

In the Tribal Court of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs

(Note: All proceedings, except Probate as described below, are held at the Tribal Courthouse.)

PROBATE

In the matter of the estate of Roy D. Jackson, W.S., U/A, deceased. Estate no. 2024-PR33. Notice is hereby given that Rod D. Jackson, who at the time of his death last known residence

was 4309 Tommie St., Warm Springs OR, died on the 2nd day of June, 2024 and the court appointed Valerie Squiemphen as public administrator.

In the matter of the estate of Dorina D. Surface, W.S., U/A, deceased. Estate no. 2024-PR35. Notice is hereby given that Dorina D. Surface, who at the time

of her death last known residence was 2509 Looksh St., Warm Springs OR, died on the 5th day of June, 2024, and the court appointed Valerie Squiemphen as public administrator.

Apology

I am sorry about what I did on July 31, 2023, and know the decision I made was wrong and put me at risk, and also the community. I have learned from my mistake. Mathew B. Garcia.

Area fires bring smokey air

Late last weekend, thunderstorms moved through parts of the region, bringing strong wind and lightning.

Several new wildfires were reported including the Elk Lane Fire, located seven miles northwest of Madras.

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office said two areas were given level 3 Go-

Now evacuation orders. Those levels of evacuation were in place into early Monday morning.

Belmont Lane northwest of Madras was shut down from the PGE gates to S.W. Columbia. And people were asked to avoid Mountain View Drive for fire apparatuses.

The Red Cross set up a

temporary shelter at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds.

The Bennett Fire was northeast of Antelope, burning across several hundred acres. There was a Go-Know evacuation order for the city of Antelope.

These and other fires in the region have created some smokey conditions.

Around Indian Country

Fish passage restored at former Oregon dam site

Crews broke the final obstruction enclosure at a Southern Oregon dam site, returning the river to its historic path, and restoring fish passage in that reach of the Klamath River.

The JC Boyle Dam is one of the four dams slated for removal as a part of the Klamath River dam removal project. It is the only dam to be removed in Oregon as part of the project.

The event was joined by representatives and elders from the Klamath Tribes and Modoc Nation to view the moment the river broke through the cofferdam, the watertight enclosure that allowed the construction work.

"While there is still work to be done, today is a historic day for this reach of the Klamath River," said Mark Bransom, chief executive officer of the Klamath River renewal Corporation. "It was an honor to be able to witness this reach of river coming back to life alongside area tribes. Each milestone brings the river into a healthier state."

JC Boyle Dam was an earth-fill dam with a concrete spillway. The earthen portion of the dam extended over the original path of the river, while the concrete portion was constructed outside the river's path.



Area of Klamath River where dam was breached.

The reservoir waters were drained back in January. Since that time, construction crews used the cofferdam to route the river through the base of the spillway while the earthen portion of the dam was deconstructed. Crews finished the removal of the earthen portion last week, allowing them to break the cofferdam, restoring the river in that reach to a free-flowing state that will allow volitional fish passage.

Crews will continue deconstructing the concrete spillway in the coming weeks. Once that is completed, they will restore the natural slope on the river's left side and conclude construction activities related to JC Boyle Dam removal.

project strives to restore the river and its ecosystem to its pre-dam condition with a focus on returning salmon, Chinook and coho.

If the reintroduction of salmon is successful, then it will provide once again an ancestral food source to the tribal communities that relied on the annual fish returns in the river as one of their first foods.

The Klamath Tribes voiced the need for the dam removals for decades, and now that the project is nearing completion, Klamath tribal leadership and employees in the Natural Resources and Ambodat Departments are working with various state and federal agencies and the Klamath River Renewal Corporation, which is overseeing the project, to assist in the many restoration projects such as revegetation, wetland restoration and the reintroduction of salmon.

Around Indian Country

Heatwave, drought deadly for fish in Yakima Basin

An unsettling discovery by U.S. Geological Survey staff gathering gear in the Yakima Delta in July offered a harsh reminder of the dangers fish face due to this summer's heat and drought.

Warm water lacking in oxygen killed at least 75 sockeye salmon, according to a report, and photos show some of the dead fish floating on their backs near the shore.

Yakama Nation Fisheries Manager Joe Blodgett said it's likely many more sockeye died while waiting for an opportunity to swim up the Yakima River to

spawn, reminiscent of large-scale die-offs caused by similar conditions in 2015 and 2021.

"By the time we got out there, we don't see anything going on now, but we do know this is definitely something to be concerned about," Blodgett said. "This year it's even more frustrating because it's a record return for adult sockeye in the Columbia Basin."

U.S. Geological Service fish biologist Toby Kock said water temperatures in the 80s have approached record-highs in the lower Yakima River, creating a thermal barrier for any salmon and steel-

head trying to swim in or out of the Yakima Basin.

Predation concerns and low flows from the second year of a statewide drought add to the challenge of providing safe passage for fish on their long journey between the ocean and spawning habitat.

Biologists truck Snake River sockeye to cooler Idaho waters

On the banks of the Snake River in far eastern Washington, sockeye salmon have had a rough summer. The water behind the last major concrete dam they have to swim past is way too hot.

California wildfire could spell the end of threatened salmon

California's fifth-largest wildfire has encroached on some of the last strongholds for imperiled salmon, potentially devastating a species already on the brink.

The Park Fire spread into the Mill and Deer Creek watersheds in Tehama County, Calif. The Mill and Deer creeks are two of the three remaining creeks where wild, independent populations of spring-run Chinook, a threatened species, still spawn in the Central Valley.

If the Park Fire climbs to higher altitudes, federal and state officials said it could strike the final death blow to the region's spring-run salmon, which are already at risk of extinction.

"It's really concerning. It's really sad. Spring-run Chinook populations have taken such a hit over the past few years, and they're just at a critically low point," said Howard Brown, senior policy adviser with the Central Valley office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's West Coast fisheries region. "The emo-

tional toll of seeing a fire like this hit such an important place, with (critically at-risk) populations that are suffering so bad, it just feels like the cards are stacked up deeply."

Experts are anxiously awaiting the wildfire's next move, hoping that it doesn't spread farther into higher elevations.

That's where adult salmon wait in cool pools for water temperatures to drop and flows to rise so they can spawn and where year-old juveniles gain strength before migrating to the ocean.

"We're kind of at the mercy of the weather and wind to see if these fires creep along doing beneficial to less-severe things, or if we see a big run that really cooks the watershed," said Matt Johnson, a senior environmental scientist with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife Northern Region Anadromous Fisheries Program.

"The species is at real risk of extirpation or blinking out. We hope that doesn't

happen," he said.

Flames are not the primary, immediate threat. The spring-fed streams are moving so fast that ash in the water will quickly wash away, according to wildlife officials. Instead, firefighting efforts could pose a direct threat to the waterways, including the use of fire retardant, which is toxic to fish, though experts say it's a necessary tradeoff.

"The important thing right now is to just try to stop it on the head, so it doesn't burn up these really precious watersheds," Brown said. "The next few days will be pretty telling."

The most severe damage could come later this year—if heavy rains wash ash, chemicals and sediment from the burn scar into the creeks.

Too much sediment can smother the eggs and baby fish or spark a microbial bloom that sucks oxygen from the water. Larger debris flows also could scour the waterways and fill in holding pools.

FREE

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August 31st & September 1st 2024 (Labor Day Weekend) @ WARM SPRINGS FIRE AND SAFETY



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