

Tribes, agencies sign hydro operation agreement

The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs have agreed to a plan for the operation of the Carmen-Smith Hydroelectric Project on the upper McKenzie River.

The area is part of the traditional lands of the Confederated Tribes, and the tribes Natural Resources Department participated in the development of the hydro operation plan.

The Carmen-Smith Hydro Project is operated by the Eugene Water and Electric Board.

Officials from the tribes, federal and state natural resource agencies, environmental groups and other parties signed the operating agreement in October. In all, 17 governmental bodies were represented at the signing ceremony.

The plan outlines the environmental, recreational and other improvements that the Eugene Water and Electric Board (EWEB) will undertake, as part of the relicensing of the Carmen-Smith Hydroelectric Project.

The dam is licensed, for a period of 50 years, through the Federal Energy Regulatory Agency. The hydro facility is



Photo courtesy of Lance Robertson of EWEB

Jody Calica, secretary-treasurer of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, greets members of the Eugene Water and Electric Board.

owned by and serves the citizens of Eugene.

Among other things, the agreement calls for EWEB to construct an upstream fish ladder and a downstream fish passage system at Trail Bridge Dam.

The agreement calls for an increase in year-round stream flows in portions of the McKenzie River and the Smith and Carmen bypass reaches above Trail Bridge reservoir, greatly improving fisheries spawning and rearing habitat

throughout the project area.

EWEB will rebuild and improve the three campgrounds in the area, construct new day-use sites at all three reservoirs, and protect important cultural and historical resources.

In all, water and electric board has agreed to make an estimated \$135 million in enhancements and mitigation measures related to the hydroelectric project.

The agreement is the result of nearly two years of discussions among the 17 parties.

The Carmen-Smith project is located 71 miles east of Eugene on the upper McKenzie and Smith rivers.

It consists of three dams and reservoirs, two powerhouses, a salmon spawning channel, campgrounds and other amenities. The rivers not only provide power, but also are an important source of aesthetic, cultural and recreational values for local communities and beyond. This agreement attempts to balance these interests.

The agreement will result in safe upstream and downstream fish passage for Chinook salmon, listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act, into historical habitat above Trail Bridge Dam.

Eugene voters approved construction of the Carmen-Smith Hydroelectric Project in 1958. It was completed in 1963, and remains EWEB's largest and most important source of utility-owned, low-cost hydroelectricity.

Its output is equal to about 9 percent of Eugene's average power needs.

EWEB is a municipal utility that is governed by a five-member board elected by the citizens of Eugene. EWEB is Oregon's largest citizen-owned utility. In addition to providing electricity to 86,000 customers, it serves almost 200,000 people and businesses in the Eugene area with water.

Besides EWEB and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, other parties to the agreement are:

The National Marine Fisheries Service; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; U.S. Forest Service; Oregon Department of Environmental Quality; Oregon Fish and Wildlife Department; Oregon Parks and Recreation Department; Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon; Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon; American Whitewater; Cascadia Wildlands Project; McKenzie Flyfishers; Oregon Hunters Association; Oregon Wild; Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation; and Trout Unlimited.

More on the Carmen-Smith project, the agreement and relicensing can be found on the web at www.eweb.org.

For youth in grades one through five, the classes will be from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

For youth in grades six and up, the classes will be from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Beading classes for youth

Merle Kirk will be teaching beadwork on Tuesdays during December at the OSU 4-H Extension.

The beadwork classes are for youth from the first-grade and up. This is a great chance to make gifts for Christmas.

The classes will be on Dec. 2, 9 and 16.

For youth in grades one through five, the classes will be from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

For youth in grades six and up, the classes will be from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

You must be enrolled in 4-H to participate. Limited to 10 students per session.

Sign up at the 4-H OSU Extension office in the Education building, or call 553-3238.

The beadwork and the class will be fun and easy to do.

Endangered salmon found in remote creek

UKIAH, Calif. (AP) — Scientists have discovered juvenile coho salmon on California's North Coast in a number of places where the endangered fish had not been seen for years.

Jennifer Carah, a field scientist for the Nature Conservancy, says she was snorkeling recently in the Garcia River watershed

when she found a school of the tiny salmon. In fact, the salmon have been found in 10 areas where they had previously vanished.

The Garcia River watershed had been devastated by logging, and the coho population dwindled to 1 percent of previous numbers.

In 2004 the watershed became part of a "sustainable forestry" experiment, which allows for only selective logging on the land. The funds from the logging are then used to pay for restoration and land management.

The area is owned by the Conservation Fund, which paid

\$18 million to a timber company for the 23,780-acre Garcia River Forest. The Nature Conservancy works alongside the Conservation Fund to study and monitor fish and wildlife on the land.

Thank you for supporting the businesses you see in the Spilyay Tymoo.

Tepee Deli, Ventures act to encourage school attendance

The Tepee Deli and Warm Springs Ventures wish to support the Confederated Tribes' efforts to encourage high school graduation.

Recently, high school age youth have been spending time at the deli during school hours.

So, before this becomes a habit, employees of the deli are announcing that they

want to help curb absenteeism from school.

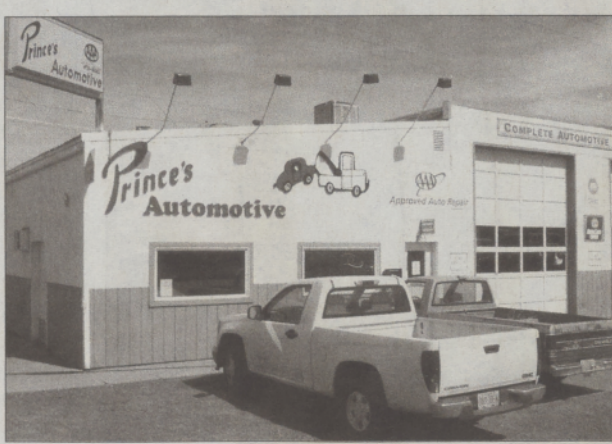
Effective immediately, during 509-J school days, anyone 18 years of age and under can only use the internet café computers after 2 p.m.

If asked, please produce proof of age, or you may be asked to leave until 2 p.m. Thank you.

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SATURDAY, NOV. 22ND

♦ 11am - TURKEY SHOOT GOLF TOURNAMENT. Only \$30, including cart and barbeque.

THANKSGIVING DAY

♦ 11am - 5pm - Enjoy a delicious THANKSGIVING DINNER BUFFET in the Chinook Room. Adults \$24 / Kids \$12 (7-12) Kids 6 and under - free with adult purchase.

SATURDAY, NOV. 29TH

♦ 11:30am - CIVIL WAR PARTY in Appaloosa Lounge.
♦ Enjoy the big game on our big screen with plenty of prizes!

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♦ PICK-A-PRESENT DRAWINGS - Win presents from under the casino Christmas Tree.



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*21 and over in Appaloosa Lounge.