

NR to develop new 10-year Management Plan

By Cliff Adams
Natural Resources Manager

The Natural Resources five year Management Plan for the Reservation was developed in 1996. The plan was developed to help guide and regulate activities on the Reservation and comply with the Bureau of Indian Affairs requirement to have an approved Management Plan in place. In the current plan, the sustained target timber harvest volume was calculated at 5.7 million board feet per year. This means that

■ Tribal member input will be needed for upcoming project.

we can continue to harvest 5.7 million board feet annually and never run out of timber to harvest, as long as we continue to follow our plan and nothing catastrophic happens to the forest stands.

The plan also specifies that the Reservation is to be managed responsibly, and the resources are to be enhanced and protected. We have developed cooperative agreements with various agencies, such

as Oregon State University to make sure that the tribal management is using current knowledge and information in applying forest practices on the Reservation. When our current plan expires at the end of 2000, our annual allowable harvest is estimated to be 5.5 million board feet, which is less than our target volume of 5.7 million board feet.

Beginning this year, the Natural Resources staff will be developing a

new 10-year plan for the Reservation. The development of this plan will require input from tribal members, committees, and other interested parties. We will be sending out a questionnaire as well as holding meetings in various locations to facilitate gathering input to the plan. The staff and I are looking forward to developing a new plan that will take the management of the Reservation into the 21st century.

Chinook Conference

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son has been working with the Tribes' children and says it has been a great motivation for them to have something of their own. Even the Hudson sisters, who ran classes in the late seventies and early eighties, and who were all Native speakers, used it for secret talk. As Johnson recounts, they'd be on the party line and say wawa Cinuk and then start telling their racy stories to each other. "But, they got in a little trouble when their mom was on the party line too" Johnson said with a chuckle.

The Restoration of the Tribe only began with federal recognition. Each family has fought the battles which followed. Johnson explains, "After the first generation on the reservation, people knew English, however, everyone continued to perpetuate Grand Ronde's language, Cinuk wawa. It is an Indian to Indian language. In particular we know this because of the sound system. It started as a pidgin language, became the first language of the kids and then became a Creole language. Chinook is a perfectly expressive language."

Though many stumbled over the unfamiliar sounds, practicing the alphabet in a sing-song repetition with Johnson leading, there was a core group who spoke with assurance. Of these, tribal members who had been attending Johnson's language classes helped some of the other students through the weekend exercises, discussing amongst themselves the possibility of enrolling for the fall Chinook language class being offered for college credit.

A natural teacher, Johnson admits that working with the children is one of the best parts of his job. "They learn well, are excited to get better quickly and are motivated," he says, as the class awaits the group of young people coming in to speak Sawash wawa, Indian talk.

Five young grade school children filed into the front of the room, fidgeting and glancing surreptitiously at all the adults staring at them. The four brothers and sisters from the Langley family and their cousin Tanas Kim stood between Johnson

*"He (Johnson) teaches
and that's all.
I like it, when I get older
I can be in here
to talk Indian."*

~ Kim Contreras
age 6

and their mothers and waited for the wawa to begin. With Johnson's encouragement and their mother's smiles, they greeted the room, ran through the alphabet and counted to twenty. Johnson quizzed them on vocabulary, animal names, body part names and they replied with confidence and shy smiles.

As Johnson told the class later, the children had not been working with him during the summer, but still retained the language. In closure the five young people sang a Chinook song, repeated three times, each time a bit quieter. The pride on their young faces was bright enough to notify everyone in the room that here was a glimpse of the next generation of restoration. As the children scattered back to their mothers, Johnson translated their song for the class; "Tomorrow, tomorrow I'll do better."

Johnson hopes to have compiled the initial version of the Cinuk Wawa Dictionary by the year 2000 and to publish some time after that. It will be the first dictionary of Indian Chinook, and as such there is much debate over a language that has largely been kept in the memories of Elders. Johnson recognizes that "Somewhere down the road when I'm eighty and we have an Academy of Chinook, then we'll have ten old-timers that say 'I think we ought to say...'" but today deliberations on issues of usage and nuance are still being worked through.

Meanwhile the children and their families continue to piece together their heritage. When asked about learning Chinook, Tanas Kim (Little Kim) responded, "he teaches and that's all. I like it, when I get older I can be in here to talk Indian."

Foster Home Recruitment

Have you ever heard the phrase "It Takes A Tribe To Raise A Child?" Well it is no different for the children of the Grand Ronde Tribe.

Seventy-two children, enrolled or eligible for enrollment, are involved in the Indian Child Welfare (ICW) program. Of these 72 children, 36 are living in non-Native homes, 33 are living in tribal homes, and three are in Native (non-Grand Ronde) homes.

The Foster Care program is beginning a recruitment project to certify as many tribal and/or Native homes as possible. One of the purposes of the ICW program is to ensure that the child's cultural ties are preserved. This is a difficult task when 50% of the available foster homes are non-Native.

We need your help! If you are interested in becoming a foster parent or would like further information, please contact the Foster Care program at 1-800-242-8196 or (503) 879-2044. Thank you for supporting our children!



McCutcheon sworn in as Police Officer

Tim McCutcheon, tribal member from Springfield, was sworn in as a City of Eugene Police Officer on July 13, 1999, at the Hult Center. Tim and eight other officers completed 19 weeks of training at the new Eugene Region Basic Academy. Tim was chosen as spokesman on behalf of the new police officers. Norma Lewis, Elder tribal member and Tim's grandmother, concluded the ceremony by pinning his badge. Tim earned his degree, an Associate's degree in Criminal Justice at Lane Community College with aid from the tribal office of higher education. His GPA was 3.60. Tim's parents are William and Karen McCutcheon. His grandfather was Delbert Lewis.



HUNTER SAFETY CLASS

Sept. 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15
5:30 to 8 p.m.

NATURAL RESOURCES
47010 SW Hebo Road

It is mandatory that you attend
ALL scheduled classes.

There is no age limit.
12-18 year olds must have a
hunter safety certificate before
obtaining a hunting license.

To register, please call:
Karen Larsen at (503) 978-2376

Firewood List

Natural Resources would like to compile a list of tribal members interested in cutting firewood when it is available. The availability of firewood is limited, so permits will be issued while supplies last. To be placed on the list, please call Natural Resources at (503) 879-5522.

NANITCH SAHALLIE LOGO ITEMS

- Coffee Mugs \$5
- Thermal Coffee Mugs \$5
- Water Bottles \$4
- T-shirts \$10

PURCHASE IN PERSON AT:
Nanitch Sahallie in Keizer
Governance Center in Grand Ronde