

Fisheries agreement

(from page 1)

"It allows our people to continue our way of life and we are salmon people," Ms. Sams said.

Originally filed in 2001 by the National Wildlife Federation and an assortment of other environmental groups, the four Columbia River treaty tribes joined the lawsuit that same year. The plaintiffs in the case argued that the federal government was violating the Endangered Species Act by allowing federal dams on the Columbia and Snake rivers to decimate threatened and endangered salmon and steelhead populations.

The six sovereigns

Over 22 years of litigation, a succession of judges assigned to the case have tossed out four of the government's biological opinions—essentially permits allowing the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to operate federal dams on the Columbia and Lower Snake Rivers—finding that the plans violated the Endangered Species Act.

The latest round of activity in the case began when the previous administration issued a biological opinion in 2020. Along with an accompanying government study required under the National Environmental Policy Act, the opinion was so flawed and rushed that the tribes, states and environmental groups involved leapt back into action.

The active plaintiffs at the time—the state of Oregon, the National Wildlife Federation and the Nez Perce as amici, or friends of the court—each filed new complaints.

The Warm Springs and Umatilla nations also resumed activity in the case, after standing down their claims in 2008. That was the year they negotiated the Columbia River Fish Accords, which essentially doubled funding for fish habitat restoration and other dam mitigation efforts. But because of the

2020 biological opinion, both nations negotiated an amendment to the agreements surrounding the fish accords, saying they had no obligation to support the government's new plan.

When the current administration took office in 2021, the government took a new approach, expressing a desire to find a more realistic and permanent solution to transforming the federal hydro-system into a green energy system that supports fish. Since then, the parties have spent two years in confidential mediation, trying to hammer out an agreement that might finally protect salmon.

Progress was slow, according to people involved. Enormous and unwieldy mediation meetings were held online—some with upwards of 200 participants representing parties with opposing views. In January of last year, the four Columbia River treaty tribes decided to formulate their own strategy for comprehensive salmon and steelhead recovery. They aimed to develop a plan that accounted for everyone who currently benefits from the dams: People living in the Northwest who depend on the energy the dams generate, farmers who use irrigation from the reservoirs behind the dams and ship their crops via barges in the river, and small town economies that revolve around the recreation the dams provide.

"We did not want to make this a dams versus salmon approach," said Jeremy Takala, vice chair of CRITFC and member of the Yakama Nation Tribal Council.

In just five months, the tribes developed the Columbia Basin Restoration Initiative. After the tribes started working on the plan, the states of Oregon and Washington joined them.

Fisheries continues on 5



Warm Springs 2024 Point In Time Count

WHO?

Individuals and Families living in:

Unsheltered locations: vehicles, tents, RVs without hookups, streets/sidewalks, etc.

Sheltered locations: Homeless shelter, transitional homes, multi-family homes, sofa surfers, etc.

WHEN?

January 23, 2024.
9am until 4pm

Old Warm Springs Elementary Gym

Participation Incentives ~ Meal ~ Resource Information

WHAT?

The Point In Time (PIT) Count aims to provide a snapshot of the individuals and families experiencing homelessness in a geographical area over the course of one night.

WHY?

- Builds Awareness & Engagement with Community.
- Identifies Gaps in Services.
- Captures an extent of who is experiencing homelessness.
- Captures data for possible funding.

Health & Human Services:

Admin	Homeless Shelter
Commodities	Transitional Homes
Prevention	Social Services
APD	Emergency Mgmt
SDPI	Community Health
Behavioral Health	



Thank you to our Partners:



COCC's STATE OF THE COLLEGE ADDRESS

by Central Oregon Community College President, Dr. Laurie Chesley

Wednesday,
January 24, 2024

9 a.m. coffee reception
9:30 – 10:30 a.m. public presentation

COCC Bend Campus
Wille Hall, Coats Campus Center
2600 NW College Way



An opportunity for regional leaders, organizational partners, community members, and college faculty and staff to learn about COCC's current priorities, goals, and key initiatives.



♿ In advance of College events, persons needing accommodation or transportation because of a physical or mobility disability should contact Caitlyn Gardner at 541-383-7237. For accommodation because of other disability such as hearing impairment, contact Disability Services at 541-383-7583.

PICKLEBALL

Sundays,
January 7th - March 31st
2:00PM - 4:00PM

More Information
www.macrecdistrict.com
541-475-4253

Address
Bridges High School
410 sw 4th st, Madras, OR
97741

Community notes...

The Miss Warm Springs 2024 Pageant is coming up on Friday, January 26 at the Agency Longhouse. The committee is seeking candidates ages 18-24.

Stop by the Tribal Council of office, or call 541-553-3257. For information, or an application, email to: minnie.yahtin@wstribes.org sandra.danzuka@wstribes.org

Warm Springs Fire Management will have a job fair February 19-21, from noon to 3 p.m. each day. Anyone interested in learning about and applying for jobs can stop by the Fire Management conference room.

The Museum at Warm Springs is closed for the installation of a new HVAC system. The Museum will reopen on February 1. Staff are working throughout the closure but the public is not allowed into the building at this time due to safety and health considerations. The Tribal Member and Youth Exhibit has been extended through March 2.

Black Bear Diner

Good Old Fashioned Family Food!

BREAKFAST Served All Day
LUNCH Quick & Satisfying
DINNER Comfort Food Classics

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