

# Eel study: All lamprey are released unharmed

(Continued from page 1)

After being released the lamprey are taken upstream about 100 meters.

If the trap catches them, it helps give an idea of what the lamprey abundance is in that area.

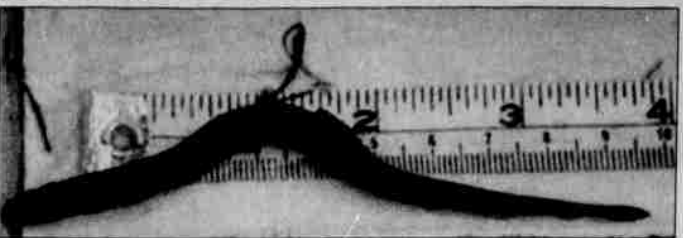
The fourth part of the study will take place at Sherars Falls where natural resources employees will creel adult lamprey beginning in mid-June.

Starting in August, adult lamprey will be collected.

All adult lamprey will also be released.

Sherars Falls has been an area of concern for the tribes due to decreasing lamprey populations.

Trapping days at Sherars Falls will take place on August 3, 7, 13, 14, 19, 20, 26, and 27. In September trapping will take place on Sept. 3, 4, 9, and 10.



ABOVE: Jen Graham, left, and Joel Santos, right, catch eel at Beaver Creek. BELOW: A juvenile eel is measured.

A Pacific lamprey has a unique life cycle that is sensitive to environmental factors.

In its larval state an eel can stay in the mud for up to seven years. In this time, an eel filter feeds.

During high flow, larval eels will migrate downstream and then burrow down into the mud in a new spot.

Eventually they metamorphose into a juvenile eel.

The transformation from the larval stage to the juvenile life stage usually happens between July and October.

"This basically means they develop teeth and eyes," explains Graham of the external signs. Other physical changes are the creation of a mouth, development of the eye, and the creation of a tongue.

The morphological and physiological changes prepare the eel for a parasitic lifestyle in salt water.

Then the juvenile will migrate to the ocean. Biologists

theorize that they grow to full size in about a year. The average size for an eel is about one and half feet.

"I have seen some that are as big as two feet in July and August," shared Santos.

Pacific lampreys usually spawn on the Oregon coast in May when the water temperatures are between 10 and 15 degrees.

Pacific lamprey, that migrate up the Columbia River, spawn later. Gravel is an important factor for spawning lamprey and even critical to their survival.

In the beginning of spawning, lamprey hide in the substrate or shade but as the spawning proceeds they are no longer affected by sunlight.

Both sexes move rocks to create nests in excavated depressions. During each spawning act, approximately

100 to 500 eggs are released and covered by sand and pebbles.

In recent years conservation groups have proposed enlisted lamprey on the endangered or threatened species list from California to Canada.

Tribal members like Blackwolf hope to see a future collaboration between the tribes, the state and the federal government to restore lamprey populations.

Just 30 years ago, Blackwolf remembers filling the back of his truck with eels at Sherars Falls in less than five hours.

Now, he says, he's lucky if he gets 20 to 30 lamprey at Sherars Falls.

"I think we need to say a prayer for these things and all our native foods," says Blackwolf of the present state of lamprey.

## Committees: Bill amendment pushes tribes to Medicaid plus status

The committee is planning a field trip for mushroom gatherers and woodcutters.

Commercial woodcutters are a concern because the committee wants to ensure enough wood is reserved for tribal members who cut wood for personal purposes.

The committee will attend the Intertribal Timber Council (ITC) conference in North Carolina, sponsored by the eastern Cherokee tribe, June 16-19. ITC explores problems and solutions to current issues confronting Indian natural resource management.

Tribal Council approved to sponsor \$5,000 plus raffle items

for a break at the conference.

### Health Committee

Action has been taken to amend ORS 414.835 to exempt Native Americans from the current state Medicaid cuts.

It is believed Native Americans should be exempt from the cuts because Oregon tribes are guaranteed healthcare in their treaty.

In addition, funds for healthcare on Oregon reservations are federal funds that are incorporated into state funds.

Currently ORS 414.835 divides patients' into standard patients and plus patients. Patients

who are categorized standard will be affected by state Medicaid cuts.

The amendment proposed that all Native Americans in the state of Oregon be given a plus status and be exempt from cuts. Gov. Ted Kulongoski approved the amendment last week at the annual "Tribal Information Day" in Salem.

A new set of privacy rules were issued in April to tribal members and employees.

The memo documented what medical privacy patients are entitled to.

The president of the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board, Julia Davis was not re-

lected.

The Health Committee expressed their regrets for this and said Davis would be missed by the tribes.

We will need to find a new leader for the Portland area tribes, said a committee representative.

The Warm Springs Indian Health Services Clinic has hired a foot specialist to address foot problems associated with patients who have diabetes.

Recent federal aid to Native Americans for diabetes prevention has been successful.

Ron Suppah wondered if some additional federal diabetes funds could be accessed for a multi-purpose pathway in Simnasho.

Walking and other forms of exercise have been proven to lower blood sugar levels in diabetic patients.

