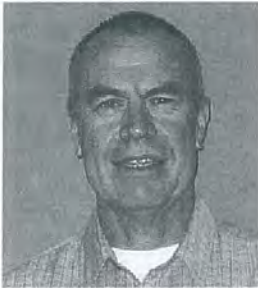




Cowlitz Indian Tribe

FALL 2012 NEWSLETTER

YOYOOLAH!



CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

We Must Move Forward: As your Chairman, it has been my priority to ensure that the tribe pushes forward with every opportunity we have to improve our member services and our future, rather than sitting idle while we pursue approval of our reservation. We continue to advance tribal services. We are pressing for the advancement of the development of our reservation. The Tribe is working with the Bureau of Indian Affairs to move our reservation case through the federal court system. The court system involves the litigation brought by the Grand Ronde Tribe, the City of Vancouver, the Card Rooms, CARS and Clark County to stop our reservation objectives. We are continuing to develop infrastructure for the reservation and are working to grow the Tribe's economy and improve conditions for Cowlitz people. It is my belief that economic support, cultural revitalization, education, health and social services are key contributors to increasing the prospects for our members and especially our youth, and thus building a strong foundation for the Cowlitz Tribe's future.

Fee-to-Trust Update-Litigation: The court case may be further delayed, unfortunately. In the federal court case, part of the process includes defending the Record of Decision (ROD). The federal government has asked a judge to temporarily halt the proceedings in order to consider historical documents submitted by opponents. The request was made after federal attorneys acknowledged they never received documents that had been submitted by local opponents to the tribe's proposal. On August 29th the federal court finally responded to the government's motion for a stay and voluntary remand the initial reservation portion of the ROD to address the opponent's filings, allowing the BIA to make the needed adjustments. The government's decision reflected federal historical documents that support their decision, but they did not address the opponents' documents. The opponents' documents contain assertions that attempt to rewrite the history of the Cowlitz Tribe. We are confident that the federal government's historical documents will reinforce our historic presence at our reservation site. The court reset the briefing schedule and it ruled that the government could review and alter their Initial Reservation decision and file it with the court. The government is allowed to make the changes we wanted them to make. The new briefing schedule is: defendant's briefs due by October 5th; opponent's response due by November 5th; and defendant's response due by November 26th. The opponents will likely ask for time to respond, so this schedule could change. I continue to remind the parties involved that the Cowlitz Tribe is requesting a timely resolution to this case in order to move on with the business of building our reservation. Though the delays are indeed frustrating, we are determined to persevere in our efforts to establish the tribe's Initial Reservation.

The Carcieri Congressional Fix: I am honored to represent the Cowlitz Tribe in working with

tribal leaders across the country to develop a process that removes many of the barriers currently in existence to the placement of Indian land into trust. There has still been no congressional vote on a Carcieri fix, but we still expect there is a chance that it could be considered in the lame duck period following the November election. I will be working with key tribal leaders at the annual National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) meeting in October and will push for support of the Carcieri fix. The Senate Indian Affairs Committee is reviewing Carcieri legislation clarifying the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934 (IRA), the phrase "Indian tribe now under Federal jurisdiction" and the Department of Interior's authority to acquire land in trust for Indian tribes, so that the benefits of the IRA are available to all federally recognized tribes, including the Cowlitz. NCAI has issued a strong letter of support for this legislation.

La Center – Sewer Agreement: We are continuing to work with the City of La Center on the sewer agreement as part of the infrastructure for our reservation. The City has completed its proposed rewrite of its comprehensive plan and sewer code to address the issues raised by the Growth Management Board. They held a hearing before their Planning Commission on September 5th. On September 6th they presented the changes to the City Council and are still scheduled to complete approval of the code changes by the end of October. We expect that the card rooms will challenge the changes. Following all of the appeals we will negotiate a final sewer agreement with the City.

Intersection Improvement: I have asked the development team to proceed with the planning and design of the new freeway entrance for the reservation. An engineering firm, Kittleson and Assoc. has been hired, along with CH2MHill and Berger Abam to start the intersection improvement project including the traffic analysis, Interchange Justification Report, public involvement, and environmental engineering work. The exiting interchange will be upgraded to modern standards for a safe convenient access to our reservation. This work must be completed prior to the opening of the casino and by addressing the interchange now; we will be able to move more quickly following the approval of the reservation.

Gaming Compact: After my repeated urging, the Governor has finally agreed to resume negotiations on a gaming compact, contingent on the Tribe getting land into trust. The goal will be to get this done before the end of her term in January. Our first meeting with the Gambling Commission is scheduled for September 18th.

Tribal Gaming Authority: The Gaming Authority continues to conduct interviews for the Spirit of Talichn project to identify Core Values of the Cowlitz and to develop a Customer Service Culture for our casino. If you have names of members that should be participating in this project please contact Carolyn Medeiros at 253-255-6012 or cmedeiros@cowlitz.org.

New Tribal Treasurer: Dan Meyer was elected by Tribal Council to serve as the Tribal Treasurer after Jess Groll stepped down from that position in July to better fulfill the responsibilities of his position as CFO. This will help us grow the Tribes' financial base through a long term approach: giving stability, and improving member services. We thank Jess for his many years of service to the Tribe.

2012 Paddle to Squaxin: I was pleased to join the Cowlitz Canoe Family in the 2012 Paddle to Squaxin. This is the sixth year of the Cowlitz participating in the inter-tribal canoe journey that started over 23 years ago. It is a spiritual journey returning the cultural teachings back to the trib-

al people. The Cowlitz Tribe hosted the visiting canoe families at Fort Vancouver. It was a night of sharing drumming, singing and dancing at the Community Center. It was a thrill to welcome three canoes carrying tribal elders, adults and youth from the Warm Springs, Clatsop Nehalem, and Snohomish canoe families. They had been travelling along Columbia River to the Puget Sound along the way until they reached their final destination in Squaxin Island. Sunday, July 29 was the final day on the water where 102 canoes landed at the Port of Olympia in Budd Inlet. What a sight! The Squaxin Island people greeted the arriving canoes with the beating of the drums and songs sung that echoed across the loud speakers.

