

Biennial Report 2009-2010

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission





Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission

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Watercolors painted by Angela Jorgensen.

Celilo photographs taken by Raymond Matheny in 1951-52.

Lamprey illustration on page 6 from Tracy I. Storer and Robert L. Usinger, Sierra Nevada Natural History: An Illustrated Handbook. ©1991 by the Regents of the University of California. Published by the University of California Press.



First Foods for our future generations



I was born and raised on the Warm Springs Reservation and have fished on the Columbia and its tributaries since I was a kid. I have represented the Confederated

Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon at the CRITFC table for more than a decade and was elected chairman in 2010. It is a position in which I am honored to serve.

The years 2009 and 2010 were demanding yet rewarding. The improvements and coordinated efforts the tribes have done over the past three decades are coming to fruition. This success is most noticeable in the strong salmon returns, especially in 2010. Tribal fishers were able to enjoy larger catches and more fishing days than in recent years.

Over the last two years, Indian fishers exercising their treaty-reserved fishing rights in Zone 6 have probably noticed the changes at the in-lieu and treaty fishing access sites along the river. A major cleanup effort, the groundbreaking of two new sites, and the transfer of enforcement authority from the BIA to CRITFC Enforcement have all improved the services that these sites provide to the fishers.

CRITFC Enforcement continues to help strengthen tribal sovereignty and protect both the salmon resource and the safety of the fishers. With enforcement commissions from all four member tribes, CRITFC officers can cite Indian fishers into their respective

tribal courts rather than the states citing them into state courts. The jurisdiction over tribal members along the river stays in the hands of tribal governments.

The Indian Fishers Expo that CRITFC sponsored was a great success. It's at events like this that we are especially working to teach our younger people the safety and skills involved in fishing and salmon marketing. The Expo and other outreach efforts help spread the message of how to care for and protect fish and the habitats where fish live.

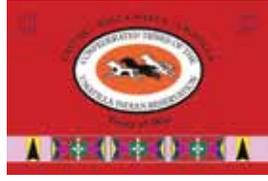
This brings me to the First Foods. In our belief, the Creator asked all the animals and plants to offer a gift for a new creature that was unable to survive without their help; that creature was man. The first to come forward with gifts were Water, Salmon, Deer, Roots, and Berries; these are the sacred First Foods. They care for humans, and in return, we are expected to care for them. A host of threats, both local and global, imperil our First Foods and make their protection and accessibility more difficult.

Ensuring that future generations can enjoy the blessings of the First Foods is one of our most important and most difficult tasks. To do this, the four tribes unite through CRITFC to speak on behalf of the salmon and the other First Foods with a single, strong voice.

Bruce Jim
CRITFC Chairman



Confederated Tribes and
Bands of the Yakama Nation
*Fish, Wildlife, and
Law & Order Committee*



Confederated Tribes of the
Umatilla Indian Reservation
*Fish & Wildlife
Committee*



Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs
Indian Reservation of Oregon

Confederated Tribes of the Warm
Springs Reservation of Oregon
*Fish & Wildlife
Commission*



Nez Perce Tribe
*Natural Resources Subcommittee
Fish & Wildlife Commission*



Executive Director
Paul Lumley

• Intergovernmental Affairs

• Communications

Fisheries Management
Mike Matylewich

Fishery Science
Phil Roger

Fisheries Enforcement
Davis Washines

Watershed
Aja DeCoteau

Policy Development and
Litigation Support
Rob Lothrop

Finance and Operations
Jon Matthews

Human Resources
Janelle Anderson



Unity of purpose



In 1977, our tribes recognized that, in order to effectively fulfill their management responsibilities, they needed to coordinate many

of their fishery policies and objectives, and needed a staff that could help them efficiently deal with the many legal and technical issues they have in common. Out of this effort was born the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission.

In the early years, the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission mainly provided assistance to the tribes to ensure that fishers could exercise treaty-reserved fishing rights. The 1969 *U.S. v. Oregon* federal court decision had affirmed those rights and clarified tribal management responsibilities.

As the Columbia River salmon crisis deepened, CRITFC's efforts have increasingly assisted the tribes in using legal and technical means to protect and restore salmon. Commission staff coordinated with tribal policy makers and tribal fish and wildlife staff to produce a salmon restoration plan, *Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit* (Spirit of the Salmon). The plan blends tribal wisdom developed from observing salmon for thousands of years with the principles of conservation biology, a science based on rebuilding populations of animals pushed to the brink of extinction.

CRITFC's goals and staff has expanded since its founding a third of a century ago, yet

its mission remains the same: "to ensure a unified voice in the overall management of the fishery resources, and as managers, to protect reserved treaty rights through the exercise of the inherent sovereign powers of the tribes." We do this by striving to accomplish our four primary goals: **Put Fish Back in the Rivers; Protect Tribal Treaty Rights; Share Salmon Culture; and Provide Fisher Services.** This report is organized into these four goals.

The past two years have been fulfilling as the whole organization has worked together as a team to make some remarkable accomplishments. By strengthening CRITFC Enforcement, we addressed the issue of state enforcement efforts to increase their jurisdiction over tribal members. By assisting in and sharing the successes the tribes have achieved in restoring salmon to rivers and streams throughout the Columbia River basin, we have increased the support for further expansions of these programs and projects. It does my heart good to see the impressive salmon returns of the past two years. The court cases in the mid-1990s and careful tribal management helped achieve this significant level of success and hopefully it will continue as the tribal hatchery programs are expanded with an eye toward full rebuilding of the sacred salmon in all our usual and accustomed fishing locations throughout the Columbia River basin.

Babtist Paul Lumley
CRITFC Executive Director



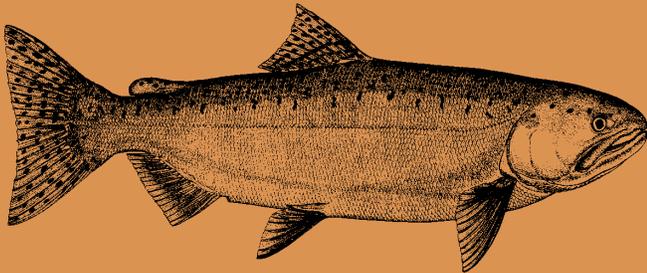
The past two years have seen some of the highest adult salmon returns in recent history. Unfortunately, the improvements and conditions that brought about these numbers didn't help the Pacific lamprey, which continue to slip closer to extinction in many areas of the Columbia River basin.

22,786,431

total juvenile salmon outplanted from the four member tribes' hatcheries in 2009

1,754,334

Columbia River adult salmon return in 2010



670,006

Columbia River adult salmon return in 1977, the year CRITFC was founded

6,234

Lamprey passing Bonneville Dam in 2010



117,029

Lamprey passing Bonneville Dam in 2003

Miles of stream improved or treated to benefit salmon over the past 10 years through the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund

661





Putting fish back in the rivers

CRITFC provides the tribes and the region with invaluable biological research, fisheries management, hydrology, and other science to support the protection and restoration of Columbia River salmon, lamprey, and sturgeon to all the rivers and streams where they were historically found. It also includes restoring the watersheds that support salmon throughout their lifecycle.

The **Fishery Science Department** and the **Watershed Department** are most involved in this goal. The Fishery Science Department conducts research in a variety of fields to increase our knowledge of salmon, other fish species, river and stream dynamics, and other topics. The Watershed Department focuses on coordinating and facilitating on-the-ground restoration efforts and activities that the four member tribes conduct throughout the Columbia River basin.





Dipnetters on Standing Island
Matheny Collection

Fishery Science Research

Below are some of the projects the Fishery Science Department worked on in 2009-10. Sixteen of CRITFC's salmon, lamprey, and sturgeon projects were funded by the Columbia Basin Fish Accords (see inset on page 10). All but four of these projects were new, and together, they represent \$5 million in annual funding for restoration, research, and coordination efforts by CRITFC. The Accords projects featured are indicated with this symbol: 

 The Hagerman Fish Culture Experiment Station is a state-of-the-art lab in Hagerman, Idaho; it is a joint project of CRITFC and the University of Idaho. In 2009-2010, the lab genotyped (analyzed the DNA of) 80,000 salmon samples that had been collected from throughout the basin. These

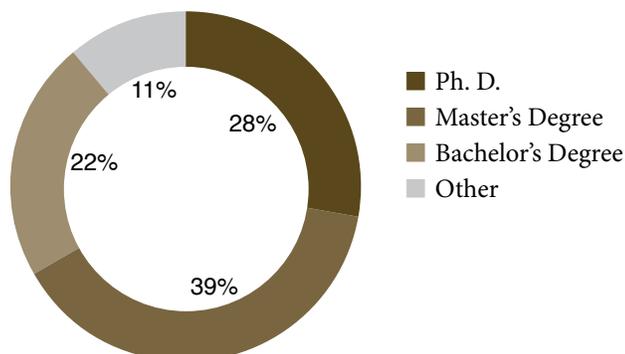
analyses provide a greater understanding of the genetic profiles of Columbia River basin fish populations.

 Lamprey counts at Bonneville Dam were the lowest on record. Only 6,234 passed Bonneville in 2010; as recently as 2003, over 100,000 lamprey passed the dam. The tribes created a tribal lamprey task force to address restoration concerns. The task force began development of a Tribal Lamprey Restoration Plan. A lamprey radio tracking study was conducted at Willamette Falls and \$5 million was identified for lamprey passage improvements under the Columbia Basin Fish Accords.

 Steelhead, unlike salmon, are iteroparous; they can spawn more than once. After spawning, a



Degree types of Fishery Science Department employees



small percentage of steelhead survive, return to the ocean, and eventually come back to spawn again. These steelhead are called “kelts.” They have largely been eliminated from upriver populations due to the stress of migrating downstream through the hydropower system. CRITFC studies kelts in an effort to find the best ways to maintain and restore this unique life history pattern within the upriver steelhead populations. In 2009, CRITFC scientists began a study of the physiology of the kelting process to better understand the dietary and physical needs of repeat spawners. ▼



The StreamNet Library, a library of literature on Columbia River basin salmon and natural resources that is operated by CRITFC, saw requests for literature increase 150% from 2008 and 5,446 new items were added, amended, or digitized into the library.

Continued studies of the perils encountered by migrating adult salmon using various tagging technologies. PIT tag detectors were installed in the Wenatchee and Okanogan rivers and acoustic tags were used at dams in the Okanogan River.

CRITFC began a study in the upper Grande Ronde River to determine the habitat conditions that most impact juvenile salmon distribution, growth, and survival. This information, coordinated with work of the Umatilla Tribe and the State of Oregon, will help determine the most effective salmon habitat restoration strategies.

- CRITFC continued its long-term study of run composition and timing in the mainstem Columbia River that will lead to a more complete picture of the nature of salmon runs in the Columbia River.

The restoration and recovery projects being carried out by CRITFC and its member tribes generates a staggering amount of data, from observations on individual fish to very large geographic data sets. In 2009, CRITFC began a project to provide data management services and applications to our member tribes to help store, analyze and report on these data.

- One of the Columbia Basin’s most productive wild salmon runs comes from the Hanford Reach. CRITFC scientists continued a long-term project to gain a greater understanding of this run.

Conducted an interagency basin-wide study of the effects of supplementation programs on naturally producing salmon populations and an evaluation of supplemented populations.

CRITFC technician Bobby Begay prepares a kelt for evaluation and measurement.

Columbia Basin Fish Accords

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On May 2, 2008, federal and tribal representatives gathered at Columbia Hills State Park to sign the Columbia Basin Fish Accords. The ceremony took place beneath the watchful gaze of Tsagaglalal, the famous “She Who Watches” petroglyph carved into a bluff overlooking the park. Tribal legend recounts the story of Tsagaglalal being turned to stone, allowing her to watch over the river and its people for eternity. Her image also appeared on the ceremonial deer hide the representatives of the Umatilla, Warm Springs, Yakama, and Colville tribes, CRITFC, the Bonneville Power Administration, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers signed at the event. Eventually, the Accords grew to include the Shoshone-Bannock Tribe and the states of Idaho, Montana, and Washington.

“It gives us great pride and hope to be in this special place, with the spirit of Tsagaglalal watching us—our witness to this day, hearing us say that through these Accords we commit to doing more to protect and restore the region’s fish populations.”

