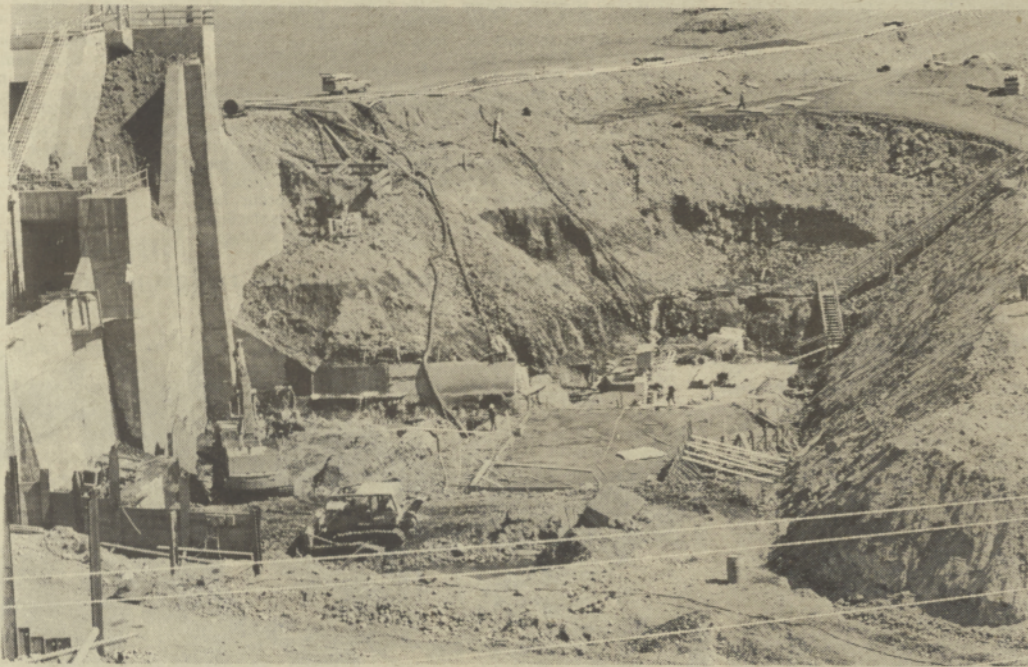


Progress on the reservation...

Changes create new look for Warm Springs



by Donna Behrend

It is almost needless to say that the Warm Springs reservation has undergone tremendous change over the last few years. All one needs to do is look around at the community and outlying areas to notice that Warm Springs has had a virtual "face lift."

All the items on the referendums that voters have approved over the last few years have finally taken shape. The hydro project is less than a year away from completion, housing needs for tribal members closer to being met, and a new, badly-needed domestic water system will be in working order in about six months. Also the reservation now has full-time fire protection, including well-equipped fire stations in Warm Springs, Simnasho and at Kah-Nee-Ta.

In June, Tribal Council members, branch managers and their secretaries, as well as construction department personnel toured all the recently completed or nearly completed projects on the reservation. The progress on the projects was an eye-opener for most.

Hydro-project—Those on the tour "oohed" and "aahed" when they arrived at the hydro site where they viewed tremendous change in the appearance of the site since the groundbreaking ceremonies in May. Hundreds of square yards of earth have been removed from the front side of the dam, making room for the generator. Crews have been vigorously pouring the concrete foundation which will house the turbine. Engineering consultant Jerry Dibble, says the "turbine is about 95% complete except for installation."

Tall metal pilings, on the west side of the river anchored to a cement weight on the opposite side of the river with 1 1/4" cables, have been installed to ensure that the existing dam wall won't be broken down or cracked by the force of the water.

Dibble praised Portland General Electric's cooperation during construction of the project, saying that they have lowered the pond level and shut the far west spillway so that work can be done. "They keep the water level to within a few inches so that we can work." He also said that A.S.C., contractor for the hydroelectric project as well as the new domestic water system, was doing the upstream work first so the PGE can regain use of their pond earlier than expected.

Project engineer Bob Moore gave a brief description of what the completed project would look like. "The roof on the powerhouse will not stick way up but look more an extension of the dam."

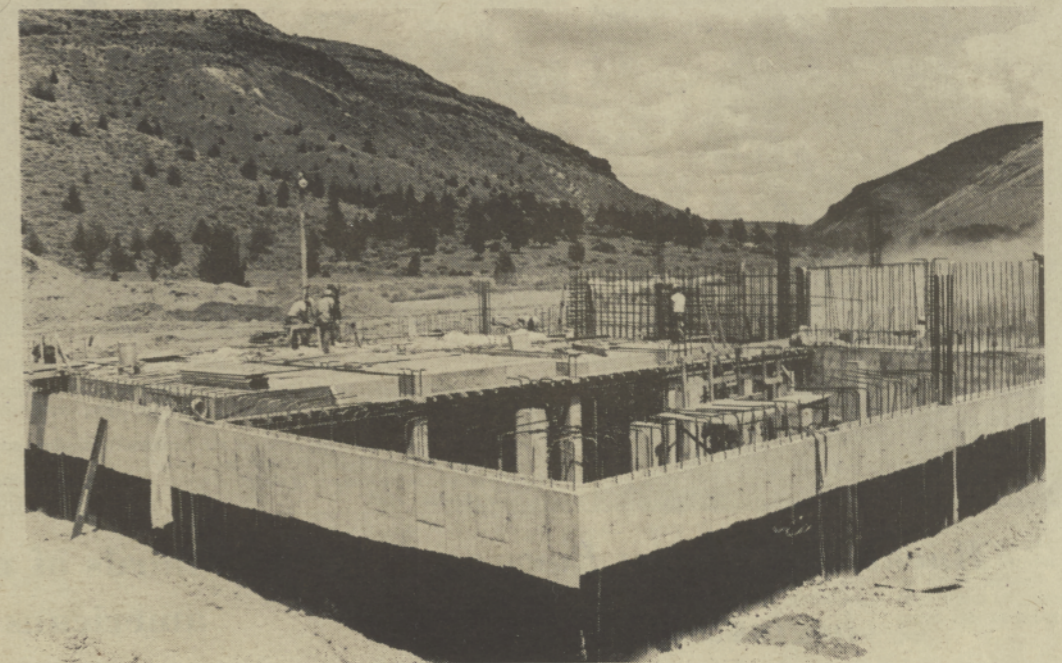
Nearly half (over \$13 million) of the \$30 million budgeted for the project will have been spent by the end of this month. The \$15 million state loan monies began coming in to the tribe in mid-July.

