

Spilyay Tymoo

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Organization to begin reopening

Tribal Council on Tuesday voted 5-4 to begin the reopening of tribal organization starting this coming Monday, June 8. Next week will be the first phase of the four-phase reopening, with 25-percent of employees returning over each successive week.

The Covid-19 Response team had recommended a delay of one more week, to June 15. A majority of the Council members, though, felt it is time on June 8 to begin the reopening.

As the employees return there will be new precautions such as more cleaning supplies and hand sanitizers, thermometers, plexi-glass windows when appropriate, and in time additional precautions.

Over the weeks, as more employees return to work, there will be a need for additional cleaning supplies. Meanwhile, "I think we have enough now to open on June 8," said Caroline Cruz, Response team member and general manager of Health and Human Services.

The Response team had recommended the additional week of closure after last week and weekend that saw 18 new positive test results in the community. Ten of these were among members of the same family.

As these cases were reported, the Community Health Team and Clinic conducted the social tracing and additional testing. As of Tuesday of this week, the news was good with no new positive tests besides the 13.

Further update

To now the Warm Springs Health and Wellness Center had administered 515 total Covid-19 tests. As of earlier this week, there were a total of 462 negative results; 15 pending. Over the past several weeks, there have been 35 total positive cases, with 17 people now recovered. The 18 most recent happened over the past 10 days or so.

"We continue to do random surveillance testing of our high-risk community members," said Hyllis Dauphinais, clinic chief executive officer. "We will begin a broader surveillance of the tribal employees, as staff begin to return to work in the coming weeks."

The Warm Springs Tribal Council and Covid-19 Response team firmly recommend:

"Our community members who have tested positive, please stay home and quarantine to protect our community from further spread.

"Many may not feel sick or have symptoms, but after testing positive, it is of the utmost importance that you quarantine for 14 days to prevent further spread of the virus."

Meanwhile, Tribal Council would like to congratulate those that have made it through the 12 years for education, to graduate high school. College graduates should be acknowledged too. *Please celebrate safely.*

Indian Head Casino reopening June 11

The Confederated Tribes announced Tuesday that Indian Head Casino will reopen at 10 a.m. on Thursday, June 11.

"We are very excited to open and with the amount of phone calls we receive on a daily basis from our guests, we know they are looking forward to our opening too," said Belinda Chavez, Director of Marketing for Indian Head Gaming.

"We are committed to following the Centers for Disease Control's guidelines, and we have implemented safety and sanitation measures in addition to limiting our occupancy to 250 total guests," said Chavez.



A few things you should keep in mind before you head over to Indian Head Casino:

The casino will open with new operating hours of 10 a.m. to 2 a.m.

All guests will be required to enter the casino thru the doors on the east side of the building, which is the entrance to Cottonwood

Restaurant. Face masks will be required for all guests and employees, as well as a touchless temperature check before entering the building.

Once you are on the casino floor you will notice a few small changes: At least initially, the entire property at Indian Head Casino will be non-smoking.

Plexiglass shields and social distancing markers have been installed in high traffic areas such as the Players Club, cashier booths and the check-out counter at the Tule Grill.

In addition to new cleaning procedures, Indian Head will provide multiple hand sanitizing stations on

the casino floor. The slot machines will be open and ready for play from the moment the doors open. Table games, however, will open on a later date.

All restaurants at Indian Head Casino will be open for take-out, and the Cottonwood Restaurant will offer curbside delivery.

Indian Head Casino voluntarily closed on March 18 in response to the Covid-19 pandemic and continued to stay closed for nearly three months.

Indian Head Casino is owned and operated by the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. Learn more about the casino at: indianheadcasino.com/

The hard choice to cancel traditional events

Every spring, inside the Celilo Longhouse at Celilo Village on the edge of the Columbia River, traditional elders, food gatherers, and members of the public prepare to feast on the first Chinook salmon of the season. Ahead of the annual celebration, the sound of traditional songs and drums fills the air, as celebrants roast fish over open fires.

This year, despite the Covid-19 pandemic, the village decided to hold the First Salmon Feast, while limiting attendance to reduce the public health risk. Several people who attended the feast on April 13 later tested positive for Covid-19, including Celilo Village leader Bobby Begay, although it wasn't confirmed that any of these people had contracted the virus at the longhouse event.

