

The Madras High School varsity girls basketball team has a home game this Thursday, Feb. 18. Then on February 23 they play at Corbett. The girls had a great game earlier in the season against Corbett, winning 77-54. The Madras girls are a leading team in the 4A Tri-Valley Conference. At left, Janae Adams and Leah Suppah during the win against Corbett. The 2016 OSAA State Championships begin March 4.



Jayson Smith photos.



## Cougars co-ed tourneys Feb. 26-28

The Warm Springs Cougars All Indian Sixth-Grade and Under, and Eighth-Grade and Under Co-Ed basketball tournaments are coming up this month.

The tourneys are set for Friday through Sunday, Feb. 26-28 at the Community Center gym. The awards for each tournament include:

Ten Championship Pull-overs. Ten runner-up

crewnecks. Finalist t-shirts (for third- and fourth); and All-Tourney teams. The Eighth-Grade and Under tourney will include an MVP award.

For more information contact Austin Greene, tournament director, at PO Box 42, Warm Springs, OR 97761. Or email:

austin.greene@wstribes.org  
You can reach him by

phone at 541-553-1953(h); or 553-3243(work and message phone.)

The Warm Springs Cougars All Indian Sixth-Grade and Under and Eighth-Grade and Under Co-ed tournaments are sponsored by the Cougars Youth Basketball Organization; the Recreation Department; and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

## Cougars 16-and-under tourney in March

The Warm Springs Youth Organization in March will host the 2016 Warm Springs Cougars All Indian Teen Boys 16 Years and Under Basketball Tournament.

The tourney is set for March 18-20 at the Community Wellness Center. The entry deadline is set for Friday,

March 4. The fee is \$200 per team.

Awards: ten Championship Jackets; ten runner-up hooded jackets; ten third-place crews; and ten fourth-place t-shirts. Individual awards include MVP, Mr. Hustle; and 10 All Tourney players.

For more information, contact Austin Greene, tourney director; PO Box 42, Warm Springs, OR 97761. You can reach him by email at:

austin.greene@wstribes.org  
Or call 541-553-1953(h); or the Recreation office at 553-3243.

## Spring water polo coming up at aquatic center

The Madras Aquatic Center Recreation District is taking registration for spring water polo for youth 18 and

younger. The registration deadline is February 26. Sign up and pay at macaquatic.com, or at the aquatic center.

## Income opportunities for farmers, landowners

by Scott J. Duggan,  
W.S. OSU Extension

I was recently asked by a client, "What can we do in regard to climate change?"

This seems to be a global issue, yet is there something we can do as an individual?

Regardless of your opinion of this controversial subject, agro-forestry is a business enterprise you may want to consider.

Agroforestry is the intentional integration of income producing trees and shrubs into crop and animal farming systems.

Think of it as a way to benefit the environment and pollinators while creating a secondary source of income.

Examples include planting windbreaks with edible fruits and berries, or planting trees for biomass energy or conifers for lumber production.

Agroforestry is often overlooked by farmers and ranchers in search of additional income opportunities from their

land. It offers additional income while improving the land and the environment.

In addition to providing income, trees planted as a windbreak can reduce wind velocity by up to 70 percent.

That reduction in wind chill can really make a difference for a newborn calf or lamb during the winter months. If voles, squirrels or other rodents are tearing up your good hay ground, a row of trees at the edge of the field provides habitat for owls and other mice eating raptors.

A barn owl will eat, on average, six voles, mice or gophers per night. That adds up to 2,136 rodents per year.

When considering agroforestry, landowners should ask themselves if they have livestock areas that are without trees but have access to water.

Are there fence lines along irrigated pastures that could be planted with chokecherries, elderberries or thornless Triple Crown berries? Per-

haps there is a less productive part of your land that could grow fast-growing trees like hybrid poplar or hybrid cottonwood. These can be harvested and sold for pulpwood, wood for energy and other solid wood products.

Tree plantings can earn income while reducing soil erosion along stream banks which enhances fish habitat.

To determine the best place on your ranch for a windbreak, look for fields that have the strongest wind pressure on the north or west end of your property. Where can a windbreak be planted that will do the most good?

Do you have corrals that have access to water? These are often good areas to plant trees along the fence line in order to produce shade and it helps reduce dust, too.

Recently, the precipitous decline in bee populations has been a major concern for farmers. A windbreak is an opportunity to provide habitat and food for bees.

By planting a wide variety

of plants with overlapping blooming times, farmers can provide a source of pollen and nectar for bees, even when their crops are not blooming.

I hope everyone would agree that increasing bee populations is worth a bit of extra effort, money and time.

As an extra bonus, one could include berry producing plants like blueberries and raspberries for additional income opportunities. Diversification of income spreads out market risk and can provide much needed cash flow.

The opportunities for profitable agroforestry are limited only by your imagination and the growing conditions in your area.

