

Committed to the
environmental and
economic well being
of our community

Lake Roosevelt Forum

NEWSletter

WINTER 2007

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Northwest Power and Conservation Council Recommends Over 30 Million Dollars for Lake Roosevelt Fish and Wildlife

THE LAKE ROOSEVELT AREA IS LIKELY TO RECEIVE APPROXIMATELY \$17.4 MILLION DOLLARS for fish and \$13.5 million dollars of wildlife funding for the 2007 – 2009 fiscal years.

Without this funding, on the ground projects such as net pens, hatcheries, sturgeon recovery and enhancing critical winter wildlife habitat would not be possible.

Fish and wildlife funding is the result of the Northwest Power Act, which was passed in 1980. The Act created what is now called the Northwest Power and Conservation Council. One responsibility of the Council is to protect, mitigate and enhance fish and wildlife on the Columbia River and its tributaries. Such measures are considered necessary to meet the needs of fish and wildlife populations in the Columbia River Basin

impacted by the operation of the Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS).

For the 2007 - 2009 period, the Council is recommending \$429 million dollars of fish and wildlife funding for the Columbia River Basin.

Says Tom Karier, Council Chairman, "The projects recommended for funding are technically

sound, have undergone independent scientific review, and are the result of valuable local input and cooperation. The Council is truly grateful for the good work provided by our local groups, tribes, and state partners to implement subbasin plans."

In mid-October, the Council sent BPA a list of projects it recommends for funding. As part of BPA's responsibilities, they will select, fund and administer a final set of fish and wildlife contracts with project sponsors.

The Forum is recommended for funding to help convene our 2007 and 2009 conferences.





GETTING TO KNOW THE NET PEN VOLUNTEERS

Into the 1980s, a lot of people thought of Lake Roosevelt as a big, sterile body of water. Once the historic salmon runs were cut off with the building of Grand Coulee and Chief Joseph dams, decades went by with neither federal or state agencies taking much of an interest in restoring the fishery.

Thankfully, citizens had another idea. Winn Self and Jim Scribner out of Seven Bays, and Ron Schneider and Cathy LeBret out of Kettle Falls, banded together. Soon they were joined by others out of Hunters, Lincoln and Keller Ferry. Together, they started building and stocking net pens with rainbow trout. It was an all volunteer effort, AND IT WORKED.

Federal and state agencies went from skeptics to active supporters. Today, the Lake Roosevelt net pen operation raises up to 750,000 rainbow trout each year. At various locations along the 150 mile reservoir, 45 net pens produce up to fifteen thousand rainbow trout per year. Half the rainbows are triploid (sterile but faster growing) and half are diploid (normal).

The process starts with egg production at the WDFW hatchery in Spokane. They then migrate to the Spokane Tribal Hatchery (located on the reservation) and Sherman Creek Hatchery (located on a tributary to Lake Roosevelt across from Kettle Falls). By late September the hatchery reared fish are up to nine inches long and ready to be transferred to the net pens. Through the winter, the fish are fed and some pens moved about due to changing water levels. By late May, it's time to release the fish.

Critical funding for fish food and maintenance is provided by



BPA's fish and wildlife program. To this day, however, volunteers make the program work.

Currently, there are forty two active volunteers. Through the winter, they wake up early and brave the cold to see that the fish are fed and the net pens maintained. Says Gene Smith, the net pen volunteer coordinator, "They are mostly retired folks from all walks of life. Preachers, school administrators, truckers, carpenters, etc. They love the outdoors, and their wives like to kick them out of the house."

Roy Graffis has been volunteering with the program for twenty years. When he was the Hunter school superintendent, he made putting in pens part of the vocational program. "It's just a wonderful group of people," says Roy. "And it's an important part of restoration that's helped grow the economy and provided good relations with the Indians."

Don Lawrence echoes Roy's thoughts. Don has volunteered for nine years. "It's a nice sense of accomplishment," notes Don. "Our success year to year can be challenging because of things like changing water levels."

Says Gene, "The dedication of everyone is amazing, including the donations and support we get from marinas and others around the lake. The program works and stays strong because of everyone working together."