Less than two weeks later, Begay, 51, died from complications due to the virus. A leading fish technician for the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, Mr. Begay had a reputation as an effective advocate for cultural and environmental

protection. Friends and colleagues described him as a force of nature: upbeat, welcoming, and keen to build bridges between Native American communities and outsiders.

The tragedy of this year's feast brings into focus the terrible choices tribal communities everywhere are now facing. On one hand, canceling events may save lives and is necessary in the fight against a pandemic that has already devastated lives and livelihoods across the globe. Yet, for many Native American communities, such gatherings are critical; they reinforce a sense of cohesion and identity.

Some Native Americans fear that ceasing these practices could even jeopardize treaty-protected rights.

Wilson Wewa, a 64-year-old Tribal Council member of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs and Northern Paiute spiritual leader, recalled how his grandfather and other tribal elders used to say that 'all it will take is the stroke of a pen to take away our reservation, and then we're going to be just like white people.'



Courtesy CRITFC

Before his passing, the late Bobby Begay harvesting eels.

No Good Options

The First Salmon Feast holds tremendous cultural significance for the Native Americans who call the Columbia River home. Hosted near the former site of Celilo Falls, the feast draws hundreds of visitors each spring, who come to enjoy music, food, and the ancient custom of honoring the fish that are so central to Native American heritage in this area of the Pacific Northwest.

Four years ago Se-ah-dom

Edmo, 43, attended the feast. During the gathering that spring, she was so moved by the message of ritual and togetherness that she came away from the event inspired to leave her job, which had become less and less satisfying. "It was only because I was there [at the feast] that I was able to get to that place, hear those things, and make them real in my life," she said.

Please see **EVENTS** on 5

Census outreach on the reservation

Back in mid March the Confederated Tribes kicked off the 2020 Census count. Tribal member George Aguilar, in fact, filed the very first Census in the state of Oregon, a request made by the U.S. Census Bureau.

At the time of the kick-off event, the coronavirus was just beginning to make major headlines. Social distancing was something new. The tribal organization was still open, as Council had not yet declared the pandemic emergency.

The start of the Census on the reservation was important, as tribal under-counting has been a problem. This has led



to loss revenue: Census data directly impacts how the federal government allocates more than \$675 billion every year for programs and services vital for tribal communities. These include Medicaid, social services, housing, public safety, veterans services, emergency preparedness, education, school

lunches and more.

According to a report this spring: Native Americans are the most undercounted group on the U.S. Census.

Understandably, the pandemic has made the Census even more of a challenge for the tribes, as the outreach has been more difficult. At a recent count, fewer than 20 percent of the membership had filed their Census information. The National Congress of American Indians has said the pandemic has made the Census difficult across Indian Country.

This week the Census enumerators again began distributing information at residences on the Warm

Springs Reservation. And there are incentives for filing your Census information.

The Complete Count Committee is creating these incentives to encourage people to participate in the Census. There are t-shirts and other gifts for those who filed. Volunteers like Jaylyn Suppah and Sue Matters are helping coordinate the community outreach.

The Census is a series of questions such as your age and date of birth, your race, and sex. There are questions about the number of people in the household, and the relationship to the person answering the Census question.

Please see **CENSUS** on 6

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Additional hydro ownership

Tribal Council approved a recommendation from Warm Springs Power and Water Enterprises that the tribes acquire an additional ownership interest in the Pelton-Round Butte hydro facilities.

The purchase will bring the tribal ownership to 49.9 percent, in partnership with Portland General Electric.

The recommendation and Council decision were based on the forecast for energy prices, which indicate the additional ownership interest will be worth the cost of purchase, said Jim Manion, Power and Water general



manager.

Pelton-Round Butte is the largest hydroelectric project within the state of Oregon. PGE built Pelton and the re-regulating dams in the mid 1950s, and Round Butte in 1964.

In 2001 the tribes entered the Global Settlement Agreement with PGE to form the joint ownership of the hydro

project, with the tribes retaining 100-percent ownership of the re-regulating dam.

The settlement agreement was the means for long-term relicensing of the facilities with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Since 2001 the tribes have exercised options to purchase greater ownership interests in the facilities, and approval of the latest increment the tribes own the 49.9 percent share. Fish passage above of the dams has been a priority of the operation since the 2001 agreement.

