and run size." He said that the two week closure in June of the fishery above Tillamook Head and the 28' net restrictions could be a help however. **Immediate compensation**

While apologies to the Tribes for miscalculations are profuse, the fishermen are looking ahead to compensation. As the result of meetings with Department of Commerce staff in D.C. last week, the Columbia River Inter-tribal Fish Commission is busy gathering figures on the numbers of fishermen impacted and their catch compared to other years.

Such indicators of loss, which Executive Director Dale Long predicts to be upwards of \$600,000, will help federal officials set a reasonable figure for assistance. The money would most likely go to the Commission for disbursement.

Wilbur Johnson, a member of the Fish and Wildlife Committee, was part of the D.C. delegation. He explained that the compensation could be in the form of a loan or a grant depending on the condition of the fishery next year and whether the lost 25,000 chinook can be allocated.

Even though emotions have been running high, Indian fishermen have dutifully pulled their nets. In Donaldson's letter to the Tribes he remarked, "...I am told that the Indian compliance to the closure has been excellent. I hope that the Indian

fishermen will put aside their disappointment and anger and recognize that if their fishery were to continue, it would further jeopardize the spawning escapement level that is needed

to assure perpetuation of the run."

The success of the Columbia River compact depends on the manner in which the parties respond to crises such as this one.

Suicide Leap Claims Woman

Wordlessly, a 51 year old Bend woman jumped from the Mill Creek Bridge at 10:15 a.m. Monday September 26 and lost her life in the deep canyon below.

Tribal Police supervised the recovery effort with the assistance of the Jefferson County Search and Rescue Unit and a tow truck from Ira's Wrecking Yard.

The woman, identified as Doris L. Kendrick, fell 350 feet landing on a concrete piling and then into the rocks, according to Acting Police Chief Dick Montee.

The body was attended to by Dr. Creelman and the rescue team, and was hauled up to Highway 26 by a wrecker.

A witness of the suicide, John Patchen of Madras, said he attempted to talk to the woman while she stood on the outside of the railing. "She wouldn't say a word," Patchen said.

After about 15 minutes, she jumped.

The body was taken to Madras by Vic Suratt of the Evergreen Chapel and then transported to The Dalles.

Montee Acting Police Chief

Dick Montee is temporarily in charge of the Warm Springs Police Department until Jeff Sanders returns to duty November 1.

Sanders' request for annual leave until Nov. 1 was approved on September 16 by General Manager Ken Smith and Municipal Manager Rudy Clements.

According to Clements, the intent of the request was to enable Sanders to take care of some personal matters which would require much of his time. Sanders felt it would be in the best interest of the Tribes if he

requested the leave, according to Clements.

During the interim, Clements has named Dick Montee as Acting Police Chief with full responsibility for the department.

Deer Tag Drop-Box

Following the suggestion of a tribal member, a deer tag drop-box will be placed on the bulletin board in Macy's store.

Five Slain Deer Found at Mill Truck Shop

Under what appeared to be suspicious-looking circumstances, five deer heads and skins were found at the Warm Springs Forest Products Industries truck shop Monday, September 19, according to Tribal Wildlife Biologist Terry Luther.

A buck, two does, and two fawns had evidently been shot and butchered sometime during the weekend. The animals were quartered, the meat taken, and the hides and heads were dumped at the southwest corner of the shop.

A nearby hose had apparently been used to wash down the vehicle which hauled the slain deer, according to a resource spokesman.

"Some of the animals may

have been taken legally — but it looks suspicious because of the way the hides were left," said Luther. He added that the deer were all shot at about the same time, and in the head, which could indicate poaching.

Also, since only one deer a month per family may be taken, five families would have to have been involved in order for the killings to be legal.

The hides were reportedly saturated with diesel fuel. According to a tribal member, that represents a shameful and wasteful manner in which to dispose of valuable hides.

Luther said he assumes that there will be an increase in hunting the next month or so due to the fact that the animals are

in prime condition.

He said that all tribal members are urged to obtain a deer tag prior to hunting. "And it is just as important that people return the reply portion of the tag at the end of the month," he noted.

"The reason for the tag is so the natural resource department will know what rate of harvest is occurring. Without knowing this, proper management is just about impossible," Luther ex-

plained.

Luther warned that the department will be cracking down on violators. "There have been so many reported illegal activities that we're going to start concentrating on violators," he said. Some of these violations include spot-lighting, members hunting without deer tags, and shooting from vehicles.

"This isn't going to be an all-out effort on tribal members

only, stressed Luther. He noted that there is an indication of illegal activities in areas of the reservation by non-tribal people.

The tribal wildlife biologist explained that poaching is on the upswing everywhere, not just on the reservation. Four-wheel drives make it possible to get into areas that were previously almost inaccessible, and CB radios are being used in a manner that is adding to this growing problem.



Five deer heads and hides were found by the mill truck shop September 19 under suspicious-looking circumstances. The hides, saturated with diesel fuel, were those of a buck, two does, and two

fawns. Appearances indicate the animals may have been taken illegally.

(Photo courtesy of Natural Resource Dept.)



Spilyay Tymoo

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