"The folks that got this going had a lot of foresight, no doubt about it." ✱

Lake Roosevelt Forum Survey

Please help us get a better feel for what you think about Lake Roosevelt, how we can improve this newsletter, and what activities you would like to see the Forum doing.

We welcome any additional comments. Please feel free to make copies of this survey and pass it along to other interested individuals.

You may return the survey by mail to:
Lake Roosevelt Forum, 2206 S Sherman St., Spokane, WA 99203, or fax it to us at: (509) 535-3986



WIN A \$100 GIFT CERTIFICATE!

Complete this survey and you'll be included in a drawing for a \$100 gift certificate to Hastings Books, Music & Video. Surveys must be returned by March 2, 2007. If you wish to be entered into the prize drawing, you need to include your name and mailing address. The winner will be notified by mail by March 16, 2007.



First name: _____ Last name: _____

Mailing address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone Number: (_____) _____ E-mail address: _____

Please answer the item(s) that apply to you:

How many times a year do you visit Lake Roosevelt?

1-4 5-9 10-19 20 or more Other: _____

What activities do you participate in at Lake Roosevelt? Check your top three activities.

Beach Combing Fishing Canoeing/Kayaking Motor Boating Hiking
 Sailing Water Skiing Camping Hunting Sun Bathing Cultural
 Jet Skiing Swimming Other: _____

Check the month(s) you spend the most time on or around Lake Roosevelt.

January February March April May June July
 August September October November December

Check the Lake Roosevelt topics you would like to have more information on:

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> History of the Area | <input type="checkbox"/> Kids' Programs | <input type="checkbox"/> Regulations (Boating, fishing, hunting) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Elevation | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grand Coulee Dam | <input type="checkbox"/> Environment | <input type="checkbox"/> EPA RI/FS (Metals contamination) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic Weeds |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Columbia River Water Management Program | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | | |

Please answer the following questions (use extra paper if you like):

What is the best thing about Lake Roosevelt? _____

What changes would you like to see in the Lake Roosevelt area in the next 10 years? _____

What is the greatest challenge facing the Lake Roosevelt area? _____

What topics or activities would you like to see included in future
Lake Roosevelt Forum hosted events or in the Forum's newsletter? _____

Do you catch and eat fish from Lake Roosevelt? Yes No

If yes, what is the most fish you eat in a one month period? _____

Check the Lake Roosevelt Forum materials or services you think are most valuable.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> House Boat Tour |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brochures (Recreation guide, contaminants guide, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Conference |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Meetings | <input type="checkbox"/> Student Discovery Week |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Web Site |

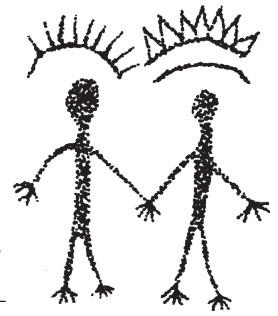
You may return the survey by mail to:

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Or fax it to us at: (509) 535-3986

Thank You!

Protecting and Respecting Cultural Resources at Lake Roosevelt

by Lake Roosevelt Cultural Resources Cooperating Group



HOW WOULD YOU FEEL IF A GUEST IN YOUR HOUSE STOLE OR SLASHED AN HEIRLOOM QUILT made by your great grandmother? What would you do if you saw this happen in your friend's home? We are asking you to help stop this kind of "theft" in the homelands of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation and the Spokane Tribe of Indians.

Every year at Lake Roosevelt, looters destroy historic and archaeological sites to find artifacts they can sell. Vacationers pocket artifacts as souvenirs. ATV users turn ancient homes and resting places into muddy battlefields. These places and the artifacts they hold are our only link with the cultural heritage of this special place on the Columbia River.