Naming of New Washington State Ferries: We are working jointly with Cowlitz County for the submission of the name "Cowlitz" and as an alternative "Toutle" as names for the two new state ferries. Lewis and Clark, in 1803-1806, wrote of the name "Coweliske", meaning "capturing the medicine spirit." The Wilkes Expedition, 1841, first charted the present name of Toutle River. The river, also known as the east fork of the Cowlitz River, was named for Cowlitz People of the "Hullootell," the name that Wilkes shortened to "Toutle."

New King County Clinic: The Cowlitz Tribe is leasing with an option to purchase a building consisting of approximately 11,473 square feet located on a site of approximately 1.69 acres in Tukwila for relocation of our Seattle Health and Human Services. The Clinic is near South-center, at 15455 65th Avenue S, Tukwila, WA, located approximately 12 miles south of both downtown Seattle and downtown Bellevue and approximately 3.6 miles from Seattle Tacoma Airport making it an ideal location for the clinic service in the area. We are beginning with exiting chemical dependency and mental health services and expect to expand services in the future with space for growth.

Cobell Settlement: An appeal before the Supreme Court is looking to overturn the settlement and give more money and justice for claimants, including some members of the Cowlitz Tribe. The proposed Settlement in Cobell v. Salazar, a class action lawsuit is about individual Indian land held in trust by the federal government. The lawsuit claims that the federal government violated its duties by (a) mismanaging trust funds/assets, (b) improperly accounting for those funds, and (c) mismanaging trust land/assets. The trust funds include money collected from farming and grazing leases, timber sales, mining, and oil and gas production from land owned by American Indians/Alaska Natives.

This is an exciting time to be in Cowlitz leadership. I work hard with our team to make the right decisions knowing they will affect generations to come. Please take the time to review our newsletter to learn about our tribe's achievements and the outstanding service being provided by Cowlitz employees and members. Know that your questions and concerns are welcome for discussion by contacting me and your Tribal Council. Thank you for your support.

All My Relations

Bill Iyall
Chairman



FROM THE VICE-CHAIR

Philip Harju

The Cowlitz Tribe in 2012 continues to grow and prosper. It is impressive the many areas we are moving forward in with the limited funding we have. Our officials, staff, and volunteers have been able to fund many programs and events with grant funds and donations. As we continue to grow, it will be more important to plan and budget for our future. I look forward to working with Dan Meyer, our new General Council Treasurer, and want to thank Jess Groll for his years of service in that office.

We continue to work with our partner, the Mohegan Tribe, to plan and develop our casino project. The appeal of our land into trust decision is still pending in the Federal Court in Washington, D.C. This complicated legal process will hopefully be completed soon. We continue to meet regularly with the City of La Center and hope to complete a new sewer agreement for our reservation before the end of this year.

I am again looking forward to our November General Council meeting, and hope that as many Cowlitz as possible can attend. I remain confident with the knowledge and hard work of our Cowlitz Family, we will continue to grow, prosper, and be able to provide more for all of the Cowlitz Tribe. Best wishes to all of our Cowlitz members, Cowlitz family, Cowlitz employees, and Cowlitz friends. As always, it is an honor and privilege to serve as the Vice-Chairman of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe, and now also as the Chairman of the Cowlitz Tribal Council.

ENROLLMENT DEPARTMENT

Randy Russell, Enrollment Officer

Our current enrollment criteria, effective 01/01/2006, are: Applicant must be a direct lineal descendant of a Cowlitz Indian and Applicant must have a parent (mother/father) on Cowlitz Tribal Roll and Applicant shall be no older than 12 months of age.

We have enrolled 71 infants since our Fall Newsletter of 2011. I currently have 14 pending applications for review at the October 05, 2012 Enrollment Committee Meeting, as we have another month before the meeting the committee may have a few more than the 14 applications to review. The enrollment office has been advised of the deaths of 15 tribal members October 01, 2011 – August 31, 2011.

Please try to remember to advise the tribal office when you have a change of mailing address. Our Unknown Address List has over 200 names. If you have enrolled family or friends that say they are not receiving tribal mailings ask them to contact the office to verify we have their current mailing information.

TRIBAL GAMING BOARD

Carolyn Medeiros

As many of you may know, we have been collecting stories from as many of our Tribal Elders to help capture their stories digitally and preserve a record for our Tribal history. This project started as one to collect information from Elders to assist in the Spirit of Talicn (helping). We have used the Spirit of Talicn to creativity begin the planning stages of our casino project design and to produce a customer service attitude and mentality. As part of our collection of stories I have learned a lot of history of our Tribe and the ways of our ancestors. While interviewing one of the Elders in particular I found a part of a story that I have permission to share and would like to pass on.

Interview of Gerald Bouchard February 2, 2012.

Gerry's Great, Great Grandfather was a carpenter named Simon Plomondon who was employed by the NW Fur Company in what is now known as Fort Vancouver. Simon was ordered by NW Fur Company to go make contact with the Cowlitz Indians living along the rivers to establish trading between the Fur Company and the Cowlitz Indians. To begin making contact Simon lit fires on the banks of the Cowlitz and Columbia rivers. He did this for two years during the winter months. After trying for so long Simon finally met Chief Scanewa of the Cowlitz people. Chief Scanewa was concerned about keeping peace among the Indians and white men. He ordered that Simon marry his oldest daughter (who the white men called Victoria) to ensure peace while trading.

Gerry has many more stories to share about his Great, Great, Great Grandfather Chief Scanewa and his family.



*Two California Condors hanging out at Oregon Zoo's Jonsson Center.
The Condor is thought to be the subject of many Tribes' Thunderbird legends.*



GRANTS UPDATE

By Jan Healy, Grant Writer

Since last spring, I'm happy to report we have received several grants for a variety of tribal projects. The Health and Human Services Department received generous funding from the Indian Health Service (IHS) for the fourth year of a suicide awareness and prevention project that will involve social media and camera skills training. IHS also approved another year of funding for the Tribe's diabetes program.

