

Critical timber issue at Tribal Council

The Natural Resources Branch presented its recommended allowable timber cut to Tribal Council last week, during a two-day forestry workshop at Kah-Nee-Ta.

Natural Resources is recommending an allowable cut of 31 million board feet per year. This figure represents the harvest level that is sustainable for future generations, according to the Natural Resources Branch.

Warm Springs Forest Products Industries has recommended an allowable cut figure of 43 million board feet.

The mill could not operate with an annual harvest of 31 million board feet

and would have to shut down, WSFPI officials say.

The mill employs about 104 employees who are tribal members or married into the tribe.

Tribal Council is now facing the allowable cut decision, one of its most important decisions—in terms of natural resources and employment—in recent memory.

Natural Resources has determined that an annual cut of 31 million board feet is sustainable, while a cut beyond that level would eventually leave no harvestable timber. Over-harvesting is harmful to fisheries and other wildlife

and native plants.

Forest practices on the reservation over the past decades have been at high levels that are not sustainable and did not take into account the other values that are important to forest health.

The tribes assumed management of reservation forestry about a year ago.

During the workshop last week, Councilman Raymond Tsumpti said the tribes have already harvested the timber for five generations to come. The goal now should be to avoid harvesting the timber of the remaining two generations of the seven generations,

Tsumpti said.

WSFPI has recommended harvesting timber in forest conditional-use areas. Even if this were done, there is not enough timber in the conditional-use areas to sustain the mill, said Jim Rice, tribal forest manager.

The circumstances sound bleak—either lose over 100 local jobs, or over-harvest the reservation forest land—but there is an alternative.

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Simnasho water fix approved

By **Dave McMechan**
Spilyay Tymoo

Tribal Council last week gave approval for work to begin on a new water system to serve the Simnasho-Schoolie Flats community.

Arsenic in the existing domestic water supply at Simnasho is above the EPA safety standard. Simnasho residents have been using bottled water for drinking and cooking purposes for the past four years.

A permanent solution to the problem required securing \$2.05 million in funding. The funding now is in place, said Don Courtney, Utilities director.

Most of the money—\$1.4 million—will come from the EPA.

HUD will contribute another \$450,000, through an "imminent threat" grant. The tribes are contributing \$200,000, leaving a shortfall of \$450,000. However, the deficit could be made up through another federal grant, said Courtney.

The tribes need to begin work on the new water system as soon as possible, Courtney said. Otherwise, the tribes could face significant fines, he said.

The tribes also need to move forward in order to secure the \$1.4 million from the EPA. No other tribe in the Northwest is receiving any EPA funding this year, Courtney said.

The Council action last week came after a presentation by Courtney, water engineer Roy Spino, and chief operations officer Urbana Ross.

Spino said the design drawings for the new water system are done, and Natural Resources is conducting a cultural inventory. When the inventory is done, work can begin, Spino said.

The projection is that the new system will be on line in October of 2013.

The source of water will be in the Beaver Creek area. The new system will be adequate for the next few decades, said Spino.

Since 2007, the tribes have spent about \$200,000 on bottled water for the Simnasho-Schoolie Flats residents.

Arsenic is odorless and colorless, and can appear in drinking water through natural deposits in the earth, or from agriculture and industrial practices. Arsenic is cancer causing, and can cause other serious health problems.

Company demonstrates surveillance plane

By **Dave McMechan**
Spilyay Tymoo

Warm Springs Ventures is looking at the possibility of developing a test range on the reservation for unmanned aircraft.

Last week, a company from the Hood River area visited the reservation to demonstrate an unmanned aerial vehicle, or small plane.

The plane, about the size of a large bird, is equipped with a camera on the bottom that transmits images, as seen from above, to a monitor screen on the ground.

This technology can be used for wild land fire fighting surveillance, search and rescue, law enforcement and other purposes. The civilian unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) market is currently estimated at \$5 billion per year, said Anspach.



