

The Dipnetter

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



March 2013

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 Squiemphen (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. ◀



▲ Squiemphen with several styles of Plateau parflèches.

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



◀ Squiemphen and CTUIR employee Preston Bronson ride specialized lifts to view the collections.

2013 Fishery Update

NICOLE CHARLEY, CRITFC FISH MGMT. DEPT.

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 tules. 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. 🐟

2013 TREATY COMMERCIAL STURGEON HARVEST

Pool	Jan Setline	Winter Gillnet	Total	Guideline	Remaining
BONN	15	563	578	1,100	522
DALLES	6	96	102	1,000	898
JDAY	25	751	776	1,000	224
Total	46	1,410	1,456	3,100	1,644

FALL CHINOOK RIVER MOUTH RUN SIZES

	2012		2013
	Forecast	Actual	Forecast
Bonneville Pool Tules	63,800	56,800	38,000
Upriver Brights	353,500	298,100	432,500
Bonneville Hatchery Brights	24,600	12,400	35,200
Pool Upriver Brights*	66,200	46,300	70,000
Upriver Total	508,100	413,600	575,700

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. 🐟

*from Zone 6 tributaries

CRITFC Officers and Commissioners

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YAKAMA



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CRITFC Enforcement Chief Davis Washines to Retire in August

SARA THOMPSON, CRITFC PUBLIC INFORMATION

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.” 🐟

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** originally 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. 🐟



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Yakama • Warm Springs
Umatilla • Nez Perce



CRITFC Executive Director's Message

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



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