Washington State's Office of Crime Victims Advocacy awarded us two grants. One continues funding for the *Pathways to Healing* sexual assault-related client services; the other is for a new approach to preventing sexual violence through a community organizing approach.

There was also good news about grants for cultural activities. The Potlatch Fund gave us two, one to help cover costs for going on this year's Intertribal Canoe Journey "Paddle to Squaxin", and another for a youth/Elders project involving making gifts and learning the meanings and protocols of gifting. Native Languages of the Americas, a non-profit organization, awarded the Tribe a grant for Roy Wilson to teach a series of Chinook Jargon language classes at St. Mary's.

As you read this, I'm working with the Youth Board on details of a youth-focused project proposal to the Charlotte Martin Foundation.

Also at press time, we were waiting to hear if the Federal Transit Administration would award a grant to support Cowlitz Tribal Transit Service. Our dial-a-ride service in our largely rural service area is unique, compared with other transit agencies, and we highlight its appeal. The Washington Department of Transportation also offers transit grants, and we are considering the best option for applying for that funding in December.

We have two pending grant applications from the Tribe's Natural Resources Department. Both proposals concern animals listed under the Endangered Species Act. We've asked the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for two years of funding to monitor Endangered-status Columbian White-Tailed deer that will be transferred from the Julia Butler Hansen Refuge near Cathlamet next spring because a refuge dike is failing. Another request, to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service, is for a one-year project to study Threatened-status eulachon (smelt) in tributaries of the lower Columbia river, in connection with writing an environmental monitoring plan for future dredging-related projects. The deer and the eulachon grants would continue previous research work of the Tribe's biologists. We expect a notice of grant award decisions in early 2013.



www.cowlitz.org

HELP FOR OUR PEOPLE

COWLITZ / BPA ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAM

AVAILABLE : Energy efficient appliances -
washing machines, refrigerators, microwaves, hot water heaters

AVAILABLE: Energy efficient light bulbs

AVAILABLE: Home weatherization - insulation etc.

TO QUALIFY, household income range:

<u>Persons in Household</u>	<u>Maximum Annual Income</u>
<u>1</u>	<u>\$ 13,963</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>\$ 18,913</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>\$ 23,863</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>\$ 28,813</u>
<u>5</u>	<u>\$ 33,763</u>
<u>6</u>	<u>\$ 38,713</u>
<u>7</u>	<u>\$ 43,663</u>
<u>8</u>	<u>\$ 48,612</u>

1. Homes must have electric heat as their primary heat source. (does not have to be working)
2. Homes must be occupied by a member of a federally recognized tribe.
3. Homes must be located in a public utility service territory served by BPA.

Thurston, King, Skagit, Kitsap, Island, Whatcom, and parts of King, Pierce, & Kittitas counties are not eligible because their utility service provider is PSE.

PLEASE call Gary Lowe: (360) 864-7010 for easy application and information or e-mail questions to glowe@toledotel.com or sherylb@toledotel.com

TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

Cowlitz Tribal Events:

The 02 Ford bus has been well used this year. It has provided transportation for cedar gathering, elder's outings, drum group, canoe journey, kid's camp, huckleberry camp and other program outings. This has been made possible with tribe's volunteer drivers. We hope to retire the 2007 Dodge Sprinter in 2013 with will be a back up vehicle for the department but will also become available for the tribe to use in addition to the 02 Ford for tribal events.

This year the Transportation Department was able to do something special for Kid's Camp with the donation money they received. We rented two 55 passenger buses to transport the kids from St. Mary's to Long Beach, WA. As the buses pull up at St. Mary's it was nice to see the excitement in the kids just to be able to ride on a charter bus.

We also provided \$1500 for fuel for the Canoe Journey this year, which helped the support boat and vehicles to get to their daily destinations.

Cowlitz Tribal Medicaid Transport Services:

This is a *new program* started September 1, 2012. We purchased a 2012 ADA minivan with IRR funds and operating expenses with income support from the Tribal Medicaid Contract. We will also be doing additional Elders transports besides Medicaid to help support the demands on the Elder's Program and Health & Human Services. We will only have one vehicle to start off with so *Medicaid eligible riders will come first* as there is still the Cowlitz Tribal Transit Service for other transport needs and some transports done by Health & Human Services. Our service area for this program will be from Vancouver, WA to Tacoma, WA medical facilities.

Indian Reservation Roads Program:

Under the new Federal Highway Bill "MAP 21" the Indian Reservation Roads Program (IRR) is now call Tribal Transportation Program. This is a 2 year bill with a lot of changes in the funding structure and requirements for grants.

This year the department has added the Lozier property access road and the Monument property access road to the current road inventory. Once approved by Bureau of Indian Affairs Department of Transportation, this will allow for construction projects in the future for these roads. We were unable to do any construction projects this year as the departments FY2012 funds were received in separate allocations with the last one in late September.

Scenic/Recreational Byways:

The Transportation Director Kim Stube is now part of Fire & Ice Scenic Loop Steering Committee. There will be a consultant hired by November 2012 to do a corridor plan from grant funds received. We are working on making State Route 503 to NF25 than to NF90 which turns by the Swift School house property back down to Carson, WA using Curley Creek Road East than South on Windy River Rd as a Scenic/Recreational Byway. We are in the beginning planning stages of this project, but this proposed Byway will have both cultural and possible economic benefit to the tribe.

Kim Stube,
Transportation Director
360-353-9990

CONTRACT HEALTH SERVICE (CHS)

Please register for Contract Health Services if you:

Are an enrolled Member of the Cowlitz Tribe and reside within one of the ten CHSDA counties: Skamania, Clark, Cowlitz, Lewis, Thurston, Pierce, King, Wahkiakum, Kittitas, or Columbia.

Or, you are pregnant with a child of a CHS eligible Cowlitz Tribal Member. All CHS eligibility requirements apply to the Member as well as the pregnant female.

We understand that there are many rules and regulations that apply to CHS, we would like to eliminate some of the confusion. The following are just a few important reminders:

It is a requirement that you complete the registration process and annual updates are required.

