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# Lake Roosevelt Forum

# NEWSletter

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## 2021 Tips for Enjoying Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area



Enjoying Lake Roosevelt with morning yoga

With over 1.5 million visitors in 2020, the Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area (LRNA) was more popular than ever as people headed outdoors during the pandemic. Over the winter and spring, NPS staff has been repairing and replacing septic and water systems, painting, and more to prepare for 2021.

Here are some updates to help with trip planning.

### Campgrounds

All vehicle-accessible campgrounds are open. Making a reservation is now required. Visit [recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov) or call 877-444-6777 to choose and pay for your campsite. Because cell service is very spotty at Lake Roosevelt, visitors are encouraged to make reservations before arriving at the campground.

Fees are now \$23 per night from May 1 through September 30. The increase reflects the cost of implementing a reservation system, as well as compliance with a legal requirement to maintain fee charges to be at or near that of other campgrounds in the area.

Group gathering limits, masks and other social distancing requirements will reflect CDC and state guidance. As these can change quickly, visiting the LRNA information and alerts page is strongly recommended before traveling.

### What's Not Open

Due to the pandemic, the following facilities are expected to remain closed:

- Fort Spokane Visitor Center
- Floating toilets
- Fish cleaning stations

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# 30 Years Later, McBride Drops the Mic

Thirty years ago, two really important things happened. First, a newly minted graduate from the University of Washington's master's degree program in toxicology joined the Washington Department of Health (WDOH). His name: Dave McBride.

The second is that WDOH released its first Lake Roosevelt fish advisory which also happened to be the first fish advisory issued in Washington. The advisory focused on limiting sport fish consumption due to dioxins coming downstream from the Celgar pulp mill in Castlegar, British Columbia.

Beginning in 1993, Dave became the go-to-guy for assessing fish tissue, water quality and other data of keen interest to Lake Roosevelt communities. Steady and patient as he worked his way through dioxin, lead, mercury and PCB issues, his work provides the foundation for people confidently and safely recreating and playing on Lake Roosevelt. Said Dave, "I didn't always provide answers people wanted to hear. But I always gave them the best information we had to make their decisions."

Reflecting on 30 years of work on Lake Roosevelt, Dave has been "pleasantly surprised that the volume of contaminants that entered the lake over the past decades has not led to unusually high concentrations in fish, water and sediment. Lead in soil remains an issue." That's translated into good news for swimming, beach play and angling on Lake Roosevelt.

Dave, however, does not see a day when contaminant levels will make fish advisories a thing of the past. While organic compounds like PCBs and dioxins can break down over time, heavy metals like lead, mercury, arsenic and cadmium will stay in the system forever.

Statewide, Dave is gratified by the progress being made in reductions of legacy contaminants such as PCB and DDT. "We can see that success is being made and can be observed by monitoring contaminants trends in osprey eggs showing declines in many of the bad actors over the past decades," said Dave. PFAS and other compounds, however, are now threatening the environment.

"Prevention is key. It's really expensive and difficult to get these human-engineered toxics out of the system once they are released."

Because contaminants and human health will always need monitoring, Dave's best advice to the community is to "Stay engaged and make sure agencies are doing what they should be doing." He's confident that will be the case for



Dave McBride

Lake Roosevelt. Said Dave "I'm amazed by the number of people who stay engaged in this process year after year. It's the type of community I'd be proud to live in."

The grassroots dedication to education and outreach provided by the Forum, Citizens for a Clean Columbia and others is essential. Dave notes that agency campaigns such as the WDOH "Eat fish, be smart, choose wisely!" are good. But they also come and go based on budget priorities. Communities, on the other hand, will always be on the frontline of caring for their neighbors.