Housing—Unlike the low housing starts across the nation, Warm Springs is booming with completed single and multi-family dwellings.

Fifty new units-30 townhouses and 20 duplexes were completed early this year in the Tenico area and are now occupied. Rent is comparatively inexpensive, with the townhouses renting for \$250 and the duplexes renting for \$227.

The modern two-bedroom units are cozy, with wood stoves supplying heat in the winter and economical heat pumps helping cool the units in the summer. The townhouses have 1 1/2 baths, one continental bath upstairs between the bedrooms and the convenience bath downstairs. All have hookups for washers and dryers, deleting the necessity of a central laundromat.

The eight new senior citizens homes in Simnasho are also comfortable and much the same as the senior citizen homes in the Agency area. There are five empty lots near the senior citizen homes that have been developed for more homes.



The six older homes there were relocated, garages were added and they are now for sale. Loan applications have been made at the credit department, but none of the homes have been sold yet. The five, two-bedroom units were appraised at \$25,000 and the former four-bedroom police house was appraised at \$40,000 and is also for sale. Each is situated on a two or three-acre lot.

In the Greeley Heights area, all 35 homes have been sold and only four are on a lease-option. Those on the tour went through an 1,100 square foot "starter home" that is being built for Jimmy Manion. Because the price is low (\$33/square foot) the starter homes are an excellent alternative to mobile homes.

Manion's home has two bedrooms, two bathrooms and a carport. The home will be easy to add on to in the future if need be.

There are seven additional lots developed for homes in Greeley Heights and the area is restricted to houses, with no mobile homes allowed. Each lot is two to three acres in size with very few larger than three acres.

Domestic Water System—This project, being the only domestic water system on the Deschutes River, will be a showplace," according to the Enterprise Branch Manager and the day's tour guide Ed Manion.

The intake site, which is located near Andrew David's home at Dry Creek, will house the pumphouse, treatment plant and the filtration system. It will also accommodate a decorative clearwell, that will allow visitors to look at a three-tepee mosaic design. This clearwell also allows the treatment plant operator to easily check for water purity.

The pressure line has already been installed which runs from the Dry Creek plant to the new Eagle Butte reservoir. Work is currently being done on the "B" line which will run from the Eagle Butte reservoir to a reservoir south of the rodeo grounds in Warm Springs. Deep trenches are being dug to accommodate the pipes, and it is expected that the line will cross under Highway 26 next month. This line will service all of Warm Springs and the Dry Creek industrial and housing areas. Some of the existing service lines in Warm Springs will be used.

In the near future, the "C" line, which will

service all of Kah-Nee-Ta, will be installed. Both the Agency and Kah-Nee-Ta lines will be gravity flow, making it unnecessary to have pumping stations at the reservoirs.

The \$8 million project, which was jointly funded by Tribes, FmHa, EDA and IHS, was designed to fill projected community water needs to the year 2000. It also has the capability for additional equipment to serve up to the year 2020.

THE FUTURE:

The above-mentioned projects are still underway, and one may wonder what is in store for the future. According to tribal planning director Ray Rangila, the future of Warm Springs is much like the recent past, change and more change—but at a slower pace.

Development on the reservation has been prioritized by the year. In 1982, improvements to the detention and law enforcement facility are proposed. The existing facility may be enlarged and modular units added.

And, because housing for tribal members is over 100 units short, (homes and rentals) more units will be built. In addition, sub-divisions will be developed, meaning roads and utilities will be installed.

The Tribe has asked for proposals from local and national banks which may be interested in having a branch in Warm Springs. New facilities could be built west of the administration building to accommodate, the bank, a new post-office and the housing and credit departments. With approval of tribal members, the bank could be built next year.

The planning department will continue in 1982, to work on plans for a new Community Learning Center, with completion of the first phase of that facility expected in 1983 or 1984. The proposed location of the Community Learning Center, south of the Longhouse, would also accommodate the possible relocation of the district Grade School. The new campus would integrate Tribal, 509-J and Federal education programs.

The direction of future development on the reservation will be determined largely by the Comprehensive Plan, currently being updated. The plan, which is expected to be completed next year, will provide guidelines for orderly development, with tribal member involvement. The previous Comprehensive Plan, completed in 1969, did not include Tribal member input.

Progress on the reservation is changing the look of Warm Springs. (Top photo) Work on the Warm Springs Hydroelectric project has drastically changed the landscape at the reregulating dam. Great quantities of earth have been removed from the front of the dam to make way for the turbine. (Photo right) Pipes, running from the reservoir at Eagle Butte to the reservoir south of Warm Springs, are marching through the community. Levi Keo watches as men prepare to couple pipes in the deep trenches. (Far right photo) The treatment plant at Dry Creek is near completion and will house the pumphouse, treatment facilities and filtration system.



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photos

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