Schoolie, Agency water systems

Schoolie Flat residents last week and early this week continued without running water, as repairs were being made to pumps for the reservoir.

Portable toilets and showers were in place, and drinking water was available at the S-300 road.

Public Utilities was pulling out the failed pump motor to take it for repairs as a temporary solution.

If all went well, the hope was to have water running again this week.

The long term solution is to install two new pumps with new motors and upgrade the electrical system.

Agency water issue

Utilities was also reporting issues with the Agency wastewater system due to very low flows.

With the closure of the Warm Springs Academy and most tribal Offices, low flows were causing the wastewater system to not function properly.

Biological supplements were being obtained to make up for the issues that have arisen from low flows. If you would like more information you can reach Warm Springs Utilities at 541-553-3246.



Jayson Smith/Spilyay



In May, health workers and community members gather by the clinic to watch the Oregon National Guard F-15 fly-over. The health workers carried a message of safety: *Mask Up - Save Lives*. The health worker appreciation fly-over was a joint effort by Oregon's 173rd Fighter Wing in Klamath Falls, and 142nd Wing at the Portland International Airport.

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By order of the Twenty-Eighth Tribal Council of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, the following provisions still apply on the reservation:

All citizens on the reservation are to wear a face covering mask while in public places, where social distancing of six feet or greater cannot be maintained.

Following a test result of negative or positive, all citizens of the reservation and employees working within the boundaries are to self-isolate and quarantine as directed by healthcare professionals. Essential employees and first-responders who have tested with a negative result will have additional guidance about returning to work.

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Graduation ceremony June 13

The 200 seniors of the Madras High School and Bridges High School graduating classes will take the stage in a non-traditional fashion on Saturday, June 13 at the high school. The graduates will be broken into eight groups, in alphabetical order. Beginning at 9 a.m., each group will have a designated time to arrive.

To maximize the number of supporters for our graduates, the graduation ceremony will be conducted in a drive-up fashion. Each graduate is allowed one vehicle, passenger car or pickup,

to attend the graduation ceremony.

To that extent, they are able to bring as many family and friends as can ride along with them in their one vehicle. The school district is continuing to examine ways for additional viewing by extended family.

The school district hopes that graduates and their supporters will take pride in appropriately decorating their graduation transportation.

“This was the safest way to enable seniors to walk across the stage while also having their loved ones witness this special event with them,” said Brian Crook, Madras High School princi-

pal.

Graduates will receive their diploma on stage where a professional videographer and photographer will be capturing the event. Each graduate will also have their photo taken at the MHS White Buffalo prior to leaving the ceremony.

While all commencement speeches and performances will be pre-recorded, Madras High School would like to recognize this year’s graduation ceremony speakers:

Madras High School Principal Brian Crook; Madras High School Vice Principal Mark Stewart; Bridges

High School Principal Jay Weeks; Madras High School staff speaker Melissa Wheeler, 2019-20 Valedictorian; Kelsey Olivera 2019-20, Salutatorian; Kelly Huang and Emily Plant.

As a result of Covid-19 and current social distancing requirements, this year’s graduation ceremony will not be open to the general public.

After the event, the school district will have the complete ceremony available electronically for community members to enjoy. As more information and details develop, it will be provided.

Housing help for seniors

The Warm Springs Housing Authority has received funding for privately owned housing senior home emergency repairs.

Each home owner can receive a one-time emergency home repair not to exceed \$3,000.

Applications will be accepted from through June 30. Applications can be picked up at Housing, or emailed by request.

Each application must be fully completed, including all income verifications and returned to the Warm Springs Housing Authority no later than June 30.

This is limited funding, so only the completed applications will be screened and prioritized for health and safety issues.

The Native vote 2020

The National Congress of American Indians Native Vote effort held a ‘Virtual Rally’ to kick off voter registration drives and citizen engagement in the voting process, across Indian Country.

Mark Trahant of *Trahant Reports* was one of the participants, commenting as follows:

It is really extraordinary to be having an election during a pandemic and the stakes couldn’t be higher.

Two years ago was one of the most remarkable elections in history. Native Americans elected the first two Native women to congress, the first Native won as a state lieutenant governor, and dozens of candidates elected to state and local offices, the most ever.

Two years ago there were nine Native candidates for Congress, this year at present there are 13 candidates running for the House and three more for the United States Senate.

There are more than 70 Native candidates running for state legislatures, county commissions and city councils.

