

A look back at the year ~ 2025 ~

February

The Simnasho community this month hosted the Forty-Eighth Annual Lincoln's Powwow at the Simnasho Longhouse (right).

February fishery

Hooligan, eulachon, oolichan, candlefish and *Thaleichthys pacificus* are many names for the same fish, pacific smelt. They are small bait fish that serve as food for many aquatic, avian and terrestrial species from salmon to sea gulls to bears. For tribes on the West Coast of North America they are an important food and trade item.

Historically for tribes, smelt returned in February and March to the Columbia River at a time when foods preserved over the



At the Forty-Eighth Annual Lincoln's Powwow, the Simnasho Longhouse, February 2025.

previous year are dwindling, and smelt are the first fresh fish of the year. They were eaten fresh, dried or smoked and were traded commercially; Canadian tribes extracted smelt oil

as a commodity for medicine and trade. This month Tribal Council, at the suggestion of the Branch of Natural Resources-Fisheries, opened the smelt fishery of the Cowlitz River.

Kayakers: indigenous success, reconnection

(from page 1)
Viewers are swept along on a powerful, life-changing journey.

'Coming home'

"This film is not just a kayaking story," Ms. Sears said. "It's a story of Indigenous success and reconnection. It's about coming home to the Klamath river, and the river coming home to itself."

While reporting on the removal of four Klamath River dams—the largest and most expensive dam removal project in U.S. history—Sears learned about the nonprofit Ríos to Rivers, who organized the descent, led by the Indigenous youth.

The trip was the pinnacle of years of preparation, as participants traveled the



Tribal youth upon reaching the Pacific shore.

globe to gain technical river skills, share cultural experiences with other Indigenous groups, and learn how to advocate for the rivers that sustain them.

"It was an honor to be invited to film the dam removal, and an even bigger honor to be invited to film this expedition," Sears said.

"For far too long, Indigenous people, myself included, were afraid to be themselves.

It was incredibly inspiring to spend time with these youth who were pushing themselves physically while being unapologetically true to who they are."

March

Miss Warm Springs

This month Waurica Miller was chosen as Miss Warm Springs 2025. At the March pageant, Audrey Polk was runner-up. Both candidates did a fantastic job, and worked very hard in preparing.



Waurica Miller is crowned 2025 Miss Warm Springs.

Tribal Council election

The membership in March elected the Thirtieth Tribal Council of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. The following nominees received the most votes in their respective districts, three for Agency and Simnasho, and two for Seekseequa.

Agency District: Dennis White III, Jonathan W. Smith, and Alvis Smith III.

Simnasho District: Lincoln 'Jay' Suppah, Carlos Calica, and Raymond 'Captain' Moody.

Seekseequa District: Rosie Tom, and Brigette McConville.

They will join the three chiefs, Wasco Chief Jefferson Greene, Warm Springs Chief Delvis Heath, and Paiute Chief Joseph Moses. The swearing-in ceremony of the Thirtieth Tribal Council is scheduled for May 5.

Housing website

In March the Warm Springs Housing Authority announced the launch of the official Housing website. The address for the website is www.wshousing.org

At this point., the website is still evolving and

there will be more features added in the upcoming months.

The site, though, as of March includes information about the Housing Authority; the programs they offer; various forms and policies; as well as a copy of our 2025 Indian Housing Plan.

In addition to providing information, there is also the ability to submit a work order request online; submit an application for housing online; as well as submit an application for employment.

New home construction

Construction work is underway on a Housing project that will bring 10 new four- and five-bedroom homes to Warm Springs. Crews this month are working on site grading, and infrastructure, for water, sewer and electrical.

Fish passage

During the 2024-2025 run, a record number of adult steelhead returned to the Pelton-Round Butte hydro-power project, as more than 950 fish passed upstream, Power and Water Enterprises reported this month.

Youth and Families
Holiday Gathering
Sunday, December 14, 2025
Simnasho Longhouse
3-7 PM
Dinner Provided

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE
Ornament Making
Holiday Crafts
Beaded Gifts
Crafty Holiday Cards
Family Photo Booth

REGISTRATION UPON ARRIVAL
Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

Please email Konaway@sou.edu with questions.
Many thanks to the Oregon Cultural Trust and private donors for supporting the holiday gatherings.

CULTURAL TRUST
SO UTH YOUTH
ALL MY RELATIONS
Pappalexsimisha
Unity

Warm Springs Recreation Department Presents:

Christmas Ndn Night out
MC: Ray "Captain" Moody



Open to all
Dancers for Exhibitions

Open to all
Drum Groups

Raffle for Prizes-
Need to be present

Family Fun Games

Monday December 15, 2025

Community Center Gym

Traditional Christmas Dinner at 5:15 p.m.

Social Dance and Drummers Jam at 6:15 p.m.

Bring your own hand drum

For more info contact recreation dept. at 541-553-3243/3244.



From Lincoln's Powwow February 2025