



CHIEF JOSEPH HATCHERY

In April, hatchery staff released yearlings (from brood year 2018) and sub-yearlings (from brood year 2019) from CJH and from the acclimation ponds in Omak and Riverside, Washington. Staff began marking fish in March and will continue to do so until the end of July. Spring chinook broodstock collection began in May, and staff will continue to monitor and care for the fish fry and broodstock on station. When fry reach their optimal marking size, usually around five grams, they are run through the marking trailer to have a coded wire tag inserted into their snout or their adipose fin clipped or both.

“As of June 10, a total of 1,619,608 fish were tagged and/or clipped,” said CJH Manager Matt McDaniel. “The program that fish belongs to will determine what mark they receive. All fish leaving CJH or associated accli-

mation ponds will be run through the marking trailer to be marked in some way.”

Staff started collecting spring chinook broodstock on May 18. Their goal is to collect 640 adult fish. As of June 10, there were 222 females, 173 males, and 2 jacks onsite.

“We’ll start collecting our summer chinook broodstock beginning July 8 with the goal of 552 hatchery origin broodstock and 656 natural origin broodstock,” said McDaniel.

This summer, staff will collect summer chinook broodstock, monitor broodstock on station, and finish clipping and tagging the remaining fry. Caring for the fry includes: feeding, sampling (measurements/weights), monitoring health, vacuuming ponds, and drug administration.



Fish released from CJH:

- Segregated Spring Chinook BY18 Yearlings – 102,702
- Segregated Summer Chinook BY18 Yearlings – 189,967
- Segregated Summer Chinook BY19 Sub-Yearlings – 396,433

Fish released from ponds:

- Integrated Summer Chinook BY18 Yearlings from Omak – 112,147
- Integrated Summer Chinook BY19 Sub-Yearlings from Omak – 169,344
- Spring Chinook (10j) BY18 Yearlings from Riverside – 17,315

Fish fry on station:

- Segregated Spring Chinook BY19 Yearlings – 809,713
- Segregated Summer Chinook BY19 Yearlings – 589,941
- Integrated Summer Chinook BY19 Yearlings – 760,880
- Spring Chinook (10j) BY19 Yearlings – 237,891

Employees of the Month - March: Rahnee Jane, April: Leo Amundson and Virgil Michel

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE PROJECT PARTNERS



For Additional Information Contact:

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE COLVILLE RESERVATION

Michelle Campobasso,
Public Relations Specialist
1 Colville Street PO Box 150
Nespelem, WA 99155
michelle.campobasso@colvilletribes.com

For more information go to
<https://www.cct-fnw.com> or our
Facebook page at CCT F&W.

BE BEAR AWARE OUT THERE



People have encounters with animals every day, even in their own back yards, but some are not as intimidating as a bear! Bears are resourceful and curious creatures. They can travel over 15 miles a day, be known to run as fast as 30 miles an hour, and are able to eat as much as 20,000 calories in one day. According to wildlife officials, most human-bear interactions that lead to complaints are caused by humans. Garbage cans, pet food, gardens, and fruit trees can bring bears dangerously close to homes, businesses, schools, and people.

Since the spring of 2020, the Colville Tribes’ Fish and Wildlife Department has received 20 bear complaints from local residents and business owners and wildlife staff says that’s usual for this time of year.

“Most of the complaints come from Nespelem, Washington and the sur-

rounding area primarily due to select businesses that are left unprotected from bears,” said Corey Peone, wildlife biologist for CTFW. “Our goal is to work with them to make their locations bear-proof or be more bear aware for their specific situation to reduce bear-human conflicts.”

An example of how bear proofing works is Rainbow Beach Resort located in Inchelium, Washington. The business used to be one of the highest complaint areas on the reservation but wildlife staff worked with resort staff to address the issues. “We installed bear proof garbage cans, changed how the fish guts were disposed of, and restricted access to the expired fryer oil container,” said Richard Whitney, wildlife manager for CTFW. “We have very little complaints coming from the area now.”

Wildlife officials also installed bear

proof garbage cans at local campgrounds across the reservation.

“The years in which there are higher human-bear interactions are when natural food availability is limited due to drought, low berry crops, wildfire, or other causes that impact their food or habitats,” said Whitney. “Also, humans tend to live in the areas that are closer to water which tend to be where berries and fruit trees grow, and there is cool shade during the summer heat. Bears are a natural part of the ecosystem and should be respected for their contributions.”

With a little understanding about why bears venture close to people, we can help to protect both the bears and our families from negative interactions.”

CTFW received a grant for \$220,000 from the Upper Columbia United Tribes to study bears on the Colville Indian Reservation. The grant allowed wildlife officials to purchase GPS collars allowing staff to capture and monitor bears. The grant also paid for the bear-proofing additions to Rainbow Beach Resort. “The project is slowly ramping down, and we are crunching the data to discover
Continues on page 2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Bear Story
- 2 Bear Story
- 3 Zebra mussels/Invasive Species
- 4 Chief Joseph Hatchery

Starts on page 1

the answers to our management questions,” said Whitney. “Corey has been evaluating the data and compiling a report. We will then work toward finishing a management plan and modifying Tribal Code to aid in bear management.”

