



ODFW and Tribal Partnerships in 2007

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, December 2007

TRIBAL PARTNERSHIPS

Tribes located in Oregon include the Burns Paiute Tribe; Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw; Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde; Confederated Tribes of Siletz; Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation; Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation; Coquille Tribe; Cow Creek Band of Umpqua; Klamath Tribes; and Nez Perce Tribe. Additional tribes bordering Oregon include the Fort McDermitt Shoshone-Paiute, Hoopa, Karuk, Quileute, Quinault, Yakama and Yurok.

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) has a variety of activities, agreements, contracts and shared commitments with Oregon's tribes. As part of the Government-to-Government Summit and State Agencies to Tribal Relations, ODFW has the honor of chairing the Natural Resource working group. The following list provides information about ODFW actions that have taken place during 2007 or are ongoing in support of these partnerships.

CEREMONIAL SUPPORT

ODFW provides fish and wildlife for use in various tribal ceremonies and celebrations. The department also provides tribes with hides, antlers, teeth, claws, horns and feathers of culturally important wildlife collected in the course of normal department activities.

COLUMBIA RIVER MANAGEMENT

ODFW works with the Columbia River Treaty Tribes and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife on a variety of resource management issues affecting fish populations in the Columbia River Basin. These include managing populations and fisheries involving white sturgeon, Chinook, coho and sockeye salmon, walleye, lamprey, shad and steelhead. Fisheries and hatchery production are managed under the Columbia River Fish Management Plan. Updates and revisions to this plan, developed and implemented under a ruling by the U.S. District Court in *U.S. v. Oregon*, are currently under negotiation with an anticipated completion date of March 2008.

COLUMBIA RIVER FISH AND WILDLIFE PROGRAM

As a member of the Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority (CBFWA), ODFW works with the Columbia River Treaty Tribes, Burns-Paiute Tribe, Upper Columbia United Tribes, Upper Snake River Tribes, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, NOAA Fisheries, and the fish and wildlife agencies from Washington, Montana, and Idaho to protect, mitigate and enhance fish and wildlife in the Columbia Basin affected by the hydropower development. Working with the Northwest Power and Conservation Council (Council), the members of CBFWA identify, implement, monitor and evaluate numerous projects funded under the Columbia River Fish and Wildlife Program to benefit fish and wildlife. In addition, the fish and wildlife managers periodically work with the Council to update and revise the Fish and Wildlife Program to ensure its objectives and measures reflect current needs.

LAMPREY FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

ODFW helps tribes conduct lamprey population assessments throughout the state, and works with them to develop and implement programs to protect and enhance lamprey populations. Department staff also partner with tribes to plan and conduct a lamprey fishery at Willamette Falls. This fishery is managed under conservation measures adopted by the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) in 2001 to protect lamprey populations while allowing tribes to harvest lamprey at Willamette Falls for personal use.

Historically, the Commission has authorized personal use harvest by the Burns Paiute Tribe; Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Suislaw; Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde; Confederated Tribes of Siletz; Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation; Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation; Coquille Tribe; Cow Creek Band of Umpqua; Klamath Tribe; Nez Perce Tribe; and the Yakama Tribe. The fishery was managed on a quota basis by Commission rule. Staff closely coordinated with the tribes on management during the season.

HUNTER EDUCATION

ODFW incorporates information about Native American culture in all Hunter Education classes. The specific content of the instruction was developed in 1998 through an agreement between ODFW staff and representatives of the Burns Paiute and Klamath Tribes. The content covers statutes dealing with protection of sites of sacred and cultural significance, and protection of tribal relics on both private and public lands. The curriculum also provides an overview of state and federal laws protecting cultural sites and sacred objects in the 2008 hunting regulations.

HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES

ODFW works with tribes throughout Oregon to determine hunting opportunities for tribal members on ceded lands, set species tag sales and harvest limits for game on ceded lands, and discuss road closures and other access and usage actions needed to balance tribal treaty rights and cultural requirements with public recreation opportunities. Some tags are used to take animals for ceremonial purposes.