The most well-known type of UAV is the drone used by the military. The military application of the UAV is about \$40 billion per year.

The process to develop a test facility for UAVs is very competitive, said Jeff Anspach, Ventures director.

See **UAVs** on page 9



Buttons Heath (above) checks out the surveillance plane; while (at left) Chief Joe Moses, TeleCo operations manager Jose Matanane, Councilman J.P. Patt, and Council records specialist Joelden Surface (standing from left) observe the plane's camera display monitor.

Forty-Second Annual Pi-Ume-Sha June 24-26

The Pi-Ume-Sha Traditional Parade this year will be in memory of the late Wasco Chief Nelson Wallulatum. Chief Wallulatum passed away a little over a year ago, on June 13, 2010, at the age of 84. He served as Chief of the Wascos for 51 years.

The Traditional Parade is on the Saturday morning of Pi-Ume-Sha weekend, June 24-26. Judging of the parade entries is at 10 a.m. in front of the elementary school; line-up is at 10:30 and the parade begins at 11 a.m. sharp.

If you have any questions, please call Ramona Baez at 541-460-0088. Pa-

rade prizes for first-, second- and third-place in each category.

Weekend events

The Forty-Second Annual Pi-Ume-Sha Treaty Days begins on Friday evening at seven o'clock, June 24, with the first Grand Entry.

Grand Entries are on Saturday at 1 and 7 p.m., and on Sunday at 2 p.m. Traditional dance contests through the weekend.

Pi-Ume-Sha Boxing, hosted by the Warm Springs Nation Boxing Club, begins at 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 25, at the Community Center. The

event features 30 Sanctioned USA Boxing bouts.

The Pi-Ume-Sha Treaty Days All Indian Rodeo is on Saturday and Sunday, June 25 and 26, starting at 1 p.m. each day. Admission is \$7; senior citizens and kids 6-17, \$3; kids under 6 free.

Weekend activities include softball, stick games, endurance horse race, vending, etc.

The Treaty, and veterans

The powwow commemorates the signing of the Treaty of 1855, signed 156 years ago this month. The signing

date of the Treaty was June 25, 1855. One-hundred and fifty-one tribal leaders signed the document, after a three-day Council at The Dalles.

Pi-Ume-Sha Treaty Days began in the late 1960s. While commemorating the signing of the treaty, Pi-Ume-Sha also traditionally honors the veterans and service men and women of the Armed Forces.

For powwow information, see Cassie Katchia (541-553-0203) or Louise Katchia (541-460-0224).

Candidates selling raffle tickets

(Note: The candidates for the Pi-Ume-Sha Treaty Days Royalty Court are in the community selling raffle tickets in support of the powwow. This is the candidate statement by Mary Olney):

Hello there, People of Warm Springs! My name is Mary Olney, a proud member of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

I'm 10 years old, Queen candidate for this year's Pi-Ume-Sha Treaty Days.

My parents are Sonia Heath and Shane Olney.

My maternal grandparents are Catherine Watab nad Sanders Heath.

My paternal grandparents are the late Mary V. Olney and Richard Olney Sr.

I would just like to take this time to let people know that I will be out in the community selling "lucky" raffle tickets for the Pi-Ume-Sha Powwow.