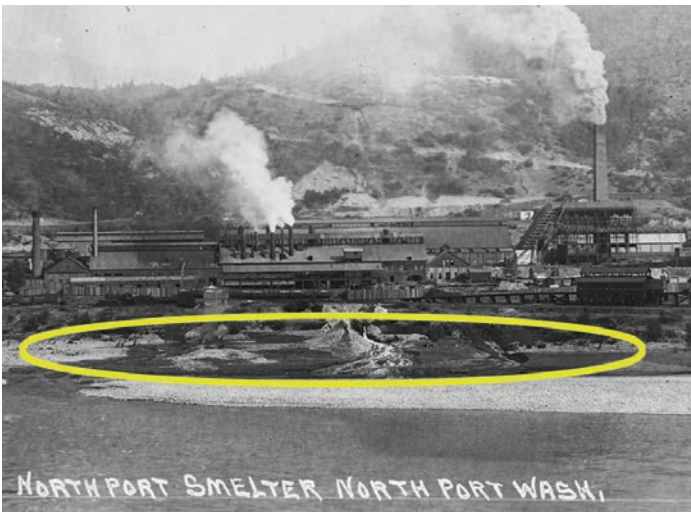
"Hopefully," said Dave, "COVID has given governments and communities a better appreciation of what public health does." Experience shows achieving confidence in messages starts with consistent public engagement.

Dave's retirement from WDOH, however, isn't really retirement. Dave's off to Switzerland to direct a pharmaceutical lab that identifies counterfeit drugs being pawned off on unsuspecting consumers. His kids promise to visit Mom and Dad although they are a bit busy themselves. His son will be pursuing a PhD in Astrophysics from the University of Utah, and his daughter is currently on a research vessel in the Gulf of Mexico exploring life at the bottom of the ocean.

According to Dave, "My kids inherited my wife's smarts and good looks. I gave them my warped sense of reality and my allergies." The Forum believes, as always, the truth is more subtle.

On behalf of all the people Dave has touched with his good work and caring nature, THANK YOU! And please send chocolates. 🍫

# Ecology Identifies Cleanup Options for Northport Waterfront



A picture can, indeed, tell a thousand words. The Le Roi Smelter (also known as the Northport Smelter) is shown above. It handled copper ores between 1901 and 1911, and lead ores between 1916 and 1921. What's highlighted in the foreground is the clinker and granulated slag wastes that operation of the smelter deposited on the waterfront.

Today, this is the idyllic site of Northport City Park, boat launch and waterfront area. Beneath cobbled and soiled surfaces of these areas lay the legacy of heavy metals from the smelter. Extensive soil sampling by the Washington Department of Ecology in 2019 identified ecologic and human health cleanup needs for copper, lead and zinc. Of the 329 samples taken for each, state screening levels were exceeded 33 to 66% of the time.

In May, Ecology invited the public to comment on the draft Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS). To view Ecology's documents and webinar presentation, go to their web site via this short url: [www.bit.ly/3gKbLcy](http://www.bit.ly/3gKbLcy)

## Cleanup Options

As shown in the graphic, Ecology created five investigation and cleanup areas.

Seasonal beach cleanup options are both the most challenging and complex. Sediments in this area are either exposed as a walkable floodplain surface or beneath the river's water based on seasonally alternating river flows. These flows also affect the options to achieve cleanup. Ecology's options (e.g., cleanup alternatives) focus on identifying the best mix of 1) excavation and replacement of existing soils, 2) capping soils with material to avoid exposure, and 3) enhancing a side channel that would permit continued flow during lower river levels. As an order of

magnitude, based on the option selected between 2,100 and 2,800 truckloads would be required to remove and replace 8,500 and 11,500 cubic yards of material.

Hillside cleanup options envision doing it in a way that also creates a new public amenity for ensuring safe recreational options. As shown in the graphic, 1 foot of contaminated soil would be replaced in conjunction with building a walking trail that includes a picnic shelter, tables, and benches. This provides definition to fencing and plantings to manage and limit access to other hillside areas. This limits further excavation and replacement needs to three small areas.

The jetty cleanup envisions re-armoring by securing the toe, armoring the sides and capping the jetty itself to permit continued foot traffic along the crest.

The public dock and bay cleanup would jointly excavate and replace soils within 6 feet of the dock to improve boat access by increasing the depth of water at the bottom of the ramp by about 4.5 feet. The bay flat along the jetty would be capped with clean streambed-appropriate material.