~ Fidelia Andy, Yakama Nation tribal council member and then-chairwoman of CRITFC

The BPA-funded Fish Accords projects are in addition to the actions obligated in NOAA Fisheries’ biological opinions for ESA-listed salmon and steelhead and the Northwest Power and Conservation Council’s fish and wildlife program. The Fish Accords projects are funded for 10 years.

Tribal Unity

The Yakama, Umatilla, Nez Perce, and Warm Springs tribes created CRITFC to promote unity of action and coordinate their interests in the overall management of the fishery resource. Working together in this manner for more than thirty years, the tribes and CRITFC have a record of success.

On occasion, the tribes take different paths to achieve their individual tribal goals. When their paths diverge as they did with Accords, each tribe respects the others’ sovereign decisions and continues to coordinate salmon management and restoration.

Since the Yakama, Umatilla, and Warm Springs tribes entered the 2008 Columbia Basin Fish Accords, while the Nez Perce Tribe did not, some outside parties questioned the unity of the four tribes. Rather than sign on to the Accords, the Nez Perce opted to continue challenging government plans to address the effects of the Federal Columbia River Power System under the Endangered Species Act.

The four tribes recognize there are multiple pathways to a mutually agreeable goal: sustainable, harvestable runs of salmon at all usual and accustomed fishing places. Tribal salmon management actions encompass a broad mosaic of legal, technical, and policy efforts of which the Columbia Basin Fish Accords and Federal Columbia River Power System litigation are a part.



Tribal and federal officials hold up the signed ceremonial deer hide that marked their participation in the Columbia Basin Fish Accords.



Walter Isaac at Tenino
Matheny Collection

Climate Change

Years of increasing development have led to climate changes that are already being expressed in subtle and not-so-subtle ways. Rising global temperatures will undoubtedly affect the rivers and surrounding habitat, putting more pressure on sensitive species such as salmon and lamprey.

CRITFC and the tribes are seeking ways to reduce contributors to climate change, mitigate for effects currently felt, and find solutions to foreseeable problems that will surely arise in the near term. CRITFC participated in various climate change forums and efforts, including the Northwest Power and Conservation Council, the North Pacific Landscape Cooperative, and the North American Salmon Stronghold Partnership.

CRITFC also analyzed the development of a Climate Change Decision Support System in collaboration with the U.S. Geological Survey. CRITFC assembled tributary stream temperature data in the Yakima River basin and modeled changes to these temperatures under future climate change scenarios.

CRITFC coordinated with USGS and Yakama Nation to use Yakama Nation's cultural connections to natural

resources to develop guidelines for federal managers to incorporate tribal cultural and traditional knowledge into their planning processes and management plans, as well as identify climate change impacts to natural and cultural resources.

CRITFC completed the development of the hydrology flow database which can model Pacific Northwest climate change scenarios. This will help facilitate development of adaptation tools and processes for addressing the impacts of climate change. The database will also be a crucial tool for the tribes to utilize in the Columbia River Treaty negotiations.

Energy Production & River Protection

Hydroelectric dams create substantial changes to the rivers of the Columbia River basin and have degraded the treaty fishery resources. The Federal Energy Commission regulates all non-federal dams with licenses that are issued for terms between 30 and 50 years. Over the past decade, many of these dams have gone through extensive relicensing processes that can last for several years, requiring major investments of staff time and money for technical expertise. On the other hand, these processes can provide opportunities for the tribes to restore resources and mitigate for damages caused by the dams. CRITFC,



through its technical and legal expertise, evaluates these conditions and proposes improvements that will become part of the dam’s new license, such as building fish passage, increasing river flows, or protecting habitat in the reservoirs and below the dam. In 2009-10, CRITFC and its member tribes worked on the relicensing processes for the Hells Canyon, Condit, Wells, and Enloe dams. Condit Dam is slated for removal in 2011 or 2012.

FERC also regulates other energy-related projects, such as wind, transmission, and natural gas. CRITFC monitors FERC’s activities in the basin so that new projects do not detrimentally affect fish and habitat. In 2005, the Bradwood LNG project was proposed for a liquefied natural gas off-loading terminal in an ecologically high-value rearing habitat in the lower Columbia River estuary. For several years, CRITFC and the Nez Perce Tribe participated in the licensing process and strongly opposed the project. In 2010, the project proponent went bankrupt and the proposal was defeated. Had this project gone forward, it would have allowed a large-scale, water-based industrial facility in critical habitat for several ESA-listed salmon populations that migrate, hold, and rear year-round in the area.

Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund

PCSRF habitat improvement projects implemented by CRITFC and its four member tribes (2000-2010):

	Completed	Ongoing	Total
Total stream miles treated	585	76	661
Acres of riparian habitat treated	1,020	176	1,196
Acres of wetland habitat treated	400	400	449
Acres of upland habitat treated	849	300	1,149
Barriers blocking fish passage removed	39	2	41
Miles of stream opened to fish passage	325	35	360
Acres of land acquired for protection	15,222	668	15,890

Since 2000, \$20.2 million has been acquired under a competitive process for tribal and CRITFC salmon recovery projects. A total of 240 projects have been implemented, and of those, 188 projects are completed and 52 projects are ongoing.

Pacific Salmon Treaty

CRITFC helped change the chinook annex to the Pacific Salmon Treaty to reduce ocean chinook fisheries by 30% off the west coast of Vancouver Island and 15% in southeast Alaska.

Sea Lions

Over the past two years, the sea lion predation on salmon, lamprey, and sturgeon near Bonneville Dam has continued to increase. Observers in 2009 counted 26 Steller and 54 California sea lions preying on fish near the Bonneville Dam fish ladders. CRITFC and state and federal agencies conducted non-lethal hazing and assisted in efforts to remove particularly problematic animals.

Water Quality Issues/Toxic Reduction

Participated with EPA on its decision to reject Oregon’s new and revised human health water quality criteria for toxics. This decision paves the way for Oregon to continue its ongoing rule-making process to increase the fish consumption rate from the previously submitted 17.5 grams per day to 175 grams per day (24 8-ounce meals a month) by July 2011. This would be the highest level in the United States.

Workforce Development

► CRITFC organized a tribal Salmon Camp in cooperation with the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI).

CRITFC secured funding to hire a Salmon Education Coordinator as part of workforce development, in collaboration with OMSI.

SALMON CAMP

NACO'OXPE
place of the salmon

The first CRITFC Tribal Salmon Camp was held August 1-6, 2010 for eighteen tribal students at the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry's Hancock Field Station located near Fossil, Oregon. OMSI's Hancock Field Station facility is surrounded by the Clarno Unit of the John Day Fossil Beds National Monument and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs' Pine Creek Conservation Area. The camp focused on natural resource management and natural science learning and career exposure through different activities. The Warm Springs Tribe's Pine Creek restoration work and water quality issues were emphasized for the students.

The Salmon Camp experience is a key component of CRITFC's overall workforce development goal. Native American youth are greatly underrepresented among students in postsecondary education, especially in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) subjects. Fewer than half of Indian youth in the Pacific and Northwestern regions of the United States graduate from high school.

CRITFC, in collaboration with OMSI, the Coastal Margin Observation and Prediction, and other partners, plans to conduct more Salmon Camps in the future. The goal is to engage Indian youth in STEM study by combining hands-on scientific field research with tribal traditions and knowledge. With the assistance of tribal fisheries experts, tribal leaders, and non-tribal scientists and researchers, Salmon Camp will engage students in real-life research projects where they will use scientific tools to collect and analyze data. Complementing the hands-on STEM experience will be instruction in algebraic thinking and STEM topics relating to the research, as well as Native American traditional knowledge, including the uses of native plants, traditional stories about the

land and its history, and the relationship of humans with nature.

A Salmon Education Coordinator will be hired in April 2011 to develop culturally sensitive curriculum, to help recruit students, build and develop program relationships, and other activities. This increased capacity will allow Salmon Camp to continue to prepare and inspire Indian youth to attend college and encourage them to study STEM subjects.



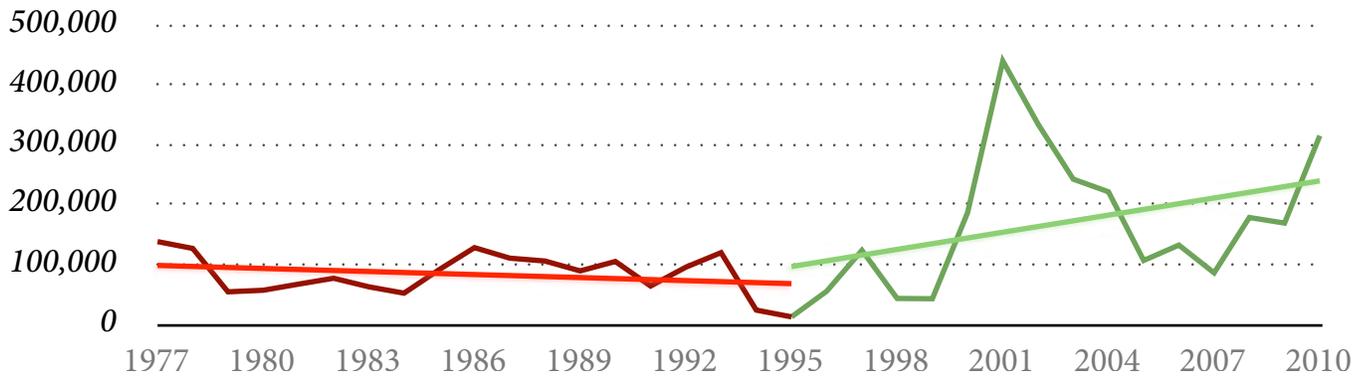
A Warm Springs youth at the Pine Creek Conservation Area, which is owned and managed by the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs of Oregon. Students learned about stream ecology, measured water quality, and searched for macroinvertebrates.



COLUMBIA RIVER SALMON RETURNS 1977-2010

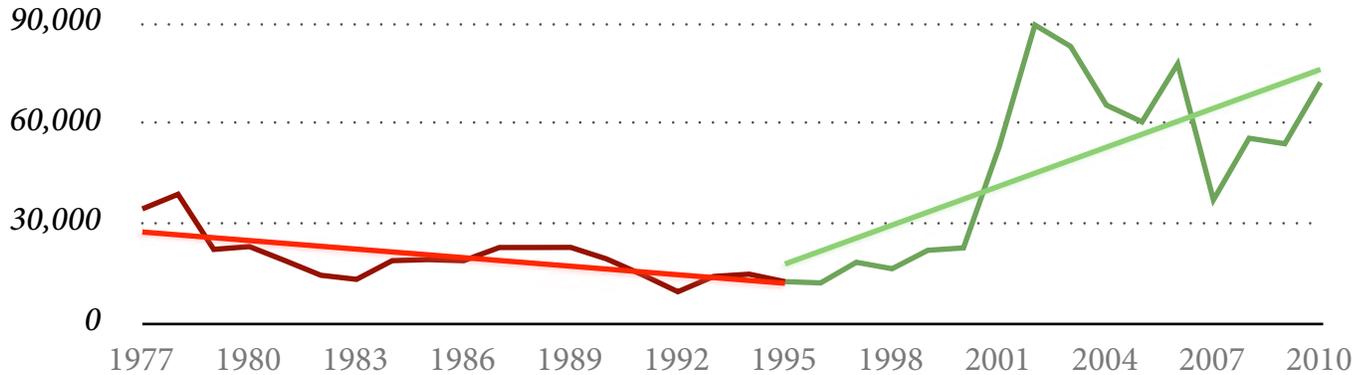
Upriver Spring Chinook Run

1977: **138,400** 2010: **315,100** Smallest run: 12,792 (1995) Largest run: 439,885 (2001)