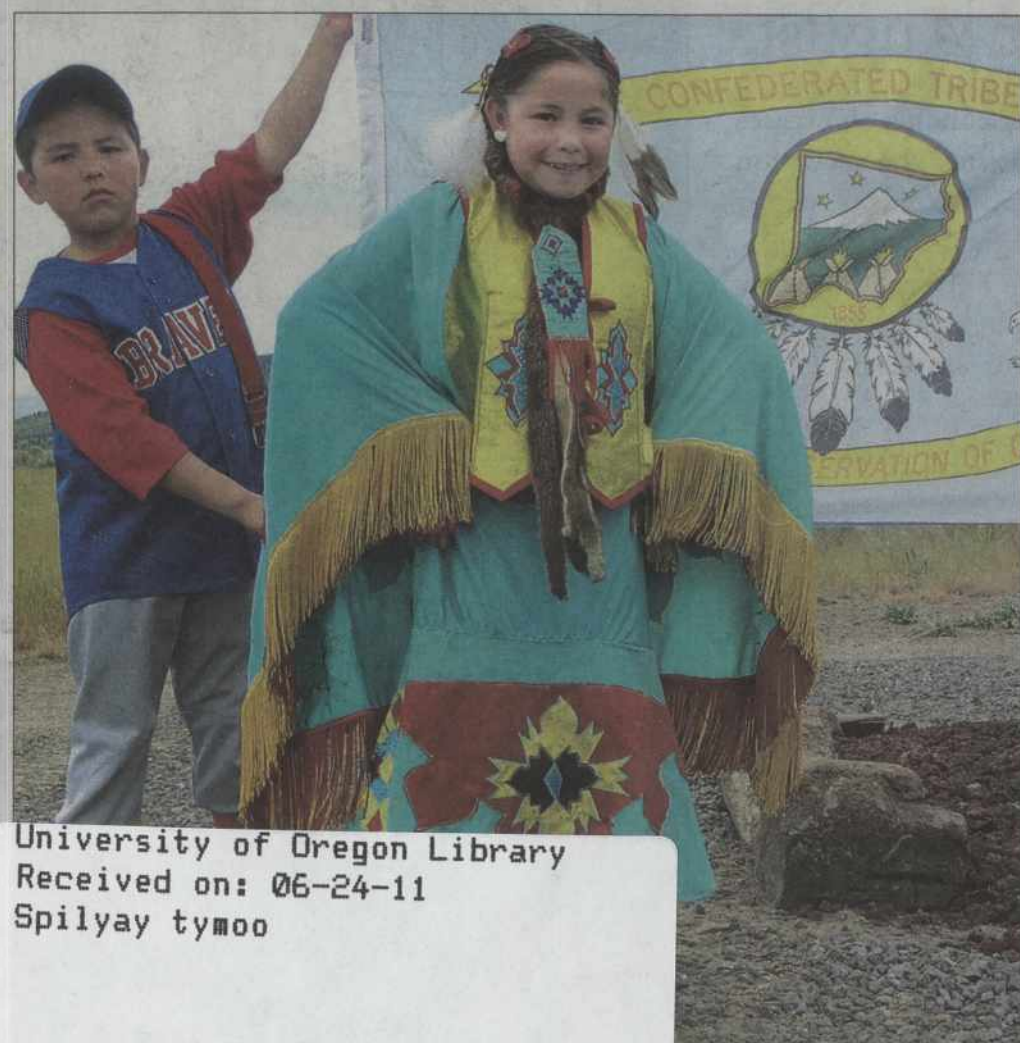
I would sure appreciate your support in helping me to reach my newest set goal of becoming Miss Pi-Ume-Sha 2011.

It would be my pleasure to represent my Tribe, if I should be the one to sell the most tickets, as I love the great people and the travel to participate in powwows as well as rodeos all over the Western states.

I would also like to take this opportunity to invite everybody to all our Pi-Ume-Sha activities! See you at the powwow.

Mary Olney.

Mary Olney with brother Josh Olney, with the flag of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.



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Museum canoe exhibit opening next Thursday

The Museum at Warm Springs this month will be featuring a new exhibit, Canoe Journeys—Our life on the Big River.

The grand opening for this exhibit will be on Thursday, June 23, in the lobby area and Changing Exhibits Room at the museum.

The Canoe Journeys exhibit, opening the Thursday before Pi-Ume-Sha, will be on display through through Sept. 18.

For more information, call the Museum at Warm Springs at 541-553-3331. Or see the website:

Museumatwarm Springs.org