The Bayshore area cleanup would see capping the existing surface with 1.5 feet of rounded rock and streambed appropriate material.

## Cost and Timeline

The three proposed options to clean up the seasonal beaches range in cost, for feasibility study purposes, from

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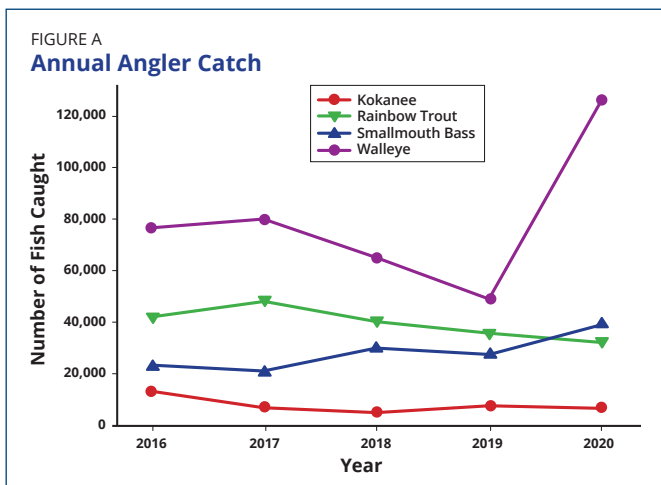


Proposed Northport Waterfront cleanup areas

# 2021 Lake Roosevelt Fishery Highlights

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), Colville Confederated Tribes and the Spokane Tribe of Indians cooperatively manage the Lake Roosevelt Fishery. In addition, the Volunteer Net Pen project provides critical support to maintaining 45 of 63 net pens distributed throughout Lake Roosevelt.

As Figure A shows, angler catch for all species varies between 113,000 and 204,000 fish annually. And the estimated number of hours anglers spent fishing varies between 246,000 and 390,000 hours per year. Rainbow Trout, White Sturgeon, Walleye and Smallmouth Bass are the most targeted species by recreational enthusiasts. The fight to suppress Northern Pike, a voracious predator that devastates other fish populations, provides additional angling opportunities.



Check the WDFW fishing pamphlet for the latest rules and regulations.

## Rainbow Trout

In May, over 526,000 triploid (meaning they are sterile) Rainbow Trout were released from 63 net pens located between Keller Ferry and Kettle Falls. About 8 inches when released, they grow to 12 inches by mid-July and 18 inches by September. In addition, the Spokane Tribal

## Catch a Northern Pike, Make \$10

The Colville Confederated Tribes are again offering rewards for catching Northern Pike.

Participants receive \$10 for every Northern Pike caught and properly deposited at a drop off location.

**Go to [www.cct-fnw.com/northern-pike](http://www.cct-fnw.com/northern-pike) for reward program rules and drop off locations.**

Over \$11,000 was paid out last year!!



Hatchery raised 30,000 1 to 2 pound rainbows for release in the Spokane Arm and Spring Canyon/Keller Ferry.

All hatchery/net pen Rainbow Trout are marked by removal of the adipose fin to ensure anglers can tell hatchery from wild trout. The harvest regulation is five hatchery Rainbow Trout per angler per day. All wild trout with an intact adipose fin must be released.

## White Sturgeon

In June, the White Sturgeon fishery was opened from Grand Coulee Dam to China Bend Boat Ramp. There is a daily limit of 1 sturgeon and annual limit of 2 sturgeon. Those harvested must be between 50 inches and 63 inches fork length. Fork length is measured from the tip of the snout to middle of the fork in the caudal fin (tail). How long the fishery will remain open has not been determined, making it critical to regularly check WDFW rule changes.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



## 2021 Lake Roosevelt Fishery Highlights CONTINUED

This fishery is available due to White Sturgeon hatchery programs that began in 2001 in British Columbia (BC) and 2004 in Washington. Efforts from Canadian and U.S. governments and tribes seek to reverse a decades-long decline of White Sturgeon in the Upper Columbia, including restoring natural recruitment.