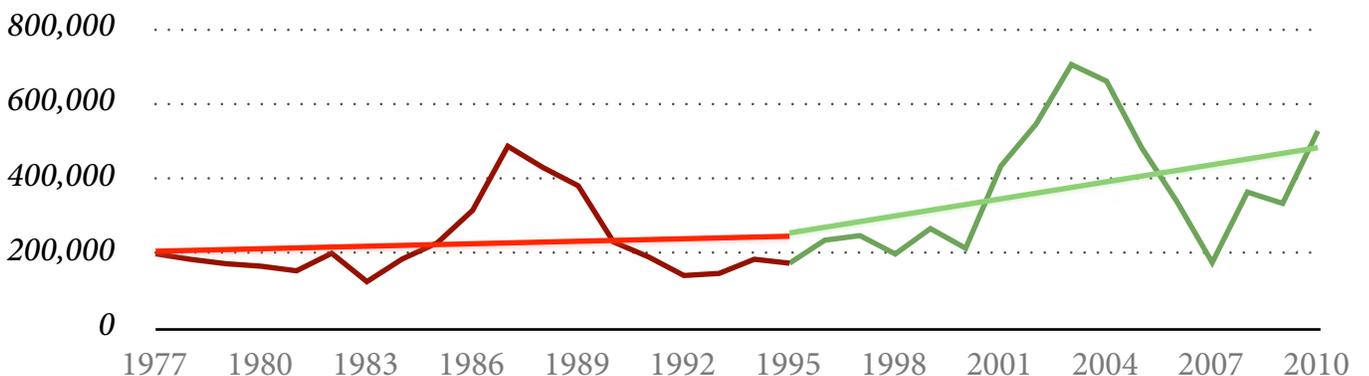
Upriver Summer Chinook Run

1977: **34,300** 2010: **72,295** Smallest run: 9,428 (1992) Largest run: 89,548 (2002)



Upriver Fall Chinook Run

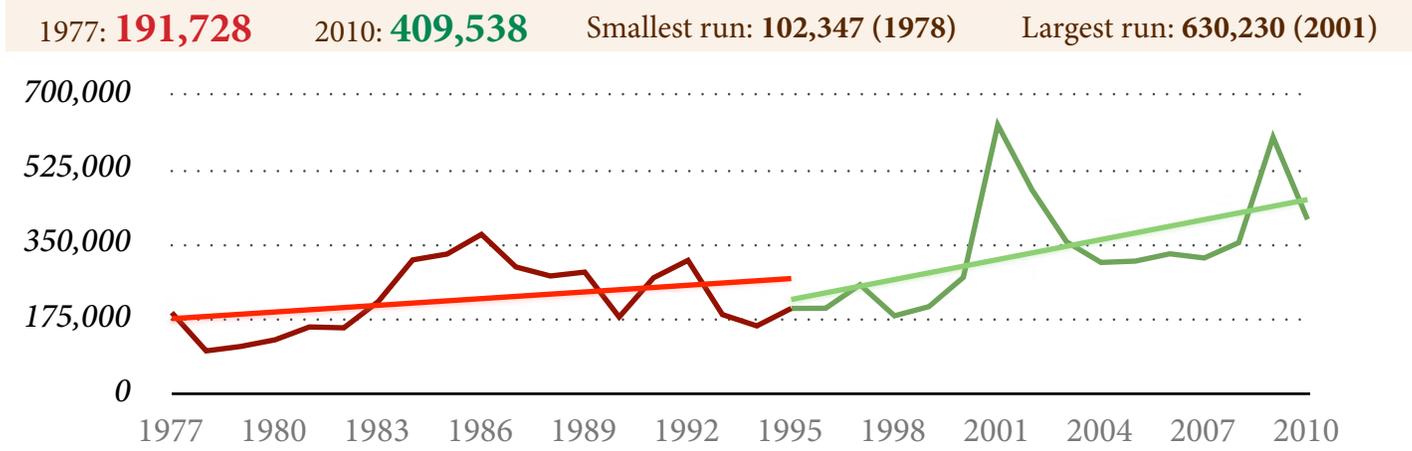
1977: **199,700** 2010: **527,600** Smallest run: 125,200 (1983) Largest run: 704,900 (2003)



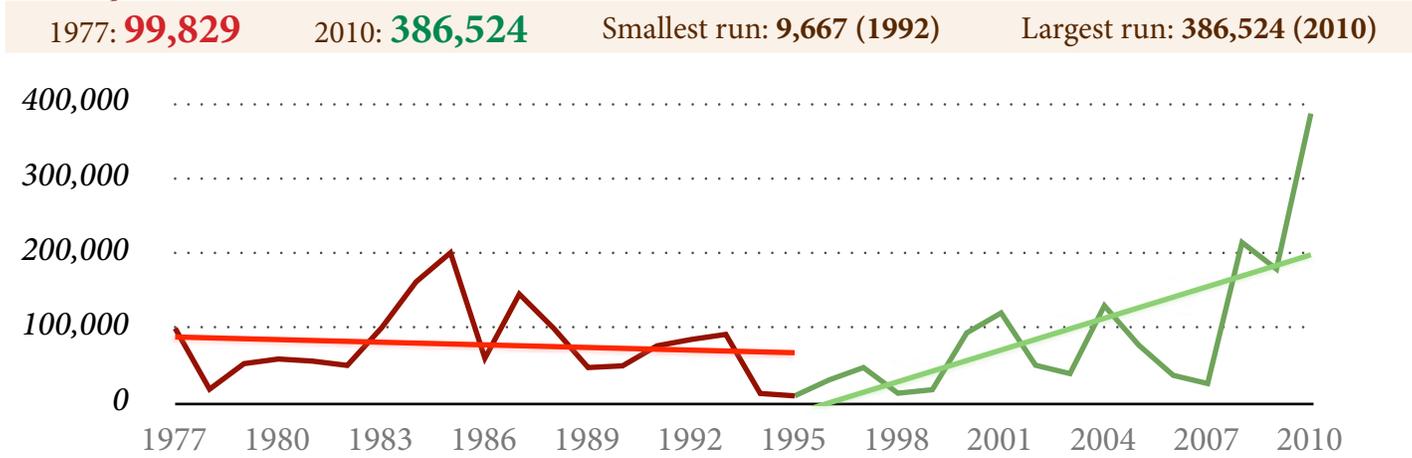


Data and trendlines in **RED** are PRIOR to 1995. **GREEN** represents data and trends AFTER 1995 (the year the tribes began implementing Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit, their integrated salmon restoration plan). Since 1995, the overall decline of Columbia River salmon has been halted.

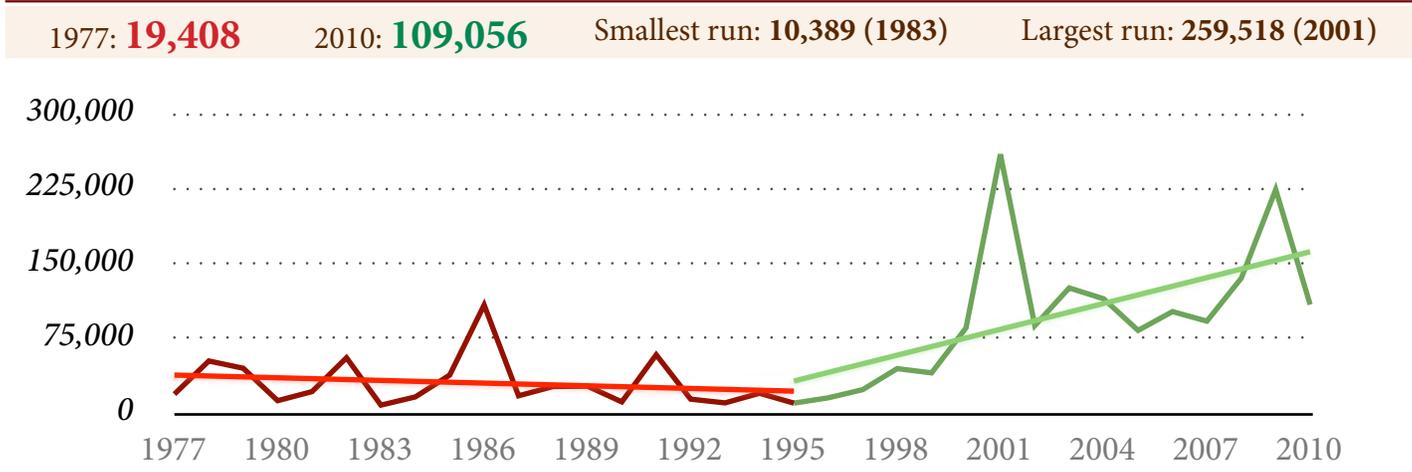
Summer Steelhead Run (over Bonneville Dam)



Sockeye Run



Coho Run



The treaty-reserved right to fish that each of the four member tribes hold is one of the most fundamental aspects of each of these tribes' unique salmon cultures. For this reason, the tribes and CRITFC are committed to protecting them for the current generation and for generations to come. All of their actions and agreements link back to ensure these treaty-reserved rights are preserved.

52

days of tribal commercial gillnet fisheries in 2010 (9 days in spring season; 17½ days in summer season; 25½ days in fall season)

27

days of tribal commercial gillnet fisheries in 1977 (8 days in spring season; 0 days in summer season; 19 days in fall season)

The exclusive right of taking fish in all the streams, where running through or bordering said reservation, is further secured to said confederated tribes and bands of Indians, as also the right of taking fish at all usual and accustomed places, in common with the citizens of the Territory, and of erecting temporary buildings for curing them.

—Yakama Treaty of 1855

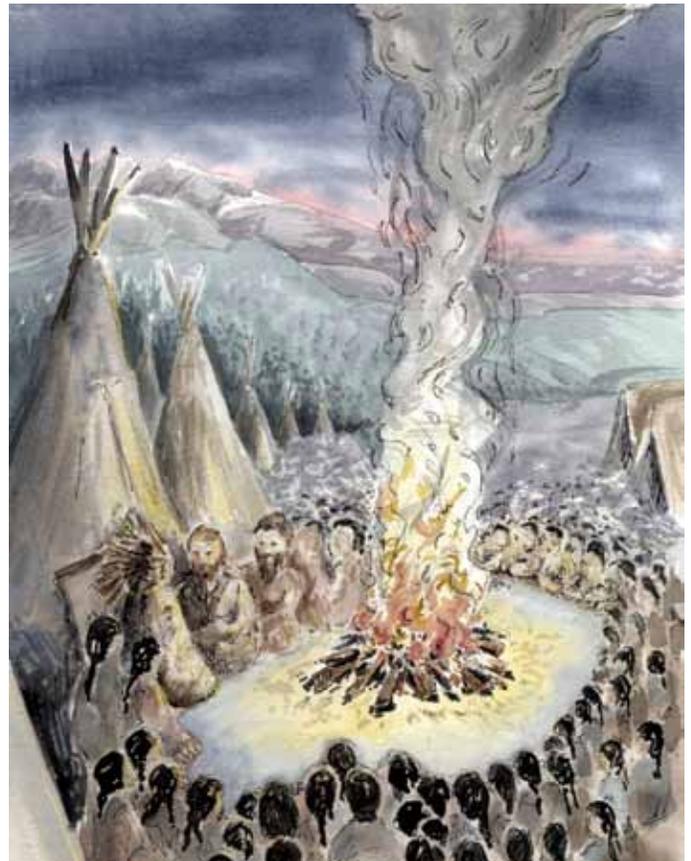


The Columbia River basin covers 257,916 square miles and lies in seven U.S. states and two Canadian provinces. The basin compares in size to the area of Wisconsin, Illinois, Florida, Louisiana, Maine, West Virginia, and New Hampshire combined. The lands that the four CRITFC member tribes ceded to the United States in their 1855 treaties comprises a quarter of the basin and is over half of the area still accessible to salmon.

Protecting tribal treaty fishing rights

CRITFC has lawyers, policy analysts, and an enforcement team working to ensure that tribal treaty rights are protected. All of these activities are done in careful coordination with and under the direction of our member tribes.

The **Fish Management Department**, **Policy Development and Litigation Support Department**, and the **Enforcement Department** are most involved in this goal. The Fish Management Department provides member tribes with fishery information and resources they need to make informed decisions on the management of the Columbia River tribal fishery. The Policy Development and Litigation Support Department provides policy and legal guidance to the member tribes that they use in their leadership roles in developing policies and laws affecting Columbia River treaty fisheries. The Enforcement Department enforces tribal fishing regulations and laws along the Columbia River from Bonneville to McNary dams; the enforcement of tribal law is a fundamental aspect of tribal sovereignty.





