



DAM OBSTACLE—Swimming pools are often created in streams by the construction of small dams. However, these dams can prevent the migration of fish to spawning areas.

Dams cause stream blockage

Rock dams built in the streams around Warm Springs often provide a nice swimming and wading pool for children and adults. These builders of dams can sometimes create a dam which completely blocks the natural flow of the creek. Praise must be given for the work exerted to build such structures but unfortunately migrating spring chinook find these well-constructed dams too large an obstacle to surmount. Fish must be able

to swim upstream to spawn. Five dams, two of which actually block salmon passage, were discovered recently on Shitike Creek by Warm Springs Fisheries biologist Mark Fritsch. It was necessary for him to disassemble the dams to make an opening allowing fish passage. Fritsch's advice to those wishing to construct dams is to build them only tall enough to create a small pool. Two feet out of the water

definitely creates a problem for the fish. If they are low enough fish can jump the dams and continue their migration upstream. Fritsch also mentioned that while inspecting the streams for obstacles he noticed much litter, "the litter was disgusting," particularly the disposable diapers. To keep these areas enjoyable for all it is recommended that visitors to the streams pack up their garbage and take it home to their garbage cans.

Gopher treatment scheduled to begin

Action will soon begin on 2,400 acres of reservation forest plantations in an effort to control pocket gopher populations. Strychnine treated grain will be deposited by hand in gopher burrows. Hand baiting has been used previously in treatment programs, according to forestry development officer Larry Hanson. "It has been effective in the majority of units treated," says Hanson. The small rodents build an intricate burrow system, emerging at night to forage for food which consists of roots and stems of forbs and grasses. Roots and bark of young conifer seedlings are often included in this diet. Gopher populations rise and fall

in response to ecological factors such as food supply, predators and environmental conditions. When conditions are favorable gopher populations increase. Plantation units in the northwest corner of the reservation are those with high gopher populations at this time. If uncontrolled, according to the environmental assessment prepared by Hanson, the gophers "will destroy the Tribe's investment in the plantations. Gross loss would be \$600-\$700.00 per acre if the area is to be kept under intensive management. Areas scheduled for treatment consist primarily of commercial timber stands. Wildlife in the area include mule deer, elk and black bear with some small game animals

including the grouse and turkey. Human use of the area is minimal. Heavy domestic livestock use occurs in the McQuinn strip area. Alternatives to the use of the strychnine have been considered but have been found to be less cost effective. Other methods examined include trapping, disruption of gopher sites and the use of a mechanical burrow builder to insert bait into the burrows. Impacts on the environment by use of strychnine are minimal according to the assessment. Regarding water, "there are no impacts that would not be mitigated. No baiting would be done in riparian or stream-side buffer zones and there is no chance of it being washed into live

High steelhead count reported

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission executive director Tim Wapato said that he was pleased but not surprised about the record 104,400 wild, type-A summer steelhead that have passed Bonneville Dam this year. "For a number of years now, we've been saying that wild steelhead stocks are rebuilding," he said. "This year's wild A-run is just more proof." It is nearly double last year's run.

A-type steelhead, which are counted at Bonneville through August 25, are headed for virtually every river basin above Bonneville Dam, including Idaho's Snake River system. Beginning on August 26, steelhead crossing Bonneville are designated as B-type steelhead; most B-types are returning to the Clearwater River in Idaho. To determine whether a steelhead is of wild or hatchery origin, scale sam-

ples are collected from steelhead at Bonneville Dam and "read"—much like tree rings are "read". In addition to the 104,400 wild steelhead, there were 115,700 hatchery steelhead, bringing this year's total type-A hatchery and wild count at Bonneville to 222,100 steelhead. As the numbers indicate, nearly half (47%) of those 222,100 were wild. In comparison, the 1986 wild-A steelhead totaled only 56,700, or 20% of the Bonneville count. While wild steelhead stocks have been improving since 1980, the 1987 wild-A count is the single most dramatic one-year increase.

Upper Deschutes designated scenic waterway

Effective this month, an additional 82.5 miles of the Upper Deschutes River have been designated an Oregon State Scenic Waterway. The 1987 Legislature made the designation following a study of the river's qualifications by the Parks and Recreation Division. The designated sections lie between Wickiup Dam and Lake Billy Chinook. The lower 100 miles of river were previously declared a scenic waterway in 1970.

Scenic waterway classifications prohibits dams, reservoirs, impoundments or placer mining, according to John Lilly, Parks Division assistant administrator. To protect scenic beauty along these waterways, new development or changes of existing uses within a quarter of a mile of the river must be reviewed by the scenic waterway program, Lilly said. Rules followed for such reviews are similar to current county land use planning regulations, Lilly pointed out. Proposed management rules for the newly designated portion of the

river will be discussed in public hearings in Bend and Madras this fall. The Bend hearing will also include discussion on whether to give scenic waterway status to the half-mile section of the Deschutes that runs through Bend's urban growth boundary upstream from Tumalo Creek. Since 1970, 11 river segments and one lake have been designated as state scenic waterways. For more information about the program, contact Lilly at the Parks Division, 525 Trade Street SE, Salem, Oregon 97310 or phone 378-5000. "There are several reasons for the recent steelhead increases, including more releases of hatchery-reared fish into natural habitat areas, better downstream migration conditions for juvenile fish, and the restraint exercised by tribal fisheries over the years," emphasized Wapato. "From 1977 through 1986, the tribes have used net mesh size and length-of-season restrictions to limit steelhead harvests. Some years, the fisheries were completely shut down to maintain steelhead rebuilding efforts." "We're committed to rebuilding wild runs—tribal actions have demonstrated that commitment," he said.

