

Friends of Northwest Hatcheries



www.friendsofnwhatcheries.org

Winter 2007

Helping to increase the awareness of the relationship between people and the environment

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Hagerman
Kooskia
Leavenworth
Spring Creek
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This year marked the inauguration of the *Annual Carson National Fish Hatchery Summer Lecture Series*. This summer, three lectures (June, July and Aug) were presented featuring various aspects of Fish Hatcheries. The inaugural year theme was: *National Fish Hatcheries What they Do for You?* Speakers this year were: Mr. Eric Davis, Executive Director of the D.C. Booth Society located at the D.C. Booth National Historic Fish Hatchery in Spearfish, S.D. Mr. Davis spoke on the *Importance of Public Outreach as an Independent Advocate for National Fish Hatcheries*. Mr. Jim Martin, Conservation Director of the Berkley Conservation Institute, a branch of Pure Fishing in Spirit Lake Iowa spoke in July about: *A Great Wave Rising: The Impact of Development and Climate Change on Salmon of the Pacific Northwest*. And in August, Dr. E.L. Brannon, Honored Professor Emeritus and Distinguished Research Professor at the Aquaculture Research Institute of the University of Idaho, Moscow, ID. spoke about *The Controversy About Salmon Hatcheries*. The Lecture Series was very well received, and off to a great start. Carson NFH is especially grateful to the support these lectures received in the local community and looks forward to another presentation of timely, informational and exciting speakers in the summer of 2008.

Friends of Northwest Hatcheries generously donated \$350.00 to make the Skamania County Chamber of Commerce Business after Hours at the **Carson National Fish Hatchery** a reality. The event had a special “**Interactive**” activity in which participants took part in the spawning of several salmon – Yup!!! Our own Chamber Executive Director, Casey Roeder donned the appropriate rubber boots, gloves, gear and collected eggs from ripe females, and fertilized them with sperm from ripe males. The resultant fish will be on their way to the ocean in April 2009! Over 55 members of the Chamber congregated at the hatchery for the event, which is an astounding turn out for an evening event at the hatchery (which is a long drive out into the forest). Carson NFH is also very grateful for the support that this event had among many members of the local community, and looks forward to another exciting year *After Hours- 2008*.



Friends of the Northwest Hatcheries is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) volunteer organization.

17th Annual Salmon Festival Tons of Fun!



From September 20 to the 23rd, the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery hosted the 17th annual Wenatchee River Salmon Festival. The festival is a free four-day natural resource education event that attracts 8,000 to 10,000 visitors each year. The first two days are committed to elementary school students from all over North Central Washington and the weekend days are open to the general public. All four days offer hands-on activities that give visitors opportunities to learn about many different aspects of salmon, our natural environment, art and Native American culture. The festival is hosted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Forest Service.

Highlights from this year

The festival broadened its horizons by adding the **Outdoor Recreation** exhibit featuring live demonstrations and offering information on a wide variety of activities. Local and nationally known organizations and businesses set up booths and activities, answered questions about recreation options in the Wenatchee Valley. Visitors were able to try a kayak in the pond, ride a bike adapted for physically challenged riders, check out local mountain bike trails, get info on alpine snowboarding and skiing, obtain cross country skiing and hiking info and many other adventurous activities. Look for more in 2008!

Another new exhibit was the **Inspirations from Nature** art and cultural exhibit that took place in the hatchery park near the food court. Icicle Arts partnered with Salmon Fest to produce a hands-on, up close and personal view of artists, their genres and their creative process. Sculpting, painting, drawing, pastels, bronze casting, woodworking, recycled art projects and nature journaling were some of the

different types of art represented. Visitors were encouraged to stroll through the informal exhibit and experiment with their own creative powers by observing, and interacting with the artist and actually taking part in the process. Watching a child trying to sculpt a rock by learning how to use a jackhammer is worth a lot of smiles! With all of the positive feedback from both artists and visitor, Inspirations from Nature will be back at the festival next year!



Tried and True

Great success was also evident in festival activities that are offered every year. Some of the local favorites such as chalk art, Kids in the Creek, creativity corner, the storytelling tent and costume parade, the Salmon Run, Gytaku, Native American Encampment and many others are as popular as ever. Sardis Raptor Center and The Reptile Man also packed the stage area with fun and educational presentations. Who wouldn't like to see a bald eagle or an albino python up close and personal?