EVERY single visit requires a prior authorization; it is the Members responsibility to obtain one. Please contact CHS at 360-575-8275 or toll free at 1-800-301-3461 for further information. Upon notification to CHS (voicemail message available after hours) a fax will be sent to your provider with the authorization number and billing information. Exceptions: 72-hour notification allowed when seeking emergency care (true emergencies will be covered if all other eligibility criteria has been met).

ARE YOU WITHOUT MEDICAL COVERAGE AND NEED HELP? TRY THE FOLLOWING:

- * Hospital Financial Assistance-An application must be requested either in person or on line. An application will not be provided to you if you don't ask.
- * Department of Social and Health Services-On-line application available.
- * Patient Assistance Programs-Search on-line for your medication or ask your doctor for help.
- * Register for services at a tribal clinic-go to www.ihs.gov/findhealthcare to find your nearest tribal clinic.
- * Register for services at a community health center in your area. You'll be more likely to get an appointment if you are pre-registered. There will be a charge but it will minimal compared to private practice or a hospital. You may even have access to lab and other services at reduced rates.
- * Discount Pharmacy cards-ask your pharmacist or search on-line.
- * Mail order medications outside the United States are drastically reduced.
- * Call your local hospital to ask about insurance-Many hospitals have plans that can be purchased for a minimal premium that allow for care at their facility.
- * Check your local pharmacies for \$4 prescription lists.

HANTAVIRUS AND WEST NILE VIRUS

As you may or may not have heard, some campers in Yellowstone National Park were recently exposed to the *Hantavirus*, carried into camping cabins by deer mice or other rodents. There are two primary diseases caused by the various viruses.

Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome (HPS) is primarily found in North and South America and primarily affects the pulmonary system. Hemorrhagic Fever with Renal Syndrome (HFRS) affects the kidneys. Both HPS and HFRS, though rare, have occurred in the United States.

Transmission of the naturally occurring diseases is either by the bite of infected rodents or via aerosolization (airborne dust) of the virus from rodent urine, feces, saliva, and nesting materials. There is also the possibility that the Hantavirus may be used in a bio-terror event, where humans would contract the disease by breathing in the aerosolized (air-borne) virus. Although cats and dogs are not known to be carriers, they may bring infected rodents into contact with humans.

Hantaviruses are distantly related to the ebola virus and have been recognized as causes of disease in China and Asia for many years. They first came to the attention of health authorities in the United States in 1993 when several healthy young adults developed flu-like symptoms and more than half of them died. In May 1993, several people became ill and five died of an "unexplained illness" on an Indian Reservation in "Four Corners" in the southwest United States, an area where the borders of Utah, Colorado, New Mexico and Arizona meet. Immediately, departments of health from the four states, aided by the Navajo Nation Division of Health, embarked on intensive investigations to determine the cause of these illnesses and deaths. They soon linked the disease outbreak to the Hantavirus and now believe this form of Hantavirus has been present in the U.S. since at least as early as 1959. Since the 1993 outbreak, HPS has been identified in more than half the states in the nation. Rodents carrying HTV have been found in at least 20 national parks, and may exist in all.

Hantavirus Disease manifests as flu-like symptoms, starting with fatigue, fever and chills; severe muscle aches, headaches, dizziness, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, and a dry cough, and may not develop for several weeks following infection. These symptoms then rapidly progress into **shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, internal bleeding, respiratory failure, and death.** While HPS is rare--only 110 cases reported in the U.S. since 1993, there is no effective treatment.

Because so few cases of HPS are found, determining its incubation period is difficult. Sometimes, symptoms will alleviate for one or two days, only to return with increased difficulty breathing caused by fluid seeping into the lungs and internal bleeding. Even treatment with oxygen therapy and respiratory support is only successful in 50 percent of severe cases. Experimental treatment with intravenous ribavirin—an antiviral drug--is undergoing clinical trials.

Deer mice and other small rodents that may carry the diseases like to nest in small, dry, warm and well hidden places like house walls with insulation, abandoned cars (especially engine compartments), barns and other out buildings not used much.

Read more: Hantavirus disease, Information about Hantavirus disease <http://www.faqs.org/health/topics/61/Hantavirus-disease.html#ixzz26Dmb94U2>

West Nile Virus...From the Cowlitz County Emergency Management Office:

It sounds kinda foreign and sexy, right? Maybe not, but it is something that has been making its way into the US over the past 10 years and now there are two confirmed cases in Oregon. The West Nile Virus is carried by mosquitoes and most infections are mild, but both Washington and Oregon health officials say the virus can cause severe symptoms such as encephalitis. It is rarely fatal.

Nationally, health officials said last week that this year's outbreak is one of the largest. Mosquito populations have had favorable weather — a mild winter, early spring and hot summer.

There are simple things you can do to protect yourselves. Authorities recommend steps to ward off mosquitoes like eliminating standing water, wearing long sleeves and pants in infested areas, making sure screen doors and windows fit tightly and using repellents at dawn and dusk.

For more information on West Nile Virus and ways to protect yourself, check out Cowlitz County's Mosquito Control District webpage here:

<http://www.co.cowlitz.wa.us/health/environmentalhealth/vector/mosquitocontrol.htm>

For Washington State level information, go to the following webpage:

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/YouandYourFamily/IllnessandDisease/WestNileVirus.aspx>

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT

by Tim VanMechelen

We now have a full time staff person to set up the Economic Development Department.

I, Tim Van Mechelen am working to set up the department at the Longview office.

As the Planner/Coordinator, I have been attending conferences and meetings with surrounding Tribes to learn firsthand what works and how to make it work in Indian country. I identify opportunities for our Tribe to grow in economic development.

We are working on ways to give our Tribe the competitive edge we will need to succeed and grow for our future generations. Our Vision is to organize and promote economic development programs and activities. We will focus on what could be, not what is, and we will work to preserve our culture and our economy without borders to hold us back.

We will create flexibility for anticipated growth and seek a balance between workforce, economic and environmental needs.

We will acknowledge all ideas and contributions, critique ideas, give credit where due and recognize the values of the next generation.

Again we are working to create a vision for our future!

Thank you,

Your Economic Development Department.