Celilo Falls, 1952
 Matheny Collection

U.S. v. Oregon

In his landmark 1969 *U.S. v. Oregon* decision, Judge Robert C. Belloni ruled that state regulatory power over Indian fishing is limited because the 1855 treaties between the United States and the Nez Perce, Umatilla, Warm Springs, and Yakama tribes had reserved rights to fish at “all usual and accustomed” places both on- and off-reservation.

To fulfill the requirements of this ruling, the tribes, states, and federal government regularly meet to develop and coordinate their various fisheries and management plans. CRITFC’s Fisheries Management

Department provides the tribes with technical information to help them in this role.

Major developments in 2009-10:

- 2009-10 were the first two full years for implementation of the 2008-2017 *U.S. v. Oregon* Management Agreement. CRITFC assisted the member tribes in carrying out the new processes required by and for the parties and certifying that the terms of the Agreement were being met. Clarifications were made to the Agreement to ensure the tribes were able to catch their harvestable share of spring chinook salmon.

- Abundant 2009 and 2010 chinook salmon returns allowed for spring, summer, and fall mainstem gillnet fisheries.
- The Hatchery Scientific Review Group provided recommendations on Columbia River hatchery programs which, if fully implemented, could lead to reductions in hatchery programs that would adversely affect tribal fisheries. CRITFC formally commented on these recommendations and provided assistance in developing a *U.S. v. Oregon* policy statement to limit the HSRG recommendations.
- The National Marine Fisheries Service released a Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the operation of hatcheries in the Columbia Basin that called for drastic reductions in hatchery releases. The tribes and CRITFC provided written comments and delivered testimony at five public hearings. The comments stressed that the hatchery system is important to meet mitigation obligations and conservation objectives. The tribes recommended that the DEIS be withdrawn and returned to the original focus of Mitchell Act hatcheries: mitigation for the loss of the salmon fishery due to the federal hydrosystem.

Pacific Salmon Commission

The U.S. and Canadian governments created the Pacific Salmon Commission to implement the Pacific Salmon Treaty; it consists of federal, state, and tribal government representatives. This international treaty strives to: 1) Prevent overfishing and provide for optimum production of West Coast salmon stocks, and 2) Equitably share the salmon fisheries between the two nations. The Fisheries Management Department provides the tribal representatives to this body with technical information pertinent to the terms and authorities in the treaty.

Major accomplishments in 2009-10:

- The U.S. and Canada reached agreement on revisions to the Annex of the Pacific Salmon Treaty, which run from 2009 to 2017. The revised

chinook chapter calls for a 30% reduction in catch in Canadian fisheries off the west coast of Vancouver Island and a 15% reduction in catch in U.S. fisheries in southeast Alaska. Columbia River fall chinook make up a large portion of the catch in these fisheries and the reductions will increase the return of fall chinook to the Columbia River.

Passage

Fish migration, both downstream as juveniles and upstream as adults, is significantly impacted by hydroelectric dams on the Columbia and Snake rivers. The Fisheries Management Department monitors the hydrosystem's impacts on salmon, lamprey, and sturgeon and devises plans that aim to increase their survival as they migrate up and down the system.

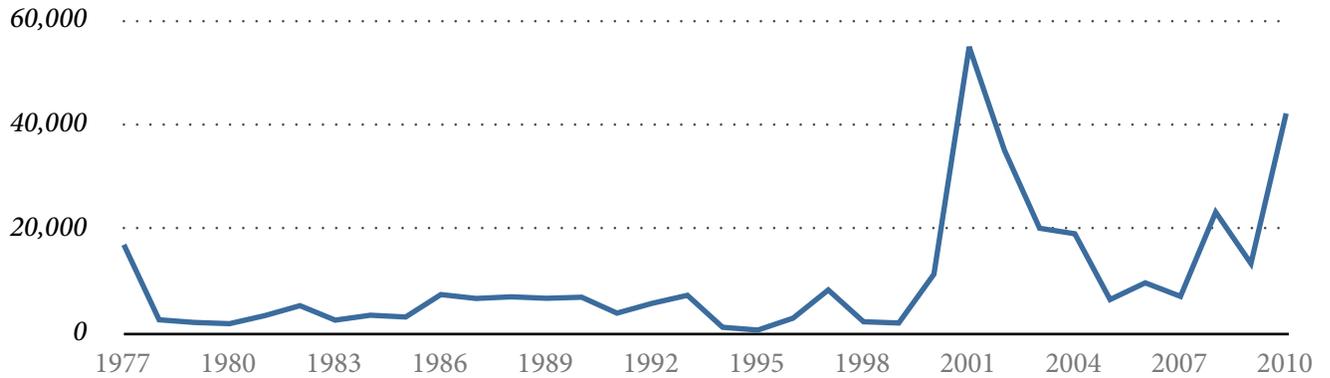
Major accomplishments in 2009-10:

- Developed operations plans for management of fish passage through the hydrosystem. Presented tribal views in technical management committees.
- Worked with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to minimize pool elevation changes during fishing seasons, which helps fishers successfully use gear.
- Worked with tribal staff on several Federal Energy Regulatory Commission relicensing proceedings to develop conditions for improved fish passage.
- Condit Dam is slated for removal in fall 2011 or 2012 pending final permits.
- Provided technical assessments of effects of proposed liquefied natural gas facility at Bradwood Landing. The facility proponents eventually withdrew their proposal.
- Development of a tribal lamprey restoration plan to address the precipitous decline of Pacific lamprey. When finalized in 2011, the plan will be a tribal, state, and federal multi-agency blueprint for regional lamprey restoration.



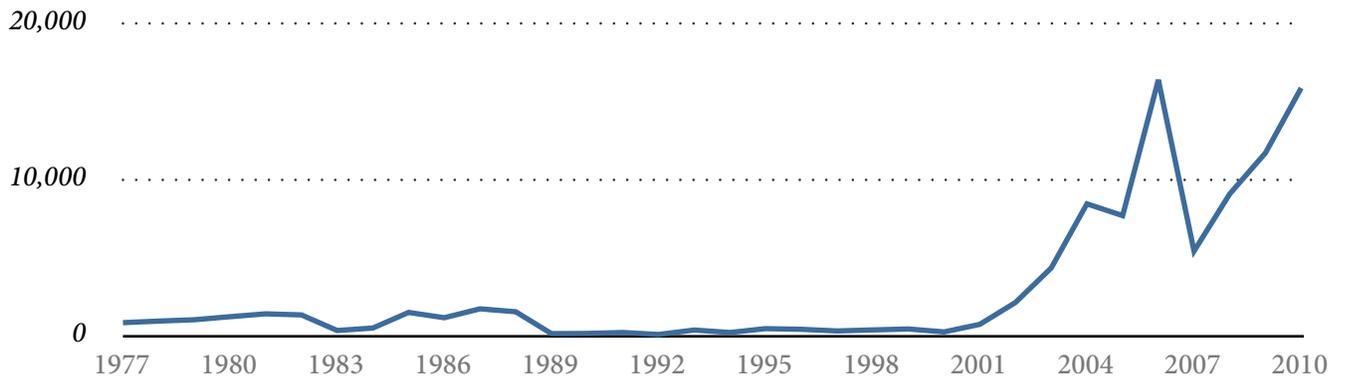
Spring Chinook Tribal Harvest

1977: **17,000** 2010: **42,168** Smallest harvest: **633 (1995)** Largest harvest: **54,943 (2001)**



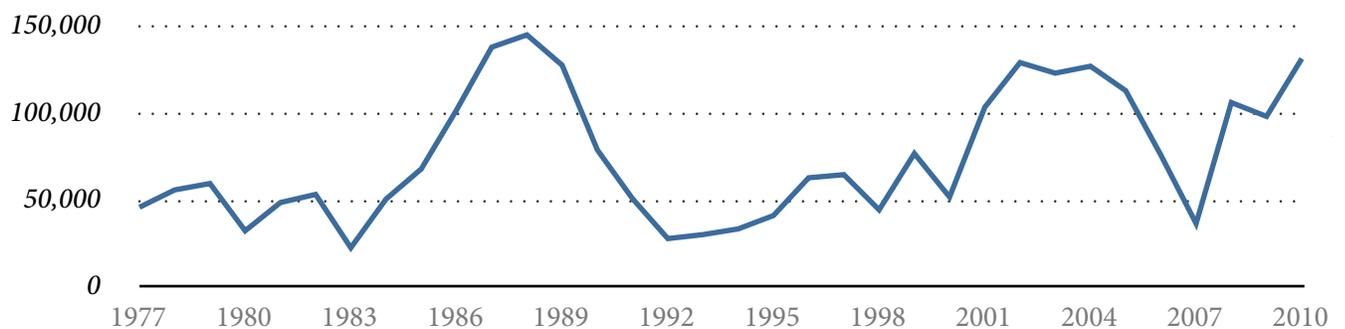
Summer Chinook Tribal Harvest

1977: **800** 2010: **15,799** Smallest harvest: **46 (1992)** Largest harvest: **16,319 (2006)**



Fall Chinook Tribal Harvest

1977: **46,200** 2010: **132,000** Smallest harvest: **22,800 (1983)** Largest harvest: **145,700 (1988)**





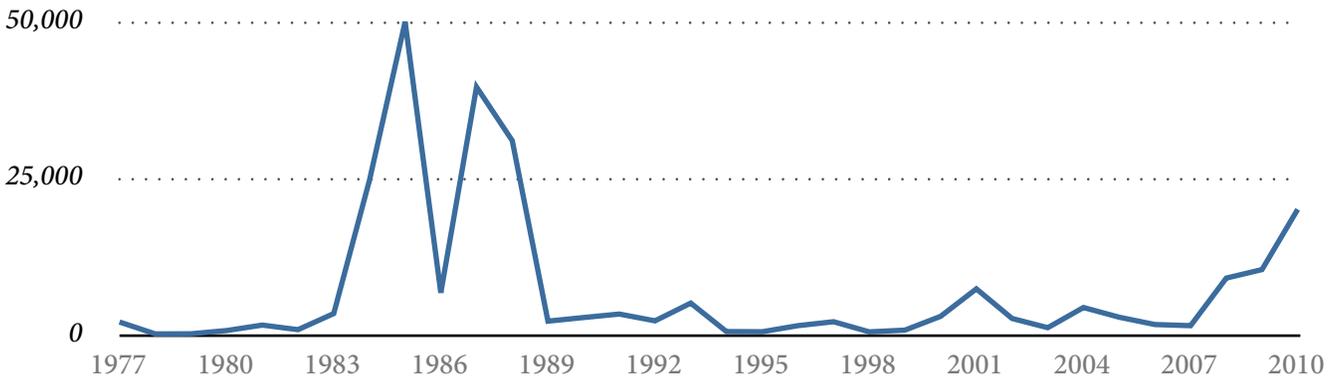
Summer Steelhead Tribal Harvest

1977: **36,000** 2010: **30,100** Smallest harvest: **8,300 (1982)** Largest harvest: **88,023 (1985)**



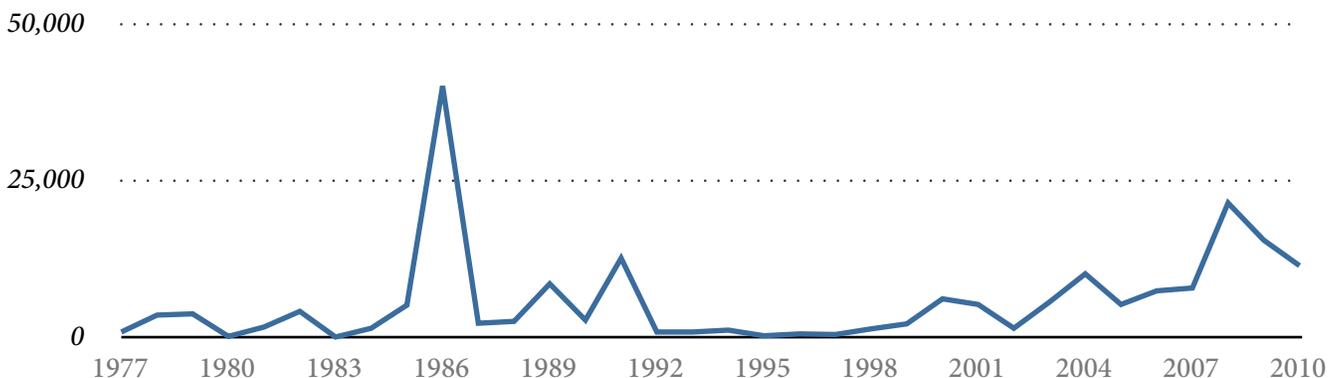
Sockeye Tribal Harvest

1977: **2,000** 2010: **20,000** Smallest harvest: **100 (1978)** Largest harvest: **49,969 (1985)**



Coho Tribal Harvest

1977: **1,000** 2010: **11,600** Smallest harvest: **200 (1983)** Largest harvest: **40,300 (1986)**





Don Croy dipnetting on Chief Island
Matheny Collection

Policy Development and Litigation Support

With CRITFC's support and coordination, 15 Columbia Basin tribes with natural resources management authorities and responsibilities held several workshops to review and discuss the upcoming changes to the 1964 Columbia River Treaty. ►

During 2009, CRITFC completed contracting for 21 new salmon, lamprey, and sturgeon projects supported by the Columbia Basin Fish Accords agreement. Policy staff was CRITFC's primary liaison with BPA for contracting more than \$5 million of new annual project implementation.

