

# CRITFC notes success with *Future of Our Salmon* conference

by *Jeremy FiveCrows*, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission

The Columbia Basin is home to numerous tribal nations on both sides of the US-Canada border.

They all have long known that the actions and decisions of one group can impact and influence those who live both upstream and downstream.

The understanding of this shared impact and responsibility to the natural resources of the region is one of the reasons that 15 U.S. tribes and 17 Canadian First Nations came together for the second time to host the 2016 Future of Our Salmon Conference.

These tribal nations are from and have ancestral use and management authorities throughout the entire basin, from the upper reaches of the Columbia River in British Columbia, to the Snake River headwaters in Yellowstone National Park, to the mouth of the Great River as it empties into the Pacific Ocean.

The health and fate of these rivers are linked—along with that of the entire region—to the health and fate of the waters of N’Chi Wana—the Big River.

One tribal creation story recounts how right after Salmon promised his body to feed the humans, Water spoke up and offered himself to be the home for Salmon.



Courtesy CRITFC

Pauline Terbasket, executive director of the Okanagan Nation Alliance, in front of the graphic poster of the conference. In the final panel was the theme that tied the whole conference together: *Water Is Life*, and our rivers are sacred and must be defended.

Not only is water a central part of Columbia Basin tribal religions and cultures, it is fundamental for life on earth.

Protecting and restoring water is perhaps the most important aspect of protecting and restoring the Columbia River salmon.

No one group can completely restore salmon alone, but the power of wy-kan-ush (sacred salmon) is reason for hope.

The world over, salmon affect the cultures of the people in which they come in contact. The widely different traditional cultures of Japanese Ainu, Pacific Northwest tribes, the Norwegian coastal ar-

reas, and the Russian Far East each have salmon returning to their lands and each share a reverence and gratitude for the bounty that salmon provide.

The modern Pacific Northwest is no different. Salmon have shaped the culture of the newcomers to this region just as they shaped tribal cultures before them.

Salmon are the icon of this place. They are valued as food, as a resource, and as a representation of the wildness and wilderness for which the Pacific Northwest is known.

They shape our land use policies and power grid. Whether they

realize it or not, every single person in the Northwest is a Wy-Kan-Ush-Pum. We are all Salmon People.

### Healthy Floodplains, Living Rivers

The theme for the 2016 Conference was *Healthy Floodplains, Living Rivers*. It focused on the vital role that floods and floodplains play in healthy rivers.

The conference gave attendees a broader knowledge of floodplain function and management and explored how the impacts from climate change alter these processes.

Out of the conference, a call to action was developed to help guide tribal, state, federal, and academic efforts and study on how best to repair rivers that have been modified for convenience or flood control:

### Recommendations

A collaborative and unified whole-basin vision and action framework must be developed and implemented.

Such a framework would target and focus actions to connect all agencies, tribes and communities through support of common objectives for improved natural floodplain health and ecological function in the Columbia Basin.

An action framework would immediately call for no net loss of

floodplain habit and then prescribe widespread floodplain enhancement actions. To initiate development of this approach, form a post-conference transboundary planning committee to:

- Identify entities that have management authorities related to Columbia Basin floodplain land or water management.

- Send inquiries to entities requesting that they delineate how their respective authorities can be implemented (as per “Workshop Call to Action Points”) to increase efforts to address natural floodplain function in order to achieve net ecological/social/economic benefits.

- Compile responses into a draft master list of improved Columbia Basin floodplain and water management actions.

- Utilize GIS designation of historic, current and planned floodplain areas to locate restoration actions and track floodplain area recovery.

- Develop education and outreach approach that identifies necessary stakeholders and promotes understanding and benefits of actions.

- Disseminate draft framework to agencies, tribes, and stakeholders for comment.

*Thank you Gary James and your team for your work in developing this Call to Action.*

## At Recreation

The Warm Springs Recreation Department is host Snack Attack at the Community Center.

Snack Attack is every Tuesday and Thursday from 3:30-5 p.m. in the Social Hall.

For more information call Carol at 541-553-3243.



Veterans and other honored guests at the Honor Korean War Veterans ceremony at Kah-Nee-Ta, hosted by the Eugene ‘Cougar’ Greene Sr. American Legion and Ladies Auxiliary Post 4217. Moon Duk-ho, Consul General of the Republic of Korea, and Brigadier General Steven R. Beech were among the special guests.

Photo courtesy Mae Huston

## Next Gen scholars grant

Next Gen is a doctoral training grant for the next generation of Native American special educators.

Next Gen will provide doctoral training in special education to scholars who will be prepared to respond to the needs of American Indians and Alaska Native students with disabilities.

An emphasis will be placed on recruiting, retaining and graduating Native scholars for an integrated training experience that will lead to a PhD in special education.

Project Next Gen will produce university faculty members in special education who will be fully prepared to conduct the next generation of research and training, fo-

cus on the needs of Native children and youth with disabilities.

Next Gen scholars will participate in rigorous coursework in research methods, specialized coursework in Indigenous studies and special education, among other disciplines.

Benefits of Next Gen: tuition paid, monthly stipend (\$1,500/month), health insurance, academic and mentorship support, and a cohort model as an extended community.

The application deadline is January 5, 2017. For more information contact **Chris Murray**, PhD, at 541-346-1445. Or email: [cjmurray@uoregon.edu](mailto:cjmurray@uoregon.edu)

**NEXT GEN**  
Doctoral Training Grant

A training grant for the Next Generation of Native American special educators

**Application Deadline** | January 5, 2017

**NEXT GEN**  
NEXT GEN will provide doctoral training in special education to scholars who will be prepared to respond to the needs of American Indian & Alaska Native (AI/AN) students with disabilities.

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Project NEXT GEN will produce university faculty members in special education, who will be fully prepared to conduct the next generation of research and training focusing on the needs of AI/AN children and youth with disabilities.

**PROGRAM OF STUDY**  
Next Gen scholars will participate in rigorous coursework in research methods, specialized coursework in Indigenous studies and special education, guided research experiences in research units and centers, internships with local and state education agencies, and mentored personnel preparation activities.

**Benefits of NEXTGEN**

- Tuition paid
- Monthly stipend (\$1500/mo)
- Health Insurance
- Academic and mentorship support
- A cohort model as an extended community

For more information contact  
Chris Murray, PhD, 541-346-1445  
[cjmurray@uoregon.edu](mailto:cjmurray@uoregon.edu)

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON  
College of Education

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# 2016 Warm Springs Car Light Parade & Health Craft Fair

## "Polar Express" Theme

# TUESDAY DEC 6th

- Dinner 5:30-7:30pm
- Health Craft Fair 5:00-8:00pm
- Parade Line Up 5pm at old Elementary
- Parade Judging 6pm
- Car Light Parade 7pm

For Parade Information call the Community Center at 541-553-3243  
For Health Craft Fair Information call Health & Human Services at 541-615-0144