Spring chinook fishing beginning

With the spring chinook salmon fishing season beginning, Bruce Jim, member of the Fish and Wildlife Committee of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, gave the following statement:

"An ongoing concern is the fact that the non-treaty fishery typically concentrates fishing at the beginning of the run despite the uncertainties in forecasts. There is ample opportunity to space out fishing through June 15.

"A higher proportion of the catch could be allocated to fisheries upstream of Zone 6 that could occur after there is more certainty about the actual run size.

"The benefits of a fishery season that is spaced more evenly include an improved ability to react to changes as the runs are updated with information in-season."

35th annual powwow at Heritage

The Thirty-Fifth Annual Traditional Powwow at Heritage High School in Vancouver, Washington is coming up this Saturday, March 3.

Grand entries are at 1 and 6, with a hand-drum contest during the dinner break.

He added that the tribes expect careful management of this fishery.

The comment came as spring chinook fishing begins for recreational anglers in the lower Columbia River, and two weeks later upstream of Bonneville Dam.

The two-state Columbia River Compact made that decision at its hearing Wednesday, February 21, in Portland. It also decided to open recreational angling for salmon in lower river select areas and tweaked Treaty commercial white sturgeon gillnetting, adding

one day in the John Day pool and 9.5 days in The Dalles pool.

In both pools, sturgeon fishing ends March 3.

Based on a pre-season run-size forecast of 166,700 upriver spring chinook (248,520 total to the Columbia River mouth), the Compact allocated 9,685 fish to recreational anglers, but that is split, giving 7,157 of the fish to anglers downstream of Bonneville Dam, 954 fish to those upriver in the mainstem Columbia River to the Oregon/Washington border, among other alloca-



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