

## Tribe wins Klamath salmon ruling

(AP) — A judge has ruled that the California Department of Fish and Game's deal allowing ranchers to continue drawing water from two Klamath Basin tributaries in return for habitat improvements does not do enough to protect threatened coho salmon.

The ruling from Judge Ernest H. Goldsmith of the Superior Court of California in San Francisco tells the department to figure out how many salmon are actually killed by water withdrawals from the Scott and Shasta rivers in Northern California, come up with some effective steps to improve salmon survival in those rivers, and give the public a chance to comment on it

all. "Despite (the department's) good faith efforts and potential hardship to water users, the Court must uphold the legislature's mandate to preserve listed species and conduct environmental review of all foreseeable consequences," Goldsmith wrote.

The department is reviewing the ruling and considering its options for moving forward, said spokeswoman Jordan Traverso.

The ruling issued April 20 came in a lawsuit brought by groups representing salmon fishermen, an Indian tribe, and conservation groups challenging the legality of the Shasta Valley and Scott River Watershed-Wide

Permitting Programs. The department approved the programs in 2010 to bring about 100 farms and ranches into compliance with the state Endangered Species Act in an area that had seen fierce pockets of resistance.

"This ruling does not put water back in the river or fish back in the river," said Klamath Riverkeeper Erica Terence, one of the plaintiffs in the cases. "It just keeps at bay a program that quite possibly would have done more harm than good."

Federal threatened species protection for Klamath Basin coho led to the shut-off of irrigation water to more than 1,000 farms and ranches on a federal

irrigation project straddling the Oregon-California border in 2002, but did not affect irrigation on private lands in the Scott and Shasta valleys. California protected coho in 2005.

Historically, the Scott and Shasta rivers offered important habitat for coho salmon in the Klamath Basin, but have seen numbers falling to dangerously low levels in recent years. Last year the Scott — which regularly runs dry from irrigation withdrawals, requiring thousands of young fish to be rescued — saw only 881 adult coho return, according to the department. The Shasta saw only 49. Two out of three years, no fish return to the Shasta.

## Cedar tree carved for canoe family

SUQUAMISH, Wash. (AP) — Leaning over the center of a partially carved 32-foot-long western red cedar, master carver Ray Natraoro's eyes moved down the grain of the old growth tree.

Using a level, string and pencil, Natraoro focused on the center of the monstrous log, trying to determine where cuts should be made to continue its transformation from a 10-ton tree into a classic Salish-style tribal canoe.

The 800-year-old tree and Natraoro are from British Columbia. The tree came from the Elaho Valley, north of Vancouver, on territory owned by the Squamish Nation.

Natraoro was joined by Gary Gonzales and Simon Reece, two other Squamish members in Suquamish last week. They were in town to carve a dugout canoe for Tana Stobs, a canoe family in Suquamish that includes members of the Suquamish and Port Gamble S'Klallam tribes.

"It's a rare gift, these cedar trees," said Nick Armstrong, a Tana Stobs family member. "We had the word out there that some day we'd like a traditional canoe."

A canoe family is a group of extended family members and close family friends who participate in annual Tribal Canoe Journeys, in which native people travel from their homes to a common destination within the Coast Salish territory.

The family first participated in the journey in the same year Armstrong's brother Santana was killed in a car accident. The journey gave the grieving family a focus, sister Faith Williams said. They chose Tana Stobs as their canoe family name to honor Santana, whose nick-

name was Tana. Stobs means man in the Salish language, Williams said.

Previously, members of the Tana Stobs family have used a fiberglass canoe. For this year's event at the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community in Skagit County, Armstrong and his family will use both the fiberglass model and the one being carved by Natraoro.

"It's pretty exciting because before we'd do switch outs," Williams said. Because of the canoe family's size—Williams and Armstrong have 32 cousins in the area—members took turns in the one boat.

Now everyone can participate at the same time—including some of the youngest members, like Williams' 6-year-old daughter.

Watching Natraoro and other family members work on the canoe last week, Williams commented on the canoe's presence in the family.

"This canoe is going to be there long after we've all gone," she said.

The canoe is the 18th carved by Natraoro, who was commissioned to carve a canoe for the recent Winter Olympics in Vancouver, B.C. The tradition of carving traces back seven generations in Natraoro's family. He previously carved two canoes for the Suquamish Tribe, one in 2001 and another in 2002.

Natraoro uses modern tools, including chain saws and adzes, to shave away at the trunk.

The tools replicate the stone adzes and chisels used by his ancestors to build the dugout canoes. Antlers were also used to do the intricate carving work.

## State recognizes Native Hawaiians

HONOLULU (AP) — Laying the foundation for a Native Hawaiian government, lawmakers agreed on legislation last week that grants them recognition as the indigenous people of the state.

The bill starts the process of registering Native Hawaiians for their future government, and it could lead to the formation of a political body overseeing their affairs.

The measure unanimously cleared its conference committee last Friday and advances to final votes in the House and Senate this week.

"It's sending a message to the indigenous Native Hawaiian population that we recognize you, and you can do whatever it takes to empower yourselves so that you can achieve self-determination," said Sen. Malama Solomon, D-Hilo-Honokaa.

