

Spilyay Tymoo

News from the Warm Springs Indian Reservation

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Coyote News In Brief

New staff members introduced

A new secretary and five teachers recently began working at Warm Springs Elementary.

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Annual Timber Tour held

Tree thinning, burning and disease were topics discussed during the two-day timber tour September 12 and 13.

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COCAAN sponsors give-away

Needy students and families can receive free clothing through a project sponsored by COCAAN.

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Resort busy with cyclists

Nearly 2,000 Oregon Cycle II tour participants enjoyed a brief stay at Kah-Nee-Ta.

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Check your balance

Several factors indicate when your life is out of balance.

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Metolius committee seeks area designation

The "Save the Metolius" committee hopes to see the Metolius River area zoned a conservation area.

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Deadline for the next issue of Spilyay Tymoo is September 29, 1989.

Weather

SEPT.	HI	LO
6	75	48
7	81	45
8	83	48
9	75	54
10	76	39
11	78	44
12	80	40
13	82	41
14	89	44
15	90	46
16	86	50
17	62	54
18	69	38
19	74	41
20	78	43

Tribal timber enters export market



Timber off the Vantage sale unit is being exported to Japan. Part of the unit is logged with high-lead cable.

For the first time ever, high-quality timber from the Warm Springs block is being exported for foreign market use, creating revenue that is, say officials, up to ten times greater than if it were taken to Warm Springs Forest Products Industries for processing.

After thorough examination and discussion of the proposal over the last two years, Tribal Council decided early this year that exporting a portion of the unit would be "more profitable" than taking the entire harvest to WSFPI.

The multi-species timber is being taken from the Vantage sale unit, 28 miles from Warm Springs. Prime old-growth Douglas and noble firs and white woods are being exported, primarily to Japan, while the remaining less valuable species, including ponderosa pine, are being delivered to and manufactured at WSFPI. A total of 18 million board feet (mbf) is available in the 451-acre unit with approximately 10 mbf being taken this year. Of the 10

mbf, approximately half will be delivered to WSFPI.

The altitude of the Vantage unit ranges from 3,700 feet to 5,000 feet. Sixty-two percent of the stand is Douglas fir and western larch; 25 percent is grand fir and other species; six percent is noble fir while the remaining seven percent is ponderosa pine and white pine.

Purchasers of the exported timber are Cappel Brothers, Points West, International Paper, Vanport Manufacturing, Inc, Hannel and James River.

The entire 451-acre plot has been clear-cut. Logging on the unit are tribal contractors Wissie Smith and Johnny Guerin. Harold Barclay is constructing roads in the area and Vern Reisch, of Mollala, is conducting high-lead logging.

This initial venture will help determine if exporting will be a viable and realistic endeavor in the future. If successful, further such activity will probably occur, said BIA forest manager Bill Donaghu.

In addition, experience gained in this operation will be useful when McQuinn Strip management is turned over to the Tribe in 1992.

"The Tribe is going into this very slowly and cautiously," said special projects manager Doug McClelland. "The Tribe wants to produce a material in a way that is acceptable to buyers, to get full value of the product and to understand, over time, the marketing strategy.... Simply put, we cut less, cut it entirely differently and we receive a lot more money for it."

The reservation Douglas fir is of exceptionally high quality because of its slow growth. Japanese home builders want this type of wood, said McClelland, because of its color and fine grain. "It appeals to their sense of perfection." Because of this unique quality, this wood is much more valuable on the foreign market than on the domestic market.

In response to any concerns that

exporting timber off the reservation would cause a reduction of jobs to tribal members at WSFPI, management is confident that no job loss will occur. In fact, some jobs could be created with exporting.

To ensure fair market value, an independent scaling bureau out of Portland is scaling the logs before they're shipped out. The BIA randomly check scales the third-party scalers, thus meeting their trust responsibility.

The profit margin of exporting is great enough that WSFPI could purchase logs from off the reservation to keep the mill running when their supply is low.

The Vantage unit is just one of 20 active units under contract this year. Ten of the units had some clear-cutting, three had a combination of clear-cutting and shelterwood applications while one unit was cut with shelterwood being left. The remaining six units were selectively cut.

