

New fish commission director visits

By Dave McMechan
Spilyay Tymoo

Paul Lumley, the new executive director of the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, met last week with Tribal Council.

Lumley, member of the Yakama Nation, told Council that he had worked at CRITFC before. He worked for 17 years in CRITFC fisheries harvest management, and over those years helped work on 12 different court cases.

Five years ago he took a job in Washington, D.C., working with the National American Indian Housing Council.

Last year, J.P. Patt resigned as CRITFC executive director, and Lumley applied for the position. The fish commission board hired him earlier this year.

CRITFC is a coalition of the Warm Springs, Yakama, Umatilla and Nez Perce tribes. The tribes formed the commission in 1977. CRITFC provides scientific expertise and tribal unity in the service of salmon and fisheries protection.



Paul Lumley (left) and Off-Reservation Fish and Wildlife vice-chairman Leslie Bill meet with Tribal Council.

An order of business at Tribal Council last week was CRITFC funding. The BIA provides funding, and the contract with the bureau should be renewed by the end of the year, said Lumley.

The Off-Reservation Fish and Wildlife Committee recommended approving the agreement, and with some added wording at the suggestion of

Secretary-Treasurer Jody Calica, Tribal Council voted to approve.

The added language was to clarify that BIA funding of CRITFC did not relieve the agency of its trust responsibility to the tribes, said Calica.

Lumley then updated Council on various activities going on at CRITFC. A treaty between Canada and the U.S., for instance, is coming up for renewal,

and CRITFC is planning to have some input in the agreement.

Lumley also updated the Council on the status of the tribal fish processing plant at White Swan. The hope is to have the plant in operation by next fall, he said.

The enterprise would need its own board of directors. CRITFC cannot operate the plant, he said, because the commission is non-profit.

The board could consist of tribal officials from each of the four CRITFC tribes, said Lumley.

The fish processing plant has a great potential to be a profitable tribal enterprise, providing good jobs, he said.

What's needed, Lumley said, is a business plan of operation.

He then updated Council of the status of law enforcement at the Columbia. CRITFC for a time had a strong law enforcement presence there, but the program has been cut back, and the situation needs to be addressed. "I believe we need safe and clean places to fish," said Lumley.

Community events calendar

The Women of Wellness will have their Ninth Anniversary celebration lunch Thursday, Sept. 10 at the Health and Wellness Center.

Enhanced Fitness class starts at 10:45 a.m. on Friday, Sept. 11 at the Senior Center. At noon there will be a body flex class at the community center.

School starts this Wednesday, Sept. 9 for 509-J students in grades 1-9. School for grades 10-12 starts Thursday, Sept. 10. The Place for Kids Club school year program starts this Wednesday as well.

The Recreation Department **Back To School Yard Sale** is Saturday, Sept. 12 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on the Community Center lawn. Set up time is between 8 and 10 a.m. Recreation has more information at 553-3243.

The Warm Springs Music Project will meet on Thursday, Sept. 10 and Sept. 24 at the Family Resource Center. From 5 til 9. Anyone interested in music is invited to attend. For more information, call Richard Macy at 553-1241.

The Warm Springs Shaker Church will host the Oregon State Convention 2009 at the church this Friday-Sunday, Sept. 25-27. Supper on Friday is at 5 p.m. Services start at 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 26 business meeting starts at 10 a.m. Sunday services begin at 10 a.m.

Pictograph site recognized

BEND (AP) — An American Indian spiritual site in the Millican Valley in Central Oregon has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Archaeologists and others hope the recognition will cut down on vandalism.

Pictographs painted mostly in red, some that may date back to 1500 B.C., have been chipped, shot at and covered with chalk.

Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Tribal Councilman Wilson Wewa has visited the site a number of times.

Even before the more recent vandalism, Wewa said, the site was badly looted in the 1920s and '30s.

The looters dug down about four feet, removing many items, he said.

Burns Paiute tribal elder Minerva Soucie said her parents in the 1950s often stopped at the site to show their children the pictographs, many painted by Northern Paiute people.

"It was a place (where) people come and look for direction, or to be used maybe in a spiritual quest process for their lives," Soucie said.

Two decades later, she saw that change.

"I liked going there until I went one time and it was vandalized," Soucie said. "It looked like there were panels trying to be chipped off, and that to me was a desecration of our teachings or our spiritual way of life."

The site was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in mid-July.

Paiute Indians — who are now associated with the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, the Burns Paiute Tribe and the Klamath Tribes — continue to use the site.

Cara Kazer, an architectural historian in the State Historic

Preservation Office, said Oregon has about 33,000 known archaeological sites, but only between 120 and 130 of those are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Oregon has a total of 1,902 listings on the register.

The newly registered site is on private property.

The State Historic Preservation Office redacted large sections of the draft nomination form before releasing it, citing the need to keep the location secret.

The pictographs probably date from 1500 B.C. to A.D. 1900, "when access to the site by the Paiute became limited due to their removal to reservations and further intrusions by Euroamerican settlers," according to the nomination form.

People who stopped at the area might have been hunting, trading or traveling to Northern Paiute gatherings. People also considered it a powerful spiritual site.

The latest paintings at the site were probably created by Northern Paiute people who moved into Central Oregon within the last 1,000 years, according to the nomination form. Faded pigment underneath some of those could come from earlier paintings and suggests people used the area earlier.

Images include human and animal stick figures, lizards, tally marks and abstract paintings such as grids, zigzags, chevrons and ladder figures.

Since the 1920s, visitors outlined the images with chalk to make them more visible for pictures. The chalk was offensive to American Indians who use the site, according to the nomination form. In 1988, members of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs restored the pictographs by removing the chalk with water and brushes.

Regional Finals Rodeo this weekend

The Warm Springs Indian Rodeo Association Finals Rodeo is this Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 12-13, at Tygh Ridge.

Rodeo starts at 1 p.m. on Saturday and 11 a.m. on Sunday.

All eight standard events.

For entry call (541) 325-9087.

The rodeo will be two go-rounds. The sudden death will be determined on the average.

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