Please contact me to find out more information.
Tvanmechelen@cowlitz.org

NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

By Taylor Aalvik, NRD Director



Lewis River Restoration

It is exciting to see that salmon restoration in the Upper Lewis River is beginning to take shape. For over half a century, salmon was cut off from their historic habitat due to the building of large dams with no provisions for fish passage. This along with many other rivers within the Columbia Basin being cut-off to salmon migration; this has contributed to the severe decline and their eventual listing under the Endangered Species Act. It has also taken a heavy toll on the tribal way of life and culture of the Tribe. With Cowlitz leadership pressing upon the power industry, and through years of struggle to reach agreement, we finally were able to get commitment for fish passage in the Lewis River. Infrastructure is currently being placed and will soon be operational on one of the first phases of salmon restoration in the basin. Over 100 million dollars is being invested on fish restoration efforts on this system and is expected that it will lead to big returns of salmon which has lost their home in the upper basin. This fall, we will see a large-floating fish collection facility become operational. It is capable of holding 76,000 young salmon as they are then collected and transported below the dams to then find their way to the ocean. There is also a new adult fish collection facility soon to be operational below Merwin Dam on the Lewis River that will collect adults to be passed upstream to spawn.



Picture: A large-floating fish collection facility is being positioned into place within the Swift Reservoir on the Lewis River, WA. (Picture taken by Bill Wagner from the Daily News, Longview, WA)

Many people were involved in the eventual signing of a settlement agreement by our past Chairman, John Barnett. We continue to monitor and participate in many facets of a new era of river management within this important system which hopefully will lead to recovery of salmon.

Salmon Habitat Restoration

We have just finished up another salmon habitat restoration project on Abernathy Creek, which is a tributary off the Columbia River; about 10 miles west of Longview, WA. Our salmon habitat restoration projects primarily involves restoring degraded habitat which have been damaged due

to a variety of activities such as logging, or the building of levees which has cut off important side-channel habitat salmon used for refuge and feeding. Our Abernathy project creates additional side channel habitat with log jams being constructed and placed in the stream to create refuge and protection areas.

Smelt Research Updates

Our research team is paving the way in increasing the life-cycle knowledge of smelt as the first step towards their recovery. We were the petitioners who led to the listing of smelt under the Endangered Species Act a few years ago. Since then, we have started a scientific inquiry team to conduct field studies of their behavior and spawning habits within the Lower Columbia River tributaries. We have documented some of the habitat needs of smelt and are developing new technologies toward quantifying and qualifying data towards future research. One interesting aspect of smelt spawning we have discovered and hasn't been documented before is that we have found their eggs incubating under as much as 20 inches below fine sandy sediments in the Lower Cowlitz River. We are beginning to understand that the sediment flow and deposits within Lower stream reaches is likely important to their survival. We are also gaining a better knowledge on the timing of their migration to spawn upriver and what may be triggering their movements. This knowledge is important as we begin discussions with federal and state agencies in developing protocols associated with smelt protection. We are now preparing for another smelt field research season to beginning refining our scientific field collection techniques and begin adding on what we have been finding out so far. Our goal is to be part of their restoration.

Toutle River, WA

We have been engaged with the US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) over the last few months in regards to their management of a sediment retention dam (SRD) on the Toutle River, WA. The Corps originally built the SRD a few years after the eruption of Mt. St. Helens in 1980. Its purpose was to stop the free flow of sediment downstream which is viewed as a potential threat to flooding of communities downstream. They built the structure with no provisions for a fish ladder and the mitigation measures they did adopt (trap and truck haul of salmon upstream) hasn't been a very effective way to recover salmon to the upper basin. Recently, they proposed and are raising the spillway of the SRD by 7 feet. We pushed to have a fish ladder installed as part of the mitigation of this project as a way to replace the current dysfunctional system they have now. Unfortunately, they were unable to address the situation due to constraints in their ability to fund a fish ladder. We were disappointed on the near term project and still believe they need to do more towards mitigation for their past actions. We have met several times with leadership and were able to secure a commitment from the Corps to work closely with us as we try and get appropriate fish passage and habitat improvements in the upper Toutle River established. We have found a considerable amount of habitat in the upper basin suitable for salmon which could lead to recovery. There will be more to come on this as we move forward with restoration effort and mitigation of past Corps actions.

Columbian White-tailed Deer (CWTD) Updates

We are working closely with the US Fish and Wildlife on a potential move of up to 50 deer above Longview, WA and likely onto the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge. We are also advocating techniques that we developed in a past effort where we moved 15 deer upriver. Our goal is to: 1)

establish a new subpopulation of CWTB as a way to get them de-listed from the Endangered Species Act; and 2) to promote new management protocols which would promote improved survival of this endangered species. With our developed expertise, we have been very influential to new and improved strategies toward their recovery.

Other Activities

The NRD continues to grow and take on many new and exciting projects. We continue to work on the Columbia River Treaty review with the coalition of 15 Columbia Basin tribes. We are striving to have ecosystem function be addressed and included in a potential future Treaty between Canada and the US on the management of Columbia River water. We are developing and working to secure important riparian habitat in the Lower Columbia River as a way to conserve habitat for salmon. We also are now implementing huckleberry enhancement projects in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. This is an effort we have been deeply engaged in for a few years and now our efforts are beginning to pay off through actions to improve the condition of huckleberry fields which is important to many Cowlitz members both historically and today. It is also important for future generations as a means for subsistence and cultural continuity. We are also working on land management plans and restoration of prairie habitat within Cowlitz homelands. The NRD has a very broad mission and we continue to strive towards capturing all the components of the Cowlitz cultural identity and the resources that were and are still utilized as a base for actions to preserve, conserve, and restore natural resources to the Cowlitz People. We have professional staffs who work tirelessly on these efforts. They are: Shannon Wills, Assistant Director; Nathan Reynolds, Ethno- Ecologist; Rudy Salakory, Biologist; Erik White, Wildlife Biologist; Craig Olds, Fisheries Research Biologist; Dalton Fry, Assistant Fisheries Research Project Leader; and Robert Harju, Natural Resources worker.

