

Court halts sea lion killing at Bonneville Dam

(AP) — Sea lions that have faced death by lethal injection for making banquets of endangered fish in the Columbia River won a reprieve last week when a federal appeals court told Oregon and Washington wildlife officials to cease killing them.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said the federal government failed to explain why it lets state officials kill sea lions, while

humans are allowed to take comparable or larger catches of the endangered salmon and steelhead.

Angry fishermen along the river have protested over the past decade as growing numbers of the sea lions clustered at the base of Bonneville Dam, where fish waiting to head upriver to spawn are easy pickings.

In 2008, the federal govern-

ment gave Oregon and Washington state agencies the go-ahead to kill the hungriest of the sea lions, a decision challenged by the Humane Society of the United States.

In the past two years, 24 of the California sea lions have been killed. They are captured at the dam and taken to a facility where they are given a lethal injection by a veterinarian.

The appeals court noted that—depending on how large the yearly runs prove to be—commercial, recreational and tribal fisheries are allowed under a separate federal assessment to catch 5.5 percent to 17 percent of the salmon and steelhead listed under the Endangered Species Act.

The National Marine Fisheries Service judged that such a catch would have minimal impact on the species' chances of survival, the judges said. But that finding is "in apparent conflict" with the agency's finding that a comparable or smaller take by the sea lions would have a "significant negative impact," they said.

Based on federal agency ob-

servations, sea lions' take has ranged from 0.4 percent to 4.2 percent, although the agencies believe that's a minimum, the court said.

The sea lions also are protected by federal law, but an exception allows them to be killed if they pose a significant threat to the fish.

The judges ordered the case to be sent back to the fisheries service, with an observation that its conclusions "raise questions as to whether the agency is fulfilling its mandates impartially or competently."

Spokesman Brian Gorman said the agency is disappointed with the decision but hadn't decided on its next step.

Canoe family looks to build cedar canoe

The N'Chi Wanapam Canoe Family is seeking help from artists who may have the knowledge to build a cedar strip canoe.

The team plans on participating in the 2011 canoe journey, beginning once again at Celilo.

For more information on you can become involved, please call the Museum at Warm Springs at 541-553-3331.

Or visit the museum's website: museumatwarm Springs.org.

Hoops tournament this weekend

The Warm Springs Basketball Eliminations Tournament will be held this Friday through Sunday, Dec. 3-5, at the Warm Springs Community Center gym.

This tournament is men's all-Indian and women's all-Indian. First place winners receive

champions jackets. Second runner-ups will receive sweatshirts. Third place team receives crew neck sweatshirts. And fourth place: t-shirts.

There will be ten all tourney awards. The champions will play in the Warm Springs Indian

Holiday Basketball Tournament.

The tournament is true double elimination, based on teams entered (subject to change).

Call Austin Greene for information: 541-553-1953 (h); or 553-3243 (w).

Hospice hosting Light Up a Life Tree

A community tradition for more than 15 years, Mountain View Hospice extends an invitation to participate in the annual "Light Up A Life" celebration.

The celebration offers an opportunity to dedicate a light in honor of someone admired or in memory of someone missed.

Donations will illuminate lights on the Light Up a Life tree during a name reading ceremony located at Mountain View Hospital this Friday, Dec. 3 from 6-8 p.m. with a reception to fol-

low. Dress warmly as part of the celebration will be held outdoors.

Your tax-deductible contribution is a meaningful gift. Light Up a Life celebrates the life of honored loved ones and helps Hospice meet the needs of patients, families and the community.

Another opportunity to give is by buying raffle tickets being sold by Mountain View Hospice. The prize is a traditional handmade Santa, \$100 gift certificate to Aspen Ridge Tree Farm, and a 90 minute massage by a licensed massage therapist to

bodywork by Kestrel. The winner will be selected at the Light Up a Life celebration. Tickets will be sold six for \$10 and one for \$2.

The mission of Mountain View Hospice is to provide compassionate end of life care with excellence to patients families, loved ones and the community of Madras, Warm Springs and the outlying areas of Jefferson County. If you would like to participate in this annual gift of light or purchase raffle tickets, please contact Mountain View Hospice (541) 460-4030.

Branch hosting timber sale meeting

The Natural Resources Branch is planning to host a scoping meeting to discuss a salvage and timber sale on an allotment in the Columbia River Gorge.

The meeting will be held December 15 from 1-3 p.m. at the Fire Management conference room.

Natural Resources staff will take tribal member comments regarding a project assessment for the salvage and timber sale during the scoping meeting.

The project will occur on a forested allotment of just under 80 acres located about two miles east of Hood River.

The project area was impacted by the Microwave fire of August 2009.

Most of the trees in the sale are Douglas fir between 70 and 90 years old. For more information on the sale or the meeting contact Bill Fish or Vernon Wolf at the Forestry Department, 553-2416.

FENDERS by ENDRES



Fast, Courteous 24-Hour Service.
Accident Recovery.
Roll Back, for damage-free Towing
Statewide coverage

Insurance
approved.

475-6491 office, or 480-9685



It seems like it was yesterday when we learned to ride our bikes **together**, discovered that we both liked to dance and speak our language. It seems like we were **never apart** and everyone knew we were **best friends**.

When we decided to go to school, we made sure we were going to be roommates. When you finally landed that first job after all your hard work, I was the first to say "**congratulations.**" When you said you wanted to help the youth on the reservation, I said, "**Let's do it together.**" Then came a time when you told me that you have a **mental health problem**, like **depression** and **anxiety**. Now I know that anyone can experience mental health problems, even **Native People**. We thought we knew everything, yet I really didn't **understand** what a **difference** my support can make in your recovery. Well, I am here for you. I will be here for you. And—as always—we will **recover together**.



Visit www.whatadifference.samhsa.gov/native to learn how you can help support a friend.