With survival of hatchery-produced juvenile sturgeon higher than anticipated, the surplus became available for Lake Roosevelt harvest beginning in 2017.

### Northern Pike

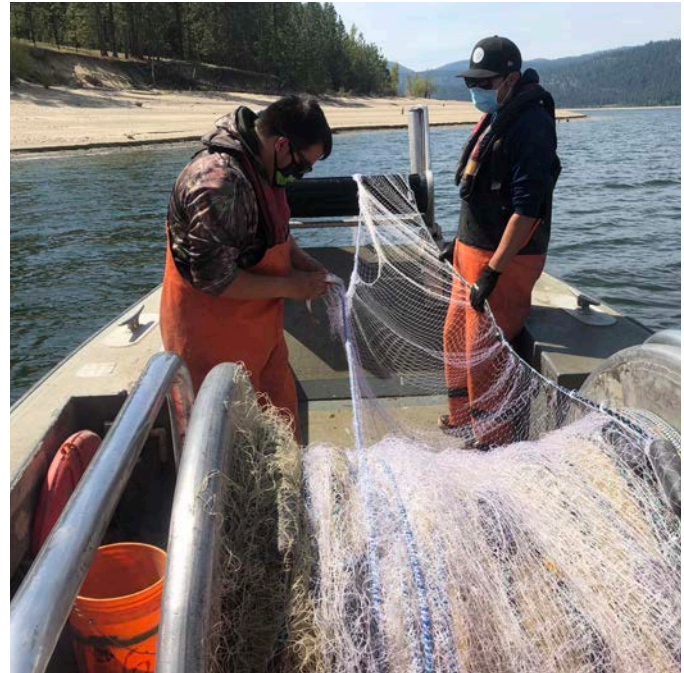
Anglers should kill ALL Northern Pike caught.

This non-native invasive species is a voracious predator that devastates other resident fish populations. Importantly, if they move down the Columbia, they will devastate salmon and steelhead populations. They also foul the ecosystem by introducing parasites and diseases, and competing with other species for food resources.

To meet the challenge, over \$1 million is spent annually to suppress Northern Pike in Lake Roosevelt. Funding comes from BPA, tribes, utilities, and others.

In 2020, over 3,400 pike were removed from the system. This brings the total of pike removed since 2015 to over 16,000. This spring, managers used gillnets as the focus of suppression efforts. For the summer, electro fishing will also be used to target juveniles.

Pike were first captured in Lake Roosevelt in 2007 and are now routinely captured in fisheries surveys throughout the northern section of Lake Roosevelt and the lower section of the Kettle River. 🌐



Northern Pike gillnetting

### Want to Know What's Biting Where?

Visit [www.spokanetribofisheries.com/current-fishing-trends](http://www.spokanetribofisheries.com/current-fishing-trends)

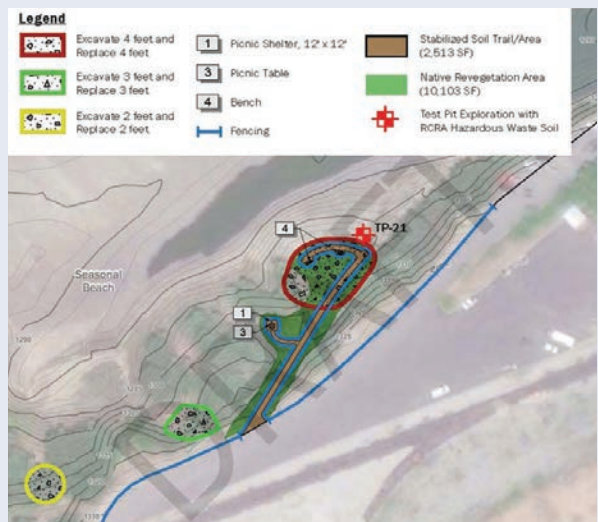
Creel clerks from the Spokane Tribal Fisheries, the Colville Reservation and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife are regularly uploading data to servers to provide near real-time access to catch information.

