

Nusux Snwit Fish Talk Fishery Monitoring



by Cris Stainbrook

By now many tribal fishermen, both at Sherar's Falls and on the Columbia River, have encountered someone who is monitoring the harvest of salmon and steelhead. The information on catch is being gathered by both state and tribal technicians and will be used to estimate total harvest, species composition and fishing effort. I would ask all tribal fishermen to provide the most complete and honest information possible to the technicians. The need for good information is quite clear.

In order to manage any fish resources on a sustained yield basis, biologists must know how many fish are in the population and how many are being taken out of that population. Population sizes have often been estimated in the past with varying degrees of success. Estimates for

Columbia River salmon populations have become more accurate because of the counting stations at most of the dams. The number of salmon harvested by fishermen, treaty and non-treaty, has also been estimated again with varying degrees of success. By increasing the harvest monitoring effort, biologists hope to increase the accuracy. This, in turn, will lead to better management of the resource.

Many fishermen complain to us that the number of salmon caught will only be used against them in dividing the catch between treaty and non-treaty fishermen. These fishermen then do not report their entire catch. While it is true that eventually these numbers will probably find their way into the allocation process that is not the only use for them. Consider the following example.

Prior to the construction of The Dalles Dam and the flooding of Celilo Falls, federal

biologists were sent to the Falls to gather information on how many salmon the Indians were catching. Part of their time was spent watching and counting fish caught. The rest of the time was used to interview tribal fishermen as to how many fish they caught. Unfortunately, the fishermen were suspicious of this and chose to report less fish than were actually taken. The compensation for the inundation of the fishing sites at Celilo was based on the biologist's estimate of how many fish were being caught. This estimate was probably lower than the actual harvest due to the under reporting by fishermen.

While a situation like Celilo Falls and the compensation paid for the fish loss is unlikely to occur again on such a large scale, it may happen at individual fishing sites. There are presently several applications for permits pending on construction sites on the Columbia River. In the unlikely event these permits are granted, any compensation given to tribal fishermen will be based on past catch records for the area.

Please report your catch accurately!

Natives to discuss indigenous programs

The Warm Springs Indian Reservation will be the site, September 4-6, of a multi-national meeting about government policies and programs for indigenous or aboriginal peoples.

Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States will participate in the exchange of information among government program administrators and representatives of the native groups.

Smith, Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs in the Department of the Interior, will head the United States delegation. Other U.S. government representatives will be Dr. Everett Rhoades, Director of the Indian Health Service, and W. Lynn Engles, Commissioner of the Administration for Native Americans, both agencies in the Department of Health and Human Services.

The National Congress of American Indians, the National Tribal Chairmen's Association, the Alaska Federation of Natives and the

Hawaiian natives will also have participants at the meeting.

The meeting will be chaired by I.P. (Kara) Puketspu, formerly Secretary of the Office of Maori Affairs in New Zealand.

Two prior conferences of the four, English-speaking countries have been held, the first in 1981 in New Zealand and the other in 1982 in Hawaii. Each of the four countries is expected to send 10-12 persons to the meeting.

A welcoming feast on the first evening of the meeting will incorporate traditional elements of the Warm Springs culture, including Indian entertainment.

Assistant Secretary Smith said "discussions among the four nations have developed an appreciation of both the similarities and differences in the situations faced in the four countries. The exchange of information about policies and programs aimed at addressing common problems or concerns is very useful and helpful."

Headstart registration Sept. 12, 13

Headstart registration will be September 12 and 13 in the Community Center Arts and Crafts room. Your child must turn either three or four years old by November 15 to be eligible. To register:

1. Make an appointment for a physical. Forms are available at the Headstart office.

2. Bring proof of income to registration on September 12 and 13. Social security numbers are needed for all adults over the age of 21 in the household who contribute to

the family income.

The first day of Headstart preschool is Monday, September 17. Children will be allowed to begin on that day only if all registration forms have been completed and reviewed by the Headstart office staff.

A short video presentation will be part of the registration procedure on the registration days.

For additional information, call the Headstart office at 553-1161, ext. 241 or 242.



Spilyay Tymoo photo by Miller

The Tribal Council, Timber Committee, BIA Forester, Fish Biologist and several interested persons went on a tour set up by the Mt. Hood National Forest. The group met at the Bear Springs Ranger Station. Pictured here is the group viewing low cost road construction for short term use. The bridge built by gabion is a structure that will last for years.

YIKES YIKES Toe Ness YIKES YIKES

This small boy came home almost in tears from his first day at school. "I'm not going tomorrow," he sputtered. "Any why not, son?" His mother asked. "Well, I can't write and I can't read, and they won't let me talk, so what's the use?" YIKES.

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The teacher had asked her pupils who the nine greatest Americans were. They all handed in their papers, except little David. "Can't you finish your list, David?" asked the teacher. "I'm still undecided about the first baseman," he replied." YIKES

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It was just before Thanksgiving and the first grade teacher asked the pupils to tell her what they had to be thankful for. "I'm thankful," said one small boy, "that I'm not a turkey." YIKES

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A wife to her husband who was reluctant to help his small son with his homework: "You better help him while you can. Next year he goes into the fourth grade." YIKES

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