

Around Indian Country

Calif. asks tribes to help prevent wildfires with traditional burns

California is calling upon Native American tribes to bring back the once-prohibited practice of lighting controlled burns to help prevent devastating wildfires that have wreaked havoc on the state.

Gov. Gavin Newsom's Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force has launched a new plan—"Strategic Plan for Expanding the Use of

Beneficial Fire"—that relies on the help of Native Americans to revive their cultural burning practices, the governor's office announced last week.

State, federal and local agencies will partner with tribes to reintroduce the Native American tradition of prescribed, cultural burns, which are purposefully set, low-intensity fires.

The technique is based in part on fire prevention: ridding the land of wildfire fuel like debris, scrub, undergrowth and certain grasses. Such fuel ignites easily, allowing for more intense flames that are harder to fight.

These burning practices will help make 'forests more resilient,' and decrease the likelihood of future wildfires.

Tribal consultation bill moving in D.C.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Tribal leaders and tribal organizations are rallying in support of a bill that mandates—for the first time—consultation with Indian nations on actions that affect their interests.

In 2000, then-president Bill Clinton issued an executive order that requires federal agencies to consult with tribal governments. Despite the requirement, reaffirmed in 2021 by the current administration, Indian Country has frequently complained of lapses in consultation, as well as an inability to hold the United States accountable for its trust and treaty responsibilities.

H.R.3587, the Requirements, Expectations, and Standard Procedures for Effective Consultation with Tribes Act, seeks to solidify the consultation requirement. The bill, also known as the Respect Act, would ensure that changes in presidential administrations don't affect the U.S. government's legal obligations to tribes and their citizens.

"Tribal consultation is not a 'Dear Tribal Leader' letter or a voicemail, it is the bedrock of the federal Indian trust responsibility," said Gay Kingman, the long-serving executive director of the Great Plains Tribal Chairmen's

Association, one of the many organizations supporting H.R.3587.

"The Respect Act embodies that and will bring the United States government closer than it has ever been to adhering to the values it has long espoused but so often ignored," said Kingman, a citizen of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe.

Rep. Raúl Grijalva, D-Arizona, serves as chairman of the House Committee on Natural Resources, the legislative panel with jurisdiction over Indian issues. He said he introduced H.R.3587 to address centuries of mistreatment by the federal government.

CRITFC seeks to hire

The Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission is advertising to fill several positions. The following are the jobs, and some details. Also see critfc.org

Office of the Executive Director - **Deputy Director**. Salary \$124,335 - \$142,619.

Fishery Science Department - **Fishery Biologist** (Habitat Project). Salary \$51,068 - \$57,425.

Fishery Science Department - **Fishery Technician III** (Hanford Project). Salary range: \$21.16 - \$22.57 hourly.

Fishery Science Department - **Fishery Technician III** (Habitat Project - 4 positions). \$21.16 - \$22.57 hourly.

Fish Management Department - **Fishery Technician III** (Lamprey Project - 3 positions). \$21.16 - \$22.57 hourly.

Office of Executive Director - **Public Information Specialist**. \$65,137 - \$71,651 (DOQ)

Policy Development and Litigation Support Department - **Treaty Fisheries Community Outreach Liaison**. \$37,540 - \$39,520.

Watershed Department - **SCHISM Modeler/Oceanogra-**

pher. \$75,799 - \$80,854.

Fishing Site Maintenance Department In-Lieu and Treaty Fishing Access Sites - Fishing Site Maintenance Worker. \$16.58 - \$17.69.

Enforcement Department Hood River Office - **CRITPD-Police Officer** (multiple vacancies). \$51,516 - \$56,261.

CRITPD-**Dispatcher** (multiple vacancies). \$39,937 - \$43,661.

Human Resources Department - **HR Generalist**. \$57,560 - \$63,315.

The complete job description, minimum skills, application requirements, deadlines, and pay information are available on the CRITFC website www.critfc.org Careers. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

Steadily improving job growth for region

Job gains in the region, including the reservation, were modest in late February and into March. The modest gains followed a year of strong gains, according to the state Employment Department.

For all parts of region, the employment rate is fast approaching the pre-pandemic level of February 2020.

Jefferson County, including the Warm Springs area of the reservation, saw February-March unemployment at 4.8 percent. The rate before the pandemic was 4.1 percent; so the job numbers are within less than 1 percentage point of the pre-covid number, according to the Employment Department report.

For February-March of this year, nonfarm employment rose by 50 jobs, stronger than typically expected this time of year.

Employment levels in Jefferson County remain down 160 jobs from levels just before the onset of the pandemic.

Over the past year, Jefferson County added 120 jobs, which is somewhat slower than other areas of the region, especially Deschutes County. According to the most recent

Employment Department report:

The Jefferson County job gains were largely concentrated in Indian tribal government; and leisure and hospitality. Over the past year there were notable losses in private education and health services, as well as manufacturing, with each sector losing 40 jobs.