## Ecology Identifies Options CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

\$4.6 to 7.5 million. The estimated cost for the Jetty, Bay, Bayshore and Hillside is \$600,000 and incorporated into this range.

The next steps for Ecology are to respond to public comments to the draft RI/FS, finalize the RI/FS, and complete a Cleanup Action Plan. The Cleanup Action Plan will describe the specific cleanup option chosen. There will be final public comment solicited prior to engineering design, permitting, contracting and construction.

Ecology estimates cleanup can most likely begin in 2023 or 2024 during the times when river levels are low enough for cleanup areas to be fully exposed and construction equipment can operate at and above the water line. 🌐



Hillside cleanup option

# Salmon Reintroduction Webinar Attracts Broad Audience



Cultural salmon release

The Forum's Upper Columbia Salmon Reintroduction Webinar in May brought together over 200 participants from diverse backgrounds. To view the three-hour webinar, go to [www.lrf.org/webinar](http://www.lrf.org/webinar).

Many thanks to the Upper Columbia United Tribes (UCUTs) and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) for helping organize the webinar. Here are some highlights and takeaways.

## Collaboration Counts

In 2014, the Northwest Power and Conservation Council supported a multi-phase approach to investigate salmon reintroduction as part of adopting their 2014 Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program Amendments. Since then, a 15 Tribes coalition, WDFW and others are putting this approach into practice using best available science.

John Sirois, the UCUT Committee Coordinator and Colville Confederated Tribes member, summarized outcomes of Phase 1 efforts that other presenters built on. He also thanked the Independent Scientific Advisory Board (ISAB) for their encouraging and thorough review of Phase 1 research.

Culturally, Sirois said matter of factly, "Nearly 80 years without salmon is too long for tribes and the ecosystem. Together, we must bring them back."

## Habitat is Available

A key question is whether sufficient habitat in the mainstem and tributaries above Grand Coulee is available to support reintroduced salmon. The short answer is yes, with Phase 1 studies showing 711 miles available for Chinook. There is also high spawner capacity in the Sanpoil River for Sockeye, while Lake Roosevelt has more than enough production to function as a nursery lake for the species.

Brian Bellgraph, Fisheries Research Scientist with the U.S. Department of Energy's Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), summarized a very sophisticated, complex modeling study to evaluate Columbia River mainstem habitat for fall/summer Chinook between Kettle Falls and the Canadian border (about 47 miles).

Relying on thousands of data points and supercomputer processing, a model with an over 90% accurate prediction rate provided encouraging results. 25 to 85 acres of suitable habitat that can support the spawning activities of 6 to 32 thousand adults were found to be available. The majority of, and best, habitat was located from Northport to the Canadian border. This reach of the river is shallower, has swifter flows, and features streambed conditions that are preferred by Chinook.

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# Lake Roosevelt Updates

## National Park Service

### INVASIVE SPECIES PREVENTION CONTINUES

An Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) mussel free self-certification is required before launching watercraft at Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area (see below). This includes those with annual boat launch permits and non-motorized watercraft. Vehicles not properly displaying this form will be ticketed by law enforcement rangers.



Inspections began at Lake Roosevelt NRA on May 22nd and will continue through Labor Day. Inspection days, times, and locations vary throughout the summer.

In 2020, NPS conducted 281 boat inspections for aquatic invasives throughout the park. Twenty boats required plant decontamination and no invasive mussels were identified. In addition, non-native crayfish were identified as part of surveys from China Bend to Grand Coulee.

In January, the Washington Invasives Species Council updated their statewide prevention strategy. The Council reports that more than 200 invasive species are known to be present in Washington. Scientists estimate that \$1.2 billion annually is at risk if there is no prevention or management.

### FIRES BANNED

Beginning June 25, 2021, dry conditions led NPS to prohibit all fires at the Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area. No open flames are permitted. This includes, but is not limited to, all fires in NPS provided fire rings and boxes, shoreline fires, charcoal fires, tiki torches, incense burners, candles, and propane campfires. Self-contained propane or gas stoves and lanterns are allowed. Check the NPS web site or call 509-754-7893 for any changes to restrictions.