Policy staff wrote and negotiated a new 638 agreement with the BIA which transferred in-lieu and treaty fishing access site enforcement duties to CRITFC Enforcement.

Policy staff assisted the tribes in addressing enforcement needs for the Columbia River, including coordination of CRITFC Law Enforcement Committee meetings hosted by each of the four tribes and a workshop facilitated by the National Indian Justice Center.

The Columbia River Treaty Review: An opportunity to restore river function to benefit salmon

The Columbia River Treaty with Canada governs hydropower and flood control on the 1,200-mile Columbia River. The current treaty, implemented in 1964, does not consider the needs of fish, a healthy river, or the treaty fishing rights and cultural resources that are now fully protected under modern laws.

The U.S. and Canada negotiated the Treaty to last at least 60 years (2024). The Treaty allows either party to terminate it but they must provide a ten-year notice of their intent to do so. That ten-year window opens in September 2014. Seeing that date on the horizon, CRITFC started taking actions during this biennium to secure seats at the table for the tribes to participate in the analyses and decisions leading up to 2014. Now 15 Columbia Basin tribes are actively working to reshape the Columbia River Treaty to protect and benefit tribal culture and resources.

The impacts of the Columbia River Treaty are second only to the decision to dam the Columbia in the 1930s. The Treaty required the construction of Duncan, Arrow, and Mica dams in Canada and allowed Libby Dam to be built in the U.S., creating more than 20 million acre-feet of new storage. Under the treaty, the U.S. paid Canada \$64.4 million to provide 8.95 million acre-feet of storage for flood control in the lower Columbia, but it is only guaranteed through 2024. The U.S. returns to Canada half of the power the new Canadian storage produces in the U.S. This power, called the Canadian Entitlement, is worth on average \$300 million a year.

The tribes' participation in the Columbia River Treaty 2014/2024 Review is critical for protecting tribal rights and interests, including improving ecosystem functions and ensuring favorable conditions for other tribal resources.

In fall 2010, the Columbia Basin tribes began participating in the Treaty Review. The tribes gained the agreement of the U.S. to regard ecosystem function



Mica Dam spans the Columbia River 80 miles north of Revelstoke, British Columbia. It was one of three Canadian dams called for under the terms of the 1964 Columbia River Treaty. Mica Dam is one of the largest earth fill dams in the world and is the furthest upstream dam on the Columbia River.

as coequal with flood control and power production during the Treaty Review and to include measures to restore and preserve tribal resources and culture.

The tribes are also seeking representation on the U.S. negotiating team if changes to the Columbia River Treaty are discussed with Canada. The tribes were not consulted during the initial negotiation of the Columbia River Treaty; as a result, the Treaty fails to include tribes or tribal interests.

As 2010 ended, the tribes' small work group finished reviewing the Treaty Review Phase I and Supplemental Reports and began work on an Ecological Assessment to analyze the impacts on ecosystem functions and other tribal resources. The Phase I Report, narrowly focused on the twin obligations of power and flood control, provides baseline information about post-2024 conditions both with and without the current Columbia River Treaty. The Ecological Assessment will provide a baseline look at the Treaty's impact on ecosystem functions.

The Columbia Basin tribes will continue holding work sessions on a recurring basis.



Goudy brothers dipnetting from scaffolds on Chinook Rock
 Matheny Collection

Fisheries Enforcement

2009-10 Enforcement Department activities:

	2009	2010
Calls for service	1,591	1,770
Citations	47	91
Boat incidents	n/a	13
Search and rescue responses	4	1
Responses to 'in progress' calls for assault, intoxicated subjects, drugs/alcohol activity	19	22

CRITFC and the BIA signed a memorandum of understanding to deputize CRITFC enforcement officers with federal law enforcement commissions. The commissions provide CRITFC officers with

federal enforcement authority. This authority allows CRITFC to cite non-Indians for trespassing at treaty fishing access sites and other infractions along the Columbia River, address growing public safety concerns at in-lieu and treaty fishing access sites, and protect tribal property and archeological sites.

The agreement also includes a contract for CRITFC to provide law enforcement services at the in-lieu and treaty fishing access sites. The agreement was by tribal resolutions received from the Yakama, Umatilla, Warm Springs, and Nez Perce tribes.

The Tribal Law and Order Act, signed into law by President Obama on July 19, 2010, gives tribal governments more opportunities to address many law enforcement concerns in Indian Country, particularly those associated with drugs and alcohol.

The Yakama Nation reissued law enforcement commissions to CRITFC officers, permitting them to enforce the Yakama Nation Law and Order codes on Yakama tribal members. Now, with law enforcement commissions from all four CRITFC member tribes, CRITFC officers can cite Indian fishers into their respective tribal courts rather than being referred to local state courts. This ensures that jurisdiction over tribal members along the river stays in the hands of their tribal governments or tribally designated authorities.

To commemorate the occasion of CRITFC Enforcement receiving law enforcement commissions from each of the four member tribes, a special intertribal oath emphasizing tribal sovereignty and service to the tribes was written and administered to all the officers. ►

In 2009, CRITFC Enforcement officers made four seizures of illegally collected archaeological items including one search warrant for a storage unit, which resulted in four citations and two federal convictions for cultural resource-related crimes. Of thousands of artifacts recovered, approximately 95% were of prehistoric origin.

CRITFC Enforcement held “Archeological Protection for Law Enforcement” classes. Federal, tribal, state, and county law enforcement officers from Oregon and Washington were in attendance.

CRITFC Enforcement officers conducted boat safety presentations at the Maryhill (and Maryhill State Park), Celilo, and Le Page treaty fishing access sites.

Boat safety and cold water survival presentations were made at the Indian Fishers Expo in Hood River and at the 2010 Pacific Region Native American Fish & Wildlife Society conference in Lapwai, Idaho.

CRITFC Enforcement officers conducted boat safety inspections for fishers in accordance with each tribe’s respective safety regulations. CRITFC certification stickers were affixed to all boats that passed the safety inspection.

The Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission Enforcement Oath



CRITFC Executive Director Paul Lumley administers the new oath to the CRITFC Enforcement officers.

Enforcement Oath

I do solemnly declare upon my honor and conscience that I will faithfully support the sovereignty of the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, and the Nez Perce Tribe; I accept my commission acknowledging that it does not in any way diminish the sovereignty of these tribes.

I will, to the best of my ability, enforce the laws and regulations of these tribes, protect tribal fishers, assist in times of crisis, and protect archeological resources in and near Zone 6 of the Columbia River.

I will preserve the dignity and will respect the rights of all tribal members, particularly in their exercise of treaty-reserved fishing rights.

I will be mindful of the unique cultural beliefs and traditions of the Yakama Nation, the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, and the Nez Perce Tribe as I enforce the fishing regulations of these tribes.

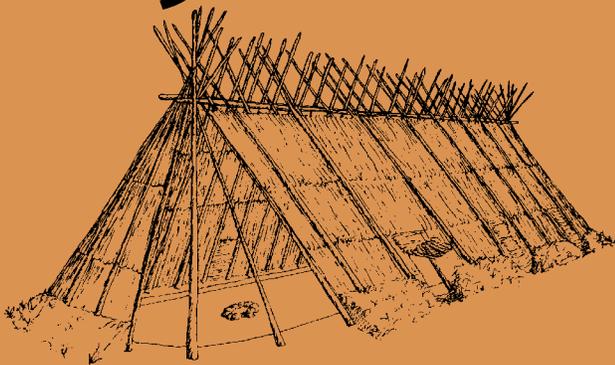
I will constantly strive to honor this oath and the trust that these tribes have placed upon me.

The Yakama, Umatilla, Warm Springs, and Nez Perce cultures are alive and well; salmon helped make this possible. The tribal connection to this sacred fish was a lifeline that helped maintain these cultures through some of their darkest hours. Today, salmon still defines the tribes' cultures, diets, and spirituality and drives their efforts to restore the salmon runs. Half the harvestable salmon that the tribes restore benefit the non-Indian fisheries, allowing everyone in the region to take part in the Northwest's unique salmon culture.

21,560

total enrolled membership of the four tribes

9,367



total spring chinook caught by fishers from the four member tribes in 2010 exclusively for tribal longhouses and churches to use in traditional ceremonies and feasts.

“There was great joy with the natives last night, in consequence of the arrival of the salmon. One of those fish was caught. This was the harbinger of good news to them. They informed us that these fish would arrive in great quantities in the course of about five days. This fish was dressed and, being divided into small pieces, was given to each child in the village.”

Captain William Clark, 18 April 1806, witnessing a First Salmon ceremony at Celilo Falls while on the Lewis & Clark expedition

51 lbs.

average amount of salmon each member of the Yakama, Umatilla, Warm Springs, and Nez Perce tribes consumes annually

Sharing salmon culture

Salmon lie at the heart of Columbia River basin tribes' cultures, influencing their religions, diets, societies, and economies. CRITFC seeks to share these unique salmon cultures with policy makers, media outlets, and the general public not only to help increase awareness of the tribes, but instill a respect for and desire to protect salmon—the iconic animal of the entire region. Salmon, however, are just one focus of this effort. Sharing information and the tribal perspective on other issues such as the nature of treaty fishing rights, tribal restoration activities, and lamprey and sturgeon protection helps to ensure that future generations will enjoy the rights and resources that have been central to tribal cultures in this region since time immemorial.

The **Office of the Executive Director** is primarily responsible for this goal. Within the department is a public information and intergovernmental affairs team that works to distribute information and news to a variety of audiences.





Public Information

CRITFC's public information work helps develop tribal and public understanding, support, and cooperation to assist the member tribes' and CRITFC achieve their goals with particular emphasis on *U.S. v. Oregon* and *Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit*.

News media relations, publications, video productions, websites, outreach, and other education and communication strategies are used to develop messages that reflect the goals and objectives of *Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit*; tribal culture and traditions; and the professionalism of tribal and CRITFC technical endeavors.

