



BURNS PAIUTE TRIBE NATURAL RESOURCES NEWSLETTER

BURNS, OREGON VOL. 1

HIGHLIGHTS OF SPRING & SUMMER 2019

The Burns Paiute Natural Resources Department was created to protect and enhance fish and wildlife, to prevent further resource losses that impact traditional land uses, to ensure environmental standards on the reservation are met, and to provide training and employment opportunities for Burns Paiute Tribal Members.

WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT: Carter Crouch, Program Manager & Lucas Samor, Site Manager & Eric Hawley, Lead Technician & Gabe First Raised, Fish & Wildlife Technician

We are winding down a busy field season in the Wildlife Program. We monitored Greater Sage-Grouse leks, sampled for Columbia spotted frog egg masses, monitored Golden Eagle nesting territories, surveyed migratory birds, surveyed for waterfowl broods, sampled vegetation, monitored American Kestrel and bluebird nest boxes, banded kestrel and bluebird nestlings, and surveyed small mammals. We paired with ONDA and the Tribal Stewards Program to accomplish work at both Jonesboro and Logan Valley, where they helped us run our small mammal surveys and got some experience bucking hay. We have also treated over 500 acres of invasive plants at Jonesboro and fixed/maintained 15.8 miles of fence at Logan Valley. We have also been busy growing native plants in the greenhouse for restoration projects. We will be planting these plants with volunteer groups this fall at both Logan Valley and Jonesboro.



HIGH DESERT MUSEUM and PINE MOUNTAIN OBSERVATORY : August 13-14, 2019

Wildlife Department organized an overnight trip to the High Desert Museum visiting various exhibits. Then they camped at the primitive Forest Service campground near the Pine Mountain Observatory for a private tour. This was a great opportunity to experience the natural wonders of Eastern Oregon.



FISHERIES DEPARTMENT: Brandon Haslick, Program Manager & Rebecca Fritz, Fish Biologist

Now in its 4th year, fisheries successfully returned another 150 Chinook salmon to the Malheur



River watershed. Tribal members captured about 35 on the day of the release using traditional methods, leaving over 100 in the system. 18 of these fish were later surveyed by volunteers and staff using habitat upstream of the release.



Invasive Brook Trout Removal: Electrofishing in Lake Creek and gillnetting in High Lake were again conducted this summer. With a focus on high-density areas, crews removed over 2200 fish. Each brook trout removed lessens spawning and competitive pressures on threatened bull trout.

Fisheries hosted a field event at Culture Camp and sponsored trips to Trout Farm and Fish Lake this summer with Tu-wa-kii Nobi youth. Although the fish weren't biting as much as was hoped, a fun time was had by all.



ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT: Jason Fenton Program Manager & Andrew Beers Environmental Technician

The Environmental Department wrapped up the field season with the removal of the temperature loggers. We have been monitoring various water parameters in the Silvies River since May. Long term data is needed to help watershed managers make informed decisions.

The Environmental Department recently conducted radon tests in some of the tribal homes. Results will be returned to us from the lab in a few weeks. If you have a home on the reservation and you want it tested for radon, please give us a call (541)573-8020.



BEFORE & AFTER photos of the Remodel at Jonesboro Bunkhouse

Jonesboro Remodel Project began earlier this year. Here are a few photos of the construction and final work that took place at the Jonesboro bunk house.

Jonesboro Open House was held September 18, 2019 NR Staff served a wonderful breakfast to BPT community members and everyone had a chance to see the newly remodeled bunkhouse.



Before





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Special Thanks to Andi Harmon and Elise Adams for their photos.