Lake Roosevelt's beach environments and the cultural traces on them are fragile—it doesn't take much impact to destroy them and the precious information they contain. Shoreline beaches and adjacent lands are public lands. Sites, artifacts, and landscape features are public property protected by federal, tribal, and state laws. Criminal penalties for cultural resource theft and destruction are serious because those resources are finite—unlike animals and plants, they can never come back. The Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, the National Park Service, the

Spokane Tribe of Indians, the State of Washington, and the Bureau of Reclamation ask for your help in protecting our past at Lake Roosevelt. Next time you visit, please

- Don't dig.
- Don't collect anything or move it from where you found it.
- Before you go boating or drive your ATV, know the rules and follow them.
- And if you see someone digging at Lake Roosevelt, don't try to stop them. It's not safe. Get identifying marks like license plate numbers and call law enforcement. The National Park Service number is 509-738-6266, the Spokane Tribal Law Enforcement number is (509) 722-4445, and the Colville Tribal Law Enforcement Number is (509) 634-3145.

The people of the Upper Columbia, past and present, thank you for your help in protecting the past! For more information you can visit http://www.cr.nps.gov/local-law/FHPL_ArchRsrcsProt.pdf or <http://www.usbr.gov/cultural/protect.html>. ✱

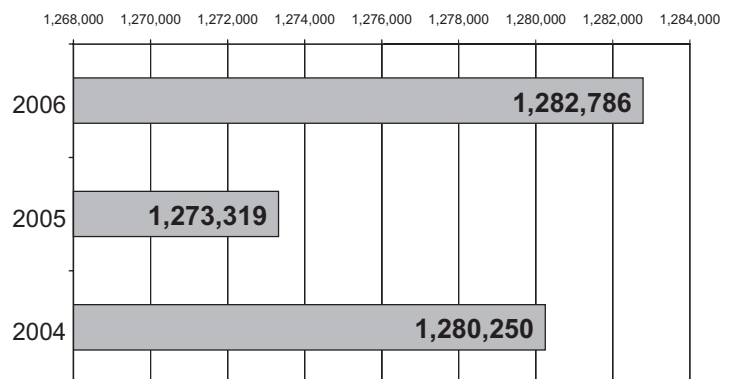
Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area has Another Successful Year

OVER 1.2 MILLION PEOPLE TOOK ADVANTAGE of Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area managed resources in 2006, a small increase from the year before. Combined with visitations to areas managed by the Colville and Spokane tribes, over 1.5 million people consistently visit Lake Roosevelt each year.

The Park Service continues to run a variety of educational outreach programs for visitors, including:

- Rangers and other staff making over 13,500 informal contacts with visitors.
- Over 4,500 visitors participating in one of the many interpretative programs, e.g.—guided hikes, canoe trips or evening programs.

LAKE ROOSEVELT NATIONAL RECREATION AREA ANNUAL VISITATION



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Lake Roosevelt Forum

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Yes, I'd like to donate!

Local support for the continuation of the Lake Roosevelt Forum is critical. Donations are used to support the newsletter and school activities. Please support the Forum with your contribution. The amounts below are suggestions. Whether or not you choose to donate, you will still continue to receive the Lake Roosevelt Forum Newsletter.

Suggested Donation Levels

\$20/year \$50/year \$100/year Other _____

Lake Roosevelt Forum • 2206 S. Sherman • Spokane, WA 99203
Please enclose this form with your donation in a stamped envelope.

NAME _____

COMPANY _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE/FAX _____

EMAIL _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION.

SUCCESSFUL YEAR, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

- Over 1,200 kids becoming Junior Rangers as part of their LRNA experience.
- Over 900 people visiting the Discovery Center on weekends.
- The historic weapons program attracting over 500 people.
- 250 people enjoyed the Paddle Days at Kettle Falls.

Essential to making the visitor experience as rewarding as possible is the volunteer program. Last year, 42 volunteers gave over 14,500 hours of service to the park.

Facilities were also upgraded by adding wayside exhibits at 11 boat ramps. Further, comfort stations at Spring Canyon, Fort Spokane, Hunters and Kettle Falls were retrofitted to make them handicapped accessible.

Says Debbie Bird, the LRNA superintendent, "We care deeply about making Lake Roosevelt NRA the very best place to take your family on a summer vacation in Eastern Washington. I am particularly proud of our accomplishments in upgrading our facilities and offering great interpretative programs." ✨