You can register to vote online.

Traffic enforcement on the reservation

The Warm Springs Tribal Police Department would like to advise the public that over the last few months, due to the Covid-19 outbreak, law enforcement has been re-tasked to handle demands placed on it by the pandemic and stay at home orders.

However, as the stay at home orders are lifting in some areas, we are once again patrolling the reserva-

tion for traditional violations, including traffic.

In general, the public should be congratulated for their observance of traffic laws and rules of the road during this time.

But as the level of traffic has been increasing, law enforcement has been receiving an increasing number of citizen complaints concerning people blatantly

exceeding the speed limit, and driving in a reckless manner on Highway 26 as it crosses the Warm Springs Reservation.

These types of actions create a public safety concern for the citizens of the reservation, and so the the Police Department will be increasing its presence on the roadways traversing the reservation, and issuing ci-

tations to offenders.

In addition, the public is advised that the closures, and other restrictions to access that were put in place as part of the tribal and state emergency declarations are still in effect, and those found in violation will be cited for criminal trespass.

William Elliott, Warm Springs Chief Of Police.

Fire season begins with added precautions

This week marks the beginning of the 2020 fire season. So far this season there has been only one small wild land fire on the reservation, an acre in size, caused by lightening over the weekend.

The projection at this point is for a hot and dry summer, meaning the risk of wild land fire is elevated.

This season will see changes in the way crews respond to fire events, as there is the added hazard of the Covid-19 virus. The job of fire fighting can be dangerous, and the virus is an added challenge that the fire professionals must contend with.

One measure that fire crews can use is to limit the



number of personnel in the fire vehicle, while other crew members can follow in separate vehicles. This will be an added cost; however, safety is the priority.

Fire camps generally include many people in a close area; so social distancing, hand washing and health monitoring will be more important than ever.

Warm Springs Fire Management, like other tribal, federal and state agencies, has been planning since March on Covid-19 prevention.

An added complication is that Warm Springs fire fighters often travel out of the area to assist other agencies; and outside crews can arrive and assist during an incident on the reservation.

Jurisdictions have different regulations regarding the coronavirus. Coordinating among the agencies, out-of-state and locally, will be a challenge.

As fire season begins this week, the public is asked to be especially careful about accidental fires, as the crews are at an added health risk.



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Letters to the editor

Birth
ArVonius Daniel Smith
ArVonius Ke-Shone Smith and Shannon Rae Wilson of Warm Springs are pleased to announce the birth of their son ArVonius Daniel Smith, born on May 8, 2020.

ArVonius joins brother Osius, 3; and sister Jennius, 2.
Grandparents on the father’s side are Chris Webb and Jennifer Smith.
Grandparents on the mother’s side are Jeannie Brisbois and Sherman Wilson.

From CRITFC

The Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission would like to thank you for your understanding and patience as we all work to respond to the constantly evolving Covid-19 pandemic. While our first priority is the safety of our employees and the tribal communities we serve, we are firmly committed to fulfilling our mission and responsibilities to our member tribes with the least amount of disruption possible.

We have particularly focused on being able to safely continue our public health and safety responsibilities that our CRITFC Enforcement and Fishing Site Maintenance teams provide.

All our offices are now closed to all visitors, with only limited access by essential staff to maintain critical functions and operations. All other employees are under mandatory telework. Many are working flexible hours to balance their family and personal needs resulting from this unprecedented situation. Reach out to them as you normally would, but please be patient if response time is delayed.

You can help us navigate these extraordinary circumstances in several ways:

- Please send requests or other communications to us electronically as you would normally. You can find employee emails and office phone numbers in CRITFC’s online staff directory (critfc.org). Some staff are forwarding their office phones or leaving alternate contact numbers in their outgoing voicemail message or at the end of their emails.
- With this limited capacity, we are prioritizing our resources at this time. Please advise us as to the urgency

and significance of your requests and specify any important timeframes or deadlines so that we can do our best to respond accordingly.

• All CRITFC travel has been halted. We will be conducting the monthly Commission meetings by teleconference for the duration of this situation. All in-person meetings will be by teleconference or phone or postponed.

We are committed to upholding our mission amidst the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic and to continuing the important work we have underway with our many partners.

We are confident that we can do so through continued communications, coordination, and collaboration with you and others.