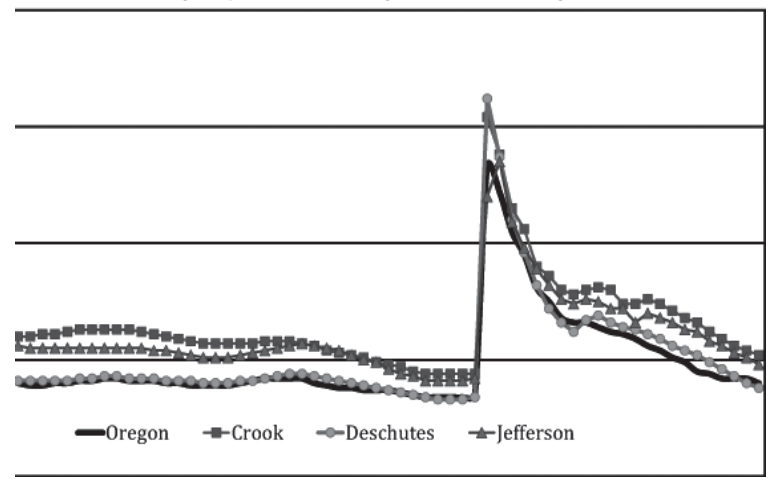
Deschutes County: The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dropped so far this year to 3.8 percent. This is within one-half of a percentage point of the pre-covid rate of 3.3 percent.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that Deschutes County added 370 jobs in February of this year. This represents a modest seasonally adjusted gain of 220 jobs as the local economy typically posts little change to the employment situation this time of year.

Crook County: Unemployment in February-March of this year fell to 5.2 percent, down from 5.4 at the start of the year.

The pre-covid unemployment rate for Crook was at 4.4 percent. Crook County posted a small gain of 20 jobs in February.

Oregon and Central Oregon Unemployment Rates
Seasonally Adjusted, February 2017 - February 2022



COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION

CRITFC IS HIRING!

Current Open Positions

- Deputy Director
- HR Generalist
- Public Info Specialist
- Fisheries Technicians
- Maintenance Workers
- Community Outreach Liaison
- Oceanographer
- Police Officer
- Enforcement Dispatcher



Be a part of the intertribal work to protect Columbia Basin salmon and tribal treaty rights.

Visit www.critfc.org/jobs or scan the QR code below for full position details and how to apply.



CRITFC offers a culture that supports and inspires fulfilling achievement in the protection of the natural world and the tribal cultural connection to it.

- Competitive compensation
- 401k for eligible employees
- Excellent benefits
- Flexible work policies
- Native hiring preference as part of our commitment to building tribal expertise, workforce development, and education.

Tribal Court Notification to serve Juror, May-June 2022

To the following individuals: You are hereby notified to appear before the Tribal Court to serve as a Juror on each date listed below during the months of May and June, 2022.

Orientation will be at 4 p.m. on May 10, 2022 for people with last names starting with A through M. Orientation will be on May 10 at 4:30 p.m. for those with last names starting with N through Z.

Voir dire will be at 9 a.m. on May 11, 2022. Trial date: 9 a.m., May 12.

Voir dire: 9 a.m., May 25. Trial date: 9 a.m., May 26.

Voir dire: 9 a.m., June 8. Trial date: 9 a.m., June 9.

Voir dire: 9 a.m.: June 22. Trial date: 9 a.m., June 23.

If you fail to appear on the dates and times listed above, you may be charged with Contempt of Court.

- Aguilar, Justine Daphne
- Anderson, Willis James
- Garcia, Mathew Bart
- Ribeiro, Armando Ruiz
- Azcencio, Caroline Clara
- Becerra, Antonio Vidal
- Bobb, Frederick Duran
- Brown, Harold Neva
- Caldera Jr., Lawrence Joseph
- Cassaway, Kristina Bessie
- Clement, Jerry Allen
- Colwash, Lavina Lynette

- Cortez, Maurica Lynn
- Crowe, Laura Louise Kay
- Culpus, Vincent
- Debiaso, Natasha Mae
- Doney, Brock Tuff
- Fasthorse, Stacy Rae
- Frye, Jenae Michelle
- Gleason, Adeline Christina
- Graham, Russell Johnny
- Halliday, Paula Ann
- Heath, Violet
- Herkshian, Denise Farron
- Holliday, Isaiah Cain
- Isadore, Cynthia Inez
- Kalama, Andrea Ila
- Kentura, Falena Sue
- Knight, Lynn Matilda
- Knight, Lois Ann
- Leclair, Marlon Alan
- Lillie, Casey Marcus
- McCloud IV, Andrew
- Moses, Joann
- Pennington, Harold Robert
- Rabbie, Taron G.
- Samuels, Daniel Antonio
- Schuster, Ina Lee
- Shike, Mina Joy
- Sooksoit, Marcus Dean
- Starr Jr., Joseph Richard
- Suppah, Vernon Clarence
- Tailfeathers Jr., Charles Lee
- Tenorio, Leona Jessie
- Torres, David
- Vanpelt Jr., Chester
- Wahsise, Joseph Thurman
- Weaselhead, Blake Brian
- Whipple, Rosebud Kaysee
- Wilson, Calvin Lloyd
- Yallup, Tiffney Tonya

Live and work in the beautiful Columbia River Gorge

- Serve small communities
- Lots of outdoor recreation opportunities

A unique law enforcement agency

- Community supported
- Innovative organizational structure

Help protect natural resources and the tribal people who depend on them

- Fisheries conservation enforcement
- Policing of tribal fishing villages
- Public safety along the Columbia River

