

Power & Water hosting tours of the hydro dams

by Jim Manion
Manager, Power & Water

The Deschutes River has been connected to our livelihood since time immemorial. It has provided us with food and drinking water, has driven our economy, and is the center of our culture and society.

The Deschutes is also a source of pride for us, and a way we share our way of life with our neighbors and all Oregonians. It is a gift the Creator gave to take care of us and for us to take care of.

Our Work on the Deschutes

Our work is focused on clean energy, healthy rivers and healthy sustainable fish runs.

Clean Energy: For almost 20 years we've been a co-owner of the Pelton Round Butte Hydroelectric Project, which includes the Pelton, Round Butte and Reregulating Dams.

Along with Portland General Electric, we own one-third of the Pelton Round Butte generating facilities and 100 percent of the generating facilities at the Reregulating Dam.

These dams provide clean, renewable electricity to 150,000 homes, including those in our community, and has created revenue for us.

Healthy Rivers and Healthy Fish:

In addition to providing a

clean energy source, our work and partnership on the Deschutes also comes with an important stewardship responsibility: to keep the river healthy and restore fish passage for generations to come.

The dams were built in the 1950s and '60s with the best of intentions, for maintaining the river's natural health—including wild salmon and steelhead runs.

But the dams didn't work entirely as intended. Fish were unable to pass, and water temperatures below the dams were too cold in the spring and early summer and too warm in the late summer and fall.

To address these concerns and help bring back the fish, we worked with PGE, the community, regulators and environmental organizations to come up with long-term solutions.

One of those solutions is the Selective Water Withdrawal Tower, completed in 2010. This tower creates currents that guide young salmon and steelhead into collection facilities so they can be transported downstream around the dams. In addition, it mixes water from the surface and bottom of Lake Billy Chinook so water released below the dams more closely matches what the water temperatures would be like if the dams weren't there.

The tower has already shown early success, with adult fish returning to the Deschutes for the

first time in 50 years.

Come See What it's all About

While we still have a ways to go, the impact of our long-term success is well worth the effort.

It's also worth seeing the tower and the system for yourself, to understand how it works—what it does and doesn't do—and how we're using good science to monitor this work.

We invite you to tour the facility, see how we produce power, learn how the tower works and hear more about how our science and efforts are improving the health of the river. We've set up

two tour dates for you to choose from: **Monday, November 27, or Tuesday, November 28.**

Biologists and others who work on the project will be there to show you how it works and answer any questions you may have.

To sign up, please contact Warm Springs Power and Water Enterprises at 541-553-1046, by Monday, November 13, to reserve a spot on one of the tours.

We look forward to seeing you and to talking with you about this important project for our community.

Community notes...

Warm Springs Baptist Church is inviting folks to welcome the **Northwest Indian Bible School Choir** from Alberton, Montana, this Sunday, October 29 from 5-7 p.m.

The Warm Springs Academy boys basketball information night is on Monday, October 30 from 5:30-6 p.m. in the cafeteria. The **fall sports awards ceremony** is at 6 p.m.

The **mobile medical unit** will be at the Campus area on Halloween day.



Jayson Smith/Spilyay

Warm Springs drum group preforms at Madras High School, during half-time of the Buffalos' game against Corbett. Madras had a win, 35-8, the team's second of the season, a great improvement over the previous two years.

Buy-back program outreach event

The first community outreach event of the Warm Springs land buy-back program is scheduled for Tuesday, November 7.

There will be two sessions, both at the Housing Authority community building, located at the Greeley Heights subdivision.

The first session will be from 3 to 5 p.m., and the second from 6 to 8 p.m. Randy Scott is the program coordinator of the Warm Springs buy-back program. He is transferring from land services to the buy-back program. His office will be at the Media Center.

The buy-back program implements the land consolidation component of the Cobell Settlement, which provided \$1.9 billion to purchase fractional interests in trust or restricted land. The purchases will be made only from willing sellers at a fair market value.

On other reservations, the program has been successful. At 48 other locations, the buy-back consolidated more than 730,000 fractional interests, restoring more than 2.1 million equivalent acres of

land to tribal governments.

Consolidated interests are immediately restored to tribal trust ownership for uses benefiting the reservation community and tribal members.

Returning fractionated lands to tribes in trust has enormous potential to improve tribal community resources by increasing home site locations, improving transportation routes, spurring economic development, easing approval for infrastructure and community projects, and preserving traditional cultural or ceremonial sites.

"The Tribes look forward to working with the program to create cultural, residential, governmental and economic opportunities by consolidating fractionated lands for the benefit of our tribal community," said Tribal Council Chairman Austin Greene Jr.

