

Stacona achieves CPA working at finance

By Dave McMechan
Spilyay Tymoo

The job of treasury controller with the Confederated Tribes is a hard one, at times requiring long hours.

"It is very challenging," said Michele Stacona, who was the tribes' treasury controller for the past three and a half years.

During that time, Stacona became a certified public accountant, a unique accomplishment so far for the tribes.

"This is the first time the tribes have produced an in-house CPA," said Ray Potter, the tribes' chief financial officer. "This is a first and hopefully more will follow."

The treasury controller helps to oversee the tribes' investments, grants and contracts, and department budgets.

This can be challenging especially during budget time in the fall. "I thank my daughter for spending many weekends at the office with me," Stacona said.



Michele Stacona earned her CPA working at finance.

A rewarding part of the job, she said, was the work she did with the tribes' various departments and enterprises.

"Day to day I worked with many different people, and I'll

miss that," she said.

Stacona earlier this month left the finance department for Kah-Nee-Ta, where she is the executive director for the gaming commission.

In this job she helps oversee the regulation of the tribes' gaming enterprise, making sure the enterprise is in compliance with rules and regulations.

The job is a familiar one to Stacona, as she was the gaming commission executive director before joining the finance department in 2006. She returns to the job with her CPA.

One of the requirements of acquiring a CPA certificate is to work two years for a CPA. This comes after college and after passing the qualifying exam.

Working for Potter at finance gave Stacona the experience to earn the CPA certificate.

"I want to thank him, the department, and the tribes," she said, "and my family for cheering me on."

"It was an absolute pleasure to work with Michele for the past three years," Potter said. "Her performance was exemplary and her dedication to get things done unequalled. I am extremely proud of what she has accomplished."

Minors trust fund spring distribution

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Resource team approves projects

The Resource Management Inter-disciplinary Team approved the 2010 Central Timber Sale Project Assessment and three small project assessments during a meeting held Jan. 13.

Timber in this sale may be available for harvest as early as this year, but logging will probably occur periodically over 3-4 years.

The proposed sale is located within the Warm Springs River and Shitike Creek watersheds on the Warm Springs Reservation.

The sale will be implemented to capture volume remaining in the current planning period, and to supply desirable timber and

preserve jobs at Warm Springs Forest Products Industries (WSFPI).

The sale was developed under the Integrated Resources Management Plan (IRMP) project assessment process at the direction of Resource Management Inter-disciplinary Team (RMIDT).

The sale will result in the harvest of tree species and sizes that can be marketed through WSFPI and those impacted by overstocking, root disease, dwarf mistletoe, insects, stem decay, and older commercially thinned blocks.

An estimated 34-40 million

board feet of net volume timber will be harvested, which will account for the reservation-wide volume remaining within the 10-year planning period.

The project area covers approximately 3,290 acres.

Other projects

RMIDT also approved a small project assessments for water system improvements in the Simnasho area, improvements on the access road leading to a telecommunications tower on Miller Flat, and vegetation management under the BPA transmission line.

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Land use application postings

The following land use requests are posted for 30 days at tribal administration, the Warm Springs Post Office, the Community Wellness Center, Warm Springs Market and the Three Warriors Market:

1. Roberta Kirk rural homesite lease.
2. Mona Smith Cochran grazing lease/conditional use permit.
3. Agency fire administra-

tion office/living quarter demolition. Set-up temporary office/living quarter two trailers.

If you have any comments please contact the Land Use Planning Committee; BIA Realty, or Land Services Administrator Urbana Ross.

For information, call Ross at 541-553-3270 or fax 541-553-1924.

2010 U.S. Census Jobs

Testing for 2010 Census jobs is this week at the Family Resource Center as follows:
Thursday, Jan. 28 at 9:30 a.m.
Friday, Jan. 29 at 9:30 a.m.

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