

March 11, 1999
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Spilyay Tymoo

(Coyote News)

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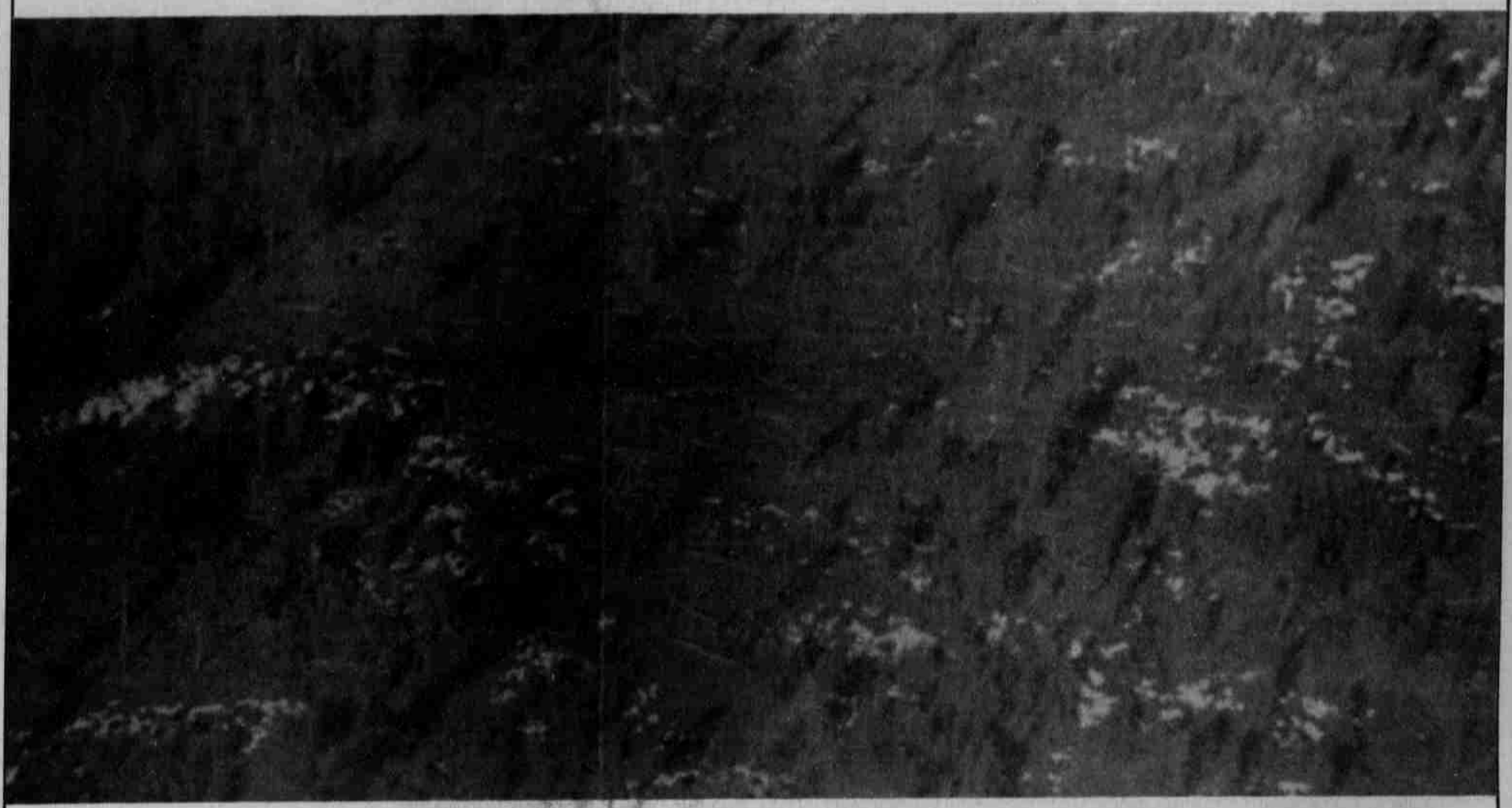
Deadline for the next issue of Spilyay Tymoo is March 19, 12:00 Noon

Spilyay Tymoo once again has Date Logs. Call 553-3274 to get yours!

Please inform Spilyay if your address changes- we have to pay for returned papers.

Birthday wishes (no more than 35 words) are \$.50 and \$1.00 with a photo.

Winter storms cause blowdown in Warm Springs forests



Blowdown of trees on the reservation.

As most are well aware winter storms have knocked down, snapped out and uprooted a large number of trees within the forest on the Warm Springs Reservation. The majority of the blow down has occurred in the pine ground stretching north from HeHe all the way south to the Metolius Bench area. The Forestry Department has assigned personnel to identify which areas have been hardest hit and to estimate how much timber is on the ground. The one thing that is apparent is that most of the damaged and over turned trees are very large. In some of the hardest hit areas over 70% of the trees have been blown over. The pine area of the reservation suffered the most damage because the soils had been saturated due to recent rains and snow melt in the lower elevation. This left the soil very moist which does not provide the tree roots with enough support when strong winds accompany winter storms. The larger trees are more susceptible to blow down

because they usually have large crowns (many large branches with a lot of needles), which catch the wind like a giant sail. Their large size and height coupled with their crowns catching the wind makes the trees easier to tip over with the loosened root system. The trees at higher elevations did not suffer as much blow down because the heavy snowpack protected the ground and root systems of the standing trees.

