

Kulongoski opposes BPA summer spill plan

PORTLAND (AP) - Gov. Ted Kulongoski said Friday the state will join a lawsuit filed by environmentalists, fishermen and Northwest Indian tribes to block the Bonneville Power Administration summer spill plan for salmon.

Kulongoski is the only one of four Northwest governors to oppose the plan to reduce spills at four hydroelectric dams on the Columbia and Snake rivers in August.

Kulongoski said state and tribal biologists estimate the spillway closures will kill about 500,000 migrating juvenile salmon, which eventually will translate to up to 20,000 fewer adult salmon returning to the Columbia River in four to five years.

The Bonneville plan is aimed at balancing salmon conservation with en-

ergy demand as required under the Northwest Power Act.

But Kulongoski said the plan does too much damage to salmon runs. Instead, he is urging BPA and the Army Corps of Engineers, which manages the dams, to upgrade fish passage systems.

"We need to implement a long-term solution that can achieve the dual goals of power generation and fish recovery," the governor said. "Simply shutting off water spills is not the best way to meet all the competing economic needs."

U.S. District Judge James Redden has scheduled a July 28 hearing on the lawsuit. The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs are among the tribes of the Columbia that are very strongly against the BPA plan to curtail summer spilling.



The Jefferson County Majors All-Stars won at districts recently. The tournament was held in Hermiston. The team lost at state, though, this past weekend in a tournament held in Gresham.

Museum features native plant exhibit

GOLDENDALE, Wash. (AP) - As they journeyed West in their search for a passage to the Pacific Ocean, Meriwether Lewis and William Clark were struck by the sturdy yellow flowers with the large, arrow-shaped leaves growing by the Columbia River.

The arrowleaf balsamroot, a regular source of food and medicine for American Indian tribes in the Northwest, was one of 176 plant specimens - 45 in the Northwest - collected and documented by the Corps of Discovery close to 200 years ago.

The flower inspired Indian artists, who recreated the sunflower-like image on leather beaded bags. Decades later, contemporary artists photographed and painted delicate watercolors featuring the wildflower.

Now, the Maryhill Museum of Art celebrates the passions inspired by native plants with an exhibit that includes study specimens from the Corps of Discovery, early 20th century photographs, American Indian basketry and beadwork, and contemporary works of art.

"The plants are the focus. They endure, and all these people have seen different things about them," said Lynette Miller, guest curator for the exhibit from the Washington State Historical Society.

Lee Musgrave, special projects officer for the Maryhill Museum of Art, agreed.

"You have Native American objects from the times of Lewis and Clark, then you have the Lewis and Clark specimens. Then, more than 100 years later, you have contemporary works of art," he said. "To see it interpreted by such a variety of people in such different ways, that's what enriches our lives. It's wonderful to have something that almost anyone will find appealing to them."

The exhibit running through Nov. 15 centers on 12 to 15 plants documenting what Lewis and Clark saw, how American Indians viewed and used the plants and what inspiration contemporary artists have drawn from them.

Photographs of the original herbarium sheets created by Lewis and Clark, which were provided by the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia, join early 20th century hand-tinted photographs by Northwest photographer Albert Barnes.

The images of cattails, wild roses, bluebells, lilies and other plants adorn beaded bags, gloves and leggings created by American Indian artists in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Coiled baskets woven from beargrass and cedar root add dimension to the exhibit.

More important, they stress what American Indians have known for centuries: these plants add significance to our lives, said Ella Jean Jim, a member of the Klamath band of Indians from the Yakama Nation who lives near Goldendale.

"Time changes everything. Fifty years, 100 years, 200 years ago, these plants were everywhere," Jim said. "What was is not what is now, but it can be revived. It can be brought back. It can come alive again."

The contemporary artists, too, had a deep desire to see the environment preserved - a trait they all had in common, Musgrave said.

And finding the artwork was easy.

"When we started this project and determined we wanted to include contemporary artists, I thought we'd have a difficult time finding artists who focused on plants related to Lewis and Clark. Then we started looking and found them all over the place," he said.

They include delicate watercolors by Rebecca Allan and bold photographs by Ineke de Lange and Ron van

Dongen.

Kay French of Portland drew inspiration from the original herbarium sheets created by Lewis and Clark to document their botanical finds. Her romantic acrylic paintings on wood include numbers and figures alongside the plants, flowers and bugs.

"It was quite a feat, what they collected," she said. "I deal with plants that would be found in an imaginary paradise - bighead clovers, chickweed, desert parsley. When I work, I often alter them, but in this situation I tried to be more reasonably accurate and faithful to the plant. That was a challenge to me."

Some of the artists researched Lewis and Clark's botanical contributions before creating their work.

Stephan Soihl, also of Portland, created watercolors and mixed-media prints that feature the love for the wilderness he shares with the Corps of Discovery.

"It was 200 years ago and things were very wild out here. It's kind of wonderful because it's what I've loved for many years, and to have a chance to put what I would enjoy doing anyway to good use as part of the Lewis and Clark commemoration, it's been wonderful to me."

Deer, elk permits available

Deer and elk hunting permits are available for Pine Creek, Oxbow, and Forrest Conservation properties in the John Day Basin.

Applications are due by July 31, and permits will be awarded by lottery.

Permits are divided equally between tribal members and the general public.

Tribal members will need to use

a Ceded Area tag, and may apply for one deer and one elk season.

Non-tribal members must hold an appropriate unit tag.

For more information about Pine Creek, call 541-489-3477; for more information about the Oxbow and Forrest properties, call the John Day Basin Office at 541-820-3568 or 541-421-3931.

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Endangered wolf killed

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) - The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service says a federal sharpshooter has killed an endangered Mexican gray wolf that was preying on cattle on an Indian reservation in Arizona.

Trappers had been trying to capture the wolf, a member of the Saddle Pack, since March but the rough terrain and the wolf's erratic movements made it too difficult. The wolf was tracked to the San Carlos Apache reservation on

Sunday and killed with a single gunshot, said U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service spokeswoman Elizabeth Slown.

The agency decided in June to authorize the lethal action, marking the second time federal agents have killed a wolf in the New Mexico-Arizona region since the Mexican wolf reintroduction program began in 1998.

"Lethal take is our last choice for removing wolves," said Dale Hall, director of the agency's southwest region.

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