

WATERSHED WRAP

Quarterly Newsletter from the Coeur d'Alene Tribe's Fish & Wildlife Program describing watershed management efforts. Offering readers food for conversation and paper for wrapping!

Fall Equinox 2006

(Vol. 10 No. 3)

The Coeur d'Alene Tribal Fish, and Wildlife Programs work in a variety of cooperative, governmental and educational arenas in efforts to protect, enhance and restore our fish, and wildlife resources. This publication is intended to provide all people interested in Fish, and Wildlife of the Coeur d'Alene Reservation information about our program, and to solicit your support as well as constructive criticism.

Thank you for your interest.

Respectfully,

Mark H. Stanger, Fish, and Wildlife Outreach Specialist
208-686-0131- mhstanger@cdatribe-nsn.gov

Attention:

Hangman Creek Watershed Work
Group Meeting at Plummer
Fisheries building At 6:00pm on
Sept 27th

Any questions call **Bruce Kinhead**:
(208) 686-6071 or **Gerry Green** 686-0312



New Lead Water Resources Technician

By Eric Chambers, Lead Water Technician

Hello, my name is Eric Chambers. I have just jumped aboard as the new Lead Water Resource Technician in the Water Quality Program. I feel blessed to be able to get the chance to work in the field that I major in at college. My degree was an A.A.S in water resources from Spokane Community College. After I graduated the Forest Service hired me for three seasons in summer and I really enjoyed my work with them. Because this wasn't a full time job, I left them to pursue a full time job with

benefits. The best job at the time was a delivery truck driving job for an electric company in Spokane. In my spare time I like to fish, hunt, camp, or just hang out with my two kids and my girlfriend and her three girls. I also like to make things out of wood like clocks and signs from a scroll saw. I look forward to try and meet some or all the people who work for the Coeur d'Alene Tribe and hope to be around here for a longtime.

Native American Fish & Wildlife Society Pacific Region Conference On Oct 15-19

This year's meeting will be hosted by Squaxin Island Tribe at their Little Creek Casino & Resort Hotel in Shelton, Washington. The Society announced that they have two scholarships available at \$1000.00 each. These scholarships are available Native American Students that are enrolled in college courses now and pursuing a degree in the Natural Resources field. Application can be picked up at our F & W office in Plummer until Oct 6. Contact Barb at 208-686-5302 or Mark Stanger 686-0131.

Fisheries Summer Interns for 2006

By Jordan Justice, Tribal Member Student Intern

My internship this summer with the Coeur d'Alene tribal fisheries program was a great learning experience. There were a lot of things we did. It varied from day to day, one day we would be surveying streams, creeks and the next day we would be cleaning up garbage around the stocked ponds, fish shocking or surveying. I am looking forward to working with the Coeur d'Alene tribal fisheries program in the near future. I've worked for the fisheries program for the past two years now and I am looking forward to my third year next summer as a

Fisheries Tech. The experience I picked up from the summer internships will be very helpful when I apply for a more permanent position in the future after I finish college.



Jordan, Lovinia, and Toni putting nets on trees in Benewah.

Real Busy summer for Fisheries Outreach & Education Specialist!

By Mark H. Stanger

This summer's projects started out by hiring our summer Interns Jordan Justice, Nathan Clem and Lovinia Johnson who worked through out the summer helping with all the different projects going on in our fisheries program.

One of my first projects was going to Post Falls for a Historic Society meeting with over 550 4th grade students from around Post Falls area schools Ponderosa, Prairie view, Seltice, and Mullan Trail Elementary attended. I told stories about what the tribal people did in this area for survival on and off the reservation from fishing, hunting, trading material, and camping a long the rivers and Lakes in summer and wintertime. There is a lot of stories to be told about the history that happened in this area longtime ago with all Tribes in the area. I also told similar stories in Kellogg at the Discovery Center which is part of the Silver Mountain Plaza area, over 75 people attended, Pullman I talked to Japan students from Hong Kong (12), and Harrison had a real big turn out of bicycle people (300) from Oregon to hear stories about the Tribal people.