## Columbia River Treaty Negotiations

A year has passed since the United States and Canada conducted the tenth round of negotiations to modernize the Columbia River Treaty. In June 2020, the Canadian team presented a treaty modernization proposal that had input and support from Canada, British Columbia and first nations.

In February 2021, the Province of B.C. hosted a Virtual Town Hall. The Canadian team used part of the town hall to describe a computer model they developed to simulate how different dam operations would affect a range of interdependent parameters, e.g.-- river flows, ecosystems, cultural values, and socio-economic interests. Modeling extends the length of the Columbia River to the Pacific Ocean.

## Bureau of Reclamation

GRAND COULEE DAM  
VISITOR CENTER AND LASER  
LIGHT SHOW OPEN



— BUREAU OF —  
RECLAMATION

Starting May 29th, the Grand Coulee Dam Visitor Center and “One River, Many Voices” laser light show once again became available. Fully vaccinated visitors are not required to wear a mask. The Bureau also announced dam tours will not resume this calendar year.

### CAYUSE COVE SHORELINE STABILIZATION

The Bureau has completed phase one of the Cayuse Cove shoreline stabilization project. Located on the Lincoln County side of the Spokane Arm upstream of Porcupine Bay, the objective is to halt bank erosion to prevent inadvertent exposure and loss of sensitive resources. 🌐

DISPLAY IN PARKED VEHICLE WINDSHIELD

**I'M MUSSEL FREE!**

***I affirm that my vessel does not threaten Lake Roosevelt with quagga or zebra mussels.***

*This certificate is only valid at Lake Roosevelt. Must re-certify if launched somewhere else.*



**Check one:**  Boat not used in last 30 days in states other than WA, ID, or OR, **and** cleaned, drained, and dried.  
 Boat used outside of WA, ID, or OR, but cleaned, drained, and dried according to recommendations prior to launching in Lake Roosevelt.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## *Salmon Reintroduction Webinar* CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

Assumptions used in the PNNL modeling were based on the range of river flows seen by current hydropower operations. Bellgraph and others also noted there are encouraging indicators of habitat availability on the Canadian side of the Columbia River.

### *Donor Stocks and Risks to Resident Fish*

Phase 1 studies show non-ESA donor stocks are available. A major point of investigation, however, is assuring reintroduction of salmonids does not become counterproductive by introducing diseases to resident fish species.

WDFW has taken the lead role in assessing this risk. Jed Varney, Senior Veterinarian in the WDFW Fish Health Unit, presented on this work. Varney explained that Lake Roosevelt is considered a separate watershed from below Chief Joseph Dam because there are diseases found in the lower Columbia that are not found above Chief Joseph and Grand Coulee dams. Of the 21 fish species in Lake Roosevelt, WDFW and co-managers identified a particular virus (technically termed the IHN MD clade) to be of most concern to Redband Trout.

For adult Chinook to be moved safely to Lake Roosevelt to support Phase 1 activities, WDFW worked with the USGS Western Fisheries Research Center to develop a novel, highly innovative test. In a three-day turn-around, Chinook collected from upper Columbia hatcheries received a clinical exam and test. Those found to be healthy and negative for IHN were cleared for transport to Lake Roosevelt.

### *Cultural and Educational Releases*

Casey Baldwin, a research scientist for the Colville Tribes, and Conor Giorgi, the Anadromous Program Manager for the Spokane Tribe of Indians, described cultural and educational releases as “a parallel path to the phased approach.” Here, the focus is on supporting and reconnecting with tribal cultural ceremonies, outreach, educational programs, and harvest opportunities. Said Giorgi, “This is about reconnecting the people with salmon and the salmon with the habitat.”

2019 saw the initiation of ceremonial adult Chinook releases. With these releases, managers also included a science-based component to add to the scientific awareness and understanding of the phased approach.

