

The Dipnetter

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



December 2012

NEW CRITFC WEBSITE UNVEILED

JEREMY FIVECROWS, CRITFC COMMUNICATIONS AND WEB ADMINISTRATOR

After seven months of work, design, and computer programming, the new CRITFC website has finally been completed. The update was long overdue, as the previous site was created in 2000.

The new website uses the latest web technologies to provide items of interest to all CRITFC's audiences including the fishers, tribal members, fish buyers, educators, and the general public.

The four major goals of CRITFC are prominently featured at the top of the page. A special section called "Fisher Services" **1** has a section where fishers can read fishery announcements and other important information, find out information about the fishing access sites, and get news and help from the salmon marketing program.

In the "Blog" **2** section, visitors will find the latest news including all the Dipnetter articles. The system also allows visitors to easily search for past topics.

The "Buy Salmon" **3** section is for people interested in buying Columbia River Indian-caught Salmon. It has fish availability information, fish buying locations, and instructions on to how gut or filet a fish.

The latest Bonneville chinook salmon counts **4** are featured on the front page and the counts for all the species and dams are available on the site.

Social media is a major part of the redesign, with CRITFC's Facebook **5**, Twitter, YouTube, and Flickr pages connected to the site.

The site is also optimized for smart phones. By visiting it on an iPhone or Android phone, a simplified version of the site will make using it easier to get information like current dam counts

and fish species allowable for sale.

Visit www.critfc.org today and start exploring the site yourself. If there is anything you would like to see included on the site, please let us know. We plan on keeping the site current with new information and features that are geared for the fishers as well as the other users. 

The screenshot shows the CRITFC website homepage. At the top left is the CRITFC logo. The main header includes the text "Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission" and the tagline "putting fish back in the rivers". A search bar is located in the top right. Below the header is a navigation menu with categories: "About CRITFC", "Salmon Culture", "Member Tribes", "Blog", "Buy Salmon", and social media icons for Twitter and Facebook. A secondary navigation bar lists "FISH AND WATERSHEDS", "TRIBAL TREATY FISHING RIGHTS", "EDUCATION", and "FISHER SERVICES". The main content area features a large image of a fisherman on a boat. To the left of the image is a section titled "Providing Fisher Services" with text about resources for fishers. To the right is a section titled "Where are the Salmon Now?" featuring a line graph showing salmon counts at Bonneville Dam, with text indicating that 589,672 chinook have passed this year. Below the main content is a "Find us on Facebook" section with three posts from the CRITFC Facebook page. To the right of the Facebook section is an "Advocacy Issues" section with a sub-section for "Lamprey Restoration" and a small image of a lamprey. At the bottom of the page is a footer with columns for "CRITFC Home", "CRITFC RESOURCES" (Jobs, Calendar, StreamNet Library), "RESEARCH" (Scientific Reports, Data Resources, Climate Change, Hagerman Genetics Lab), "ACTIVITIES" (Fisheries Management, Fish Restoration Projects, CRITFC Enforcement, Advocacy Issues, Workshops & Conferences), and "CONNECT" (Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Flickr, Blog). A footer note says "See something suspicious on the river? Contact CRITFC Enforcement's Tip Line".

Fishing Site Clean-up Closures

MICHAEL BRONCHEAU, CRITFC FISHING SITE MAINT. MANAGER

Last winter, six treaty fishing access sites were closed for extensive clean-up and repairs. The 2012-2013 clean-up will begin this month.



Maryhill Treaty Fishing Access Site

During each closure, the maintenance crew will remove trash, abandoned property, and temporary structures; repair facilities, plumbing, and electrical systems; maintain the landscaping; and other repairs as necessary. **Any personal and titled property left on a site during its designated clean-up period will be disposed of.**

The closure schedule:

COMPLETED

- **Three-mile Canyon (Nov 5-9, 2012)**
- **Rufus (Nov 12-16, 2012)**
- **Roosevelt (Nov 19-30, 2012)**
- **Maryhill (Dec 3-21, 2012)**
- **White Salmon (Jan 7-18, 2013)**
- **Lyle (Jan 21-Feb 1, 2013)**

If you use any of these sites, please remove your personal and titled property to help speed the work and prevent any unexpected losses.

While a site is closed for the maintenance, all other access sites, including the five in-lieu sites, will remain open for use and will be maintained on a normal weekly schedule. 🐟

River Housing Needs

LAURIE JORDAN, CRITFC POLICY ANALYST

On November 2, the US Army Corps of Engineers hosted a meeting at the Discovery Center in The Dalles. The meeting was in response to the tribes' request that the Corps conduct a study of tribal housing and infrastructure needs along the Columbia River. The meeting focused on the lessons learned from Celilo Village re-development and is the initial stage in the Corps fact-finding study.