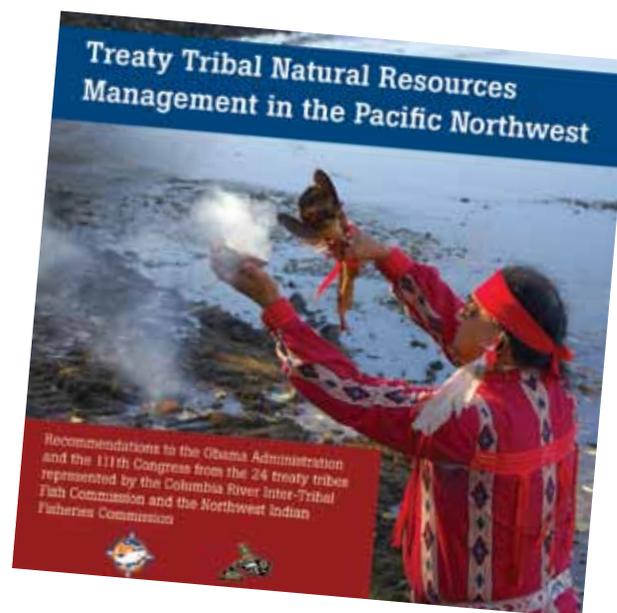
The 2009-2011 major accomplishments include:

- CRITFC began publication of *The Dipnetter*, a monthly newsletter featuring salmon- and treaty fishing-related news. The newsletter is distributed to around 500 households each month and is available online.
- In 2009, the CRITFC website received over 50,000 visits and provided over 157,000 page views and in 2010 received over 53,000 visits and provided 173,000 page views.
- Coordinated the Columbia Basin Fish Accords First Anniversary event at Columbia Hills State Park in May 2009. The event was an opportunity for the Accords parties to showcase their current efforts and to celebrate the partnership the Accords created. The event attracted almost 400 guests. ◀
- Presentations, tours, and materials were given to officials, governmental agencies, special events, and schools. These audiences ranged from schoolchildren to Hungary's Undersecretary of State.
- Co-hosted with the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission the Pacific Northwest visit of Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs Larry EchoHawk.

- Published *Che Wana Tymoo*, a handbook on the history of tribal treaty fishing rights on the Columbia River and an overview of the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission.

Intergovernmental Affairs

- Conducted five DC delegations that dealt with appropriations, in-lieu and treaty fishing access sites, sea lion legislation, and Water Resources Development Act amendments.
- Provided testimony on appropriations to the House and Senate for Interior and Commerce funding.
- Collaborated with the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission to provide the then-incoming Obama Administration with recommendations for tribal natural resource actions. ▼



ABOVE: CRITFC produced a 14-page brochure that outlined the tribal natural resources management recommendations. The publication was distributed to Obama Administration officials, Congress, and other decision-makers. It proved so popular that a second printing was required to fill all the requests; in total, 3,500 copies were printed and distributed.

LEFT: Lt. Col. Stephan Capps, the deputy commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Portland District, visits with Umatilla tribal members Marcus Minthorn [left] and his brother Richard, grandsons of the late Jay Minthorn, at the Columbia Basin Fish Accords First Anniversary event.

Fishing is a way of life for thousands of Yakama, Umatilla, Warm Springs, and Nez Perce tribal members. Most of these fishers catch salmon for subsistence; an estimated 400 of them fish commercially. In the last decade, the value of the tribal commercial harvest has increased substantially and Columbia River Indian-caught salmon is gaining a reputation for its high-quality and connection to Indian tradition.

200,000

estimated pounds of salmon Indian fishers sold over-the-bank directly to the public in 2010.

Indian fishers continue to expand the market for their harvest regionally, nationally, and internationally. Last year, Columbia River Indian-caught salmon was shipped as far away as Spain.



29

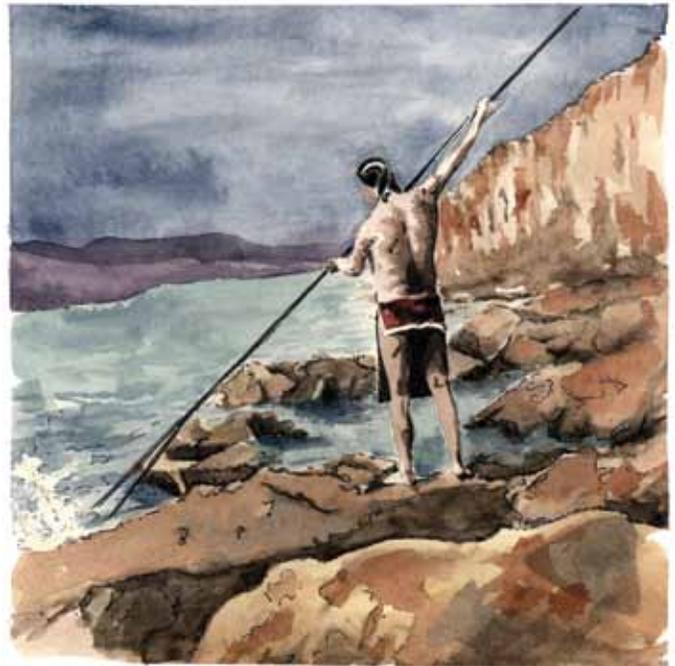
number of sites between Bonneville and McNary dams constructed specifically for Yakama, Umatilla, Warm Springs, and Nez Perce fishers to access the Columbia River, camp, or take care of their harvest. Most of these sites are for the exclusive use of members of the four tribes. Two more sites are currently under construction.

Of the estimated 400 Indian commercial fishers, over 87% are HACCP-trained, ensuring their harvest is handled safely and hygienically to achieve the highest quality.

Providing fisher services

CRITFC provides a variety of services directly to Yakama, Umatilla, Warm Springs, and Nez Perce fishers. These services provide valuable resources to the fishers that help them exercise their treaty-protected rights to fish and carry on the tradition of making a living from fishing.

The **Finance Department** and the **Enforcement Department** are primarily responsible for this goal. The Finance Department oversees the operations and maintenance of the 29 in-lieu and treaty fishing access sites scattered throughout Zone 6 (the length of river between Bonneville and McNary dams). The Finance Department also oversees the Salmon Marketing program, which strives to increase the economic value of the tribal harvest. The Enforcement Department provides public safety services on the river in the form of first response duties and safety education for fishers.





Salmon Marketing

Since the creation of the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission in 1977, the four tribes have discussed and researched ways to help fishers increase the economic value of their commercial treaty catch. In the mid-1990s, CRITFC formally adopted this as an organizational goal. Initial efforts focused on publicizing the over-the-bank sales to help fishers sell directly to the public. By eliminating the middleman, the sales price increased from 50¢-75¢ per pound to \$2 per pound or more. Over time, the program has coordinated the commercial buyers program, which brings buyers to the river to purchase directly from fishers. The program has also helped fishers access farmers markets and develop value-added products.

A cornerstone of the program continues to provide fishers with information on ways to improve fish quality, marketing, and sales techniques. The quality fish handling classes cover best practices to harvest and preserve the quality of the fish, sanitation, and the importance of ice to preserve fish quality and shelf life. As a result of fishers incorporating these improved quality handling techniques into their processing, the sales value of the fisheries has increased. Fishers are able to receive higher prices than what the wholesalers were paying. Additionally, consumers are able to buy a locally harvested fish at a lower price lower than in grocery stores.

Major accomplishments in 2009-10 include:

- In 2009, the Columbia River Indian salmon harvest reached a commercial pricing milestone when the price for salmon paid to commercial Indian fishers equaled or exceeded the prices paid to lower river non-Indian fishers.
- During the 2010 fall commercial treaty fishery, whole, dressed chinook salmon sold over-the-bank for \$4 per pound for the first time ever.
- Eight different wholesale fish buyers came to the river during the commercial fishing seasons to purchase directly from fishers.

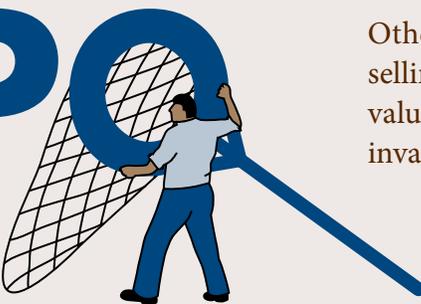
- Approximately 88% (over 350) of fishers are now HACCP-trained (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point, the federal food safety guidelines). There is great interest in more HACCP workshops, which can help improve the quality and value of the tribal harvest.
- Produced and distributed over 300 copies of “Honoring the Salmon,” a DVD companion to the Tribal Fishers Handbook demonstrating proper handling techniques to ensure harvested fish are well cared for and of the highest quality.
- Produced and distributed “Sharing the Harvest”, a DVD for customers who have purchased Indian-caught salmon that provides recipes and cooking techniques.
- Held three “Train the Trainers” classes to certify seven reservation-based HACCP trainers to conduct future food safety training courses. These classes were coordinated with the assistance of the four tribes and support from a USDA grant.
- Created and distributed customized receipt books and price converter cards that meet the specific reporting requirements and needs of Indian fishers.

Fisher Education and Safety

After a series of boating tragedies that occurred during the tribal fisheries in 2009-10, the BIA and CRITFC partnered to offer discounts on self-inflating lifejackets to all Yakama, Umatilla, Warm Springs, and Nez Perce fishers. A common complaint fishers had of traditional lifejackets was that they hindered their range of motion or got snagged on their nets. Modern self-inflating lifejackets solved these problems, but cost more than the older styles. By offsetting this cost, CRITFC and the BIA hope to get more fishers to use lifejackets and thereby increase the safety of the entire tribal fishery. The 2009-10 program was a big success, with the 100th discounted lifejacket sold during the summer 2010 fishery.

COLUMBIA RIVER INDIAN FISHER'S

EXPO



CRITFC sponsored the first ever Columbia River Indian Fishers' Expo in 2010. About 200 fishers attended the two-day conference and trade show held at the end of July in Hood River, Oregon. The Expo was free to all Yakama, Umatilla, Nez Perce, and Warm Springs fishers. The Expo is part of the tribes' and CRITFC's on-going effort to continually improve quality, pricing, and image of Indian-caught salmon.

The Expo featured seminars, demonstrations, and classes on boat and river safety, cold water survival, boat engine repair, food handling techniques, making slush ice, and improving over-the-bank sales. A food handling certification class was also offered.

Other topics included net repair and maintenance, selling at farmers markets, labeling requirements for value-added products, and preventing the spread of invasive aquatic species.

Vendors displayed information and products including scales, life jackets, totes, mobile cold storage trailers, vacuum-sealing products, business cards and signage, small business financing, and the dangers of cold water.

The Expo addressed the more diverse needs and growing participation of tribal members, particularly youth, in this traditional means of tribal livelihood.

The conference and trade show also scheduled several venues for fishers to discuss their concerns and exchange information with tribal leaders and CRITFC staff.

The Commission plans to make the Fishers Expo an annual event.



Henry Begay (YAKAMA), son of fisher Bobby Begay, learns about the dangers of cold water. In this Corps of Engineers display, participants experienced the physiological effects of cold water on the human body as they tried to pick up small items at the bottom of a bucket of ice water.



CRITFC biologist Blaine Parker explains the threat of invasive aquatic species, how they spread, and what fishers can do to help prevent their spread. He demonstrated how to make sure a boat is free of any pests; boats going from one waterway to another is the primary way these species spread.

In-Lieu and Tribal Fishing Access Sites Operations & Maintenance

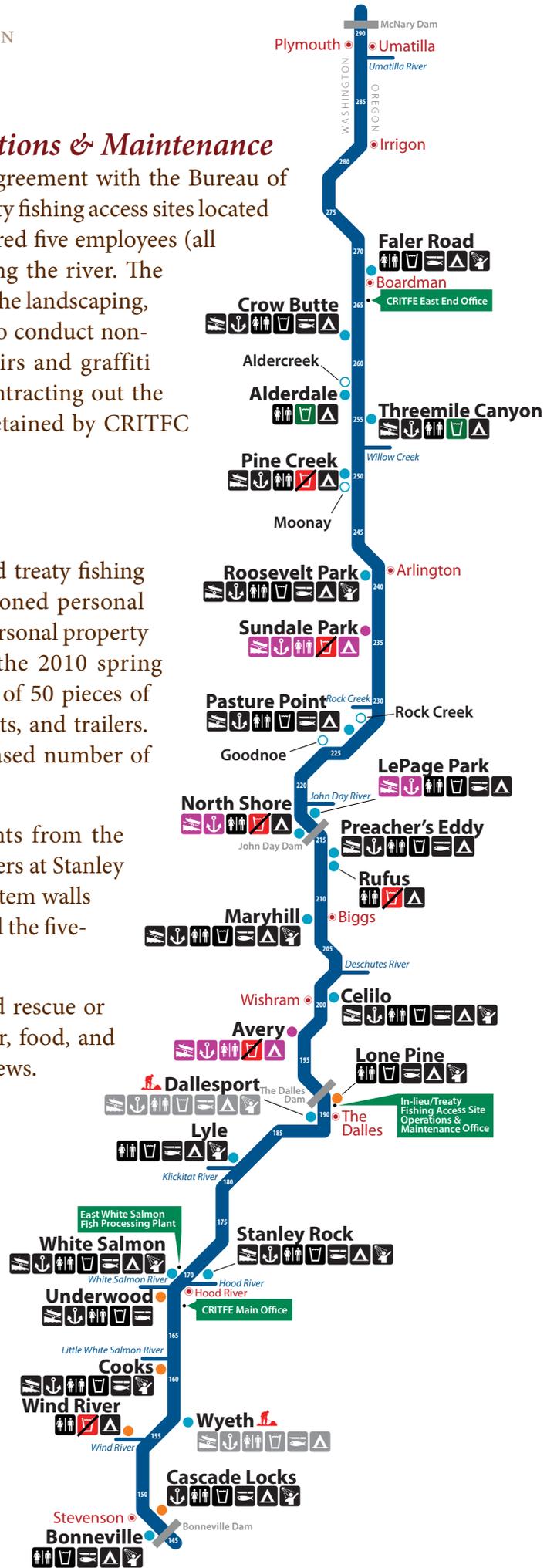
In 2003, CRITFC entered into a 638 Self-determination Agreement with the Bureau of Indian Affairs to take over management of the in-lieu and treaty fishing access sites located between Bonneville and McNary dams. The Commission hired five employees (all of whom are tribal members) to maintain the 29 sites along the river. The primary work of this crew is to keep the sites clean, maintain the landscaping, and keep the boat docks and ramps in good repair. They also conduct non-routine maintenance including vandalism and other repairs and graffiti removal. By performing this work in-house rather than contracting out the services, institutional knowledge is being developed and retained by CRITFC staff and it is being done in a more cost-effective manner.