If you would like more information on this topic, please feel free to contact the OSU Extension office at 541-553-3238 or check out the USDA National Agroforestry Center website at:

nac.unl.edu/  
scott.duggan@oregonstate.edu

## Chinook continue to set records on Snake River

For the third year in a row, fall chinook returning to the Snake River have set a new record.

Data released by the Nez Perce Tribe shows that a new record of 9,345 redds, or gravel nests, were built by returning adults in the Snake River Basin between Lower Granite and Hells Canyon dams.

The previous record was set in 2014 when 6,714 redds were counted. This new record coincides with the third highest adult Snake River fall chinook return (59,300) since the four lower Snake River dams were completed in 1975.

The Nez Perce work on the fisheries in coordination with the Umatilla, the Oregon, Washington and Idaho departments of fish and wildlife, the Fish and Wildlife Service and NOAA Fisheries.

The co-managers are

working to implement the Snake River Fall Chinook Program, an effort to restore fall chinook salmon above Lower Granite Dam.

The success of the Snake River fall chinook program is the direct result of efforts to supplement existing Snake River fall chinook with biologically appropriate hatchery-reared fish.

The team started the program in 1994, as a result of legal actions by the tribes under *US v. Oregon*.

The Nez Perce Tribe annually releases 450,000 yearling fall chinook, and 2.8 million sub-yearling fall chinook.

They release the yearlings from tribal facilities, as part of an overall program that releases 5 million fish back into the system.

These releases into the Snake and Clearwater rivers have increased the number of adult fall chinook returning above Lower Granite Dam.

Many of these fish spawn naturally and are key to increasing natural-origin returns.

"The continued success of the Snake River fall chinook returns over the past five years strengthens the argument for carefully managed hatcheries as a tool in salmon recovery," said Anthony Johnson, chairman of the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee.

Adult fall chinook salmon returns to Lower Granite Dam have increased from fewer than 1,000 adults annually from 1975-1995, to record counts of 56,565 adults in 2013 and 60,868 in 2014.

These returns include record numbers of natural-origin fish returning to the spawning grounds, including 21,142 wild fish in 2013, 14,172 in 2014, and a preliminary estimate 16,212 in 2015. This equals approximately 28 percent of the

2015 return to the area.

The continued increase in returns of Snake River fall chinook allowed co-managers to open a fall chinook fishery in the Snake River in 2009.

This was the first fall chinook fishery on the Snake River in 35 years, and the fishery has occurred each year since.

"The success of the Snake River fall chinook is something this region can really be proud of," said Paul Lumley, executive director for the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission.

"Over the last 20 years, we've moved from the courtroom to supporting fisheries while putting a substantial number of returning adults on the spawning grounds. This type of program should be replicated throughout the Columbia River Basin, not limited."

## Sweetheart Baby Fair

Recreation will host the Sweetheart Baby Fair on Wednesday, February 24 from 5:30-7 p.m. at the Community Center.

There will be a family photo shoot, and lots of

door prizes. There will be a Little Tykes Regalia Fashion Show from walkers to 5 years old, and a baby board gallery where you can showcase your family's boards.

## Community notes...

**Mid Oregon Family Free Saturday** is coming up this weekend at the High Desert Museum in Bend. Family Free Saturday at the museum is on February 20.

Families are invited to enjoy and experience the museum at no cost. The Museum is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. See the museum website for details: [highdesertmuseum.org](http://highdesertmuseum.org)

The **Mobile Medical Unit** will be at the Community Center on Tuesday, February 23. You can call IHS to schedule an appointment, 541-553-1196.

The Warm Springs k-8 **Academy winter sports banquet** will be held Wednesday, February 24 in the school's cafeteria at 5 p.m.

The Inaugural **Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Parade and Expo** is scheduled in Warm Springs Warm Springs on March 30. Please register by March 15<sup>th</sup> by calling 541-460-8212.

The **Native American program of Legal Aid Services of Oregon** offers free legal help with certain types of cases for low income individuals. It also offers community educational presentations about different legal issues.

The Legal Aid Services Native program is seeking your input about what types of legal assistance the Warm Springs community needs most. They are having a community meeting to provide information and take suggestions on Tuesday, March 1.

There will be food and refreshments beginning at 5:30 at the Family Resource Center.

## CRITFC is hiring

**BIOMETRICIAN** - full time. The Fishery Scientist Biometrician works on projects involving the modeling of the population dynamics of Pacific Salmon. The incumbent will serve on the Pacific Salmon Commission Chinook Technical Committee, and inter-agency technical committee that models Chinook salmon stocks and fisheries along the Pacific coast. Will perform statistical analyses, and present written summaries and reports. Will enhance, evaluate, and develop quantitative models of population dynamics, fisheries, and multi-stage life histories. Visit

[critfc.org/blog/jobs/fishery-scientist-biometrician/](http://critfc.org/blog/jobs/fishery-scientist-biometrician/) for a full job description and instructions on how to apply. *The announcement closing date is March 31, 2016.*