HYDROELECTRIC POWER LICENSING

ODFW works with various tribes and other interested parties to review hydropower-relicensing projects regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Once a hydro project is licensed ODFW works with the tribes, the project operator and other parties to implement the conditions of the license and any settlement agreements. Current cooperative licensing efforts include the Carmen Smith, Dorena, Hells Canyon Complex, and Klamath Basin projects. We are also working cooperatively with tribes and the utilities to implement settlement agreements for removal of the Marmot Dam on the Sandy River and the Powerdale Dam on Hood River. Settlement agreements are also being implemented for Willamette Falls, Pelton-Round Butte Project, and the Clackamas hydroelectric projects.

INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT

ODFW works with various tribes on the Oregon Invasive Species Council to alert the public to the dangers posed by invasive species, and to inform the public how to minimize those dangers.

LOWER SNAKE RIVER COMPENSATION PLAN

ODFW has been an active participant in the Lower Snake River Compensation Plan, which involves an agreement among ODFW, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Umatilla and Nez Perce Tribes for artificial production (adult collections, rearing and marking) of Chinook salmon and steelhead in the Grande Ronde and Imnaha sub-basins.

NATURAL RESOURCES TRUSTEES

ODFW continues to work with tribal and federal trustees on addressing the Portland Harbor Superfund Cleanup and corresponding Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA). The Trustees include six tribal governments – the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Confederated Tribes of Siletz, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation, Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation, Nez Perce Tribe, and Yakama Tribe, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. This group reviews study plans, provides comments to EPA and participates in the process to develop a RI/FS and eventually a ROD for the cleanup. The trustees continue to meet and consider Natural Resource Damage issues, but for now the Trustees, EPA, DEQ and the Lower Willamette Group are focused on development of a cleanup remedy for the Harbor. The Trustees expect to reinitiate NRDA negotiations with the Portland Harbor Superfund Cleanup potential responsible parties in the future.

ODFW also continued to work with tribal and federal trustees on addressing the New Carissa NRDA. The New Carissa Trustees include two tribal governments – Confederated Tribes of Siletz and Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and the U.S. Forest Service. In accordance with the New Carissa Damage Assessment and Restoration Plan, the Trustees purchased approximately 4,300 acres of coastal forestland for marbled murrelet and other fish and wildlife conservation and restoration. Three thousand nine hundred of those forestland acres were transferred to the Confederated Tribes of Siletz for their management in perpetuity under the terms of a conservation easement with USFWS, BLM and ODFW.

CHINOOK SALMON GENETICS STUDY

ODFW, the Nez Perce Tribe, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation and NOAA Fisheries currently are conducting a Chinook salmon pedigree study in the Grande Ronde and Imnaha basins. Researchers have sampled four populations of Chinook salmon supplemented with hatchery fish annually in both basins for the past five years.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PLANS

Representatives from various tribes regularly participate in statewide reviews to develop and update wildlife management plans. Examples include development of mule deer and elk species management objectives, bighorn sheep reintroduction plans and the development and implementation of Oregon's first wolf conservation and management plan. Currently, the first Oregon Black-tailed Deer Management Plan is being developed. Western Oregon Tribes (Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Confederated Tribes of the Siletz, and Confederated Tribes of the Coquille) are active members of the External Review Committee of the Black-tailed Deer Management Plan. ODFW is working with individual tribes on *Oregon Conservation Strategy* implementation.

INTER-TRIBAL ACTIVITIES

Many department activities involve issues affecting large areas of Oregon that involve more than one tribe. On an ongoing basis, ODFW staff:

Partner with the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation to develop and implement monitoring programs for adult steelhead and bull trout, juvenile salmonids, and the habitats that support them in the Deschutes, John Day, Umatilla and Walla Walla sub-basins. The program is modeled after ODFW's Coastal Monitoring Program implemented under the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds. Programs are funded by the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's Fish and Wildlife Program.

Cooperate with the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation to monitor adult and juvenile salmonids in Northeast Oregon as part of the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds. ODFW and the tribes share responsibility for monitoring.

Participate in conducting comprehensive surveys of Chinook spawning grounds with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation, the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation, and the Nez Perce Tribe in the John Day, Grande Ronde and Imnaha river basins.

Participate in monitoring and evaluating Chinook salmon in the Grande Ronde and Imnaha basins with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation and the Nez Perce Tribe.

