CRITFC COMMISSIONER VISITS SMITHSONIAN INDIAN COLLECTION

DIANNE BARTON, CRITFC WATER QUALITY SPECIALIST

During a trip to Washington D.C. with the Portland State University National Policy Process 2013 Seminar, CRITFC commissioner Emerson Squiempfen (WARM SPRINGS) and staff had a chance to visit the Smithsonian Cultural Resources Center in Suitland, Maryland. This center is home to an archive of more than 800,000 catalogued cultural objects and 125,000 photographs that are part of the National Museum of the American Indian. The group spent several hours viewing and photographing drums, fishing gear, clothing, baskets, games, and photographs belonging to the intertribal collections. Smithsonian archivists offered their services to the Commission to compile electronic versions of selected photographic images.

While public tours of the collections are not available, tribal groups are allowed to visit when scheduled in advance. Cultural items contained in the collection can be repatriated to lineal descendants and culturally affiliated tribes.

▲ Squiempfen with several styles of Plateau parflêches.

▼ Squiempfen, who is a drummaker, inspects the techniques used in an old drum. Smithsonian museum specialist Tom Evans looks on.

▲ Squiempfen and CTUIR employee Preston Bronson ride specialized lifts to view the collections.
2013 Fishery Update

Winter fishery
The tribes took action to set a closure date for the winter gillnet fishery in the John Day Pool. The fishery closed at 6pm on February 27. The other pools remain open and commercial sales rules in those pools stay the same for now.

Spring fishery
The pre-season forecast for upriver spring chinook is 141,400 at the Columbia River mouth. Fisheries are managed based on the actual run size and the allowed harvest rate changes depending on the run size. So while if the run came in at forecast, tribal fisheries would be allowed a 9.1% harvest rate which equates to a catch of just under 13,000 fish, the actual total number of fish the tribes can catch depends on the actual run size which won’t be known for a while. As of February 27, three spring chinook have been counted at Bonneville Dam. It is pretty normal for just a couple of fish to have passed Bonneville by this time of year.

Fall forecast
The fall chinook pre-season forecasts have been made. We are predicting an excellent run of Upriver Bright fall chinook but a fairly low run of Spring Creek tule. The steelhead forecasts have not been made yet. Coho numbers should be improved over last year’s returns. The tribes will discuss fall fisheries management later in the summer.

Fishing Site Clean-up Closures
Michael Broncheau, CRITFC fishing site maint. manager
Work is complete at the six sites scheduled for in-depth repairs and clean-up this season. The three-year clean-up effort will conclude next winter after the fishing season has ended. The final sites will be N. Bonneville, Wyeth, Stanley Rock, Dallesport, Pine Creek, Alderdale, and Crow Butte. A complete schedule will be released in the fall to allow users plenty of time to prepare for each site’s temporary closure.

2013 Treaty Commercial Sturgeon Harvest

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pool</th>
<th>Jan Setline</th>
<th>Winter Gillnet</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Guideline</th>
<th>Remaining</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BONN</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>563</td>
<td>578</td>
<td>1,100</td>
<td>522</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DALLES</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>898</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JDAY</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>751</td>
<td>776</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>46</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,410</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,456</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,100</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,644</strong></td>
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Fall Chinook River Mouth Run Sizes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012 Forecast</th>
<th>2012 Actual</th>
<th>2013 Forecast</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bonneville Pool Tules</td>
<td>63,800</td>
<td>56,800</td>
<td>38,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upriver Brights</td>
<td>353,500</td>
<td>298,100</td>
<td>432,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonneville Hatchery Brights</td>
<td>24,600</td>
<td>12,400</td>
<td>35,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pool Upriver Brights*</td>
<td>66,200</td>
<td>46,300</td>
<td>70,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Upriver Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>508,100</strong></td>
<td><strong>413,600</strong></td>
<td><strong>575,700</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*from Zone 6 tributaries

CRITFC Officers and Commissioners

**Umatilla**
- Kathryn Brigham, CRITFC chairwoman
  - James Marsh · Ken Hall
  - Vince Sohappy · Chris Williams
  (541) 276-3165

**Nez Perce**
- Joel Moffett, CRITFC vice-chairman
  - Brooklyn Baptiste · Roberta Bisbee
  - Anthony Johnson · Dan Kane
  - McCoy Oatman · Silas Whitman
  - Gary Dorr · Quintin Ellenwood
  - Erik Holt · Herb Jackson
  - Timothy Wheeler
  (208) 843-2253

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

**Yakama**
- Gerald Lewis, CRITFC treasurer
  - Raymond Colfax · Richard George · Johnny Jackson · Sam Jim Sr
  - Virgil Lewis Sr · Wilbur Stockish Jr
  (509) 865-5121
Citing medical reasons, Davis Washines (Yellowash) has decided to retire in August 2013 as Chief of Police from the Columbia River Fisheries Enforcement Department, a position that he has held since March 8, 2010.

