

Tribes set winter commercial fishery

A winter commercial gillnet fishery will open at the Columbia River from 6 a.m. on Monday, February 1 to 6 p.m. on Saturday, February 6. The area is the John Day pool and The Dalles pool only. Allowed gear are gillnets with no mesh size restriction. Allowable sales are sturgeon from 43 to 54 inches fork length, salmon (any species), steelhead, walleye, bass, carp, catfish, shad and yellow perch. These fish many be sold or kept for subsistence purposes. Fish landed during the open period are allowed to be sold after the period concludes.

Sanctuaries: River mouth to the dam closed areas applicable to gillnet gear are in effect. **Zone 6 platform, and hook and line:** This fishery will be open from 6 a.m. on Monday, February 1 through 6 p.m. on Friday, March

19. Gear are hoop nets, dip bag nets, dip nets, and hook and line. Allowable sales are salmon (any species), steelhead, shad, carp, catfish, walleye, bass and yellow perch. These may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sanctuaries: Standard river mouth and dam closed areas applicable to platform, and hook and line gear are in effect. This announcement comes from the CRITFC and its member tribes.

IHS updates its Covid-19 testing data

The Indian Health Service has updated its Covid-19 testing data for Indian Country. According to the report: Of the tests administered by IHS, 172,093 tests have returned positive for Covid-19. That represents an increase of 0.2 percent from the 171,721 cases previously reported by the IHS. Altogether since March 2020, IHS has conducted 1,872,753 coronavirus tests. Based on the IHS cumulative

percent positive testing, the highest rates have been seen in three areas. Two of them include the state of Arizona, indicating a disproportionate toll of Covid-19 in that state: The Navajo area was at 16.9 percent positivity. The Phoenix area, 14.6 percent. And the Oklahoma City area, 13.4 percent. So far this year, five areas have seen dramatic growth in Covid-19. They are: The California area was at 18.1

percent. The Albuquerque area, 17.7 percent. The Phoenix area, 17.5 percent. The Navajo area, 17.1 percent. And the Oklahoma City area, 16.8 percent. Two of these regions include the state of Arizona. Overall, 9.9 percent of IHS tests have been positive since the onset of the pandemic, the data shows. Meanwhile, the 7-day average has leveled off after increasing steadily during the holiday season. It now stands at 11.2 percent.

Danger of virus variant

Airborne-particle experts explain how to stay safe from the new and highly contagious coronavirus strains:

‘safe’—such as some indoor work environments—may present an elevated infection risk as the variant spreads.

A fast-spreading variant of the coronavirus that causes Covid-19 has been found in at least 10 states—including Oregon—and people are wondering: How do I protect myself now?

The concentration of aerosol particles is usually highest right next to the individual emitting the particles and decreases with distance from the source. However, in indoor environments, aerosol concentration levels can quickly build up, similar to how cigarette smoke accumulates within enclosed spaces.

The new variant has been estimated to be 50-percent more easily transmitted than common variants, though for now it appears to affect people's health in the same way.