Please stay healthy, safe, and in touch.
Jaime Pinkham, CRIFC executive director

Home gardens

Interest in home gardening has skyrocketed during the Covid-19 pandemic. In response, the Food Hero team at Oregon State University Extension Service is offering a unique opportunity to grow vegetables and fruits at home.

Anyone can join using their own seeds, but the first 3,000 who sign up will be mailed a free packet of vegetable and fruit seeds with four varieties like tomatoes, carrots, melons, strawberries and herbs.

Register for the challenge on the website or on the Food Hero Facebook page, where anyone can view weekly Facebook Live gardening segments Tuesdays at noon. Questions will be answered by AmeriCorps volunteer Halie Cousineau, a seasoned gardener who has starred in 12 gardening videos that are posted on the website.

With thanks and appreciation



Courtesy Louie Pitt/CTWS Governmental Affairs

The Warm Springs Clinic staff has been hard at work for months now, helping the community to keep the Covid-19 at bay here on the reservation.

The National Guard fly over in May, community appreciation and lunch for the healthcare workers was a wonderful expression of thanks and appreciation for the tireless working being done during this Covid-19

pandemic. Tribal Council members, the Secretary-Treasurer and several general managers pitched in to provide the healthcare workers with lunch.

Pizza, soda and cake were served, with all the precautions of social distancing, good hand hygiene and face covering required.
The Warm Springs Clinic staff

Employment numbers show impact on Central Oregon

With the release last week of the official April 2020 employment and unemployment estimates, we get our first glimpse of the substantial impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on the local economy.

Monthly employment losses were unprecedented, with the share of jobs lost in Central Oregon higher than the state.

For some context: These employment and unemployment estimates are a reflection of the labor market in mid-April, as the Covid-19 shut-down was a month under way.

Based on trends in unemployment insurance claim filings, job losses continued through the remainder of April and into May.

Despite the dramatic rise in the unemployment rate, the Oregon Employment Department has said we have not reached the peak. Expect the unemployment situation to continue to worsen when the May figures are released on June 23.

As of the most recent employment release date, May 27, the April seasonally adjusted unemployment rates are not available for counties, due to processing delays caused by large increases in unemployment.

Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates are not being used for this release: In shot, these numbers reflect April’s increase in un-

employment related to the Covid-19 pandemic. (Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates for April will be available at a later date.)

Jefferson County: The non-seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 14.3 percent in April, up from 5.4 percent in March.

Jefferson County’s rate was notably lower than either Deschutes or Crook counties, and more consistent with what we saw nationally—14.4 percent.

In Jefferson County the number of unemployed workers rose to 1,409, up from 532 in March.

Job losses in Jefferson County businesses were more consistent with the rest of Central Oregon with employment down 13 percent from March—a loss of 840 jobs.

As with most counties the largest losses were in leisure and hospitality—down by 240 jobs.

There were also notable losses in local government,

as well as manufacturing.

Crook County: The non-seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose to 18.6 percent in April, up from 5.7 percent in March. The rate was the fifth highest of Oregon’s 36 counties.

The number of unemployed workers skyrocketed to 1,811, an increase of 230 percent from March.

Deschutes County: The non-seasonally ad-

justed unemployment rate rose to 18.2 percent in April, a dramatic rise from 4.0 percent in March. The unemployment rate in April represents the highest rate in the series going back to 1990.

The April unemployment rate was the highest of Oregon’s metropolitan areas. There were around 17,550 unemployed workers in April, up from only 3,800 in March. Deschutes County shed 13,260 total nonfarm jobs in April, down 15.4 percent from March.

Storm a-brewin’



Edward Heath caught this image of the weekend storm that blew through Central Oregon.

Census statement on 2020 operations on reservations

The U.S Census Bureau is committed to a complete and accurate count of the American Indian population, wherever they live.

The population is diverse and geographically dispersed across the country.

While most do not live on designated tribal lands or reservations, those who do are among groups historically undercounted in the census.

For years, the Census Bureau has been working closely with tribal governments to change this—and make sure everyone counts in the 2020 Census.

As part of this effort, census takers are set to go household to household and drop

off census materials at front doors in tribal communities.

This operation, dubbed *Update Leave*, promises to up the count by allowing us to confirm each household’s physical location and provide a special Census ID number in materials tied to that location. Due to Covid-19, we delayed *Update Leave* to protect the health and safety of our staff and tribal communities.

