

Salvage, rehab of Lionshead burn area

Loggers are in the forest this week working on the Lionshead timber salvage operation. This is part of the work that will happen this year and beyond in the burn area of the September 2020 Lionshead fire.

The Lionshead impact area is large: 96,266 acres burned on the reservation; 108,203 acres burned off-reservation immediately to the west; for a total acreage of 204,469.

Much of the fire salvage operation is scheduled to happen this year, as the value of the salvagable timber decreases over time, said Vernon Wolf, tribal forest manager.

The Lionshead and other large wildfires last year in the state have created a shortage of logging trucks, Mr. Wolf said.

In 2020 wild fires in Oregon burned about one million acres. Off-reservation, some logging equipment was lost to fire; fortunately, this did not happen on the reservation, Mr. Wolf said.

In addition to the timber salvage operation, Forestry and the Branch of Natural Resources will be working various mitigation programs on the Lionshead burn area.

A first phase of rehabilitation will be in "suppression

repair," Wolfe said. This involves repairing damage that may have happened during the fire-response effort itself.

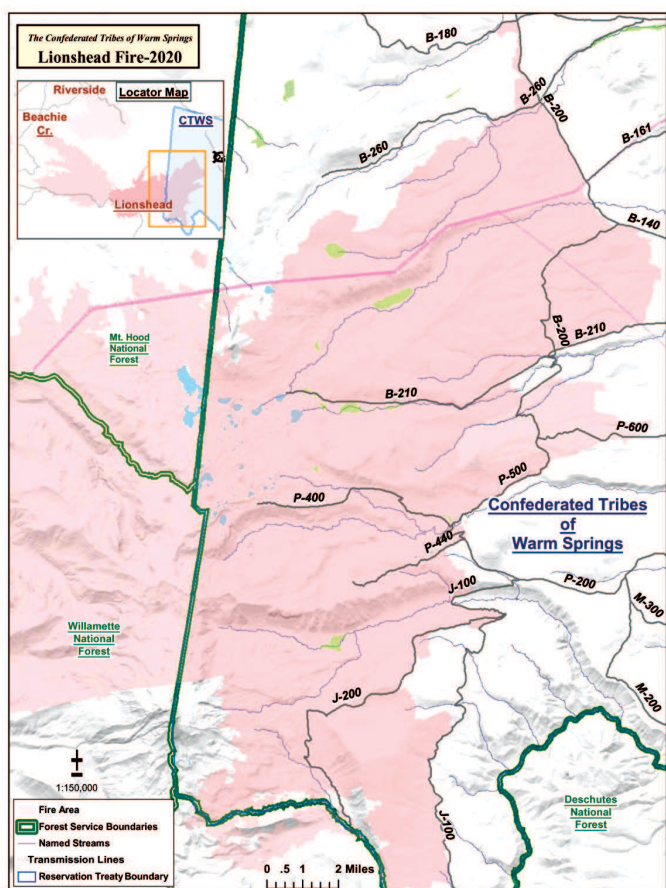
This would be damage to roads and fences, as examples. The goal is to return the sites to pre-response condition.

The emergency stabilization phase will include monitoring for invasive species, documenting cultural sites in the area, and preventing sedimentation from runoff. With the loss of trees and vegetation there is the risk of erosion and sedimentation into streams. The goal is to address this during 2021.

Longer-term work will be the actual reforestation. This can take up to five years or more. The goal at Forestry this year is to plant new trees on 1,000 acres of burned area. In future years the Natural Resources will use seedlings, grown in nurseries, for replanting on the rest of the burn area, until reforestation is complete.

Another 2021 response to the Lionshead fire is assessment of the burn area that is part of the tribes' carbon sequestration acreage.

The carbon program was established with buffer acreage: This acts as a kind of insurance against a wildfire, for instance.



Area of reservation that burned in the Lionshead fire. Graphic courtesy W.S. Forestry/BNR.