Proper resource management is essential

The more we look to the forest resource in this series of articles, the more important its resources become. Wildlife is an important feature of the forest ecosystem. Wildlife is an integral part of the Tribe's culture. Big game species, such as deer and elk, furnish an important component of many tribal members' diets. They also play an important role in some of the Tribes' cultural activities. This role predates the time when tribal bands were primarily found along the Columbia River and utilized this area for seasonal hunting.

Today, hunting provides a recreational and subsistence opportunity for many tribal members. Others get satisfaction just knowing that deer, elk, bear, cougar, eagles, rabbits and squirrels are out in the forest for present and future generations. To some tribal members, sounds and sights of wildlife are a vital part of the forest's cultural and aesthetic value.

There are four basic requirements needed by wildlife. They are water, food, shelter and space. The amounts and arrangements of these things are termed habitat. The quality and quantity of habitat determines what types of wildlife and how many of them can exist.

Some species of wildlife benefit from timber harvest while others are negatively affected. In some cases, such as the spotted owl, large areas of old growth timber may be required to ensure the species does not perish.

What types and numbers of wildlife do tribal members want to have on their reservation?

The direction taken by the Tribes in the Integrated Resource Plan will determine what types and levels of resources will be available to tribal members over the next several decades. With a rapidly expanding human population and a finite amount of land, it will be imperative that the decisions are carefully made and the resources wisely utilized.

Fishing season extensions noted

The Columbia River Compact adopted the following Zone 6 commercial fishing season extension: SEASON: 6:00 a.m., September 20, to 6:00 p.m., September 24, 1989. AREA: Zone 6 (Bonneville, The Dalles, John Day pools). An 8 inch or greater mesh restriction remains in effect.

There will be a review of the run and harvest situation on September 20 to determine if more fishing is

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Wildlife mitigation meeting set for 9/27 Remains to be returned

The Federal government over the past 50 years has built a series of giant hydroelectric dams in the Columbia and Snake River Basins. These projects inundated critical wetlands, riparian zones, river islands, bottomlands and other wildlife habitat. Many wildlife species were displaced or populations gradually declined. These hydroelectric projects have produced cheap electricity for the Pacific Northwest but the impact on wildlife has not been mitigated.

Public meetings to discuss mitigation which is mandated by the 1980 Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act are scheduled. The Power Planning Council, created by the Act, has worked to mitigate for fish but

is falling behind in its work for wildlife, many conservation groups feel.

Last July, the Northwest Power Planning Council released for public

General assistance program set to begin October 1

On October 1, 1989, the Bureau of Indian Affairs will start a General Assistance Program for eligible Native Americans. To receive this help a person must live on or near a reservation or service area in Oregon and be enrolled in a federally recognized tribe.

The General Assistance program will provide money for those who

are not receiving public assistance. The money is a limited amount for basic living needs. This program is intended to promote self-sufficiency.

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For more information, call the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Warm Springs Agency, Social Service program at (503) 553-2411 or 553-2406.

A newly established Smithsonian Institute policy could allow the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs to bring home from Washington, D.C., the remains of long-dead ancestors that were removed from an island in the Columbia River.

According to tribal attorney Jim Noteboom the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History has 28 sets of skeletal remains gathered in 1934 from Memaloose Island in the Columbia River. The Tribe believes the remains are those of the ancestors of the Wasco tribe.

Although the Tribe has had a request for the return pending for several years with the Smithsonian, a formal request, under provisions of the new policy, will be made soon, said Noteboom.

The Smithsonian will form a five-member commission to inventory and identify its collection of remains with the intent of returning them to their descendants. The Smithsonian has an estimated 18,600 sets of Indian remains.

The Warm Springs remains were collected without permission by Herbert Krieger, curator of ethnology at the Smithsonian from lower Memaloose Island in 1934.

While the Smithsonian housed the remains for 55 years, Wasco Chief Nelson Wallulatum enlisted the aid of tribal attorneys to seek the return of the remains for burial on the reservation.

Noteboom added actual return could occur within six months to a year.