We made the move knowing we could still achieve a complete and accurate count—and are working closely with tribal leaders to determine the right time to resume this important operation.

Currently, we are doing a phased re-opening in areas where it is safe to do so.

We understand there are many questions about how to participate in the 2020 Census. The *Update Leave* operation generally affects rural households that use post office boxes to receive regular mail or lack traditional mailing addresses.

Most urban households use physical street addresses for mail delivery, so we mailed invitations and reminders with instructions on how to respond to the census.

As a result, many Native people who live outside designated tribal lands have al-

ready received census invitations with a Census ID linked to their specific address. Using a Census ID when completing the census helps us get an accurate count and avoids the need for follow-up by a census worker to confirm household information.

We continue to encourage any household with a Census ID to respond online at **2020census.gov**, by phone or by mail and look forward to being back in tribal communities when it is safe to do so. We are committed to working together to shape our future.

U.S. Census Bureau

Spilyay Tymoo
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Tribes join zebra mussel response planning team

The scenario: A person from out of town launches a boat in Lake Billy Chinook: Meanwhile, no one is yet aware that the boat is contaminated with the tiny shell-fish called zebra mussels.

From the out-of-town boat some of zebra mussels escape into Lake Billy Chinook. If this situation goes undetected for a period of time, the consequences could be devastating to native aquatic species, and beyond.... Quick and effective response, on the other hand, could avoid disaster.

The problem: This scenario is not far-fetched: Many waterways in the United States have been infested with zebra mussels, killing the native species, infesting hydro piping, and costing hundreds of millions of dollars.

The Confederated Tribes’ Branch of Natural Resources is part of a team that is studying how best to respond to a potential invasion

of the quagga, or zebra mussel in the Columbia River basin.

The mussel is native to the Caspian Sea in Asia. About 30 years ago they entered the Great Lakes through ballast water of a transatlantic vessel: Within a decade the mussels had colonized the river basins of the Great Lakes.

In order for a zebra mussel to live, it must attach itself to a hard object. This includes things like things like rocks, logs, boats and hydro equipment. They also attach themselves to native species: In other states native mollusk species are at risk of becoming extinct or endangered because of zebra mussels.

Tribal Natural Resources is part of a zebra mussel rapid response team that also includes local, state and federal natural resources agencies. In May the team conducted a table-top exercise involving a theoretical

scenario of a boat launch in Lake Billy Chinook:

In the scenario the boat is contaminated with mussels picked up from a lake in Arizona. Once in Lake Billy Chinook, the boat is moored for 10 hours before the mussels are detected.

This is a risk to native species in the lake, such as crayfish; to other boats, and potentially to the tribes-PGE Pelton-Round Butte hydro facilities. Quick detection and containment could avoid a worst-case scenario. In the response team exercise last month, the partners looked at options such as closure of facilities at the lake, law enforcement participation, and mandatory boat inspections and decontaminations.

The exercise helped with identifying potential response problems, such as with effective response communication among agencies, response time, and coordination of the containment.

The threat to hydropower infrastructure is huge. Pipes and pumps of would be subject to fouling by the encrusting mussels. The Great Lakes region spends an estimated \$500 million a year scrubbing them from docks, pipes and intakes. If the species reaches the Columbia, the cost to hydroelectric facilities alone could run from \$250 million to \$300 million a year, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has warned.

Zebra mussels are small: A square meter can be covered with up 70,000 of the mussels. A single mussel can produce up to a million eggs in a year.

The threat is significant: According to a 2018 report, Michigan spends \$500 million a year cleaning docks, pipes and intakes.

Joining the tribe in the exercise were the Oregon State Marine Board, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, the state Department of Agriculture, Parks and Recreation, the Department of Environmental Quality,

PGE, the Invasive Species Action Network, and the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission.

The team has studied the response measures that other states have taken.

For now mandatory boat inspection stations in Oregon are the first line of defense, but most are only open seasonally during daytime hours.

At Lake Billy Chinook there are specific precautions taken at boat launch areas to avoid zebra mussel contamination.

— Dave McMechan

Guided fishing permits approval

Tribal Council last week approved a recommendation from the On-Reservation Fish and Wildlife Committee to re-open fishing by permit for non-tribal members.