Work with the Nez Perce Tribe and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation on all aspects of the Grande Ronde Basin Captive Broodstock Program. Both tribes and ODFW share many responsibilities for implementation of this program.

Coordinated with the Nez Perce Tribe and CTUIR on advising BPA, BOR and NMFS on habitat recovery strategies.

Coordinate with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation and the Nez Perce Tribe on long-term plans for sport and tribal spring Chinook fisheries on the Imnaha River and in Lookingglass Creek.

During 2007, ODFW staff:

Worked with the Klamath Tribe, Hoopa Tribe, Karuk Tribe and Yurok Tribe to evaluate the feasibility of reintroducing anadromous fish above Irongate Dam. Also developed language that addresses working relationship with the tribes for incorporation into the Klamath Hydroelectric Settlement Agreement.

Partnered with tribal representatives and the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission to review draft license application materials for relicensing the Hells Canyon Complex hydropower project located on the Snake River.

Participated with representatives from the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission to review and comment on draft Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) application materials for the Bradwood Landing Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Terminal and Pipeline and the Oregon LNG Terminal and Pipeline, both proposed for siting in northwestern Oregon. Currently commenting on the Bradwood Landing Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement and related permit.

Opened a dialogue with the Coquille Tribe on Oregon Conservation Strategy implementation on tribal and nearby BLM lands.

Worked with tribal staff from the Nez Perce Tribe and Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation as members of the Hells Canyon Initiative, which is focused on the continued recovery, and expansion of bighorn sheep populations in Hells Canyon.

Held several meetings of the Oregon Wildlife Coalition, which includes representatives from the Burns Paiute Tribe, Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation, and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation. The coalition discussed a project proposal for habitat restoration, protection and research submitted to the Northwest Power and Conservation Council, and Bonneville Power Administration. The proposal would serve as a vehicle for continuing cooperative habitat work to mitigate for Columbia River hydroelectric facilities in Oregon. Work contemplated by the coalition involves habitat protection through easements with voluntary landowner participation, habitat enhancement projects such as wetland and forest restoration, and coordinated research to establish protocols for monitoring habitat improvements and wildlife responses.

Participated in meetings of the Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority, comprised of the 18 federally recognized tribes, federal and state fish, and wildlife agencies found within the Columbia River Basin. Topics included wildlife area management plan review and approval, wildlife research and monitoring, habitat restoration and enhancement science and techniques, Northwest Power and Conservation Council sub-basin planning, Bonneville Power Administration contracting procedures and funding allocations, and wildlife mitigation crediting.

Representatives from ODFW participated in "Tribal Information Day" at the Oregon State Capitol on May 18, 2007.

A large contingent of ODFW staff attended the Government to Government Tribal Summit session at Kah Nee Ta Resort in November 2007.

ODFW SW Region staff attended the Government to Government meeting hosted by the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs.

INDIVIDUAL TRIBAL PARTNERSHIPS

In addition to the activities listed above, ODFW works with individual tribes on many issues and activities. A list of partnerships with individual tribes follows:

BURNS PAIUTE TRIBE Burns, Oregon

ODFW staff:

Attended the annual government-to-government meeting.

Provided the Burns Paiute Tribe with one salvaged elk and three salvaged deer carcasses.

Arranged for the tribe to receive two deer taken on damage with kill permits for ceremonial use.

Worked with the Burns Paiute Tribe on cooperative wildlife habitat restoration projects, including sharing equipment and providing technical and on-the-ground assistance.

Cooperated with the Burns Paiute Tribe to administer an existing Access and Habitat grant.

Worked with members and staff of the Burns Paiute Tribe to improve their understanding of the Landowner Preference program. Provided landowner preference tags and two for one big game tag exchanges for damaged haystacks on tribal property.

Provided approximately 170 surplus spring Chinook salmon from Cole Rivers Hatchery for tribal subsistence and ceremonial fishing.

Worked with Burns Paiute Tribal staff conducting spawning ground surveys to assess bull trout populations in the Malheur drainage.

Worked with Burns Paiute Tribal staff conducting spawning ground surveys to assess bull trout populations in the Malheur drainage. Participated with Burns Paiute Tribal staff on the Malheur River bull trout working group.