Forestry and other branches of the Natural Resource Department are preparing for review, by Tribal Timber Committee and the Tribal public, a proposal to salvage the damaged and blown down timber. An exact figure for the amount of timber blown down is not available however early estimates indicate that there is a minimum of five million board feet of timber (approximately 1000 log truck loads) on the ground and most likely this volume figure will increase dramatically as more data is collected. Since the majority of the damaged timber is ponderosa pine one major concern is the blue

staining of the wood which will occur if the trees are left on the ground too long. Blue stain is a fungus which discolors the wood. Although blue stain does not affect the strength of the wood it is considered a grading defect and will reduce by a significant amount the value of the timber. Warm Springs Forest Products would like to begin salvage operations as soon as possible, weather and soil moistures will delay logging, to minimize the amount of blue staining in the pine logs.

Due to the high value of this timber firewood cutting has been suspended in the blow down area until a decision is made on the salvage operations. Unfortunately this does not leave many areas open to tribal members needing firewood because the heavy snowpack in the higher elevation has closed most roads. Most of the Mutton Mountain area is open to firewood cutting but the roads are mostly impassable due to muddy conditions. There is one large deck of small logs on the S-300 road just this side of the four corners

junction which is open to firewood cutting. Juniper areas are also open for firewood cutting and many of these areas are located next to all weather roads. It is also requested that people do not open any roads because cutting a small passage way through a tree will significantly reduce the value of that log. Also cutting blown down trees may not be a good idea because these trees are often under extreme tension from the roots which are trying their best to "stand the tree back up." Other times the tree is lying in a position that could cause it to forcefully snap out trees and down logs for wildlife and also soil enhancement, road openings, additional skid trains for removing logs, the need for wood cutting areas, possibility of helicopter logging and protection of traditional food gathering areas. Tribal public concern on these or other issues are being solicited and any opinions should be forwarded to the Warm Springs Forestry Department at 553-2416.

down across many roads and there are trees leaning across other roads. Forestry personnel have been "trapped" due to trees falling across roads which were clear when they went to work.

By the time this article appears there should have been at least one public meeting at the Agency Longhouse and several meetings with the Tribal Timber Committee on the proposed salvage operations. Several of the issues identified by the Natural Resource's team include: whether trees can be harvested next to stream channels, leaving snap out trees and down logs for wildlife and also soil enhancement, road openings, additional skid trains for removing logs, the need for wood cutting areas, possibility of helicopter logging and protection of traditional food gathering areas. Tribal public concern on these or other issues are being solicited and any opinions should be forwarded to the Warm Springs Forestry Department at 553-2416.

Public Safety's budget reinstated

On February 26, 1999, the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Tribal Council took action to reinstate the Public Safety Branch's 1999 budgeted funds. This action was required following a very narrow margin, 444 yes to 421 no vote, on the Tribal referendum suspending the authority to expend 1999 appropriated funds of the Public Safety Branch on January 26, 1999.

Tribal Council met January 27 to address the continuing needs of the community that are provided for by the Public Safety Branch. Resolution No. 9674 was passed, providing funding from the Emergency fund to operate the Public Safety Branch for one month.

In this 30 day period, Resolution No. 9674 required the following to be accomplished: (1) The Secretary-Treasurer and the Chief Operations Officer were to work with the District Representatives on Tribal Council to set up District Meetings for the purpose of communicating the changes and proposed changes in the Public Safety Branch to tribal members and hear their comments and concerns. (2) The Secretary-Treasurer and Chief Operations Officer were directed to meet with the Tribal Council on February 25 to

report on the results of the District meetings and proposed changes in the Public Safety Branch. (3) The Review Team was directed to take all reasonable steps to complete its final report and present it to the Tribal Council no later than February 25.

A district meeting was held in each district during February, and on February 24 the Secretary-Treasurer and Chief Operations Officer met with representatives of the petitioners. In two of the three district meetings, the people broke into small groups to assess problems and make recommendations.

On Friday Feb. 26, the Secretary-Treasurer and Chief Operations Officer and the Review team presented their reports for Tribal Council's review. After evaluating the reports and discussion, the majority of Tribal Council determined that there had been significant changes and continued to be on-going changes in the operations of the Public Safety. The majority felt the changes warranted reinstating the expenditure of the 1999 appropriated funds for the Public Safety Branch. A motion to reinstate the expenditure of the Public Safety Branch funds for 1999 was made and approved.

W.S. Elementary students learn about recycling



With the assistance from the Warm Springs Recycling Program, Elementary students in Mrs. LaPage class room, are into recycling. The school's used paper is gathered and separated by the students and put into the recycling bin.

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Spilyay tymoo.