Here are some helpful tips to avoid bear and human interaction:

• Bears are drawn to the smell of food such as garbage, pet foods, bird feeders, compost piles, fruit trees, berry bushes, livestock feed, dirty barbecue grills, beehives and petroleum products.

- Keep yards clean.
- Pick fruit from trees as it ripens; do not leave fruit on the ground.
- Do not leave pet food outside, especially overnight.
- Keep outdoor grills clean; when not in use, store grills inside a garage or building.
- Never store food or garbage outdoors for long periods of time.
- If a bear doesn't find food, it will usually move along.
- Please do not feed the bears - individuals who are feeding bears create a major problem and may cause harm to the bear and the general public - you may be cited with a fine of \$500 (code 4-1-261 harassment of wildlife).

If you encounter a bear:

- If a bear approaches, move your family indoors immediately.
- Try to remain calm, don't panic.
- Respect the bear's space; never approach a bear. If you see a baby bear, don't try to pet it.
- Don't scream or yell as this may provoke a bear.
- Don't run as this may trigger a pursuit by a bear.
- Make yourself as large as possible and speak in a calm voice to the bear and move away giving the bear some space and leave the area.
- When out camping, keep children



close by.

• **If you spot a bear in a residential area call 509.722.7659 Monday through Thursday 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. After normal work hours, call 800.551.5800.**



TRIBE RECEIVES FUNDING TO PROTECT UPPER COLUMBIA RIVER FROM INVASIVE SPECIES

The potential of an invasion of quagga and zebra mussels in Lake Roosevelt and Rufus Woods could be a reality but groups who manage these large bodies of water have partnered to monitor and protect the upper Columbia River Basin from these invasive species.

The Colville Confederated Tribes (CCT) has partnered with the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) and the Lake Roosevelt National Park Service (NPS) to expand the capabilities of the tribe to monitor and remove aquatic invasive mussels.

“The tribe has received approximately \$260,000 from BOR and NPS that will be used over the next four years to implement a monitoring program at access sites along Lake Roosevelt and Rufus Woods reservoirs,” said Holly McLellan, fisheries biologist for the Colville Tribe. “We have identified ten additional sites that may be vulnerable to mussel infestation if they arrive in our waters. Our staff will monitor these sites from March to October.”

The tribes' data will be provided to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Aquatic Invasive Species Program who monitor sites throughout the Columbia River watershed. The new sites in the upper Columbia River will be added to the 19 that WDFW and the Spokane Tribe currently monitor.

The funding will enable the CCT to fully participate in regional AIS issues such as:

- Provide training for staff to identify and prevent invasive mussels from spreading, decontaminate vessels, and report the information to appropriate agencies in the region

- Monitor ten additional sites in Lake Roosevelt, Lake Rufus and Kettle River
- Operate a wash down station at boat launches located on the western shore of Lake Roosevelt and Lake Rufus
- Purchase equipment
- Implement AIS decontamination protocols and monitoring methods

The CCT currently invests millions of dollars annually to protect and enhance habitat and fish populations that utilize Lake Roosevelt and Lake Rufus Woods. The tribe also has a vested interest in the protection of Grand Coulee Dam from invasive mussels that could cause devastation to the power production capabilities of the dam.

“Grand Coulee Dam is an important part of the Columbia River infrastructure,” said Heidi McMaster, Columbia Pacific Northwest Regional Invasive Species coordinator for BOR. “As the largest hydropower producer in the United States, it can provide over 21 billion kilowatt hours (4.2 billion households) a year. Quagga and zebra mussels pose a serious threat to the power and water delivery mission of the BOR. Early detection of the mussels is critical in protecting the Grand Coulee Dam. Supporting our partners and working together is valuable and critical in ensuring mutual interests in the Columbia River are maintained.”

For more information about how to keep Lake Roosevelt and Rufus Woods free from invasive species, go to: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/specieshabitats/invasive/boating>. Additional information can be found at: <https://www.usbr.gov/mussels/>.

NORTHERN PIKE REWARD PROGRAM

The Northern Pike Reward Program continues strong in 2020 as anglers are getting paid \$10 for every northern pike head turned in. Anglers can turn in their pike heads at: Noisy Waters Gas Station, Kettle Falls boat launch, Hunters boat launch, Fort Spokane boat launch, and the Inchelium Fish and Wildlife office. There are no size restrictions on northern pike. Fish must have been caught in the main stem Columbia River from Wells Dam upstream to the Canadian border, the Spokane River upstream to Little Falls, the Kettle River, or the Okanogan Riv-

er. A random number of heads will be selected for microchemistry analysis to confirm the fish's origin. Participants must be 17 years or older to receive the

reward. For more information on the Northern Pike Reward Program, go to <https://www.cct-fnw.com/news/>