Worked with Burns Paiute Tribal staff to finalize plans for a redband trout population and genetic study in the Malheur River basin. The study was started in 2007.

Worked with Burns Paiute Tribal staff to conduct local free fishing day and youth angling events.

Worked with the Burns Paiute Fish and Wildlife to install two new fish screens on irrigation withdrawals, one located on the main stem Malheur River near Jonesboro, Oregon and the other in Logan Valley on McCoy Creek.

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF COOS, LOWER UMPQUA AND SIUSLAW Coos Bay, Oregon

ODFW staff:

The Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw, ODFW and other cooperators continue to be part of the Tsalila Watershed Education Program. This includes a field day event for all of the 6th and 8th graders in the Reedsport school district during the spring season, as well as participating in the large educational and public event during September. This past year, ODFW staff from the Charleston office worked the event in September as well as ODFW staff from the Roseburg office.

The Director of ODFW and the SW Regional Manager met with tribal council members and natural resource staff to discuss issues, objectives and potential cooperative projects.

ODFW transferred one elk to the Confederated Tribes. ODFW staff is working with the tribe to develop a more efficient method to transfer deer and elk meat to tribal members.

Provided 213 spring Chinook to the tribe from Cole Rivers Hatchery for tribal subsistence and ceremonial use.

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF GRAND RONDE Grand Ronde, Oregon

ODFW staff:

Held an annual meeting with tribal natural resources program personnel to discuss big game management issues and distributed big game tags for tribal use.

Provided 76 adult (902 pounds) spring Chinook to the tribe from the McKenzie Hatchery. Provided 343 (3,742 pounds) surplus adult and 10 jack spring Chinook from the Willamette hatchery.

Coordinated species census activities with tribal members. Worked with tribal officials to collect samples of elk and deer harvested by tribal members for statewide disease monitoring. Invited the tribe to participate in development of the Black-tailed Deer Management Plan. Involved tribal wildlife staff in implementation of the statewide black bear monitoring program. Tetracycline baits were placed on tribal lands in the Agency Creek drainage by tribal biologists as part of this study. These efforts are intended to continue in 2008. ODFW Wildlife biologists continue to be a cooperator in the ongoing black-tailed deer population study conducted on tribal lands. Assistance has been provided in acquiring supplies necessary to conduct field activities in 2008.

Participated with tribal members through the Western Oregon Stream Restoration Program to provide restoration actions for salmonids and watersheds in western Oregon. Coordinated with tribal members to facilitate the placement of salmon carcasses from Eagle Creek NFH in Agency Creek for nutrient enrichment. Assisted tribal fisheries biologists in development of a Scientific Take Permit for work monitoring juvenile salmonid outmigrants from Agency Creek. Assisted tribal staff in developing mitigation plans for a project to widen and improve Grand Ronde Road. Stream bank and riparian restoration will be completed along the South Yamhill River as part of the road project. Coordinated review of draft Hatchery Genetic Management Plans for hatchery programs within the Nestucca River basin.

In August, Governor Kulongoski and Fish and Wildlife Commission Chair Marla Rae signed a proclamation, along with the Tribal Council Chair, directing Department staff to work with the Tribe on agreements related to several natural resources management issues. ODFW is currently working with the Tribe on the first phase, an agreement to provide the Tribe with ceremonial harvest of big game outside of current conventional hunting seasons.

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF SILETZ

Siletz, Oregon

ODFW staff:

Held an annual meeting with tribal natural resources program personnel to discuss big game management issues and distributed big game tags for tribal use.

Provided 76 adult (912 pounds) spring Chinook to the tribe from the McKenzie Hatchery. Provided 150 adult (1,650 pounds) and three jack spring Chinook from the Willamette hatchery.

Coordinated with tribal officials on big game management issues including an assessment of problems associated with deer and elk harvest opportunities on the mid-Coast. Continued an annual effort with tribal Natural Resources staff to collect samples of deer and elk harvested by tribal members for statewide disease monitoring.

Provided the Tribe with various frozen mammal specimens and bear skulls, teeth, and claws for cultural use through a permit process. Tribal and ODFW representatives worked cooperatively to process bears. Coordinated with OSP and the tribe to provide edible (salvaged) bear and elk.