Please contact me if you would like to hear more about the several projects we do.

Taylor Aalvik; Director; 360-575-3306 or taalvik@cowlitz.org

THE CULTURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT'S FISH DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM STILL NEEDS YOUR HELP!

While Kirk and David Russell are doing a bang-up job in making sure our people have food. However, this undertaking is not funded by any Tribal or departmental budget, so we rely on donations to keep the program running. We cannot, do not, and will not set a price on the fish; doing so would violate the agreements we have with the state. (The same principle prohibits selling any part of the fish for money).

We are asking for a nominal donation of \$1 per fish. This helps cover the cost of gas and maintenance of the personal vehicles being used. Sometimes even a buck can seem like a lot to ask, but that should never stop you from requesting food for yourself or your family. If you'd like to request some fish, David Russell can fill you in on the details: 360.508.6493



CULTURAL RESOURCES BOARD

Update on Cultural Events

Please stay tuned to the website for the 2013 list of Cultural events.

October 26-28- Older Youth Gathering

November 3- Youth Day at General Council

November 15- Thanksgiving Drum Group Dinner

December 15- Youth Christmas Party

February 2013- Cowlitz Recognition Dinner

March 2013- Smelt Ceremony and Celebration

April 2013- Youth Spring Break

April 2013- Red Heart Band

May 31- June 2- Encampment and Salmon Ceremony

July 2013- Canoe Journey

August 29- Sept 1- Huckleberry Camp/ River Float

September 28- Cowlitz Tribal Pow Wow

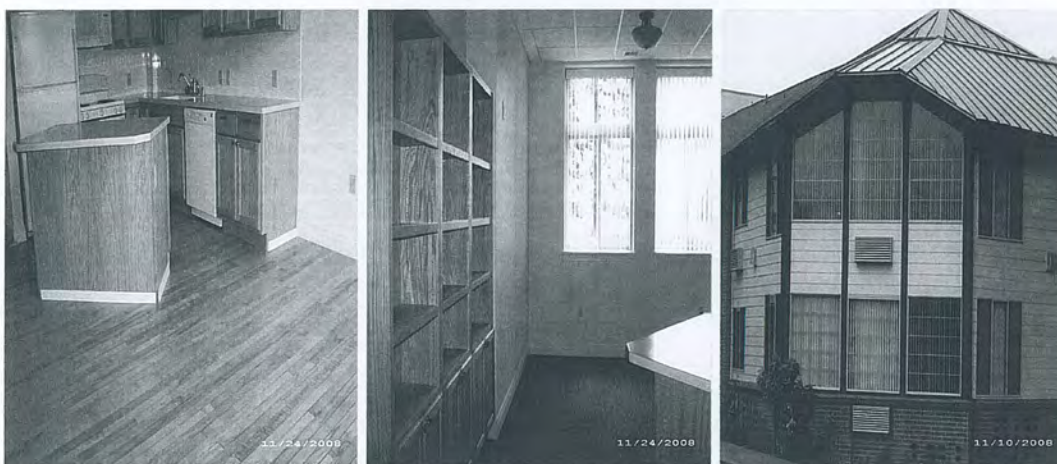
Stay alert for announcements for the Canoe Races and the Youth for Summer Camp and additional youth Gatherings as funding allows.

For questions- Call Steve Kutz 1-360-731-2885, Cassy S. Reck 1-360-513-1243 or Patty Kinswa Gaiser 1-360-520-2578.

ANNOUNCING A NEW/LOWER AGE REQUIREMENT
QUALIFYING NATIVES THAT ARE 50+ YEARS OF AGE
ARE NOW ELIGIBLE TO OCCUPY THESE FINE APARTMENTS

The Cowlitz Indian Tribal Housing Board is pleased to announce that they have lowered the age requirement for the Elder Apartments. We provide secured buildings and well-lit parking
Free transit services available from our covered bus shelters to medical facilities
and shopping in Lewis and Cowlitz Counties are available by appointment
through **Cowlitz Tribe Transit Service.**

The **Senior Nutrition Program** in St. Mary's dining room will welcome you to hot lunches on Monday, Wednesday, & Friday, and other fun activities such as trips and craft classes.



Due to the amenities and square footage of the units in Building D, (The Classrooms)

The minimum rents will be:

Studio-\$460 1 Bedroom-\$561 2 Bedroom-\$652 (Less than HUD Fair Market Rents,)

Program requires a minimum income of: \$1,347 per month (Studio),

\$1,704 per month (1BR), \$1,983 per month (2 BR)



The Comfortable and Cozy Efficiency units in Building C (The Nun's Quarters),

Will not have rent payments over 30% of your adjusted income with rents capped at \$225 per month, basic utilities included.

For more information, appointments, or to request an application,

CALL: 360-864-7007

Drop-ins welcome Monday thru Friday 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Cowlitz Village -125 SPENCER ROAD, TOLEDO, WA

COWLITZ INDIAN TRIBAL HOUSING SERVICES

EPA Approved Lead Renovator Training

Cowlitz Housing is an EPA certified training facility. We will provide the Lead Renovator course free to all Tribal members. This is a Federal requirement for anyone who works on buildings built prior to 1976. The course is one whole day. Call Brian at (360) 864-7004 for info and to sign up for a class.

Housing for Elders

Beautiful brand new independent living apartments are now available at St. Mary's Mission for qualifying Cowlitz Elders to rent. (Elders 50+) All units are air conditioned and served by elevators and include the free use of clothes washer and dryers. Rents and apartments sizes vary from efficiency units to 2 bedroom apartments.

Down Payment Assistance

Qualifying low income tribal members may receive down payment assistance to help with purchase of a home, subject to HUD rules.

Home Repair and Rehabilitation

Do you have a leaky roof? No foundation? Did your furnace quit working? Help is available for low income tribal members whose homes qualify for repairs. We can also help with handicap accessibility.

Energy and Weatherization

Cowlitz Tribal Housing has a strong weatherization program for qualifying tribal members and other natives. Some area restrictions apply.