“One of the best things to happen to me in my life is to lead CRITFE, an opportunity and privilege for which I will always be grateful,” said Chief Washines. “I have been fortunate to work with some of the best enforcement people in Indian Country and an honor to serve the tribal fishers and the tribal communities along the Columbia River.”

During his tenure, Chief Washines worked with CRITFC’s leadership to secure new enforcement commissions with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and restore enforcement commissions with the Yakama Nation. The tribal enforcement presence along the Columbia River was improved substantially with the new Bureau of Indian Affairs 638 contract for the in-lieu and treaty fishing access sites. CRITFC was also able to secure resources for a mobile command center.

Paul Lumley, CRITFC’s executive director stated, “Chief Washines was instrumental in the significant improvement in the relationships with tribal, federal and local jurisdictions. He will be missed as the senior officer of CRITFC’s enforcement department.”

Chief Washines has a combined 30 years in law enforcement that spans four decades. He began his career as a dispatcher/jailer for the Yakama Nation in 1973. A year later he was promoted to police officer and was the top graduate of his BIA Basic Police Academy class in 1975. He rose through the ranks, including seven years as a criminal investigator, becoming the Yakama Nation Chief of Police in 1986, a position he held until 1996. A second appointment as Yakama Nation Police Chief came in 2005.

Chief Washines hopes to remain engaged in addressing tribal fishery and justice needs. He stated, “Although I’m retiring as the Chief of Enforcement, I look forward to find ways that I can continue to support and protect the tribes’ treaty fishing rights along the Columbia.”

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**Upcoming Fisher Trainings**

Les Brown, Salmon Marketing Coordinator

CRITFC’s Salmon Marketing program has organized two upcoming trainings that will be covering topics of interest for Indian fishers.

The two-day **HACCP class** orginally set for March 8-9 has been **rescheduled to March 15-16**. The class begins both days at 9am at the CRITFC Enforcement office in Hood River.

A **Canning and Fish Drying class** will take place on April 3 at the Lyle Lions Club Community Center kitchen. The class begins at 9am.

Please register for these classes in advance. There is limited spaces so register early by texting or calling Les Brown at (503) 799-8640.
Sovereignty & Tribal Fisheries Enforcement

Sovereignty consists of two parts: 1) the ability to make rules and laws and 2) the ability to enforce those rules and laws. If either of those is reduced or lacking, the sovereignty of that nation is somewhat diminished. This is why it was so important for the tribal leaders of the four tribes to establish CRITFC Enforcement back in 1980. By exerting the right to enforce their own laws, the tribes not only demonstrated their own sovereignty, they indicated to state enforcement agencies that the tribes were capable of and willing to police themselves. In the 33 years since CRITFC Enforcement was created, the tribes have shown that they are not only interested in protecting their natural resources, they are interested in protecting their sovereignty. Without enforcement on the river, state enforcement presence would increase dramatically.

When CRITFC was founded 36 years ago, it was with the idea of not only protecting and restoring the salmon, but also protecting the tribal treaty right to harvest and manage that important natural resource. Back in 1977, those leaders from the four member tribes saw the power in combining their efforts, and in the years that followed, their wisdom has benefitted the tribes well.

Going back to the CRITFC records from the 1970s, the topic of tribal sovereignty comes up time and again. Those leaders knew, as the tribal leaders do today, that sovereignty is the key to tribal self-determination and the preservation of tribal culture. I am so thankful for the leadership of the tribes. It is an honor for me and all the staff at CRITFC to serve the four Columbia River treaty tribes in their efforts to protect salmon and treaty fishing rights.

Paul Lumley
Yakama

Text “critfc” to the number 55958 to start getting fishery announcements on your cell phone.

It’s free!