The tribal natural resources chairman assisted us in placing bear baits for the statewide bear-marking program. Worked with tribal members to gather big game harvest data from tags issued to tribe.

Participated with tribal representatives on a task force to develop research proposals and plan the conservation and research hatchery facility at the Fall Creek Research Center.

The tribe, ODFW, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Oregon State University worked together to re-design the Siletz Falls fish ladder to pass lamprey. Modification to steps in the fish ladder will continue to be monitored during the summer migration season to determine if changes resolved lamprey passage problems. ODFW is partnering with the tribe in an effort to track the movements of lamprey in or around Siletz Falls.

Continued coordinating a habitat restoration project in Steere Creek (Siletz River) with tribal biologists. The project includes replacement of three culverts to improve fish passage and placement of large woody debris in the stream. The tribal fishery biologist will conduct monitoring activities associated with the project.

Continued to work with the Siletz Tribe on addressing the New Carissa Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA). In accordance with the NRDA and Restoration Plan, the New Carissa Trustees purchased approximately 4,300 acres of coastal forestland for marbled murrelet and other fish and wildlife conservation and restoration. Three thousand nine hundred of those forestland acres were transferred to the Siletz Tribe for their management in perpetuity under the terms of a conservation easement with USFWS, BLM and ODFW.

A Siletz tribal member was hired by ODFW as a Fish Passage Engineer in the Screening and Passage Program.

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE UMATILLA RESERVATION Pendleton, Oregon

ODFW staff:

Provided various wildlife parts (antlers, skulls, etc.) for use in tribal classes.

Provided bighorn sheep horns for the construction of traditional ceremonial bows.

Provided facilities and technical support at Lookingglass Hatchery to tribal fisheries personnel conducting steelhead and bull trout counts and passage assessments.

Worked with tribal representatives regarding the management, research and hatchery operations of the spring Chinook captive broodstock program.

Partnered with tribal representatives regarding the management, research and hatchery operations in the Umatilla River sub-basin to develop annual operation plans. Specific activities include spawning, rearing, transporting and acclimating fall and spring Chinook, coho and steelhead.

Participated in development of annual operation plans for Lookingglass, Irrigon and Wallowa hatcheries, and Big Canyon, Little Sheep, Imnaha, Catherine Creek, Lostine River and upper Grande Ronde satellite facilities. Worked with tribal representatives to handle, spawn and transport Chinook and steelhead as outlined in the annual operation plans.

Coordinated with the tribal members on new riparian lease lands in the upper North Fork John Day River. Worked with tribal members on the sub-basin planning core planning group and technical teams in the development of the John Day, Umatilla and Walla Walla sub-basins.

Participated in development and submittal to the Northwest Power and Conservation Council of materials for a Lostine River Hatchery and upgrades to the existing Imnaha satellite facility and Lookingglass Hatchery, as well as an environmental impact statement.

Met with tribal representatives to discuss the issuance of bighorn sheep tags.

Discussed the possibility of Mountain Quail re-introductions with tribal representatives.

Responded to wildlife damage complaints within the reservation caused by bears, cougars, turkeys, deer and elk.

Worked with tribal officials to implement habitat improvement projects on private lands along the Upper Grande Ronde River.

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE WARM SPRINGS RESERVATION Warm Springs, Oregon

ODFW staff:

Worked closely with tribal staff on issues associated with Metolius River bull trout. This work also included USFWS and PGE.

Worked closely with tribal staff on formulation of team to work on a Habitat Conservation Plan for steelhead in the upper Deschutes River system.

Issued approximately 800 deer tags, 800 elk tags, 20 pronghorn tags and 2 bighorn tags for use on ceded lands. The bighorn tags issued in 2007 provided the fourth annual bighorn harvest opportunity for tribal hunters in modern times.

Provided review and comments of Draft EIS for location of tribe's Columbia Gorge casino development.

Assisted with hatchery fish evaluations in Hood River, including joint hatchery operations, stocking, sampling, data interpretation and analysis, and reporting.

Collaborated with tribal staff regarding input on several action committees of mutual interest, including Lower Deschutes Managers, Deschutes Resource Conservancy, Pelton Hydro Mitigation fish and wildlife committees, Governing Board for Pelton mitigation fund, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB), and several other working groups and committees.