The areas re-opening are at Lake Simtustus, the Metolious Arm of Lake Billy Chinook, the Deschutes River from Dry Creek to the Wasco County border near Trout Creek and the High Lakes.

Fishing license vendors have been notified, and on-line sales of permits are available at the present time. Fisheries is still working on removing the shutdown notice from the website but sales began late in the afternoon on May 26.

Summary

Lands identified on the map are open, and areas 1 through 4 are open for fish-

ing.

Area 1: High Lakes. Area 2: Deschutes River. Area 3: Lake Simtustus. Area 4: Metolius Arm of Lake Billy Chinook, Harpham Flats and Sandy Beach boat launches and Sherars Falls.

Tribal guides are allowed to resume guiding per their permits and requirements by Tribal Council. Tribal guides must follow all guidelines in their permits. Guidelines include:

-Using procedures to reduce the spread of the Covid virus.

-No Camping at tribal camp grounds. Areas will be day use only until further notice.

-All these areas are still open to tribal members for fishing and camping.

Motion at Council:

The On-Reservation Fish and Wildlife Committee rec-

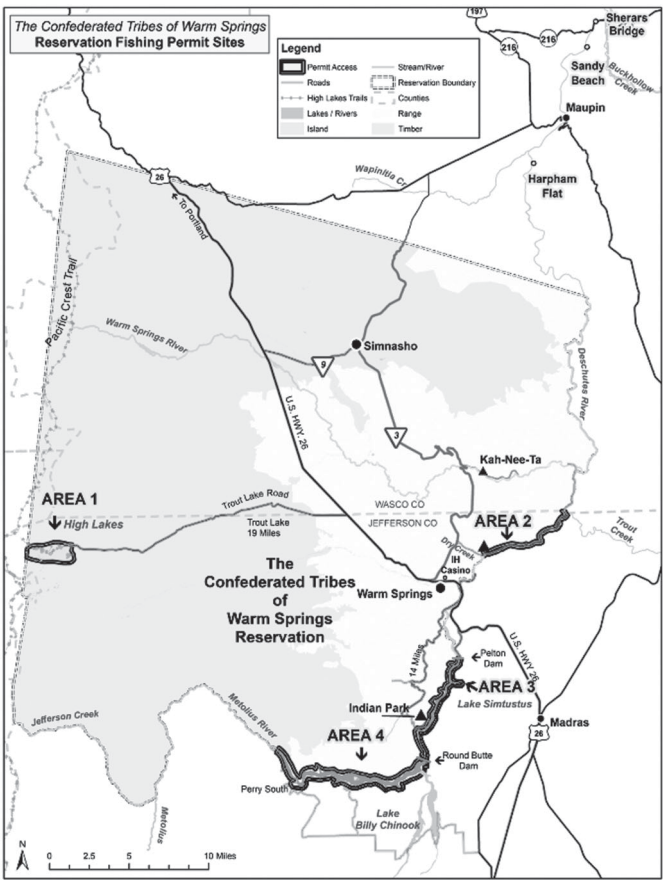
ommends to Tribal Council to re-open fishing, guiding and boating to non-members in waters within and surrounding the reservation.

The Committee believes this should be consistent with Tribal Council’s plans for re-opening the tribal government and the reservation in general. In addition, tribal fishing guides can resume guide activities with the following requirements:

1. Guides must conduct guide activities to reduce the spread of the coronavirus to themselves, clients and the Warm Springs community.

2. Guides must provide or require clients to provide hand sanitizer, masks and disinfecting wipes and use them to prevent the spread of the virus.

3. Guides must not use local businesses for food and supplies, including bringing clients onto roads marked



Areas opening for guided fishing permit access

‘Local Traffic Only’, except the specific roads necessary to access fishing locations on the Deschutes River

from the Warm Springs boat ramp to the northern boundary of the reservation.



#WeCountOregon’s Census & Sovereignty Virtual Live event, June 9 from noon-1 p.m., celebrates the vibrancy and history of the Native peoples of Oregon. This event will be MC’d by Delson Suppah and broadcast on Warm Springs KWSO radio. The event will open with a moving song and drumming by Brian Krebbiel. We’ll hear from Willa Powless from the Klamath Tribe Council, Rep.Tawna Sanchez, William Miller from Naya Family Center, Jim Tucker, Vice-Chair of the National Advisory Committee to the Census Bureau, and Nicole Adams among other Native voices connecting the census with our sovereignty. We’ll laugh with the brilliant Ryan Redcorn from the 1491’s and talk about Indigenizing the census!