Tribal government officials, housing staff, and members of the tribal communities along the river attended the meeting along with representatives of the Corps and Cooper-Zeitz Engineers—the contractor conducting the fact-finding study for the Corps. The tribes are in the process of forming an intertribal housing committee to interact with the Corps and address other housing matters along the Columbia River.

CRITFC has set up a text messaging system to inform interested tribal members of upcoming meetings. To subscribe, send a text message containing the phrase **“follow riverhousing”** to **40404**. When an announcement is made, it will be sent to subscribers via text message. 🐟

CRITFC Officers and Commissioners

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James Marsh · Mitch Pond
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NEZ PERCE



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Ryan Smith · Emerson Squiemphen
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YAKAMA



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

Fall Season Update

STUART ELLIS, CRITFC FISH MGMT. BIOLOGIST

This is a slow time of year for fisheries. Mainstem fisheries have wound down to very low levels. Fishery managers are working final analysis of 2012 fisheries in preparation of getting ready for the 2013 forecasts. Spring and summer chinook and sockeye forecasts should be available by mid-December. Steelhead, coho, and fall chinook forecasts will be available in January and February of 2013. There will be a setline fishery for sturgeon in January. Information on the winter gillnet fishery in February will be made available when the tribes make decisions regarding this fishery. 🐟

Over-the-Bank Sales Products

JEREMY FIVECROWS, CRITFC WEBSITE ADMINISTRATOR

Part of the new CRITFC website redesign was developing new ways to get word out to people interested in buying fish directly from Indian fishers. One new service is the fish availability page where people on smart phones can quickly see which species are currently allowed for sale. Another service is a fish sales announcement feed on the social media site Twitter. This feed is geared for the general public so they can see the current status of fish sales. The name of the feed is @ColumbiaSalmon. To see it, visit the "Buy Salmon" section of the new website or subscribe on Twitter at www.twitter.com/ColumbiaSalmon. For fishers with regular customers, this is a great feed to suggest to them to keep them informed of fish sales throughout the year. 🐟



Get fisheries announcements right on your cell phone

If you would like to get fisheries announcements via text message, send a text message to the number **55958** with "critfc" in the body of the text. Calling the number will not work. This must be done as a text message from your cell phone.



Canning Class a Success

LES BROWN, SALMON MARKETING COORDINATOR

The Salmon Marketing Program hosted a food safety canning class that focused on both subsistence and commercial requirements. A total of 33 fishers took part in the class. The workshop was sponsored by the First National Development Institute's food safety grant. 🐟



Participants at the canning class.



The Dipnetter

Yakama • Warm Springs
Umatilla • Nez Perce



Preparing for Winter

The end of the fall 2012 tribal salmon fishery marks the end of another productive and successful year for Columbia River salmon and the Indian fishers who depend on them. The numbers of returning salmon this year is a tribute to the four tribes' hard work. Their efforts to restore salmon in the Columbia River basin and manage the fishery helped make this possible. The tribes never backed down in pressing the state and federal agencies to fulfill their trust responsibilities when they met to coordinate fishing seasons. A number of factors came together this year that the tribes and CRITFC have been working on for many years. This year's fish run and fishing season is proof that the tribes' efforts are seeing results. Of course we still have a long way to go before we can see the kinds of runs that our elders tell us about, but I am confident that it will be the tribes leading the way in the region's efforts to accomplish this long-term goal.

CRITFC Executive Director's Message

Now that the main fishery is over for the year, it's time to begin preparations for the winter with repairing gear and boats, stowing your equipment for the season, and making plans for the spring. CRITFC is also busy preparing for winter, as we are set to begin the second year of a three-year major cleanup of 17 treaty fishing access sites. This winter, we will be working on Three-Mile, Rufus, Roosevelt, Maryhill, White Salmon, and Lyle. The details of this project, along with the closure schedule, are detailed in this issue of the Dipnetter.

So enjoy this time as you prepare for the winter and look forward to getting back on the river in the spring. Next year, when the spring chinook are running, plan on enjoying the benefits of not only your own preparations but also our winter's work.



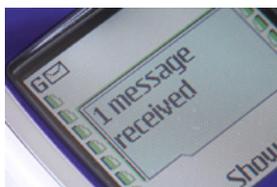
Paul Lumley
YAKAMA



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