Missing Person

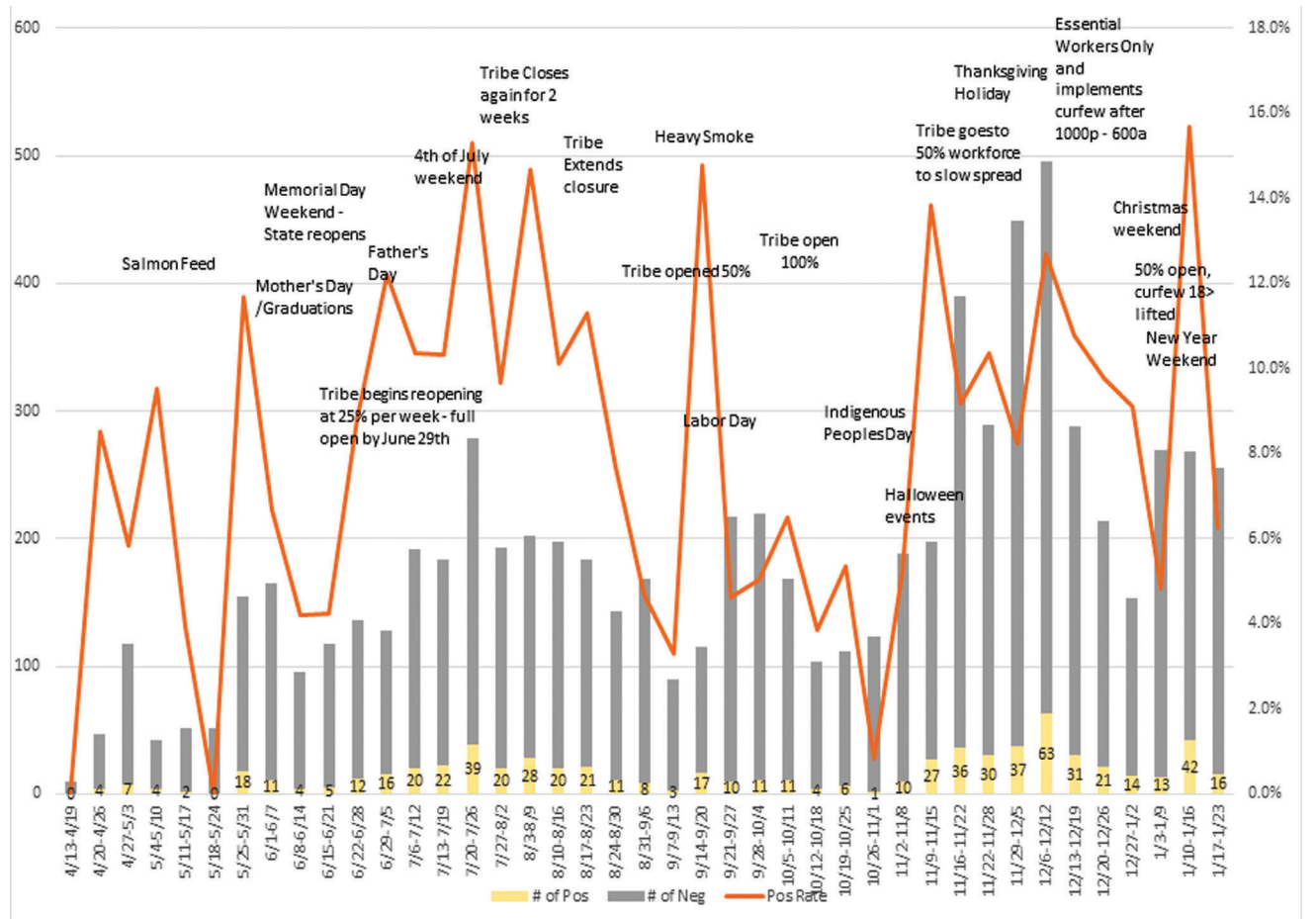
The Warm Springs Police Department is offering a cash reward for information leading to the location of 58-year-old Tina Spino of Warm Springs. She was reported missing in August of last year. If you have any information regarding her disappearance or her current location, contact Police Dispatch at 541-553-1171. Or call the anonymous tip line at 541-553-2202.



STAY SAFE. SAVE LIVES.

KEEP A SAFE DISTANCE. MASK UP & STAY HOME

Latest data on coronavirus testing on the reservation



On the reservation: The number of positive Covid-19 tests (the orange line) and negative tests (grey bars) by week among the Warm Springs tribal community. As the graph demonstrates, the December holidays brought on a spike even bigger than the one following the Fourth of July. Data reported by Community Health and IHS.

Openings on tribal boards of directors

Tribal Council seeks to fill a number of positions on four boards of the Confederated Tribes—the Credit board, Indian Head Casino, Warm Springs Ventures, and the Water Board.

There is one position open on the Warm Springs Credit Board of Directors. This position is for a non-member. Some of the qualifications: Have a reputation for industry, dependability, honesty and integrity.

Letter of interest and resume for anyone interested in serving on the Credit board must be submitted by 5 p.m. on Thursday, February 18. Letter and resume may be dropped off at the Administration building, addressed to Michele Stacona, Secretary-Treasurer/CEO.

Or send by mail: Michele Stacona, S-T/CEO, PO Box 455, Warm Springs, 97761.

You may also submit by email to:

michele.stacona@wstribes.org

Applicants: Please sign a criminal and credit background check—Forms can be emailed to you.

If you mail in your letter and resume, the forms will be mailed to you once your letter/resume are received. Information submitted is confidential to the S-T.

Indian Head Casino

There are two positions open on the Indian Head Casino Board of Directors. The openings call for one tribal member, and one non-member.

Submission deadline, and means of submission are the same as above.

Warm Springs Ventures

Warm Springs Ventures is the economic development corporation of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. There are

currently two positions Tribal Council seeks to fill:

One position is for a tribal member, and one for a non-member. Duration of each term will be until December 31, 2023. Submission deadline, and means of submission same as above.

Water Board

There are two positions open on the three-person Water Board of the Confederated Tribes.

The primary function of this board is to review all

matters pertaining to the water resource of the tribes; to make recommendations to Tribal Council regarding this resource; and to propose changes or improvements to water policy and the Water Management Plan.

Letter of interest and resume for anyone interested in serving on the Credit board must be submitted by 5 p.m. on **Thursday, February 4**. Means of submission same as above.

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