Continued coordination with tribal officials regarding management of archeological sites on wildlife areas.

Coordination continued with tribal members regarding the ODFW plan to reintroduce Rocky Mountain goats to sites within the Columbia River Gorge.

Continued work with tribal representatives to develop actions to accomplish license terms and conditions for the Pelton-Round Butte Hydropower Project on the Deschutes River.

Helped develop and implement John Day basin monitoring and evaluation plans.

Coordinated with tribes regarding management of fisheries and habitat in the Hood, Deschutes and Fifteenmile basins, including regulations, planning, monitoring, restoration, and habitat protection.

Provided surplus spring Chinook and summer steelhead carcasses from Round Butte Hatchery for tribal subsistence and ceremonial use.

Coordinated regarding monitoring for adenovirus and chronic wasting disease in deer and elk.

Coordinated with tribal staff to monitor, inventory, evaluate and manage bighorn sheep relocations into the Mutton Mountains.

Continued tribal trainee program at Oak Springs Hatchery. Tribal employee works with hatchery staff and resides in hatchery housing on station.

Worked with Warms Springs Tribe, Forest Conservation Area in Prairie City, Oregon to install a new fish screen on one of their pump irrigation withdrawals from the John Day River.

Worked with Warms Springs Tribe, Oxbow Conservation Area in Bates, Oregon to install a new fish screen on one of their irrigation withdrawals from Granite Boulder Creek, a tributary to the middle fork John Day River.

COQUILLE TRIBE

North Bend, Oregon

ODFW staff:

The Coquille Tribe received 5 deer and 2 elk that were taken on damage or salvaged from game violations. ODFW is also working with tribal staff to provide LOP tags to the Coquille Tribe for use on tribal lands.

The ODFW Director and SW Region Manager met with the Tribal Council and natural resource staff to discuss issues, mutual objectives and future areas of cooperation.

ODFW staff in Charleston made a presentation to the Tribal Council on STEP production in the Coos/Coquille River basins. ODFW biologists are now working with the tribe to transfer some of the Fall Chinook production from a discontinued STEP site to the tribe for rearing and release. The plans include the tribe acclimating approximately 50,000 presmolts on tribal property in cooperation with ODFW and Coos River STEP.

ODFW biologists assisted the Coquille Tribal staff and their consultant to complete the Coquille Basin Plan for fish and habitat restoration.

ODFW loaned Coquille Tribal biologists nets and other sampling gear to determine fish species composition in Fourth Creek and Tarheel Creek Reservoirs which are owned and managed by the tribe.

Provided 378 (4,500 pounds) adult spring Chinook from Cole Rivers Hatchery for tribal use.

COW CREEK BAND OF UMPQUA Roseburg, Oregon

ODFW staff:

The Cow Creek Band continues to be a very strong supporter of the ODFW's winter steelhead program. This year, ODFW did not make its production goals, consequently fewer smolts than normal were released. Still, the Cow Creek Band acclimation site released nearly 8,000 smolts. Personnel from the Seven Feathers Casino maintenance and grounds department check the fish every couple of hours in addition to feeding the fish and monitoring fish health. Behind the Casino, the Cow Creek Band has also improved a bank fishing area by adding a portable toilet and trash cans. This is a very popular fishing spot for bank anglers to harvest returning hatchery steelhead.

ODFW received a grant from the Cow Creek Band to conduct a second year of winter steelhead creel surveys on the mainstem Umpqua River. This data was used to help determine catch and harvest data, particularly on winter steelhead.

The Cow Creek Band also supported the South Umpqua fall chinook program this year. The tribe provided a grant to help ODFW conduct the annual helicopter surveys to count chinook redds. This data is used to estimate fall chinook escapement. Two flights were made which extended from River Forks to Tiller on the South Umpqua River and to Galesville Reservoir on Cow Creek. The estimated 1500-2500 chinook counted was below the 10 year average of nearly 5,000 chinook.