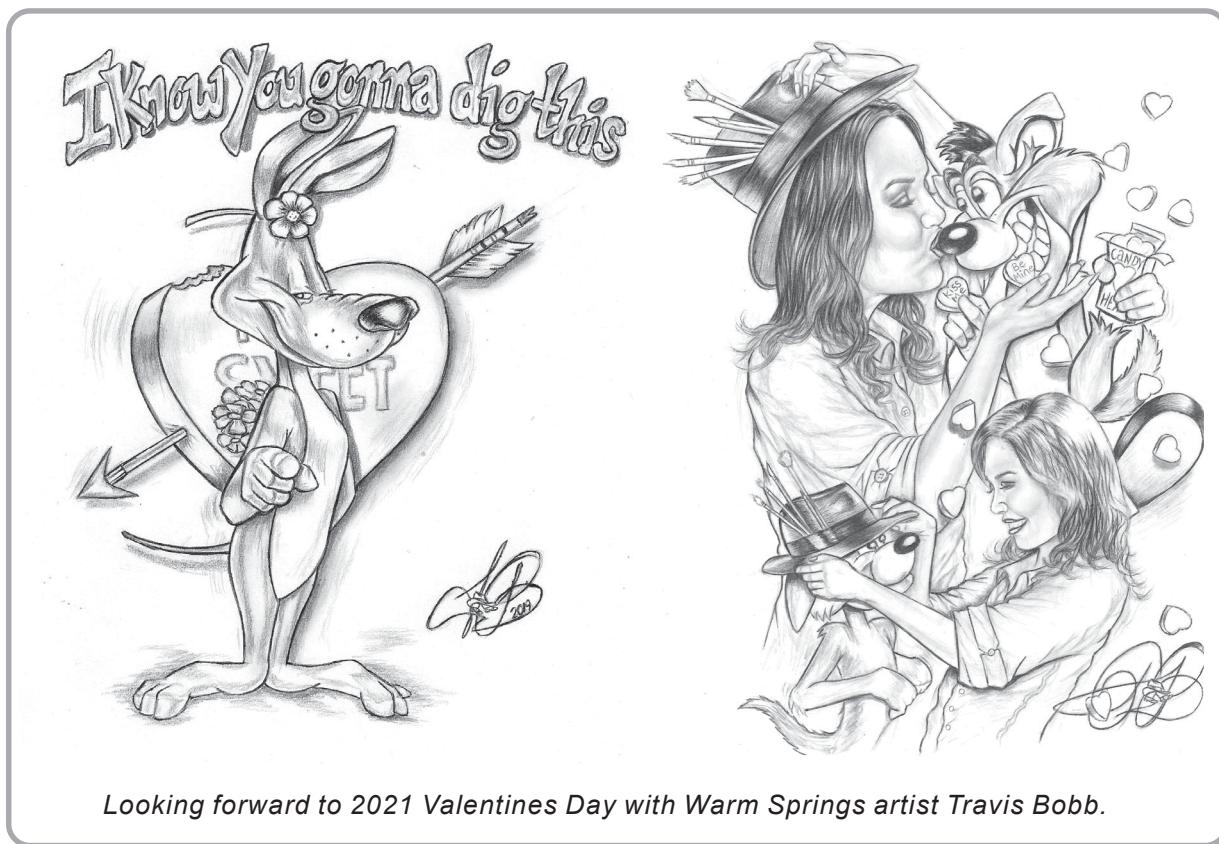
This is particularly problematic in spaces that have poor ventilation. With the new variant, aerosol concentration levels that might not have previously posed a risk could now lead to infection.

Additionally, there is some evidence that patients infected with the new variant—called the B.1.1.7 variant—may have a higher viral load: That means they may expel more virus-containing particles when they breathe, talk or sneeze.

What can you do to stay safe?

With people possibly having more virus in their bodies and the virus being more infectious, everyone should take extra care and precautions. Wearing face masks and social distancing are essential. Spaces and activities that were previously deemed

Pay attention to the type of face mask you use, and how it fits. Follow social distancing guidelines. Think carefully about the environment when entering an enclosed area—as to both the ventilation and how the people interact.



Looking forward to 2021 Valentines Day with Warm Springs artist Travis Bobb.

Quarantine after vaccine?

You may wonder whether you still need to quarantine when you have been exposed to Covid-19 if you have received your vaccination. Some answers:

If you're fully immunized, you should still monitor yourself for symptoms of Covid-19 during the 14 days after exposure, and if symptoms develop, you should isolate and seek testing.

If you have been fully vaccinated with the Covid-19 vaccine and it's been at least 14 days since your final dose, you are no longer required to quarantine if you have had close contact with someone with Covid-19, according to guidelines of the Oregon Health Authority.