Registration here: <https://tinyurl.com/y7jhnw9l>

State addressing Oregon unemployment claims backlog

Many who lost their jobs during the Covid-19 pandemic have been waiting on their unemployment benefits. It’s a problem seen to varying degrees in many states around the country.

Last week, the Oregon

Employment Department, amid growing pressure, launched a new multi-faceted effort, “Project Focus 100,” to clear the 38,000-claim backlog.

Damon Runberg, the agency’s regional econo-

mist, said part of the project’s goal is to improve service by modernizing the technology and database software used to process claims.

He said the software was meant to be updated ear-

lier this year, but the update came too late for the Covid-19 crisis.

Runberg said 91 percent of all claims filed since March 15 have been processed. He said the other 9 percent of claims may be

taking longer to process due to their complexity. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reports Oregon’s unemployment rate jumped to 14.2 percent last month, the highest on record. In March, it was just 3.5 percent.

Census —

(Continued from page 1)

The easiest way to complete the 2020 Census during the Covid-19 pandemic is to do it online. Got to: my2020census.gov/login

If you don’t have your 12-digit census identification, just click on the option below the ‘Login’ button that says: “If you do not have a Census ID, click here.”

If you don’t have the ability to do the census online, you can do the questionnaire by phone.

The 2020 Census will ask a few simple questions about you and everyone who was living with you on April 1 of this year. Call 844-330-2020 and follow the prompts.

When you get to talk to a person, let them know you get your mail at a post office box, and you do not have a census ID. You can call in your 2020 census information everyday from 4 a.m. to 11 p.m. Pacific Time.

CRITFC position

The Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission is advertising for the following position:

Administrative Specialist - CRITFC Law Enforcement Division. Full-time, regular, non-exempt. \$42,745 to \$47,180. Location: Hood River. Closing date to apply is July 1.

Primary Responsibility: The Administrative Specialist is responsible for maintaining department purchasing records. Keeps immediate supervisor informed of administrative related matters as they affect the agency. Assists the Chief and the Captain as necessary in the fulfillment of their various administrative duties.

Experience: Two years of general clerical experience, with proficiency in typing, word processing, or other experience generating documents; OR an Associate’s degree in Office Occupations or Office Technology; OR Graduation from a private school of business with a Certificate in Office Occupations or Office Technology, plus one year of general clerical experience. Apply to:

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission - Attn: Human Resources. 700 N.E. Multnomah Street, Suite #1200 - Portland, OR 97232. Phone: 503-238-0667. Email: hr@critfc.org

For additional details, you may also contact the HR department in Portland, 503-238-0667, or the Captain at the law enforcement office in Hood River, phone number 541-386-6363

Our tomorrow is now.



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It is time for the 2020 Census and we need to participate now. Our children are counting on us as it helps shape the future of our communities. Census data is used for programs and grants that are important for all American Indians and Alaska Natives.

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2020CENSUS.GOV

Paid for by U.S. Census Bureau

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2012 Chevy Sonic - 105,826 miles - \$5,936 #41275A		2012 Nissan Altima - 105,956 miles - \$8,995 #27591A	
2014 Chrysler Sebring - 68,549 miles - \$5,995 #35065W		2013 Nissan Versa - 114,169 miles - \$7,995 #16158C	
2015 Jeep Renegade - 63,944 miles - \$16,995 #93295B		2015 Audi A7- miles - 57,568 \$28,995 #64236A	
2016 Buick Verano - 111,796 miles - \$12,995 #53768A		2016 Toyota Tacoma - 36,207 miles - \$31,995 #16903A	
2018 Honda Accord - 24,988 miles - \$24,995 #73277B		2017 Chevy Cruz - 52,939 miles - \$15,995 #33757A	

Many on the reservation saw and heard the F-15 health workers salute flyover in May. The Oregon National Guard jets flew over the Warm Springs Clinic on their way from St. Charles in Bend and Madras, before heading back to their base in Portland.

In May the jets flew over dozens of hospitals across the state. This was a joint effort by Oregon's 173rd Fighter Wing in Klamath Falls, and 142nd Wing at the Portland International Airport.

Cheryl Taylor photo/courtesy

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