

# Fire hall for Sidwalter area

The Confederated Tribes have started construction of a fire hall to serve the Sidwalter area of the reservation.

The two-story structure will be located off Highway 26 on Sidwalter Flat.

The ground breaking for the building was set for Tuesday of this week (after deadline for this

paper.)

Tribal Council, Fire and Safety, and Credit representatives were scheduled to attend. The U.S. Department of Agriculture is also contributing to this project.

At the ground-breaking, historical comments on the "Sidwallah" or "Sidwalter" area

were to be provided by Jo Smith.

Tribal Public Safety and Tribal Council have been planning the development of the Sidwalter Community Fire Hall for some time.

The Sidwalter community is pleased that the project is becoming a reality.

# Pact unveiled that would remove Klamath River dams

(AP) - The Bush administration has announced a nonbinding agreement for removing four dams along the Klamath River, a key to resolving the basin's long-standing trouble balancing the water needs of farms and fish.

While not a final answer, the deal represents a milestone toward what would become the biggest dam removal project in U.S. history.

It also would help resolve issues at the root of the 2001 shut-off of irrigation to thousands of acres of farmland under enforcement by U.S. marshals and the 2002 deaths of 70,000 adult salmon in the river after irrigation water was restored.

The agreement in principle reached in Sacramento, Calif., was to be signed Thursday by the U.S. Department of Interior, the utility PacifiCorp and the governors of Oregon and California. PacifiCorp is owned by a subsidiary of Warren Buffett's Omaha, Neb.-based Berkshire Hathaway Inc.

The agreement is a roadmap for turning the dams over to a nonfederal entity and starting to remove them by 2020.

Though the Bush administration has opposed removing hydroelectric dams elsewhere, Interior Department Counselor Michael Bogert said it recognized that removing the four dams could help create "a comprehensive approach to deal with the issues and images we saw in the Klamath Basin."

Pressure has been building for years on the dam's owner, PacifiCorp, to make a deal. California and Oregon's governors pressed for dam removal after commercial salmon fisheries collapsed in 2006.

Federal biologists mandated that fish ladders and other improvements costing \$300 million be added to the dams before a federal operating license could be renewed. California water authorities have been taking a hard look at the dams' role in toxic algae plaguing the river, and river advocates have sued PacifiCorp to fix the algae problem.

The deal embraces a \$1 billion environmental restoration blueprint for the Klamath Basin that has been endorsed by farmers, Indian tribes, salmon fishermen and conservation groups. Besides restoring fish habitat, it guarantees water and cheap electricity for farmers, as well as continued access to federal wildlife refuges for farming.

Dean Brockbank, vice president and general council for PacifiCorp, said though the agreement was nonbinding, the utility was committed to seeing it through to removal of the dams.



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# Volunteers needed for jail GED program

The Warm Springs Jail Ministry is looking for volunteers to come to the jail for tutoring of the inmates who are trying to get their GED.

Volunteers need to be

trained before they can teach.

The training is conducted in Redmond, and the jail ministry can help provide transportation.

The training sessions are from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. this

Thursday and Friday, Nov. 20-21, and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 22.

Anyone interested should call Susan McNeilly of the jail ministry at 475-6549.

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