The Tribe hosted the Natural Resource camp down at Camp Larson on June 27-July 1. There were Tribal people from the Nez Perce, Spokane, Kalispel and Coeur d'Alene. We had three days of teaching our youth about some of the opportunities they have in the Natural Resource fields. The first day the youth enjoyed learning about fish shocking, water quality and measuring stream channel length and width. Next day they went up to the Forest Services Nursery in Coeur d'Alene. They grow over 20 million trees a year there

and also went to a Forest Service fire Station up in Hayden Lake area. Then the next night we told stories of coyote and his friends plus, did some drumming, singing and dancing from Lighting Spirit drum from Worley, Id.

Another big project I helped out with was Rockin the Rez program that helps over 200 youth for four weeks in the summertime. This program helps youth with their Math, English and Reading skills plus, they get to learn more about their traditional ways, culture, dances, songs and learn some drumming the old ways.



Rockin Rez girls walking down town to go swimming!

The Tribe sponsored a short course on what we do in a watershed in Benewah Creek and how this relates to Water Quality and such. The teachers attending were from a program called Project WET. They were looking for some new material to update their book. There were over 25 teachers that attended our workshop from all over the state of Idaho it was a good learning experience for all that attended. All the teacher said they learned alot from our biologist and outreach specialist. Participates had alot of material and good words to bring back to their classroom to teach their students for the upcoming school year.



Spokane Tribal youth walking up Indian Cliffs trail by Lake.

One of our last duties of the summer was helping teach the Spokane Tribal youth that camp down at Camp Larson in Aug. We talked to them about our Choices program that helps them make good or better choices like stay in school today because it might affect the way they are for the rest of their lives. Then went down to Indian Cliffs to tell some stories about how the Tribe lived down there in the old days fish, hunt, and camped.

Over all I had a very busy summer. There is one more big project this fall, I am working on **Water Potato Day** at the end of Oct 26,27. If interested call me to set a date & time for your school or group to come and participate in our traditional digging of WP. Barb 208-686-5203 or Mark 686-0131.



New Wildlife Habitat Biologist for Albeni Falls dam
By Guy Wagner, Wildlife Biologist

I have recently been hired by the Tribe's Wildlife Program to manage lands acquired through Bonneville Power Administration's plan to mitigate for wildlife habitat losses resulting from the construction of Albeni Falls Dam on Lake Pend Oreille. My job here will be monitoring plants, animal populations, designing and implementing management practices aimed at enhancing the wildlife habitat value of acquired properties will be my main job. I am excited to be part of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe's program of conserving and restoring wildlife habitat, and hope my experience and education can make a valuable contribution.

My previous employment was by the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service as the wildlife biologist at Imperial National Wildlife Refuge in Arizona. At the refuge, we monitored bird populations, and managed the refuge's wetlands. Also involved in habitat management planning, endangered species work, and restoring the native cottonwood/willow forests that is disappearing as a result of dam building. One of my other jobs was Coordinator of the Big Horn Sheep

program in the Sonoran Desert of California, where bighorns are an endangered species. I participated in captures, radio telemetry, research design, and worked to lessen the impacts of urban development on bighorn sheep habitat.

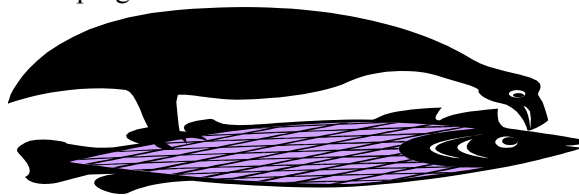
My educational background includes a B.S. in Forestry from the University of Idaho, M.S. in Wildlife Ecology from Mississippi State University, and Ph.D. in Wildlife Ecology from the University of Idaho. I studied bighorn sheep in the Middle Fork of the Salmon River of central Idaho, which led to my work in California.

My wife, Teri, and I make our home in the Waha area south of Lapwai, Idaho, where she has worked for the school district for many years. We enjoy hiking, hunting, gardening, traveling to Baja, and whitewater kayaking. I have spent the majority of my life living and working in the mountains of Idaho and Montana. Although I enjoyed my time in the Southwest, it is great to be back here, and I thank the Tribe for the opportunity to work towards wildlife conservation here on the Coeur d'Alene reservation.