The Cow Creek Band and ODFW both participate in the local watershed council. There the Cow Creek Band, ODFW, federal and state partners, work together on a variety of restoration, data management, strategic planning and education issues. Additionally, the Cow Creek Band and ODFW's Salmon Trout Enhancement volunteers (STEP) work together on Free Fishing Day and providing trout for the childrens fishing pond at Canyonville Pioneer Days.

The ODFW director and SW Region Manager met with the Cow Creek Band's tribal chair and natural resource director to discuss issues, objectives and future cooperative projects.

ODFW and tribal staff, along with the US Fish and Wildlife Service have been working together on a Western Oregon Lamprey Workshop being held at the Seven Feathers Casino in February, 2008. This workshop will bring together tribes, researchers, biologists and conservation groups to discuss current research, population trends, tribal objectives, and future research needs for Lamprey populations outside the Columbia River Basin.

ODFW staff contacted the Cow Creek Band to establish a list of tribal members interested in receiving black bear meat from animals taken on damage situations.

Provided 127 (1,500 pounds) adult spring Chinook from Cole Rivers Hatchery for tribal use.

KLAMATH TRIBES

Chiloquin, Oregon

ODFW staff:

Provided seized and salvaged wildlife including black bear, cougar and bobcat for the tribe's cultural and heritage program.

Provided information to tribal staff on county land use issues within the former reservation.

Required fish researchers working on the Upper Klamath Lake through the state's scientific collection permit process to provide any moribund redband trout to the tribe for their use.

Met with the Tribal Council and the Klamath Indian Game Commission to address tribal concerns about the number of non-tribal tags available for buck mule deer in the Sprague Unit and for antlerless mule deer in the Silver Lake and Fort Rock units. Also discussed a proposal by The Klamath Tribes to change wildlife management unit boundaries to align with the former reservation boundary.

Protected potential areas of cultural significance by enlisting assistance of the Culture and Heritage Program to review various projects on Klamath Wildlife Area. These projects included but were not limited to installation of fish protection screens, underground power line installation, and storage building development and improvement.

Coordinated development of big game management and sport hunting regulations within the former reservation. Provided big game population and sport harvest data to tribal biologists and the Klamath Indian Game Commission.

Worked with tribal officials and others to evaluate the Chiloquin Dam fish passage, and prepared a report to Congress on recommendations and solutions to the problem.

Coordinated with tribal staff on implementation of Central Oregon mule deer study to examine herd movements and population dynamics. Work included finding means to integrate tribal and ODFW research efforts.

Coordinated with tribes on any earth-moving activities that may affect cultural/archaeological sites. Region staff attended a training session to better identify potential sites prior to initiating deer trapping operations.

Responded to several information requests, regarding fish populations, by Chuck Huntington (Clearwater Bio Studies) who was representing the Klamath Tribes.

Provided information on fish populations and habitat to Klamath Tribal Biologists for use in the development of an Anadromous Fish Re-introduction plan for the Klamath basin and for use in preparing for the Hydro-electric re-licensing hearing held in Sacramento, California.

Collaborated with tribal staff on aspects of anadromous fish re-introduction for Klamath Settlement Agreement.

NEZ PERCE TRIBE

Lapwai, Idaho

ODFW staff:

Worked with tribal officials to develop long-term hatchery planning documents for the Northeast Oregon Hatcheries Project, and submitted the plans to the Northwest Power and Conservation Council.

Completed large-scale hatchery PIT tagging at Lookingglass Fish Hatchery with tribal fisheries personnel in a coordinated effort to determine smolt migration characteristics and smolt survival.

Coordinated with the Nez Perce on an R&E project to improve fish passage on the Lostine River.

Coordinated with tribal representatives to assist in their genetics conservation and cryopreservation efforts. Provided spawning dates and locations of natural spawners.

Provided wildlife parts for educational and cultural purposes.

Provided wildlife information for a tribal appeal of an ATV trail planned for National Forest ceded lands.

Provided big game survey information for tribal biologists.

Assisted tribe in purchase of state land board lands adjacent to the tribal Precious Lands Wildlife Area in Joseph Canyon.

Worked with Tribal biologists to provide comments and participate in the Payette National Forest supplement to the forest plan regarding bighorn sheep/domestic sheep issue.

Coordinated with tribal biologists to provide comments on the Wallowa-Whitman Travel Management Plan.