

EASTERN OREGON OUTDOORS



by Mark Baggett

White House Budget Would Increase Survival of Salmon, Steelhead

If the Bush administration's recent budget proposal for fiscal year 1991 is passed by Congress, anglers from eastern Oregon and other areas of the Northwest could begin noticing an increase in return salmon and steelhead stocks to their favorite local streams, according to authorities of the Northwest Power Planning Council (NPPC).

In his budget proposal, the president is said to have requested money for a regimen of major improvement projects at many Columbia River hydroelectric dams, including \$15 million in special bypass channels and screens to divert salmon and steelhead smolts around deadly turbines when migrating downstream to the ocean. Such installations at four major Columbia River dams, the NPPC claims, would cut in half the total number of anadromous fish killed by turbines each year, increasing the potential of stronger returns of adult fish for the future.

"That's what we're after, because every time you put in a bypass you're upping the survival of all of the fish that come from up-river of that dam," said John Palensky, director of fish and wildlife for Bonneville Power Administration. "We've been in favor of getting the bypasses in for a long time, so we're pleased that they've got the money in the budget for it."

Palensky said that both the fish (and fishermen) as well as electricity consumers stand to benefit from the addition of bypass systems. "What happens is, under a spill agreement that we have with the fishery agencies and tribes, we have to provide certain levels of spills to make safe passage for fish until all those bypass facilities are in," Palensky explained. "So the sooner they go in, the sooner we can quit spilling, which is a benefit in both ways: the bypass is a better way of moving fish by the dams, and certainly it's cheaper for the power users, because when the water goes (spills) over the dam, there's no generation, so power costs more."

Funding for the bypass project was reportedly included in the president's 1991 budget after persistent recommendations by a coalition of regional and congressional representatives—the Northwest delegation. The NPPC named three Northwest senators, Mark Hatfield and Bob Packwood of Oregon, and Jim McClure of Idaho, as particularly instrumental in convincing administration officials to include bypass money in the budget proposal.

"This represents a dramatic change in the priorities of the federal budget," said NPPC Chairman Tom Trulove, who also worked hard toward the same end. "It marks a significant change, not just in tone, but in policy. It reverses the approach taken over the last five years by the previous administration to effectively terminate the bypass program."

"More than any other factor," Trulove continued, "the strong, consistent support of the entire Northwest congressional delegation—led by Speaker Tom Foley in the House and Senator Mark Hatfield in the Senate—laid the foundation for approval of the 1991 budget item."

According to Palensky, the need for smolt protection becomes immediately obvious when considering that migrating fish traditionally suffer an estimated 20 percent mortality rate when forced to pass through turbines on dams without bypass systems.

"So if this happens at each dam, you hit them pretty hard by the time they get to the bottom (of a series of dams)," he said. "If you start up at the top with 100 fish—say up in the Snake River—and you take 20 fish out at Lower Monumental Dam, that's 80 going on below there, and you have to take another 20 percent out at the next dam, that's 16, and so you can just calculate that on down from there. You will find that when you get to the bottom you're running a very small percentage (16 percent after eight dams) of the fish you originally started with."

Pirates get 17th win

By Marty Suter

Ankle injuries and the flu didn't stop the Pirates from their 17th win this season. A third quarter rally proved to be more than the Rockets could handle and Riverside came out on top with a final score of 82-66.

Matt Andreason and Lyle Hobbs were out with ankle injuries, Travis Hyder was recovering from pneumonia, and Justin Dike had the flu.

At the half, the Rockets were ahead by eight points, but the Pirates came back in the third quarter with 29 points to the Rockets' 14.

Tim Hill came off the bench in the

second half to put some muscle in the Pirates' offense.

Riverside connected on 22 of 34 shots from the charity stripe.

Scott Timms led all scorers with 36 points. Andy Mentzer led the Rockets with 23.

Pilot Rock 24 13 14 15 66
Riverside 16 13 29 24 82
Pilot Rock (66) Thacker 30-0-8; Hodgen 6-6-19; Lehnert 2-1-1-5; Mentzer 10-3-8 23; Murphy 2-3-5-7; Tresham 2-0-0-4. Totals 25-13-20-66.

Riverside (82) Hill 30-2-6; Tallman 2-5-10; Byrd 5-3-4-13; Timms 14-7-9-36; Meyers 1-4-4-6; McDonough 2-1-7-5; Larson 2-0-0-4; Clipe 2-0-0-4. Totals 29-22-34-82.

3-point goals-Thacker 2; Hodgen 1; Timms 1; Tallman 1. Fouled out-Lehnert. Total fouls Pilot Rock 24, Riverside 16.

Riverside downs Rockets

By Marty Suter

A total team effort by the Lady Pirates held the Rockets to only two field goals in four quarters of playing time. The Rockets did, however, manage to hit 18 of 33 at the free throw line, resulting in a final score of 50-22.