Culvert Installation Project on the NF Alder Creek
By Stephanie Hallock, Habitat Biologist

In 2004, Benjamin and Carol Rodeheffer started working with tribal staff to improve a stream crossing on their property along the North Fork of Alder Creek. This crossing was identified as being a potential barrier to fish trying to move upstream or downstream. The old crossing consisted of a series of logs lying over the stream with road fill on top. An estimated 8,100 ft of stream channel containing important spawning and rearing habitat is located upstream of the site. Besides being a fish barrier, the old stream crossing was eroding in places.

This crossing was replaced with a 14'3" span by 9'9" Rise Horizontal ellipse culvert. The culvert was assembled at the tribal rock pit in Plummer and then delivered to the site. The culvert arrived from the manufacturer unassembled. Thirty-four individual plates had to be bolted together to form the culvert. Approximately 1300 nuts and bolts were used during this process. An excavator was used to hold the plates together while the bolts and nuts were placed in by hand. An air compressor was used to tighten the bolts. The completed culvert weighed over 10,000 lbs and was 38 ft long. This is the largest culvert that the fisheries program has installed to date.





Jeff Jordan & Dan Jolibois install the last plate on culvert

The culvert was installed in late June-early July. The size of the culvert proved to be the biggest challenge in installation. Its weight and length made it very hard to move. The access to the site was very limited so materials had to be delivered in stages. Water was diverted around the site by installing a bypass pipe through the existing road fill. After diverting the water, a 10' x 18' x 38' hole was excavated. The culvert was lifted and placed into this hole by an excavator. Once the culvert was set, fill material was compacted around it. Rock riprap was placed within the culvert to simulate a natural channel.

The new culvert allows for passage of all size classes of Westslope cutthroat trout. The crossing is more stable and less susceptible to erosion. Flood flows can pass through the culvert instead of being blocked and forced over the road.

I would personally like to thank everyone who helped complete this project especially our Fisheries staff George Aripa, Jeff Jordan, Angelo Vitale, Dan Jolibois and George Torpey from Forestry. A special thanks goes out to Benjamin and Carol Rodeheffer for working with the Tribe on this project.



Stream crossing after culvert was installed



Career Fairs Coming Up!

By Jannette Taylor, Tanf Manager

I would like to thank everyone within the Tribal Departments and Community for their help during the FY-06 nonprofit career fairs.

The four fairs that were organized all had a varying degree of success. The youth showed a strong interest in natural resources (**Fish, Wildlife and Forestry**) and the medical field. The Self-employment fair had a jumpstart from Montana University and it was determined there is a need for more training and support in Business Plan Development. All four fairs had one thing in common: many of the attendees and vendors attending felt that there was information in the community they were not aware of.

The purpose of the fairs is to provide free information for programs, students and community members seeking employment or employment retention. These fairs brought information to us that could help organizations, job seekers, employers and career services to meet face-to-face.

WHERE	DATE	TIME	THEME
District #44 Gym	11-9-06	2PM-7PM	Career Education Scholarship
Tribal School Gym	1-26-07	10AM-4PM	(Tentative) Careers in Arts and Communication
District #44 Gym	3-28-07	2PM-7PM	Seasonal Employment, Career and Education advancement
Casino Event Center	6-8-07	10AM-4PM	Volunteering and Home Land Security
Wellness Center	8-6-07	TBA	Careers in Social Service

I would like to invite people that are interested in volunteering or partnering up in the four fairs scheduled for FY07.

Through our continued collaboration and community awareness community families have a change to become self-sufficient.