The Wenatchee River Salmon Festival is a shining star of fun and education for all who venture to the Upper Valley in September. Fundraising efforts continue all year to insure the quality and depth of experience it has always offered. For information on becoming a contributor to this award winning event, call the Friends of Northwest Hatcheries at 548-6662, ext. 271. We're always ready to talk Salmon! And don't forget to put September 18 – 21 on your 2008 calendar so you can enjoy the fun next year!

- Betsy McIndoe

A Legacy of 90,000 Pounds of Trash?

A 150 lb. adult will leave 90,000 pounds of trash for the next generation. Yikes! Leavenworth Recycles (LR) and the Friends of the Northwest Hatcheries (FNWH) have joined together to leave a better legacy. Close to ten thousand students and adults were educated about the benefits of recycling in our community while reducing the waste at this year's Salmon Festival. Lisi Ott, one of the founding board members of LR, kicked off a 2 year Department of Ecology (DOE) Public Participation Grant project to educate the Leavenworth community and visiting tourists on the benefits of recycling during the 2007 Salmon Festival. During the Salmon Festival, enough bags of #1 plastic bottles and aluminum cans to fill a small pickup truck were recycled.

While the idea of recycling is not new to many in the community, the underlying reasons of why recycling is important, the knowledge of what can be recycled in our area, where recyclables can be dropped off, and how to prepare them for dropping off is still a mystery.

The DOE grant will be used to educate people about the benefits of recycling in our community, county, and state. LR believes when people in the community learn that their individual actions can make a difference in the quality of the world we live in, their actions will become more meaningful. LR plans to accomplish this education by sponsoring a Trash Trivia Contest on KOHO radio, writing a weekly recycling tip in the Leavenworth Echo, guest speaking locally and being a presence at the Salmon Festival and another yet to be determined Leavenworth festival.

The community itself is not recycling effectively. Though the organizers of the Salmon Festival have incorporated recycling into their festival plans most

of the other festivals do not include recycling plans. These factors contribute to the fact that Leavenworth is producing a lot more waste than necessary.

LR believes when people know better they will do better. To that end LR is committed to working with FNWH and the Leavenworth Fish Hatchery Staff to raise awareness of recycling at future Salmon Festivals in the effort to collect recyclable materials and divert waste from landfills.

- Lisi Ott and Jeff Johnson



Did you know?...

Recycling saves energy and reduces green house gases (ghg). There is a 95% energy savings when making aluminum cans out of recycled aluminum cans. The savings from one can could run a TV for three hours.

Last year, Waste Management collected six million tons of recyclable materials. The ghg savings from that material is equal to taking two million cars off the road for a year.

Leavenworth NFH Handicap Fishing Day



In October each year, Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery holds one of its favorite events. The Rainbow Trout viewing pond must be emptied for the winter. Most fish go to a local kids fishing pond, but before that transport, we invite local group homes to bring anglers for the fishing day of their lives. This year we had over twenty fishermen and women attend. Wenatchee's Mission Vista has been coming for three years and decided to donate their fish to a local food bank so they could help others eat well after their day of fun.

- Lynann DeJarnett



Students from Cascade High School say, "Thank you, Friends of Northwest Hatcheries."

A good day of fishing often includes rain. Despite the rain, six students attended the day of fishing at Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery thanks to transportation funding provided by Friends of Northwest Hatcheries. Each student successfully caught a rainbow trout to take home to their families for dinner. The impact on students was more than catching a fish, it was learning about the food chain and about what it means to be a fisherman/woman.

- Natalie Briody

4-H Forestry Education Program "Completing the Circle"

Students from Cascade and Cashmere High Schools came together this past summer to assist regional tribal members in completing a traditional arbor for the Leavenworth Salmon Festival. The arbor is used by several Native American tribes attending the festival as a central gathering place for traditional dances, artists and a wide variety of culturally unique educational activities.

Tribal member Clifton Bruno, his wife Christine, and their sons traveled to Leavenworth from their home on the Warm Springs Reservation in central Oregon to facilitate the gathering of materials from the forest and construction of the arbor. Clifton led the students through the forest near Lake Wenatchee to carefully select and cut the posts that would support the poles providing shade for the artisans and dancers. Great care was taken to harvest only those trees that would be needed and the students were provided with several opportunities to learn about and develop a respect for the traditional ways and methods of gathering resources used in tribal activities.

With the posts cut, prepared and planted in the ground, support poles and evergreen boughs placed upon the structure and the circle now complete, the arbor was ready for all that came to the festival.