Although the pandemic did not make ceremonial releases possible in 2020, the Colville Tribes were able to release 50 summer Chinook adults with acoustic tags into Lake Roosevelt, and 100 adults with pit tags into the Sanpoil tributary. Acoustic tags emit a signal that allows receivers located throughout the river system to track fish movements.

Baldwin noted that data from tracking these fish is currently being analyzed. Already, however, managers reported that salmon released are pinging receivers in Canada and below Chief Joseph Dam.

After release of salmon into the Sanpoil in August, 36 redds (a spawning nest) over a five-mile reach were

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counted in October. Baldwin commented “That of the 100 fish released, only 38 were female. So this suggests a really high conversion rate of fish released to redds counted.”

Giorgi reported that the Spokane Tribe also conducted adult releases of summer/fall Chinook in 2020. Fifty were released into Tshimikain Creek and 50 released into the Spokane River. In the fall, 15 redds were counted in Tshimikain Creek.

In addition, the Spokane Tribe and Coeur d’Alene Tribe released juvenile Chinook in 2020. The Coeur d’Alene tribal release was in Hangman Creek, a tributary of the Spokane River that is over 70 miles from the Columbia. Of the more than 1,400 juveniles released, 69 successfully migrated past 3 dams on the Spokane River as well as Grand Coulee Dam and Chief Joseph Dam, none of which have fish passage facilities.

Lastly, Giorgi reported that of the 90 juveniles released in 2017 that successfully made the journey to the ocean, four were found coming back up the Columbia. Said Giorgi, “These cultural and educational releases are demonstrations of the feasibility of returning Chinook to the blocked area. They give us a lot of hope of what’s to come.”

Said Rodney Cawston, the Colville Tribal Business Council Chair, at one of the ceremonial releases, “We have strong prayers today because our ancestors, our elders at the Ceremony of Tears, they had strong prayers that one day we could see these fish return back to the river, back to our people.”

### Phase 2: What’s Next

Thomas Biladeau, a Habitat Restoration Biologist with the Coeur d’Alene Tribe, gave the public the first view of the Phase 2 plan that is expected to be released this summer.

Phase 2 will further evaluate the feasibility of fish passage and salmon persistence in the region. Biladeau describes it as “where the paddle meets the water,” its objectives include:

- Test the key biological assumptions made in Phase 1 considered critical for the success of the reintroduction effort.
- Establish the sources of Chinook and Sockeye donor stocks and broodstock that will be used to produce the juveniles and adults required to conduct biological studies and test fish passage facilities.
- Develop the interim passage and hatchery facilities required to evaluate reintroduction.
- Provide the data and analyses needed for Phase 3 decision-making. This includes data necessary to determine the need, type, and costs of permanent fish passage systems and hatchery production facilities.

Phase 2 is projected to take a minimum of twenty years and over \$100 million to complete, although the total cost and time depends on the outcome of studies completed in the first stage. The first stage will occur over the next 6 years, and includes developing hatchery and rearing capacity, establishing a trap-and-haul upstream fish passage program, and a suite of behavior and survival studies.

The hatchery and rearing facilities envisioned will support releasing 100,000 or more juvenile Chinook and Sockeye annually.

An early study being developed with USGS focuses on juvenile Chinook survival. Acoustic telemetry would assess survival across dams, juvenile behavior as they approach dams, and the migratory habits from multiple release locations. Managers would also like to expand this study to include movements of juvenile Sockeye to be released in the Sanpoil River.

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## Salmon Spawning Confirmed by Spokane and Colville Tribes

To the delight of fishery managers, the 2020 adult summer/fall Chinook released into the Sanpoil River and Tshimikain Creek successfully created spawning redds. Both tribes are now reporting that resulting juveniles were collected in screw traps this spring. Said Baldwin,

*“... this really proves that the effort to reintroduce salmon has a lot of potential.”*

## Salmon Reintroduction Webinar CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

A large-scale PIT tag study would be used to assess things like how far downstream juveniles are making it, how many are coming back from the ocean, and how those returning adults can be collected for transport and studied for behavior in the blocked area.