The Tribes will be better equipped to manage our lands both on and off reservation," Mr. Greene said. "Land is important to us for the continued sovereignty of the Confederated Tribes of

Warm Springs, Wasco and Paiute people."

Fractionated interests in property make development or improvements difficult, because of the number of people with an interest.

The fractioning process began decades ago, when allotment were first being granted. Over the years with each succeeding generation, the heirs' to the original allottee inherited fractions of interest.

It is common for a person to have a very small percentage interest in a particular allotment, in common with many others.

The land buy-back program would give fair market value to each individual who has an interest in an allotment, plus \$75. The \$75 is an added incentive for people to participate in the program.

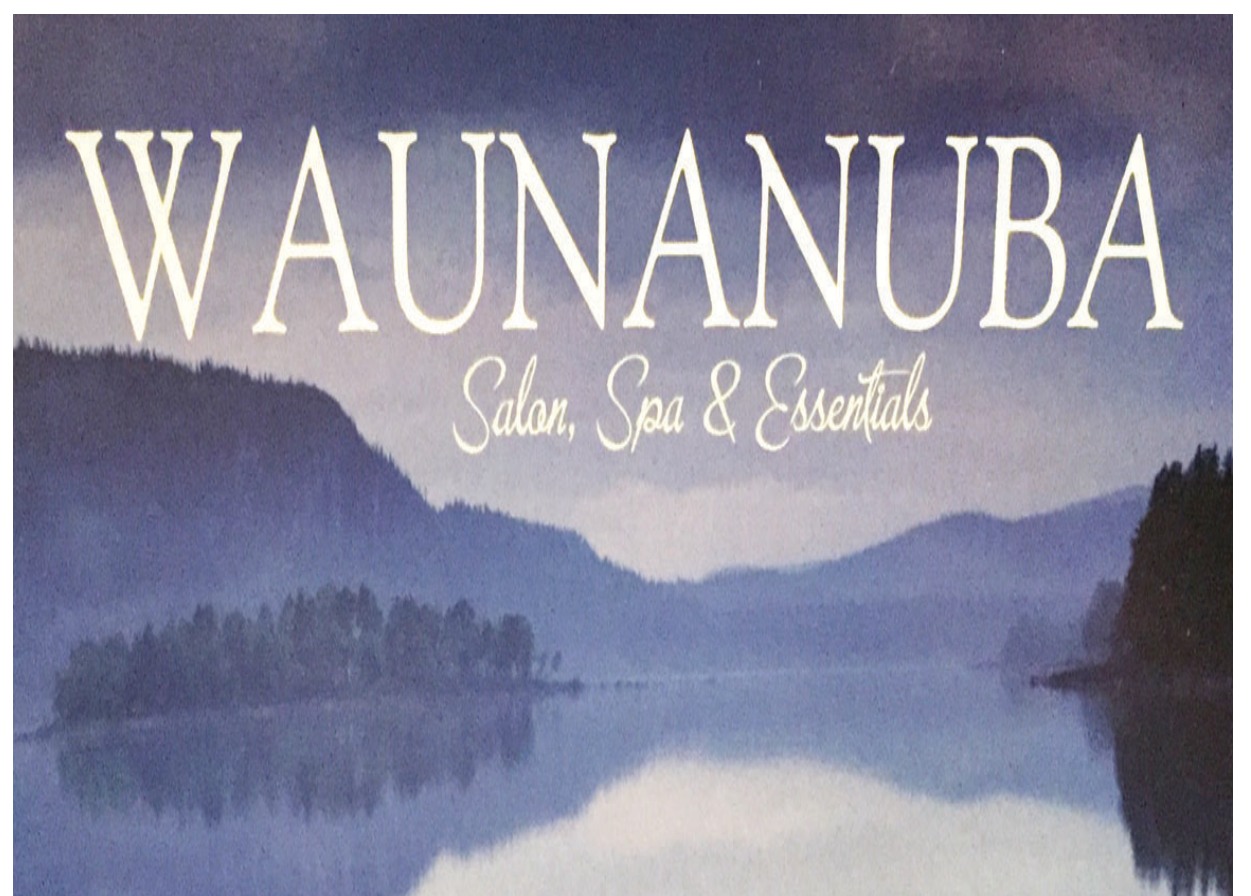
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PINKTOBER CELEBRATION

Friday, October 27th at 12 - 1pm

Cancer Awareness Poker Walk

1st Place \$100 Gift Card
2nd Place \$75 Gift Card
3rd Place \$50 Gift Card

Light Snacks Provided, Door Prizes,
Balloon Release & Health Screening Optional

Blackjack Tournament
Oct. 5th & 19th

Slot Tournament
Oct. 12th & 26th

Donate CASH or your Voided Slot Tickets to the CAUSE.
Be part of PINKTOBER at Indian Head Casino!