Major accomplishments in 2009-10 include:

- Conducted a large two-phase clean up of the in-lieu and treaty fishing access sites. Phase one consisted of cleaning up abandoned personal property and fishing gear. Most fishing gear and usable personal property was returned to fishers when they returned during the 2010 spring commercial gill net season. Phase two cleared the sites of 50 pieces of abandoned titled property, which included vehicles, boats, and trailers. The success of the effort can be measured by the increased number of fishers able to use the sites.
- Worked with 150 junior high and high school students from the Portland and Vancouver area to construct five wind shelters at Stanley Rock. In 2009, the students constructed the footing and stem walls and returned in 2010 to lay the concrete block that formed the five-foot high windbreaks.
- The O&M crew provided support for several search and rescue or recovery efforts for missing fishers. They provided water, food, and lodging support to the search and rescue and recovery crews.

Fishing Access Site Amenities

- In-lieu Site
- Treaty Fishing Access Site
- Shared-use site (treaty fishing and public access)
- Unimproved site (**No services**)
- 285 River mile (approx.)
- Community
- Under construction (with planned amenities in gray)
- Boat ramp
- Boat dock
- Toilet facilities
- Water
- Water (hand pump)
- No water
- Fish cleaning table
- Camping facilities
- Shower
- Shared-use amenity



Treaty Fishing Access Sites

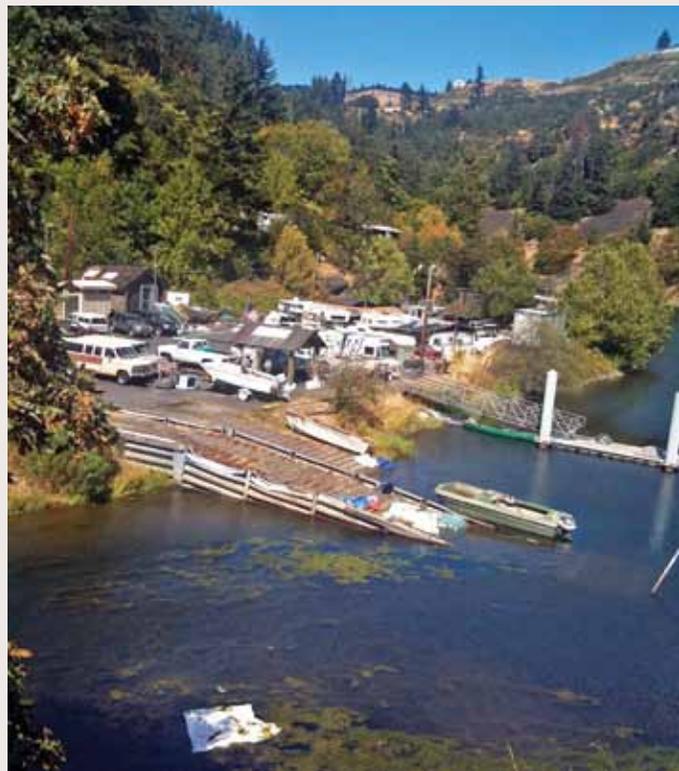
Usual and Accustomed Fishing Places

“[T]he exclusive right of taking fish in the streams running through and bordering said reservation is hereby secured to said Indians; and at all other usual and accustomed stations, in common with citizens of the United States, and of erecting suitable houses for curing the same...”

—Treaty with the Warm Springs, 1855

During a two-year investigation, federal Special Indian Agent George Gordon found that Indians no longer had access to most of their usual and accustomed fishing places along the Columbia River. His report recommended the U.S. government purchase or withdraw from non-Indian entry about 2,300 acres along the river for tribal use. That was in 1889.

Since then, the United States has constructed a string of dams on the Columbia River that inundated the remaining usual and accustomed fishing places. Tribal leaders pressed Congress and the Executive Branch to remedy this violation of the terms of their 1855 treaties. Finally, in 1988, a century after Agent Gordon’s initial report, Congress enacted Public Law 10-581, Title IV: Columbia River Treaty Fishing Access Sites.



The Underwood in-lieu site. Chronic overcrowding and heavy use threatens the usability of many of these sites; this is a problem that CRITFC and the tribes will be addressing in 2011.

That legislation has resulted in 29 sites with two more in development. Facilities at the sites include access roads and parking areas, boat ramps and docks, fish cleaning tables, net racks, drying sheds, restrooms, mechanical buildings, and shelters. (See adjacent map.) In 2010 the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers started construction at Wyeth (between Hood River and Cascade Locks, Oregon), and acquired property at Dallesport (across the Columbia River from The Dalles, Oregon). When the Army Corps completes the Wyeth and Dallesport sites, the in-lieu and treaty fishing access sites will occupy about 700 acres.

A task force comprised of tribal, CRITFC, and Corps of Engineers representatives worked cooperatively in a government-to-government fashion. The group established processes and considerations that respected the tribes’ concerns such as potential impacts to cultural resources as many of the sites were located near historic fishing places. Similarly, each tribe’s Tribal Employment Rights Office assisted the task force in developing employment opportunities for tribal members during site construction.

The challenge ahead involves ongoing maintenance, law enforcement services, and repair and rehabilitation at the sites. A BIA Self-Determination Act contract tasks CRITFC with the operations and maintenance of these sites. CRITFC manages the funds to maximize the time horizon in which the dollars can be available. Currently, CRITFC projects that the funds will be depleted in 2025 unless alternatives are found, which is 20 years earlier than planned.

CRITFC executive director Paul Lumley remarked, “We appreciate what the Corps has done, but our work and the Corps’ is not finished. We anticipate tribal/Corps government-to-government consultation in the near future regarding the next phase of the restoration of our fishing grounds along the Columbia.”



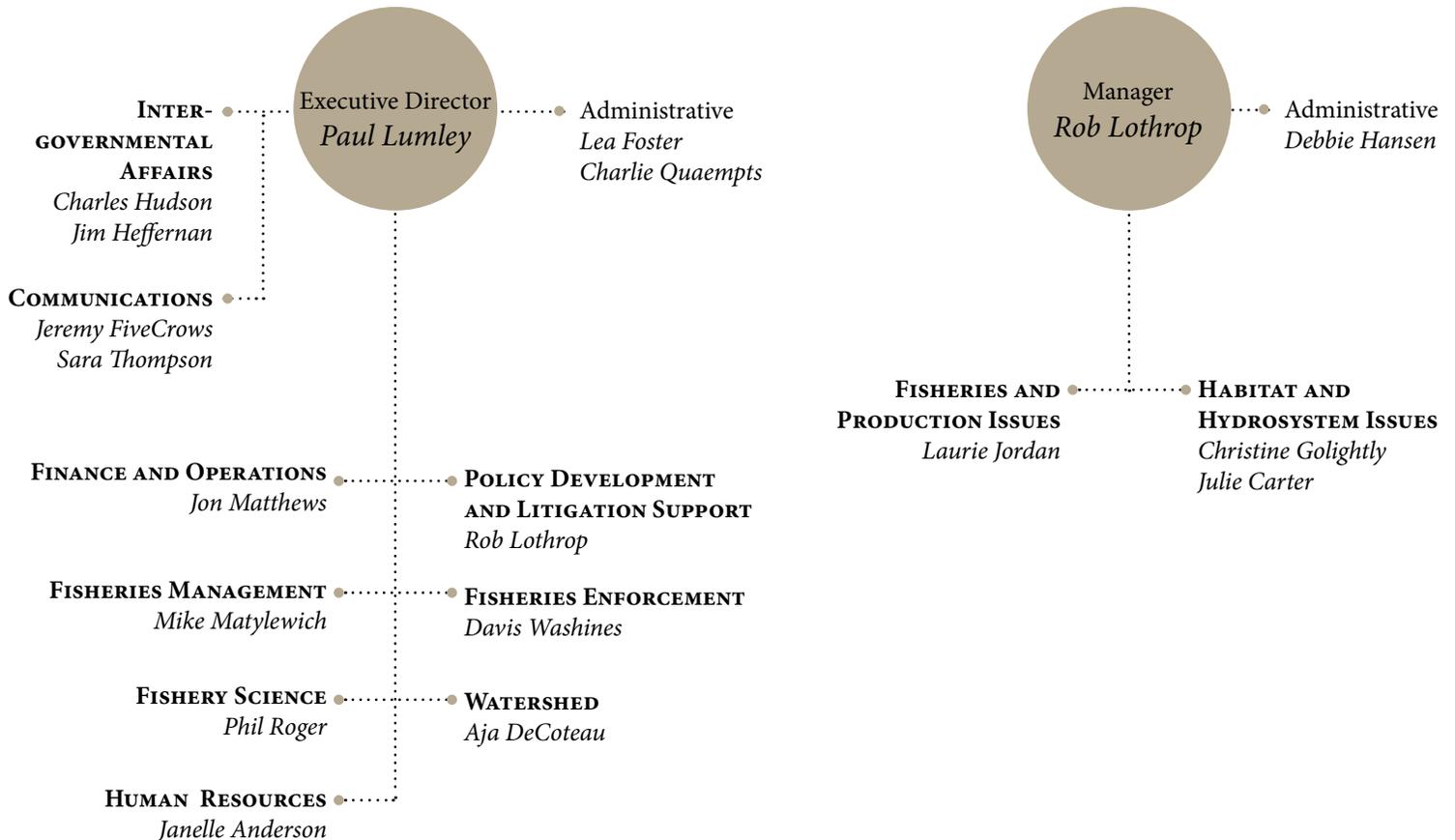
Department Overviews

Office of the Executive Director

The Office of the Executive Director provides leadership and management for all organizational endeavors and guides the implementation of tribal policy under the guidance of the Board of Commissioners who represent the Warm Springs, Yakama, Umatilla, and Nez Perce tribes. CRITFC's communications and intergovernmental affairs efforts are also part of this department's responsibilities.

Policy Development and Litigation Support

The Policy Development and Litigation Support Department assists the Commission and its member tribes in their leadership roles in the development and implementation of regional, national, and international policies and laws affecting Columbia River treaty-secured fisheries. This involves litigation support, policy analysis, and communication of these efforts with the member tribes.



Finance and Operations

The Finance and Operations Department provides financial, accounting, and operational support services that CRITFC requires to meet its goals. The department is also responsible for the Salmon Marketing program and the operations and maintenance of the 29 in-lieu and treaty fishing access sites along Zone 6 of the Columbia River.

Human Resources

The Human Resources Department is charged with improving human resources planning, systems, and processes to help CRITFC management and staff meet organizational goals. Its essential functions include recruitment, selection, hiring, and new employee orientation; compensation and benefits; and performance management support.

