

Technology helps track salmon

By Bill Rhoades
Spilyay Tymoo

Tribal biologists would like to know when and where a fall chinook salmon raised in the Deschutes River is caught by a commercial fisherman in the ocean.

Researchers would also like to get a handle on the number of Deschutes River fall chinook caught by lower Columbia gill-netters.

Unable to recognize an individual salmon simply by looking at it, biologists are searching out reliable ways to identify migrating fish and gather data on their lifecycles.

One method is to mark juveniles with tags containing microscopic data, which includes date and place of birth.

A future analysis on the distribution and harvest of wild fall salmon reared in the Deschutes River will be possible in part because of a project being implemented by the Fish and Wildlife staff employed by the tribes' Natural Resources Branch.

Building a database on fall chinook is important because it will help to determine the best means for setting seasons and angling regulations, not only in Oregon, but up and down the Pacific Coast. It may also have significant impacts on treaties between the United States and Canada.

The local benefit of this and other related projects could amount to healthier runs of fish and more salmon for tribal fishermen.

Project leader Chris Brun, a fish biologist with the Confederated Tribes, said regional managers have selected the Deschutes fall chinook as an indicator stock for the Columbia Basin. In other words, fall chinook returns tabulated for the Deschutes will be used to judge the relative strength of the entire basin.

To get a better handle on the current situation, Brun and his crew are hoping to mark and



Shawn Jim and Lyman Jim, of tribal Natural Resources, measure and prepare fish for the tagging

coded-wire tag a representative number of Deschutes River juvenile fall chinook from the 2002 brood year. Coded-wire tags are inserted by machine into the snouts of recently hatched salmon.

The small wires carry information regarding the date and location of tagging.

When these fish are harvested years later as adults during commercial or subsistence fisheries, biologist check to see if they're carrying one of the coded-wire tags. By reading the tags and comparing notes, researchers learn a great deal about distribution, mortality, abundance and life history of the salmon.

The project launched by the Confederated Tribes is rather unique, because all of the research is being done on wild fish. Most projects deal exclusively

with hatchery fish, because juveniles are confined and easy to capture.

Projects that work with hatchery fish are generally associated with the convenience and comfort of indoor facilities.

Working with wild fall chinook is an entirely different matter. The wild fish offer additional challenges, because fry (juveniles) are hatched in open water and they don't spend a lot of time milling about.

Wild juveniles start their downstream migration within a few short weeks, which means researchers have to work fast and try to reach targets during a brief window of opportunity.

"As soon as the fish come out of the gravel they migrate out," said Brun. "They don't give us a lot of time."

Juveniles are captured using

"Meeting these objectives during 2003 will allow us to begin calculating adult production, harvest rates, and smolt-to-adult survival rates."

Chris Brun

Tribal fish biologist

beach seines. They are held in live traps until they can be transported to work stations, where they are measured, coded-wire tagged and relieved of their adipose fin.

The recent effort was initiated below Sherars Falls and will advance upstream as water temperatures warm.

This year the crew will try to tag and measure at least 40,000 juveniles over a six week period. On a good day 4,000 tags might be inserted, so the crew is optimistic about reaching their goal. When the goal is reached, it will provide a relatively accurate representation of the size and number of juveniles leaving the Deschutes.

"Meeting these objectives during 2003 will allow us to begin calculating adult production, harvest rates, and smolt-to-adult survival rates," said Brun.

With information garnered from research projects and harvest data, managers will be able to make more informed decisions when setting harvest guidelines, which could impact Deschutes River wild salmon.

Tribal employees currently working with Brun on the Lower Deschutes are fisheries technicians Lyman Jim and Shawn Jim, and fisheries biologist Becky Dodson.

Once the juvenile tagging effort is completed later this spring, the team will start preparing for a related project further downstream, which involves the tagging of adult fall chinook to determine the number of adults returning to the Deschutes to spawn.

Birth announcements

Jayden Aradonna Davis

Jabbar Davis and Leslie Cochran-Davis are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Jayden Aradonna Davis, born April 12.

Father's parents are Anita Davis and Tony Davis of Warm Springs. Mother's parents are Ted and Nancy Sampson of Warm Springs, and Dale and Carol Cochran of Crane.

Josslyn Jontelle Wolfe

James and Rosa Wolfe are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Josslyn Jontelle Wolfe, born April 14.

Father's parents are Flossie M. Wolfe of Warm Springs, and atwai James Wolfe Sr. Mother's parents are Maria and Jorge Rios of Madras.

Michael Damon Belgard

David K. Belgard Sr. and Dinah A. Merrifield are pleased to announce the birth of their son Michael Damon Belgard, born April 17.

Michael joins brothers David Jr. and Truman, and sisters Sarah, Adrienne and Stephanie.

Father's parents are Myra (Johnson) Shawaway, and Merris Wallulatum. Mother's parents are Harrison Davis Sr. and atwai Floriene Davis.

Deshawn Ellison Kentura

Thomas Chavez and Falena Kentura are pleased to announce the birth of their son Deshawn Ellison Kentura, born April 25.

Father's parents are Tom and Liz Frazer of White Salmon, Wash. Mother's parents are Samuel and Marjorie Kentura of Warm Springs.

