

The Dipnetter

News of the River from the
Columbia River Inter-Tribal
Fish Commission



June 2011



Stuart Ellis

TRIBAL FISHERY UPDATE AND FORECAST

BY CRITFC HARVEST BIOLOGIST STUART ELLIS

The 2011 Spring Management Period fisheries end in the mainstem on June 15. The total river mouth run size of upriver spring chinook is expected to be approximately 214,000, which is slightly above the pre-season forecast. At this run size, tribal mainstem fisheries are allowed to catch 9.1% of the run, which is about 19,500 fish. At the time of publication, final tribal catches in all spring mainstem fisheries are expected to total close to 19,000 fish.

The summer management period begins on June 16 and goes through July 31. The outlook for summer management period fisheries is good. The upper Columbia summer chinook forecast is 91,900. The Columbia River sockeye forecast is 161,900. If the run comes in at the forecast level, the allowed treaty catch would be 27,136. The allowed treaty sockeye harvest rate is 7%, which at the pre-season forecast equates to an allowed treaty catch of 11,333.

The run sizes will begin to be updated in early July. The actual allowed harvest will change based on the actual updated river mouth run size.

The summer season fisheries should provide similar commercial opportunities for tribal fisheries as compared to recent years. The tribes met earlier and set the first two summer commercial gillnet fishing periods. They are June 16-18 and June 20-23. There will be no mesh restriction for the first two periods, but mesh size restrictions could be used in later openings if needed.

The Zone 6 platform fishery will continue through the summer for both subsistence and commercial use. Fisheries downstream of

Bonneville are expected to continue through the summer season as well. Regulations for fisheries downstream of Bonneville are subject to modification as needed during the season. Tribal members who wish to fish downstream of Bonneville should check with their fish and wildlife department for their tribe's current regulations. 🐟

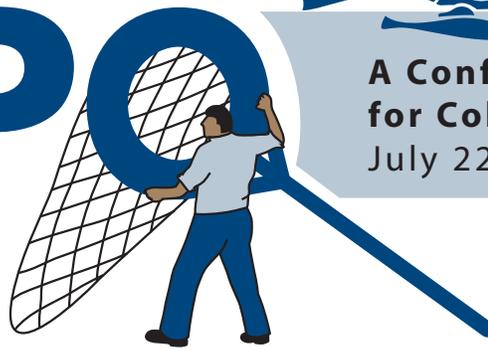
Tribal FishCo Manager Sought

Tribal FishCo, LLC is a limited liability company formed in the State of Washington by the CRITFC member tribes. The primary purpose of the corporation is to operate and maintain the East White Salmon Fish Processing Facility located in White Salmon, Washington to process, transport and sell treaty-harvested fish. Tribal FishCo, LLC is set up as a manager-run company.

The manager is the CEO of the company and, subject to the direction and control of the Board of Advisors. The manager must be experienced in fish processing and marketing and also have a broad range of business experience, especially starting up a new for-profit cooperative venture.

Interested candidates can view the job announcement and download an application form at www.critfc.org/fishco or by calling Human Resources at CRITFC, (503) 238-0667 for an application packet. The position will be filled as soon as possible, therefore candidates should submit applications without delay. 🐟

EXPO



**A Conference and Trade Show
for Columbia River Indian Fishers**
July 22 · Best Western Hood River Inn

Sponsored by the Columbia River
Inter-Tribal Fish Commission



The Columbia River Indian Fishers Expo is hosted by the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission. Now in its second year, this event provides Indian fishers with information, resources, and training that will help them improve river safety, fish quality, and gear maintenance. The event and meals are free for all Yakama, Umatilla, Warm Springs, and Nez Perce fishers.

The Expo runs from 7:30 to 5:30 on Friday, July 22.

Breakfast agenda:

- 7:30 Invocation and blessing on meal
- 8:00 Conference opening ceremony and welcoming
- 8:40 Morning raffle

Lunch agenda:

- 11:30 Blessing on meal
- 12:00 Keynote address by new CRITFC chairman
- 12:20 CRITFE oath of service for new officers
- 12:35 CRITFC executive director's update to fishers

Preceding the Expo, the July CRITFC commission meeting will be held at the Best Western Hood River Inn on Wednesday and Thursday. Tribal members are welcome to attend this meeting, which runs 8 am to 5 pm July 20-21.

Best Western Hood River Inn, 1108 E Marina Way, Hood River, Oregon
(next to the Hood River-White Salmon Bridge)

Vendors and Displays

- A1 Scale Co.** *weights and scales*
- Bonneville Power Administration**
- Burlington Northern Railroads** *safe railroad crossing information*
- CRITFC/CRITFE**
- LuDuc Packaging** *totes, fishing gear, and paper packaging products*
- Fiberglass Supply** *fiberglass repair and materials*
- Food Hub** *direct-to-the-public internet fish sales site*
- Market Supply** *vacuum-sealing products and supplies*
- Riverkeeper**
- Sonderen Packaging** *paper and plastic packaging products*
- The Dalles Marine Supply** *fishing gear and life jackets*
- US Army Corps of Engineers**
- US Coast Guard**

CRITFC Officers and Commissioners

WARM SPRINGS



Bruce Jim, CRITFC chairman
Leslie Bill · Ryan Smith · Rafael Queahpama · Emerson Squiemphen Donnie Winishut, Sr
(541) 553-3257

YAKAMA



Gerald Lewis, CRITFC vice-chairman
Richard George · Johnny Jackson Sam Jim, Sr · Virgil Lewis, Sr Wilbur Slockish, Jr
(509) 865-5121

UMATILLA



Kathryn Brigham, CRITFC secretary
James Marsh · Mitch Pond · Vince Sohapp · Chris Williams
(541) 276-3165

NEZ PERCE



Joel Moffett, CRITFC treasurer
Brooklyn Baptiste · Julia Davis-Wheeler · Larry Greene · Dan Kane Joanna Marek · McCoy Oatman Allen Slickpool, Jr · Roberta Bisbee Marie Arthur · Elmer Crow · Erik Holt Herb Jackson · Wilfred Scott
(208) 843-2253

Schedule subject to change. Please note that this year's Fishers Expo is **one day only**.