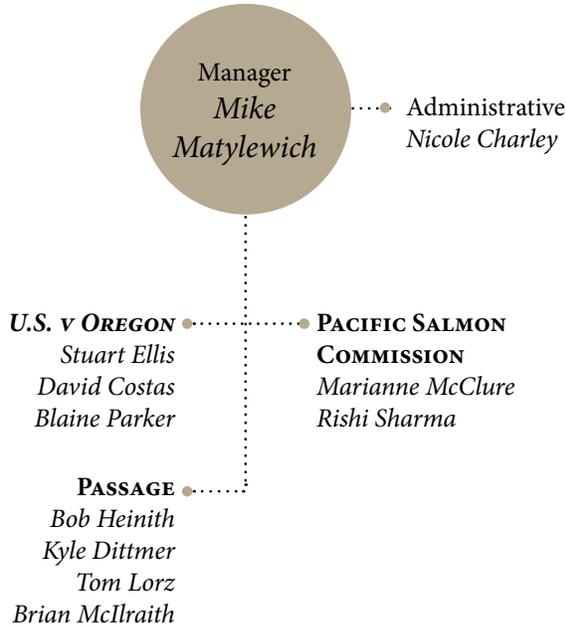




Department Overviews (cont.)

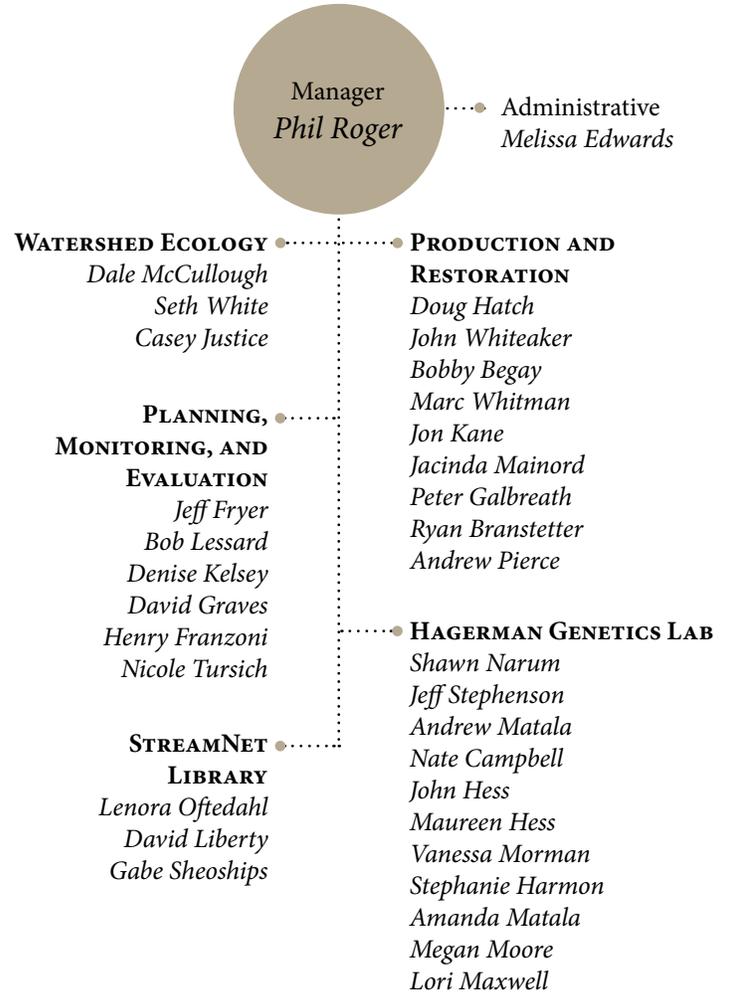
Fisheries Management

The Fisheries Management Department provides the four member tribes with technical assistance on harvest, hatchery, water management, and fish passage issues. The department tracks the catch of Columbia River salmon from southeast Alaska to the Columbia River tributaries, reviews hatchery management plans with an eye toward compatibility with naturally spawning populations, and devises plans that aim to increase the survival of juvenile and adult salmon as they migrate through the hydropower system. Tribal policy makers use the department's technical information to formulate management positions that reflect the tribal goal of returning naturally spawning fish to all their usual and accustomed fishing places.



Fishery Science

One of the primary reasons for CRITFC's founding in 1977 was to provide technical information to the four member tribes. Prior to this, the tribes were beholden to state and federal agencies for research and evaluations. A large part of the technical information that CRITFC provides today is the biological research produced by the Fishery Science Department. The department is organized into three groups: Watershed Ecology; Production & Restoration; and Planning, Monitoring, and Evaluation; and two programs: Hagerman Fish Culture Experiment Station; and StreamNet Library.

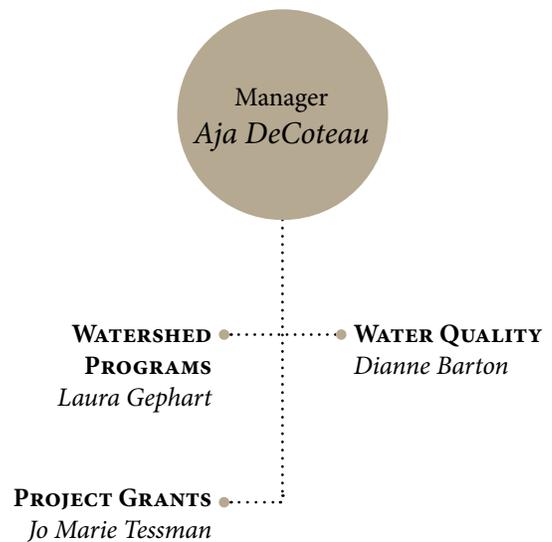
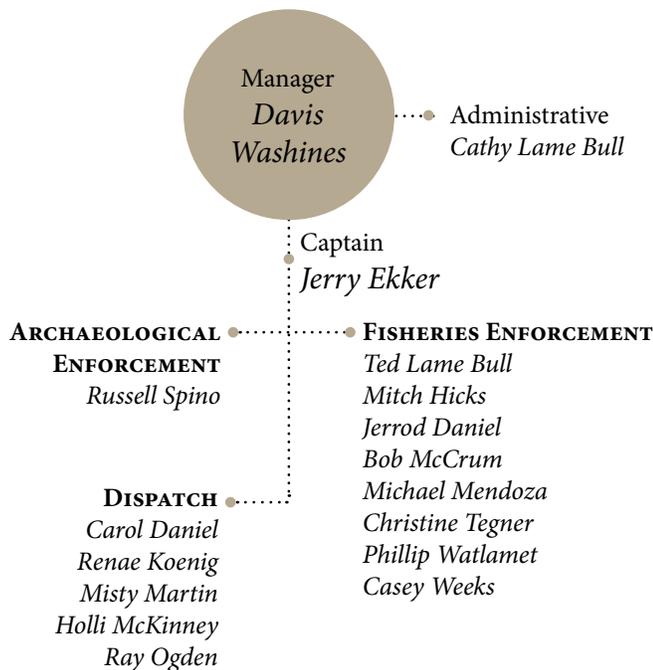


Fisheries Enforcement

The tribes established the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission's enforcement division in the early 1980s; by the 1990s, it was the dominant law enforcement presence in Zone 6 of the Columbia River. CRITFC Enforcement is based in Hood River and employs 16 patrol officers, dispatchers, and administrative staff. The force is responsible for patrolling the 147 miles of the Columbia River that comprise the Zone 6 fishery between Bonneville and McNary dams and, beginning in 2010, the area directly below Bonneville Dam.

Watershed Department

The Watershed Department focuses on Columbia River basin salmon and habitat issues and activities impacting entire watersheds or river basins. The department's activities are guided by the holistic principles outlined in *Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit* (Spirit of the Salmon), the tribal salmon restoration plan. Technical assistance, support, coordination, and project management of tribal watershed protection, fish production, water quality, and habitat restoration efforts and issues in the Columbia River basin are the primary tasks of the department. It is also responsible for water quality, climate change, and tribal workforce development projects coordinated through or conducted by CRITFC.





Scaffolds on Chinook Rock



CRITFC Expenditures By Funding Source

*all number listed in \$1,000s

Federal funds	2009	2010²
Bureau of Indian Affairs	5,223	5,574
Bonneville Power Administration	5,661	6,187
Environmental Protection Agency	147	59
US Fish & Wildlife Service	-	17
US Geological Survey	-	63
US Department of Agriculture	14	114
US Department of Defense	107	152
US Department of Commerce	1,626	1,239
US Department of Justice	270	-
<i>subtotal</i>	13,047	13,405
Non-federal funds		
Oregon Department of Transportation	10	-
Oregon Dept. of Environmental Quality	-	2
Idaho Department of Fish & Game	-	0.1
Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife	-	274
Alaska Department of Fish & Game	24	-
Columbia Basin Fish & Wildlife Authority	-	4
Warm Springs Tribe	-	13
Nez Perce Tribe	-	124
Yakama Nation	-	64
Pacific Salmon Commission	74	46
<i>subtotal</i>	108	527
Total	13,155	13,932

CRITFC Expenditures By Activity¹

	2009	2010²
General government	2,412	2,494
Executive relations	237	369
Outreach and education	279	257
Fisheries management	965	1,129
Scientific research and evaluation	4,199	4,678
Policy development and government relations	1,040	679
Law enforcement	1,735	1,678
Coordination and implementation		
Direct to Yakama	287	314
Direct to Warm Springs	323	290
Direct to Umatilla	419	382
Direct to Nez Perce	259	483
Other coordination and implementation	288	463
Salmon marketing	183	134
Treaty fishing site operation & maintenance	529	582
Total	13,155	13,932

¹Expenditures by activity are estimated as there are some crossover responsibilities between departments.

²2010 expenditures are unaudited.



Sue Seven

Nez Perce
1950-2009



Susan Rose Watters McCarty Case Seven was one of the first employees of CRITFC. She passed away on November 3, 2009 in Portland Oregon. Sue was born to Vernon E. Watters, Sr., and Mazie M. Moses. After graduating from Lapwai High School in 1968, she worked for the Bureau of Indian Affairs before being hired in 1977 by the newly formed Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission. In 1992, Sue took a position with the American Indian Community House, a social support agency and cultural center serving the estimated 27,000 Native Americans in New York City. There she served as the Women's Wellness Coordinator and was nationally recognized for her work. While in New York City, Sue met her husband Ed Levene. She returned to the Commission in 1999

to become the Assistant to the Executive Director, serving several executive directors in that capacity. During her professional life, Sue lent her formidable organizational talents to non-profit organizations advocating salmon preservation and recovery, tribal rights, community health, women's wellness, education, and sobriety. Her favorite quotation was from Eleanor Roosevelt: "No one can make you feel inferior without your permission."

Sue lived her Nez Perce culture and traditions taught by her parents and grandparents and passed this knowledge on to her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. The Nez Perce religious camp of Talmaks was very dear to Sue, and she returned there each year.

Jay Minthorn

Umatilla

1936-2010



Jay Minthorn was an elder in the fullest sense of the word. He was wise, a teacher, and a leader. He gave of himself in honor of the generations who had come before him and for the benefit of those to follow. The Umatilla tribal leader and CRITFC commissioner passed away on November 22, 2010. He served on the Commission for nearly a quarter of a century, from 1986 through 2010, serving as chairman in 2004-05. Jay's advocacy helped secure full co-management authority for the tribes through negotiated agreements such as the Pacific Salmon Treaty, *U.S. v. Oregon* management plans, and the Northwest Power Act.

Jay never missed the opportunity to share his Indian culture; his stories of fishing at Celilo provided a profound glimpse at what was lost when the falls were

inundated. Jay understood the history of relations among the sovereigns and the importance of tribal unity in addressing issues between states and tribes. He was chair of the Oregon Commission on Indian Affairs and for two decades was a member of the Board of Trustees of Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. His friendship, sense of humor, and knowledge of the past were the tracks on which his ideas were conveyed. His ideas about sovereignty currently inform the substantial progress that tribes have made recovering their birthright: the salmon of the Columbia River. His presence at the Commission table will be missed.



Putting fish back in the rivers

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission

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