The 4-H Forestry Education Program is offered through WSU Chelan County Extension providing local youth with "hands on" experiential learning. Program director, Kevin C. Powers shared, "The students participate in local community-based service projects like the arbor project as a means to more effectively connect youth with their communities, local history, and the natural resources that surround them". The project brought



together the students, tribes, US Fish & Wildlife and US Forest Service staff in a collaborative effort to complete this integral part of the festival's Native American Encampment. Details of the project along with pictures were covered in an article in the Sunday edition of the Wenatchee World on July 29, 2007. That article can be viewed online at <http://wenworld.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070728/NEWS04/707290425>.

- Kevin Powers

4-H Forestry Education Program: "Nature Mapping Bio-Blitz"

In a pilot program with Cascade High School, the 4-H Forestry Education Program has implemented a new and unique component to the field experience portion of the "Advanced Biology" class for the Fall/Winter semester.

Through contract with the Cascade School District, WSU Chelan County Extension staff member, Cody Stitt, is in the classroom teaching the core curriculum and facilitating the field experience component which comprises 60% of the students' grade. Students have been learning technical skills in conducting and documenting field observations of wildlife species and related habitat data each time they have gone into the field. In collaboration with Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife, US Fish & Wildlife Service and the University of Washington, students are trained in using the 'Nature Mapping' citizen science program for accomplishing this process.

The class is divided into four groups with each selecting a topic or area of interest to research and learn about. One of those groups, the Wildlife Team, has planned a Nature Mapping "Bio-Blitz" at the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery for their project this semester. In a Bio-Blitz, the students will work with regional wildlife professionals to conduct a half day inventory of wildlife on the hatchery grounds. The students will report their findings in presentations to hatchery administrators and staff, school district teachers, administrators and classmates, upload the data collected to the Nature Mapping website on the World Wide Web and provide outreach information to the community through a live KOHO radio interview. In addition, the group has invited fifteen middle school students to accompany them and learn how this process works and to spur interest in hands on science education. Follow-up activities are planned for the high school students to continue cross-age mentoring with the middle school students later in the year.

- Cody Stitt



One of our Friends' Board Officers, Sheila Bergren, had the privilege of traveling to China this fall. She brought many stories back with her, but the most touching is quoted below:

“Carl and I traveled to China this fall and visited the De Ji Orphan School in Lhasa (Tibet) which was established by a woman who has devoted her life to these children. This is not a government sponsored facility and that means they must rely on private donations. The tour company (Grand Circle) donates \$10 of every travelers fee to this orphanage. When we visited most of the children were in school but the young ones took us through the building and sang “You Are My Sunshine” in English. We then passed out Salmon Festival buttons and yes, they were cuter than a button.”

-Sheila Bergren



“Friends” Help Out

One of our goals is to support projects in our local community and the communities of our affiliated hatcheries. At each monthly board meeting, we consider grant requests for funding of events, projects, educational supply purchases and workshops that benefit hatcheries, schools, non-profit organizations, Salmon Festival programs, just to name a few. Some of the grants we awarded in 2007 :

- Earthday Celebration - FNH gave funding for the Clearwater Elementary School transportation to the Earthday Event. Funding was granted on behalf of the Dworshak National Fish Hatchery.
- Cast for Kids Fishing Day - FNH was a sponsor for Kids Fishing Day at the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery in June

Mid-Columbia Fisheries Resource Office presents: Fish Trivia

Pacific Lamprey, pictured here, are a jawless fish with no bones, only cartilage for a skeleton.

Lamprey are found in Icicle Creek filter feeding in sand and silt. As they mature they migrate to the Pacific Ocean.

Once in the ocean, they become a parasite, sucking blood and juices from fish they attach to.

As adults, they return to the fresh water to spawn. This can be a long journey using their mouths to move up and over obstacles to accommodate for inability to swim well.

which attracted nearly 500 kids – and parents and grandparents!

- Kids in the Creek - FNH matched a \$500 grant with the National Forest Foundation to purchase badly needed waders for the Kids in the Creek Program.
- Salmon Festival - FNH contributes many labor hours and monetary support for the Wenatchee River Salmon Festival each year. The festival is the signature event for the Friends which brings together many agencies and community members for the sake of the salmon, our environment and our children's education.
- Snowshoe Tour Training - FNH funded our yearly Winter Life Snowshoe Tours workshop for guides. The Leavenworth hatchery provides the backdrop for free snowshoe tours focusing on winter ecology, animal tracking and enjoying winter in the Cascades.
- Open House - FNH helps to fund annual open house events at the Carson and Entiat hatcheries.

For information on events or volunteering, please call 548-6662 x271, or 548-7641 x270.

If you have comments or questions regarding this publication, want to renew your membership to Friends of Northwest Hatcheries or want to be removed from our mailing list, please contact Lynann at 548-2921.