Mortgage Assistance

Qualifying low-income tribal members may receive help with mortgage payments for up to 6 months.

Well and Sewer Repair or Replacement

By coordinating with Indian Health Services we are able to bring clean water and sanitary living conditions to members in need.

Standard Rental Assistance

In Time of need, qualifying low-income tribal members may receive help with monthly rent up to 6 months

Student Rental Assistance

Our most popular program, student rental assistance provides help with monthly rent for low income full time students.

Elder & Disabled Rental Assistance

Qualifying low income Elder and disabled tribal members may receive help with their rent or house payments.

Home Owner Counseling

We can assist members through the home buying process. Under our down payment assistance program, up to \$20,000.00 can be available for those who qualify for a loan.

Foreclosure Counseling

Want information about foreclosure and help to figure out what to do ? Call Sheryl (360) 864-7019

How Do I Know if I Qualify for Assistance?

Qualification for services is based on family size and household income.

Call Gary Lowe at 360-864-7010 for more information or to request an application.



FROM THE HEALTH BOARD CHAIR

Cassandra Sellards Reck

Update on the Affordable Care Act

Across the nation there are 449 Tribes and Tribal organizations, so the National Indian Health Board (NIHB) filed an amicus brief to protect the permanent reauthorization of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (IHCIA) and other Indian-specific provisions included in Affordable Care Act (ACA) case in the United States Supreme Court.

The Indian-specific provisions are critical to the delivery of health care services to our people across the Nation. The IHCIA, (started in 1976), formed the delivery of health care to American Indians and Alaska Natives and plays a key role in addressing chronic health disparities in Indian Country. For over a decade Tribal Leaders and advocates worked tirelessly seeking the reauthorization of the IHCIA to update and modernize the Indian health care delivery system with much needed services such as expanded cancer screenings and long-term care for the elderly and disabled. We are already as the Cowlitz Health and Human Services, Indian Health Service and Tribes have begun implementing many of these new IHCIA authorities and the other Indian-specific provisions in the ACA.

The brief argues that the Indian-specific provisions are separate. The legislation should stand on it's own even if the legislation is found unconstitutional. The brief describes Congress's long-standing policy of enacting separate and unique legislation to govern Indian health care services. There is detailed analysis of the IHCIA amendments and other Indian-specific provisions included in the ACA. The Health Board is committed to continue to stay tuned at the Federal and State level. We will fight for our sovereign rights to protect our healthcare.

Update on Special Diabetes Program

The Cowlitz Health Board, Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board and National Indian Health Board was been working to protect our Special Diabetes Program funding. On August 22, the National Indian Health Board submitted an official statement to the Senate Finance Committee in response to the August 8 Field Hearing at Crow Agency, MT, titled: Healing in Indian Country: Ensuring Access to Quality Health Care. There continues to be a need to address accessing quality health care in Indian Country. In addition to the tribal testimony provided at the Field Hearing, the statement highlights two additional recommendations: Special Diabetes Program for Indians (SDPI) reauthorization and protection of the Indian Health Service budget.

The Field Hearing also examined the challenges in providing and maintaining high-quality health care in Indian Country. Long-term underfunding, workforce shortfalls and technical concerns with facilities and equipment can cause conditions to deteriorate in hospitals. Tribal communities face challenges in meeting health needs as Indian Country explores what could be done to ensure better access to quality care.

The Health Board will continue to work toward the next seven generations. We want the best for our families and people here at home and across the Nation. Please feel free to contact us with concerns, questions and comments.

Respectfully Submitted, Cassandra Sellards Reck



HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

by Nancy Osborne, THRP

We have been growing steadily since January of 2002 when we had just one employee and now we have 113 employees. The most growth this year has been at the Seattle Health and Human Services Clinic providing Mental Health and Chemical Dependency to financially disadvantaged Native youth and families

Periodically the Tribe participates in the Western Washington Indian Employment Training Program (WWIETP). This program is designed to train financially disadvantage youth and adults who meet the eligibility criteria. In order to be eligible to participate in the program an individual must be a documented Native American/Alaska or Hawaiian Native and must meet the federal poverty guidelines. The participant is trained by Tribal staff on Tribal projects but is paid through WWIETP for a period of up to four (4) months. There is no guarantee the participant will transition into employment with the Tribe.

I will be attending the National Native American Human Resources Association (NNAHRA) annual conference September 24th to September 27th. This conference is required in order to maintain Tribal Human Resources Professional (THRP) certification. If a THRP does not attend this conference there are a number of trainings one must attend in order to maintain certification.

Lastly I would like to remind everyone new positions and vacant positions are posted on the Cowlitz web site for seven (7) days prior to being posted with other recruiting sources. When there are openings we generally have several resumes/applications for the position being posted.



Dalton Fry netting approximately zero fish during this year's Eulachon Ceremony. Picture by Nathan.

EDUCATION REPORT

Karissa Lowe

This year the Tribal education committee distributed a total of \$55,875 in scholarship awards to 28 eligible applicants. The 9 highest scoring applicants received awards of \$2,750 each, the 10 next highest scores received \$1,875 each, and the final 9 scores received \$1,375 each.

This year's applicants were a diverse group of students from all across the country, representing a wide range of ages and fields of study. Some applicants were just graduating high school, others were returning to academics after years in the workforce. Our applicants are pursuing careers in a variety of fields, including dental hygiene, renewable energy engineering, law enforcement, chemical dependency counseling, accounting, law, architecture, nursing, cosmetology, psychology, education, natural resources, social work, naturopathy, business administration, acting, veterinary care, and more. We're fortunate to have such an array of interests and talent represented in our Tribe, and the education committee is honored and delighted to be able to help the Tribe help our students attain their educational and professional goals.

In June, committee chairman Karissa Lowe contacted the 2012 scholarship recipients and asked that they send her the information she needs to give to accounting in order to process their awards and get their funding to their schools. Any of the 2012 scholarship recipients who have not yet contacted Karissa and given her their information need to do so as soon as possible. Any 2012 scholarship recipients who do not submit their information before April 15th, 2013 will have their awards rescinded so that the funds can be reallocated to the next year's applicants.

