

# Youth harvest 855 lamprey at Willamette Falls

Tribal member youth earlier this month traveled to Willamette Falls for the annual eel harvest. This year 12 young people made the trip, with help from the tribal Natural Resources Branch.

The tribal harvest of eel, or lamprey, at Willamette Falls began generations ago. The Natural Resources Branch and tribal Summer Youth began making the July group trip to the falls in 2003.

This year the crew caught about 855 lamprey, compared to 400 last year, said Lisa Dubisar, tribal fisheries biologist.

The number of eels harvested depends on the number of harvesters, and water conditions, Dubisar said.

This year the water was higher going over the falls than in previous years, due to splash boards not going up, she said.



Sean Sohappy and Cheyenne Wahnetah harvest eels at the falls.

Other tribes harvesting in July were the Umatilla and Yakima. The Columbia River Inter-

Tribal Fish Commission this summer conducted a two-day summit on the lamprey, which have been declining in num-

bers for several years. Over the past 60 years, the number of lamprey counted at Bonneville have declined

from 400,000 to 20,000.

The lamprey is a species of great importance to the river tribes. The CRITFC summit brought together 200 biologists, resource managers and others to strategize about the fate of the eels.

"Their significance to our culture, and their decline, is something the region cannot ignore," said Gerald Lewis, CRITFC chairman. "And time is running out—We cannot afford to lose them from our ceremonies or our watersheds."

The Warm Springs crew that harvested eels at Willamette Falls this month are: Lyman Jim, Cyndi Baker, Allee Tewee, Cheyenne Wahnetah, Sean Sohappy, Lana Leonard, Dalton Herkshan, Joseph Calica, Raylene Jones, Inez Jones, Kecia Florendo and Tasheena George.

## Branch monitoring lamprey

The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Branch of Natural Resources Fisheries Department has been conducting a lamprey monitoring project at Willamette Falls since 2010. The objective of the project is to try and determine the population abundance of lamprey at the falls.

Due to declining numbers of lamprey in the Columbia River, harvest has been limited, with the primary collection location for the four treaty tribes at Willamette Falls. Harvest has been the only indicator of abundance.

"There's no limit on harvest, but should we be worried about the population over Willamette Falls?" said Cyndi Baker, fisheries biologist for the tribes. "We do know that passage at mainstem Columbia River dams and habitat degradation have contributed to the decline in lamprey numbers of the years."

Tracking the lamprey return at the falls will be used to better manage harvest levels and alert biologists of low returns to protect the species and the cultural fishery.

## Now Open!



### Teepee Arcade

Games Games Games

Games Games

Games

Located next to the CASINO!

Open Sunday-Thursday-10am-8pm  
Sat & Sunday 10am-Midnight!

## Popular art class invites tribal members

Warm Springs community members are invited to make art at the printmaking studio in Bend, on Saturday, July 28 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Transportation and amenities provided. The studio, Atelier 6000, will offer a solar printing class.

All community members aged 14 and up are welcome to attend this free workshop taught by Pat Clark of Atelier 6000. Students between 14 and 18, must be accom-

panied by an adult. All materials, snacks, beverages and transportation will be provided. Meet at the Museum at Warm Springs at 8 a.m. Spaces are limited so be sure to sign up with Roz ahead of time. Call her at 541-553-3331.

Spontaneous and easy, solar plate etching is a non-toxic printing process that uses light and water instead of the traditional acids and grounds. Bring photographs or photo-

copies to add interesting imagery.

All work done in the workshop will be considered for publication in a special hand bound book featuring multi-generational art and literature of Columbia River tribal members. The workshops are sponsored by The Roundhouse Foundation, Deschutes County Cultural Coalition, Atelier 6000, the Museum at Warm Springs and High Desert Journal.

## Chief Joseph war shirt fetches \$877,500 at auction

RENO, Nevada (AP) — A war shirt worn by Chief Joseph of the Nez Pierce tribe has sold for \$877,500 at auction in Nevada.

Chief Joseph wore the shirt in 1877 in the earliest known photo of him, and again while posing for a portrait by Cyrenius Hall in 1878. The painting was used on a U.S. postage stamp and now hangs in the Smithsonian Institution.

Mike Overby, an orga-

nizer of the annual Coeur d'Alene Art Auction, says the shirt that sold Saturday is considered to be one of the most important Native American artifacts to ever come to auction.

American Indian scholar Theodore Brasser says its visual appeal and appearance in the photo and portrait of Chief Joseph makes the shirt unique.

Overby says the sale involved private collectors.

## Native housing fair Saturday in Portland

The Native American Youth and Family Center will hold its Seventh Annual Housing-to-Homeownership Fair this Saturday, July 28, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Native American Housing-to-Homeownership Fair provides a wide range of housing and homeownership resources tailored to

the Portland area's Native American community. The fair is an equal opportunity event with a culturally specific focus. It is free and open to everyone.

The theme of this year's fair is, "Establishing Roots for the Seventh Generation." For more information call 503-288-8177.

**GET YOUR KICKS  
ON HIGHWAY**

26

Indian Head Casino is bringing the action to your backyard! Heat up your summer with a new grill, or cool off with a new patio set. And don't forget to stop by the Cottonwood Restaurant for great dining specials!

**WIN A NEW 7-PIECE MARTHA STEWART LIVING PATIO SET.**  
Friday Nights (Sat. at 1am)

**DINING SPECIALS AT THE COTTONWOOD RESTAURANT**

- Prime Rib Special – Thursday Nights, 5pm – 8pm, \$17
- Saturday Night Dinner Buffet, 5pm – 10pm, \$19
- Sunday Lunch Buffet, 11am – 3pm, \$15

**BRINKMANN BBQ  
GRILL GIVEAWAYS**

Thursdays in July at  
8pm and 10pm



**COTTONWOOD  
restaurant**

**Indian Head  
CASINO**

Highway 26, Warm Springs | indianheadgaming.com | 541.460.7777