### Land Use Planning Committee

The Land Use Planning committee will be hosting a meeting in Simnasho and has hosted other

meetings with other districts, said Maurice Mann.

There are plans for new zoning on the reservation.

The reservation has subdivision plans but zoning on the reservation is not currently officially mapped.

The community will be asked for their feedback on zoning plans over the summer.

Concern was voiced over "ranchettes" not being in compliance with zoning requirements.

For example, some people in Greeley Heights have complained of an odor problem from cattle in their residential areas.

The Land Use Planning Committee is working with the Range and Agriculture Committee to make Ordinance 33 more effective.

Suppah suggested the committee contact tribal attorneys about zoning.

The committee plans to have a ceded land tour that they will host with the Range and Agriculture Committee.

### The Water Board Committee

The committee has been working on hydro-relicensing for the Pelton-Round Butte Dam and have an agreement until consensus in mitigation happen, said Roy Spino.

The Confederated Tribes issued a 401 certification to the Army Corps of Engineers, ensuring they meet tribal water regulations for the Culpus Bridge Project.

The Oregon Department of Environment Quality (DEQ) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently requested access to the reservation for a stream survey.

EPA access was denied because the committee felt the data was accessible through the tribes.

The committee holds a special interest in the outcome of the John Day River navigability designation outcome because the Deschutes River could be next, said Spino.

It could affect tribal and ceded lands, so we need to keep our heads up, said Spino.

## Howlak Tichum

### Thurman Squiemphen

Thurman was born April 17, 1972 in Toppenish, Wash. He was a tribal member of the Yakama Nation. His parents are Terry and Gladys Squiemphen. Grandparents are Earl and Rita Squiemphen and atwai Hazel Canapa and Oliver Mininick Sr.

Thurman was raised in Warm Springs with brothers Vernon and Phillip. He went to grade school in Warm Springs and junior high and high school in Madras. He graduated from Madras High School in 1990. He recently

graduated from Mt. Hood Community College in the fisheries program.

Thurman excelled in cross country in high school, lettering all four years.

At the tender age of 13, Thurman was introduced into the Hood to Coast Relay, running with Dad and friends. He participated in Hood to Coast every year since.

Once out of high school, he took an interest in rodeo, participating in roping, wild horse race, saddle bronc and endurance races. He was also a hunter, providing elk and deer meat for the elders, a fisherman (pole and

dip netting), and liked to camp. Another favorite sport of his was basketball. He played in a lot of youth tournaments, with brothers Vernon and Phillip, and his many cousins.

Only 4, 2000, Thurman married Donnetta, surrounded by all of their family and friends. He was a loving father to Alisia, Trevdon and Kimiko, as well as uncle to Marjorie.

Thurman was known as an easygoing guy, with a great sense of humor and a friendly smile for everyone. He made friends easily. All who knew him will miss him.

## Howlak Tichum

### Priscilla Mae Arthur

Priscilla Mae Arthur of Warm Springs has passed away. She was 52.

Mrs. Arthur was born on May 9, 1951 in Warm Springs to parents Earl Tufti and Letha Governor.

Ms. Arthur is survived by her father Earl; her sons Kendrick and Matthew Arthur, and daughter Alvidta.

She is also survived by her brothers Ferman Tufti of Portland, and Tyree Stormbringer of Mill City; and sisters Melinda Burgess of Salem, Rebecca Cruz of Canby, Natalie Burgess of Madras, and Jolene, Jessica, Arlene and LeeAnn Tufti, all of Warm Springs.

Mrs. Arthur was preceded in death by her husband and her mother.

Mrs. Arthur graduated from Madras High School in 1969. An enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes, she worked as a janitor for the tribes.

### Edison Chiloquin

Edison Chiloquin, a Klamath Indian who refused to accept a cash payment for his claim to ancestral tribal lands, has died. He was 79. In the mid 1970s Mr. Chiloquin refused to accept a \$275,983 payment from the federal government as his share for termination of the Klamath Tribe and liquidation of the tribe's reservation. Chiloquin insisted instead on title to ancestral land along the Sprague River where his relatives and other Klamaths lived.

## Eleventh of May

There's a place out on the plains,  
Those lonesome godforsaken plains,  
Anywhere you go there,  
A man can ride for days.  
The wind blows all the time,  
And there we live our cowboy ways.

There's a new blue roan colt,  
That wild pretty blue roan colt,  
Where the Warm Springs River flows,  
And the cold north wind, she blows.  
Chasing and branding horses, we were learning  
With Dad, friends and brother Vernon.

There's the Cascade Mountain Range,  
That snowy Cascade Mountain Range,  
It was calling to me, and so  
I just had to go.  
I saddled up and rode away.  
Someday soon, you'll ride this way.

There's a Warm Springs River bend,  
That lazy peaceful river bend.  
It's there my trail began  
And that's where my trails end.  
Support my family and pray.  
And throw my horse some hay.

I saddled up and rode away.  
Two thousand and three: eleventh of May.

Written by  
my Uncle Edison

In memory of a fine young cowboy  
Thurman Squiemphen  
April 17, 1972 - May 11, 2003

## 1993 CELEBRATE THE VISION 2003

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

2:00 p.m. Traditional Celebration Pow Wow



Allan Houser

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

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