Next year's application will be available on the Tribal website in January 2013. Applicants can submit their applications via mail or hand delivery to the Tribal Administration Office. Completed applications are due April 15th, 2013. Only complete applications are eligible for consideration. There will be no exceptions to this policy. Awards will be announced at the June General Council meeting.

Any Tribal members with questions about the scholarship should contact committee chairman Karissa at 360.261.4683. She'll be happy to help you.

MORE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

(Moved because of space limitations)

Peace and Dignity Journey: The Cowlitz Tribe hosted the runners for the 2012 Peace and Dignity Journeys for two days at Saint Mary's. The Journey occurs every four years. Patty Kinswaiser and her staff provided food and a place to rest before continuing onto their next part of their journey on their way to their destination in Guatemala. This year, they will document the journey in its entirety, from Alaska to Guatemala focusing on the stories and songs of the native communities traversed.

A PIECE OF OUR HISTORY

**SOVEREIGN
COWLITZ
TRIBE**

PUBLIC INVITED

**ALL INDIAN
ENCAMPMENT**

POW WOW ASSOCIATION NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS

JULY 25-28, 1974

SLA-HAL BONE GAMES
SUNDAY
TOURNAMENT ELIMINATIONS

POW-WOW FIELD
SPORTS

**NON-FOOD CONCESSIONS
\$5.00 PER DAY
(FURNISH OWN TABLE)**

**ANCESTRAL LAND
DEDICATION CEREMONY
3PM SUNDAY**

**PURCHASE IN ADVANCE; OFFICIAL PASS \$1.00
IN FORM OF BUMPER STICKER
SOVEREIGN COWLITZ TRIBE'S POW WOW ASSOCIATION
10712 WESTWOOD DR. S.W.
TACOMA, WASH. 98499**

**WHITE PASS HWY 5MI EAST OF Packwood
WN. TURN OFF ON COWLITZ ROAD**

Copy of a flier hanging in the Cultural Resources Department office.

CULTURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT



OPUS/BPA: I may have mentioned the Opus site before, where an average of twelve feet of soil was removed with no tribal review or archaeological oversight (to its credit, the city of Centralia now send us applications and proposals for Tribal comment). This resulted in a multi-million dollar damage assessment, and the company, Opus, has since pulled out of the project. Additionally, Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) put in a new transmission line across the same property. Both groups came across significant archaeological resources during the ground disturbance phase of their projects, and we have remained vigilant in the identification and protection of those resources. As you may recall, the largest oven in this part of the state—just outside Centralia—was found on the Opus site; this oven was carefully removed from the soil, and is now being housed with the Chehalis Tribe, and we hope to be able to reconstruct this oven as part of a possible display.



One of the three ovens uncovered at the Opus site.

The BPA project encountered a massive lithic scatter—projectile points, scrapers, and debitage (a fancy way of saying “garbage,” or flakes created during the production of projectile points)—as well as what appears to be a house floor. BPA has never completed the work on this site, which would include discussion on what kind of site existed, be it a village, camp site, processing, etc.



Site-destroying survey marker installed by BPA.

Now BPA wants to construct a road on this property, within its right-of-way, to access the transmission line’s poles more easily. We have requested they more completely address the portion of the site within the r-o-w containing the floor, as well as characterizing the site as a whole. To this end, Ed and I met with the BPA, the Chehalis Tribe, and the State archaeologist, on site, to refamiliarize us with the site and what road construction might look like. While walking, we found that BPA’s survey team had installed markers along the line; these markers were placed after first removing a few inches of soil, then pushing the markers into

the ground. The problem is the survey team damaged a known archaeological resource with their excavations, and did so without first consulting with anyone associated with the transmission line who would have alerted them to the presence of archaeology throughout the area. The road construction project is now on hold until the Tribes are assured this new damage will be assessed and no further damage will occur to this site.

OVERLOOK PARK: This park, in downtown Ridgefield, overlooks (get it?) the adjacent Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge (<http://www.fws.gov/ridgefieldrefuges/complex/>). There are plans to expand the park and turn it into a more comprehensive piece, and material was found while preliminary archaeological work was being performed. We were called in to consult on the project and revisions were made that will help ensure no further disturbance will occur as the project moves forward. There are opportunities for us to provide interpretive materials for the park,

to make the public aware of the prehistoric occupation and ongoing use of the area by Native People.

16 August: Ed and I met with Billy Price, who wanted to have us look at a potential site along the Coweeman River. We looked around, and crossed the river to what appeared to be a small cave. We decided the cave formed naturally, as there were no signs of the walls having been worked by hand. Any in-water artifacts probably are the results of being washed downriver from more distinct sites. Billy was asked to keep in touch, because we can never know what the next rock he'll pick up will actually turn out to be.

22 August: Ian Kretzler, a student at Whitman College, dropped off copies of his successfully defended thesis, titled "For the Past, For the Future: NAGPRA, Repatriation, and the Native American-Archaeologist Relationship." His central case study is of our leading the repatriation of the People unearthed by WSDOT in the 1950s, that we were able to see returned to the Earth. I showed him the paperwork that was generated during that undertaking, and introduced him to the proper personnel at Fort Vancouver, under whose care the remains were entrusted to prior to the project.

29 August: Ed and I went to Ridgefield, where a massive cleanup has been underway as the result of soil contamination due to the land's use as a wood treatment site. As the depth of the soil work reached native levels, archaeologists were hired to monitor ground disturbance, and a few items had come up during the trenching of the area. Details were scant, but there are definite signs of Native occupation, including a midden consisting of saltwater shell bits, which is fairly uncommon. We're looking forward to seeing what lab testing might have to tell us about the area. Additionally, a pestle was found on the shore. After everyone agreed the pestle had been found in a disturbed area ("out of context"), it was collected for possible display.



Artifact recovered from the Ridgefield site, 29 August

If you have any questions regarding any of our projects, or would like us to address cultural issues in the newsletter, please let me know.

Thank you for your time.

All My Relations,

dAVe burlingame

Director,

Cultural Resources Department

360.577.6962; culture@cowlitz.org