July 22	7:30	9	10	11	noon	1	2	3	4	5
Columbia Room		Trade Show					Trade Show			
Gorge Room	Breakfast				Lunch		Yakama Nation F&W Committee			Closing ceremony and raffle drawing
Riverview Room		Coldwater Survival	Boat Safety			Warm Springs F&W Committee	Coldwater Survival	Boat Safety		
Gorge Rm. parking lot		Engine Maintenance	Fiberglass Repair				Boat Maintenance	Fiberglass Repair		
Mt. Adams Room		Food Handling Certification				Umatilla F&W Committee	Food Handling Certification			
Mt. Hood Room						Nez Perce F&W Committee	Farmers Markets	Business Funding		

Presentations

Tribal Q & A

Fish & Wildlife Committee Question & Answer Sessions

The Fish & Wildlife Committee members from the four tribes will each host their own question and answer session for fishers. The sessions are open to everyone.

Luncheon Presentations

Keynote presentation by CRITFC chairman and CRITFC Executive Director's update to fishers.

Fisher Safety

Coldwater Survival

Surviving in cold water, mayday procedures, operating flares, and other techniques to improve the safety of operating a boat.

Eric Olsen, U. of Wash. Sea Grant

Columbia River Boat Safety

Top ways to ensure safe boating, various types of life jackets, each of the tribes' boat safety requirements, and the tribal boat certification program.

Jerrod Daniels, CRITFC

Equipment Maintenance

Boat Engine Maintenance

Ways to keep your boat engine running at peak condition. Also: common engine-killing mistakes and how to avoid them. (Workshop held outdoors.) *Larry Blais*

Fiberglass Repair

A hands-on overview of basic fiberglass repair. Fishers can bring their own boats to the workshop to address specific questions. (Workshop held outdoors.) *Matthew Weaver*

Cleaning Boats to Prevent Spread of Invasive Species

The invasive species that threaten the Columbia River Basin and how to make sure your boat is free of these pests before transporting it to and from Zone 6.

Blaine Parker, CRITFC

Quality Handling

Food Handling Certification Class

Conducted by the Warm Springs Tribe's sanitarian, completing this class will give fishers Warm Springs Tribe-issued certification that is recognized by the State of Oregon for sales within the state. Oregon residency is not required, but fishers selling to non-Indian customers over the bank in Oregon are encouraged to complete this class.

Nancy Collins, Warm Springs Tribe

Icing and Transporting

Learn how to make slush ice to improve the quality and freshness of your harvest and other options for transporting your harvest.

Marketing

Improving Over-the-bank Sales

See a sample over-the-bank sales setup for ideas on how to improve sales with marketing techniques, ensuring a quality product, and presenting a professional image.

Selling at Farmers Markets

Farmers markets focus on local, sustainable products; this presents a great opportunity for Indian fishers. Learn how to participate in farmers markets. *Karen Wagner*

Small Business Funding Opportunities

Learn about the variety of funding opportunities available to Indian fishers. Information on loans, grants, and other programs to help expand and improve your business.

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Yakama • Warm Springs
Umatilla • Nez Perce



The Future of Our Salmon

critfc executive director's message

On June 1-2, CRITFC hosted over 250 tribal leaders, federal fisheries managers, state fisheries managers, scientists, non-tribal fishers and others to the Future of Our Salmon conference. This first-of-its-kind event provided a unique opportunity to discuss salmon recovery with the tribal perspective that followed salmon's complex life cycle. Yakama elder Tony Washines opened the event highlighting the tribes' unique approach to natural resource management which is grounded in cutting edge science and traditional tribal culture that focuses on putting fish back in the river and protecting the watersheds where fish live.

The conference presentations focused on the many challenges and successes of Columbia River basin salmon recovery. Conference panelists presented on topics including the on-going debate surrounding the role of hatcheries in rebuilding naturally spawning salmon runs and the role of mass marking and mark-

selective fisheries as a conservation tool.

CRITFC and its member tribes criticized mass marking of hatchery salmon for mark-selective fisheries as it only benefits the non-Indian fishery. We reiterated that hatchery reform combined with essential habitat and passage improvements will restore salmon populations.

We need to think of salmon restoration in a manner that is broader than what we think we can accomplish; a goal is a dream with a deadline. The tribes have a definite end goal: full restoration of naturally sustaining salmon returning in harvestable numbers in all the usual and accustomed fishing places as guaranteed to the tribes by the treaties of 1855. It is my hope that this conference started the conversation to decide where the region wants to go so we can all get on with the hard work of getting there.



Paul Lumley
YAKAMA



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Be safe out there!
The river is running high.

COLUMBIA RIVER INDIAN FISHER'S



Mark your calendars!
**The 2011 Columbia
River Indian
Fishers Expo** is
taking place in Hood
River on July 22.