People who have been fully vaccinated should continue to follow measures to protect themselves and others, including maintaining six feet of physical distance, avoiding crowds, washing hands often and wearing a mask—or as now recommended, two masks.

Skull found on reservation

An individual who was hiking in a remote part of the reservation earlier this month found a human skull, according to Warm Springs Police Department.

The hiker was apparently salvaging wood from an old dock, January 10, along Tenino Road. The person noticed a round item on the ground, then realized it was a human skull, said Bill Elliott, Warm Springs Public Safety general manager.

The individual who came across the skull called the police, who searched the area, finding “several other bones that were of interest,” Mr. Elliott said. The FBI was notified, and agents arrived on the reservation to process the site.

A preliminary examination by the medical examiner's office revealed the remains could have been in the area for anywhere from one to ten years. Warm Springs Tribal Police said they would check their database for missing people or runaways from the last 10 years as an initial step in the investigation.

State covid, vaccine update

The Oregon Health Authority this week reported that 14,755 new doses of Covid-19 vaccinations were added to the state immunization registry.

egon hospitals, long-term care facilities, emergency medical service agencies, urgent care facilities and Local Public Health Authorities.

Of this total, nearly each new dose was administered during the week of January 23.

To date, 492,450 doses of vaccine have been delivered to sites across Oregon.

Cumulative daily totals can take several days to finalize because providers have 72 hours to report doses administered and technical challenges have caused many providers to lag in their reporting.

Cases and deaths

The Health Authority has been providing technical support to vaccination sites to improve the timeliness of their data entry into the state's Alert Immunization Information System—IIS.

The new confirmed and presumptive Covid-19 cases reported in Oregon earlier this week happened in the following counties:

Oregon has now administered a cumulative of more than 301,000 first and second doses of Covid-19 vaccines. All vaccinations were administered by Or-

Benton (3), Clackamas (49), Coos (26), Crook (9), Curry (1), Deschutes (31), Douglas (14), Harney (1), Hood River (9), Jackson (47), Jefferson (4), Josephine (20), Klamath (26), Lake (5), Lane (49), Lincoln (6), Linn (18), Malheur (3), Marion (72), Morrow (3), Multnomah (78), Polk (18), Tillamook (1), Umatilla (16), Union (5), Wasco (2), Washington (59) and Yamhill (7).

Covid-19 vaccination scheduling with explanations

<p>PHASE 1</p> <p>A. HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS: People that are providing health care services or direct care services to high-risk groups. These people are at Very High risk for COVID exposure and transmission in their daily work or living environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All WSH&WC Staff – IHS and Tribal CTWS Essential Frontline (EMS, Senior Program, Behavioral Health, CPS, Shelter staff) High Lookee Staff & Residents In-home caregivers 	<p>PHASE 1</p> <p>C. HIGH RISK INDIVIDUALS Includes people at higher risk for severe disease complication, hospitalization and death. Such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elders age 65 and older Age 55-64 with underlying health issues such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diabetes Heart, Lung, Liver, or Kidney disease Organ transplants
<p>B. EXTREME RISK INDIVIDUALS THOSE AT HIGHEST RISK FOR DEATH RELATED TO COVID</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elders age 75 and older <p>ESSENTIAL WORKERS PROVIDING CRITICAL SERVICES: People necessary to maintain community safety and provide essential services. These employees have high exposure and transmission risk in their work and provide critical need services for Warm Springs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Police CTWS Essential Admin & Field Workers such as BIA-road maintenance, utilities, housing, credit Stores, Gas Stations Post Office, Food Vendors Prioritized by CTWS recommendation 	<p>PHASE 2</p> <p>A. OTHER ESSENTIAL STAFF AS IDENTIFIED BY CTWS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Casino staff Fire Management All other CTWS Department Staff <p>B. GENERAL POPULATION AGE 18 AND OVER The Moderna Vaccine is not yet approved for use in those under age 18</p>

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