University of Idaho Offers a Variety of New Programs for Communities Addressing Change

By Laura Laumatia, U of Idaho Extension, Cd'A Reservation

Idaho rural communities are facing a time of extreme turbulence. Idaho was the third fastest growing state in the U.S. from 2004-2005 (U.S. Census Bureau), and this trend is not expected to change. Economic and demographic changes have impacted many local communities, including those on the Coeur d'Alene Reservation. While some communities face high rates of growth, others struggle with population loss. Changes from a natural resource-based economy to a service-based one affect peoples' wages and job opportunities. Loss of open space raises concerns about quality of life. These changes are putting strains on our communities. For local governments and citizens, keeping up with the changes and addressing the pressures that population changes bring can be a struggle, particularly when working with limited resources.



Tribal family drying deer meat & fish for the winter.

University of Idaho Extension is working on several new initiatives to help rural communities address these changes on several different levels. One of the first approaches is through an expansion of the Horizons Initiative. University of Idaho is working with the Northwest Area Foundation to help communities tackle issues of community leadership and poverty. Horizons is a grassroots program designed to strengthen communities so everyone has a chance to thrive. Communities who sign up for the program commit to an 18-month program that includes leadership components and partnership developments. The focus is on strength-building from within by using the assets that already exist in the community. Northern Idaho towns with between 100 and 5,000 residents and a poverty rate of at least 10 percent are eligible to participate. A showcase of the Horizons program will be held October 3rd in Worley.

A second program targeting local government officials, natural resource agency officials and rural residents is the joint University of Idaho/Washington State University Extension's second annual Wildland Urban

Interface conference, to be held October 18-19 at the Mirabeau Park Hotel in Spokane Valley, Washington. The Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) refers to the areas where homes mingle with uncultivated areas of forest and rangeland. Increased development in the WUI zone has resulted in a number of issues, ranging from invasive species to eminent domain. Last year's conference, held at the Coeur d'Alene Casino, covered issues such as homeowner protection from fire, insurance for homes in the WUI and the changing demographics of the Inland Northwest. This year's conference includes several tracks, including more on fire-related issues, as well as a focus on community dynamics, working with multiple jurisdictions, and property rights.

Finally, University of Idaho continues to work with the City of Plummer and the Coeur d'Alene Tribal Planning Department on collection of community input for our own efforts to address these changes. A series of community meetings are scheduled for September 12th, October 5th and November 16th at the Plummer Community Center. The first two meetings will run from 6:30 – 8:30 P.M., and the final meeting will begin at 5:30, and will include a community dinner to celebrate the efforts of residents to develop their vision and plans for Plummer. All are welcome.

Anyone interested in participating in any of the above programs should contact Laura Laumatia, UI Extension Educator – Coeur d'Alene Reservation at 686-1716, or email laural@uidaho.edu for more information.

Tribal Fish and Wildlife Projects Recommended for Funding

By Angelo Vitale, Fisheries Biologist

After a nearly eight month review process, funding recommendations have finally been released for the project proposals submitted to guide the implementation of the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) fish and wildlife program in the Columbia Basin for the years 2007 through 2009.

The Coeur d'Alene Tribe has successfully competed in this process for more than 16 years and submitted six proposals in early January seeking funding for a suite of fisheries and wildlife projects. Competition for funding was stiff, as more than 540 proposals were submitted by everyone from tribal, state and federal resource managers to universities, local NGO's and the private sector. All proposals were evaluated and ranked by managers and other project proponents at the State/Province level, as well as by an Independent Scientific Review Panel (ISRP) that is charged with reviewing individual fish and wildlife projects funded by BPA.

Four proposals submitted by the Coeur d'Alene Tribe were recommended for full or partial funding by both the ISRP and the regional managers. Although final funding levels have not been determined at this time, these successful proposals may draw nearly \$10 million to benefit fish and wildlife in the local area over the next 3-4 years. This funding will help the Tribe complete watershed assessments, monitor the status of local fish and wildlife populations, implement habitat restoration projects, and determine the effectiveness of project actions. Much of this work is done in cooperation with private landowners and other area managers.

The complete proposals, scientific reviews and funding recommendations can be viewed at <http://www.nwcouncil.org/fw/budget/2007/reviews.asp>.



Summer youth Interns-Lovinia (Itsy) Johnson, Jordan Justice and volunteer Toni Andrew working in Benewah Creek area.