Native Hawaiians are the last

remaining indigenous group in the United States who haven't been allowed to establish their own government, a right already extended to many Alaska Natives and Native American tribes.

Federal legislation for Hawaiian recognition hasn't passed despite more than a decade of efforts by Sen. Daniel Akaka, D-Hawaii.

But this state initiative gives Hawaiians a way to organize themselves and decide on their form of government, without having to wait for Congress to act first. It also may spur the federal government to act.

"It really is fundamentally a very significant step for self-determination for Native Hawaiians," said Clyde Namuo, CEO for the state Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

The bill calls for a five-member commission responsible for

creating a roll of qualified Native Hawaiians interested in participating in their government.

Those eligible for the roll include Native Hawaiians and others who have maintained significant cultural, social or civic connections to the Native Hawaiian community.

Once the roll is established, they could hold a convention and create founding documents of their Native Hawaiian nation.

"It restores a modicum of dignity to the first people of these islands, whose kingdom was stolen illegally," said Sen. Clayton Hee, D-Kahuku-Kaneohe.

A previous effort by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, called Kau Inoa, gathered about 110,000 signatures of people showing interest in a Hawaiian governing entity.

The people on the Kau Inoa list could form a starting point

for creating the new roll of Native Hawaiians, if they decide to join, Namuo said.

In all, there are about 400,000 Native Hawaiians in the world, with about half of them living in Hawaii.

"The Hawaiian people will have their own destiny they can create for themselves instead of having other people telling them what they need to do," said Rep. Faye Hanohano, D-Paho-Kalapana.

Funding of \$110,000 over the next two years will be paid by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, which will administer the roll commission, Namuo said.

The roll commission would be appointed by Gov. Neil Abercrombie, with one commissioner from each of Hawaii's four main counties along with one at-large commissioner.

## Solar power for Reno-Sparks Indian Colony

HUNGRY VALLEY, Nev. (AP) — The Reno-Sparks Indian Colony is going solar.

Tribal officials plan a ribbon-cutting ceremony Saturday for a recently installed 140-kilowatt solar power system that will generate a substantial amount of the electricity for the colony's community education center in Hungry Valley north of Reno.

It's one of three solar power systems they are building with the help of more than \$1 million worth of rebates from NV Energy's SolarGenerations program.

Tribal chairman Arlan Melendez says it will save the colony an estimated \$39,000 in annual energy costs.

## \$47 million event center for Ft. Hall

FORT HALL, Idaho (AP) — The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes have broken ground on the \$47 million Hotel and Events Center on the Fort Hall Indian Reservation.

"This project is a good thing not only for the tribes, but also for southeast Idaho," said Tribal Executive Director Angelo Gonzales.

Officials said the 164,000-square-foot development is expected to be finished by May 2012 and will be an economic boon to the tribes and surrounding communities by attracting headliner events as well as offering a convenient place to stay for Fort Hall Casino visitors.

Tribal officials held the public event Wednesday

though pre-construction work started a month ago due to favorable weather.

The center is being built near the Interstate 15 Fort Hall exit.

"It will enhance what the casino already has to offer our patrons," said Andrea Ramone, the casino's interim general manager. "This has been years in the making and it's something exciting to see."

Leah Rigby, executive director of the Blackfoot Chamber of Commerce, attended the event.

"We came (to the groundbreaking) as a chamber board to show our support for the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes' progressive economic development," she said. "This will help

their community and will eventually help the surrounding communities too."

The groundbreaking attracted a good turnout.

"I'm glad to see a great number of people came out here — not only tribal membership, but people from the surrounding area who came to see what we're doing here," said Fort Hall Business Council Chairman Nathan Small. "It's good to see people from surrounding areas are appreciative of that and support (the tribes)."

Tribal officials said a second phase of the project involves expanding the casino, though no date has been set for that.

## \$1.5M to family of slain woodcarver

SEATTLE (AP) — The city of Seattle will pay \$1.5 million to the family of a homeless woodcarver who was shot by a police officer last summer, a killing that helped prompt a top-to-bottom federal review of the city's police department. Officer Ian Birk shot John T. Williams last August after the Native American woodcarver crossed the street in front of Birk's patrol car while holding a piece of wood and a small knife. Birk later said Williams had threatened him, but a review board ruled the shooting unjustified.

## Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act registration and notification

By provision of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act, the Confederated Tribes are also publishing the sex offender registration list.

A person is required to register with the administrator if the person has been convicted of a sex crime, and resides or works in the community, or visits here on a monthly basis. This applies to tribal and non-tribal members.

The sex offender registration office phone number is 541-553-2214. The administrator's office is located at 2146 Warm Springs Street, Warm Springs (upstairs in the tribal Court building).

The following names are added to the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs list of registered offenders under the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act (name followed by date of birth):

Andrea Lee Morales, 5-13-66.

Jake Charlie Waheneka, 5-12-76.

Leroy Dale Allen, 3-13-69.

Lucas Caleb Ike, 4-17-60.

The sex offender registry of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs can be viewed at the website: <http://warmsprings.nspow.gov/>



May 8-14, 2011

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