Said Biladeau, “Over these first few years, we have a pretty good idea of what things will look like. Specific steps and needs for adaptive management get hazier the farther out we try to see. Monitoring and studies will help us choose how to continue to progress.”

Securing sufficient funding to fully implement Phase 2 is a challenge. To date, the Bonneville Power Administration has declined to use Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Program funding to support efforts. In the meantime, tribes and partners such as WDFW will continue to seek funding from other sources to fund Phase 2 as best they can.

### Partner Enthusiasm

The webinar concluded with leaders from the Colville Confederated Tribes (Jared Erickson), NW Power and Conservation Council (Patty O’Toole), Stevens County (Wes McCart), WDFW (Chris Donley), and the UCUTs (DR Michele). To a one, they were complimentary and enthusiastic about progress to date.

Michele noted that the tribes commissioned an economics report that showed the value and need to properly balance power and flood risk management benefits with the value of protecting and restoring ecosystem functions “for the benefit of all people.”

McCart commented that “Nature finds a way. We just need to help it along a little bit here. I’m excited about where this may go, and as local elected officials we’ve been very supportive of what the UCUTs are doing.”

O’Toole encouraged all sovereigns and stakeholders to “increase communication and coordination” to meet the challenge of achieving multi-jurisdictional support. “These issues are complex and what I’ve learned is that it’s really easy to talk past each other.”

Donley built on O’Toole’s comments, saying “There are a lot of challenges at the federal level and the state level to figure out who has what authorities to make this a reality. But the biggest challenge beyond policy, the technical and the bureaucratic, is to be aspirational. To stay focused on what’s right culturally and environmentally. The aspirational and coordination can lead us to get beyond today’s general rules and thinking of what’s allowed to go on above and below Grand Coulee Dam.”

Jarred Erickson summarized the general feeling and those of the tribes when he said, “It just warms my heart to see us moving forward on all of this. If you think about it, the Columbia River is like a big artery that goes to our heart. At our cultural release ceremonies, there were elders crying. This is our way of life.” 🌊



Salmon fishing at Kettle Falls



Tribal chiefs bear witness to salmon being blocked





In addition, the restroom facility at the Fort Spokane boat launch is closed until further notice while extensive septic system repairs are designed and completed.

### ***Boat Launches***

The boat launch fee payment has also been automated. At a launch, users will use their smart phone to scan a QR code to access the payment system. Visitors can also purchase a weekly or annual boat launch pass through [www.pay.gov](http://www.pay.gov).

### ***Concessions***

Concessions at Kettle Falls, Seven Bays and Keller Ferry marinas are fully operational. Visit their web sites to learn about their services, e.g.—houseboat rentals, food, fuel and sewage pump out.

### ***Pack-it-in, Pack-it-out***

Whether you're camping overnight at a beach or enjoying a day trip, it's critical for all garbage and human waste to be responsibly collected and disposed. With floating toilets not available this year, it's particularly important to plan accordingly. In addition, all overnight boat camping requires bringing an appropriate toilet device. ♻️

**Enjoy Lake Roosevelt!**

Get the info you need!

[www.lrf.org/recreation](http://www.lrf.org/recreation)

## ***How to Improve Your Odds of a Happy Visit!***

**Use these resources to make sure you're prepared for an awesome time:**

- For the latest NPS information and alerts for LRNA, visit [www.nps.gov/laro/planyourvisit/conditions.htm](http://www.nps.gov/laro/planyourvisit/conditions.htm). Examples of alerts are restrictions due to fire, drought or pandemic conditions.
- Go to the App Store or Google Play to download the free NPS app for information on education programs and facilities.
- Visit [www.lrf.org/recreation](http://www.lrf.org/recreation) for our popular Enjoy Lake Roosevelt recreation map and guide. You'll find a directory of public, tribal and private services, points of interest, applicable regulations, fees and permits, latest fishing trends, and boat launch information.

# Lake Roosevelt Forum

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