OPA focuses on tribal waterways

Warm Springs' interest in waterways took precedence at workshops during the 28th Annual Parks Association Conference held at Kah-Nee-Ta September 16-19. Hosted by the Warm Springs Recreation department participants gained knowledge in areas from tribal jurisdiction to the concerns of anglers on the Deschutes River. Tribal attorney Howard Arnett opened workshop sessions with a discussion of the history of the Warm Springs people and tribal jurisdiction. "The rules," he stated, "are so complex that no one understands them." And, he added, "the courts keep changing those rules." Most of the discussion throughout the conference centered on waters of the reservation or waters used by tribal members which were

traditional fishing areas. The Deschutes, particularly, dominated discussion. Noting that the Deschutes River was historically the center of ceded land, the importance of the river to the Tribes was explained by tribal attorney Jim Noteboom. The Tribes' philosophy is "to preserve the natural qualities of the river." Fisheries will continue to be of primary importance in these waters. Hydro-power development will be secondary. The promotion of the U.S. Canada Treaty, "show we care about our resource," says fisheries technician Louie Pitt, Jr. speaking to a group. "Indians have always maintained a hard line on fish." Pitt stressed the importance of restoring riparian areas along streams and increasing wild fish runs.

Also making presentations at the conference were Peter Packett of the Northwest Power Planning Council who focused on hydro-power development in the Northwest. The subject of the Deschutes River and its tributaries was discussed in a workshop facilitated by Rudy Clements. Speakers included Jim Noteboom, state scenic waterways administrator John Lilly, Portland General Electric fisheries biologist Don Ratliff, and river guide and sports fishermen Mike McLacus. Conference participants enjoyed a salmon bake along with a boat ride on Lake Billy Chinook and a short raft trip on the Deschutes River. Awards were presented during a banquet and a powwow concluded activities of the conference.



Collecting eggs Spilyay Tymoo photo by Shewczyk. Eggs were recently taken at Warm Springs Federal Fish Hatchery. According to hatchery manager Gary White, between 800,000 and 900,000 eggs will be collected and incubated. This is not as many as hatchery personnel would like to see, but spring chinook returns were lower than expected. Fisheries technician is adding mill to eggs.

BIA provides drug education funds

The Bureau of Indian Affairs will make nearly \$2 million available to Indian schools and tribes for drug abuse education and prevention during school year 1987-88. The funds are part of an agreement signed August 14 between the Departments of Education and the Interior. The Memorandum Agreement (MOA) transfers \$1.9 million from the Education Department of the BIA. The funds were allocated to Education under the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1986. "We believe this is an opportunity to supplement the efforts of BIA and tribal schools as well as tribal governments in our mutual goal of achieving sobriety in Indian

Country," said Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs Ross Swimmer. "Federal funding is not the solution to all alcohol and substance abuse problems but I hope these monies will enable local people to bring about change in their schools and communities." Approximately 70 percent of the money will go to BIA and tribally-contracted schools to fund school-based programs like family drug abuse education, counseling, intervention and rehabilitation referrals. About 30 percent of the funds can be contacted by tribal governments affiliated with BIA-funded schools for community-based programs like training for teachers, counselors and law enforcement officials, the

development and distribution of educational materials and technical assistance to help community-based organizations in their fight against substance abuse. Under the agreement, the BIA will award funds to schools according to the Indian School Equalization Program Formula. Schools must file an application with the BIA to receive the funds. The 30 percent going to community-based programs will give highest priority to programs aimed at "high risk youth," which are defined as school dropouts, the economically disadvantaged, students who are pregnant and other problem youth. Applications should be made through BIA agency education offers.

Smokejumper trainees wanted

Applicants are being sought for the Redmond Air Center five-week smokejumper training sessions. To be considered for selection, applicants must have at least two seasons of work experience, one season of general forestry/agriculture experience and one season of wildland firefighting experience. A season is a minimum of 90 calendar days. Applicants must be not taller than 6'7" and no shorter than 5'. They must weigh no more than 200 pounds and no less than 120 pounds. They must also pass a medical examination. All smokejumper candidates will meet nationally-established standards and qualifications. The five-week course which begins in early June, 1988, will include rigorous training with emphasis on physical fitness, parachuting skills

and firefighting techniques. The first two-and-a-half weeks are designed to train recruits in proper procedures for exiting from aircraft, parachute landing rolls, let-downs from trees, parachute manipulation, aircraft safety and to develop a high physical condition level. Prior to their first training jump, each recruit will be required to pass a test which includes running a mile-and-a-half in under 11 minutes, 25 push-ups, 45 sit-ups and seven pull ups or chin ups. Each candidate will also be required to pass a packout test which consists of carrying a 110-pound pack over a three-mile course on flat ground in 90 minutes or less. By the end of the first session, each candidate must demonstrate proficiency in exits from aircrafts, let downs, parachute landing rolls,

parachute manipulations and aircraft safety prior to their first parachute jump. Recruits can also plan on one or two-hour physical conditioning sessions each day including a two to five mile run at seven to eight minutes per mile. The second two-and-one-half week session will include seven to eight training parachute jumps and tree climbing. The rest of the training period is devoted to familiarization with equipment, smokejumper firefighting techniques and mop up standards. If you are interested in this training, contact Bob Harned, forest manager, at 553-1121, extension 416. Applications can be obtained from Harned and will be accepted between December 1 and January 15.



SCENIC TRIP—A rafting excursion on the Deschutes River was one of the activities planned by Warm Springs Recreation for participants of the Oregon Parks Association Conference held at Kah-Nee-Ta September 16-19.