"We played the best game we've played all year defensively, and it was one of our better games on offense," said RHS coach Dirksen.

Seven Pirates contributed, with April Morgan tallying 12 points; Shanna Evans had seven points and 12 rebounds; Marty Suter had seven points and five steals; Joy Hellberg

came off the bench to add nine; Lisa Short had seven points and Candice Trader had six.

Katie McCall led the Rockets with nine points.

Riverside 14 15 13 8 50
Pilot Rock 6 5 0 11 22
Riverside (50) Morgan 5-2-3-12; Seel 1-0-2-1; Evans 3-1-3-7; Suter 3-1-3-7; Short 3-1-3-7; Hellberg 4-1-4-9; Wetzel; Olson; Trader 3-0-0-6; Ammons; Vandeventer. Totals 22-6-14-50.

Pilot Rock (22) McCall 1-7-11-9; Harrison; Waite; Lyon 1-4-7-6; Winnett 0-3-4-3; Buffington 0-4-7-4; Haynie 0-0-4-0; Bracher; Gilham. Totals 2-18-33-22.

3-point goals-none. Fouled out-Ammons, Buffington. Total fouls Pilot Rock 16 Riverside 23.

'Hands on Science' for students

The pre-school through sixth grade children of Heppner have a unique opportunity to participate in a recreational science program called Hands On Science. Through the efforts of Sarah Carlson, Heppner Junior High Science teacher, this is the only Hands On Science program available in the state of Oregon.

Carol Goodyear is currently leading a group of second and third graders in activities that experiment with building materials that do not stand alone and examining the secrets, behind morse code, flag code, the ancient abacus (a counting board) and the pyramids. The group will then create a mystery language to share with friends. This group is meeting from 3:30 to 4:30 on Tuesday afternoons.

"Recently I participated in one of the activities with the children. The supplies were very simple, yet when used in the activity, I could see that they encouraged the children to experiment without waiting for further directions from Mrs. Goodyear and to use deductive reasoning with enthusiasm and creativity," said Sally Walker, junior high teacher. "Many times I could see the students' ideas

racing ahead of Mrs. Goodyear's. She would then comment on these ideas and build on them for further discussion and experimentation. The children were having a great time while they were being exposed not only to scientific things, but history, math, and communication. Through the freedom of experimenting in these simple activities, it is hoped that students will develop a desire to learn more about science."

Registration for the next classes will be open from February 12 to February 23 with Mrs. Carlson. Partial scholarships for the class fee is available through the Heppner Masonic Lodge to students who are in need of some financial assistance. These partial scholarships were established through the efforts of Mr. Bob Isted, Heppner Junior and Senior High music teacher. Also, Mrs. Carlson is currently working to obtain a state grant which will allow her to reimburse some transportation costs to parents of participating students.

"After seeing this program in action," said Walker, "I only regret that it was not available for my own two children when they were in elementary school."

Boardman 'Liar Extraordinaire' to emcee BMCC Liar's Contest

In conjunction with BMCC Pride Day, Blue Mountain Community College is hosting the second annual, district-wide Liar's Contest. Arnold Braat, Boardman farmer and Liar Extraordinaire will once again emcee the contest. Judges will include Russ Heimark, Wheatland Insurance; Bill Andrus the East Oregonian and Joe McLaughlin,

Pendleton mayor. The contest will be held Wednesday, February 21 from 2 to 3 p.m. in the student union in Pioneer Hall.

District residents interested in participating should contact Grey Elliot, BMCC English instructor and event coordinator, at 276-1260 ext. 237 in Pendleton or 1-800-526-5401.

Free chili at Les Schwabs Friday

Morrow County CattleWomen encourages everyone to stop by Les Schwab Tire Center Friday from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for a free bowl of chili with Mike Proctor and the Les Schwab staff. For 26 years Les Schwab has given away free beef with tire purchases during the month of February. CattleWomen prepare and serve chili to the public in appreciation of this annual beef promotion.

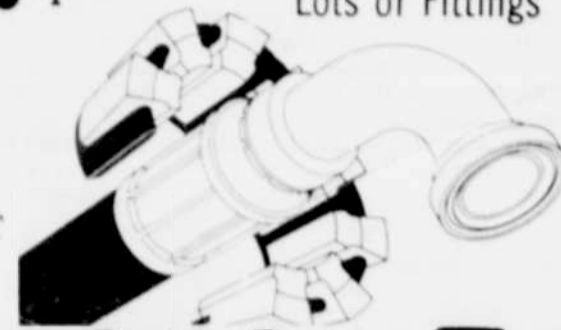
Pointer elected fraternity rep

Eric Pointer, Ione, a senior in agricultural sciences at Oregon State University was elected assistant Interfraternity Council representative from Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity, according to an OSU news release.

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