

## No Greyhound service after Aug. 18

(AP) - Warm Springs is among 267 communities in 18 states across the West and Midwest that will be losing Greyhound service August 18.

The Greyhound stop for Warm Springs has been at the Shell station on Highway 97.

On August 18, when Greyhound eliminates the 267 stops, there will be only 99 communities in the northern region where the interstate bus line will pick up passengers.

The vast majority of the cuts are to communities that have no commercial rail or air service, such as Warm Springs.

Greyhound says it has to streamline operations to stay in business. But cutting 267 communities weakens a web that has held the small towns of America together for decades.

Philip Jenks was on a bus that pulled into the stop at Biggs, a town on the Columbia River

that will lose Greyhound service. A frequent rider, Jenks was traveling from Utah's Ute Indian Reservation to visit a niece in Warm Springs.

"I'll have to take to hitchhiking, I guess," he said.

Greyhound says it lost \$140 million in 2002 and 2003 as ridership dropped and costs rose, and must concentrate on more profitable routes.

Ridership throughout the industry dropped after the Sept. 11 attacks, said Lori Levy, spokeswoman for the Washington, D.C.-based American Bus Association. She said the industry began recovering last spring but still has not reached the high attained in 2000. Of the stations being eliminated, about half had no outbound ticket sales in 2003, said company spokeswoman Lynn Brown at Greyhound Lines headquarters in Dallas, Texas.



Language teacher Arlita Rhoan leads the Language Camp gathering in a song that they sang in the Ichishkiin language. The camp last week on the museum grounds included language lessons, plus youth games, including a waterslide to keep everyone cool.

## Volunteers needed for paint project

The Side By Side Community Project is looking for people to help with the Community Wellness Center paint project. Start date for painting is Aug. 9. Work will begin at 7 a.m. and wind down about 1 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Ten volunteers are needed per two-hour shift. Volunteers are needed as painters, to pour paint in the trays, wash brushes and trays, and as general helpers. Call Marcia Soliz for information, 553-3298. The motto of this project is, "Pulling together for the kids is a good thing to do."

## Judge rules against dam spill cutback

(AP) - A federal judge last week ruled the U.S. government must keep spilling enough water over dams on the Columbia and Snake rivers this summer to help the migration of juvenile salmon.

U.S. District Judge James Redden issued a preliminary injunction against the Army Corps of Engineers to block a proposed cutback of the spill by the Bonneville Power Administration.

The BPA had argued the effect on fish would be minimal, but reducing the spill at four key Northwest dams could save ratepayers \$18 million to \$28 million in electricity costs this year.

Redden rejected that argument, saying the long-term environmental health of the region outweighed the short-term economic benefits of using the water to increase hydroelectric

ity production this summer. Redden announced his ruling to a courtroom packed with attorneys and representatives of federal agencies, Northwest Indian tribes and conservation groups.

"It's a difficult case, but my job is to consider the Endangered Species Act and the fate of juvenile salmon," Redden said, calling the summer spill plan "arbitrary and capricious."

The BPA had received federal approval to reduce spill in August at the Ice Harbor dam on the Snake River, and the Bonneville, The Dalles and John Day dams on the Columbia.

The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs and other treaty tribes of the Columbia spoke strongly against the BPA proposal. However, the Army Corps of Engineers, which operates the dams, approved the spillage cutback plan on July 6,

prompting the lawsuit seeking the injunction.

Gov. Ted Kulongoski joined the suit on behalf of environmentalists, tribes and fishermen who argued the plan offered little or no benefit to Northwest ratepayers while risking damage to the region's long-term environmental and economic health if salmon runs decline.

"I think the people in this region understand that wild salmon in their rivers are more valuable than a nickel or a dime on their electric bills," said Todd True, attorney for Earthjustice, one of the environmental groups which filed the lawsuit.

Fred Disheroon, a Justice Department attorney representing the federal agencies, argued that Bonneville had the authority to modify its overall salmon conservation plan to meet summer power demand.

He accused Kulongoski, the

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Judge Redden

tribes and conservation groups of "simply trying to second-guess or substitute their judgment" for Bonneville and other federal agencies.

Redden, however, said those agencies have failed to restore declining salmon runs that the summer spill program was designed to protect.

"Given we are working from a deficit situation, we should not be cutting back," the judge said.

The governors of the other three Northwest states served directly by Bonneville - Idaho, Montana and Washington - supported the summer spill plan.

## Corps finds error in Bonneville Dam spill volume

(AP) - Records on the volume of water flowing through the Bonneville Dam spillway may be off as much as 30 percent over the past 30 years, officials said last week.

Army Corps of Engineers officials blamed the inaccurate water volume estimates on incorrectly calibrated gate openings dating back to replacement of the spillway gates in the early 1970s.

The height of the gates was increased, leading to the error. But the effect went unnoticed until recently, officials said.

The total flow of water

past the dam was not affected, only the volume through the spillway, said Cindy Henriksen, reservoir control center chief for the Corps in Portland.

"The amount of water passing the dam remains the same. We are not holding water back," Henriksen said.

But now that the error has been identified, "adjustments are fairly simple to make," she said. Other dams along the Columbia and Snake rivers will be inspected to check for similar problems, Henriksen said.

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