Javiera Ernestine Plouffe-Hinojosa

Javier Hinojosa and Debra L. Plouffe are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Javiera Ernestine Plouffe-Hinojosa, born April 28.

She joins brother Perry Sonny Kalama III, and sisters Sharda and Doriann Miller, and Colleen and Shanell Kalama.

Father's parents are Alfonso Hinojosa and Carmella Cuellar of Mexico City. Mother's parents are Dennis Plouffe of St. Ignatius, Mont., and the late Doris Hunt.

Great grandparents of the newborn are Ernest and Francis Hunt of Warm Springs.

Sierra Margaret Williams Boise

Robert Boise and Skyla Shaefer are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Sierra Margaret Williams Boise, born April 16.

Roshone Angelina Renfro

Brian A. Renfro and Rachelle M. Renfro are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Roshone Angelina Renfro, born May 9.

Father's parents are Caroline Johnson of Warm Springs, and the late Lawrence Renfro. Mother's parents are Denise A. Gabriel and the late Edwyn Bettega.

Roshone joins brothers Forest Renfro, 4, and Michael Bettega Renfro, 6.

More birthday and other wishes...

Whoop-d-do, my son is 19 years of age, May 10. So small on this day 19 years ago, what a handsome young man you are today. Have a happy birthday, son, continue to choose each day as you do today and you'll have many, many more. Winnerjoe Arthur, Kaudle Kaule. Love, mom.

Fantastic, Awesome, Wonderful, Natural beauty, Terrific, Angel,

Nice, Apple of my eye, Fawntana. Happy first birthday, Lil' Punkin.

You brought so much happiness, love and laughter

to our home. May 27, 2002. Fawntana Madasuni. Love you, Bright Star, Ganma.

Happy birthday, Mary Ann Brito on May 10. Love you, the Kaudle Kaule and Arthur family on Salmon Dr.

Matt, Matt, Matt, your mom watched my tee while she was in labor with you 20 years ago on May 19. We love you from the moment we saw you. Happy birthday Matt Arthur. "Morna" aka Norma, Kaudle Kaule and Arthur family.

Happy birthday to my friend Lepha Marie Smith on May 28. Your bud, "Norma" Faye Kaudle Kaule and family.

Happy birthday to my best friend on May 10, Winnerjoe, also my little brother. I'm so glad that I have you around. You're really helpful to me, especially with the help of baby. Love you much, Tee and Tana.

Happy birthday to my mother on May 18. I just want to let you know that you mean everything to me. You've really helped me out with baby and whatever else that was needed. I just love you so much, I don't know what I'd do without you. Love you always, Tee and Tana.

Happy first birthday to my beautiful daughter on May 27, Fawntana Madasun. I can't believe that you are already one year old. It's kinda crazy that your birthday is exactly one month after mine. I'm thankful for you. Love today, tomorrow, yesterday and forever. Mom.

Happy Mother's Day to Faye Kaudle Kaule. You really deserve this mother's day. You raised five beautiful and handsome kids. Thank you. Love you, Tee and Tana.

Happy birthday May 17, Helena Jackson, Mina Shike and Yolanda Chase. From the Marella Sam family.

Happy birthday May 16, Mr. Joshua Polk.

Keep up your good work. From Robert and Marella Sam family.

Happy birthday May 25 to our daughter in law, Natalia "Taw" Sam.

We love you a lot. From Dad and Mom, Robert and Marella Sam Sr.

Happy birthday May 26, Keith Moody and Bob Boffin. From Marella Sam family.

Happy birthday May 31 to my brother Levi Van Pelt. We all love you.

Happy birthday Grandpa Levi Van Pelt on May 31. You have a great day because it is your day.

We all love you grandpa. Love, your grandkids Woody, Dartanian Picard and Anessia, Decimus Sam.

1993 CELEBRATE THE VISION 2003

The Museum At Warm Springs cordially invites you to the Premier Opening of *Illustrations: Book Illustrations*

by Allan Houser
May 31, 2003

in conjunction with The Museum's 10-Year Anniversary Celebration

1:00 p.m.
Museum Blessing and Rededication Ceremonies

2:00 p.m.
Traditional Celebration Pow Wow



Allan Houser

Our thanks to the following sponsors:

The Warm Springs Tribal Council, Allan Houser Foundation, and Penny Knight.

Save the Date: Eighth Annual Huckleberry Harvest, August 1 and 2

The Museum At Warm Springs
2189 Highway 26, Warm Springs

541.553.3331 • www.warmsprings.com/museum/

Volunteers needed for museum anniversary

The Museum at Warm Springs invites everyone to its Tenth Anniversary Rededication Celebration, and Premiere Exhibit Opening of *Illustrations: Book Illustrations* by Allan Houser.

The events are set for Saturday, May 31.

This is a call for volunteers

to help throughout the day; drummers for 9 a.m. Washut services; drummers, singers and dancers for the traditional celebration powwow in the afternoon; tribal community member participants for the 10 a.m. traditional Memorial Horse Parade. Individuals are invited to participate by horse, and walk-

ers too, for the parade.

Please call the Museum at Warm Springs, 553-3331, for more information, or to sign up as a volunteer.

Volunteers will meet at 8 a.m., Saturday, May 31, at the Museum at Warm Springs.

Everyone is invited to this great event.