

Improvements for fishing sites

The federal government, through the BIA, is investing nearly \$10 million additional funding for tribal treaty fishing site improvements along the Columbia River.

Bryan Newland, of the Bay Mills Indian Community of the Ojibwe, is the assistant secretary for Indian Affairs.

Mr. Newland traveled to the Columbia River earlier this month to visit with tribal leaders, and attend a dedication event for the investment.

Newland said the money will ensure the Warm springs, Yakama, Umatilla and Nez Perce tribes can continue to exercise treaty fishing rights.

“These sites are critical to supporting traditional fishing and ways of life here along the Columbia River,” Newland said.

“This investment is part of our ongoing work to ensure that Native people have the right to continue to exist, as Native people, in their Tribal communities.”

The four tribes guaranteed their fishing rights by signing a treaty in 1855 with the U.S. The federal government subsequently broke the agreement by constructing dams along the Columbia River for a major hydropower system.

The U.S. Congress later designated In-Lieu and Treaty Fishing Access Sites to provide access to sites that were lost to the hydropower project. However, the federal government has allowed the



CRIFT photos

CRITFC and the tribes presented Bryan Newland, assistant secretary of Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior, a gift blanket, commemorating the fishing site improvements ground-breaking. Also pictured are Ron Suppah, Warm Springs (right), Aja DeCoteau, CRITFC executive director; and Jeremy Takala, Yakama, CRITFC chairman.



Honoring the past, Shaping the future: Ground-breaking for improvements at the Cascade Locks tribal fishing access site. Fifteen others sites will also see improvements through a recent \$10 million investment from the BIA.

sites to fall into disrepair, with tribal fishers living and working in substandard conditions along the Columbia River.

The situation has begun to change following the enactment of the Columbia

River In-lieu and Treaty Fishing Sites Improvement Act by Congress in 2019.

The BIA provided funding to the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission to study conditions at the 31 sites, resulting in

nearly \$20 million so far being approved in upgrades, according to the tribal organization.

CRITFC and its member tribes, and BIA officials met at Cascade Locks in October for the ground-breaking dedication of the new improvements.

Fifteen sites will benefit from the latest round of funding, most of which comes from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

Projects will be funded at the Lone Pine, Cascade Locks, Lyle Maryhill, Celilo, Dallesport, Stanley Rock, White Salmon, Roosevelt, Wyeth, Le Page, Pasture Point, Underwood, Preachers Eddy, Faler Road, and Crow Butte in-lieu or treaty fishing access sites.

Around Indian Country

\$240 million for tribal hatchery modernization

Tribal, federal, and state leaders gathered at the Tulalip Reservation this month to celebrate \$240 million in federal funding for tribal hatcheries.

This investment, funded by an Inflation Reduction Act investment, will help 27 tribes from Northern California to Southeast Alaska meet urgent maintenance

decline of salmon in Northwest rivers has left the hatcheries to provide many of the fish for tribal fisheries.

The current commitment of funding is a step toward delivering on the treaty promises that tribes would have fish to catch. “In the course of three months, from starting conversations, I started get-

ting letters from 22 tribes with an agreed path forward,” said Jennifer Quan, West Coast Regional Administrator for NOAA Fisheries.

“Thank you to all the tribes who rolled up their sleeves and got to an agreement very fast.”

A Tulalip tribal color guard and singers and dancers kicked off the event,

which Tulalip Chairwoman Teri Gobin opened with a prayer. Tulalip Vice Chair Misty Napeahi emceed. Speakers included Washington Governor Jay Inslee and U.S. Representative Rick Larsen, and Bryan Newland, Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs for the Department of the Interior.

GRAND OPENING

PLATEAU TRAVEL PLAZA

215 NW Cherry Lane
Madras, Oregon 97741

Wednesday, October 16
11 am to 2 pm

• 50¢/GAL OFF FUEL* •

• SWAG & RAFFLE PRIZES •

• FREE LUNCH! •

• LIVE DJ •

• \$5 BONUS SLOT PLAY •

Valid 10/16 11AM-3PM at Plateau Travel Plaza only.

GREAT RAFFLE PRIZES!

Lots more prizes! You do not need to be present to win!

GRILL

PORTLAND TICKETS

BIKES

TABLET

CAR FRIDGE

*A \$.50 discount will be posted during event hours.

Fsheries distribution

The tribes’ Natural Resources Fisheries Department in October passed out 111 Tule chinook salmon from Spring Creek National Fish Hatchery.

Fisheries was also planning a distribution

of coho from Eagle Creek National Fish Hatchery; and upriver bright fall chinook from Little White Salmon National Fish Hatchery, as soon as they are available in the next few weeks.

Mark Manion photos/Fisheries

Spring Creek National Fish Hatchery staff passing fish up to the Warm Springs crew.

Tiger Van Pelt (with clipboard), Kevin Manion and Lewis Hellon passing out tules at the Community Center.

Community notes...

Rezfest 2024, in memory of Solomon (Solo) Stewart Jr., is coming up on October 26, starting at 5 p.m. at the Warm Springs Community Center social hall. Admission is \$15 at the door. Open to all ages, drug and alcohol-free event.

The Spooky Indian Night Out & Drummerz Jam Session is on Monday, October 28 at the Warm Springs Community Center gym. There’s a potluck dinner at 5:30 and the social powwow starts at 6:30.

The Community Center’s annual Zombie Walk is on Halloween day. Walkers can start at 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. It’s one lap around the walking path, and participants get a t-shirt while supplies last.

The Early Childhood Education Center is hosting the Trunk or Treat Pumpkin Parade in the ECE parking lot starting at 10 a.m. on Halloween. Any departments wishing to set up can contact Tiana Northrup by email: tiana.northrup@wstribes.org

The Warm Springs Recreation annual Halloween Carnival is from 6-8 p.m. at the Community Center on Halloween evening.

COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION CRITFC IS HIRING!

Be part of the intertribal work to protect salmon and treaty fishing rights!

Applying is fast & easy.

Visit critfc.org/jobs or scan the QR code for full position details and application materials.

Open Positions Portland Office Positions

- Chief Financial Officer • \$130-160K
- Policy Dept. Deputy Mgr • \$102-150K
- Development Director • \$102-112K

Law Enforcement Positions

(based in Hood River, OR)

- Police Lieutenant • \$98-110K
- Police Sergeant • \$89-98K
- Police Officers • \$65-78K
- Dispatcher/Comms Officers • \$48-52K

10/11/2024